

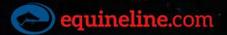


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## CHARGE IT LOOKS LIKE A FUTURE STAR



**Charge It** | Ryan Thompson

*The Week in Review, by Bill Finley*

No matter how talented a horse might be, going from a maiden win into a race like the GI **Curlin** Florida Derby is supposed to be too much to ask. You're not seasoned, experienced or battle tested, and those things matter. That's why I thought 3-1 was a ridiculous price on **Charge It (Tapit)** in Saturday's Florida Derby. Was I ever wrong.

After finishing second in his debut in January, the Todd Pletcher-trained colt returned Feb. 12 to win a Gulfstream maiden by 8 1/2 lengths. It was a big effort and it earned him a 93 Beyer and the 'TDN Rising Star' designation, which put him in the same ballpark as many of the top 3-year-old colts out there. But he hadn't beaten anything of note and, in the Florida Derby, would be going up against some of the stars of the 3-year-old division. Simplification (**Not This Time**) was coming off a win in the GII Fasig-Tipton Fountain of Youth S., White Abarrio (Race Day) had won the GIII Holy Bull S. and Classic Causeway (Giant's Causeway) was coming off back-to-back wins in the GIII Sam F. Davis S. and the GII Lambholm South Tampa Bay Derby. All three looked like legitimate candidates for the GI Kentucky Derby.

Charge It didn't win. He finished second behind White Abarrio, losing by 1 1/4 lengths. He finished a length in front of third-place finisher Simplification.

**Cont. p3**

## FROM DUST TO DUST: DO "TERRIBLE" RACETRACK BARN EXACERBATE EIPH?

*by Dan Ross*

For all the satchels of research dollars and reams of ink devoted to exercise-induced pulmonary hemorrhage (EIPH), it remains a topic Swiss cheese riddled with unknowns.

Which means that, as the sport continues to move away from Lasix as a crutch to manage the problem--especially when the federal Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act (HISA) outlines a timeframe for a total race-day Lasix ban--various lines of inquiry beg pursuit.

Given the sometimes rundown, poorly ventilated state of racetrack barns around the country, perhaps the most urgent one is this: How much of an impact do these conditions have on a horse's EIPH susceptibility?

**Cont. p6**

## IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

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Nancy Sexton highlights Ben Sangster, who is represented by a pair of Group 1 performers this season, including Luxembourg (Ire) (Camelot (GB)).

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**Monday, April 4, 2022**



Fans filled the infield at Oaklawn Park on Saturday for Arkansas Derby day. | Coady

**A PINHOOK TO JUSTIFY PARRISH PRINCIPLES 11**

Veteran horseman G.W. Parrish purchased a colt by *Justify* for \$25,000 last September. Returned to the sales ring at OBS March, the youngster sold for \$425,000.

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Wesley Ward's first Breeders' Cup winner, Hootenanny, stands stud at the trainer's Ward Ranch.



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## The Week in Review *(cont. from p1)*

But his race was better than it looks. He ran like a horse who doesn't have the game figured out yet. White Abarrio got the jump on him on the far turn and assumed command after getting past Simplification and Pappacap (**Gun Runner**), but Charge It was far from done. By the sixteenth-pole, Charge It had moved into second and had about two lengths to make up. From there to the wire, he ran like a big goofball.

Here's the footnote from the race: "...(Charge It) angled four wide near the quarter pole, lugged in under right-handed urging in upper stretch then again near the sixteenth pole, angled back outside of the winner leaving the sixteenth marker, switched back to the left lead and inched closer while still appearing to try to lug in under hand urging."

"Super pleased with the effort," Pletcher said. "To get a real education in a race like that was very encouraging. He got a little green down the lane. He kind of drifted in behind [White Abarrio] and felt like if he could have just run straight that last 100 yards, he was going to be right there. But I thought it was a huge effort, considering everything. Overcame some adversity, took some dirt, and did a lot of things right. Just didn't quite polish it off."

Said jockey Luis Saez, "He was a little bit everywhere at the top of the stretch, but, man, he has so much talent. I think he got a good education from this race. He's going to be a nice horse."

Charge It figures to benefit immensely from the experience and run even better in the Derby. That doesn't mean he will win the Derby, where he will face a field even tougher than the one he squared off against Saturday at Gulfstream, and his inexperience remains a factor. But by year's end, after races like the GI **Runhappy** Travers S. and the GI Breeders' Cup Classic, who will be regarded as the top member of this division? Charge It will absolutely be part of the conversation.

That would be good news for owner Mandy Pope, who has spent millions at the sales, primarily on broodmares, but has yet to come up with her first star. She bought Charge It's dam, I'll Take Charge (Indian Charlie), for \$2.2 million at the 2013 Keeneland September sale. I'll Take Charge is a half-sister to Grade I stakes winner **Take Charge Indy** (A.P. Indy) and Grade I winner and Eclipse Award champion **Will Take Charge** (Unbridled's Song). I'll Take Charge won only one of five career starts, earning just \$82,400, but seems ready to pay her owner back with what could be a stellar career as a broodmare.

**Cont. p4**



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## Classic Causeway's Race is a Mystery

Sent off at 7-2 in the Florida Derby, **Classic Causeway** (Giant's Causeway) had been among the more consistent members of the 3-year-old colt division, which makes his clunker in Saturday's race all the more perplexing. The winner of the GII Lambholm South Tampa Bay Derby led early on but was all done on the far turn. He finished 11th and last, beaten 21 1/4 lengths.

The race left his trainer, Brian Lynch, to guess what happened.

"Everything seems good. He scoped good and came back good this morning," Lynch said. "It's a bit of a head-scratcher. We'll digest it and go on from there. Everything is up in the air now. We'll let the dust settle and we'll make a decision in a few days."



Secret Oath | Coady Photography

## Secret Oath to the Kentucky Oaks

Trainer Wayne Lukas confirmed Sunday that **Secret Oath** (Arrogate) will go next in the GI Kentucky Oaks after finishing a game third against the boys Saturday in the GI Arkansas Derby.

"I don't want to run her in a 20-horse field and at an extra eighth of a mile," Lukas said. "That would be asking a lot of her. We'll look at the Oaks and see what we can do after that. I'm not saying we won't step outside the box again at some time. But at this point the Oaks is the logical place to go."

Lukas has nothing to apologize for. The 7-5 favorite in a \$1.25-million race with Kentucky Derby points up for grabs, Secret Oath was last down the backstretch before launching an eye-catching six-wide move on the far turn. She swept past horses, but simply couldn't keep it up. Nonetheless, it was a big effort.

"For her, the race didn't come together smoothly like we would have liked it," Lukas said. "She got shuffled back at the start and down the backside that horse [Ben Diesel] was laying on us a little bit and we couldn't get away from him. That monster move that she made on the far turn, you had to expect her to flatten out in the last sixteenth."

Cont. p5



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Lukas continued, “If she could have made that move all the way to the wire we would be open to the world. She made a beautiful move for roughly three-eighths. It was a monster move.”

In the Oaks, Secret Oath will vie for favoritism with Echo Zulu (**Gun Runner**), last year’s 2-year-old filly champion and the recent winner of the GII Fair Grounds Oaks.

### Uriah St. Lewis Does It Again

Parx-based trainer Uriah St. Lewis came into Saturday’s card at Aqueduct with a record of 0-for-30 on the year, not really a surprise since he is a low-percentage trainer. He may not win a lot, but he somehow finds a way to get the most out of horses who aren’t that talented.

For the St. Lewis-trained Forewarned (Flat Out), the bottom line is that the Ohio-bred 7-year-old has now earned \$870,883 in his career. That’s his total after he won Saturday’s \$150,000 GIII Excelsior S. Saturday at Aqueduct. This is what St. Louis does. He runs his horses, by modern day standards, often and isn’t afraid to throw them into races where they appear to be in over their heads. Last year, Forewarned won the Queens County S. at Aqueduct at odds of 42-1.

Then there’s Discreet Lover (Repent). St. Lewis ran him in the 2018 GI Jockey Club Gold Cup when it looked like he didn’t have a prayer. All he did was win at odds of 45-1 to earn \$433,125. He retired in 2020 with \$1,452,735 in career earnings.



Welcoming Forewarned back to winner's circle | *Susie Raisher*

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## Do Racetrack Barns Exacerbate EIPH?

*(cont. from 1)*

There have been efforts to find answers, however, including a recent multi-state study designed primarily to gauge the prevalence and severity of post-race EIPH in 2-year-olds.

"This is certainly the largest study of 2-year-old horses that's been conducted," said Dr. Warwick Bayly, dean of Washington State University's College of Veterinary Medicine and the lead researcher on the study, which took in video endoscopies of 893 2-year-olds after 1,071 races at 15 American racetracks.

The results of the endoscopies--taken between 30 to 60 minutes after the race--were then sent blind to a team of three observers who assigned an EIPH score of zero (none) to four (severe) to each.

Though these results are currently being spun into a peer-reviewed paper, Bayly shared some of the preliminary data with the *TDN*.



*Sarah Andrew*

As a comparison between 2-year-olds that received Lasix and those that didn't, the study "unfortunately lacked sufficient statistical power" because the bulk of the horses scoped--roughly 83%--ran Lasix free, said Bayly.

Nevertheless, despite Bayly calling the results of the 2-year-old study "pretty homogenous," the study has generated some conclusions of interest, including how:

- EIPH was found in 66% of cases, with scores of three or four occurring in 8% of cases. The prevalence and severity of EIPH in 2-year-olds, therefore, was consistent with that of older racehorses.
- The severity of EIPH appeared to vary with track location but not track surface--a trend, says Bayly, that warrants further investigation.

*Cont. p7*

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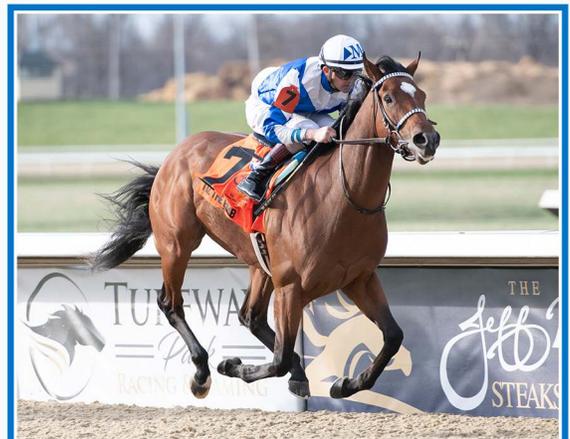
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*Owner Magdalena Racing; trainer Kenny McPeck; breeder Spendthrift Farm; consignor Eaton Sales.*

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Bayly and his fellow researchers didn't just study 2-year-olds; stakes-race performers aged three and older also formed a separate study group. From these results, Bayly draws a few conclusions of note.

As has been **shown in other studies**, more severe EIPH is linked to poor racetrack performance. The chances of severe EIPH also increased with race distance.

Another is that as horses age and accumulate more races and workouts, the severity of EIPH worsens. "If a 6-year-old is still running in stakes races, it's because it's a darn good horse," he said.

Perhaps most interestingly, an episode of moderate to severe EIPH isn't necessarily predictive of an equally bad event next time the horse runs.

"A couple of horses that had a three or a four [grade EIPH], the next time they ran, they didn't have it--they might have been a one," said Bayly. "Horses that were a grade two, subsequently

their next run afterwards might have been a two or a one or a zero."

Most pertinent for this story, the study also sought to determine whether various environmental factors predispose a racehorse to increased likelihood of EIPH.

The researchers are hoping to look at the Air Quality Index (AQI) at each location, the horse's bedding, the material of the horse's stall (wood or metal, for example), and whether that stall opened inwards into the barn or faced outwards.

Because of the migratory nature of racing, with horses routinely shipped from track to track, Bayly described the gathering of much of this information as rather

catch-as-catch-can.

"We just didn't have the resources to really delve into that and I am not sure we will find anything, although horsemen are interested in the subject," he said.



Coady

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- 4<sup>TH</sup> - DOPPELGANGER (KY)

### FLORIDA DERBY (G1) 140/170 POINTS

- 1<sup>ST</sup> - WHITE ABARRIO (KY)
- 2<sup>ND</sup> - CHARGE IT (KY)
- 3<sup>RD</sup> - SIMPLIFICATION (FL)
- 4<sup>TH</sup> - PAPPACAP (FL)

### JEFF RUBY STEAKS S. (G3) 170/170 POINTS

- 1<sup>ST</sup> - TIZ THE BOMB (KY)
- 2<sup>ND</sup> - TAWNY PORT (KY)
- 3<sup>RD</sup> - RICH STRIKE (KY)
- 4<sup>TH</sup> - DOWAGIAC CHIEF (KY)

### FANTASY STAKES (G3) 170/170 POINTS

- 1<sup>ST</sup> - YUUGIRI (KY)
- 2<sup>ND</sup> - BEGUINE (KY)
- 3<sup>RD</sup> - BUBBLE ROCK (KY)
- 4<sup>TH</sup> - I FEEL THE NEED (KY)

### GULFSTREAM OAKS (G2) 170/170 POINTS

- 1<sup>ST</sup> - KATHLEEN O. (KY)
- 2<sup>ND</sup> - GODDESS OF FIRE (KY)
- 3<sup>RD</sup> - RUNNING LEGACY (KY)
- 4<sup>TH</sup> - AMAN'S IMAGE (KY)

### BOURBONETTE STAKES 170/170 POINTS

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- 2<sup>ND</sup> - TAP DANCING LADY (KY)
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That last observation is on the money, as some industry stakeholders argue that the relationship between a horse's environment and EIPH is already clear.

