VALUE SIRES, PART 3: FIRST YEARLINGS IN '23

by Chris McGrath

The stallions we assess today find themselves at the first major crossroads of their new career. Poor fellows, they’re still a long way from having the chance to demonstrate whether they can actually produce runners. But that seems a pretty incidental consideration in the current marketplace, which has created a self-fulfilling cycle. Like it or not, stallions nowadays do indeed have their best chance of producing a good one from their first crop, as these typically emerge from the biggest and best books they will ever get. That, in turn, only reinforces demand for new sires—and it has become extremely hard to break that circle.

In contrast, we now come to that awkward bubble for stallions between the market testing of first weanlings (and soon first yearlings) and the racetrack testing of first juveniles. Even that, of course, will scarcely be a fair measure of those that might need two turns and maturity to show their full hand. There’s nothing like having a strong third and fourth book behind you, then, if a stallion actually starts delivering on the track. But this is instead typically a time when book numbers begin to slide, and farms often start dangling lower fees to keep these horses in the game.

Fee cuts are duly one of the “value” factors we must weigh now, alongside the initial vibes from the weanling marketplace. As a result, we can’t just replicate our previous choices among this intake. The sands are shifting. Cont. p3

SENATORS GRASSLEY, MANCHIN, FILE AMENDMENT TO STRIP HISA LANGUAGE FROM OMNIBUS BILL

Senator Chuck Grassley (R-IA) has jointly filed an amendment with Senator Manchin (D-WV) that would strip references to the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act (HISA) from the 4,000-page omnibus spending bill being considered this week in Congress, according to a press release Wednesday morning from the Iowa HBPA.

Tuesday, it was revealed that draft language has been inserted into the full-year omnibus spending bill designed to fix what the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals called a constitutional problem with the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act (HISA), finding in November that the law as written doesn’t afford the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) enough authority in the rule-making process. Cont. p8

IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

OP/ED: NEW WHIP RULES ILLUSTRATIVE OF BHA DISCONNECT

Retired jockey Fran Berry pens an op/ed on the new BHA whip rules that go into effect in the new year.

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NO F-T GULFSTREAM 2YO SALE IN 2023

Fasig-Tipton will not be holding a select 2-year-olds in training sale at Gulfstream Park in 2023. “The Gulfstream Park facilities are not available for 2023 due to some stabling issues,” said Fasig-Tipton’s President and CEO Boyd Browning.

MIND CONTROL TO ROCKRIDGE STUD

Mind Control (Stay Thirsty), winner of the GI Cigar Mile at Aqueduct Dec. 3 in the final start of his career, will stand at Rockridge Stud in New York under the management of Irish Hill Farm, Dutchess Views Stallions, Hidden Lake Farm and Rockridge Stud. The 5-year-old is priced at $8,500 LFSN.
Value Sires cont. from p1

On the other hand, we do need to persevere somewhat. If you truly believe in a horse, you will expect him to make an impact on the track even if he has meanwhile endured a tepid reception at market. And, if he does indeed vindicate your belief, there might actually be a commercial dividend for those who keep the faith now.

That makes this is a devilish group to sieve down to a “podium.” We want to respect the professional verdict of horsemen, presented with the first flesh-and-blood evidence of a stallion’s genetic imprint. But we also want to respect those horses that have to ride out diminishing books pending any racetrack impact. We all know of great stallions who were clinging to the precipice around this point. Yet we also know that many who find themselves in that kind of early pickle will indeed just keep slithering into the abyss.

So let’s hit and hope, and see if we can strike a balance between these conflicting forces.

Bubbling Under:

We’ve often noted that those directing ringside investment tend to be pretty obedient, in that sale averages broadly tend to align with the order suggested by sires’ opening fees. This intake, however, actually featured one or two that dropped out of that sequence, with their weanlings, and who will duly be under pressure to raise their game at the yearling sales next year.

Among those who did best behind Authentic—who topped the averages, as required by his fee-were Game Winner and McKinzie, who both duly maintain their $30,000 tags.

Of those who have been processing “mega” books, VEKOMA appeals as a valid play right now. He has taken another friendly clip to $15,000 at Spendthrift (started at $20,000) which should help to maintain momentum pending a remarkable stampede of runners. (First books of 222 and 196!) While the sheer volume of his stock will ensure a wide range of experiences for vendors, a $92,222 average is highly respectable in view of the fact that he sold no fewer than 27 of 29 offered. A Grade I winner at seven, eight and nine furlongs, Vekoma is from a stallion-producing family and channels a lot of speed by the standards of his sire of sires.

It is only with extreme reluctance that we ask HONOR A.P. to dismount the podium, as I remain certain that he was extremely close to the summit of his generation, in ability and looks alike. I suspect it may have been a little difficult for him to start out alongside his own sire, who would ideally have elevated himself into a different commercial tier by now. In the round, however, Honor A.P. has ample pedigree to convert his inherent gifts into an awful lot of “run” for your money.
He should have an adequate foothold with opening books of 110 and 81, and we will be keeping the faith at $15,000 at Lane’s End. With that tremendous frame of his, I wouldn’t be at all surprised if one or two of his foals mature into major pinhook scores from a median touching $45,000.

We gave COMPLEXITY high rank in this group last year and he made a very solid auction debut, finding a home for 27 of 33 weanlings at $58,518. But while his yields are basically in step with the other $12,500 start-up in the intake, he cedes the podium purely because the rival in question—as we’ll see in a moment—has taken a fee cut even as his family tree had been elevated.

Everything remains in place for Complexity, however, not least after covering as many as 282 mares across his first two years at Airdrie. He was the most expensive yearling of his crop by a stallion who has since elevated himself to a much less accessible fee; and, for such a fast horse, you might have expected him to spend a rather larger portion of his career in sprints. I’m confident Complexity will have a say in the freshman sires’ championship—and, if he does, obviously those who support him now will be well ahead of the curve.

Bronze: WAR OF WILL (War Front-Visions Of Clarity by Sadler’s Wells)
$25,000 Claiborne

This series is not about finding stallions who are simply the most credentialed to succeed. That said, I do feel that this guy may have the best prospects of this group of turning himself into an important stallion. For a dirt Classic winner to combine Northern Dancer’s parallel breed-shapers Danzig and Sadler’s Wells as closely as he does—they respectively account for his sire...
To all of you, thank you

All the ARQANA team wishes you a wonderful 2023
and dam feels like a fairly historic opportunity to reconcile the culpably separated gene pools of North America and Europe.

And, in those terms, he looks value as well. Certainly the early signs are that War of Will is getting the commercial traction he needs, with 255 mares across his first two books and a highly promising ring debut, processing 21 of 28 weanlings offered at $102,761.

Standing alongside another young grandson of Danzig, Silver State, War of Will similarly has an opportunity to enrich the legacy of a stallion who founded a global dynasty on this same farm. The maternal line, moreover, is regal: extending to matriarch Best In Show (Traffic Judge) through a line decorated by such brilliant Niarchos performers as his dam's sibling Spinning World (Nureyev) and granddams half-sister Chimes Of Freedom (Private Account), herself dam of Aldebaran (Mr Prospector) among others. The result is a “stairwell” of quality through War of Will’s third and fourth generations that makes it irrelevant which genes filter through, because they are uniformly proven to be potent (i.e. not just by the names that bring them into this pedigree).

That’s how you end up with a Preakness winner who could then add a Grade I mile on turf at four. We know that the commercial market often betrays a childish dread of any flavor of chlorophyll in a pedigree, but hopefully everyone can see that the grass elements in this horse are all about miler speed and class.

Obviously, War of Will remains a far more affordable alternative to his ageing sire. In the next instalment of this series we’ll see whether another elite dirt winner by War Front, Omaha Beach, can retain gold in his own class. But for now we note with pleasure that War of Will and Silver State share a chance to take their farm back to the future, lighting a path from the glorious torch that was Danzig.
Silver: GLOBAL CAMPAIGN (Curlin-Globe Trot by A.P. Indy)  
$10,000 WinStar

I've been with this fellow throughout and will gladly double down now that he gets a trim in fee, from $12,500, even as his genes have been exalted by a stellar start to his own stud career by half-brother Bolt d'Oro.

With 177 mares in his first book, Global Campaign will have the necessary ammunition for his bid potentially to give their remarkable dam a second consecutive champion freshman from just three foals delivered before her premature loss.

It'll be fun to see whether her only other son, Sonic Mule (Distorted Humor), can thrive in his own stud career, in Uruguay. Even as things stand, however, Globe Trot was clearly a conduit of some very potent genes.

This is a branch of the Myrtlewood dynasty that has conspicuously concentrated speed. Globe Trot's dam was a triple graded stakes winner (including round one turn) whose half-sister produced triple Grade I sprint winner Zensational (Unbridled's Song) - an unusually quick horse, for his sire, just as two juvenile Grade Is hardly made Bolt d'Oro a standard issue Medaglia d'Oro. Sonic Mule was graded stakes-placed at six furlongs. Sure enough, Global Campaign himself was loaded with a good deal more speed than might be expected in a son of Curlin out of an A.P. Indy mare.

Indeed, he outpaced Yorkton (Speightstown) over seven furlongs on his comeback at four. And while he never ran at two, that was pretty marginal: he romped on debut on January 5. I always felt that his slightly uneven development - which didn't stop him clocking four triple-digit Beyers in 10 starts - meant that people never quite recognized the level he had reached once putting it all together. Conceivably, moreover, his outlying family left him unfinished business over slightly shorter distances.
Global Campaign made a solid debut at the sales, hitting a median of $52,500 for 16 weanlings sold (25 offered). And while his second book halved to 87, the chance presented by his big first crop could really work in favor of those who persevered. The fee cut gives them every incentive to do so again, not least with Bolt d’Oro ($15,000 in 2021, now $35,000) now surging beyond the reach of many operating at this level.

**Gold: COUNTRY HOUSE (Lookin At Lucky-Quake Lake by War Chant)**
$7,500 Darby Dan

No point undertaking an exercise like this if you’re not prepared to stick your neck out from time to time. Quite clearly the odds are steeply against Country House, favored by no more than 89 mares across his first two books, but he deserves someone to stand up and point out what the herd is missing. He was scandalously underrated as a racehorse, a victim of all the hoopla about the horse he supplanted as Derby winner. He got no credit for beating all the rest of his crop on the day that counted—including horses like Improbable and Game Winner, who were launched at much higher fees—though his performance actually sat very coherently with the way he had been progressing through his rehearsals.

