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COOLMORE AMERICA

'OATH' NO SECRET, BUT MEASURING HER TALENT A PLEASANT CONUNDRUM



Secret Oath leaves her competition behind in the Honeybee
Coady Photography

The Week in Review by T.D. Thornton

Secret Oath (Arrogate)'s big winning move despite trip trouble in Saturday's GIII Honeybee S. at Oaklawn Park launched the 3-year-old filly to the forefront of conversation just at the precise time the sport needs a little diversion from anything having to do with lawsuits, trainer banishments, and the GI Kentucky Derby.

There is no question that the D. Wayne Lukas trainee looms large atop the leaderboard for the GI Kentucky Oaks and that her 86-year-old conditioner isn't crazy for at least considering running her against males next time out in the GI Arkansas Derby.

But if you want to drill down for a more precise prognostication as to where Secret Oath truly ranks in the always-intriguing fillies vs. colts debate and if she might be good enough to run in the Derby instead of the Oaks, you're going to have to come up with a measuring stick that doesn't appear to be available at the moment.

Comparing her 7 1/4-length Honeybee romp against the performance of males in the GII Rebel S. three hours later on the same Oaklawn card is a non-starter.

Cont. p3

THE DAY CHICK LANG AND CAB CALLOWAY INTEGRATED THE TURF CLUB AT HIALEAH

by Corey Johnsen

*Racial segregation is one of the dark chapters in American history. Until the 1950s and 60s, Blacks had limited access to housing, facilities, schools, transportation and other opportunities. While we have plenty of racial problems today, it's almost hard to believe that there was a systematic separation of people in daily life. To right this terrible wrong, millions of Americans began to protest in the 50s and the situation began to change. The Supreme Court ruled that school segregation was unconstitutional, Rosa Parks declined to sit in the back of the bus and highly visible demonstrations began in earnest, led by leaders such as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. **Cont. p6***

IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

RIBOT: TESIO'S CROWNING GLORY

Ribot (GB) (Tenerani [Itly])'s 70th birthday was on Sunday, and John Berry honours the champion and influential sire. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Europe.](#)

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Monday, February 28, 2022



John Ed Anthony (second from left), who runs under the Shortleaf Stable banner, is honored at Oaklawn Park Sunday for becoming the Hot Springs oval's all-time leading owner. Racing in Arkansas for the past 50 years, Anthony has seen his horses enter the winner's circle 270 times. | Coady

MATING PLANS: SCHIANO RACING INC.

8

In the latest edition of our 2022 Mating Plans series, presented by Spendthrift Farm, we talk to Schiano Racing Inc.'s Mike Schiano Di Cola, who lays out plans for his broodmare band this season.

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Week in Review cont. from p1

The Rebel rates as the “chaos race” of the season so far among Derby preps because the 4-5 favorite was a no-show in an otherwise so-so field, and the slowly-run race was won by an improbable one-eyed gelding who paid \$152.80.

Likening Secret Oath to Althea, the champion filly for Lukas four decades ago who also raced at Oaklawn (and beat the boys in the Arkansas Derby) should also be a no-go, at least for the time being. Obviously, Althea is from a much different generation. But even then, she was such an anomaly that her past-performance block reads like that of a racehorse from an entirely different planet when you consider how often Lukas raced her and how early in her career she lined up in the starting gate against males.

We’ll have to let the next few weeks be the chief determinant in how Secret Oath’s story arc plays out, knowing that whichever path Lukas sends her down, her next start is going to have a “circle the date” aura surrounding it.

Secret Oath entered the Honeybee with a 3-for-5 record, having won a Dec. 31 allowance race and the Jan. 29 Martha Washington S., both at Oaklawn, by a combined 15 1/2 lengths. She got pounded to 3-10 favoritism Saturday and appeared content to be last away in the Honeybee, given her natural running style as a stalker/closer.

Jockey Luis Contreras allowed the Briland Farm homebred to creep closer down the backstretch through opening quarters of :23.15 and :23.92, a brisk pace that seemed to be working to Secret Oath’s off-the-pace advantage. But by the far turn, Contreras’s patience contributed to his filly getting pocketed behind the two caving speedsters while an advancing rival to the outside kept the favorite locked and blocked, forcing Contreras to snatch up the reins in a ride-the-brakes type of maneuver.

Cont. p4



Secret Oath romps in the Martha Washington | Coady



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RK	STALLION	SIRE	EARNINGS
1	Uncle Mo	Indian Charlie	\$3,670,354
2	Twirling Candy	Candy Ride	\$1,167,144

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2018 Leading First Crop Sires in Europe

RK	STALLION	SIRE	EARNINGS
1	No Nay Never	Scat Daddy	€1,104,650
2	Australia	Galileo	€552,328

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2020 Leading First Crop Sires in North America

RK	STALLION	SIRE	EARNINGS
1	Nyquist	Uncle Mo	\$2,424,083
2	Laoban	Uncle Mo	\$1,559,748
3	Not This Time	Giant's Causeway	\$1,557,138
4	Outwork	Uncle Mo	\$1,260,790

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2021 Leading First Crop Sires in Europe

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1	Caravaggio	Scat Daddy	€934,042
2	Cotai Glory	Exceed And Excel	€926,054

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and sire of Champion First Crop Sire **NYQUIST**.

Grade 1 Hollywood Derby winner at 3 & Grade 2 Remsen
Stakes winner at 2. First yearlings sold for \$450,000,
\$300,000, \$275,000, \$255,000, \$200,000 etc.

FEE: \$7,500



COOLMORE®

A M E R I C A

Five sixteenths out, Contreras realized he had no choice but to dive inside of the tiring leaders. And when Secret Oath saw a glimmer of daylight through that narrow gap, she kicked on like a pro at the head of the lane. Never seriously threatened through the stretch, she won while kept to task but never fully extended.

Secret Oath's final time of 1:44.74 for 1 1/16 miles translated to a Beyer Speed Figure of 92, one point shy of her career-best effort. It's worth noting she carried five pounds more than the second- and third-place fillies.

Lukas indicated post-race that Secret Oath is nominated to both the Arkansas and Kentucky Derbies. The GIII Fantasy S. on the Apr. 2 Arkansas Derby undercard would be the conservative against-fillies option if he opts not to take on the boys.

Advocates for running in the Arkansas Derby will point out that Secret Oath's clocking and speed number trumped what was to follow six races later in the companion stakes for 3-year-old males. Oaklawn's third race in its quartet of Kentucky Derby points-earning preps is usually a pretty intriguing affair. But this year it might go down as the aberrational "Rebel without a cause," which is why it's best to hold off on any claims that Secret Oath would have crushed that field had she been entered in that spot instead.



D. Wayne Lukas Saturday at Oaklawn | Coady

Rain had moved into Hot Springs by the time the feature race arrived, and although the track was still listed as "fast" for the Rebel, it would soon require sealing and a downgrade to "sloppy" for the final race. The un-California-like conditions would be eventually cited as a possible excuse for trainer Bob Baffert's ship-in fave Newgrange (**Violence**), who appeared primed to pounce after a trouble-free stalking trip but instead retreated to sixth.

Cont. p5

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The 75-1 **Un Ojo** (Laoban) saved ground every step of the way, rallied briefly at the quarter pole, then appeared to regress. But Un Ojo re-awakened late with an out-of-nowhere spurt of energy to snatch victory from the 15-1 **Ethereal Road** (**Quality Road**), who had been ambitiously entered by Lukas off a 19-1 maiden win in career start number four. The final time was 1:45.69, nearly a full second slower than Secret Oath's clocking; the Beyer (84) was also eight points lower.

Ethereal Road gave up serious real estate while hooked four wide on both turns, yet led from the quarter pole until 50 yards from the wire. He certainly punched his ticket to the Arkansas Derby, leaving Lukas to ponder over the next month whether he wants both his top filly and top colt aiming for the same race.

In the meantime, expect those comparisons to Althea to percolate—even if they're still off the mark.

Althea broke her maiden on June 22, 1983 at Hollywood Park. She ran second 17 days later in the GII Landaluce S., then wheeled back two weeks after that, beating the boys by 10 lengths in the GII Hollywood Juvenile Championship. When the racing switched to Del Mar, Lukas continued the pattern of aiming Althea against both fillies and colts, and she responded by winning both the GII Del Mar Debutante (by 15 lengths) and the GII Del Mar Futurity, just 10 days apart.

After a mix of firsts and seconds against fillies at Santa Anita in the fall, Althea closed out her 2-year-old season by attempting the mixed-sex Grade I double of the Hollywood Starlet (first) and Juvenile (sixth). Althea started 1984 with Santa Anita stakes victories against fillies, then shipped to Oaklawn for the Fantasy, where she finished a fast second despite encountering significant trip trouble.

Back then, the Fantasy was run the week before the Arkansas Derby. Lukas spent most of that week saying he wouldn't enter Althea against the boys. He did anyway.

Althea toyed with the Arkansas Derby field, drawing off to win by seven lengths while equaling the track record at the time. Afterward, Lukas admitted he had planned all week to run his star filly in that spot, but that he had chosen not to tell anyone until the day the race was drawn.

Thirty-eight years later, on the day after Secret Oath's win, Lukas remained uncommitted to a plan beyond saying he'd take it one race at a time.

Sunday, Lukas at first told the Oaklawn notes team that "I don't know what we're going to do," before later adding, "Right now, she would be in the Fantasy and Ethereal Road would be in the [Arkansas] Derby."

But you never know. The man is entitled to change his mind.

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The Day Lang, Calloway Integrated Hialeah cont. from p1

While there was a public outpouring of opposition to segregation, it took thousands and thousands of simple, unpublicized acts to dismantle this institution which had remained in society since the Jim Crow laws of the 1800s. Horse racing was no different than the rest of society, especially in the South. So, in recognition of Black History Month, here's a little-known story.

Let’s start with some background. Most people in horse racing recognize Charles John “Chick” Lang as Mr. Preakness. Through hard work and determination, Lang took the Preakness from a weak sister to the Kentucky Derby and Belmont to the “Middle Jewel” of the Triple Crown. During his decades-long stint with Pimlico, he set the Preakness on course to become one of America’s great races. It is annually the top sporting event for Maryland and the city of Baltimore, with more than 100,000 fans in attendance and millions watching it on television.



Cab Calloway in front of what looks to be Pimlico’s infield winner’s circle and the Woodlawn vase | Courtesy Lang Family

As a former hotwalker, groom and jockey’s agent, Lang was a true racetracker. He never forgot the importance of each individual who played a role in Thoroughbred racing. Lang believed the backstretch worker deserved the same amount of respect as the wealthy owner. He was a tireless advocate for the rights of the less fortunate.

Early in Lang’s horse racing career, he was the jockey agent for Hall of Famer Bill Hartack. From 1954 to early 1960, Lang and

Hartack had a great run. Lang was representing a jockey who was considered one of the most successful and highest-paid professional athletes in the world. In 1958, Hartack was on the cover of *Time Magazine*. From 1953 to 1957, Hartack averaged 355 wins a year. During that run he had tremendous success at Hialeah, which offered the greatest racing in America at that time of the year. Hartack, who would go on to win five Kentucky Derbies, was the most recognizable athlete in Thoroughbred racing.



Cab Calloway and Chick Lang | Courtesy Lang Family

The second character in the story is Cab Calloway, the Black entertainer who was a singer, dancer, bandleader and actor. His best-known song today is *Minnie the Moocher* (Hi-De-Ho!). He recorded one of the **first music videos** (and maybe the best). Calloway loved horse racing. Whenever possible, he would visit his local racetrack. Of course, when he went to Hialeah, he always looked up Lang, who marked his program with plenty of winners delivered by his jockey, Hartack. On one crowded day, Calloway mentioned that his normal seats were already taken and asked if Lang could help. While in the midst of closing entries, Lang gave Calloway his Turf Club pin without hesitation. He directed him to go see the maitre d' and have him seated at Lang’s table.

A few minutes later, a dejected Calloway returned and told Lang that they wouldn’t let him in the Turf Club because he was a Negro. The Turf Club was for whites only. Those who knew Lang and his famous jockey know what happened next. **Cont. p7**



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Lang went to a nearby phone and called the track manager, and there was a one-sided conversation that followed.

“If Cab Calloway is not good enough to sit in the Turf Club at this track, then my jock will never ride here again, starting today!”

Calloway returned to the Turf Club, got his table and the color barrier was broken at Hialeah.

Those who knew Lang understood he was a man of principle. There was no gray area in a matter like this. He also knew where his jockey stood on this issue. Hartack had numerous Black friends, many of them entertainers. Throughout his career, Hartack never wavered in important principles. I am sure Lang informed him of the incident that night after the races, and I am confident Hartack affirmed the importance of his actions.

Lang went to work as a racing official at Pimlico in 1960. He never wavered in his distaste for segregation. No flip-flopping on important issues. It was either right or wrong, no matter what personal consequences one might face. For example, in his first year at Pimlico, he did something that was not in his job description or within his level of authority. When he came upon the “White” and “Colored” signs on the drinking fountains at Pimlico, he took them down and they never came back.

Lang and Calloway showed us all on that day--at the races at Hialeah in the 1950s--that change is accomplished with courage and commitment, one step at a time.

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FIRST CAPTAIN FIRST, TRIPLE TAP THIRD IN RETURNS

A pair of highly touted sophomores returned to make their 4-year-old debuts with mixed results Sunday. **First Captain** (**Curlin**), sent off the 4-5 favorite in a seven-furlong allowance at Gulfstream Sunday, looked to have left himself too much to do before making a furious late rally to win by a head in his first start since finishing third in the **Curlin S.** last summer. The **'TDN Rising Star'** and \$1.5-million Fasig-Tipton Saratoga yearling won last year's GIII Dwyer S. for West Point Thoroughbreds, Siena Farm, Bobby Flay and Woodford Racing and trainer Shug McGaughey.