### Real-world Application

"Our stalls at our racetracks are terrible," said Bill Casner, former trainer and co-founder of WinStar Farm.

"If trainers would only have a high understanding of the implications of a poor respiratory environment on their horses, they could really go a long way in mitigating bleeding," he added.

For years now, Casner has been on something of a crusade to raise industry awareness of the importance of a horse's environment to its respiratory health and overall athletic performance.

"I trained racehorses in my youth, and I couldn't shake out a

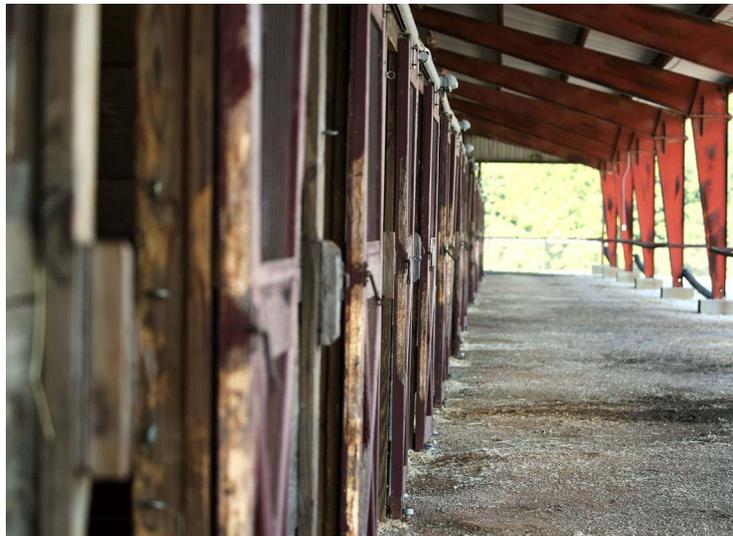
straw stall," he said, in explanation of what prompted this interest. "Straw would give me a severe asthma attack. That was where I really started to become aware."

In 2016, Casner appeared at the **Welfare and Safety of the Racehorse Summit** at Keeneland, extolling the virtues of stalls and shedrows free of lung-clogging dust, pathogens and mold.

His presentation **included an overview** of his then relatively new bespoke training barn at WinStar Farm, in Kentucky, which he designed to address what he sees as the four central pillars of lung health: ventilation, bedding, forage and contamination.

A concrete and metal shell that's easy to clean with a power-wash, the WinStar barn is tall and airy to prevent ammonia collecting in the horse's

immediate breathing space. Ammonia can **irritate the respiratory tract** in horses.



Coady



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Indeed, unlike traditional stables with a loft overhead to store hay and straw, the horses sleep beneath a ceiling full of skylights and large fans to circulate the air without dredging up dust from the floor.

Visitors to the barn won't even find rafters where birds--what Casner describes as "just another vector" for disease and bacteria--can perch.

Hay is steamed and fed to the horses on the floor. Hay nets are anathema. Shavings and wood pellets are used to bed the horses down instead of straw.

And once a week, Casner "fogs" the stalls with a novel mixture made from a cationic steroid anti-microbial (CSA) liquid diluted in five gallons of water.

Casner swears that since routinely fogging the barns with the anti-microbial mist--a mixture that kills only the bad microbes, not the good--the coughs, sniffles, spiking temperatures and skin problems that typically rampage through a barn full of young stock with their embryonic immune systems have been all but eliminated.

"I've been spraying it in my barn for gash-dang eight years now. Since then, we haven't had one cough and we haven't had one temp," he said.

Ultimately, said Casner, "bleeding is an inflammatory issue."

## Environmental Factors

The thing is, while researchers have identified an association between EIPH and inflammatory airway disease [IAD] in horses, a scientifically proven link "has not been published," said Dr. Laurent Couetil, a professor of large animal medicine at Purdue University whose research has focused on inflammatory respiratory disease in horses, including racehorses.

"The big picture is that EIPH is very common in racehorses, as we know, as is mild asthma," Couetil added, using another more everyday term for inflammatory airway disease.

"To just have those two things co-exist because they are common in their own right makes sense," he added. "So, the question truly is: Are they linked?"

The first such potential association between EIPH and airway inflammation arrived in the late 1980s with a **study on horses** that had raced in Hong Kong and had suffered a bleeding event.

Through subsequent necropsies, pathologists found that in the same areas of the lungs most damaged though EIPH there existed an unusual amount of localized inflammation.

Since then, published research into IAD shows that the **number one villain** is probably dust and particulates in the air, with much of the literature reinforcing Casner's approach to clean, well-ventilated stables, along with dampened hay fed on the ground.

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"Anything that really works to reducing dust exposure, especially the small dust particles, is exactly what should be done," Couetil said, **pointing to how** fine particulates can trigger airway inflammation, while larger particulates worsen it.



Jen Roytz

"If you think about horses and their normal environment, their habitat should be outside on the prairies, grazing," he added.

**This study**, for example, compared horses fed hay in nets to those fed hay on the floor.

Not only were the hay-net fed horses exposed to more dust and particulate matter than the floor-fed horses, but their lungs appeared to have significantly greater inflammation, too.

This leads to other potential connecting threads.

Horses kept in enclosed or dusty stables are more likely to exhibit visible mucus in the trachea, **this study found**. And as this **prior study of Thoroughbreds** determined, higher levels of tracheal mucus were linked to poor racing performance.

More than 10 years ago, a **team of experts looked** at the air quality throughout the day in three different barns at Thistledown Race Track over the months of July, September and November.

Among the key findings:

- Enclosed, poorly ventilated stables had the dustiest air
- The barn location of the stall dictated air quality
- Air particulate concentrations were highest in September and November, lowest in July
- The quality of the air was significantly worse in the morning than the rest of the day

Respiratory health isn't just an issue confined to the indoors, however.

Like Bayly with his ongoing multi-state study, researchers are looking at the potential impact that outdoor air quality might have on the equine athlete.

"I was doing some quick math and when a horse goes out to train or race, the amount of air they move in and out is similar to the rest of the day and the volume of air they breathe in when they are quiet," said Couetil, adding that a horse's "ventilation" increases 30-fold during peak exercise.

The air surrounding inner-city tracks can be polluted with all sorts of contaminants like industrial chemicals and exhaust fumes, long-term exposures to which are **known to cause** severe human health issues. Are horses vulnerable to similar effects?

"If you race just a short amount of time in a polluted area, it might lead to a similar exposure to the rest of the day when they're quietly breathing in the stall," Couetil explained.

"Nobody has really looked at this--it's something that needs to be explored."



Coady

In that vein, Couetil is involved in an ongoing two-year study to assess real-time dust exposures at four different tracks using a monitor attached to participating horses' halters. The study will simultaneously measure the pollution levels at each track.

Nevertheless, when it comes to the link most critical to horseracing--that between EIPH and inflammatory airway disease--there is "so much we don't know," Couetil emphasized.

"We are kind of scratching the surface right now."

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## A PINHOOK TO JUSTIFY PARRISH PRINCIPLES

by Chris McGrath



**A G.W. Parrish pinhook brought 17 times more than yearling price**  
*Judit Seipert*

You can do all those other things, if you like: expensive supplements and therapies, scans and samples. But none of it will do the slightest good unless your horse can trust its weight to the soles of its four feet.

Last September, veteran horseman G.W. Parrish was as usual scouting the later books at the Keeneland September sale for yearlings to pinhook through the small farm he operates at High Springs, Florida, along with wife Karen and daughter Kristin.

In the Gainesway consignment, he came across a gray colt by **Justify**. Lurking as low as **Hip 1442**, he obviously wasn't considered in the first rank of the Triple Crown winner's debut crop. The colt's dam had certainly appeared deserving of that level of cover, as a daughter of **Tapit** who had won the GII Pocahontas S. by five lengths. But she had been a disappointing broodmare so far, and her son was frankly lacking in size. Rather more seriously, he also appeared to be afflicted by some kind of deformity on a hoof.

As a result, most people were putting a line straight through his page. But Parrish took a closer look and realized that it was the result of some adhesive repair treatment and essentially pretty superficial.

"He had some EquiloX on the front of one foot, and it did look ugly," Parrish recalls. "But I've been a blacksmith all my life, and I figured I could fix it. There was some white line, that was all. Most of the horses I get from Kentucky will have a spot of that and you can just grow it out."

He cast his mind back to the time, a decade or so previously, when he had bought a Roman Ruler colt at the same auction for \$4,000.

"With that horse, it looked like he was club footed on one foot," Parrish recalls. "But I thought, this horse just wore his toe off, where the blacksmith had tried to put a shoe on an intorsion. So I got him home and I kept that shoe on him for two months, and when OBS came to select for the February Sale, as it was back then, they said: 'How did you buy this Roman Ruler so cheap?' So I told them about the club foot, and they looked at him and said, 'Which foot was it?' And I said, 'Well I don't remember now!' You really couldn't tell anymore, it had just grown out. And as soon as they left, I took the shoe off, trimmed his feet, and just took care of them the rest of the time through."

Dogwood Stable bought that colt for \$100,000 and he won a maiden special weight at Saratoga on Travers Day.



**Karen and G.W. Parrish** | *Courtesy of the Parrish family*

So once again Parrish, 73, called on his decades of experience—for a long time he had trained at places like Atlantic City and Hialeah, getting to understand how to keep cheap horses sound—and took a gamble on the **Justify** colt. Nonetheless he was astonished when the bidding stopped at \$25,000, one-sixth of his sire's opening fee.

"I could have doubled my money on the day I bought him," Parrish admits. "Mark Casse offered me \$50,000, but I'd have paid that for him myself. I was so surprised when they knocked him down to me. I just got lucky, because I thought he was a really nice colt, a super mover. Obviously Gainesway are pretty good at putting them in the right spot, and I guess he was a little small. But still with his pedigree, that shouldn't have stopped him. I guess it was just a case of getting the right advice about that foot. You'd think people could see that it could be fixed okay. It was always going to grow out, just like a fingernail would."

**Cont. p12**

Parrish took the **Justify** colt back to Florida, removed the shoe and trimmed the foot. "And I just kept him barefoot all winter," he explains. "The foot grew out fine, wasn't anything wrong with it. Once I got the shoe off, I wasn't too worried. We're lucky, where my farm is: we don't have any rocks, and the track is really good, so I can train all my horses barefoot. I could just let his foot grow back. In fact, when I took him to the sale, that was the first time he'd had shoes on since September."

Everything the colt had done in the meantime was heartening. He grew taller and stronger, and took to tack like a natural.

"He grew extremely well," Parrish says. "He made a 16-hand horse, having been barely 15, I'd say, when I bought him. Grew at least four or five inches taller. And he just trained perfect all winter. He was the first horse we trained every morning, and nearly every time the rider would come back and say, 'You know, this is a really nice horse.' He wasn't scared of anything, he'd gallop right on. He had a really good mind, and just seemed to have this extra endurance. He never got tired."



Parrish's **Justify** pinhook breezing at OBS March | *Judit Seipert*

It was the same at OBS: he was just as sprightly when shown at the end of the day--and, indeed, just as eager to take a nip at Parrish--as he had been first thing in the morning.

Parrish had driven his six-strong draft into the grounds on Mar. 1, as he likes to complete his preparations over the track there.

"So I prepped him, and he went, like, 11 flat; :10 3/5; and the three-eighths in :34 2/5," Parrish says. "I was on the podium on the backside, chatting with Jimbo Gladwell. And he said, 'I think your rider might need some help!' He was having trouble slowing him down, and they went right by me before I could get out there in front of him. And he ended up going all the way round the track again. He wasn't running off, just didn't want to stop. I knew then that he'd go a quarter! His endurance was just phenomenal."

Some of the agents and the other consignors had witnessed that unscheduled extra exertion. The word was soon out. Sure enough, the colt clocked :20 4/5 in his breeze show, and was caught galloping out in :32 2/5 and :46 1/5.

"Pretty good for a baby," Parrish remarks. "And switched leads on his own, like he always has."

In the end, then, he had turned into just the type of youngster you would hope to get from a mating between **Justify** and a **Tapit** mare. And Rosedown Racing Stables/Oracle Bloodstock duly put their name to a \$425,000 docket, 17 times more than he had cost six months previously.

At this stage of a long career in the game, Parrish is not one to be carried away. Only last year, after all, he pinhooked a \$34,000 **Midnight Storm** yearling to realize \$310,000 at OBS April. (Named India Ink, that colt recently won his maiden at Tampa Bay for Peachtree Stable and trainer Vicki Oliver.) But this was nonetheless a coup that deserves celebrating--based, as it was, on old-fashioned precepts of horsemanship.

For a time Parrish had emulated his father as a trainer of Quarter Horses, and his initial exposure to Thoroughbreds included galloping at \$3 a head for Noel Hickey at Irish Acres. Earlier he had also had a formative experience at the Morven Park riding school operated at Leesburg, Virginia, by the ex-cavalry officer and Olympic eventing coach Major John (Joe) Lynch.

"That was 1968," Parrish recalls. "I was 20-years-old and that was one of the best things I ever did, the year I spent with him. I rode some really good three-day eventers there. I don't gallop the horses much anymore. Used to, for years and years, but not at the age I am now. But I still break them myself, and pony them. We try to start all our babies by ponying them, until they jog well, get a good mouth on them, get used to the pony. We live right here on the farm, it's only 50 acres, so it's all pretty hands-on."

Parrish and his family quit the racetrack some 15 or 20 years ago, and settled north of Ocala in a district that is, relatively speaking, something of a backwater in the local horse industry. Between their own investments, a few others made in partnership, and pre-training projects for a handful of clients, Parrish Farms will reckon to process only around 25 head of horse every year. But plenty of good performers have shown the benefits of their grounding here.