He was then unfortunate to be denied any chance of authenticating his breakout (becoming even more of a forgotten horse, sadly, after the decision to keep him in training backfired) and, though sensibly priced and inbred to the Sam-Son matriarch No Class (Nodouble), has evidently remained in the margins of breeders’ attention.

What a fabulous achievement, then, to hit a $250,000 home run with one of only four weanlings into the ring from his debut crop. Obviously, the colt he sold at Keeneland in November, buried deep in the catalogue as Hip 2370, could turn out to be a flash in the pan. But the fact is that far more expensive peers had to summon two or three dozen weanlings from enormous books to muster a single sale in that kind of range.

Congratulations to those who banked that dividend off a $7,500 cover. It may be too much to hope others will now sit up and take notice, given how deplorably the market has treated Lookin At Lucky over the years. But that horse has never lost his appeal to those prepared to swim against the tide in pursuit of merit. And perhaps it will also prove true of his son that there’s no limit to the kind of runner he might produce, if only he is given a chance.

As we’ve said, this is an agonizing podium because it permits wildly different interpretations of value, bringing together horses like Vekoma, who have suggested immediate viability on...
Three stallion sons in Kentucky – two Breeders’ Cup heroes and a Met Mile winner. Latest yearlings led by a $600k Saratoga session-topper, and juveniles include recent TDN Rising Star Spun Intended, who ran an 87 Beyer at Del Mar.

Plus: 11 Black Type winners in 2022 – you’ll pay $75k and upwards to do better. **Hard Spun**: at $35k, he’s the gift horse that keeps on giving...

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a more industrial model, with others who can overcome early neglect and prove long-term value once they get runners. Country House, while clearly belonging in the latter category, has also made a resounding commercial statement from tiny opportunity. He's an audacious pick, no doubt, but plenty of less deserving prospects will be receiving far more attention—and we must do the little we can to redress that.

VALUE PODIUM

**COUNTRY HOUSE**
Darby Dan | $7,500

**GLOBAL CAMPAIGN**
WinStar | $10,000

**WAR OF WILL**
Claiborne | $25,000

HISA cont. from p1

The FTC may now "abrogate, add to, and modify the rules of the Authority promulgated in accordance with this Act as the Commission finds necessary or appropriate to ensure the fair administration of the Authority, to conform the rules of the Authority to requirements of this Act and applicable rules approved by the Commission, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of this Act," the new language states.

When that language was included in the current omnibus bill Monday night, Senator Grassley replied Tuesday with his amendment, for which Senator Manchin signed on as a sponsor.

Jon Moss, executive director of the Iowa Horsemen's Benevolent & Protective Association, lauded Grassley.

"This 'quick fix' does not address the multiple issues that have and continue to be raised by horsemen across the country," Moss said. "With that, there needs to be a robust discussion bringing together all horsemen to try and put forward what will work for our industry. This 'quick fix' doesn't even come close to doing that in a rational, transparent or inclusive way."

"The Iowa HBPA is grateful for Senator Grassley's continued engagement on this vitally important issue affecting our industry in the state and of course throughout the county. Let there be no doubt Senator Grassley is a champion for the cause of horsemen in Iowa and the rest of the U.S. Now is your time to call upon your Senators to support the Grassley Amendment to remove the HISA 'quick-fix' language."

"I want to praise Senator Grassley for his bold move to protect horsemen in Iowa and throughout the U.S.," said Eric Hamelback, CEO of the National HBPA. "An amendment to HISA should not have been written in the dark of night and has no place in the 4,000-plus-page spending bill. You cannot fix a constitutionally flawed law with one sentence. The Grassley Amendment will ensure that real, working horsemen are listened to on how to fix the law that regulates their industry. The Grassley Amendment is picking up steam, and I urge all horsemen to call and email their Senators right away to vote 'Yes' for the Grassley amendment."
GULFSTREAM JUVENILE SALE REMOVED FROM FASIG-TIPTON’S 2023 AUCTION CALENDAR

Fasig-Tipton will not be holding a select 2-year-olds in training sale at Gulfstream Park in 2023. The news was first reported by the Blood-Horse.

“The Gulfstream Park facilities are not available for 2023 due to some stabling issues,” said Fasig-Tipton’s President and CEO Boyd Browning.

“The stalls are not available this year. We learned about this in the fall, and we determined this year that the best approach would be to concentrate our efforts on the Midlantic Sale, which last year produced the highest price of a 2-year-old in training,” said Browning, referring to Hejazi (Bernardini), who brought $3.55 million at Timonium this past May, and who has gone on to be a graded stakes performer at two for trainer Bob Baffert.

“The sale also has an amazing record of Grade I success of graduates on the racetrack over the last five years. We are strong advocates and believers of the importance of buyers having the opportunity to watch horses breeze on a dirt racetrack, and have a great deal of confidence in the Timonium sales venue.”

Browning said that it was too early to say if the sale would return to Gulfstream in future years. The 2023 Timonium Sale will be held from May 22-23. There will also be an additional one-day juvenile sale for the first time in Timonium June 28.

A total of 35 juveniles brought $13.155 million (17 RNAs), led by a $1.2-million Bold d’Oro filly, at the 2022 Gulfstream Sale. At the 2021 renewal, 67 head brought $25.36 million (38 RNAs), including $1.7-million graduate and MGISW Taiba (Gun Runner).

“I don’t think it’s a surprise to anybody,” said Niall Brennan, who consigned 2015 Fasig-Tipton Florida sale graduate and subsequent GI Kentucky Derby and GI Breeders’ Cup Juvenile winner Nyquist (Uncle Mo).

“The reality is they have struggled with that sale for the last few years and especially this year. You can look at the numbers yourself—the number of horses that were catalogued versus the number of horses that went to the breeze show and the amount of horses that actually went through the ring after the breeze show. And the last couple of years, it’s been significant. It’s very hard to have a select sale that way.”

He continued, “It doesn’t impact the landscape at all in my opinion. Most consignors that are around here [in Ocala], it’s so much easier for us to sell at OBS in March, April and even June. Because it’s right here. We don’t have to leave home. It’s very expensive to go to Miami and that’s not Fasig’s fault.

“The South Florida Sale for years was a big thing. But the reality is times change. Their response was to put on two sales in Maryland. Time will tell if it’s a good move. They’ve been oversubscribed to their May sale for a few years now.”

Leading consignor Eddie Woods concluded, “It’s a shame that sale had to go. It was a great marketplace for many years. But it just proved tougher and tougher to sell there. All you could sell was the cream of the crop. OBS has become king in the 2-year-old market worldwide. So, we’ll just go there. You hear some negatives about the synthetic track, but the good judges can pick the good horses out of there and pay a lot of money for them, too.”

MIND CONTROL TO ROCKRIDGE STUD

Red Oak Stable (Stephen P. Brunetti) and Madaket Stable’s (Sol Kumin) Mind Control (Stay Thirsty—Feel That Fire, by Lightnin N Thunder), winner of the GI Cigar Mile at Aqueduct Dec. 3 in the final start of his career, will stand at Rockridge Stud in New York under the management of Irish Hill Farm, Dutchess Views Stallions, Hidden Lake Farm and Rockridge Stud. The 5-year-old is out of a stakes-winning mare and is priced at $8,500 LFSN.

Mind Control won the GI Hopeful S. as a 2-year-old and the GI H. Allen Jerkens S. as a 3-year-old at Saratoga.

“We are excited and looking forward to standing Mind Control at Rockridge Stud,” said Red Oak Stable racing manager Rick Sacco. “There was considerable interest from stud farms in the U.S., Japan and the Middle East, but given that his three Grade I victories were on the NYRA circuit, we believe Rockridge Stud in the state of New York is the perfect place for Mind Control to begin his stallion career.”

“Ultimately, Stephen Brunetti wanted the horse to stand in the U.S. Sol Kumin agreed, a deal was struck with Rockridge Stud, Irish Hill Farm, and Dutchess Views Stallions, and a partnership
was formed,” said Sacco. Mind Control will serve stallion duty as the property of Rockridge Stud, Irish Hill Farm, Dutchess Views Stallions, and Waldorf Farm as well as Red Oak Stable and Madaket Stable. “This is a significant development for Rockridge Stud, Irish Hill Farm, Dutchess Views Stallions, and for the breeding industry in New York,” added owner/operator Lere Visagie. “Getting this group of partners together to support Mind Control gives us a phenomenal opportunity to make him the most successful stallion to ever stand in the state.” “I’m extremely proud of everything Mind Control accomplished on the race track,” said Brunetti. “I’ve been breeding horses for 25 years and he’s the best one I’ve ever bred. From a breeding perspective, Mind Control has excellent conformation and size. He displayed fierce courage, he hails from a strong and active female family, and he won Grade I races from seven furlongs to one mile.”

**WEEKLY RULINGS, DEC. 12-18**

*by Dan Ross*

Every week, the TDN publishes a roundup of key official rulings from the primary tracks within the four major racing jurisdictions of California, New York, Florida and Kentucky. **Here’s a primer on how each of these jurisdictions adjudicates different offenses, what they make public (or not) and where. With the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act (HISA) having gone into effect on July 1, the TDN will also post a roundup of the relevant HISA-related rulings from the same week, while we wait to see what the new year will bring regarding the legislation.**

**California**

Track: Los Alamitos  
Date: 12/16/2022  
Licensee: Jose De La Torre, jockey  
Penalty: Three-day suspension, $500 fine  
Violation: Excessive use of the whip  
Explainer: Having violated the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority Rule #2280 (Use of Riding Crop) and pursuant to Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority Rule #2282 (Riding Crop Violations and Penalties), Jockey Jose De La Torre now has five (5) points pursuant to HISA Rule #2283 (Multiple Violations)

Track: Los Alamitos  
Date: 12/16/2022  
Licensee: Steve Knapp, trainer  
Penalty: $500 fine  
Violation: Medication violation  
Explainer: Trainer Steve Knapp, who started the horse Square Deal, finishing fourth in the second race at Del Mar Racetrack on September 10, 2022, is fined $500.00 and assessed one half (1/2) point in accordance with California Horse Racing Board rule #1843.4 (Multiple Medication Violations - Expires 12/16/23) pursuant to rule #1887 (Trainer or Owner to Insure Condition of Horse) for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rules #1840 (Veterinary Practices and Treatment Restricted), #1843(a)(b)(d) (Medication, Drugs and Other Substances), Rule #1844(d)(5) (Authorized Medication) and Rule #1843.1 (Prohibited Drug Substances - Methocarbamol [Class 4]).