Less successful on return was Summer Wind Equine's homebred **Triple Tap** (**Tapit**), a half-brother to Triple Crown winner **American Pharoah** who was making his first start since finishing fourth in the Dec. 26 GI Malibu S. in a seven-furlong

optional claimer at Santa Anita. The 1-5 favorite, facing just three rivals, chased pacesetter **Fore Left** (**Twirling Candy**), but was hemmed in by **Dark Vadar** (**Tale of Ekati**) for much of the stretch. Finally finding clear sailing, Triple Tap made late progress, but could do no better than third as Dark Vadar nipped Fore Left for the win.

Triple Tap, tabbed a **'TDN Rising Star'** following his debut win at Santa Anita last March, added a Nov. 5 optional claimer at Del Mar before suffering his first loss when well-beaten behind Flightline (**Tapit**) in the Malibu.

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FOALING NEWS

JUANITA, 14, Mineshaft–Wishful Splendor, by Smart Strike
Foal born Feb. 13, a filly by Medaglia d'Oro.
Will be bred back to **Knicks Go**.
Owned by/boarded at Coteau Grove Farms.
Accomplishments: MGSW, \$509,005.

LIVING THE LIFE (IRE), 12, **Footstepsinthesand** (GB)–Colour And Spice (Ire), by Machiavellian
Foal born Feb. 1, a colt by **Justify**.
Will be bred back to **Constitution**.
Owned by Hank Nothhaft.
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Accomplishments: MGSW & GISP, \$1,028,394.



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MATING PLANS, PRESENTED BY SPENDTHRIFT: SCHIANO RACING INC.

With the 2022 breeding season underway, we continue to feature a series of breeders' mating plans. Today we have Mike Schiano Di Cola of Schiano Racing Inc.

"Schiano Racing Inc. is an operation that mainly breeds to sell with the advice of my agent/partner--but most of all, friend--Carrie Brogden of Machmer Hall," said Schiano Di Cola.

ASH ZEE (m, 15, Exchange Rate--Wickedly Wise, by Tactical Cat), to be bred to **Quality Road**

Purchased her in 2018 with lots of activity in her pedigree since then. Grade II-placed herself and graded-placed producer; nothing less than my best mare!

PRIVATE BEACH (m, 6, Malibu Moon--Let's Get Married, by **More Than Ready**), to be bred to Liam's Map

Expensive yearling; bought her in foal to **Accelerate** in 2020;

from the family of the 2021 Keeneland September top seller (\$1.7-million colt by **City of Light**). She's in foal to **Practical Joke**.



Ash Zee's The Reds (**Tonalist**), winner of the 2021 Federico Tesio and runner-up in the 2021 GIII Pennine Ridge | *Thorostride*

RESTRAINT OF TRADE (m, 5, City Zip--Helena's Triomphe, by Arch), to be bred to **Silver State**

This young mare from the immediate family of **Collected** produced a big, beautiful colt (her first foal) by Thousand Words Feb. 9. *Cont. p9*

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BELIEVE IN ANGELS (m, 9, Flatter--Malamado, by Broken Vow), to be bred to Mitole

Big, gorgeous mare bought by Carrie Brogden for Schiano Racing. She foaled a beautiful filly by **Collected** this year.

TIZ HER NOW (m, 6, Tiznow--Dirty Rush, by Wild Rush), to be bred to Independence Hall

Full-sister to GII-placed Rush Now. She had a beautiful filly (in 2021) by Maximus Mischief and we decided to breed her back to him (for 2022). She's due soon with a full-sibling.

HOLIDAY SHOPPING (m, 13, Harlan's Holiday--Shop Here, by Dehere), to be bred to Thousand Words

Purchased this mare in foal to **Palace Malice**. The resulting colt--named Anmer Hall--won first time out at Del Mar last August in a maiden special weight. She's in foal to **Gift Box**.

I also have four more mares in partnership:

WALTZING (m, 9, Candy Ride {Arg}--Dancing Alone, by Kingmambo), to be bred to Independence Hall

She's in foal to **Army Mule** in partnership with St. Simon Place.

SENTIMENTAL (m, 5, Honor Code--Smooth Performer, by Benchmark), to be bred to Game Winner

In partnership with Machmer Hall.

SOCIALIZED (m, 10, City Zip--Smooth Performer, by Benchmark), to be bred to Independence Hall

She's currently in foal to **Tiz the Law** in partnership with Machmer Hall.

WILL YE GO LASSIE (m, 7, Trappe Shot--Valentine Fever, by Stormin Fever), to be bred to Rock Your World

This mare is currently in foal to **Complexity** in partnership with Mullikin Thoroughbreds.

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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Listen to this week's podcast
 February 23, 2022
Equine Law Expert Bob Heleringer Talks Medina Spirit DQ, Next Steps for Baffert



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on his two wins during the KEENELAND FALL MEETING,
 including the BRYAN STATION STAKES.

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NORTH AMERICAN RACING



IN ORDER OF PURSE:

MINE THAT BIRD DERBY, \$100,000, Sunland, 2-27, 3yo, 1 1/16m, 1:42.96, ft.

1--**STRAIGHT UP G**, 121, c, 3, by Straight Fire

1st Dam: Gidget Girl, by Sky Mesa

2nd Dam: Surfer Girl (Brz), by Wild Event

3rd Dam: Australian Girl (Arg), by Lode

O/B-Jungle Racing LLC; T-Richard Baltas; J-Ricardo Gonzalez. \$60,000. Lifetime Record: SW, 5-3-1-0, \$203,660.

2--**Bye Bye Bobby**, 121, c, 3, Quality Road--Revel in the Win, by Red Bullet. (\$870,000 Ylg '20 KEESEP). O-B4 Farms, LLC; B-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC (KY); T-Todd W. Fincher. \$20,000.

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Bred and Raised by  **STONESTREET**

3--**Classic Moment**, 121, c, 3, Classic Empire--Victory Party, by Yankee Victor. (\$285,000 Wlg '19 KEENOV; \$350,000 Ylg '20 KEESEP). **1ST BLACK TYPE**. O-L and N Racing LLC and Winchell Thoroughbreds LLC; B-Team Valor LLC (KY); T-Steven M. Asmussen. \$10,000.

EATON SALES 
Margins: 3/4, 3/4, 5 3/4. Odds: 1.00, 5.90, 4.40.

Also Ran: Fowler Blue, City At Night, American Xperiment, Pepper Spray, Benissimo.



Straight Up G | *Coady Photography*

Since breaking his maiden Nov. 21 sprinting at Del Mar, Straight Up G has been thriving with added ground, as evidenced by his 3 1/2-length win Dec. 12 in Los Alamitos' King Glorious S. going a mile and game second to Fast Draw Munnings (Munnings) in the Jan. 15 California Cup Derby at Santa Anita. Contesting 8 1/2 panels once again here with first-time Lasix, the Richard Baltas trainee left the gates as the even-money favorite and dictated terms right from the jump. The colt came into the lane 3 1/2 lengths in front, and despite getting leg weary late, along with a lead change that briefly disrupted some of his forward momentum, Straight Up G held off a charge from Bye Bye Bobby by 3/4 lengths. The winner is a half to a yearling colt by Fast Anna and the dam is expecting a foal by Collected this season. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#), sponsored by TVG.**

ISLAND FASHION S., \$75,000, Sunland, 2-27, 3yo, f, 1m, 1:37.71, ft.

1--**MISS HARD KNOCKS**, 121, f, 3, by Mr Speaker

1st Dam: Miss Hissy Fit, by Aldebaran

2nd Dam: She's Fine, by Private Account

3rd Dam: Contredance, by Danzig

(\$1,000 Ylg '20 FTKFEB; \$8,000 Ylg '20 FTKOCT; \$17,000 2yo '21 OBSMAR). O-Jeremy Ramsland; B-University of Kentucky (KY); T-Bart G. Hone; J-Harry Hernandez. \$45,000. Lifetime Record: 5-3-1-1, \$104,670.

 **MACHMER HALL SALES GRADUATE** 

2--**Manorelli**, 120, f, 3, Outwork--Conquest Lil Miss, by Horse Greeley. (\$6,000 Wlg '19 KEENOV; \$25,000 Ylg '20 KEESEP).

1ST BLACK TYPE. O-William A. Branch; B-WinStar Farm, LLC (KY); T-Luis Mendez. \$15,000.

Half-sis Queen Bess a racing/broodmare buy for clients of Mike Slezak • BullOTheWoodsStables@gmail.com

 **Go to the Bank with Brocklebank - Woody Stephens** 
 **WINSTAR BRED** 

3--**Landslid**, 118, f, 3, Flashback--Unanimous Decision, by Distorted Humor. (\$1,000 Ylg '20 FTKOCT). **1ST BLACK TYPE**. O-Relentless Racing, Inc., Shon McLain & Thomas Richardson; B-Gary & Mary West Stables Inc. (KY); T-Rachael Keithan. \$7,500.

Margins: 1HF, HD, 1 1/4. Odds: 3.60, 2.50, 2.60.

Also Ran: Ali Alley, Cleopatras Charge, Soaring, Tyler's Dream, Birdie Curdy, Action Potential. Scratched: Cali.

Miss Hard Knocks earned the second stakes win of her young career at Sunland Park Sunday. The dark bay filly, squeezed back behind foes into the first turn, ranged up three wide to press the pace down the backstretch. She took charge into the far turn and, despite drifting out in upper stretch, maintained a comfortable advantage to the wire.

Miss Hard Knocks, a maiden winner going six furlongs at Turf Paradise Jan. 17, captured the 6 1/2-furlong Borderplex S. at Sunland last time out Jan. 30. She has a 2-year-old half-brother by Oxbow, who sold for \$5,000 at last year's Fasig-Tipton October sale, and her dam was bred to **Upstart** last year. Her third dam is Grade I winner Contredance. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.**



Miss Hard Knocks | Coady Photography



IN ORDER OF PURSE:

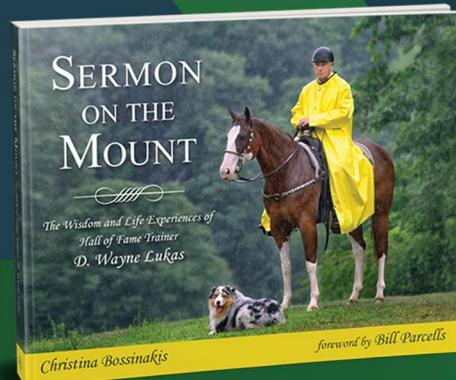
8th-Oaklawn, \$105,000, Alw (C)/Opt. Clm (\$80,000), 2-27, 4yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16m, 1:45.48, gd, 5 1/2 lengths.

THE MARY ROSE (m, 5, Macho Uno--Wood Rose, by Tiznow) closed out her 2021 season Dec. 31 going long at Oaklawn Park, winning by 7 3/4 lengths. Heading to Sam Houston for the Jan. 30 GIII Houston Ladies Classic S., and running without Lasix, she set the early pace but faltered coming into the lane and finished fifth. Returning to Oaklawn and the diuretic for this contest, The Mary Rose contentedly tracked from third after the break before having to briefly steady coming into the far turn. Shifted three wide coming into the homestretch, she quickly took command and pulled away from Misty Veil (**Tonalist**) by 5 1/2 lengths. Her dam's first foal and stakes-placed runner, the winner is a half to Coromandel, a 2-year-old filly by Tekton, as well as a yearling colt by **Lookin At Lucky**. Wood Rose is expecting a foal by **Mucho Macho Man** this season. Lifetime Record: MSP, 17-5-4-2, \$434,494. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.**

O/B-Shortleaf Stable (AR); T-John Alexander Ortiz.



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—Hall of Fame Trainer Todd Pletcher



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8th-Aqueduct, \$74,000, (S), Alw (NW2\$X)/Opt. Clm (\$45,000), 2-27, 4yo/up, f/m, 6 1/2f, 1:18.42, ft, 1 1/2 lengths.

BETSY BLUE (f, 4, Tonalist--Honest to Betsy {SP, \$182,530}, by Yonaguska) continues her streak of remarkable consistency; at one point last year she'd won four races in a row including the Bouwerie S. May 31 at Belmont Park. After hitting a four race streak of either coming in third or second, she was given almost five months off between her Sept. 6 start at Saratoga where she closed for second and the race here. In no hurry from the blocks, the 5-2 favorite took up her customary spot near the back of the field. Six wide down the backstretch, Betsy Blue was given her cue midway on the final turn, and was under a full head of steam in the lane, running down Impazible Donna (**Mission Impazible**) by the final sixteenth. She hit the wire 1 1/2 lengths the best. The winner is her dam's first stakes horse. Honest Betsy is responsible for a 2-year-old filly by **Unified** and is expecting a foal by Mitole this season. Lifetime Record: SW, 10-5-4-1, \$266,200. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.**

O-Cloud Nine Stable; B-Blue Devil Racing Stable, LLC (NY); T-Linda Rice.

10th-Gulfstream, \$56,000, Alw (C)/Opt. Clm (\$75,000), 2-27, 4yo/up, 7f, 1:22.19, ft, head.

FIRST CAPTAIN (c, 4, Curlin--America {GSW & MGISP, \$580,532}, by A.P. Indy) faced a small but competitive field for his 4-year-old debut, including GSWs Trophy Chaser (**Twirling Candy**) and Dennis' Moment (Tiznow)--the latter also a 'TDN Rising Star'--as well as black-type winners Real Talk (Gemologist) and Hello Hot Rod (**Mosler**). A 'TDN Rising Star' himself, First Captain was slowest of all out of the stalls, yet kept in touch with the tightly packed field from the back. Nearly five lengths behind and well off the rail at the :22.71 quarter, he was still in the rear at the :45.24 half-mile mark but making progress. Still wide, the 4-5 favorite loomed menacingly on the turn on the outside, getting occasional right-handed encouragement from Jose Ortiz. Just when it looked like he had too much to do, First Captain kicked into another gear just strides from the wire, inhaling frontrunner Doc Amster (**Midshipman**)--the only non-stakes winner in the field--in the last possible second by a head.