Fourstar Crook (**Freud**), whose GI Flower Bowl S. success crowned a \$1.6-million career for Chad Brown, was sent here as a \$55,000 Saratoga New York yearling purchase by Allied Bloodstock (sold on for \$110,000). Stormy Embrace (Circular Quay) was broken here for Matalona Thoroughbreds before winning the GII Princess Rooney S. twice. And Hull (Holy Bull) for a time looked one of the best sophomores of 2009 in winning his first three, including the GIII Derby Trial at Churchill.

Horses on this farm tend to have been dredged from the lower reaches of the market. But Parrish's work with the **Justify** colt shows what can be done, if you go beyond the superficial judgements reached by people in a hurry, and then apply tried-and-tested principles of husbandry.

"I think when you've trained Quarter Horses, you'll always like them to have a good hip and hind leg," Parrish says. "A nice 'V' in the chest, some muscle under the belly, and a good, deep shoulder. They've got to be pretty correct, and I like them to have a big walk. Those are the horses I try to buy, at least. They won't all work out, but it averages out okay."

The idea being to lay a sustainable foundation, Parrish doesn't always feel comfortable with the industry's addiction to the bullet breeze.

"I do think we push them too much," he says. "Back in '78, we sold horses in Hialeah just galloping. We didn't breeze them then, though of course they didn't bring the kind of money they do now. All the same, I like to put a lot of bottom and condition in these horses. I feed them well and try to start them very slowly, build up the bone. And last week [at OBS] they all did it no problem, came back good, no shins or anything."



2018 Flower Bowl winner Fourstar Crook was a Parrish grad  
*Sarah Andrew*

"Most of our horses don't need any time off after the sale, people can go right on with them. They do tend to give horses time off, but that's when things can go wrong, when they're turned out. Mine can mostly go right on training: their mind is good, they gallop well, they're not hot, fiery horses. And that's because we try to do a slow process over the winter."

But let's not forget one last, vital element. "They've got to have good feet, for sure!" Parrish says with a chuckle. "But while you can't fix a crooked leg, you can fix a foot."

## A SUCCESSFUL HOOTENANNY AT WARD RANCH

by *Katie Petrunyak*



[Click here for our visit with Wesley Ward and Hootenanny](#)

Wesley Ward is busy gearing up for the upcoming race meet at Keeneland, but in recent years the seven-time leading trainer at the historic track keeps himself further occupied in the springtime with his side gig as a stallion owner and manager.

GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf winner Hootenanny resides at Ward Ranch just across from the Keeneland grounds. The son of **Quality Road** was Ward's first Breeders' Cup winner in 2014. When the bay needed a new home in 2019, his former trainer didn't hesitate to take him in. Ward initially planned to breed only his own mares to the stallion, but now that Hootenanny's first crop is succeeding on the racetrack, Ward has a new goal in mind.

In his first year at stud, which he spent at Buck Pond Farm before relocating to Ward Ranch, Hootenanny produced 16 named foals. Now that his first crop of horses are 3-year-olds, eight progeny have seen the starting gate and six are winners including one stakes winner. It's a stat that has Ward believing there is more to come for his stallion.

"With the first couple of crops, I wanted to try to limit him to where I could control the raising and breeding and training," Ward explained. "Now I'm looking to get him out there to some outside breeders and see what he can do. He's a nice horse and he's certainly well-accomplished as a racehorse in his own right. Hopefully in these first few years, he'll be able to show what he can do."

Bred by Barronstown and out of a half-sister to GISW Cat Moves (Tale of the Cat), Hootenanny was a \$75,000 yearling purchase in 2013. He won on debut by over four lengths the following spring at Keeneland for partners Ward, Ken Donworth and Ben McElroy.

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After placing in a stakes at Pimlico, he was purchased by the Coolmore partnership and pointed toward the Royal Ascot meet, where he claimed the Windsor Castle S. In his next start, he ran a close second in the G1 Darley Prix Morny.

“We were just narrowly beaten,” Ward recalled. “Frankie Dettori beat me. After the race Frankie said, ‘If I had been on your horse, I would have won.’ So we brought Hootenanny back and trained him up to the Breeders’ Cup at Santa Anita. Frankie told me that he would win if I put him on the horse, and he did. Hootenanny won my first Breeders’ Cup for me. He was a very intelligent horse and with the speed he had, running a mile on the grass was no problem at all.”



Hootenanny gave Ward his first Breeders' Cup win in 2014

*Horsephotos*

After the win in the Breeders’ Cup Juvenile Turf—a victory that earned Hootenanny a finalist spot for champion 2-year-old male—the colt returned to the races for three more seasons. He was an allowance winner at Keeneland as a sophomore, placed in a stakes at Woodbine at four and ran second in the Gil King Edward S. at five. He retired with five wins to his credit and earned \$876,698.

While Ward acknowledged that Hootenanny was not what commercial breeders were looking for upon his retirement, he added that the sire has rewarded those who did breed to him in his first season.

“He does have a sway back, so for breeding purposes, it was something the commercial breeders didn’t really like,” Ward admitted. “But so far with all of his progeny, he hasn’t put that trait into his babies and they’re all nice runners. They all have great minds like him, they’re all kind of docile horses and they’re all fast.”

Hootenanny’s leading performer to date is Hicksy, a colt trained by Kevin Attard that won second time out by six lengths last October, earning an 80 Beyer Speed Figure, and then claimed the Display S. at Woodbine. His other winners include

My Nanny’s a Hoot, a filly that broke her maiden early this year and has since claimed an allowance at Fair Grounds, as well as Strange Arrange, a Ward trainee that broke his maiden by six lengths at Turfway Park in March.

Only two of Hootenanny’s winners to date are trained by Ward, as the stallion stood at Buck Pond for his first season, but this year’s crop of 2-year-olds will represent Ward’s broodmare band as well as his own breaking and training process that is highly regarded for its tremendous success with young maidens.

“He’s got some very quick ones that will be coming in probably by late spring, so I’m looking forward to those,” the trainer said. Ward knows it’s a longshot to believe that his pride and joy, Hootenanny, will ever be recognized on a commercial level, especially because, for now, he is relying solely on his own broodmare band to get numbers to the stallion, but he does hope that other breeders looking to race stone cold runners will take note of the sire’s early success.

“Being my first Breeders’ Cup winner, he’s very special,” Ward said. “That’s why I wanted to make sure he had a good home and was able to have a few mares to breed. He’s been coming through on everything since we first acquired him, from being a racehorse to now as a stallion. He hasn’t thrown any champions, but from the limited opportunities that he has had, he has thrown winners. Right now he’s kind of a home-based stallion, but hopefully he’ll have some interest to where he’ll go to a commercial farm.”

And even if that dream doesn’t come to fruition, Hootenanny will always have a home at Ward Ranch.

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## POTTS FACES LENGTHY SUSPENSION AFTER DRUG FOUND IN HIS TACKROOM *by Bill Finley*

Embattled trainer Wayne Potts was hit with a 45-day suspension Sunday by the New York Gaming Commission, which charged that a drug found in his tackroom was not approved by the FDA for use in Thoroughbred horses. The suspension is set to begin Apr. 10. Potts has waived his right to an appeal.

The drug was found Feb. 17.

The New York regulators decided to divide up Potts’s 45 day-suspension so that it correlates with still another suspension he is facing, one from the New Jersey Racing Commission. In January, the New Jersey commission posted a ruling in which Potts and his assistant trainer Bonnie Lucas were hit with a 30-day suspension and a \$1,000 fine for “conduct detrimental to racing.” On Aug. 6, 2021, Potts allegedly told Lucas to not permit one of his trainees to be vanned off the track after a race at Monmouth Park despite an order to do so from the New Jersey Racing Commission (NJRC) veterinarian. That suspension is set to begin on opening day at Monmouth, which is May 7.

Beforehand, Potts will serve the first part of his New York suspension. After the New Jersey suspension has run its course, Potts will serve the remainder of the New York suspension. All together, his suspension adds up to 75 days and runs from Apr. 10 through June 23. Potts was the leading trainer at Monmouth last year.

Potts declined to comment when reached via text by the *TDN*, but forwarded a letter from the company Recellerate to the New York Gaming Commission regarding a product called Equiflow, which is purported to be a treatment for exercise induced pulmonary hemorrhage (EIPH). It goes on to describe Equiflow as “an investigational stem-cell derived concentrated protein serum developed as a treatment to EIPH.” The letter, signed by Recellerate President Karl Norbert, maintains that the product is not a performance-enhancer. Norbert writes that the FDA has approved no stem cell products for horses to date, which means that if Equiflow is regarded as an illegal substance then any horse treated in New York with any stem cell therapies would be subject to being excluded from racing.

In what appears to be unrelated to the finding of the non-FDA approved drug, **NYRA announced last week that Potts was among six trainers** who, effective last Wednesday, had lost their stall privileges and would be required to remove all their horses from the Belmont Park backstretch. However, Potts and the rest were being permitted to run at the NYRA tracks, for now, a moot point since Potts will be sidelined until late June.

**Potts also ran afoul of authorities during last year's Saratoga meet** when it was alleged he violated rules regarding a claim, which resulted in a 30-day suspension. The New York Gaming Commission charged that the horse, Mach One (Air Force Blue), was claimed by Potts's owners Frank Catapano and Nicholas Primpas by trainer Amira Chichakly and then transferred to Potts. Potts claimed another horse from the same race and trainers are not allowed to claim more than one horse in any given race.

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## ON TO DERBY FOR WHITE ABARRIO

**White Abarrio** (Race Day) came out of his victory in Saturday's GI **Curlin** Florida Derby in fine shape and will now be aimed at the GI Kentucky Derby, trainer Saffie Joseph, Jr. confirmed.

“He was further back than we envisioned and to see him be able to sit back that far off the pace and make his move, it gives you a lot of confidence, because you know he can run close to the pace and now sit back and be as effective,” Joseph said of his charge's Florida Derby win.

White Abarrio, third in last year's GII Kentucky Jockey Club S., is now two-for-two at three. He opened the year with a 4 1/2-length victory in the Feb. 5 GIII Holy Bull S.

Saffie said he continues to see improvement in the gray colt. “Physically, he's not an overly big horse. He's filled out and he's grown a bit. He's a changed horse,” Joseph said. “He's changed from November to now, and he's showing it on the track. That's what you want. You want to be improving at this time of year. I feel he's making forward progressions.”

Whisper Hill Farm's **Charge It (Tapit)** came up with a gritty performance against more experienced colts while finishing second in the Florida Derby in only his third career start. The Todd Pletcher trainee, who hit the gate at the start, made a solid run at White Abarrio before racing greenly in the stretch.

“To get a real education in a race like that was very encouraging. He got a little green down the lane. He kind of drifted in behind that horse and I felt like if he could have just run straight that last 100 yards, he was going to be right there. But I thought it was a huge effort, considering everything,” said Pletcher, who added the Kentucky Derby will be under consideration for the well-bred colt.

Also aiming for the Kentucky Derby is the Florida Derby's third-place finisher **Simplification (Not This Time)**.

“I am so happy with the race because the horse ran well and came back well,” trainer Antonio Sano said.

Simplification was second to White Abarrio in the Holy Bull before winning the GII Fasig-Tipton Fountain of Youth S.

“The plan was to be up front, but the pressure from Pappacap outside made Jose [Ortiz] move the horse before it was time,” Sano said. “It was a good field and my horse ran very good. In the Kentucky Derby, I believe he will run great.”

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## CYBERKNIFE FINE AFTER ARKANSAS DERBY

Gold Square LLC's **Cyberknife (Gun Runner)** exited his win in Saturday's GI Arkansas Derby in fine shape and is expected to ship to Louisville Tuesday to continue preparations for the May 7 GI Kentucky Derby. The colt, who was making his second stakes appearance after a sixth-place effort in the Jan. 22 GIII Lecomte S., continued a trend of frisky behavior Saturday at Oaklawn when dumping jockey Florent Geroux in the post parade.

“I was too far away to do anything about it, but Florent was able to jump up on him by himself,” Cox said. “He's feeling good [Sunday]. It's a nice, crisp morning and if you watched him walk around here, you definitely wouldn't think he ran a mile and an eighth yesterday. He's got a lot of energy.”

Cox also trains '**TDN Rising Star**' **Zozos (Munnings)**, who earned a spot in the Kentucky Derby with a runner-up effort in the Mar. 26 GII TwinSpires.com Louisiana Derby at Fair Grounds.

Arkansas Derby runner-up **Barber Road** (Race Day) is on target to be the first Kentucky Derby starter for trainer John Ortiz, but the colt will remain at Oaklawn for the time being.

“Right now, we don’t have any plans of moving him,” said Ortiz. “He sprung a shoe, so we’re going to get that fixed first and address that. He got banged around there down the stretch, but he’s just a tough little horse.”

**Secret Oath** (Arrogate), third while facing colts for the first time in the Arkansas Derby, will return to her own division for the May 6 GI Kentucky Oaks. Secret Oath made a sweeping six-wide move on the second turn to reach contention before weakening late.

“She was tired,” trainer D. Wayne Lukas said Sunday. “That move she made was a terrific move for a filly at this stage of her career, to keep going. Watching it live, I thought she’s probably going to hang a little bit here. She almost had to. It was a monster move. The beautiful thing is we’ve got five weeks now. I said that before the race and now it gives us some direction. We’re not thinking Derby. Now, we’re focused on what we should be--the Oaks--and we’ve got five weeks to get back in form.”