Track: Los Alamitos  
Date: 12/17/2022  
Licensee: Armand Aguilar, jockey  
Penalty: One-day suspension, $250 fine  
Violation: Excessive use of the whip  
Explainer: Apprentice Jockey Armand Aguilar, who rode Big Frank Da Tank in the fourth race at Los Alamitos Race Course on December 16, 2022, is suspended for one (1) day (December 26, 2022), and fined $250.00 for two (2) strikes over the limit. Furthermore, Apprentice Jockey Armand Aguilar has accrued a total of six (6) points.

**NEW HISA STEWARDS RULINGS**

The following rulings were reported on HISA’s "rulings" portal, except for the voided claim rulings which were sent to the TDN directly. Some of these rulings are from prior weeks as they were not reported contemporaneously. One important note: HISA’s whip use limit is restricted to six strikes during a race.
ONE IN VERMILLION became Stakes Winner #5 for his sire with a clear victory in the Lost in the Fog Juvenile S.

Congratulations to One in Vermillion’s connections:
Owner Jonathan Kalman,
Breeder Richard Barton Enterprises,
and Trainer Esteban Martinez.
Violations of Crop Rule

Gulfstream Park
Jose Luis Alonso - violation date December 15; $250 fine and one-day suspension, "struck his mount (Double Cosmo Girl) more than 2 times in a row, which is over the limit"

Oaklawn Park
Rafael Bejarano - violation date December 16; $250 fine and one-day suspension, 7 strikes
Orlando Mojica - violation date December 16; $250 fine and one-day suspension, "raised his wrist above his helmet when using the crop in the fourth race at Oaklawn on December 16, 2022"
Ricardo Santana - violation date December 16; $250 fine and one-day suspension, "raised his wrist above his helmet when using the crop in the sixth race at Oaklawn on December 16, 2022"
Angel Rodriguez - violation date December 16; $250 fine and one-day suspension, "raised his wrist above his helmet when using the crop in the fifth race at Oaklawn on December 16, 2022"
Tyler Baze - violation date December 16; $250 fine and one-day suspension, 7 strikes
Isaac Castillo - violation date December 16; $250 fine and one-day suspension, "raised his wrist above his helmet when using the crop in the eighth race at Oaklawn on December 17, 2022"
Remington Park
Isaac Castillo - violation date December 15; $250 fine and one-day suspension, 9 strikes
Tampa Bay Downs
Pablo Santiago Morales - violation date December 14; $250 fine and one-day suspension, 7 strikes
Samy Camacho - violation date December 14; $250 fine and one-day suspension, 8 strikes
Kevin Mendez Cruz - violation date December 16; $250 fine and one-day suspension, 7 strikes
Penn National
Leonardo Corujo Alvarez - violation date December 13; $250 fine and one-day suspension, "failing to use the crop in an appropriate and proportionate manner"
Julio A. Hernández - violation date December 13; $250 fine and one-day suspension, 9 strikes
Zia Park
Alfredo Juarez Jr. - violation date December 12; $250 fine and one-day suspension, 7 strikes
Juan Villanueva - violation date December 13; $250 fine and one-day suspension, 9 strikes
Casey Rey Chavez - violation date December 14; $250 fine and one-day suspension, 9 strikes

Voided Claims

Oaklawn Park
Girls A Bullet - ruling date 12/9/2022

Retired New York Post Racing Writer
RAY KERRISON PASSES by Bill Finley

Ray Kerrison, a former racing columnist for the New York Post known as a fearless reporter who was never afraid to tackle the most sensitive subjects, passed away Sunday. He was 92.

His death was first reported by the Post, for whom he covered 32 Kentucky Derbies. A native of Australia, Kerrison came to the Post in 1977 and was a regular on the racing beat through the 1985 season. He then moved over to the news side and worked as a columnist up until 2013. The news department would lend Kerrison to sports after his career change and he continued to cover the major races like the Triple Crown events and the Breeders' Cup up until his retirement.

Kerrison was a product of a different time, when the New York tabloids kept close tabs on racing and were unapologetic when it came to shining a light on the good, the bad and, when it was called for, the ugly. Kerrison's reporting skills helped land him the exclusive on one of the biggest scandals ever at the New York tracks. Kerrison uncovered the 1977 betting coup that involved the switching of the identities of the horses Lebon and Cinzano. Cinzano, a champion in Uruguay, raced under the name of Lebon, a non-descript horse who also came out of South America. Running under the name of Lebon, Cinzano won a race at Belmont at odds of 57-1. For his work Kerrison was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize.

With his reporting, Kerrison also played a key role in uncovering the scandal that led to charges being brought against
Con Errico, Anthony Ciulla and more than 20 others.

According to the Post, Kerrison also covered the 1968 assassination of Martin Luther King Jr., the 1969 moon landing and the 1972 Munich Olympics terrorist attack before moving to the U.S.

“Horse racing needs more journalists like Ray Kerrison,” former NYRA announcer Dave Johnson said. “He was fearless and he took on all subjects, no matter if it might cost his paper advertising dollars. He was an invaluable asset to the game. It’s a shame we don’t have people like that in racing anymore.”

Kerrison was born in Cobdogla, Australia. He came to New York in 1963 to work for News Limited. In 1970, he went to work for fellow Australian Rupert Murdoch at the National Star and then joined the Post, also owned by Murdoch.

“It was never about him,” said his son, Patrick. “He was extraordinarily humble. He was very protective of the $2 bettor. When he came on the racing season, Jan. 1, 1977, the other turf writers did not like him and neither did racing personnel, trainers, jockeys. That’s because it was very insular and the turf writers acted more like publicity agents as opposed to investigative journalists. What my dad did upset a lot of people. He didn’t care. He just wanted to protect the bettors and he wanted everything to be on a level playing field. That’s how he was with everything in his life.”

“All I can tell you is Ray Kerrison was just a wonderful human being,” Greg Gallo, a former Post sports editor, told the Post. “He was a terrific journalist, columnist, a tenacious reporter who went after stories full tilt. But he was so gracious in the way he did his business. I used to refer to him as the Fred Astaire of Thoroughbred racing because he was the best. He was the classiest guy who ever worked that beat. No one was better as a journalist. ... We really have lost a special person here.”

TCA HOLDS AUCTION, HONORS MOSS AND SECOND STRIDE

TCA HOLDS AUCTION, HONORS MOSS AND SECOND STRIDE

Thoroughbred Charities of America will honor Maggi Moss with the Allaire du Pont Leadership Award and Second Stride with the Ellen and Herb Moelis Industry Service Award at the 33rd Annual Stallion Season Auction and ’Tis the Season Celebration presented by Mt. Brilliant on Sunday, Jan. 8, 2023, at Grand Reserve in Lexington, Kentucky.

The Allaire du Pont Leadership Award is presented annually to an organization or individual whose philanthropic endeavors are consistent with TCA’s mission. From Des Moines, Iowa, Moss is a successful Thoroughbred owner, attorney, and staunch advocate for equine welfare. After over two decades in the show horse world Moss turned her attention to Thoroughbred racehorses. In 2006, she became the first woman in America since 1945 to be named leading owner in the U.S. for races won. Moss has been leading owner at multiple tracks, and she continues to work as an advocate for the importance of Thoroughbred aftercare.

The Ellen and Herb Moelis Industry Service Award is presented annually to an organization that works to uphold TCA's mission. Founded in 2005, Second Stride is a Thoroughbred aftercare organization located in Prospect, Kentucky. Second Stride works to safely and responsibly retrain and rehome Thoroughbreds.

As for the Stallion Season Auction, it opens with the online bidding of stallion seasons at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 4 and continues through 4:30 p.m. EST on Friday, Jan. 6. Nearly 200 seasons will be available on www.Equiring.com with a full list available, here.

Most will sell during the online auction; however, select seasons to Constitution, Flightline, Good Magic, Maxfield (with 2024 breed back), Nashville (with 2024 breed back), Not This Time, Nyquist (with 2024 breed back), Olympiad, and Quality Road will be sold at the ’Tis the Seasons Celebration on Sunday, Jan. 8. Bidders or their authorized agents may bid on select seasons by attending the event in-person or they may email ehalliwell@tca.org to register to bid online. Tickets can be purchased, here.

An online silent auction of non-season items including halters worn by Tapit, Gun Runner, Jack Christopher and more will be offered. A list of silent auction items is available here. More items will be added. The auction is sponsored by Mt. Brilliant, Bourbon Lane Stable Retirement Fund, Limestone Bank, Coolmore America, Equine Medical Associates, Top Line Sales, Equine Medical of Ocala, L.V. Harkness & Co., The Thoroughbred Daily News, BloodHorse, Paulick Report, and Daily Racing Form.

For further information regarding the 33rd annual TCA Stallion
ON A GIVEN DAY, WE COME TOGETHER

by Pat Payne

There is a history to the photo below, which shows that even though we are all competitors, in one way or another we all come together on a given day as a unified group. This luncheon was started in 1988, some 35 years ago, by Craig Van Balen, John Mayer, Charlie Boden and Bernie Sams. We choose a local establishment; Dudley’s has made the list many times because Debbie Long is one of us and understands our idiosyncrasies. (I always liked this word because it ends in crasy without a z.) We have a private lunch. The one requirement is that you need to bring a proper bottle of red wine. The menu changes every year. We have left it up to Pete Bradley—who over the last 20 years has orchestrated us all getting together—to select the menu, and it usually consists of a charcuterie board, oysters from afar, and a wild game, meat, or a fish selection. We tell stories from the past.

The invitees have changed over the years, and we always toast to the ones who are no longer with us, but who are a part of us. They include Joss Collins, David Greathouse, Bill Graves, Maurice Miller, Dennis Lynch, Gerry Dilger, and numerous others whom I have failed to mention.

John Sikura said, and I quote, ‘this is the only three hours of the year that we come together as friends and that we all get along and work together for the betterment of the industry.’

The photo is as follows. Back row, left to right: Craig Van Balen, Bernie Sams, Mike Cline in front of him, Mike Shannon in front of Mike Cline, Garrett O’Rourke to Bernie’s left, Pat Costello, Tommy Biederman, Geoffrey Russell, me, Pete Bradley, Terence Collier, Gabriel Duignan, Mark Maronde, Charlie O’Connor, Jared Burdine. Front row: Bayne Welker with Neil Howard in front of him, Craig Bandoroff, Boyd Browning, John Sikura, David Ingordo, Mike Levy, Padraig Campion. Donato Lanni was a late show for the photo, as usual! Thanks to the TDN for being a part of our industry and sharing this story!
FIRST YEARLINGS ARRIVING IN 2023

INSTAGRAND INTO MISCHIEF – ASSETS OF WAR, BY LAWYER RON

2023 Fee: $7,500 S&N

OXO Equine Stallion STANDING AT TAYLOR MADE

TAYLORMADESTALLIONS.COM / TRAVIS WHITE BROCK MARTIN 859.396.3508 270.498.3722
ATTORNEY, TRAINER VIENNA JOINS 
EPISTOLARY EXCHANGES ON HISA
by Dan Ross

As the deadline looms for congress to insert language into the full year-end omnibus spending bill to fix constitutional question marks surrounding the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act (HISA), proponents and critics of the law have taken to an epistolary standoff.