First Captain | *Lauren King*

With only four previous starts under his girth, First Captain won his first three. He broke his maiden at first asking last April at Belmont, getting a 94 Beyer Speed Figure. With a second consecutive win, taking a Belmont allowance in May and accorded both a 95 Beyer and 'Rising Star' status, the \$1.5-million Fasig-Tipton Saratoga yearling went into the GIII Dwyer S. in July and prevailed as the favorite. He flattened to third in Saratoga's **Curlin** S. later that month and Hall of Fame trainer Shug McGaughey **gave him plenty of time to regroup** before his 4-year-old campaign.

Chef Bobby Flay bred First Captain and stayed in for a piece of the **Curlin** colt. As Flay recently detailed in an **edition of Mating Plans**, he is breeding the chestnut's dam, America, back to **Curlin** this year for a full-sibling. America also produced full-sisters to First Captain in 2019 and 2021.

Her lone other mate has been **Uncle Mo**, by whom America has a 2-year-old colt named Kid America (a \$550,000 RNA at KEESSEP), and by whom she is expecting a foal this year. Flay also has America's half-sister Street Strut (Street Cry {Ire}), who is going to **Constitution**. Another half-sister to America produced 2020 GISW Paris Lights (**Curlin**) and the family goes back to Blush With Pride (Blushing Groom {Fr}), First Captain's fourth dam. Blush With Pride--winner of the 1982 GI Kentucky Oaks--was out of Broodmare of the Year Best in Show (Traffic Judge) and produced Broodmare of the Year Better Than Honour (Deputy Minister). Sales History: \$1,500,000 Ylg '19 FTSAUG. Lifetime Record: GSW, 5-4-0-1, \$285,600. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.**

O-West Point Thoroughbreds, Siena Farm LLC, Bobby Flay, & Woodford Racing, LLC; B-B. Flay Thoroughbreds (KY); T-Claude R. McGaughey III.

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First Captain (Curlin) returns a winner at Gulfstream Sunday.
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UPCOMING MAJOR NORTH AMERICAN STAKES

Date	Race	Track
Mar. 5	GI Santa Anita H.	Santa Anita
	GI Beholder Mile S.	Santa Anita
	GI F. E. Kilroe Mile	Santa Anita
	GII San Carlos S.	Santa Anita
	GII San Felipe S.	Santa Anita
	GII Buena Vista S.	Santa Anita
	GII Fasig-Tipton Fountain of Youth S.	Gulfstream
	GII Davona Dale S.	Gulfstream
	GII Mac Diarmida S.	Gulfstream
	GIII Canadian Turf S.	Gulfstream
	GIII Herecomesthebride S.	Gulfstream
	GIII Honey Fox S.	Gulfstream
	GIII The Very One S.	Gulfstream
	GIII Gotham S.	Aqueduct
GIII Tom Fool H.	Aqueduct	

Click [here](#) to access the TDN graded stakes calendar.



IN ORDER OF PURSE:

4th-Gulfstream, \$53,000, Msw, 2-27, 3yo, f, 1 1/16mT, 1:44.44, fm, 1 1/2 lengths.

SENSITIVITY (f, 3, Street Sense--Froyo Star, by Rockport Harbor), dismissed at 31-1 in this unveiling, took the early lead and was clear as the quarter went up in :23.55 and the half in :49.06. Heavily favored Ultima Copa (**Street Sense**) rolled up three wide approaching the stretch, but Sensitivity found more down the lane and pulled away to graduate by 1 1/2 lengths. Tami Bobo's First Finds purchased Sensitivity for \$265,000 at the 2020 Fasig-Tipton February sale and the filly RNA'd for \$190,000 following a :10 flat work at last year's OBS June sale. Bobo's colors are also being carried this term by Gill Holy Bull S. runner-up Simplification (**Not This Time**). Froyo Star has a 2-year-old colt by **Nyquist**--who sold to St. Elias Stables for \$500,000 at last year's Fasig-Tipton October sale--and a yearling filly by **More Than Ready**. The mare is a half-sister to multiple Grade I winner Sweet Reason (**Street Sense**) and graded winner Don't Forget Gil (Kafwain). **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.** Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$31,800.

O-Tami Bobo; B-Southern Equine Stables (KY); T-Caio Caramori.

FIRST FINDS 352.615.3333
 Trained by **Tristan & Valery de Meric**
 IT'S IN THE WATER



Sensitivity | Lauren King

9th-Tampa Bay Downs, \$27,000, Msw, 2-27, 3yo, f, 1 1/8mT, 1:50.12, fm, 1/2 length.

DAWN (f, 3, Candy Ride {Arg}--Sundown, by Tapit), whose granddam is a multiple stakes-producing full-sister to 2001 GI Kentucky Derby runner-up Invisible Ink (Thunder Gulch), finally broke through with a win after improving in every race. Last seen second going a mile over this course Jan. 22, Dawn left the gate Sunday as the 3-1 second choice. The chestnut sat comfortably midpack on the outside through fractions of :22.29 and :46.40, accelerated on the turn, dove down to the inside in the stretch, and collared the leaders to win by a half-length over firster Lheas Joy (**Kitten's Joy**). The Peter Blum homebred has a 2-year-old half-sister named Evening Breeze (Into Mischief), who sold at Keeneland September for \$42,000 to Lynwood Stable, as well as a yearling half-brother named Moonlight (**Audible**). Sundown was bred back to **Practical Joke**. Lifetime Record: 4-1-1-0, \$22,750. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.**

O-Peter E. Blum; B-Peter E. Blum Thoroughbreds, LLC (KY); T-Arnaud Delacour.

• Bred by Peter Blum Thoroughbreds •



IN UAE:

Al Habash, c, 3, Arrogate--Funny Moon (GISW-US, \$530,900), by Malibu Moon. Jebel Ali, 2-27, Cond. (AED100k), 1400m, 1:25.77. O-Mrs. Fitriani Hay. B-My Meadowview LLC (KY). T-Bhupat Seemar. *\$100,000 Ylg '20 KEESEP; 130,000gns HRA '21 TATAPR. **1/2 to This Tea (**Curlin**), MGSP-US, \$165,320.

Tenbury Wells, g, 5, Medaglia d'Oro--Dayatthespa (Ch. Grass Mare-US, MGISW-US, GSP-Can, \$2,288,892), by City Zip. Jebel Ali, 2-27, Cond. (AED100k), 1600m, 1:37.80. O-Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed Al Maktoum. B-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC (KY). T-Salem bin Ghadayer. *\$1,600,000 Ylg '18 KEESEP. **GSP-UAE.

Bred and Raised by **STONESTREET**
Khuzaam, g, 6, Kitten's Joy--Afraah, by Hard Spun. See "Dubai".

Rougher, g, 7, Lookin At Lucky--Hurricane Jackie, by Stormy Atlantic. Jebel Ali, 2-27, Hcp. (AED76k), 1950m, 1:58.76. O-EERC Rougher. B-Smart Choice Stables (KY). T-Doug Watson. \$40,000 Ylg '16 FTKJUL; \$190,000 2yo '17 OBSAPR.

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SECOND-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28
2021 Stud Fees Listed

American Freedom (Pulpit), Airdrie Stud, \$6,000
191 foals of racing age/25 winners/0 black-type winners
8-Mahoning Valley, 4:02 p.m. EST, Msw 5f, Vavite, 3-1
\$14,000 RNA FTK OCT yrl

Bal a Bali (Brz) (Put It Back), Calumet Farm, \$5,000
148 foals of racing age/22 winners/1 black-type winner
8-Fair Grounds, 5:36 p.m. EST, Aoc 5 1/2ft, Creme de Bali, 15-1
\$9,500 KEE SEP yrl

Noble Bird (Birdstone), Ocala Stud, \$4,000
72 foals of racing age/13 winners/1 black-type winner
8-Mahoning Valley, 4:02 p.m. EST, Msw 5f, Jess for Kicks, 20-1
\$15,000 OBS OPN 2yo

War Correspondent (War Front), Tur, private
40 foals of racing age/2 winners/0 black-type winners
8-Mahoning Valley, 4:02 p.m. EST, Msw 5f, Run Kitty, 10-1
RNA KEE NOV wnl

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STAKES RESULTS:

WINTERGREEN S., \$99,400, Turfway, 2-26, 4yo/up, f/m, 1m (AWT), 1:36.60, ft.

1--**BREEZE RIDER, 124, m, 5, Paynter--Dancing Raven (MSW, \$396,338), by Tomahawk.** (\$35,000 Wlg '17 KEENOV; \$52,000 Ylg '18 KEESEP; \$30,000 2yo '19 OBSOPN). O-Mike Piazza Racing Stable; B-Patrick & Brittney Durtschi (KY); T-S Manley; J-E. T. Baird. \$59,616. Lifetime Record: 27-13-3-2, \$457,344.

SBM (Susan Montanye) Graduate

2--**Alydiva, 124, f, 4, Quality Road--Alydorable,** by Arch. O/B-Tracy Farmer (KY); T-Mark E. Casse. \$19,360.

3--**Wait for Nairobi, 120, f, 4, Carpe Diem--Evrobi,** by Tabasco Cat. (\$50,000 RNA Wlg '18 KEENOV). O/B-SF Bloodstock, LLC & Hartwell Farm Inc. (KY); T-Rey Hernandez. \$9,680.
Margins: 5 3/4, 2 1/4, 2. Odds: 0.90, 4.20, 6.40.

NON-BLACK TYPE STAKES RESULTS:

RED HEDEMAN MILE S., (NB) \$100,000, Sunland, 2-27, (S), 3yo, 1m, 1:38.78, ft.

1--**JET SET WARRIOR, 122, g, 3, by Archwarrior--Jet Set Lass, by In Excess (Ire).** O/B-Jim Volk (NM); T-Joel H. Marr; J-Miguel T. Fuentes, Jr. \$60,000. Lifetime Record: 7-2-1-0, \$80,331.

2--**Massive Roar, 122, g, 3, Sway Away--Kiki Chacer,** by Stormello. O/B-The Quarter Company LLC (NM); T-Todd W. Fincher. \$20,000.

3--**Diabolical Storm, 122, g, 3, Attila's Storm--Diabolical Dame,** by Diabolical. O/B-Joe Dee Brooks, Scott Bryant & Derrol Hubbard (NM); T-Todd W. Fincher. \$10,000.

Margins: NK, 2, 1 3/4. Odds: 9.70, 2.40, 2.00.

ALBERT AND HENRY DOMINGUEZ MEMORIAL H., (NB) \$100,000, Sunland, 2-27, (S), 4yo/up, 1 1/16m, 1:44.08, ft.

1--**SEA EMPEROR, 117, g, 7, Roman Emperor--Sea Sis, by Al Mamoon.** O/B-Gallegos del Norte Racing (NM); T-Jose R. Gonzalez, Jr.; J-Luis A. Fuentes. \$60,000. Lifetime Record: 28-11-0-4, \$209,913. *1/2 to La Sorpresa (Valet Man), MSW, \$419,083.

2--**Jet N G, 121, g, 7, Mr. Trieste--Book the Cat,** by Tabasco Cat. O-Maurcenia Cross; B-Maurcenia & Gary Cross (NM); T-Gary W. Cross. \$20,000.

3--**Cheese Tray, 117, g, 4, Attila's Storm--Road to Reason,** by Redattore (Brz). O/B-J. Kirk & Judy Robison (NM); T-Todd W. Fincher. \$10,000.

Margins: NK, 1 3/4, 3/4. Odds: 7.20, 7.80, 11.20.

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ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

12th-Oaklawn, \$100,000, (S), (NW1\$X)/Opt. Clm (\$20,000), 2-26, 3yo/up, 6f, 1:11.56, sy, 2 lengths.

ROLLING FORK (g, 4, Midshipman--Tyrannical, by Street Boss)
Lifetime Record: SP, 10-3-3-1, \$163,790. O/B-Shortleaf Stable, Inc. (AR); T-John Alexander Ortiz.

**Raised**

7th-Aqueduct, \$84,000, (NW2\$X)/Opt. Clm (\$62,500), 2-27, 4yo/up, 6f, 1:11.04, ft, 3/4 length.

AMUNDSON (g, 6, Curlin--Bridgehampton {SW & GSP, \$173,940}, by Bernardini) Lifetime Record: SW, 17-6-1-2, \$302,645. O-Barry K. Schwartz; B-Stonewall Farm (NY); T-Horacio De Paz.

6th-Turfway, \$59,500, (NW1X)/Opt. Clm (\$50,000), 2-26, 3yo, 6f (AWT), 1:10.42, ft, 1 1/4 lengths.

STONEVICIOUS (g, 3, Connect--Diva Style, by Unbridled's Song)
Lifetime Record: 6-2-2-1, \$71,000. O-Foster Family Racing, Douglas E Miller, William J Wargel & R.K. Eckrich Racing, LLC; B-JSM Equine, LLC (KY); T-Eric N. Foster. *\$15,000 2yo '21 OBSOPN.

9th-Gulfstream, \$54,000, (NW1\$X)/Opt. Clm (\$25,000), 2-27, 4yo/up, 1 1/16mT, 1:39.87, fm, 5 1/4 lengths.

MID DAY IMAGE (h, 6, Midshipman--Image of Noon {MSP, \$200,152}, by Disco Rico) Lifetime Record: 24-10-2-3, \$276,700. O/B-Patricia Generazio (NY); T-Luis Carvajal, Jr.