Lukas said Secret Oath and stablemates **Ethereal Road** (**Quality Road**) and **Ignitis** (**Nyquist**) will ship Tuesday to Churchill Downs. Ignitis, third in the Smarty Jones S., is pointing for the Apr. 8 Lafayette S. at Keeneland. Ethereal Road, the GII Rebel runner-up, is scheduled to make his next start in the Apr. 9 GI Toyota Blue Grass S..

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## JOSEPH, SAEZ TAKE GULFSTREAM TITLES

Trainer Saffie Joseph, Jr., who captured Saturday's GI **Curlin** Florida Derby with **White Abarrio** (Race Day), earned his first Championship Meet title at Gulfstream Park Sunday. Joseph closed out the meet with 58 winners, 12 victories ahead of Hall of Fame trainer Todd Pletcher, the defending 18-time titlist.

“Most definitely the Florida Derby was the icing on the cake. The Championship Meet title also means a lot. I grew up watching Todd my whole life. He’s dominated for 18 years now. I’m 35 now. To take over from him after 18 years, I can’t put into words what it means,” Joseph said. “I would just watch Todd win and dominate. He’s a role model for any trainer who wants to look up to someone.”

With 122 wins, jockey Luis Saez reclaimed the Championship Meet title that had been held by Irad Ortiz Jr. for the past three years. Saez won back-to-back titles in 2016-2017 and 2017-2018.

“It’s something very big for us. Florida is like home. It’s the first place we came to,” said the 29-year-old Panamanian. “The third time is very special to us.”

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# NORTH AMERICAN RACING



## IN ORDER OF PURSE:

**TEMPERANCE HILL S.**, \$150,000, Oaklawn, 4-3, 4yo/up, 1 1/2m, 2:30.82, ft.

1--**LONE ROCK, 124, g, 7, Majestic Warrior--Ruby Lips (GSP), by Hard Spun.** (\$55,000 Ylg '16 FTKJUL). O-Flying P Stable & R. A. Hill Stable; B-Town & Country Horse Farms, LLC & Pollock Farms (KY); T-Robertino Diodoro; J-Ramon A. Vazquez. \$90,000. Lifetime Record: MGSW, 39-15-5-1, \$1,242,641. \*1/2 to Gerrymander (Into Mischief), SW & GISP, \$235,500.



2--**Last Samurai, 124, c, 4, Malibu Moon--Lady Samuri, by First Samurai.** (\$37,000 RNA Ylg '19 KEESEP; \$175,000 2yo '20 OBSMAR). O-Willis Horton Racing LLC; B-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC (KY); T-Dallas Stewart. \$30,000.

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3--**Tenfold, 117, h, 7, Curlin--Tempress, by Tapit.** O/B-Winchell Thoroughbreds LLC; T-Steven M. Asmussen. \$15,000.

Margins: NK, 2, 4HF. Odds: 1.00, 7.00, 10.40.

Also Ran: Strong Tide, Warbird, Goalie.

Lone Rock overcame rough racing at the hands of his stablemate and a hard-charging Last Samurai to go one better from last year's edition of the Temperance Hill S. for his 15th career win Sunday at Oaklawn.

Already the winner of Belmont's GII Brooklyn S. and Del Mar's GII Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance S. coming in, the gelding was looking to rebound from a sixth-place effort last out Feb. 12 in the GIII Razorback H. at this venue. Breaking well from his rail position, Lone Rock was first into the bend but relinquished that lead to fellow Robertino Diodoro trainee Goalie (Bodemeister) coming into the stretch for the first time. Things got a bit sticky when his barnmate pushed him into tight quarters four furlongs in and again into the second turn, but Lone Rock would not be deterred and continued to force the issue until that one eventually began to fade. Now the controlling speed, he came off the rail at the head of the stretch run and repelled the late rally of Last Samurai despite getting leg weary.

"That was a little hard on the nerves," Diodoro said. "I don't think we were fair to him and it wasn't the owners. I put all the blame on myself last time. The horse should have never run [in the Razorback] for a couple of reasons. One of the most

important reasons was distance, especially as good as he's been to us. I was really mad at myself. You don't want him to get beat up a couple of times after last time, so it's good to get him back in the winner's circle."



Lone Rock holds off Last Samurai | Coady Photography

His dam's first foal and graded stakes winner, Lone Rock is eldest sibling to 3-year-old half-sister and well-regarded GI Frizette S. runner-up Gerrymander (Into Mischief), SW & GISP, \$235,500, who closed her 2021 season with a victory in the Tempted S. at Aqueduct Nov. 5. They have a 2-year-old half-brother by **More Than Ready** named Sivako and a yearling half-sister by **Tapit**. The dam is expecting a foal by **Constitution** this season. [Click for the Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.](#)



## IN ORDER OF PURSE:

**1st-Gulfstream, \$53,000**, Msw, 4-3, 3yo, f, 1mT, 1:38.04, fm, 1/2 length.

**LOVE TO RUN (f, 3, Connect--Nest Egg, by Eskendereya)** broke her maiden when switched back to the turf for her fifth career start. Purchased by Breeze Easy for \$640,000 from the 2021 OBS April Sale after **breezing in :10.2**, Love to Run started her career on the lawn with a sixth-place effort going 1 1/16 miles Aug. 8 at Saratoga. Trainer Mark Casse then shortened her up and tried her on the dirt for her next three starts including her most recent race where she was a distant seventh in her initial 3-year-old try going seven furlongs here Mar. 5. **Cont. p2**

Back on the grass today, Love to Run set the pace along the rail. Despite drifting out at the top of the lane, she had enough of an advantage to remain clear down the stretch, fighting off a fast-closing School Dance (Animal Kingdom) to win by a half-length. Love to Run is a half-sister to Thanks Mr. Edison (**More Than Ready**), MSP, \$202,690. Her dam has a 2-year-old by **Good Magic** and produced a filly by **Twirling Candy** in 2022. Sales History: \$60,000 Ylg '20 KEESEP; \$640,000 2yo '21 OBSAPR. Lifetime Record: 5-1-1-0, \$59,330. **Click for the Equibase.com chart and VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.**

O-Breeze Easy, LLC; B-Dell Ridge Farm, LLC (KY); T-Mark E. Casse.

**7th-Gulfstream, \$53,000, Msw, 4-3, 3yo, 7f, 1:23.50, ft, 1 1/2 lengths.**

**MENDENHALL (c, 3, Pioneerof the Nile--Mamma Kimbo {GSW, \$242,250}, by Discreet Cat)** finished seventh on debut Mar. 5 over track and trip when the colt left the block long after the field had broke, and while he showed willingness to pick up four spots in the end, the race was over from there. Mendenhall would have no such hesitation this time around, immediately up to contest for the lead on the fence and getting clear at the top of the lane and holding sway for a 1 1/2-length score at 6-1 Logico (**Violence**) overcame a rough break of his own to grab second with a furious rally. The winner's dam, who sold for \$1.2 million at Fasig-Tipton November in 2013, has produced several six-figure auction purchases: \$110,000 OBSSPR steal Balandeen (Bernardini), SW, \$372,352; \$350,000 KEENOV weanling purchase Forever West (**Tapit**); Coast (Malibu Moon) went to the Eclipse Thoroughbreds & Repole Stable partnership for \$500,000 at OBSMAR'18; Mayberry Farm secured Classy Ruler (Empire Maker) for \$700,000 at KEESEP in 2018; and Mendenhall brought \$675,000 during KEESEP in 2020 from Larry Best's OXO Equine. The dam has a 2-year-old full-sister to Classy Ruler named Italian Empire and has a 2022 colt by **Not This Time**. Sales History: \$675,000 Ylg '20 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, \$32,330. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.**

O-OXO Equine LLC; B-Aaron & Marie Jones LLC (KY); T-William I. Mott.



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**3rd-Golden Gate Fields, \$32,970, Msw, 4-3, 3yo/up, 6f (AWT), 1:10.56, ft, 1 1/2 lengths.**

**DRAW THE FOUL (g, 4, Giant's Causeway--Mahee, by Unbridled's Song)**, from the penultimate crop of his late sire, was a last-out third against similar company over 5 1/2 furlongs Mar. 4 at Golden Gate. Dueling along the inside of Wear the Crown (Shackleford) to set the early pace, the homebred edged clear entering the turn. Winter Falcon (Mizzen Mast) came

running into the final furlong but Draw the Foul turned away the challenge and kept going to win by 1 1/2 lengths as the 5-2 choice. His dam most recently produced a 3-year old named Exit Soul (Animal Kingdom). Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-1, \$21,600. **Click for the Equibase.com chart and VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.** O/B-Cannon Thoroughbred LLC (KY); T-Greg C. James.



## SECOND-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: MONDAY, APRIL 4

*2022 Stud Fees Listed*

**Hootenanny (Quality Road)**, Ward Ranch

29 foals of racing age/6 winners/1 black-type winner  
5-Mahoning Valley, 2:36 p.m. EDT, Alw 6f, Inherent Powers, 8-1

**Kiss the Ghost (Ghostzapper)**, Poplar Creek Horse Center

6 foals of racing age/2 winners/0 black-type winners  
8-Mahoning Valley, 4:02 p.m. EDT, Alw 6f, Cadillac Ride, 6-1  
\$1,000 OTB OMX yrl

**Kobe's Back (Flatter)**, Bonita Farm, \$3,000

28 foals of racing age/3 winners/0 black-type winners  
10-Parx Racing, 4:58 p.m. EDT, Aoc 5 1/2f, Dathoss, 6-1

**Straight Fire (Dominus)**, Legacy Ranch

48 foals of racing age/12 winners/1 black-type winner  
7-Mahoning Valley, 3:33 p.m. EDT, Alw 6f, Ain't Straight, 2-1

**Tom's Ready (More Than Ready)**, Red River Farms

15 foals of racing age/1 winner/0 black-type winners  
7-Mahoning Valley, 3:33 p.m. EDT, Alw 6f, Ready to March, 7-2  
\$5,000 KEE SEP yrl



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**ALLOWANCE RESULTS:**

**13th-Oaklawn, \$106,000, (S), (NW1\$X)/Opt. Clm (\$20,000), 4-2, 4yo/up, 6f, 1:10.72, ft, neck.**

**TWISTED DIXIE (g, 5, Archarch--Wicked Dixie, by Dixie Union) Lifetime Record: 19-2-4-2, \$140,910. O-Val Yagos; B-Robert Yagos (AR); T-Robert N. Cline.**

**8th-Aqueduct, \$72,000, 4-3, (NW1\$X), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:12.25, my, 2 3/4 lengths.**

**PRETTY CLEVER (f, 4, Hard Spun--Mineralogist {MSW, \$270,550}, by Mineshaft) Lifetime Record: 9-2-1-3, \$124,330. O-Tracy Farmer; B-Chester Broman & Mary R. Broman (NY); T-James Bentley Begg. \*\$240,000 Ylg '19 FTSAUG. \*\*1/2 to Can You Diggitt (Tiznow), SW, \$436,555.**

**9th-Santa Anita, \$71,000, (NW1\$X)/Opt. Clm (\$50,000), 4-2, 4yo/up, f/m, 6fT, 1:09.60, fm, 1 length.**

**XMAS SURPRISE (f, 4, More Than Ready--Allwewantforxmas {MSP, \$211,794}, by Songandaprayer) Lifetime Record: 8-2-1-0, \$95,980. O-Marsha Naify; B-Larry Johnson (MD); T-Leonard Powell. \*\$140,000 RNA Ylg '19 FTSAUG; \$160,000 2yo '20 OBSMAR.**

◆ Purchased by Narvick Int'l ◆

**10th-Gulfstream, \$54,000, (S), (NW1X)/Opt. Clm (\$20,000), 4-3, 4yo/up, 6f, 1:10.48, ft, 3/4 length.**

**ABSOLUTE GRIT (g, 5, Kantharos--Brown Glaze, by War Front) Lifetime Record: MSP, 17-5-2-4, \$195,908. O-Daniel L. Walters; B-Ocala Stud (FL); T-Rohan Crichton. \*\$300,000 2yo '19 OBSMAR.**

**6th-Sunland, \$42,100, 4-3, (NW3L), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:10.46, ft, 2 lengths.**

**CAYCEE'S MARK (f, 4, Marking--Bella Izabella, by Line of David) Lifetime Record: 9-3-2-1, \$85,072. O/B-Teed Off Stables, LLC (NM); T-Bart G. Hone.**

**7th-Hawthorne, \$42,000, 4-3, (C), 3yo/up, f/m, 5f, :57.70, ft, 1 1/4 lengths.**

**SHEZ RECKLESS (f, 3, Daredevil--Ravin's Rich Girl, by Corinthian) Lifetime Record: 9-2-2-1, \$66,435. O-Patricia's Hope LLC & Down The Stretch Racing Stables, Inc. (Larry Rivelli); B-Richard Ravin (IL); T-Larry Rivelli.**

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**6th-Golden Gate Fields, \$40,084, (NW1\$X)/Opt. Clm (\$50,000), 4-3, 3yo, f, 1mT, 1:39.40, fm, 3/4 length.**

**TAM'S LITTLE ANGEL (f, 3, Tamarando--Angel Diane, by Lucky Pulpit) Lifetime Record: 7-2-1-4, \$77,792. O-Larry D. & Marianne Williams; B-Larry D. Williams (CA); T-Steven Specht.**

**7th-Sam Houston Race Park, \$38,000, (NW2X)/Opt. Clm (\$30,000), 4-2, 4yo/up, 6f, 1:10.92, ft, head.**

**ERNIE BANKER (g, 5, Central Banker--Tall Timbercowgirl, by Prime Timber) Lifetime Record: 17-4-3-4, \$178,725. O-End Zone Athletics, Inc.; B-Andy Beadnell (NY); T-Karl Broberg. \*\$20,000 Ylg '18 OBSOCT.**

Consigned by McMAHON of Saratoga THOROUGHBREDS

**6th-Sam Houston Race Park, \$37,000, 4-2, (NW1X), 3yo/up, f/m, 1mT, 1:37.24, fm, neck.**

**MIDYEAR (f, 4, Midshipman--Fiscal Year {SW}, by Half a Year) Lifetime Record: 7-2-0-0, \$48,716. O-Barry and Carol Conrad; B-Crumbaugh Lane (KY); T-W. Bret Calhoun. \*\$70,000 Ylg '19 KEESEP. \*\*1/2 to Yearly Report (General Meeting), MGSW, \$835,900.**

**8th-Sam Houston Race Park, \$37,000, (NW2L)/Opt. Clm (\$50,000), 4-2, 3yo, f, 1mT, 1:37.25, fm, 6 1/4 lengths.**

**RED HOT MOON (f, 3, Mr Speaker--Red Hot Tops, by Arch) Lifetime Record: SP, 6-2-0-1, \$58,030. O-Rebel Stables LLC; B-Elm Tree Farm, LLC & Angel Diaz Tapia (KY); T-W. Bret Calhoun. \*\$15,000 Ylg '20 KEEJAN; \$40,000 2yo '21 TTAAPR.**



Foaled, Raised & Sold by Elm Tree Farm

**4th-Golden Gate Fields, \$34,242, 4-3, 4yo/up, 1mT, 1:36.99, fm, 1 1/2 lengths.**

**HARMON (g, 6, Cairo Prince--Summer Shade, by Stephen Got Even) Lifetime Record: 30-8-2-6, \$198,086. O-Michael W. Bean & Donna L. Perrone; B-Coteau Grove Farms (KY); T-Monty R. Meier. \*\$42,000 RNA Wlg '16 KEENOV; \$100,000 Ylg '17 FTKJUL; \$500,000 2yo '18 OBSMAR.**



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**7th-Charles Town, \$33,900, 4-2, (NW2LX), 3yo/up, f/m, 7f, 1:28.89, ft, 1 1/4 lengths.**

**DOOR BUSTER (f, 4, Speightster--Miss Henny Penny {SP}, by Half Ours) Lifetime Record: MSW, 17-7-3-4, \$250,431. O-Jay A. Reese, LLC; B-Catherine K Jennings & Scott Mallory (WV); T-Ollie L. Figgins, III. \*\$25,000 Ylg '19 EASOCT.**

Co-Bred & Sold by SCOTT MALLORY, agent

**7th-Golden Gate Fields, \$33,310**, 4-2, (NW1\$X), 4yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16mT, 1:44.37, fm, 2 1/4 lengths.

**ASSIGNATION (f, 4, Bernardini--Tryst, by Candy Ride {Arg})**

Lifetime Record: 14-2-3-1, \$74,410. O-R L Stables; B-Bass Stables, LLC (KY); T-Steve M. Sherman. \*\$70,000 2yo '20 OBSAPR.

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**11th-Sunland, \$32,000**, 4-3, (NW2L), 3yo/up, 6 1/2f, 1:15.19, ft, 9 1/4 lengths.

**BURNZ DA BOSS (g, 4, Street Boss--Raucous Lady {SP}, by Rock**

**Hard Ten)** Lifetime Record: 10-2-0-2, \$43,918. O-Patrick D. Aguilar & Steve E. Wilson; B-Ed Few (KY); T-Martin Valdez-Cabral, Jr. \*\$15,000 Wlg '18 KEENOV; \$27,000 Ylg '19 KEESEP; \$20,000 2yo '20 OBSAPR. \*\*1/2 to Mucho Amor (**Mucho Macho Man**), SW, \$158,460.

**8th-Sunland, \$29,000**, 4-3, 3yo/up, 6 1/2f, 1:15.89, ft, neck.

**BIG MAC DADDY (g, 4, Violence--Barrel Roll, by Sky Mesa)**

Lifetime Record: 11-4-1-1, \$71,214. O-B4 Farms, LLC; B-Bob Bone, Richard Trontz & Valet Stables LLC (KY); T-Todd W. Fincher. \*\$190,000 Ylg '19 KEEJAN; \$110,000 RNA Ylg '19 KEESEP.

**ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:**

**Hardly Ever Better**, g, 3, **Bullsbay**--Thorn of Plenty, by Thorn Song. Charles Town, 4-2, (S), 4 1/2f, :53.16. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$19,539. B-Carlisle Horse Company (WV). \*1ST-TIME STARTER.

**Continentalcongres**, f, 3, **Constitution**--Past as Prelude, by Bernardini. Laurel, 4-3, 1 1/16m, 1:47.90. Lifetime Record: 9-1-3-2, \$100,000. B-R. Larry Johnson (VA).

**Ghaaleb's Big Win**, g, 3, **Ghaaleb**--Win'em All (MSW, \$194,901), by Cherokee Rap. Hawthorne, 4-3, 5 1/2f, 1:03.29. Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-0, \$43,050. B-William P. Stiritz (IL).

**Lochmoor**, g, 3, **Laurie's Rocket**--Copperelle, by Elusive Quality. Oaklawn, 4-3, (S), 6f, 1:11.33. Lifetime Record: 3-1-1-0, \$60,072. B-Bill McDowell (AR). \*1/2 to Weast Hill (Rockport Harbor), MSW, \$499,852.

**Kelley Said Ready**, f, 3, **Moro Tap**--Who Said Ready, by **More Than Ready**. Sam Houston Race, 4-2, (S), 5 1/2f, 1:05.44. Lifetime Record: 2-1-1-0, \$28,660. B-Kevin Clifton & Penn Family Racing (TX). \*Full to Moro Said Ready, SW, \$119,449.

**Khafre**, c, 4, **American Pharoah**--Spring Street, by Street Cry (Ire). Gulfstream, 4-3, 7 1/2ft, 1:30.25. Lifetime Record: 5-1-1-1, \$53,860. B-Hunter Valley Farm (KY). \*\$205,000 Wlg '18 KEENOV; \$500,000 Ylg '19 KEESEP. \*\*1/2 to Plentiful (Harlan's Holiday), SW, \$212,543.

**Raised & Sold by Hunter Valley Farm**

**Mr Breadwinner**, g, 4, **Tonalist**--Bread 'n Water, by Giant's Causeway. Aqueduct, 4-3, (S), 1m, 1:39.16. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, \$39,550. B-La Marca Stable (NY). \*\$85,000 Ylg '19 SARAUG; \$75,000 2yo '20 OBSMAR.

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**White Diamond Sky**, m, 5, **Too Much Bling**--Autumn Sky, by Skywalker. Sam Houston Race, 4-2, (S), 6f, 1:13.62. Lifetime Record: 7-1-0-0, \$22,928. B-Leroy James Pollok (TX). \*1/2 to Expect Royalty (Valid Expectations), MSW, \$253,953.

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**American Pharoah**, Khafre, c, 4, o/o Spring Street, by Street Cry (Ire). MSW, 4-3, Gulfstream

**Archarcharch**, Twisted Dixie, g, 5, o/o Wicked Dixie, by Dixie Union. AOC, 4-2, Oaklawn

**Bernardini**, Assignment, f, 4, o/o Tryst, by **Candy Ride (Arg)**. ALW, 4-2, Golden Gate

**Bullsbay**, Hardly Ever Better, g, 3, o/o Thorn of Plenty, by Thorn Song. MSW, 4-2, Charles Town

**Cairo Prince**, Harmon, g, 6, o/o Summer Shade, by Stephen Got Even. ALW, 4-3, Golden Gate

**Central Banker**, Ernie Banker, g, 5, o/o Tall Timbercowgirl, by Prime Timber. AOC, 4-2, Sam Houston

**Connect**, Love to Run, f, 3, o/o Nest Egg, by Eskendereya. MSW, 4-3, Gulfstream

**Constitution**, Continentalcongres, f, 3, o/o Past as Prelude, by Bernardini. MSW, 4-3, Laurel

**Daredevil**, Shez Reckless, f, 3, o/o Ravin's Rich Girl, by Corinthian. ALW, 4-3, Hawthorne

**Decarchy**, Bella D, m, 5, o/o Bella Viaggia, by Good Journey. ALW, 4-3, Santa Anita

**Ghaaleb**, Ghaaleb's Big Win, g, 3, o/o Win'em All, by Cherokee Rap. MSW, 4-3, Hawthorne

**Giant's Causeway**, Draw the Foul, g, 4, o/o Mahee, by Unbridled's Song. MSW, 4-3, Golden Gate

**Hard Spun**, Pretty Clever, f, 4, o/o Mineralogist, by **Mineshaft**. ALW, 4-3, Aqueduct

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**Kantharos**, Absolute Grit, g, 5, o/o Brown Glaze, by **War Front**. AOC, 4-3, Gulfstream

**Laurie's Rocket**, Lochmoor, g, 3, o/o Copperelle, by Elusive Quality. MSW, 4-3, Oaklawn

**Majestic Warrior**, Lone Rock, g, 7, o/o Ruby Lips, by **Hard Spun**. Temperence Hill S., 4-3, Oaklawn

**Marking**, Caycee's Mark, f, 4, o/o Bella Izabella, by Line of David. ALW, 4-3, Sunland

**Midshipman**, Midyear, f, 4, o/o Fiscal Year, by Half a Year. ALW, 4-2, Sam Houston

**More Than Ready**, Xmas Surprise, f, 4, o/o Allwewantforxmas, by Songandaprayer. AOC, 4-2, Santa Anita

**Moro Tap**, Kelley Said Ready, f, 3, o/o Who Said Ready, by **More Than Ready**. MSW, 4-2, Sam Houston

**Mr Speaker**, Red Hot Moon, f, 3, o/o Red Hot Tops, by Arch. AOC, 4-2, Sam Houston

**Pioneerof the Nile**, Mendenhall, c, 3, o/o Mamma Kimbo, by Discreet Cat. MSW, 4-3, Gulfstream

**Speightster**, Door Buster, f, 4, o/o Miss Henny Penny, by Half Ours. ALW, 4-2, Charles Town

**Street Boss**, Burnz Da Boss, g, 4, o/o Raucous Lady, by Rock Hard Ten. ALW, 4-3, Sunland

**Tamarando**, Tam's Little Angel, f, 3, o/o Angel Diane, by Lucky Pulpit. AOC, 4-3, Golden Gate

**Tonalist**, Mr Breadwinner, g, 4, o/o Bread 'n Water, by Giant's Causeway. MSW, 4-3, Aqueduct

**Too Much Bling**, White Diamond Sky, m, 5, o/o Autumn Sky, by Skywalker. MSW, 4-2, Sam Houston

**Violence**, Big Mac Daddy, g, 4, o/o Barrel Roll, by **Sky Mesa**. AOC, 4-3, Sunland

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## FAMILY VALUES PLACE SANGSTER ON CUSP OF CLASSIC YEAR



The Sangster-bred Classic hope Luxembourg on the Ballydoyle gallops last week | [Racingfotos.com](https://www.racingfotos.com)

By Nancy Sexton

Ben Sangster is not one to underestimate the influence of luck in this sport. But there is a lot to be said for people making their own, and having made most of the opportunities to come his way, luck is now shining kindly on his Swettenham Stud operation.

Years of cultivating one branch of a favoured family could be on the cusp of yielding Classic rewards in the form of Luxembourg (Ire) (**Camelot {GB}**), the current ante-post Derby favourite who was bred by Sangster out of Attire (Ire) (Danehill Dancer {Ire}). An understanding of the mare and her family allied to the horse's upbringing on some of Ireland's best land ahead of joining Aidan O'Brien has undoubtedly aided luck in the emergence of Luxembourg as one of Europe's top 2-year-olds of 2021, a standing garnered by an unbeaten campaign that culminated with a resounding victory in the G1 Vertem Futurity at Doncaster.

Luck, however, has very much played its role in Sangster retaining co-ownership of Saffron Beach (Ire) (New Bay {GB}), the current Group 1 star of Jane Chapple-Hyam's Newmarket yard who was forced to miss her sale engagements as a young horse through injury. [Cont. p2](#)

## FIRST WINNER FOR G1SW SAXON WARRIOR

Coolmore's first-season sire **Saxon Warrior (Jpn)** (Deep Impact {Jpn}) is off the mark after his son **Ser Sed (Ire)** captured the 5 1/2-furlong Prix Mercier for unraced juveniles at Le Lion d'Angers on Sunday evening. Professional to load and speedy from the gates, the February-foaled bay was steadied to track the leading trio by Hugo Lebouc. Delivered wide in the short straight, the Azeddine Sedrati and Jean-Claude Seroul-owned colt grabbed the lead passing the furlong pole and saw off the 9-10 favourite **Once Upon a Time (Fr)** (Pedro the Great) to score by a neck.

The winner is the first foal out of an unraced daughter of Lady Vettori (GB) (Vettori {Ire}), who was successful in the G3 Prix du Calvados and third in the G1 Prix Marcel Bousac.