Last week, trainers Wesley Ward and Larry Rivelli issued a letter through the National Horsemen’s Benevolent and Protective Association (HBPA) critiquing various aspects of the national program for “too many flaws, missteps and costs that could have been averted with true inclusion and transparency in its development.”

Earlier this week, HISA CEO Lisa Lazarus conducted a zoom conference with Ward, along with attorney and former trainer Darrell Vienna, to grapple with the points raised in Ward’s letter.

Issued Wednesday, Vienna released his own open letter to Lazarus, addressing six main points that he said were discussed during Monday’s zoom conference.

The topics cover Vienna’s thoughts on the financial assessments, the way in which therapeutic and illegal substances have been divided, the new system of detection times and screening limits vs. the old system of withdrawal guidelines and thresholds, HISA’s environmental contamination policy, industry input into HISA’s working framework, and the new whip rules.

Substantively speaking, Vienna’s letter overlaps the contents of an open letter Charles Scheeler, the chair of the HISA board of directors, issued Tuesday addressing what he sees as “misinformation” about the law, in the process arguing that HISA’s drug testing program protects “good-faith horsemens,” that HISA’s rules “seek to protect” small racetracks and racing jurisdictions, and that HISA has “consistently sought feedback from horsemen” across the country. Read Scheeler’s full letter here.

In his open letter, Vienna writes that there is “an apparent and obvious inequity” in the way HISA has calculated its fee assessments.

“For example,” writes Vienna, “Charles Town’s annual purse money ($35,000,000) and Keeneland’s annual purse money ($32,000,000) are similar; however, Keeneland’s HISA Assessment is half of Charles Town’s HISA assessment.”

Vienna also takes issue with HISA’s environmental contamination protocols, which appear to include only a slim number of substances.

“The vast majority of prohibited substances are not subject to the Atypical Findings Policy. The Policy only applies to initial findings of HISA specified substances, endogenous substances, ractopamine, zilpaterol, and substances not listed on the Prohibited Substances list,” Vienna writes.

“Contrary to HISA’s assertion of trainer friendliness, HISA’s policy is among the most trainer unfriendly contamination policies in horseracing because it excludes a vast number of substances from the Atypical Findings Policy,” Vienna adds.

Ultimately, writes Vienna, “HISA rules have not been so tested and do not appear superior to ARCI model rules. Rather than rewriting the book, it may be better to see those model rules adopted and enforced uniformly throughout racing jurisdictions. If there was a concerted effort toward that goal, I believe that uniform racing and medication rules would already be the law of the land.”

Read Vienna’s full letter here.
ORG. RACING INVESTIGATORS SPY 2023 CONFERENCE by J.N. Campbell

The Organization of Racing Investigators (ORI) will convene its annual training conference for specialists with a reception Sunday, Feb. 26, 2023 in Tucson. Hosted by the University of Arizona, which is home to the Race Track Industry Program (RTIP), the event brings together members from the U.S. and Canada, but also an international contingent of investigators and security personnel from Europe and South Africa that will participate in a series of sessions over the course of Monday, Feb. 27 and Tuesday, Feb. 28. A membership administrative meeting will take place Wednesday, Mar. 1 before the conference adjourns. Organizers include, Chairman Juan C. Estrada of the Arizona Department of Gaming, and Vice-Chair Jason Klouser of the Pennsylvania State Horse Racing Commission.

This year's agenda once again includes a range of tradecraft subjects meant to satisfy the current "Points of Emphasis" from the Racing Officials Accreditation Program (ROAP), which ensures ORI members have the opportunity to bolster their continuing education hours. Presentations include diverse topics such as regulatory oversight, barn surveillance, security employee retention, identifying fraudulent documents, the relationship between the investigator and the media, ethics in horse racing, medication warning signs, and a variety of regional case studies. Along with day sessions, ORI plans to honor members at a special dinner on Monday evening, which includes the John Wayne Lifetime Achievement Award, named for a longtime investigator who passed away in 2020. Robert Hartman, Chair of RTIP, will serve as a guest speaker, and Melissa Del Bosque, the author of Bloodlines: The True Story of a Drug Cartel, the FBI, and the Battle for a Horse-Racing Dynasty (2017) will deliver the keynote address.

NYRA BACKSTRETCH CELEBRATES CHRISTMAS

Christmas came a few days early for approximately 150 backstretch families at Belmont Park on Tuesday, Dec. 20 when the New York Race Track Chaplaincy hosted its annual Sponsor-A-Family Program. The families received food and gifts, including new winter clothing for children, new toys and gift cards.

Highlighting this year's festivities was the presence of Mario Artaza, the Consul General of Chile in New York, who dressed as Santa Claus. "I'm honored to participate in this year's event and it's heartwarming to see what the horse racing community is doing for these members of the backstretch," Mr. Artaza said.

Attendees were also treated to a medley of Christmas songs performed by the Elmont Memorial High School Jazz Choir led by Ben Pesenti.

"Thanks to the overwhelming generosity of our supporters, we were able to sponsor all of the families who requested assistance," said Humberto Chavez, the executive director and lead chaplain of the NY Race Track Chaplaincy. "We are especially grateful to the partners of West Point Thoroughbreds, who jointly demonstrated the Christmas spirit in a phenomenal and meaningful way."

Earlier in the month, the backstretch families also enjoyed a carnival at the Belmont Cafe that was sponsored by Thoroughbred owner Mike Repole.
TURFWAY AND HAWTHORNE CANCEL DEC. 23 RACING

Turfway Park in Florence, Kentucky and Hawthorne Race Course outside Chicago have canceled their Friday night programs due to freezing temperatures, the tracks announced Wednesday.

Northern Kentucky is expected to experience a wind chill as low as 25 degrees below zero. The National Weather Service forecast for Friday in Florence calls for a 20% chance of snow showers and a high of 6 degrees. The breezy conditions could lead to wind chills ranging from 10-25 below zero.

Turfway Park is scheduled to resume racing Wednesday with a first post of 5:55 p.m. (all times Eastern). The Holiday Meet is scheduled to run through Saturday, Dec. 31 and the Winter/Spring Meet will begin with a special New Year's Day card on Sunday, Jan. 1. Director of Racing Tyler Picklesimer will add and re-draw, the races from Friday's card to racing next week.

Hawthorne's cancelled races will be added to both cards Dec. 30 and 31, as the track closes out its Meet.

HORSE RACING WOMEN'S SUMMIT ANNOUNCES 2023 DATES

Three key events will highlight the Horse Racing Women's Summit for 2023. The second annual edition will take place at Santa Anita Park during the final week of September next year, coinciding with the opening of the Autumn Meet which culminates with the 40th Breeders' Cup on Nov. 3 and 4.

Prior to that, the Horse Racing Women's Summit community will have the opportunity to participate in two events on the East Coast, starting with a HRWS Meet Up at Gulfstream Park on Jan. 27, followed by a HRWS Series gathering in Saratoga Springs, NY on Aug. 2. More details will be released as available with tickets to Gulfstream Park expected to go on sale in the very near future.

Since the inaugural Horse Racing Women's Summit at Santa Anita Park in September 2022, the HRWS committee has hosted our growing community at the Breeders' Cup (Lexington, KY) and Global Symposium on Racing (Tucson, AZ). We are committed to facilitating gatherings that are intentionally designed to connect a community of trailblazers, build networks, meet new friends, foster deep discussions, and ultimately to Engage, Innovate and Invest!

Interested in connecting with the HRWS community? Please follow along on Twitter and Instagram -- @racingwmnsummit -- and subscribe to the email list for regular updates and to be the first to learn when tickets go on sale.

JOCKEYS AND JEANS FUNDRAISER SET FOR JAN. 10

An auction of no-guarantee Thoroughbred seasons to benefit Jockeys and Jeans will begin on Starquine.com Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2023 at 9 a.m. ET, and will run through Thursday, Jan. 12 at 9 p.m. The seasons will be previewed starting Jan. 9. Bidding on Quarter Horse seasons begins Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2023, at 9:00 a.m., and ends Thursday, Jan. 26 at 9:00 pm.

This is the only stallion season auction that brings together Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse Stallions in one sale, and one in which all proceeds go to help former jockeys who suffered catastrophic, career-ending injuries.

The sale features stallions from Kentucky, Florida, New York, California, Texas, and other states. Since the all-volunteer Jockeys and Jeans was founded by a group of former jockeys in late 2014, it has raised $2.6 million for the Permanently Disabled Jockeys Fund, including over a half million through the sales of donated stallion seasons.

"Sadly, career-ending injuries happen to jockeys in both industries and this is a great example of the two coming together in a meaningful way to provide funding for those whose lives changed forever while riding races in a sport we all know and love," said Jockeys and Jeans President Barry Pearl.

The PDJF pays a monthly stipend of $1,000 to 60 riders from both industries who have suffered catastrophic career-ending injuries. Two-thirds of them are quadra- or paraplegics. "They gave a big part of their lives to a sport that made me and many others very successful," said retired Quarter Horse jockey G.R. Carter. "And all of us owe it to them to give something back."

Pearl noted today's increased cost of living has hit hard those on a fixed income, which includes nearly all PDJF beneficiaries. "It is no exaggeration to say that for many disabled former
jockeys, that $1,000 each month helps keep a roof over their heads and puts food on their tables. But we are thankful so many generous people in both segments of horse racing have stepped up to prove that this is a single community, and one that genuinely cares."

Contact Barry Pearl, jockeysandjeans@gmail.com, (717) 503-0182 or Eddie Donnelly, Edjockeysandjeans@gmail.com, (818) 653-3711 for more information.

JOHN DEERE, KEENELAND, JOCKEY CLUB, ARE ECLIPSE PRESENTING SPONSORS

John Deere, Keeneland, and The Jockey Club will be presenting sponsors of the 52nd Annual Eclipse Awards, honoring Thoroughbred racing’s champions of 2022, to be held Thursday, Jan. 26, 2023, at The Breakers Palm Beach, the National Thoroughbred Racing Association announced Wednesday.