7th-Laurel, \$51,360, (C), 2-27, (C), 4yo/up, 6f, 1:11.53, ft, neck.
THE WOLFMAN (g, 4, Bandbox--Dicey D J {SW, \$122,935}, by Milwaukee Brew) Lifetime Record: 10-4-1-0, \$124,437. O-Joanne Shankle; B-Charles McGinnes (MD); T-Rodolfo Sanchez-Salomon. *\$22,000 Ylg '19 EASOCT.

8th-Golden Gate Fields, \$40,920, 2-26, 4yo/up, 1m (AWT), 1:36.09, ft, 1/2 length.

AMERICAN FARMER (h, 5, Bluegrass Cat--Farmers Wife, by Quiet American) Lifetime Record: SW, 23-4-6-5, \$208,986. O-BKB Stables LLC & Steve Sherman; B-BKB Stables LLC (CA); T-Steve M. Sherman. *Full to Blue Diva, SW, \$250,061.

5th-Sunland, \$39,400, (S), 2-27, (C), 4yo/up, 5f, :56.88, ft, 1 length.

DIABOLICAL RULER (g, 6, Diabolical--West Ruler {MSP, \$271,306}, by Tribal Rule) Lifetime Record: SW, 20-5-3-4, \$198,580. O-Alfred Alvarado; B-J. Kirk Robison & Judy Robison (NM); T-Martin Valdez-Cabral, Jr.

8th-Sam Houston Race, \$38,000, 2-26, (NW3L), 4yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:11.72, my, 5 1/4 lengths.

FASHION RAGE (f, 4, Will Take Charge--Final Mesa {GSW-US & SW-Can, \$211,602}, by Sky Mesa) Lifetime Record: 5-3-1-1, \$86,154. O/B-Tom Durant (KY); T-W. Bret Calhoun. *Full to Cashcheckorcharge, SW, \$117,833.

5th-Charles Town, \$33,000, (C)/Opt. Clm (\$25,000), 2-26, 3yo/up, 7f, 1:27.25, ft, 4 1/2 lengths.

NO CHANGE (g, 4, Fiber Sonde--Looks Like Trouble, by Indian Charlie) Lifetime Record: SP, 18-8-5-2, \$205,836. O/B/T-John D. McKee (WV).

4th-Sunland, \$32,600, (S), 2-27, (NW2L), 3yo, 5 1/2f, 1:04.80, ft, 2 lengths.

GO RED RASCAL (g, 3, Shooter--Go Ari Go, by Worker Man)
Lifetime Record: 4-2-0-2, \$29,900. O/B-Esteban Morales; T-Guadalupe Munoz, Jr.

8th-Charles Town, \$31,900, (S), 2-26, (NW3L), 3yo/up, 7f, 1:27.84, ft, 1 1/2 lengths.

HOT FUDGE SONDE (g, 4, Fiber Sonde--Changingoftheguard, by Changeintheweather) Lifetime Record: 6-3-3-0, \$73,449. O-Mark E. Russell; B-Francis Daniel (WV); T-Jamey R. Johnson.

3rd-Charles Town, \$30,800, 2-26, (NW2LX), 3yo/up, 4 1/2f, :52.43, ft, 4 lengths.

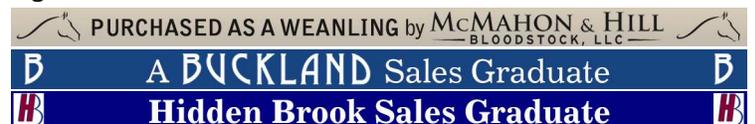
NICO (h, 5, Trappe Shot--Cleft in the Rock, by Arch) Lifetime Record: 13-6-5-0, \$152,771. O/B-O'Sullivan Farms LLC (WV); T-Javier Contreras.

7th-Charles Town, \$30,800, 2-26, (NW1X), 3yo/up, f/m, 4 1/2f, :53.23, ft, 3 1/4 lengths.

MY PRETTY EYES (f, 4, Fiber Sonde--Kriseyes, by Action This Day) Lifetime Record: 18-4-4-5, \$106,129. O/B/T-John D. McKee (WV).

5th-Tampa Bay Downs, \$28,500, (NW2X)/Opt. Clm (\$32,000), 2-27, 4yo/up, 1 1/16mT, 1:41.42, fm, neck.

CARPENTERS CALL (c, 4, Tourist--Ventoux, by Rock Hard Ten)
Lifetime Record: 6-3-2-0, \$64,210. O-Diversified Pedigree Acquisitions Inc.; B-Cerca Trova (KY); T-Gerald S. Bennett. *\$62,000 Wlg '18 FTKNOV; \$95,000 RNA Ylg '19 FTKJUL; \$65,000 Ylg '19 FTKOCT.



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7th-Tampa Bay Downs, \$28,000, 2-27, (NW1X), 4yo/up,
1 1/16mT, 1:41.97, fm, 1/2 length.

BETTERMENT (g, 6, Kitten's Joy--Ready's Gal {GSW-Can, MGSW & GISP-USA, \$609,959}, by More Than Ready) Lifetime Record: 10-2-1-3, \$62,110. O/B-Courtlandt Farms (Donald Adam) (KY); T-Ernest P. Retamoza, Jr. *1/2 to Machen (Distorted Humor), GSW, \$216,530.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Goldenize, g, 3, Blofeld--Golden Innis, by Yarrow Brae. Laurel, 2-27, (WC), 6 1/2f, 1:18.65. Lifetime Record: 3-1-1-1, \$47,335. B-Murmur Farm (MD).

IT PAYS TO BREED MARYLAND-BREDS

Rantheredlight, g, 3, Cross Traffic--Katy Smiles (MSW, \$225,760), by Limit Out. Sam Houston Race, 2-26, (C), 1m (off turf), 1:40.90. Lifetime Record: 6-1-2-2, \$37,382. B-Center Hills Farm (OK). *\$8,000 Wlg '19 KEENOV; \$16,000 Ylg '20 TTAYHR.

Lady Puchi, f, 3, Into Mischief--Annabird, by Flower Alley. Gulfstream, 2-27, 1 1/16mT, 1:44.09. Lifetime Record: 8-1-2-1, \$67,270. B-Spendthrift Farm, LLC (KY). *\$90,000 2yo '21 OBSAPR.

Tofino Bay, c, 3, Irish Surf--Lilies and Roses, by Super Saver. Santa Anita, 2-26, (C), 6fT, 1:10.17. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$25,200. B-Thor-Bred Stables, LLC (FL). *\$10,000 RNA Ylg '20 OBSOCT. **1ST-TIME STARTER.

Monologue, c, 3, Runhappy--Orate, by A.P. Indy. Turfway, 2-26, 1m (AWT), 1:39.61. Lifetime Record: 5-1-0-1, \$56,316. B-Claiborne Farm (KY). *\$195,000 RNA Ylg '20 KEESEP. **1/2 to Whitecliffsofdover (**War Front**), SW & GSP-Eng, G1SP-Fr, SP-Ire, \$137,154; 1/2 to Endless Chatter (**First Samurai**), SW & GISP, \$221,652.

FOR OVER 110 YEARS

Bellamore, f, 4, Empire Maker--Smart N Soft, by Smart Strike. Golden Gate Fields, 2-26, 1m (AWT), 1:39.36. Lifetime Record: 4-1-2-0, \$50,420. B-Gainesway Thoroughbreds Ltd. (KY). *\$170,000 Ylg '19 KEESEP; \$350,000 2yo '20 OBSAPR.

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Topf Road Rules, g, 4, Laurie's Rocket--Our Quista (MSW, \$266,380), by Half Ours. Oaklawn, 2-27, (S), 1 1/16m, 1:47.32. Lifetime Record: 6-1-3-0, \$101,306. B-Eugenia Thompson-Benight (AR).

Aquimine, g, 4, Mineshaft--Aquitaine (GSP, \$112,231), by Empire Maker. Sam Houston Race, 2-26, 7f, 1:25.63. Lifetime Record: 5-1-2-0, \$31,673. B-Aquitaine, LLC (KY). *\$140,000 Ylg '19 KEESEP.

Foaled, Raised, and Sold by VALKYRE STUD

Mun Luv, f, 4, Munnings--Qualia (MGSP, \$173,666), by Saarland. Oaklawn, 2-27, 6f, 1:12.31. Lifetime Record: 14-1-5-3, \$175,560. B-Marc Keller (KY). *\$50,000 Ylg '19 KEEJAN; \$110,000 Ylg '19 FTKJUL; \$115,000 3yo '21 KEENOV. **1/2 to Xanthique (Into Mischief), SW, \$292,793.

IT'S IN THE WATER
Foaled, Raised, and Sold by VALKYRE STUD

Mr. Buckley, g, 5, City Zip--Honky Tonk Trick, by Phone Trick. Aqueduct, 2-27, (S), (C), 7f, 1:25.65. Lifetime Record: 8-1-1-4, \$70,285. B-Newman Racing (NY). *\$50,000 RNA Ylg '18 KEESEP. **1/2 to Eye Luv Lulu (Pollard's Vision), SW & GSP, \$931,174; Full to Tricky Zippy, SW, \$332,710.

Donna Freyer's CUSTOM CARE EQUINE LLC

Witch Moon, m, 5, Malibu Moon--Magic Broomstick (GSW, \$484,807), by **More Than Ready.** Santa Anita, 2-27, (C), 1mT, 1:36.95. Lifetime Record: 14-1-2-2, \$75,159. B-Sam-Son Farm (ON). *1/2 to Tio Magico (**Uncle Mo**), SW, \$153,242.

Wicked Happy, m, 5, Wicked Strong--Tanasi, by High Cotton. Aqueduct, 2-27, (C), 7f, 1:28.45. Lifetime Record: 23-1-6-9, \$134,560. B-Brookstone Farm (KY). *\$40,000 Ylg '18 KEEJAN; \$150,000 Ylg '18 KEESEP; \$65,000 RNA 2yo '19 OBSMAR; \$22,000 2yo '19 OBSOPN.

ALL TDN WINNERS BY SIRE



Archwarrior, Jet Set Warrior, g, 3, o/o Jet Set Lass, by In Excess (Ire). Red Hedeman Mile S., 2-27, Sunland

Bandbox, The Wolfman, g, 4, o/o Dacey D J, by Milwaukee Brew. ALW, 2-27, Laurel

Blofeld, Goldenize, g, 3, o/o Golden Innis, by Yarrow Brae. WMC, 2-27, Laurel

Bluegrass Cat, American Farmer, h, 5, o/o Farmers Wife, by Quiet American. ALW, 2-26, Golden Gate

Candy Ride (Arg), Dawn, f, 3, o/o Sundown, by Tapit. MSW, 2-27, Tampa Bay

City Zip, Mr. Buckley, g, 5, o/o Honky Tonk Trick, by Phone Trick. MCL, 2-27, Aqueduct

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Connect, Stonevicious, g, 3, o/o Diva Style, by Unbridled's Song. AOC, 2-26, Turfway

Cross Traffic, Rantheredlight, g, 3, o/o Katy Smiles, by Limit Out. MCL, 2-26, Sam Houston

Curlin, Amundson, g, 6, o/o Bridgehampton, by Bernardini. AOC, 2-27, Aqueduct

Curlin, First Captain, c, 4, o/o America, by A.P. Indy. AOC, 2-27, Gulfstream



The Mary Rose strolls to victory at Oaklawn | Coady

Diabolical, Diabolical Ruler, g, 6, o/o West Ruler, by Tribal Rule. ALW, 2-27, Sunland

Empire Maker, Bellamore, f, 4, o/o Smart N Soft, by Smart Strike. MSW, 2-26, Golden Gate

Fiber Sonde, Hot Fudge Sonde, g, 4, o/o Changingoftheguard, by Changeintheweather. ALW, 2-26, Charles Town

Fiber Sonde, My Pretty Eyes, f, 4, o/o Kriseyes, by Action This Day. ALW, 2-26, Charles Town

Fiber Sonde, No Change, g, 4, o/o Looks Like Trouble, by Indian Charlie. AOC, 2-26, Charles Town

Grazen, Clem Labine, g, 6, o/o Tribal Dress, by Tribal Rule. AOC, 2-27, Golden Gate

Into Mischief, Lady Puchi, f, 3, o/o Annabird, by Flower Alley. MSW, 2-27, Gulfstream

Irish Surf, Tofino Bay, c, 3, o/o Lilies and Roses, by Super Saver. MCL, 2-26, Santa Anita

Kitten's Joy, Betterment, g, 6, o/o Ready's Gal, by More Than Ready. ALW, 2-27, Tampa Bay

Laurie's Rocket, Topf Road Rules, g, 4, o/o Our Quista, by Half Ours. MSW, 2-27, Oaklawn

Macho Uno, The Mary Rose, m, 5, o/o Wood Rose, by Tiznow. AOC, 2-27, Oaklawn

Malibu Moon, Witch Moon, m, 5, o/o Magic Broomstick, by More Than Ready. MCL, 2-27, Santa Anita

Midshipman, Mid Day Image, h, 6, o/o Image of Noon, by Disco Rico. AOC, 2-27, Gulfstream

Mineshaft, Aquimine, g, 4, o/o Aquitaine, by Empire Maker. MSW, 2-26, Sam Houston

Mr Speaker, Miss Hard Knocks, f, 3, o/o Miss Hissy Fit, by Aldebaran. Island Fashion S., 2-27, Sunland

Munnings, Mun Luv, f, 4, o/o Qualia, by Saarland. MSW, 2-27, Oaklawn

Paynter, Breeze Rider, m, 5, o/o Dancing Raven, by Tomahawk. Wintergreen S., 2-26, Turfway

Roman Emperor, Sea Emperor, g, 7, o/o Sea Sis, by Al Mamoon. Albert and Henry Dominguez Memorial H., 2-27, Sunland

Runhappy, Monologue, c, 3, o/o Orate, by A.P. Indy. MSW, 2-26, Turfway

Shooter, Go Red Rascal, g, 3, o/o Go Ari Go, by Worker Man. ALW, 2-27, Sunland

Straight Fire, Straight Up G, c, 3, o/o Gidget Girl, by Sky Mesa. Mine That Bird Derby, 2-27, Sunland

Street Sense, Sensitivity, f, 3, o/o Froyo Star, by Rockport Harbor. MSW, 2-27, Gulfstream

Tonalist, Betsy Blue, f, 4, o/o Honest to Betsy, by Yonaguska. AOC, 2-27, Aqueduct

Tourist, Carpenters Call, c, 4, o/o Ventoux, by Rock Hard Ten. AOC, 2-27, Tampa Bay

Trappe Shot, Nico, h, 5, o/o Cleft in the Rock, by Arch. ALW, 2-26, Charles Town

Wicked Strong, Wicked Happy, m, 5, o/o Tanasi, by High Cotton. MCL, 2-27, Aqueduct

Will Take Charge, Fashion Rage, f, 4, o/o Final Mesa, by Sky Mesa. ALW, 2-26, Sam Houston

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CRAVEN BREEZE UP CHAMPION 2YO

NATIVE TRAIL purchased at Tattersalls Craven Breeze Up Sale



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RIBOT: TESIO'S CROWNING GLORY



The late champion's grave at Darby Dan | Sarah K. Andrew

By John Berry

We all need a bit of inspiration now and then. Currently we need to look no farther than to yesterday's birthday boy, the great **Ribot (GB)** (Tenerani {Ity}) who was born 70 years ago, on Feb. 27, 1952 at the English National Stud in Dorset. In his early days, Ribot was dismissively referred to as 'Il Piccolo' ('The Little One') by his breeder Federico Tesio, who thought so little of him that he did not enter him for the Derby Italiano, a race with whose demands he was more than familiar, having won it 22 times. Undaunted, Ribot went on to show such utter dominance that within three years he had a different nickname, the adoring Italian public referring to him simply as 'Il Cavallo Super' ('The Super Horse'). With the benefit of hindsight and in the cold light of day, we can comfortably place Ribot in the very top drawer of the international pantheon, vying with Sea-Bird (Fr) and Secretariat for the title of Horse of the Century.