[Cont. p6](#)

## IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

### THIS WEEK IN REVIEW: CHARGE IT LOOKS LIKE A FUTURE STAR

Bill Finley reflects on an action-packed weekend, highlighted by the GI Curlin Florida Derby, where the top two finishers look to be heading to the Kentucky Derby. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN America.](#)

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**Sangster cont. from p1**

Successful in last year's G1 Sun Chariot S. and G3 Atalanta S., Saffron Beach recently opened her 4-year-old campaign with a highly creditable fourth against colts in the G1 Dubai Sheema Classic at Meydan. It was a performance that suggested the filly had not only thrived from three to four years but also took her travelling well enough to open up the idea of further participation in other major international races down the line. Before then, there is the prospect of Luxembourg putting his unbeaten record on the line in the 2000 Guineas at Newmarket, for which he is as short as 4/1 behind Native Trail (Fr) (*Oasis Dream* {GB}). Should he triumph, it would maintain a wonderful association between the Classic and the



**Ben Sangster, centre** | *Tattersalls/Laura Green*

Sangster family that harks back to the involvement of his father Robert with the Vincent O'Brien-trained winners Lomond (Northern Dancer {Can}) and El Gran Senor (Northern Dancer).

Robert Sangster also bred and owned the 1992 winner Rodrigo De Triano (El Gran Senor), who was trained at the family's Manton estate by Peter Chapple-Hyam.

"Luxembourg is from one of those families that is deep in black type that keeps expanding," says Sangster. "It's a great Wildenstein line with proper Group 1 black type--there is Group 1 winner after Group 1 winner on the page, champions like Arcangues and Aquarelliste.

"It's a family that we have bought into several times over the years. There is a mare called Afrique Bleu Azur in there who I bought for my father. She was a Sagace mare and we sent her to Caerleon and out of that we bred Cape Verdi. Angara is another out of that family that we had. She was a very good mare that we raced, she won the Diana Stakes at Saratoga and the Beverly D. And then we also had her half-sister Altesse Imperiale.

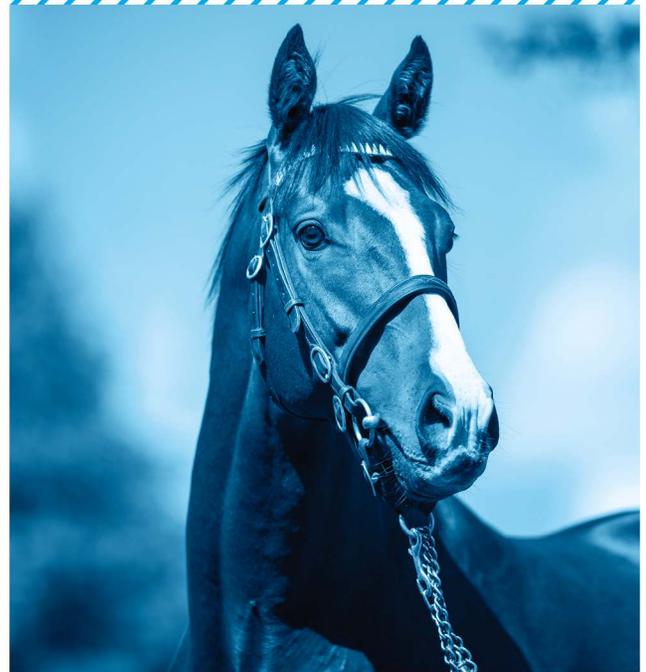


# Mighty May

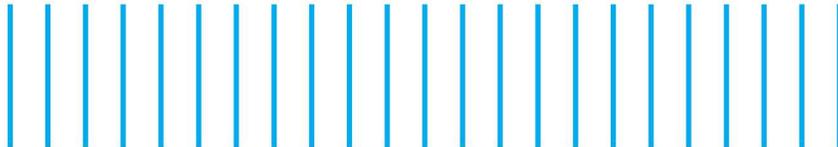
Think a late foal can't be precocious? Read the facts, think again, book a mare...

**24 two-year-olds** conceived in May or June have won juvenile events at **Royal Ascot** this century — including 15 in the five-furlong races.

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### Cont.

"She was another we bought out of the family and out of her we bred Forgotten Voice, a good horse. And later in life, she produced Attire, the dam of Luxembourg. So it's a family we have a lot of time for and one we've been lucky with."

This remarkable family descends from Daniel Wildenstein's Listed Prix Omnium winner Almyre (Fr), a 1964-foaled daughter of Wild Risk (Fr) (Rialto {Fr}). Almyre left behind nine winners including Group 2 scorer Ashmore (Fr) (Luthier {Fr}) and the Group 2-placed Albertine (Fr) (Irish River {Fr}), herself the dam of Arcangues (Sagace {Fr}), who sprang an almighty 133/1 shock for Andre Fabre in the 1993 G1 Breeders' Cup Classic, and Group 3 winner Agathe (Manila), the dam of Aquarelliste (Fr) (Danehill).

Cape Verdi (Ire), foaled in 1995, was one of the first top-flight descendants of Almyre to be bred outside Wildenstein hands. Initially trained at Manton by Chapple-Hyam, she carried the Sangster colours to victory in the 1997 G2 Lowther S. before changing hands in a package to Godolphin, for whom she won the following year's 1,000 Guineas prior to a fruitless attempt against colts in the Derby.

As for Angara (GB) (Alzao) and Altesse Imperiale (Ire) (Rock Of Gibraltar {Ire}), they were out of Albertine's daughter Ange Bleu (Fr) (Alleged). Altesse Imperiale has left her own mark on the stud book as dam of the Group 1-placed Altruistic (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}) for Swettenham Stud and Scout Stable LLC.

Minor winner Asnieres, born in 1992, was the sixth foal out of Albertine and a daughter of the 1985 Kentucky Derby winner Spend A Buck, a horse rarely seen in northern hemisphere pedigrees nowadays (for all he was a successful sire in Brazil). She foaled nine winners, of which Forgotten Voice (Ire) (Danehill Dancer {Ire}), winner of the G3 Glorious S., and Listed scorer Australie (Ire) (Sadler's Wells) were the most accomplished. Attire was not one of the winning nine, being placed three times in eight starts for David Wachman. However, she has swiftly made amends at stud.

Her second foal, Leo De Fury (Ire) (Australia {Ire}), won the 2020 G2 Mooresbridge S. for Jessica Harrington and remains in training while her third, Sense Of Style (Ire) (Zoffany {Ire}), came within a head of winning the Listed Staffordstown Stud S. as a 2-year-old and was Group 3-placed for Sangster and Joseph O'Brien last season. Luxembourg is her fifth foal and followed by a full-brother who sold for €1.2 million to MV Magnier at last year's Goffs Orby Sale. He is also in training with Aidan O'Brien. "Attire, a sister to Forgotten Voice, was one of the last foals out of Asnieres and a beautiful yearling," says Sangster. "We put her into training but she didn't quite live up to expectations."

Cont. p4

**Cont.**

"But three of her foals are now black type. Leo De Fury is a beautiful horse and he's still running. I had Sense Of Style with Joseph, she was a good filly who was placed in a few stakes races. She was covered recently by Camelot.

"Luxembourg was sold during the Covid yearling sales. He was a beautiful yearling--he was Lot 40 in Book 1 and MV Magnier bought him on behalf of a partnership [for 150,000gns]. I was pleased with that because it meant he was going to a very good hotel.

"Her yearling last year was another beautiful horse. He was maybe a bit stronger than Luxembourg and a great mover with great quality and a good colour."

Attire also has a yearling sister to Luxembourg and is due to foal to Camelot later this spring.

He adds: "We have some mares at home but Attire resides at Coolmore. Land is such an important part of the jigsaw and Luxembourg came off one of Coolmore's satellite farms called Kilsheelan. Where these animals are reared is so important and the list of horses to have come off that farm is remarkable, it goes to show what great land--the Golden Vale--it sits on. And it's run by a wonderful, dedicated team of staff. I am indebted to the Magnier family for letting me board horses on such a wonderful farm."

If the rearing of Luxembourg was a straightforward process, then the same can't be said for Saffron Beach. Bred by the China Horse Club out of Falling Petals (Ire) (Raven's Pass), the filly was purchased as a foal for 55,000gns through Liam Norris of Norris/Huntingdon. As a first-crop daughter of a Prix du Jockey Club winner in New Bay – who has subsequently emerged as a young sire of real note – from the immediate family of Cotai Glory (GB) (Exceed And Excel {Aus}), Saffron Beach was undoubtedly an appealing commercial proposition. But then fate intervened.

"Liam Norris, who I regard as a great judge--he bought [Oaks winner] Dancing Rain as a yearling from me--bought Saffron Beach for me as a foal," says Sangster. "But as a young horse, she had an injury in the paddock that meant we couldn't sell her at the yearling sales. We couldn't even take her to a 2-year-old sale. We ended up breaking her in very late, around April of her 2-year-old year."



Lucy Sangster, left, and Jane Chapple-Hyam, right, with Saffron Beach after the Sun Chariot | [Racingfotos.com](http://Racingfotos.com)

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Saffron Beach missed not one but three sale engagements over the span of ten months, including in the Tattersalls July Sale as an unnamed 2-year-old.

"I had her here at home," says Sangster. "It was during the Covid lockdown and my daughter was here as well. We have a couple of hunters here and the wife of my stud manager, who is an excellent horsewoman, would ride her out every day. They would go out with my daughter on a hunter, single file up the gallops, and that happened every day for about three months.

"It got to around June time and we thought it was then time for her to move on, and that was when she went to Jane's. It just goes to show you need luck in this game, and we got lucky as she should have gone to a sale where we would have most likely sold her."

**Cont.**

Carrying the colours of Sangster, son Ollie and James Wigan, Saffron Beach made a sparkling winning debut on Newmarket's Rowley Mile in late September 2020 before following up at the same course in the G2 Rockfel S. two weeks later. After running second on her 3-year-old return in the G3 Nell Gwyn S., she wasn't beaten far into second by Mother Earth (Ire) (Zoffany {Ire}) in the 1000 Guineas and although subsequently disappointing in the Oaks and G1 Falmouth S., bounced back to win the G3 Atalanta S. and G1 Sun Chariot S. in a testament to the skills of her trainer.

"She's a competitive filly who hates being headed," says Sangster. "Mentally, she's very tough. She ran a formidable race at Meydan up against those colts. Hollie [Doyle] had her in a very good position and she ran a great race. She's come out really well from that. There is a nice programme for those middle-distance fillies and mares and she should be competitive."

He adds: "Jane is a really super trainer. She leaves no stone unturned, she's a great communicator and she makes it fun. But most of all, she's an extremely capable trainer."

Sangster deflects the credit for two such high-flying Group 1 performers to the skill of the people around them. But having been immersed in the sport since childhood, an innate instinct to do what's right for the animal is also surely at play.

His achievements as a breeder also includes the 2011 Classic winners Dancing Rain (Ire) (Danhill Dancer {Ire}) and Roderic O'Connor (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}). There is also a potential dark horse for 2022 to look out for in Changingoftheguard (Ire), a Galileo colt out of Group 2 winner Lady Lara (Ire) (Excellent Art {GB}) who broke his maiden by six lengths for Aidan O'Brien at Dundalk on Friday.

Sangster also pinhooked the 1992 Derby winner Dr Devious (Ire) (Ahoonora {GB}) as a foal alongside Paul Shanahan, while more recently he served a six-year stint as chairman of The National Stud in Newmarket. All the while, the historic Manton Estate near Marlborough, Wiltshire, which was purchased by Robert Sangster in 1984, remains at the heart of the family's involvement, notably as the current base for trainers Brian Meehan and Martyn Meade.

Indeed, the legacy of Robert Sangster, a pioneer of the sport who was so instrumental in the rise of Coolmore as an international force, continues to stretch across the globe. Ben's brother Adam Sangster is at the helm of Swettenham Stud in Victoria, Australia, which stands six stallions including the wildly popular Tornado (Ire) (High Chaparral {Ire}) and Group 1 globe-trotter **Highland Reel (Ire)** (Galileo {Ire}).

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**Shaman at Yeomanstown Stud**

Younger brother Sam, meanwhile, is a successful syndicator and agent who hit a high point last autumn when his Hannibal Barba (Ire) (Zoffany {Ire}), a 55,000gns yearling purchase, ran fourth in the G1 Vertem Futurity. That colt was sold not long after for 500,000gns.

Nor is it likely to be long until we see the name of Ben's son Ollie as a trainer in his own right.

"Ollie is working with Joseph O'Brien at the moment and will embark on a training career sooner rather than later," says Sangster. "He's worked with some excellent people--David Hayes in Australia, Charlie Hills over here and Wesley Ward--so he's had an excellent grounding. He's enjoying it and not afraid of hard work."

That recipe of enjoyment and hard work has been a theme of the Sangsters' success over the years, and with Luxembourg and Saffron Beach primed to take high order again this season, such an approach looks poised to reap yet further rewards.

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# FRANCE

## First winner for **Saxon Warrior** cont. from p1

Lady Vettori bettered that in her second career, producing the G1 Poule d'Essai des Poulains and G1 Prix du Jockey Club hero and leading sire Lope de Vega (Ire), as well as Lady **Frankel** (GB), a full-sister to Lady Livonia who captured the G3 Prix de Lieurey and was third in the G1 Prix de l'Opera.

Another of her daughters, the G3 Prix Andre Baboin scorer Bal de la Rose (Ire) (Cadeaux Genereux {GB}), in turn produced Danceteria (Fr) (Redoute's Choice {Aus}) who took the G1 Grosser Dallmayr Preis. Also responsible for the G3 Prix de Psyche-placed Light the Stars (Ire) (Sea the Stars {Ire}), she is the third dam of last year's Listed Prix Dahlia scorer and G3 Prix de Flore runner-up Jupyra (Fr) (Le Havre {Ire}) who is out of a daughter of **Frankel**'s sire Galileo (Ire). Lady Livonia's second foal, a yearling colt, is by Light the Stars' sire. **Video, sponsored by TVG.**

## Sunday's Result:

### FIRST WINNER FOR SIRE

**4th-Le Lion d'Angers, €18,000, Debutantes, 4-3, 2yo, 5 1/2ft, 1:09.40, g/s.**

**SER SED (IRE) (c, 2, Saxon Warrior {Jpn})--Lady Livonia {Ire}, by Frankel {GB}** Sales history: €15,000 Ylg '21 ARQOCT. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, €9,000. O-Azeddine Sedrati & Jean-Claude Seroul; B-Gestut Ammerland (IRE); T-Joel Boisnard.

## CONDITIONS RESULT:

**6th-Le Lion d'Angers, €22,000, 4-3, 3yo, 12ft, 2:32.13, g/s.**

**BORN WITH WINGS (IRE) (g, 3, Nathaniel {Ire})--Drops {Ire}, by Kingmambo** Lifetime Record: 5-2-0-1, €16,450. O/B-Al Asayl France (IRE); T-Francis-Henri Graffard.

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**Saxon Warrior** | Coolmore

# IRELAND

## Sunday's Results:

**CORK S.-Listed, €40,000, Cork, 4-3, 3yo/up, 6fT, 1:11.92, gd.**

**1--POWER UNDER ME (IRE), 138, g, 4, Mehmas (Ire)--Oonagh (Ire), by Arakan. (€28,000 Wlg '18 GOFNOV). O-Vincent Gaul; B-Ms Barbel Reiss (IRE); T-Ger Lyons; J-Colin Keane. €24,000. Lifetime Record: MGSP-Ire, 8-3-2-1, \$91,424.**

**2--Mooneista (Ire), 135, f, 4, Dandy Man (Ire)--Moon Unit (Ire), by Intikhab. O-Mrs Paula Davison; B-Killarkin Stud (IRE); T-Jack Davison. €8,000.**

**3--Twilight Spinner (GB), 133, f, 4, Twilight Son (GB)--Spinatrix (GB), by Diktat (GB). (£30,000 Ylg '19 GOFFPR). O-Scott C Heider; B-T K & Mrs P A Knox (GB); T-Joseph O'Brien. €4,000.**

Margins: NK, 1HF, 1. Odds: 2.50, 10.00, 4.50.

Also Ran: Elliptic (Ire), Measure of Magic (Ire), Teresa Mendoza (Ire), Logo Hunter (Ire), Laugh A Minute (GB), One Sweet Day (Ire), Queens Carriage (Ire).

Power Under Me secured a second win and a career high when annexing October's Listed Testimonial S. at The Curragh last time and was sharp enough for this straight dash on seasonal return. Racing under a firm hold in a prominent second after a slick getaway, he was stoked up passing the quarter-mile marker and driven out in the closing stages to deny Mooneista by a neck in a thrilling bobber. "We were worried about the good-to-firm ground today, as he is very ground dependent, but were pleasantly surprised when we put the stick in the ground and it was beautiful, good ground," said Shane Lyons. "However, that's as quick as he wants it and he grows another leg when there is juice in it. Colin [Keane] said he is after getting very strong over the winter and has matured big time. One day, if all the conditions went in his favour, there is a big pot in him."



Power Under Me forges to victory in Cork S. | racingfotos.com

He'll be entered for all the big sprints later in the year, the [G1] Haydock Sprint Cup and [G1] British Champions Sprint in Ascot and the softer the better for him."

Power Under Me, who has also placed three times at pattern-race level, is the third of four foals and lone scorer produced by a winning half-sister to MGSP dual stakes winner Majestic Myles (Ire) (Majestic Missile {Ire}) and MGSP G2 Coventry S. runner-up Parbold (Ire) (Dandy Man {Ire}). The March-foaled bay's fourth dam is GI Matron S. and GI Spinaway S.-winning US champion Talking Picture and he is half to a 2-year-old colt by Belardo (Ire).

**7th-Cork, €20,000, Mdn, 4-3, 3yo, 10f 40yT, 2:14.21, gd.**

**SHARK BAY (IRE) (c, 3, Australia {GB}--Defrost My Heart {Ire} {SP-Fr, \$134,020}, by Fastnet Rock {Aus}), who was disappointing on his juvenile finale when last of four in the Listed Churchill S. over an extended seven furlongs at Tipperary in August, raced in mid-division early. Getting the better of Nusret (GB) (Golden Horn {GB}) 100 yards from the finish, the 11-4 second favourite asserted to score by half a length. The listed-placed dam is a half to two other black-type performers including the five-times group-winning stayer Called to the Bar (Ire) (Henrythenavigator) who was also runner-up in the GI Belmont Derby Invitational and G1 Prix Royal-Oak. The G3 Prix Penelope-winning and G1 Prix Saint-Alary-placed second dam Perfect Hedge (GB) (Unfuwain) is a half to the G1 Star Epsom hero I'm Your Man (Fr) (Cape Cross {Ire}). From the family of Poliglote (GB) that served Ballydoyle well through the G2 Ribblesdale S. runner-up Star Begonia (GB) (Sadler's Wells) and her Danehill sons Five Dynasties and Roosevelt (Ire), Defrost My Heart's 2-year-old is a full-sister to the winner. Sales history: 135,000gns Ylg '20 TATOCT. Lifetime Record: 4-1-1-1, €19,500. O-D Smith, Mrs J Magnier, M Tabor, Westerberg; B-Fair Salina (IRE); T-Aidan O'Brien.**

**4th-Cork, €16,000, Mdn, 4-3, 2yo, 5fT, 1:01.14, gd.**

**CRISPY CAT (GB) (c, 2, Ardad {Ire}--Mara Grey {Ire}, by Azamour {Ire}), sent off the 5-2 second favourite, quickly established himself on the lead. Professional to the end, the bay hit the line with half a length to spare over Beauty Crescent (Ire) (Acclamation {GB}). "He is quite smart and hopefully he will be going to Royal Ascot and a stiff five furlongs will suit him," trainer Michael O'Callaghan said. "He has a great mind. He'll probably go to the Listed First Flyer Stakes at the Curragh next." The unraced dam, whose yearling is a full-brother to the winner, is a daughter of the triple stakes scorer My Girl Lisa (With Approval) and therefore a half to Explosive Lady (Ire) (Alfred Nobel {Ire}) who was third in the G3 Princess Margaret S. Sales history: 7,500gns Wlg '20 TATFOA; £105,000 Ylg '21 TATIRY. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$10,606.**

O-Amo Racing; B-S Nasser Al Romaihi (GB); T-M O'Callaghan.

**1st-Cork, €12,500, Mdn, 4-3, 3yo, f, 7ft, 1:26.34, gd.**  
**PRINCESS OLLY (IRE) (f, 3, Invincible Spirit {Ire}--Cristal Fashion {Ire} {SP-Ire}, by Jeremy)** was the sharpest of 14 into stride and led from flagfall in this debut. Holding sway throughout and last to come off the bridle after halfway, the 18-1 chance was shaken up to go clear approaching the final furlong and kept on well under late urging to comfortably hold Osraige (Ire) (Siyouni {Fr}) by 1 1/2 lengths. "She did it well and is a nice filly," said assistant trainer Robson Aguiar. "We sent her to [trainer] Adrian [Murray] two weeks ago, she has done everything well and settled well. I think she will improve, as we looked after her, and she hasn't been drilled at home. She relaxed today, did the job and proved what she can do. We'll see what Adrian says and make a plan after that." Princess Ollly is the fourth of five foals and second scorer produced by Listed Salsabil S. second Cristal Fashion (Ire) (Jeremy), herself out of a half-sister to G1 Racing Post Trophy third Feared In Flight (Ire) (Hawk Wing). From the family of G1 Fillies' Mile victrix Crystal Music (Nureyev), the May-foaled bay is kin to a yearling colt by [Starspangledbanner \(Aus\)](#). Sales history: 220,000gns Ylg '20 TATOCT. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$8,286.  
 1ST-TIME STARTER. O-Amo Racing Ltd; B-Loughtown Stud & Irish National Stud (IRE); T-Adrian Murray.

## ITALY

### Sunday's Results:

**PREMIO PISA-Listed, €55,000, 4-3, Pisa, 3yo, 1600mT, 1:36.00, sf.**

1-**IL GRANDE GATSBY (IRE), 123, c, 3, by Churchill (Ire)**

1st Dam: Irene Watts (GB) (GSP-Ity), by Miswaki Tern

2nd Dam: Iregirl (Ire), by Simply Great (Fr)

3rd Dam: Martintide (GB), by Bustino (GB)

**1ST BLACK-TYPE WIN.** (18,000gns yrl '20 TATSOCT). O-Guido Berardelli. B-Folco Sas Di Enrico Vittorio (IRE). T-E.C. Racing Stable Soc Al Srl. J-F Dettori. €21,250. Lifetime Record: 8-4-1-0, \$46,215.

2-**Bahja Del Sol (Ire), 123, c, 3, The Gurkha (Ire)--Bahja, by Seeking the Gold.** (£4,000 yrl '20 TATSEP). O-Stefano Botti Turf Srl. B-Joe O'Leary (Ire). €9,350.

3-**Vecello (GB), 123, c, 3, Helmet (Aus)--Via Emilia (Ire), by Azamour (Ire).** O-Sc Giacobbe Ferruccio E.C. B-Soc Ag C.I.T.A.I. €5,100.

Margins: 4, NO, 3.25. Odds: 2.30, 3.67, 4.52.

Also Ran: Sunny River (Ire), Ilgani (GB), Salah Al Din (GB), Constantinus (GB), The King's Horses (GB), Wings of War (Fr).

[VIDEO ippica.snai.it](#)

**PREMIO REGIONE TOSCANA-Listed, €38,500, 4-3, Pisa, 4yo/up, 2200mT, 2:18.90, sf.**

1-**BRIGANTE SABINO (IRE), 127, c, 4, Zoffany (Ire)--Natural Bloom (Ire), by Galileo (Ire).** (£37,000 Wlg '18 GOFNOV; £40,000 Ylg '19 GOF OCT). O-Mario Sansoni; B-Sir Robert Ogden (Ire); T-A Botti Srl Soc All; J-Dario Vargiu. €14,875.

Lifetime Record: 10-5-0-0, \$79,598.

2-**Clarenzio Fan (Fr), 124, h, 5, Montmartre (Fr)--Catnip Fan (Ity), by Johnny Red Kerr.** (€5,000 Ylg '18 SGASEP). O-A. Botti Srl Soc Al Di Botti Alduino; B-Giuliano Fanti (Fr). €6,545.

3-**Total Euphoria (Ire), 124, g, 5, Footstepsinthesand (GB)--Varsa (Ire), by Refuse to Bend (Ire).** **1ST BLACK TYPE.** (€26,000 Wlg '17 GOFNOV; £48,000 Ylg '18 GOF AUG; 13,000gns HRA '19 TATOCT). O-Devis Grilli; B-Rabidus Bloodstock (Ire). €3,570.

Margins: NO, 1 1/2, 5 1/2. Odds: 2.40, 8.72, 4.64.

Also Ran: Unique Diamond, Reggiolo (Ire), Mr Gualano (Ire), Lyrical (GB), Malpaga (Ity), O'Juke (Fr), Sonniende (Ity).

[VIDEO ippica.snai.it](#)

## GERMANY

### CONDITIONS RESULTS:

2nd-**Mannheim, €7,000, Cond, 4-3, 3yo, 9 1/2ft, 2:07.24, sf.**

**BAVARIA IRON (FR) (c, 3, Shamalgan {Fr}--Blue Fleur {Ire}, by Shamardal)** Lifetime Record: 9-2-1-0, €9,250. O-Frau Britta Gollnick-Uleer; B-Ecurie Normandie Pur Sang (FR); T-Marco Klein.

## WORLDWIDE NEWS

### ROYALLY-BRED POTAGER TAKES OSAKA HAI

**Potager (Jpn)** (Deep Impact {Jpn}) upset a competitive field of Group 1 performers--including the reigning Horse of the Year and race favorite **Efforia (Jpn)** (Epiphaneia {Jpn}) and defending champion **Lei Papale (Jpn)** (Deep Impact {Jpn})--to collect his first top-level victory in Sunday's G1 Osaka Hai at Hanshin.

The son of multiple Grade I winner Ginger Punch (Awesome Again) broke smoothly and settled in a close-up fifth just behind Lei Papale, who showed good speed in fourth as second choice **Jack d'Or (Jpn)** (Maurice)--victorious in his five latest starts--showed the way through sharp early fractions.

[Cont. p9](#)



**Potager earning his first Group 1 score in Sunday's Osaka Hai**  
JRA

As the field began to inch closer to the pacesetter rounding the final turn, the 5-year-old took off after Lei Papale, who poked her head in front 200 meters out, gradually reeled her in late, and despite the best effort of late-charging **Arrivo (Jpn)** (Duramente {Jpn}), showed considerable guts to out-gun his rivals to score by a neck at long odds.

With the victory, Potager earns a berth in the G1 Irish Champion S. at Leopardstown in September.

“We had a good draw [8], so I was hoping to secure a good position,” said winning jockey Hayato Yoshida. “Potager adapts well to various scenarios and he was terrific in that he was able to keep up with the other really strong horses in front. He really gave his all in the end and all I could do was keep urging him on. I’m happy that we were able to win.”

Heavy favorite Efforia, settled in mid-division early, made his move 600 meters out, angled to the outside for a clear run turning for home but failed to find another gear and had to settle for ninth.

“Efforia was not himself,” commented rider Takeshi Yokoyama. “We made an early move, but he just didn’t have anything to give in the straight. He was a bit heavy and wasn’t as sharp during training last week which may have affected his performance.”

Potager finished on the board in four of five starts in 2021, including a victory in the Listed Shirafuji S. and thirds in the G2 Kinko Sho and G2 Mainichi Okan. The sole occasion when he missed the top three last season was in the G1 Tenno Sho (Autumn) when finishing sixth behind Efforia. Fifth in the G2 American Jockey Club Cup at Nakayama Jan.23, he most recently finished fourth behind winner Jack d'Or in Chukyo's G2 Kinko Sho Mar. 13.

By renowned Japanese sire Deep Impact, Potager is out of Stronach homebred Ginger Punch, who in turn is by Stronach's Awesome Again, winner of the 1997 Queen's Plate and 1998 GI Breeders' Cup Classic. Trained by Hall of Fame trainer Bobby Frankel, the Florida-bred won eight graded stakes—including six at the Grade I level--throughout her career. In 2007, the chestnut earned the title of champion older mare after wins in the GI Breeders' Cup Distaff, GI Go For Wand H. (which she won again in 2008) and GI Ruffian H. She also added wins in the GI Odgen Phipps and GI Personal Ensign during her 5-year-old season. Offered at the Fasig-Tipton Fall Mixed Sale in 2009, she realized a \$1.6-million final bid before being repatriated to Japan. A pair of her foals have attained seven-figure prices at JRHA sales--Potager (\$1.7 million in '18) and Tenkaharu (Jpn) (King Kamehameha {Jpn}) (\$2.6 million in '19)--and her leading earner to date is MGSW-Jpn Rouge Buck (Jpn) (Manhattan Cafe {Jpn}), runner-up in the 2015 G1 Oka Sho (Japanese 1000 Guineas).

**Sunday, Hanshin, Japan**

**OSAKA HAI-G1**, ¥384,800,000, Hanshin, 4-3, 4yo/up, 2000mT, 1:58.40, fm.

1--**POTAGER (JPN)**, 126, h, 5, by Deep Impact (Jpn)

1st Dam: Ginger Punch, by Awesome Again

2nd Dam: Nappelon, by Bold Revenue

3rd Dam: Sally Go Gray, by Wise Exchange

**1ST GROUP 1 WIN; 1ST GROUP WIN.** (¥190,000,000 yrl '18 JRHAJUL). O-Makoto Kaneko Holdings; B-Northern Farm; T-Yasuo Tomomichi; J-Hayato Yoshida; ¥203,360,000. Lifetime Record: 15-6-4-2. **Werk Nick Rating: A+++ \*Triple Plus\***

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2--**Lei Papale (Jpn)**, 121, m, 5, by Deep Impact (Jpn)--Shells Lei (Jpn), by Kurofune. O-Carrot Farm; B-Northern Farm; ¥80,960,000.

3--**Arrivo (Jpn)**, 126, c, 4, by Duramente (Jpn)--Esmeraldina, by Harlan's Holiday. O-Silk Racing; B-Northern Farm; ¥50,480,000. Margins: NK, NO, 1; Odds: 57.70, 8.20, 46.50.

Also Ran: Hishi Iguazu (Jpn), Jack d'Or (Jpn), Scar Face (Jpn), African Gold (Jpn), Stellaria (Jpn), Efforia (Jpn), Akai Ito (Jpn), King of Koji (Jpn), Shonan Bardi (Jpn), Red Genesis (Jpn), Makahiki (Jpn), Humidor (Jpn), Win Marilyn (Jpn).

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**Sunday, Sha Tin, Hong Kong**

**CHAIRMAN'S TROPHY-G2**, HK\$4,750,000 (£462,358/€548,759/A\$808,858/US\$606,339), Sha Tin, 4-1, 3yo/up, 1600mT, 1:32.96, gd.

1--**GOLDEN SIXTY (AUS)**, 128, g, 6, by **Medaglia d'Oro**

1st Dam: **Gaudeamus (GSW-Ire, \$179,846)**,

by **Distorted Humor**

2nd Dam: **Leo's Lucky Lady**, by **Seattle Slew**

3rd Dam: **Konafa**, by **Damascus**

(A\$120,000 Ylg '17 MMGCYS; NZ\$300,000 2yo '17 NZBRTR).

O-Stanley Chan Ka Leung; B-Asco International Pty Ltd;

T-Francis Lui K W; J-Vincent Ho C Y; HK\$2,707,500. Lifetime

Record: Horse of the Year, Ch. Miler, Ch. Middle Distance

Horse, Ch. 4yo & MG1SW-HK, 23-20-1-1, HK\$102,000,600.

\*1/2 to Igitur (Aus) (Helmet {Aus}), SP-Aus; and Rainbow

Connection (Aus) (Choisir {Aus}), GSP-Aus. **Click for the**

**eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree**. **Werk Nick Rating: A+++**

**\*Triple Plus\***.

2--**Russian Emperor (Ire)**, 128, g, 5, Galileo (Ire)--Atlantic Jewel

(Aus), by Fastnet Rock (Aus). O-Mike Cheung Shun Ching;

B-Coolmore, Lauri Macri & Partners; T-Douglas Whyte; J-Blake

Shinn; HK\$1,045,000.

3--**Savy Nine (Fr)**, 123, g, 6, Anodin (Ire)--Insan Mala (Ire), by

Bahhare. (€42,000 RNA Ylg '17 ARQAUG; €470,000 HRA '18

ARQARC). O-Julian Hui Chun Hang; B-Jan Krauze; T-Douglas

Whyte; J-Matthew Chadwick; HK\$546,250.

Margins: 2, NK, NO. Odds: 3-5f, 6-1, 87-1.

Also Ran: Champion's Way (Aus), Excellent Proposal (Aus), More

Than This (GB), Cheerful Days (Aus), Butterfield (Brz), Tourbillon

Diamond (Aus), Ka Ying Star (GB), Healthy Happy (Aus), Waikuku

(Ire). **Click for the HKJC.com chart, PPs and sectional timing.**

**VIDEO**. **Click for the free Equineline.com catalog-style**

**pedigree**.



**Golden Sixty | HKJC**



**Wellington | HKJC**

**Sunday, Sha Tin, Hong Kong**

**SPRINT CUP-G2**, HK\$4,750,000 (£462,358/€548,759/

A\$808,858/US\$606,339), Sha Tin, 4-1, 3yo/up, 1200mT, 1:08.23,

gd.

1--**WELLINGTON (AUS)**, 128, g, 5, by **All Too Hard (Aus)**

1st Dam: **Mihiri (Aus) (GSP-Aus, \$123,433)**,

by **More Than Ready**

2nd Dam: **Danoise (GB)**, by **Danehill**

3rd Dam: **Solo de Lune (Ire)**, by **Law Society**

(A\$70,000 Ylg '18 MMGCYS). O-Mr & Mrs Michael Cheng Wing

On & Jeffrey Cheng Man Cheong; B-Kia Ora Stud Pty Ltd, David

Paradise, Steve McCann (NSW); T-Richard Gibson; J-Alexis

Badel; HK\$2,707,500. Lifetime Record: MG1SW-HK, 15-9-1-0,

HK\$28,656,190. **Werk Nick Rating: A+++ \*Triple Plus\***. **Click**

**for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree**.

2--**Sight Success (Aus)**, 123, g, 5, Magnus (Aus)--Tarp (Aus), by

Bletchley Park (Ire). (A\$45,000 Ylg '18 MGCFEB). O-Tam Wing

Kun; B-G R Daws (WA); T-John Size; J-Vagner Borges;

HK\$1,045,000.

3--**Master Eight (Aus)**, 123, g, 4, Oamaru Force (Aus)--Curzon

Dancer (Aus), by **Danehill Dancer (Ire)**. (A\$50,000 Ylg '19

MGMMAR). O-Fok Yuk Tong; B-Noor Elaine Farm (Vic);

T-Frankie Lor; J-Joao Moreira; HK\$546,250.

Margins: NK, 3/4, 3/4. Odds: 22-5, 36-5, 11-5f.

Also Ran: Lucky Express (Aus), Hot King Prawn (Aus), Computer

Patch (Aus), Super Wealthy (Aus), Stronger (Aus), Kurpany (Fr).

**Click for the HKJC.com chart, PPs and sectional timing. VIDEO**.

**Click for the free Equineline.com catalog-style pedigree**.



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## REBEL DANE TO STAND AT WIDDEN STUD



Rebel Dane | TDN AusNZ

By Bren O'Brien

Widden Stud has won the bidding battle to secure the services of winning stallion Rebel Dane, who will stand at the historic farm's New South Wales base for \$27,500 (inc GST) in 2022.

Rebel Dane's star filly Fireburn has claimed both the G1 Golden Slipper S. and G1 Inglis Sires' in the past month, intensifying interest in her sire, who had been searching for a new home since managing owner Silverdale Farm opted to pursue options in the Hunter Valley after he had stood firstly for two years at Swettenham Stud then for three years at Glen Eden Stud in Victoria. Respected bloodstock agent Mark Player had co-ordinated the bidding process and in the end it was Widden which won the day, with the final deal signed at the Riverside Stables on Sunday, ahead of this week's Inglis Easter Yearling Sale. Widden Stud principal Antony Thompson said Rebel Dane was a rare article as a stallion who had already proven the quality he could produce, through both Fireburn and Group 3 winner Subterranean, but who was also able to be relaunched into the market.

"Obviously, he has great credentials in his own right as a terrific racehorse, but the real attention is now on him for what he is doing as a young stallion, with just a handful of runners to come out," Thompson said.

"He has a couple of serious horses, including the Champion

2-Year-Old elect no doubt, this season. She's a very good filly and any stallion that can throw progeny of that quality is a serious stallion and one worth proper consideration. We are thrilled to say his new home is Widden Stud.

"There is a definite demand for young, proven stallions. He is certainly an elite young stallion. He has proven he can get elite performers and he will be very, very popular."

The Gary Portelli-trained Fireburn's development from humble homebred to Golden Slipper winner and the first filly in 30 years to win the Inglis Sires' as well, has been a fairy-tale for his breeders and owners Louis Mihalyka's Laurel Oak Bloodstock as well as Silverdale Farm, where she was foaled and raised. Rebel Dane raced in the same Laurel Oak colours and Mihalyka and Silverdale's Steve Grant, as well as Kenny Lowe, had backed the stallion from the very start, working hard to find him a home.

"It's been a wonderful renewal of the energy we have all had with this horse. If you go back to the early days, Kenny Lowe wore out two pairs of shoes walking around trying to get him a spot. Lou made phone calls until his ears bled," Grant said.

"To be able to do a deal with an old friend in Antony, it's a wonderful way it has all turned out."

Grant said there was a sense of needing to seize the moment with Rebel Dane, with his second-crop daughter Fireburn doing such a remarkable job this campaign.

"We realised that from where we were, that now was our time. We had got great support early on, from the likes of Adam Sangster, but to get the horse set now for the rest of his life, it just needed to be the right sort of arrangement," he said.

"Antony came up with a wonderful deal and we are looking forward to working with Widden over the coming years."

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Mark Player, Louis Mihalyka, Steve Grant, Antony Thompson and Ken Lowe | TDNAusNZ

### *A Slipper Tradition*

Widden has a wonderful affiliation with Golden Slipper winners and producers. It has stood Slipper winners such as Vain, Marscay, Stratum and Sebring. The first three of those stallions all then sired Golden Slipper winners, themselves Vain, with Sir Dapper and Inspired, Marscay with Bint Marscay and Stratum with Crystal Lily. In confirming the fee, which is \$18,700 more than he stood for at Glen Eden last year, Thompson said he was confident that Rebel Dane would attract a very strong book of mares. "He is still going to be great value at that. If you can breed to a sire of a Slipper winner, and a stallion like this at that fee, the breeders will really flock to him," he said. "I'm sure he will be very popular. I don't think we will have any trouble marketing him at all. Every breeder you speak to, they are looking for a proven sire and it's every breeder's dream to breed a Slipper winner. He's going to go on to be a great stallion and that will come with the quantity and quality of mares he will get at Widden." Small crops of seven foals each followed the crop of 26 from which Fireburn emerged. It means that there are very few yearlings or weanlings by the stallion. His mare numbers jumped to 49 last year but Thompson is well aware that while his racetrack success as a sire has been rapid, the commercial success may take some time to emerge.

### *Double Joy for Laurel Oak*

For Mihalyka, the inking of a deal completes a remarkable six weeks which has seen Fireburn emerge as one of the best 2-year-old fillies in a generation and Rebel Dane as a stallion of consequence. "Winning the Slipper and winning the Sires' would be good in its own right, but to have that positive impact on the stallion, it's just an added bonus. We are just so rapt to be in that position," he said.

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## Connections Cast Episode 28

In an Inglis Easter Yearling Sale special, Gus Roland is joined by bloodstock agent Hubie de Burgh, Arrowfield Stud's Paul Messara and Randwick trainer Mark Newnham to discuss the sales market, yearling buying and conformation lessons.

## EASTER PANEL



"The irony is that when Subterranean had first won, we were up at Widden seeing our mares and foals. I joked that this horse is a good stallion, and he should be standing here at Widden. I was just disappointed it took Antony a few years to come to his senses and realise I was." "We are very, very pleased. We have been good clients of Widden for a long, long time.

"We have a great association, bought horses off them, have got mares there and shares in their stallions and it's just brilliant to have another string to our bow."

Grant, Lowe and Mihalyka all expect to be busy at the upcoming breeding stock sales looking for mares to send to Rebel Dane. right.