“We are grateful to John Deere, Keeneland, and The Jockey Club for their partnership in serving as this year’s presenting sponsors for the Eclipse Awards,” said Tom Rooney, President and CEO of the NTRA. “We’re very excited to welcome the Thoroughbred industry to The Breakers to celebrate the best of the best of this year’s finalists. This event would not be possible without our presenting sponsors or our large number of official partners, and we are very appreciative for their support.”

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## 2022 YTD Leading Third-Crop Sires on Dirt

for stallions standing in North America through Tuesday, Dec. 20

Earnings represent Worldwide figures, NH foals only, stud fees listed are 2022 fees.

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QUARTET OF WELL-RELATED FILLIES TACKLE TAMPA

Justify | Coolmore Australia

THURSDAY’S RACING INSIGHTS:
By Stefanie Grimm
Sponsored by Alex Nichols Agency

9th-TAM, $27K, Msw, 2yo, f, 1 1/16mT, 4:33 p.m.

Facing a full field of 13 from the inside gate, JUST THE SKY (Justify), a homebred for Eurowest Bloodstock with her freshman sire’s (by Scat Daddy) connections John Gunther also involved, stretches out over the grass for trainer Chad Brown. Out of a half-sister to MGSW & MGISP Honorable Duty (Distorted Humor), Just the Sky traces back to broodmare of the year Toussaud (El Gran Senor), herself the dam of MGISW & late sire Emire Maker (Unbridled), GSW & MG1SP Chester House (Mr. Prospector), and GISW Honest Lady (Seattle Slew) who went on to produce GISW First Defence (Unbridled’s Song) and SW & GSP Honest Mischief (Into Mischief). Just the Sky was the fastest of 14 works Dec. 10, going four furlongs in :49.1 (1/14).

Just to her outside, LIGHTRESS (City of Light) was a $500,000 Keeneland September yearling pick up for West Point Thoroughbreds and Robert Masie. She is the first foal out of a full-sister to GSW Send It In and debuts Thursday for trainer Christophe Clement.

Further outside, Godolphin homebred FANCY DRESS (Cairo Prince) makes her afternoon bow for trainer Eoin Harty. Out of a daughter of broodmare of the year Cara Rafaela (Quiet American), her dam is a half-sister to no less than MGISW & late sire Bernardini (A.P. Indy) and to the dam of MGISW Love and Pride (A.P. Indy).

Furthest to the outside of the 13 and looking to improve off a pair of on-the-board finishes, COFFEE HOUSE (Medaglia d’Oro) is another Godolphin homebred from the Eoin Harty barn. Her dam has already produced SW & GSP Zorion (GB) (Smart Strike) and GISP Zip Top (Ire) (Smart Strike) and is herself a half-sister to GISW Zo Impressive (Hard Spun), dam of MGSW Souper T aptit (Tapit). She is also a half to GISW Zaftig (Gone West) who produced MGSP Spinoff (Hard Spun.) Under the third dam are full-siblings GSW Verve’s Tale (Tale of Ekati) and GI Preakness S. runner up Tale of Verve. TJCIS PPS

IN ORDER OF PURSE:

1--ONE IN VERMILLION, 121, c, 2, Army Mule--Given Star, by Any Given Saturday. ($26,000 Ylg ’21 ARZNOV). O-Jonathan Kalman; B-Richard Barton Enterprises (CA); T-Esteban Martinez; J-Harry Hernandez. $35,712. Lifetime Record: 3-2-1-0, $89,620.

2--Man Child, 121, g, 2, Creative Cause--Neck of the Moon, by More Than Ready. ($45,000 Ylg ’21 KEESEP). O-California Racing Partners, Ciaglia Racing LLC, Michelle Hanson, Richard C. Pearson, Timothy J. Husted & Robert Drenk; B-Dell Ridge Farm, LLC (KY); T-Ryan Hanson. $11,520.

3--Loudmouthsoup, 122, c, 2, Speightster--Talkaholic, by Majesticperfection. ($25,000 Ylg ’21 KEESEP). O-Charles Garvey; B-Lone Pond Farm & Mr. & Mrs. David M. Washer (KY); T-Robertino Diodoro. $5,760.

Margins: HD, 4HF, 2. Odds: 2.50, 1.30, 6.90.

Also Ran: Fleet of Flags, Katar, Acceleritas, Big Creed, Hi Yah, Noble Crusader.
A length short of the line at first asking earlier this spring, One in Vermillion returned victorious in the Turf Paradise Open Spring Futurity next time out before heading to the sidelines for the next seven months. Making his first start back since that win, Wednesday's 5-2 second wagering choice showed good speed off the blocks, breaking right to the front to set a pressured pace just in front of Man Child. He stretched the gap out to nearly two lengths around the far turn but was reeled back in by the eventual runner up with a furlong to run. The pair dueled the length of the stretch with One in Vermillion getting the best of a head bob on the line. The winner has a yearling half-sister, Raspberry Wine (Cat Burlglar), who is his dam's last reported foal. Click for the Equibase.com chart.

IN ORDER OF PURSE:
6th-Tampa Bay Downs, $25,600, Msw, 12-21, 3yo/up, f/m, 6 1/2f, 1:18.25, gd, 2 1/2 lengths.

PRACTICALITY (f, 3, Practical Joke--Bridles Prayer, by Unbridled's Song), just a half-length off the winner in second after leading for most of the running when covering seven furlongs at first asking over this same track Nov. 23, returned Wednesday heavily bet at 2-5. Close to the lead again, she pressed from second just outside pacesetter Plane Jane (Field Commission) as the top pair paced the field through an opening quarter in :22.88. She began a wide rally midway around the turn, overtook Plane Jane with a furlong to run, and sprinted clear down the lane to open up a 2 1/2-length gap on runner up Alexa's Dream (Jess's Dream) who was cutting into that margin late. Practicality has a yearling half-sister by Speightstown and a weanling half-brother by Audible while her dam is due to Medaglia d'Oro in 2023. Sales History: $80,000 Ylg '20 KEESEP; $10,000 2yo '21 EASMAY. Lifetime Record: 2-1-1-0, $20,250. Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG. O-Juan Arriagada; B-Chester & Anne Prince (KY); T-Juan Arriagada.

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DESSERT DEBUTERS: GUN RUNNER FIRSTER HAS BIG SHOES TO FILL by Alan Carasso

In this series, we will have a look at first-time starters entered for age-restricted maiden races on the week’s main live program at Meydan Racecourse, focusing specifically on pedigree and/or performance in sales ring, both domestic and abroad. With the exception of Thursday, Dec. 1, Super Saturday, Mar. 4, and Dubai World Cup night Mar. 25, the main meeting at Meydan takes place on Fridays. Six meetings are to be staged at the UAE’s flagship racecourse prior to the start of the Dubai World Cup Carnival Friday, Jan. 6, 2023. Nine Carnival cards are programmed from January through March. Here is a look at this Friday’s entries:

Sharar sold for $600,000 at OBS this past March | Judit Seiptert

7th-Meydan, AED82,500 ($22,464), Maiden, 2yo, 1600m

The final pre-Carnival meeting at Meydan concludes with this intriguing 14-runner affair, nine of which are making their first trip to the races.

Much of the focus is liable to fall on SHARAR (c, 2, Gun Runner—Sacre Coeur, by Saint Ballado), one of three in the race for trainer Fawzi Nass. Bred by Runnymede Farm & Catesby Clay, the Apr. 2 foal is a half-brother to Eclipse Award and five-times turf Grade I winner Lady Eli (Divine Park) and Bizzy Caroline (Afleet Alex), also a two-time Grade III winner on the grass. Eddie Woods’s Quarter Pole Enterprises paid $250,000 for the colt at last year’s Keeneland September Sale before he blossomed into a $600,000 OBS March juvenile (:21 3/5). Pat Cosgrave rides from gate one.

Jassar (Blame), one of two entrants from the Doug Watson barn, has the pedigree to succeed in these environs, as his ‘TDN Rising Star’ half-sister Polar River (Congrats) won the Listed UAE 1000 Guineas and G3 UAE Oaks before finishing runner-up in the G2 UAE Derby in 2016. The bay is also kin to Down On Da Bayou (Super Saver), who won the UAE Oaks two seasons ago.

Jassar was a $160,000 KEESEP grad last fall and was bought back for $300,000 at the Fasig-Tipton Gulfstream Sale before hammering for $200,000 at that auction house’s Midlantic 2-Year-Olds in Training Sale this past May (:10 3/5).

Charles Fipke’s Shirl’s Bee (Bee Jersey), a half-brother to MSP Spikes Shirl (Speightstown), is out of an unraced full-sister to GI Breeders’ Cup Filly & Mare upsetter Perfect Shirl (Perfect Soul {Ire}), whose ‘TDN Rising Star’ son Shirl’s Speight (Speightstown) won this year’s GI Maker’s Mark Mile and was the recent runner-up in the GI Breeders’ Cup Mile. Armavir (Runhappy), who cost $62,000 at KEESEP, is out of a half-sister to SW & GSP Abby’s Angel (Touch Gold), the dam of UAE Group 3 winner and Group 1-placed dirt sprinter Comicas (Distorted Humor).

Click here for the field (12:30 p.m. ET).
**Justify** (Scat Daddy), Coolmore Ashford, $100,000
176 foals of racing age/28 winners/6 black-type winners
9-Tampa Bay Downs, 4:33 p.m. EST, Msw 1 1/16mT, Just the Sky, 5-2
$185,000 RNA KEE SEP yrl
9-Tampa Bay Downs, 4:33 p.m. EST, Msw 1 1/16mT, Skyview Drive, 6-1
$350,000 KEE SEP yrl

**Mo Town** (Uncle Mo), Coolmore Ashford, $7,500
102 foals of racing age/21 winners/2 black-type winners
3-Mahoning Valley, 1:41 p.m. EST, Alw 6f, Baytown Get It On, 10-1
7-Fair Grounds, 5:15 p.m. EST, Msw 1m, I Don’t Venmo, 5-1
$50,000 OBS WIN wnl; $75,000 KEE SEP yrl

**Sharp Azteca** (Freud), Three Chimneys Farm, $5,000
132 foals of racing age/32 winners/3 black-type winners
1-Mahoning Valley, 12:45 p.m. EST, Msw 6f, Be Sharp, 8-1
$14,000 RNA KEE SEP yrl

**SECOND-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: THURSDAY, DEC. 22**
2022 Stud Fees Listed

**Arrogate** (Unbridled’s Song), Juddmonte Farms
224 foals of racing age/55 winners/6 black-type winners
5-Turfway, 7:55 p.m. EST, Msw 6 1/2f, Votary, 30-1
$26,000 E ’21 KEE NOV

**Mo Tom** (Uncle Mo), Red River Farms, $2,000
64 foals of racing age/26 winners/2 black-type winners
3-Delta Downs, 2:51 p.m. EST, Msw 5f, Who Dat Ginger, 6-1
$30,000 KEE SEP yrl

**Unified** (Candy Ride {Arg}), Lane’s End Farm, $10,000
194 foals of racing age/70 winners/3 black-type winners
9-Fair Grounds, 6:15 p.m. EST, Msw 6f, Mytown Myrules, 5-1
$30,000 KEE SEP yrl
STAKES RESULTS:
ARIZONA JUVENILE FILLIES S. (NB) $60,000, Turf Paradise, 12-21, 2yo, f, 6 1/2f, 1:16.04, ft.
1--BEYOND AWESOME, 119, f, 2, Boos--Camille, by Rocky Bar. ($8,000 Ylg '21 ARZNOV). O-Jeremy Ramsland; B-Triple AAA Ranch (AZ); T-Justin R. Evans; J-Luis Negron. $36,456. Lifetime Record: 5-2-1-1, $65,201.
2--Aloha Breeze, 123, f, 2, The Factor--Flashy Doll, by New Year's Day. ($25,000 Ylg '21 KEESEP). O-George Todaro; B-Gary & Mary West Stables Inc. (KY); T-Wade Rarick. $11,760.
3--Unrivaled Queen, 121, f, 2, Eddington--Angie's Gold, by Touch Gold. O-Ramiro Meraz & Valorie Lund; B-Valorie Lund & Windy Lea Farm (AZ); T-Valorie Lund. $5,880.
Margins: 4 1/4, NK, 1. Odds: 3.50, 2.10, 37.00.

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:
4th-Parx Racing, $57,750, 12-21, 3yo/up, f/m, 1m 70y, 1:48.16, ft, 1 1/4 lengths.
PRINCESS SOPHIE (f, 3, Dortmund--Our Marisol, by Fusaichi Pegasus) Lifetime Record: 9-5-1-1, $119,970. O-Robert Brittingham, James Wasserson & Louis A. Bisso, Jr.; B-Emilie Gerlinde Fojan (KY); T-John C. Servis. *$20,000 Ylg '20 EASOCT.
5th-Gulfstream, $54,000, (S), 12-21, 3yo/up, f/m, 7f, 1:23.50, ft, 1/2 length.
8th-Delta Downs, $43,460, 12-20, 3yo/up, 1m, 1:41.29, my, neck.
DOUBLE STAR (h, 7, Star Guitar--Bond Queen {SW, $110,430}, by Stormy Atlantic) Lifetime Record: MSW, 35-7-6-5, $295,290. O-Four Star Racing; B-Thomas Edward Vinci & Bill Mayfield (LA); T-Robert D. Schultz. *$9,200 Ylg '16 ESLYRL.

2nd-Delta Downs, $41,000, (S), 12-21, (NW1X), 3yo/up, 1m, 1:42.26, ft, 1/2 length.
MIDNIGHT NIGHTMARE (g, 4, Shakin It Up--Sunset Kisses {MSW & GSP, $332,400}, by Sky Classic) Lifetime Record: 25-4-3-7, $80,430. O-Lazy Horse Race Club; B-J. Adcock & Hume Wornall (LA); T-Juan A. Larrosa. *$1,200 Ylg '19 ESLMIX.

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6th-Delta Downs, $41,000, (S), 12-21, (NW2L), 3yo/up, 5f, :59.42, ft, 4 1/4 lengths.

BETTABE BOURBON (g, 3, Northern Afleet--See the Stream, by Ford Every Stream) Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, $48,600. O-Ca Sal Stables, LLC & Lynne M. Boutte; B-Val Murrell (LA); T-Allen Landry. *$37,000 Ylg ’20 EASOCT.

8th-Mahoning Valley, $35,100, (S), 2-21, (NW2X), 3yo/up, 1m, 1:40.32, ft, 3/4 length.

WILD OX (c, 3, Oxbow--Music Miss, by Prospector’s Music) Lifetime Record: 6-3-2-0, $67,625. O/B-Nancy J Lavrich (OH); T-Cirilo Gorostieta. *1/2 to Rivers Run Deep (Ready’s Image), MSW, $1,187,945.

8th-Turf Paradise, $21,400, 12-20, 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:12.10, ft, 1 1/4 lengths.

QUEEN ROSEMARY (m, 5, Last Gunfighter--Rebel Rosemary, by Coastal Storm) Lifetime Record: 30-7-7-7, $184,493. O-Tribe Dawg LLC & Thomas Kline; B-William J. Solomon (PA); T-Mark V. Salvaggio.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Keanu, g, 2, Brethren--Tiz Boa, by Tiznow. Gulfstream, 12-21, (S), 1m 70y (AWT) (off turf), 1:41.29. Lifetime Record: 6-1-3-0, $67,000. B-Arindel (FL).

Surrogate, g, 3, Arrogate--Shh She's Ours (SW, $186,102), by Tiz Wonderful. Gulfstream, 12-21, 1 1/16m (AWT) (off turf), 1:42.53. Lifetime Record: 6-1-2-2, $71,290. B-DP Racing, LLC (KY).

Gullane, c, 3, Bernardini--Daydreamin Gracie (SW, $268,042), by Domestic Dispute. Mahoning Valley, 12-21, 1m, 1:40.57. Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-0, $20,503. B-PTK, LLC (KY).

Sweeter Than Honey, f, 3, Factum--Sweet Lolinda, by Marquetry. Mahoning Valley, 12-21, (S), 1m, 1:43.18. Lifetime Record: 14-1-0-2, $30,634. B-Randy Neil Kerr (OH).


Adaptation, Double Edged, f, 3, o/o Designing Bellamy, by Bellamy Road. ALW, 12-21, Mahoning Valley

Army Mule, One in Vermillion, c, 2, o/o Given Star, by Any Given Saturday. Lost in the Fog Juvenile S., 12-21, Turf Paradise
PEACE AND JUSTICE
16.2 HH | War Front – Strike the Sky, by Smart Strike

FLAG
SUMMARY JUDGMENT

3 WINNERS IN ONE DAY... AGAIN!

3 wins by a combined 28 1/2 lengths!

25 wins from his last 85 starters (30%)

Sire of nearly 65% winners from starters, incl. these 3 victories on December 20th.

Lifetime Average Earnings per Starter Nearly $43,000

Winners at 14 tracks in 10 states in 2022

$5,000 LFSN at Blackstone Farm PA

**Arrogate**, Surrogate, g, 3, o/o Shh She’s Ours, by Tiz Wonderful. MSW, 12-21, Gulfstream

**Bernardini**, Gullane, c, 3, o/o Daydreamin Gracie, by Domestic Dispute. MSW, 12-21, Mahoning Valley

**Boos**, Beyond Awesome, f, 2, o/o Camille, by Rocky Bar. Arizona Juvenile Fillies S., 12-21, Turf Paradise

**Brethren**, Keanu, g, 2, o/o Tiz Boa, by Tiznow. MSW, 12-21, Gulfstream

**Dortmund**, Princess Sophie, f, 3, o/o Our Marisol, by Fusaichi Pegasus. AOC, 12-21, Parx Racing

**Factum**, Sweeter Than Honey, f, 3, o/o Sweet Lolinda, by Marquetry. MSW, 12-21, Mahoning Valley

**Gemologist**, Jamminjl, m, 5, o/o Granny Weatherwax, by Atticus. AOC, 12-20, Turf Paradise

**Handsone Mike**, Handsome Playboy, g, 2, o/o Rita, by Big Drama. AOC, 12-21, Tampa Bay

**Jess’s Dream**, Rosie’s Halo, f, 3, o/o Shackalou, by Shackleford. AOC, 12-21, Gulfstream

**Last Gunfighter**, Queen Rosemary, m, 5, o/o Rebel Rosemary, by Coastal Storm. ALW, 12-20, Penn National

**Northern Afield**, Bettabe Bourbon, g, 3, o/o See the Stream, by Ford Every Stream. ALW, 12-21, Delta Downs

**Oxbow**, Wild Ox, c, 3, o/o Music Miss, by Prospector's Music. ALW, 12-21, Mahoning Valley

**Palace Malice**, Joy in the Battle, f, 3, o/o Haute Style, by Unusual Heat. AOC, 12-21, Turf Paradise

**Practical Joke**, Practicality, f, 3, o/o Bridles Prayer, by Unbridled's Song. MSW, 12-21, Tampa Bay

**Shakin It Up**, Midnight Nightmare, g, 4, o/o Sunset Kisses, by Sky Classic. ALW, 12-21, Delta Downs

**Star Guitar**, Double Star, h, 7, o/o Bond Queen, by Stormy Atlantic. AOC, 12-20, Delta Downs

**Twirling Candy**, Brix, g, 6, o/o Koukla, by Northern Afleet. AOC, 12-20, Turf Paradise

**Wicked Strong**, Wicked Ecstasy, f, 4, o/o Spirit of Ecstasy, by Congrats. MSW, 12-21, Mahoning Valley

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**TODAY’S FEATURED REPLAY**

**Practicality** *(Practical Joke)* breaks her maiden at Tampa (click to watch)
OP/ED: NEW WHIP RULES ILLUSTRATIVE OF HOW DISCONNECTED THE BHA ARE

By Fran Berry

The whip debate is not a new phenomenon. Who could forget High-Rise winning the Derby under Olivier Peslier in 1998? He beat City Honours and John Reid by just a head but gave High-Rise four quick back-handers on the line to win by that narrow margin. Some people felt strongly that Peslier and High-Rise should have lost the race on the day.

I have to say, I was against putting a number on whip use to start with and felt all it took was a bit of common sense to police it.

However, there is no point talking about that as that ship has sailed and, on the whole, I think the rules have worked well throughout the past decade.

The horse at the centre of this latest whip debate is the Grand National hero Noble Yeats. He was ridden to that famous victory at Aintree by Sam Waley-Coen, who was banned for nine days but only fined 400 pounds afterwards, presumably because he was an amateur. That was a real win-at-all-costs ride.

Since then, Harry Skelton was handed a seven-day ban and a £2,900 fine for using his whip above the permitted height when winning the Coral Gold Cup on Le Milos. Cont. p3

HRI PRIORITY PRIZE-MONEY IN 2023 BUDGET

Suzanne Eade, chief executive of Horse Racing Ireland, has once again prioritised prize-money in the budget with €68.6m set to be on offer across 390 fixtures in 2023.

That represents a 2.5% rise on the pot that was on offer in 2022 while HRI also announced several other key industry supports and a contribution of over €1m to other initiatives on Wednesday.

Integrity funding is set to increase to €15.9m (+3%) while the 2023 Budget provides for investment in equine welfare activities and welfare related grant funding of €2.7m, the same level as 2022.

HRI also approved increased investment in industry education and training (from €0.6m to €0.8m) to support all sectors of the industry in achieving sustainable and best practice employment. Cont. p5

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

VALUE SIRES PART III: FIRST YEARLINGS IN 2023

Chris McGrath’s Value Sires series continues with stallions whose eldest foals will be yearlings in 2023.
The Irish National Stud’s Sinead Hyland is the latest participant in the ongoing 12 Questions series.

Reigning UK champion trainer Charlie Appleby has a strong string to go to war with in 2023, among them is the undefeated ‘TDN Rising Star’ Noble Style (GB) (Kingman {GB}).
Op/Ed: Fran Berry Cont. from p1

At the time, I didn’t notice much wrong with the ride but, when you look back on it, you’d have to say it was another win-at-all-cost ride and he just hung on to win.

But what has surprised me most about these new whip proposals is that there wasn’t uproar when they were first mooted in the spring. As an ex-jockey, I have to say I wasn’t happy when I read through the proposals back in July, particularly the forehand and backhand usage of the whip.

That is potentially a huge change and could have major consequences. To my mind, these proposed changes make no real sense. There is a lot of artistry involved with using the whip in the forehand position. When it is used right, it is quite rhythmical and, Frankie Dettori for example, is one of the masters of this particular craft.

People have lost sight with the forehand position in terms of making contact with the horse’s rear end but it is also a great tool to make the horse go forward. There’s no better example of this than when Frankie has his whip up by the horse’s neck and then pulls it through quite quickly from his left to his right hand and vice versa.

All of that craftsmanship will be eliminated from race-riding if you tie people down to implementing the backhand position only. You are going to lose a lot of the artistry, not to mention the number of riders with a short reach who will struggle to adapt.

For all of those reasons and, for the fact that Sean Bowen got four days for hitting Noble Yeats in the wrong place when trying to use the whip in the backhand position and ride within those new rules at Aintree recently, I think it’s a bad move.

Cont. p4
The SCAT DADDY legacy continues...

NO NAY NEVER FULLY BOOKED
Gr.2 Norfolk Stakes & Gr.1 Prix Morny winner by SCAT DADDY
Sire of 6 Group-winning 2YOs in 2022 including Gr.1 winners Blackbeard, Little Big Bear & Meditate, plus July Cup-Gr.1 winner Alcohol Free

SIOUX NATION €17,500
Gr.2 Norfolk Stakes & Gr.1 Phoenix Stakes winner by SCAT DADDY
45 first crop 2YO winners in 2022 including 11 Stakes horses and 7 Group horses

TEN SOVEREIGNS €17,500
Unbeaten Gr.1-winning 2YO & European Champion 3YO Sprinter by NO NAY NEVER
First yearlings in 2022 sold for €500,000, €315,000, €235,000, €220,000 etc.

ARIZONA €5,000
Gr.2 Coventry Stakes winner and Gr.1 Dewhurst runner-up by NO NAY NEVER
Rated 119 by Timeform at 2 – behind only Pinatubo & Kameko
First crop foals in 2022 sold for €60,000, €55,000, €43,000, €42,000 etc.

BLACKBEARD €25,000 NEW
Cartier Champion 2YO Colt by NO NAY NEVER
Wins included the Gr.1 Prix Morny, Gr.1 Middle Park Stakes and Gr.2 Prix Robert Papin in track record time
His full-sister topped the Orby Sale at €2,600,000

Scat Daddy's unbeaten Triple Crown winner JUSTIFY has 6 SWs including 4 GSWs from his first 2YO crop!

BLACKBEARD, now available for inspection at Coolmore

Contact: Coolmore Stud Tel: +353-52-6131298. Castlehyde Stud Tel: +353-25-31966. E-mail: sales@coolmore.ie Website: www.coolmore.com
Op/Ed: Fran Berry Cont.

There will be an increased chance that jockeys will land short and hit the horses in the wrong place and you are also removing the rhythm and artistry from race-riding with these new rules.

Another alarming situation that could develop under the proposed changes is horses being disqualified from races a number of days—if not weeks—after they have taken place if the rider has gone over the permitted number of strikes en route to victory.

Imagine a situation at somewhere like Cheltenham where the winner is walking back into the enclosure, people are going crazy celebrating and everyone on Racing TV or ITV Racing are not concentrating on that, but they are rewinding the video tape to see if the rider in question stayed within the limit.

They’ll be weighed in, have the photos taken and the post-race interviews will be done, then 20 minutes later, we will all realise that the rider went over the permitted limit and that he or she is likely to be disqualified.

That’s all bad enough but they are not even talking about disqualifying on the day, it will all happen a few days or weeks later whenever they schedule the hearing, so how is that fair on the people who are there on the day or for those who backed the runner-up? It’s a complete cop-out and it makes no sense to me at all.

If you are going to bring in a disqualification, it needs to be done there and then. There was a high-profile disqualification in Australia the other day involving Blake Shinn, who had returned from riding in Hong Kong for a couple of years.

He dead-heated in a race in Australia but lost it in the stewards’ room because he went well over the agreed limit on strikes. The stewards demoted him there and then. Going down that route would not be a bad thing going forward.

If we bring in an agreed limit on strikes and disqualify jockeys who go over that limit, it needs to be done on the day and not retrospectively. There would be no grey areas that way and I think riders will adapt, as long as they can use the whip in their forehand as well.

Another disappointing aspect of these proposed new rules is the timing of it all. How the BHA thinks that introducing these new rules two months before the Cheltenham festival is a good idea is beyond me.

Don’t forget that the last time the BHA made changes to the whip rules, they brought them in 10 or 11 days before the inaugural British Champions Day which prompted the then champion jockey Richard Hughes to hand in his licence.

Christophe Soumillon went on to win the British Champion S. on Vision D’Etat and lost the prize money, which was in the region of €40,000 for his share alone. That was a good example of bad timing and bad rules and it was rightly rescinded soon afterwards.

Whatever changes the BHA brings in, it needs to be introduced during the summer jumping for National Hunt and on the all-weather season for the Flat to allow a bedding in period. To think about introducing these new rules in the build-up to the most high-profile meeting in the calendar shows the disconnect between the BHA and the good people that they have working on the ground.

From a British perspective, there is this need to be seen to be doing something to appease outside forces who may or may not exist. Where are the people protesting outside the tracks about the whip? Paul Nicholls said this week that he has never had an email about the whip. He’s had plenty of emails about horses getting beaten but none about the whip. So where is all this pressure coming from?

It’s all very worrying and is illustrative of how the BHA is run. From my time riding there and my own experiences, I know there is a big disconnect between the officials on the ground and the people in London. That is reflective of some of the decisions that have been made in recent years and this latest one smells bad.

They should have learned from what happened with Soumillon on British Champions Day in 2011 but they didn’t. That says it all about the organisation and the ethos of the place to think that rolling out these changes on the eve of the Cheltenham festival is a good move.
With Sinéad Hyland, Irish National Stud

What was your first job in the Thoroughbred industry?

Stud secretary at the Irish National Stud.

The biggest influence on your career?

I’ve been very fortunate to have had so much support in my career, too many to name but whom I am very grateful for. But especially Pat and Hugh Hyland, Bobby O’Ryan, and of course my Dad.

Favourite racehorse of all time, and why?

Without a doubt, Sea The Stars. He was born here at the INS in 2006, the year I started, and from when he left us as a yearling to join John Oxx, culminating his racing career in the Prix de l’Arc de Triomphe, he was a thrill to watch. We all felt a little part of his journey.

Who will be champion first-season sire in 2023?

I would love to see Phoenix Of Spain win but realistically Ten Sovereigns.

Greatest race in the world?

The La Touche Cup at Punchestown.

If you could be someone else in the industry for a day who would it be, and why?

Having hung up my charity racing boots (two back surgeries later) I’d have to say Frankie Dettori, on the Magnificent Seven day.

Emerging talent in the industry (human)?

Having chaired the YITBA, the new panel of the ITBA Next Generation led by Orla Donworth is organising some great events and really bringing the talent of the future together.

Horse TDN should have made a Rising Star, and didn't?

Lucky Vega.

Under-the-radar stallion?

Acclamation.

Friday night treat?

We call it ‘Pizza Party Friday Night’, a get-together with friends and their families, nothing beats it.

Guilty pleasure outside of racing?

Glass of wine and an episode of Yellowstone.

Race I wish I had been there for?

Rachael Blackmore's win in the Grand National on Minella Times.

HRI 2023 Budget Cont. from p1

Next year will also see a continuation of funding for the IRE Incentive Scheme for breeders to meet the ongoing challenges posed by Brexit.

The Scheme is producing a significant multiplier effect in terms of investment at the sales, which will provide for €1.3m in vouchers that can be spent on Irish-bred horses at Irish sales next year. Cont. p6
**HRI 2023 Budget Cont.**

Grant aid will be available to racecourses with 21 tracks receiving grants from HRI for industry-focused projects under two capital development schemes targeting key elements of the racecourse infrastructure and standards such as stable yards (capacity and facilities), weigh rooms and the racetrack itself, including the upgrading of watering systems. Under schemes covering 2022/23, 40% grant aid of €6.3m has been approved towards projects totalling approximately €15.75m.

Eade commented, “The Irish Horse Racing and Breeding Industry has stood up well to the challenges of Brexit and Covid-19 and we saw a welcome return of fans to racecourses in 2022. The investment choices for 2023 reflect a continued focus on our key strategic priorities for the industry whilst responding to some of the more recent economic challenges.

“Prize-money is a key enabler in building and maintaining the number of quality horses in training in Ireland. Approximately 70% of horses competing receive some prize money so it is important that we prioritise its growth and continued broad distribution amongst all the participants (owners, trainers, jockeys and stable staff) in order to sustain the significant rural jobs created by the industry. It is therefore very important that in 2023 HRI has been able to increase the total prize-money that will be on offer, to its highest level.

“The bedrock of the sport is the integrity of our product and HRI continues to increase our investment, building on several years of significant recent annual increases, both directly and through the vital work of the Irish Horseracing Regulatory Body. We also continue to focus on and support a broad range of targeted equine welfare initiatives.”

She added, “Recruitment, Development and Employee Retention remains a key challenge for the thoroughbred industry, so we intend to extend out our education and training offering and have backed that up with increased investment for 2023. Next year will see both the launch of a new graduate recruitment programme and the development of an educational framework for the industry.

“There are many challenges and inflationary pressures facing the breeding and racing industries, but we can take great confidence in the strong performances of our breeders at the sales in 2022, boosted by the effectiveness of the IRE Incentive Scheme in driving reinvestment in our global leading Irish bloodstock, as well as the continued international successes achieved by our horses in both Flat and National Hunt racing. The collaboration between HRI, ITBA and ITM have been instrumental in the ongoing success of the IRE scheme. Development of the grassroots remains a vital priority and hence why HRI have extended our support for the Point-to-Point sector to its highest level ever.

“2023 will also be an important year for racecourses with the signing of a new media rights deal which will underpin their financial security for the next five years. HRI will continue its investment in upgrading racecourse facilities with the short-term focus on improving industry infrastructure, while our marketing team will continue to support racecourses’ promotional activities with campaigns to grow interest in our sport, drive fan engagement and increase race day attendances.”

**APPLEBY STARS THRIVING IN WINTER QUARTERS**

Charlie Appleby, fresh off two consecutive UK trainers’ titles, will have a host of stars to go to war with in 2023, among them Godolphin’s undefeated G2 Gimcrack S. hero Noble Style (GB) (Kingman {GB}). The son of listed winner and Group 3-placed Eartha Kitt (GB) (Pivotal {GB}), named a ‘TDN Rising Star’ off his winning debut at Ascot in May, is earmarked for the G3 Greenham S. in April, before a possible bid for G1 2000 Guineas glory in May.

He said, “Noble Style has not been seen since winning the Gimcrack impressively. He had the colic setback but he is fine and is back in work. He will probably start off in the Greenham down at Newbury as he has got a lot of natural speed which we have seen.

“Staying is the question mark. On pedigree, there is strong enough evidence that he should stay the mile but at the end of the day he has got to prove on track he can get the extra two furlongs. As we stand at the moment he is a serious Guineas contender.” Cont. p7
The biggest names in the business

Beat Earthlight, Hello Youmzain and Wooded in the G1 Prix Maurice de Gheest.

Beat the 2022 winner Kinross in the G1 Prix de la Forêt. Also defeated Highfield Princess in the G2 City Of York.

Space Blues

Started his final season winning the $1m 1351 Turf Sprint – finished it in style in the G1 Breeders’ Cup Mile.

Fast, tough, top class: the ultimate Dubawi.
As you’d expect – because he’s also from the female family of Dubawi.

€16,000 Oct 1, SLF. Kildangan Stud, Ireland
Available to view: please call to arrange a show.
Appleby 2023 String Cont.

Another horse with Classic aims is Mysterious Night (Ire) (Dark Angel {Ire}), the winner of the GI Summer S. overseas at Woodbine in Canada last September.

“A horse that we have not seen since he won emphatically in Canada is Mysterious Night,” he added. “I think he is a horse that deserves to put in those trials in the spring to see where we are. The way he has developed and the scope he has puts him in the picture.

“You also have to put Silver Knott (GB) (Lope de Vega {Ire}) in there. He only went down by a short head in the [GI] Breeders’ Cup Juvenile [Turf] which is a race we have used with horses that have tasted Classic success, i.e. Modern Games. He is definitely in the Guineas mix.”

Appleby is also blessed with a bevy of potential G1 Derby horses, among them listed winner Local Dynasty (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}) and G3 Zetland S. hero Flying Honours (GB) (Sea The Stars {Ire}).

“As for the Derby you have Local Dynasty, who won the Silver Tankard at Pontefract and Flying Honours who won the Zetland S. at Newmarket, which can be good 2-year-old races which are good pointers for the Derby.

“There is also Imperial Emperor (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}), who won smartly in his maiden at Newmarket and Castle Way (GB) (Almanzor {Fr}) who won the valuable nursery at Newmarket over a mile and a quarter quite impressively. These are all horses that will be in the Derby trials in the spring.”

Quadruple top-level victor Modern Games (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}) stays in training, as does G1 Irish 2000 Guineas victor Native Trail (GB) (Oasis Dream (GB)).

He said, “Native Trail looks great and we have him staying in training as does Modern Games in that mile camp and in the sprinting division you have got little Creative Force (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}).

“Stepping up to the mile and a quarter you have Adayar (Ire) (Frankel (GB)), who we missed for much of this season, then over a mile and a half you have the likes of Rebel’s Romance (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}), Yibir (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}), Hurricane Lane (Ire) (Frankel (GB)) and New London (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}). There should be some good war horses there.

“As you know it can be a long winter but they are all doing well. It won’t be long until the middle of January then we will be back on the treadmill as they say.”

MISSED THE CUT POSSIBLE FOR DUBAI, AMERICA IN 2023

Newmarket-based trainer George Boughey is mapping out a 2023 campaign for Royal Ascot winner Missed The Cut (Quality Road), which includes a potential trip to Dubai and possibly America.

“There’s a chance that he could go to America,” Boughey said. “There’s a race called the Santa Anita H. on Mar. 4, which is a Grade I on dirt. We’ll see, but he’s doing very well physically and I always said to [co-owner] Bill Farish and the guys at Lane’s End that I didn’t want to over-race him this year but I wanted to make him a stakes winner, which we have.”

Following Pontefract maiden and Salisbury novice wins, the 3-year-old captured the Golden Gates H. at the Royal Ascot meeting in June under New Zealand-born rider James McDonald. The Quality Road colt disappointed on his next appearance in the G2 Prix Guillaume d’Ornano at Deauville, but bounced back to make a successful all-weather debut in last month’s Listed Churchill S. at Lingfield. Cont. p8
Missed The Cut Cont.

“There’s a lot of good horses that have flourished at four, he’s still a big baby and all the options are open,” Boughey said. “He’s on the list for Dubai and I think we’ve got to treat him like a good horse and all those top 10-furlong Grade 1s around the world next year will hopefully be where we’re looking at.”

Another Boughey trainee on the move in the coming weeks is Perdika (GB) (Unfortunately {Ire}), who notched a fourth successive win in a Kempton nursery earlier this week. While All-Weather Championships Finals Day at Newcastle is an obvious target, the youngster is first bound for Meydan.

“She’s probably going to go to Dubai for the winter,” Boughey added. “She could come back for Finals Day, but we’ll see. She’s already had enough qualifying runs to get her into the race on Finals Day if we wanted and a stiff six (furlongs) there [Newcastle] could suit her. She’s due to fly to Dubai on the 29th of this month and can go for those 3-year-old fillies’ races. I’ve never run her on turf, but she worked well on turf before she ran for us and I’d see her as a typical horse to take out there for the winter.”

SKY BET SUNDAY SERIES RETURNS IN 2023

Six meetings have been confirmed for the 2023 Sky Bet Sunday Series (SBSS), Sky Bet announced on Wednesday. Worth £1.2 million, the series is an industry-wide collaboration between ITV, Racecourse Media Group, and Sky Betting and Gaming, which will showcase the sport in a Sunday twilight slot on terrestrial television during the summer. The schedule for the 2023 Sky Bet Sunday Series is as follows:

- Musselburgh, Apr. 30
- Hamilton, May 14
- Beverley, June 11
- Pontefract, June 25
- Haydock, Aug. 6
- Sandown, Aug. 20

Steve Birch, Sky Betting & Gaming CCO said, “We're delighted to be able to announce the continuation of the Sky Bet Sunday Series into 2023. It's a been a hugely successful collaboration between ITV, RMG and Sky Betting and Gaming with a clear focus on making racing more accessible to a wider audience. Customer engagement and sentiment has been very good, industry feedback has been hugely positive, and we’re really looking forward to working with racing to make the 2023 renewal more successful than ever before.”

OBSERVATIONS

on the European racing scene

HOW THEY FARED

17.45 Dundalk, Cond, €17,500, 2yo, 8f (AWT)
Roisin Henry’s Diamondsareforever (Ire) (Justify), an imposing daughter of G1 Pretty Polly S. victrix Diamondsandrubies (Ire) (Fastnet Rock {Aus}), was professional throughout this one-mile test and made a winning debut for the Willie Browne stable.

IRELAND

Wednesday’s Results:
4th-Dundalk, €17,500, Cond, 12-21, 2yo, 8f (AWT), 1:40.41, st.
Diamondsareforever (IRE) (f, 2, Justify--
Diamondsandrubies {Ire} {G1SW-Ire & SW-Eng, $252,823}, by Fastnet Rock {Aus}) was well away from an outer gate and raced in a share of third after the opening exchanges of this debut.

Cont. p9
4th-Dundalk Cont.

Nudged along at the top of the straight, the 10-1 chance was ridden to the front entering the final furlong and kept on strongly thereafter to assert by 1 3/4 lengths from Blue News (Air Force Blue), becoming the 29th winner for her first-season sire (by Scat Daddy).

“She’s huge, she is 17.1 hh and her sire is a very big horse himself,” said winning trainer Willie Browne. “She is very well bred on the dam’s side and you can’t beat class. She is a bit weak at the moment and will get stronger. She’s very laid back and we had a bit of a problem getting the stalls set for her so I thought she would be badly away, but she wasn’t. I knew the way she travelled around into the straight she was going well and I knew she would keep going. Seamie [Heffernan] thinks she has a bit of quality.” Diamondsareforever is the fourth of six foals and third scorer from as many runners produced by G1 Pretty Polly S. winner Diamondsandrubies (Ire) (Fastnet Rock {Aus}), herself a daughter of the multiple Classic-placed G1 Moyglare Stud S. victrix Quarter Moon (Ire) (Sadler’s Wells). Quarter Moon, a granddaughter of Lanwades Stud matriarch Alruccaba (Ire) (Crystal Palace {Fr}), is a full-sister to four black-type performers headed by G1 Irish 1000 Guineas heroine Yesterday (Ire). The February-foaled homebred bay is kin to GII Ontario Colleen S. third and G1 Natalma S. fourth Diamond Sparkles (War Front), a yearling filly by No Never and a weanling colt by American Pharoah. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, $11,154. O-Mrs Richard Henry; B-Premier Bloodstock (IRE); T-Willie Browne.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:


Vadiana (Ire), f, 3, Vadamos (Fr)--Vassiana (Fr) (SP-Fr), by Anabaa. Dundalk, 12-21, 8f (AWT), 1:38.51. Lifetime Record: 4-1-1-0, $10,791. B-Celbridge Estates Ltd (IRE). *1/2 to Girouette (Ire) (Pivotal {GB}), GSW-Ire, $193,381; Prince d’Alienor (Ire) (Verglas {Ire}), GSP-Fr, $253,002; and Paraphernalia (Ire) (Dalakhani {