The sadness of Ribot's majesty is that although he turned out to be the crowning glory of the life of Federico Tesio, one of the greatest racing men the world has ever known, Signor Tesio never knew it as he died in May 1954, only a matter of weeks before Ribot made his debut, without being aware just what a paragon he had produced. [Cont. p2](#)

PYLEDRIVER POINTS TO SHEEMA

Group 1 winner **Pyledriver (GB)** (Harbour Watch {Ire}), who finished 11th in the G3 Neom Turf Cup on the Saudi Cup undercard in Riyadh on Saturday, is in good order and remains in the mix for the G1 Dubai Sheema Classic on Dubai World Cup night on Mar. 26. Breaking widest of all from gate 14 on Saturday, the 5-year-old entire never appeared comfortable while trapped well off the fence for most of the race. He eventually tired and dropped back before being impeded by a rival that had fallen two furlongs from home.

"He was fine straight after the race, there was nothing wrong with him and he was in really good shape, we were just drawn in 14 and as soon as we'd gone 150 yards I said to the boys watching on TV 'we've got no chance,'" said co-trainer William Muir, who shares the licence with Chris Grassick. "We got pushed out wide and that was where we were drawn so we have no complaints, but we were out wide and we were never into an even rhythm." [Cont. p7](#)

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

THE WEEK IN REVIEW: 'OATH' NO SECRET

T. D. Thornton has the latest The Week In Review which takes a look at Gill Honeybee S. heroine **Secret Oath** (Arrogate). [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN America.](#)

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Ribot Cont. from p1

Tesio would, of course, still count as the greatest owner/breeder in history (or, as he was once famously described, "the only genius ever to operate in the breeding world") even without Ribot. He had already bred and raced numerous legendary thoroughbreds including Nearco (Ity) (Pharos {GB}), the unbeaten winner of 14 races including both the Derby Italiano and Grand Prix de Paris in 1938. As Nearco's sons included Nasrullah (Ire), Nearctic (Can) and Royal Charger (GB), without his 18% stakes-winners-to-foals stud career we would have had no Bold Ruler, Northern Dancer (Can) or Sunday Silence.

Another of Tesio star pupils was the 17-time winner Tenerani (Ity) (Bellini {Ity}) who swept the board of Italy's big races as a 3-year-old in 1947 before racing internationally the following year, defeating the subsequent St Leger winner Black Tarquin (Rhodes Scholar {GB}) in the Queen Elizabeth S. (now King George VI And Queen Elizabeth S.) at Ascot before lowering the colours of the Ascot Gold Cup winner Arbar (Fr) (Djebel {Fr}) in the Goodwood Cup. Tenerani was subsequently secured by the English National Stud on a three-year lease to stand at Gillingham in Dorset (which was then the site of the National Stud) alongside its homebred 1942 2000 Guineas winner Big Game (GB) (Bahram {Ire}), who had been Champion Sire of Great Britain and Ireland in 1948. Tesio naturally sent Tenerani some mares while he was in England. These included Ribot's dam Romanella (Ity) (El Greco {Ity}) who visited him in both 1951 and '52. Ribot, consequently, was both conceived and foaled in England, but that should not prevent us from hailing him as the ultimate Italian Thoroughbred. **Cont. p3**



Top-class runner and influential sire Ribot is pictured at Darby Dan Farm in August of 1960 | Keeneland Library Meadors Collection

“ *Very sharp. Like her a lot, superb mover - big but will be a 2YO. She's as strong as the colts!* ”



JOANNA MORGAN ON THE SIOUX NATION FILLY EX SPARKS

“ *She is going very well, she's a good early filly and we expect a lot from her. We like the sire.* ”



CRISTIANO MARTINS ON THE SIOUX NATION FILLY EX SHARP RELIEF

“ *She's a forward going filly that I like a lot!* ”

JUSTIN TIMMONS ON THE SIOUX NATION FILLY EX CIRENCESTER



“ *I have four Sioux Nations and I'm very happy with them. They're very forward with good temperaments, doing everything easily. I'm a fan of the stallion, I've only two mares and one of them is booked to him already!* ”



WILLIE BROWNE

“ *The Mizayin colt has proven himself a natural 2YO in what we have done to date. He eats, sleeps and trains and has that good 2YO mind to him.* ”

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Ribot Cont.

So steeped in the bloodlines of Tesio's stud Razza Dormello-Olgiata was Ribot that six of his eight great-grandparents had been bred by the great man, the only exceptions being the grandsires of his dam Romanella, i.e. Lord Derby's 1924 Champion S. winner Pharos (GB) (Phalaris {GB}) and Sir John Robinson's 1923 Derby winner Papyrus (GB) (Tracery).

Signor Tesio having died, Ribot, under the care of trainer Ugo Penco, made his debut in the ownership of Tesio's widow Lydia and his long-term business partner Marchese Mario Incisa della Rochetta. He won his first race, the Premio Tramuschio over 1000m at San Siro, and then kept on winning. Although undefeated at two, he didn't do enough in his first season to be regarded as a great horse. His win in Italy's top juvenile race, the Gran Criterium over 1500m at San Siro, was not particularly impressive, but his connections learned a valuable lesson that day. His regular jockey Enrico Camici brought him from the rear and he only just got to the front in time. Thereafter, Camici rode him prominently in every race, and he never had to put him under serious pressure again.

Ribot made a winning resumption as a 3-year-old by taking the Premio Pisa by six lengths before winning the Premio Emanuele Filiberto at San Siro by 10 lengths. He hadn't been entered for Italy's Classics so was contesting lesser races, but his form was rock-solid. For example, he beat his paternal half-brother Derain (Ity) by 10 lengths in the Premio Besana over 2400m at San Siro and then Derain won the St Leger Italiano two weeks later.

Cont. p4



Ribot's 70th Birthday Celebration in Pisa: (l-r) Stefano Unyady, the nephew of Federico Tesio's partner Mario Incisa; Mayor of Pisa, Michele Conti, who is holding Ribot's silks; and owner/breeder Dr. Marcello Lazzeri, who organised the two-day event on Saturday

“ I have three by **Sioux Nation** and I like them all. They're good movers and have done everything I've asked of them very easily. They're quick learners and I think they'll be quick. ”



RICHARD FAHEY

“The fillies out of **Iffraaj Pink** and **Wedding Dress** are both scopey with good attitudes. They move well, are forward and I'm very happy with their training.”



CHARLIE HILLS

“ We very much like the **Sioux Nation** colt we have here. He is a strong, well-made individual with a good action and a good mind. He looks every inch a two-year-old type. ”



MICHAEL BELL

“ I've got two very nice colts by **Sioux Nation**. They're both progressing well, are very good movers and should be early types. ”



RICHARD HANNON

“ I have two lovely 2-year-olds by **Sioux Nation**. They are very nice, athletic types that are doing everything right. ”



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Ribot Cont.

At the start of October, Ribot and his entourage headed to Paris for the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, which he won comfortably by three lengths. On his return to Italy, he took the Gran Premio del Jockey-Club over 2400m at San Siro by 15 lengths, bringing a triumphal season to a close and taking his record to nine wins from nine starts.

Ribot's 4-year-old season was even better. His seven races yielded seven easy wins, including victories in the premier weight-for-age race of Italy (the Gran Premio di Milano over 3000m), of Great Britain (the King George VI And Queen Elizabeth S. over 12 furlongs) and of France (the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe over 2400m). He won the latter race even more emphatically than he had done the previous year, cruising home by a wide margin which the judge gave as six lengths but which most observers thought was considerably more than that. At the end of the season, he became one of only a handful of horses in history ever to be given a Timeform rating (142) in excess of the theoretical 10-stone, 140-pound mark of a true champion. Eventually, the millennium ended with him being rated by Tony Morris and John Randall in A Century of Champions as the third-best horse of the 20th century, behind only Sea-Bird and Secretariat. As those two never raced beyond the age of three

and thus never won a weight-for-age race without the benefit of a weight allowance, Ribot can arguably be regarded as the best horse in absolute terms.

Ribot began his stud career as a 5-year-old in 1957, the undefeated winner of 16 races and universally regarded as a world champion. He spent his first season at Lord Derby's Woodlands Stud in Newmarket alongside Hyperion (GB) (Gainsborough {GB}) and Alycidon (GB) (Donatello II {Fr}), his services having been secured by a one-year lease. He then went back to Italy, where he spent three seasons at Dormello. In 1959, a deal was struck, at a figure of \$1,350,000, with John Galbreath of Darby Dan Stud in the USA which would see him stand in Kentucky for five years, 1961 to '65 inclusive.

However, once Ribot was in the States, complications began to arise because of his increasingly fiery temperament. Although he had been very tractable while racing, as he aged he became increasingly ornery.

The Darby Dan manager Olin Gentry subsequently described his behaviour thus: "Ribot was nuttier than a fruitcake. He would stand on his hind legs and hug trees, or chew the rafters in his stall. He was always a nut. You know, he would straddle a fence and just hang there. He was a nightmare to handle. He almost killed me once."

Cont. p5



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THAT THEY CANNOT ESCAPE THE
OVERSHADOWING IMPOSSIBILITY OF
EVER SIRING A HORSE AS GOOD AS
THEY HAD BEEN.

– John Berry on Ribot (GB)

Ribot Cont.

Consequently, the decision was taken that Ribot would remain at Darby Dan for the rest of his life, the justifiable belief being that putting him on an aeroplane to bring him back to Europe would present too great a danger. Further leases were therefore negotiated to enable him to remain at Darby Dan indefinitely, which in practice meant until Apr. 27, 1972, when the great horse died of a twisted gut.

The problem about the perception of the stud careers of truly great racehorses is that they cannot escape the overshadowing impossibility of ever siring a horse as good as they had been. It went without saying that none of Ribot's progeny fully inherited his sublime talent. However, he can still be regarded as a great and hugely influential sire. The star of his first crop was the Italian-owned and -trained Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe winner Molvedo (Ity) who won the great race as a 3-year-old in 1961, ridden, fittingly, by Enrico Camici. Ribot went on to produce a second 'Arc' winner three years later, courtesy of a 3-year-old from his fourth and final European crop, Prince Royal (Ity).

Ribot's success as a stallion continued unabated after his transfer to the USA. He was responsible for some of America's best horses of the 1960s including 1969 Horse of the Year Arts And Letters and 1965 Champion Three-Year-Old Colt Tom Rolfe, as well as the high-class full-brothers Graustark and His Majesty, both of whom went on to stand at Darby Dan. Each proved to be very influential, not least thanks to His Majesty's son Pleasant Colony winning the 1981 Kentucky Derby en route to a great stud career and His Majesty's daughter Razyana producing Danehill (Danzig).

Tom Rolfe too enjoyed a great stud career, highlighted by his sons Hoist The Flag and Run the Gantlet. The former sired some mighty horses including the dual Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe hero

Alleged and the brilliant filly Sensational, winner of the 1976 Eclipse Award winner for Champion Two-Year-Old Filly. Run The Gantlet was America's Champion Male Turf Horse of 1971 and subsequently produced some outstanding horses in Ireland including Ardross (Ire), Commanche Run (Ire) and April Run (Ire). Another interesting Tom Rolfe horse was Bowl Game, a half-brother to the legendary English-trained dual-purpose champion Sea Pigeon (Sea-Bird {Fr}) and winner of an Eclipse Award in 1979 as Champion Male Turf Horse.

Arts And Letters enjoyed a successful stud career, highlighted by the D. Wayne Lukas-trained 1980 Preakness S., Santa Anita Derby and Hollywood Derby hero Codex and the multiple Grade I winner Winter's Tale who, like his sire, was bred and raced by Paul Mellon's Rokeby Stables. Codex sired several Grade I winners including Badger Land, also trained by Lukas and winner of the GI Flamingo S. at Hialeah in 1986 before becoming best known as Champion Sire of South Africa in 2000/'01.

Pleasant Colony was not the only Kentucky Derby hero who had Ribot in his second generation: the 1974 winner Cannonade (Bold Bidder) was a son of the Ribot mare Queen Sucree. Cannonade was one of over 100 stakes winners produced by daughters of Ribot, a group which also included the top-class racehorse and sire Majestic Light (Majestic Prince) and the British Classic winners Flying Water (Fr) (Habitat) and Bireme (GB) (Grundy {GB}) as well as Bireme's Coronation Cup-winning half-brother Buoy (GB) (Aureole {GB}) who subsequently went to stud in New Zealand.

Throughout the American phase of Ribot's stud career, a steady stream of his sons and daughters kept finding their way to Europe, an environment arguably more suitable to the line.

Cont. p6



Dual Classic winner Pleasant Colony (outside) en route to running second to Willow Hour (Bold Hour) in the GI Travers S. at Saratoga in 1981. He would go on to win the GI Woodward S. in his next start and be crowned Eclipse Champion 3-Year-Old Male. | Horsephotos

Ribot Cont.

Most notably the Charles Engelhard-owned, Fulke Johnson Houghton-trained full-brothers Ribocco and Ribero, sons of the Hyperion mare Libra (GB), won consecutive runnings of the Irish Derby, in 1967 and '68. Ribocco, who had won the Observer Gold Cup (now G1 Vertem Futurity S.) at two, followed up that victory by taking the St Leger, thus becoming (for a short while) the highest-earning British-trained racehorse of all time.

Engelhard and Johnson Houghton had previously enjoyed significant success with a European-bred son of Ribot when the top-class 3-year-old colt Romulus (GB), a son of Hyperion's great grand-daughter Arietta (GB), enjoyed a superb season in 1962, winning three mile races which now carry Group 1 status: the Sussex S., Prix du Moulin and Queen Elizabeth II S.

Bred on a similar cross to Ribocco, Ribero and Romulus was the Vincent O'Brien-trained 1965 Oaks heroine Long Look, a daughter of Ribot from Santorin, who was by Hyperion's grandson Greek Song. O'Brien subsequently enjoyed further British Classic success with another of Ribot's offspring when Boucher won the St Leger in 1972. The same year saw the Ribot filly Regal Exception, trained in Chantilly by the expatriate

Australian John Fellowes, finish second in the Oaks at Epsom before leading all the way to record an emphatic three-length victory in the Irish Oaks at The Curragh, a race in which Ribot also sired the runner-up, the Vincent O'Brien-trained Arkadina. The latter subsequently became the dam of Dark Lomond (Ire) (Lomond) who was trained by O'Brien to win the Irish St Leger in 1988.

Ribot had sired his first Irish Derby winner when Ragusa (Ire) won the race in 1963. Ragusa subsequently became a terrific stallion, responsible for the 1973 Derby winner Morston (GB), the 1974 Ascot Gold Cup winner Ragstone (GB), the 1970 Coronation Cup winner Caliban (GB) and the 1972 Irish 2000 Guineas winner Ballymore (Ire), a remarkable horse who achieved the unusual feat of winning a Classic on his debut. Ballymore went on to enjoy an excellent stud career, highlighted by his Irish 1000 Guineas-winning daughter More So (Ire). Other notable produce of Ballymore included Exdirectory (Ire), who was beaten only a short head by Shirley Heights (GB) in the 1978 Irish Derby, and the 1983 G2 Great Voltigeur S. winner Seymour Hicks (Ire) who ended up as the sire of the outstanding steeplechaser See More Business (Ire).

[Cont. p7](#)



Ribot's 70th Birthday Celebrations were held in the Sala delle Baleari in the Pisa Renaissance City Hall's Palazzo Gambacorti on Saturday. San Rossore Racecourse, which features the annual Ribot Cup, continued the festivities with Sunday known as Ribot Day.



Ribot descendant Pleasantly Perfect winning the 2003 GI Breeders' Cup Classic for Hall of Famer Richard Mandella | [Racingfotos.com](https://www.racingphotos.com)

Ribot Cont.

Ribot's worldwide success as a stallion marked him out as a truly international influence. He was thrice Champion Sire of Great Britain and Ireland (in 1963, '67 and '68) in the days when the Irish Derby, under the sponsorship of the Irish Hospitals Sweep, carried a huge prize and exerted a disproportionate influence on the sires' table. He also finished second behind Brigadier Gerard (GB)'s sire Queen's Hussar (GB) (March Past {GB}) in the table in 1972. He twice finished among the leading sires in both the USA and France, and in 1964 he finished second in the sires' table in Italy, where 12 years later his Arc-winning son Molvedo was Champion Sire. His influence in the Antipodes was also very strong.

At least 15 sons of Ribot made their way to stud in Australasia, most notably Lord Derby's homebred 1962 Manchester Cup hero Latin Lover (GB) who was imported by Harold Nitschke in 1963 to stand at The Nook Stud (Vic). He got off to a great start when his first crop contained the mighty Rain Lover (Aus), the winner of 17 races between one mile and two miles including the VRC Melbourne Cup in both 1968 and '69, the 1968 SAJC Adelaide Cup and 11 weight-for-age races including the 1969 VRC Craiglee S. over a mile. That same crop also contained the 1967 VRC Derby winner Savoy (Aus). Latin Lover's subsequent offspring included 1971 STC Rosehill Guineas winner Latin Knight (Aus), 1973 WATC Australian Derby winner Leica Lover (Aus), 1975 SAJC St Leger winner Opening Bowler and 1970 SAJC Oaks winner Rain Amore, a full-sister to Rain Lover.

Boucher was another son of Ribot who was exported to Australia, whither he went in 1974 to stand at Newhaven Park Stud (NSW). He was an immediate success, being crowned champion first-season sire in 1977/'78. His best horse was the redoubtable 1981 AJC Doncaster H. hero Lawman (Aus), a member of his second crop. Lawman's many great runs included twice finishing among the place-getters in the MVRC Cox Plate.

He finished third to Dulcify (NZ) (Decies {GB}) as a 3-year-old in 1979 and second two years later to the mighty Kingston Town (Aus) (Bletchingly {Aus}), whose dam Ada Hunter (Ger) was a daughter of Ribot's Premio Roma Vecchio-winning son Andrea Mategna (Ity).

Arguably the pick of the Ribot stallions to stand in New Zealand was Bucaroon, responsible for 1977 ARC Auckland Cup winner Royal Cadenza.

Ribot's influence at stud goes far beyond the headline-makers at whom we have looked in this tribute, with many other of his sons and grandsons enjoying success at stud around the world, over and above the ones we have examined here. In the months subsequent to Ribot's birth 70 years ago, Federico Tesio may have felt that he had merely produced a little acorn, but the history books now show that that little acorn grew into a truly mighty Italian oak.

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EUROPEAN NEWS

Pyledriver Cont.

He added, "It was not a nice race for us and then there was a bit of a bumping match and that horse [Channel Cat] came down which was sad, that bumped us too and then after that Martin [Dwyer] just looked after him.

"It was just one of those you have to put a line through, it's disappointing to go a long way to get a race like that but that happens--it's the luck of the draw." **Cont. p8**



Pyledriver | [Racingfotos.com](https://www.racingfotos.com)

Pyledriver Cont.

A winner of the G1 Coronation Cup last June, the bay added a Lingfield listed affair in November and then was a good second in the G1 Longines Hong Kong Vase on Dec. 12.

“He’s fine, he didn’t really have a race and he only blew for about five minutes,” the trainer, who missed traveling to Riyadh due to a COVID positive, said. “He looked fantastic this morning, they took a video for me and he’s 100% sound. If he comes home fine then he’ll continue on to his road to Dubai and we’ll go for the Sheema Classic.

“It was just one of the things, from me testing positive and not being able to go, I was disappointed about that, then things just didn’t go to plan. It wasn’t meant to be.”

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BRITAIN

CONDITIONS RESULTS:

3rd-Wolverhampton, £5,500, Cond, 2-26, 4yo/up, 13f 219y (AWT), 3:08.81, st.

OWEN LITTLE (GB) (g, 4, Sakhee--Three Heart's {GB}, by Three Valleys) Lifetime Record: 8-2-2-0, \$12,038. O-Ms Sara Humber; B-Prospect Stud (GB); T-Matt Crawley.

8th-Wolverhampton, £5,500, Cond, 2-26, 4yo/up, 9f 105y (AWT), 2:00.86, st.

STRATEGIC FORTUNE (IRE) (g, 5, Power {GB}--Jenniings {Ire}, by Jeremy) Lifetime Record: 22-2-3-1, \$20,044. O-B N Fulton; B-Caterina Dargan (IRE); T-John Butler.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Watermelon Sugar (Ire), g, 3, Gutaifan (Ire)--Looks Great (GB), by New Approach (Ire). Wolverhampton, 2-26, 6f 20y (AWT), 1:14.27. B-Aughamore Stud (IRE). *1ST-TIME STARTER. **€11,000 Wlg '19 GOFNOV; 8,000gns Ylg '20 TATASY.

FRANCE

Sunday's Results:

3rd-Lyon La Soie, €19,000, Mdn, 2-27, 3yo, 10 3/4f (AWT), 2:18.07, st.

SAFNI (IRE) (c, 3, Invincible Spirit {Ire}--Savanne {Ire} {GSW-Fr, \$139,572}, by Rock of Gibraltar {Ire}) was swiftly into stride from an outer gate and raced in a prominent second passing the judge first time in this debut. Bustled along at the top of the straight, the 6-5 pick hit the front with 300 metres remaining and was pushed out in the closing stages to prevail by 3/4-of-a-

length from Saslong (Fr) (Shalaa {Ire}). He is the fourth of five foals and second scorer produced by G3 Prix de Royaumont heroine Savanne (Ire) (**Rock of Gibraltar {Ire}**), herself one of four black-type winners out of G3 Lillie Langtry Fillies' S. victrix Sevens (Fr) (Galileo {Ire}). The February-foaled homebred bay is half to a 2-year-old colt by Sea the Stars (Ire). Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, €9,500. **Video, sponsored by TVG.** 1ST-TIME STARTER. O/B-Gestut Ammerland (IRE); T-Andre Fabre.

CONDITIONS RESULTS:

6th-Bordeaux Le Bouscat, €22,000, Cond, 2-27, 3yo, 9 1/2ft, 2:12.36, vsf.

ZARAKHAN (FR) (c, 3, Zarak {Fr}--Reem {Fr}, by Lawman {Fr}) Lifetime Record: 3-2-0-1, €23,780. O-Sheikh Abdullah bin Khalifa Al Thani; B-SCEA du Haras de Victot (FR); T-Didier Guillemin.

4th-Bordeaux Le Bouscat, €20,000, Cond, 2-27, 4yo/up, 7ft, 1:32.64, vsf.

BAYOUN (FR) (g, 9, Kouroun {Fr}--Baenia {Fr}, by Verglas {Ire}) Lifetime Record: MSP-Fr, 29-14-9-1, €297,140. O-Mme Thierry Lemer; B-Henri de la Chauvelais (FR); T-Thierry Lemer. *Full to Bamiyan (Fr), GSW-Fr, \$265,978.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Black Wall (Fr), c, 3, Willywell (Fr)--Blue Risk (Fr), by Take Risks (Fr). Lyon La Soie, 2-27, 9f (AWT), 1:53.74. B-Ecurie Jean-Paul Gauvin & Jean-Pierre Gauvin (FR).

**IN UAE:**

Day Approach (GB), g, 5, Dawn Approach (Ire)--Alzanti, by Arch. Jebel Ali, 2-27, Hcp. (AED80k), 1200m, 1:11.89. O-Al Rashid Stables LLC. B-Panda Bloostock (GB). T-Ahmad bin Harmash. *€17,000 Wlg '17 GOFNOV; 9,000gns Ylg '18 TATOCT; £90,000 2yo '19 GOFAPR.

Celtic Prince (GB), g, 7, Shamardal--Opera Comique (Fr) (GSP-Ire), by Singspiel (Ire). Jebel Ali, 2-27, Hcp. (AED80k), 1600m, 1:37.08. O-Bouresly Racing Syndicate. B-Godolphin (GB). T-Rashed Bouresly. *1/2 to Debussy (Ire) (Diesis {GB}), GSW & G1SP-Eng, GSW-Fr, GISW-US, \$1,294,560; Entertainment (GB) (Halling), SP-Eng; and Laugh Aloud (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}), GSW-Eng, \$132,709.

Lost Eden (Ire), g, 5, Sea The Stars (Ire). See “Dubai”.

WORLDWIDE NEWS

Sunday, Nakayama, Japan

NAKAYAMA KINEN-G2, ¥129,320,000, Nakayama, 2-27, 4yo/up, 1800mT, 1:46.40, fm.

1--**PANTHALASSA (JPN)**, 119, c, 3, Lord Kanaloa (Jpn)

1st Dam: Miss Pemberley (Ire), by Montjeu (Ire)

2nd Dam: Stitching (Ire), by High Estate (Ire)

3rd Dam: Itching (Ire), by Thatching (Ire)

O-Hiroo Race; B-Hidenori Kimura (Jpn); T-Yoshito Yahagi; J-Yutaka Yoshida. ¥68,134,000. Lifetime Record: 19-5-4-0. *1/2 to Etendard (Jpn) (Deep Impact {Jpn}), GSP-Jpn, \$770,677; and Dimension (Jpn) (Deep Impact {Jpn}), MGSP-Jpn, \$1,030,766. **Werk Nick Rating: B+**. [Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree.](#)

2--**Karate (Jpn)**, 123, h, 6, To the Glory (Jpn)--Lady no Punch (Jpn), by French Deputy. O-Hikaru Odagiri; B-Yasuhiro Nakachi (Jpn); ¥27,324,000.

3--**Admire Hadar (Jpn)**, 121, c, 4, Lord Kanaloa (Jpn)--Swear Toshō (Jpn), by Deep Impact (Jpn). **1ST GROUP BLACK-TYPE.** (¥41,000,000 Ylg '19 JRHAJUL). O-Junko Kondo; B-Northern Farm (Jpn); ¥17,162,000.

Margins: 2HF, NK, 2. Odds: 3.40, 5.70, 4.50.

Also Ran: Galore Creek (Jpn), Win Exceed (Jpn), Humidor (Jpn), Danon the Kid (Jpn), World Winds (Jpn), Red Scion (Jpn), Contra Check (Jpn), World Revival (Jpn), Maltese Diosa (Jpn), Sossusvlei (Jpn), Luftstrom (Jpn), Go for the Summit (Jpn), Taurus Gemini (Jpn).

[Click for the JRA chart & video](#) or the [free Equineline.com catalogue-style pedigree.](#)



Panthalassa | JRA

Sunday, Hanshin, Japan

HANKYU HAI-G3, ¥82,520,000, Hanshin, 2-27, 4yo/up, 1400mT, 1:19.90, fm.

1--**DIATONIC (JPN)**, 123, h, 7, by Lord Kanaloa (Jpn)

1st Dam: To Harmony (Jpn), by Sunday Silence

2nd Dam: Air Leggiero (Jpn), by Allez Milord

3rd Dam: Alpine Swift, by Storm Bird

O-Silk Racing; B-Sakai Farm (Jpn); T-Takayuki Yasuda; J-Yasunari Iwata. ¥43,504,000. Lifetime Record: G1SP-Jpn, 21-8-3-3. *1/2 to Leo Prime (Jpn) (Sakura Bakushin O {Jpn}), GSP-Jpn, \$1,065,453. **Werk Nick Rating: A+++**. ***Triple Plus***.

[Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree.](#)

2--**Travesura (Jpn)**, 123, h, 7, Dream Journey (Jpn)--Jaja Machan (Jpn), by Admire Cozzene (Jpn). O-Teruya Yoshida; B-Shadai Farm (Jpn); ¥17,144,000.

3--**Sunrise Honest (Jpn)**, 123, h, 5, Daiwa Major (Jpn)--Saimon Dolce (Jpn), by Jungle Pocket (Jpn). **1ST GROUP BLACK-TYPE.** O-Takao Matsuoka; B-Yanagawa Farm (Jpn); ¥11,072,000.

Margins: NK, 2, 1 1/4. Odds: 2.10, 15.80, 11.20.

Also Ran: Relationship (Jpn), Gray in Green (Jpn), Mikki Brillante (Jpn), Groove It (Jpn), Taisei Vision (Jpn), Ringoame (Jpn), Eighteen Girl (Jpn), Seizinger (Jpn), Mondreise (Jpn), Vigenere (Jpn), Kurino Gaudi (Jpn). [Click for the JRA chart & video](#) or the [free Equineline.com catalogue-style pedigree.](#)

CALIFORNIA SPANGLE PASSES TEST IN CLASSIC CUP

by Alan Carasso

The jury was very much out on **California Spangle (Ire)** (**Starspangledbanner {Aus}**) going into Sunday's HK\$12-million Hong Kong Classic Cup as to whether the speedy 4-year-old would be suited by an 1800-metre trip after just failing to see out the Hong Kong Classic Mile a month ago, albeit from a miserable draw. It took less than 107 seconds to deliver the verdict, as the joint-highest galloper in the field took command at once from a middle barrier and proved not for catching.

Away without incident from gate six, California Spangle was soon in front and was tracked by **Money Catcher (NZ)** (Ferlax {NZ}) as they went a decent gallop up front. Switched off nicely for Zac Purton, California Spangle lobbed along traveling very comfortably on the turn and was held together as the field turned into the straight. Felt for with about 300 metres to travel, California Spangle maintained a good margin and was kept busy through the line. **Turin Redstar (GB)** (Dubawi {Ire}), a running-on fourth in the Classic Mile, weaved his way through and outfinished Money Catcher for second, while the previously unbeaten **Romantic Warrior (Ire)** (Acclamation {GB}) could never get on the track, but finished very well to be fourth in a useful Derby trial. [Cont. p10](#)



California Spangle | HKJC photo

Hong Kong Classic Cup Cont.

It was a first Classic Cup win for Purton, who has won nearly everything else there is to win in Hong Kong.

“It’s nice to get it [Classic Cup] on the board and on such a special horse as well,” the Australian said. “From the first time I sat on him, I could feel how much quality he had and this might not be his proper distance but because he’s so good--against his own age group--he’s been able to do it today. Of course, I was worried the last 200m. He was out on his feet and it was a good effort.”

And with that, it's on to the BMW Hong Kong Derby Mar. 20, the 10-furlong trip remaining a query.

“We always had confidence this horse would run the distance because his dam is by High Chaparral, a stayer who won the Irish Derby,” said trainer Tony Cruz, a four-time Derby winner as a jockey and twice as a trainer. “I’m sure he’s got that sort of pedigree in him and I believe he will get the distance.

He continued, “I believe he will wait in front and I believe he will run out the distance. The plan from day one was that this horse--even though he’s a real sprinter--was to wait for the straight, wait for the opposition to come and then you make a move. He was under control for the whole race.”

Pedigree Notes

The 23rd worldwide stakes winner for his sire, California Spangle is a half-brother to Wychwood Warrior, thrice stakes placed at distances up to a mile and is one of five winners from six to race out of a half-sister to Shakespearean (Ire) (Giant's Causeway), winner of the G2 Hungerford S. and G3 Solario S. going seven furlongs. Third dam Basilea was responsible for Pont-Aven (Ire) (Try My Best), a Group 3 winner over five and placed in the G1 Poule d'Essai des Pouliches who went on to produce the likes of multiple group winner Josr Algarhound (Ire)

(Darshaan {GB}), as well as the stakes-winning and multiple group-placed Traou Mad (Ire) (Barathea {Ire}) and Cap Coz (Ire) (Indian Ridge {Ire}). Pearlitas Passion's most recent listed produce is the 2-year-old filly Alchimia (Ire) (Fast Company {Ire}).

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Sunday, Sha Tin, Hong Kong

HONG KONG CLASSIC CUP-LR, HK\$12,000,000 (£1,152,151/ €1,379,577/A\$2,157,904/US\$1,536,956), 4yo, 1800mT, 1:46.98, gd.

1--**CALIFORNIA SPANGLE (IRE)**, 126, g, 4, by **Starspangledbanner (Aus)**

1st Dam: Pearlitas Passion (Ire), by High Chaparral (Ire)

2nd Dam: Paimpolaise (Ire), by Priolo

3rd Dam: Basilea (Fr), by Frere Basile (Fr)

1ST BLACK-TYPE WIN. (€150,000 Ylg '19 GOFORB). O-Howard Liang Yum Shing; B-M Enright; T-Tony Cruz A S; J-Zac Purton; HK\$6,840,000. Lifetime Record: 8-6-2-0, HK\$15,425,300.

*1/2 to Wychwood Warrior (Ire) (Lope de Vega {Ire}), MSP-Ire, SP-UAE.

2--**Turin Redstar (GB)**, 126, g, 4, Dubawi (Ire)--Irish Rookie (Ire), by Azamour (Ire). O-Tsoi Yuk Ham, Sheldon Tse Hiu Tung & Ken Huang Jian Hua; B-Haras de Saint Pair; T-Douglas Whyte; J-Alexis Badel; HK\$2,640,000.

3--**Money Catcher (NZ)**, 126, g, 4, Ferlax (NZ)--Warren's Sister (NZ), by Savabeel (Aus). (NZ\$13,000 Wlg '18 NZBMAY; NZ\$60,000 2yo '19 NZBRTR). O-The Sunflower Syndicate; B-Haunui Bloodstock Ltd; T-Frankie Lor F C; J-Derek Leung K C; HK\$1,380,000.

Margins: 1, 1, HF. Odds: 9-10, 20-1, 61-1.

Also Ran: Romantic Warrior (Ire), Senor Toba (Aus), The Irishman (NZ), Ima Single Man (Aus), Nordic Sky (Brz), Rocket Spade (Aus), Mr Ascendancy (Ire), Gorytus (Ire), Intrepid Winner (Aus), Hit The Shot (Aus), Fa Fa (NZ). **Click for the HKJC.com chart, PPs and sectional timing. VIDEO.**

DUBAI

Sunday's Results:

JEBEL ALI S. SPONSORED BY ARM HOLDING-Listed,

AED500,000, Jebel Ali, 2-27, NH 4yo/up & SH 3yo/up, 1950m, 1:57.58, ft.

1--**LOST EDEN (IRE)**, 125, g, 5, **Sea The Stars (Ire)--Ghostflower (Ire)**, by **Dansili (GB)**. **1ST BLACK-TYPE WIN.** (€120,000 Wlg '17 GOFNOV; €200,000 Ylg '18 GOF OCT).

O-Sheikh Mohammed Obaid Al Maktoum. B-Mogeely Stud Ltd. (Ire). T-Doug Watson. J-Andrea Atzeni. AED300,000. Lifetime Record:

9-4-2-0, \$114,088.

2--**Irish Freedom**, 127, g, 8, Pioneerof the Nile--Island Striker, by Smart Strike. (\$285,000 Ylg '15 KEESEP). O-J W, J & M J Moraes. B-Philip & Brenda Robertson (KY). T-Bhupat Seemar. AED100,000.

TAYLOR MADE FOR YOU!

3--**Down on Da Bayou**, 121, m, 5, Super Saver--Bayou Tortuga, by Empire Maker. (\$220,000 RNA Wlg '17 KEENOV; \$150,000 Ylg '18 KEESEP; €190,000 2yo '19 ARQMAY). O-Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed Al Maktoum. B-McCann Bloodstock, Mark Kelder & Doug Richards (KY). T-Salem bin Ghadayer. AED50,000.

Margins: 1 3/4, 1 1/4, 2HF.

Also Ran: Zaman (GB), Syrtis (GB), Valyrian Steel (Ire), Saqqara King, Maydanny (Ire), Saltarin Dubai (Arg). **VIDEO**.

JEBEL ALI SPRINT SPONSORED BY ARM HOLDING-Listed, AED500,000, Jebel Ali, 2-27, NH & SH 3yo/up, 1000m, :58.80, ft. 1--**KHUZAAM**, 125, g, 6, Kitten's Joy--Afraah, by **Hard Spun**. 1ST

BLACK-TYPE WIN. O-Shadwell. B-Shadwell Farm, LLC (KY). T-Doug Watson. J-Pat Dobbs. AED300,000. Lifetime Record: MSP-Eng, SP-Fr, 15-5-5-1, \$218,273.

2--**Alkaraama**, 125, h, 6, **War Front**--Agreeable Miss, by **Speightstown**. (\$600,000 Wlg '16 KEENOV). O-Shadwell. B-Frank Hutchinson (KY). T-Musabbeh Al Mheiri. AED100,000.

EATON SALES SOLD

3--**King Leo (GB)**, 125, g, 4, The Last Lion (Ire)--Dijarvo (GB), by Iceman (GB). **1ST BLACK TYPE**. (170,000gns Ylg '19 TATOCT). O-Sultan Ali. B-Llety Farms (GB). T-Ahmad bin Harmash. AED50,000.

Margins: 2, 2 1/4, 3/4.

Also Ran: Fanaar (Ire), El Baareq, Leading Spirit (Ire), Premier Star, Karaginsky (GB), Desert Safari (Ire), Barack Beach, Thammin (GB). **VIDEO**.



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WRITTEN TYCOON COLT ON TOP AT INGLIS MELBOURNE PREMIER



Lot 251, a colt by Written Tycoon, topped Sunday's session | Inglis

By Bren O'Brien

The relentless record-breaking run of the Australian yearling sales season rolled on to Day 1 of the Inglis Melbourne Premier Sale, where an uber-confident buying bench pushed the sale average up by over 13%, highlighted by the \$675,000 paid for a son of Written Tycoon by Hawkes Racing.

At A Glance

- The average jumped 13.1% on Day 1 this year to \$162,890, while the median leapt to \$140,000, up from \$110,000, while the gross hit a record-breaking \$32.27 million (up from \$29.1 million).
- The clearance rate was the only metric that didn't exceed last year, 82% as compared to 89%.
- The buyers' bench was dominated by local trainers, with Ciaran Maher Bloodstock spending \$1.33 million across eight purchases and MG Price Racing and Breeding totalling \$1.23 million over seven horses.
- In their first time as a Victorian-based vendor, Widden Stud lead vendors on aggregate with \$2.4 million across 12 yearlings,

while Gilgai Farm heads all vendors on average, with four sold at an average of \$370,000.

- Snitzel heads the sire averages on \$340,000 across five sales, while Deep Field leads aggregate sales on \$2.535 million.
- Hawkes Racing repeated what they did with future Group 1 winner Ole Kirk three years ago, paying \$675,000 for a son of Written Tycoon from the draft of Gilgai Farm.
- Hong Kong Jockey Club paid \$550,000 for a son of I Am Invincible from the Yarraman Park draft, the same price China Horse Club/Newgate and Trilogy Racing did for a Snitzel colt from the draft of Willow Park Stud.

History Repeats for Team Hawkes

Having sourced three Group 1 winners out of Gilgai Farm at this sale over the years, it should have surprised nobody that the last bidder standing for the much-anticipated Lot 251, the colt by Written Tycoon, was Hawkes Racing, who paid \$675,000 for the privilege.

Hawkes paid the exact same price for a son of Written Tycoon through this sale three years ago and he developed into the dual Group 1 winner and now Vinery Stud stallion Ole Kirk and were happy to revisit the same formula when seeing off Anthony and Sam Freedman to land the prized colt.

He is the half-brother to G1 Newmarket H. winner The Quarterback (**Street Boss** {USA}), Group 2 winner Philippi (Host {Chi}) and three other stakes placegetters, including Octane (I Am Invincible), who holds the record at this Sale having sold for \$1.4 million by Gilgai in 2017.

Their dam, Soorena (Encosta De Lago), has been a tremendous commercial producer for Gilgai Principal Rick Jamieson, who bred and raced her for just one start before sending her for a very lucrative breeding career. She sadly died three months after foaling this colt.

Hawkes Racing have also purchased Group 1 winners All Too Hard and Masked Crusader (Toronado {Ire}) from Gilgai, so were understandably keen to go back again.

"No-one has ever walked out of this place and driven home with a bad one from the yearling sale. But I got here the other day and it said on the wall that they (Gilgai) had 149 yearlings sold for about 14 Group 1 winners. It's a pretty fair old stat," Wayne Hawkes said.



Wayne Hawkes | Bronwen Healy

"He is a proper breeder this guy. Whenever you buy a horse off Gilgai, you know you are going to pay a premium. He's a premium breeder it's as simple as that."

Hawkes said the Written Tycoon colt sold himself on looks, let alone on pedigree.

"He is just a beautifully balanced colt with a big fat pedigree and we've had some good luck with Written Tycoon in the last few years with Ole Kirk and Dirty Work. This bloke has a stallion's pedigree, there is no doubt about that," he said.

It was another monumental Premier moment for Gilgai, which opted to consign its best lot through its home sale and has reaped the rewards.

"He's a gorgeous horse. He's the last of the mare and I always thought he was the best out of the mare, not a heavy colt like the last two she's thrown. He is just a real athlete and as good as we can breed, that horse," Gilgai Farm manager Kelly Skillecorn said. "We sold every one of her foals at Inglis. She had \$2.8 million in two horses and now \$675,000.

"It's good to have the good horses back here. We went north for a few years, we lost our way, but now we're back. It's good to be home."

Skillecorn indicated there would be a fair chance that Jamieson would remain in the horse, who is likely to race in similar interests as G1 William Reid S. winner Masked Crusader.

Deep Pockets for Star Colt

Gilgai had earlier sold a Deep Field colt, Lot 117, to China Horse Club/Newgate Bloodstock and Trilogy Racing for \$520,000. That colt is out of stakes-performed mare Mossin' Around (Mossman), whose grandam, Rhythmic Charm (NZ) (Sackford {USA}) won a G1 Sires' Produce S. and who was purchased by Dermot Farrington on Jamieson's behalf for \$325,000 in 2017.

"It's a great result and it's always reassuring when two of the best judges in the game are on him (Newgate and Hawkes the underbidders)," Skillecorn said.

"He has been so popular and all the right judges were on him. (Deep Field) is an exceptional stallion who can do no wrong. He's out of a good, young, fast mare and everyone liked him and he made his month."

China Horse Club's Michael Smith was on hand to do the bidding and sign the docket, and said he was a horse that had featured high up on their radar all week.

"He's a great colt. We are big believers in Deep Field. He was off an outstanding farm and we are delighted to have bought him," Smith said.

"We've had a great partnership with Newgate for a long time. Trilogy has come on board this year and it's going exceedingly well so far, so we are looking forward to racing him with them."

Mossin' Around doesn't have a current foal but visited All Too Hard last year.

Middle Market Powers Major Growth

While it wasn't a day of fireworks, the sheer consistence of strong results propelled the sale to record levels, to Inglis' delight. While all the key metrics, average, aggregate and median, tracked record levels, the one stat which summed up the market best was the fact that on day 1 there were 62 horses sell for \$200,000 or more. That is up from 42 at the same stage last year.

Sebastian Hutch--CEO Inglis Bloodstock--said after last year's huge growth, he was conscious of the need not to raise expectations too high, but the growth has continued at a quite extraordinary rate.

"We were expecting the sale to be up, but I think we were pleasantly surprised by the extent with which it was up," he said.

"I think the most extraordinary thing has been the variety of the buyers. We have good visibility on who is bidding during the day, not just buying but bidding, and you go through who bid today there is hardly a major participant in Australian racing that didn't either buy or bid on a horse today," he said. "People are engaged and looking to buy horses in the sale and a very broad cross-section of major players bought horses today. It's a great sign of the standing of the sale and we have plenty to look forward to tomorrow."

Vinnie Colt Headed to Hong Kong

Craig Rounsefell of Boomer Bloodstock (FBAA), buying on behalf of the Hong Kong Jockey Club, set the Day 1 pace, going to \$550,000 for Lot 78, the I Am Invincible colt from the draft of Yarraman Park.



Lot 78, a Vinnie colt | Inglis

The colt is the first foal is out of stakes-placed Mark Two (NZ) (Pins), who was purchased for \$600,000 in foal with this colt in 2020.

Rounsefell said the colt was very much at the top of his list and he was delighted to have secured him and at what he thought was a very good price.

"He's an exciting colt. I've been here all week looking and I Am Invincible needs no introduction. The colt is off Yarraman Park, which is top of the tree when it comes to producing sound racehorses and top-class performers. A beautiful colt, a great family and he was top of our hitlist," he said.

Mark Two was placed at Group 2 level and is the sister of Group 3 winner Whistling Dixie (NZ) (Pins) and half-sister to Atmosphere (NZ) (Savabeel), who was placed at Group 1 level in Hong Kong under the name Victory Magic (NZ).

"You have that Hong Kong connection in the second dam with a Group 1 performer. I love these young mares and Vinnie is producing these tough sprinters and Group 1 winners. Obviously, Home Affairs right now is doing the job here in Australia," he said.

"This colt is perfect for the ISG Sale in Hong Kong and we are delighted to get him."

Matt Scown, General Manager at Yarraman Park, said that the colt, who was foaled on Oct. 30, had come on remarkably through the yearling preparation and shaped as a 3-year-old type of horse.

"He's a later foal, but he was well-grown and he's going to continue to develop. He was a beautiful horse and Boomer obviously saw the upside in the horse," he said.

"He is going to do really well by the time he gets up to Hong Kong. He's a suitable horse and he's got a lot of Hong Kong

horses through his family and he is just a beautiful horse and Vinnie's doing really well up in Hong Kong.

"Time is his best friend. He's a late foal, a first foal, and he has got a lot to come and I think he will--he's a beautiful horse." Mark Two has an I Am Invincible colt at foot and now she's back in foal to the same sire.

Rounsefell also came together with Murray Thoroughbreds to pay \$320,000 for Lot 51, a Toronado (Ire) filly from the draft of B2B Thoroughbreds.

"Peter Murray has got a nice broodmare band and races some select fillies. She's a spectacular physical from B2B and has a very nice female family underneath her. She'll be a nice one to race here in Victoria," he said.

Legend Racing Lands Snitzel Colt

That price of \$550,000 was matched later in the day when Bon Ho went to \$550,000 for Lot 185, a colt by Snitzel from the draft of Willow Park Stud.

The colt's dam, Reply Churlish (NZ) (O'Reilly {NZ}) has been a terrific commercial success for New Zealand breeder Alan Galbraith, having produced a \$1-million Snitzel filly at the Inglis Easter Yearling Sale four years ago, and fillies by Exceed And Excel and Pierro for \$320,000 and \$100,000 respectively.

This is her first colt and he was well sought-after, with Ho's Legend Racing landing the decisive blow in a strong bidding dual, and the colt headed to the Cranbourne stables of Lloyd Kennewell.

"I like Snitzel as a stallion. He has been very good for a long time and I think this horse will be very good for me," Ho said.

"He was a standout conformation for me, arguably one of the best colts in the sale I believe. A lot of people, including Jonathan (D'Arcy) recommended this colt for me but Lloyd really liked him so he will train him and hopefully be another great horse for Legend Racing."



Craig Rounsefell | Bronwen Healy



Bon Ho | Bronwen Healy

Glenn Burrows of Willow Park Stud runs Galbraith's Australian mares and said he had considered putting the Snitzel colt in the Inglis Classic Sale before being convinced by Inglis Victorian Bloodstock Manager James Price to instead target the Premier Sale.

"We came here thinking he might have been a \$350,000 to \$400,000 colt, so to get \$550,000 is fantastic. I have got to give James Price a rap here, he convinced us to come down here," he said. "We were going to go to Classic with the colt and the little bit of extra time did him the world of good and it certainly paid dividends today. Bon has had a lot of luck and I hope it continues for him."

Reply Churlish was a five-time winner on the track and is a half-sister to Group 3 winners Darci Be Good (NZ) (Darci Brahma {NZ}) and Babylon Berlin (NZ) (All Too Hard). Further back on the page are Group 2 winners Only Words (End Sweep {USA}), Chat (Deep Field) and Holy Snow (Fastnet Rock).

"This has been a terrific mare for us. I bought her off the track and sold her to a very good client, Alan Galbraith who took on a couple of partners," Burrows said.

She has an Exceedance weanling filly and will likely head back to Snitzel this year having missed in 2021. Willow Park sold three yearlings on the day for a total of \$690,000 and with four more to sell on Monday with Burrows delighted with his decision to sell in the Melbourne market.

"I just can't believe it. I keep the stats as everyone knows and they have just been fantastic. We thought the Classic Sale was unbelievable with inspections but pound for pound we've actually had a lot more traffic through here and we've sold three out of three so far. We've got a few good ones tomorrow and I am feeling pretty confident," he said.

Dundeel for Laurie rewards Musk Creek's charity

Matt Laurie was smitten by Lot 154, the Dundeel (NZ) colt out of Personalised (Snitzel) on first inspection this week and fought off substantial competition to get him for \$520,000. The colt was bred by Musk Creek Farm, who secured the nomination for Dundeel through a charity auction to aid Tye Angland. It went and sourced Personalised, the half-sister to G1 VRC Oaks winner Personal (Fastnet Rock), for \$525,000. It sold the Spirit Of Boom colt she was in foal with when she was purchased for \$575,000 at last year's Magic Millions Gold Coast Yearling Sale and got further reward when the Dundeel colt sold for a further \$520,000.

"It's a great reward to see him develop on the farm since day one and then to go to a good home like Matt's and he stays close to home which is good," Musk Creek Farm manager Scott Williamson said, referencing Laurie's nearby base at Mornington. "We are delighted. You hope they make that sort of price when you bring them to the sales and he had plenty of interest."

Williamson said there was a sense of satisfaction given the circumstances around paying \$100,000 for the original nomination for charity

"And with her first two foals making \$575,000 and now \$520,000, she is a very valuable mare for us. She has got a Zoustar filly at the farm now that is outstanding and arguably our best foal that she has had so far which is very exciting for a small boutique farm like us."

Lot 154's pedigree would suggest he would be a Classic horse and that's exactly what Laurie's expectations of him are.

"When I first saw him, I thought he was such a quality horse and he just ticked all the boxes, so we were very keen to try and get him," he said. "We will give him plenty of time. He's a Classic style of horse, he's got the looks to match and the pedigree to go with that."



Lot 154, a Dundeel colt | Inglis

"He's a very well-balanced horse, a nice moving colt and he's a very attractive colt to go with it. We think that maybe he might be a stallion proposition. That's the dream, and hopefully that comes to fruition."

The Cross Works for Tfi

It was the emerging success that Tony Fung is having with sons of Snitzel's out of High Chaparral (Ire) mare that saw him go to \$520,000 under his TFI banner to secure Lot 163, a colt offered by Widden Stud.

The Sun Stud-bred colt is out of stakes-placed Prairie Star (NZ) (High Chaparral {Ire}), the dam of stakes-placed duo Fortress Command (Sebring) and Leotie (Darci Brahma {NZ}) and the half-sister to Listed winner Marianne (Darci Brahma {NZ}).

There have been seven runners for Snitzel out of High Chaparral mares for five winners, among them recent Fung-owned winner Best Of Bordeaux and Williamsburg.

"We were really excited to get him, he was our top pick of the sale, by one of our favourites sires Snitzel," TFI representative Sally Williams said.

"He was a standout of a physical. He was a really athletic colt, we loved the way he moved and there wasn't much to fault about him.

"She's a High Chaparral mare, and Best Of Bordeaux, who is one of the favourites for the Slipper, is bred on the same cross. We had another winner through the week, Williamsburg, with Gerald Ryan and Sterling Alexiou, who was out of a High Chaparral mare by Snitzel as well. Hopefully it can be another good one for the cross."

Williams said a decision on which trainer the colt goes to will be made at a later date.

Widden Stud sold the colt on behalf of Sun Stud, who sold Prairie Star (NZ) (High Chaparral {Ire}) to Robert Crabtree, via Belmont Bloodstock (FBAA) for \$300,000 last year.

"He was a real star, a much-admired colt and we were hoping that he would sell for something around that and he sold

according to the interest shown," Widden Stud's Antony Thompson said of the colt.

"He was bred and owned by Sun Stud, he carries their brand, so he had been down here at Widden Victoria and we thought he would be a star wherever he went but that he'd stand out here and with Widden Victoria in its first full year of operation, it's really nice thing to be able to sell a lovely horse on behalf of Sun Stud."

Prairie Star foaled an Exceed And Excel colt last year and then visited Tagaloo.

Day 2 of the sale commences at 10 a.m. AEDT on Monday.

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- Inglis Premier: Yarns With Gus**
- Surround Success For Clear Mountain Fairview**
- Connections Cast: Duncan Grimley**
- Value Buy: Inglis Melbourne Premier Day 1**
- Jacquinot Eyes Slipper**

AUSTRALIAN GROUP 1 RACES – 2022		
Date	Race	Track
Mar. 5	G1 Kennedy Australian Guineas	Flemington
	G1 Randwick Guineas	Randwick
	G1 Canterbury S.	Randwick
Mar. 12	G1 Newmarket H.	Flemington
	G1 TAB Australian Cup	Flemington
	G1 Coolmore Classic	Randwick

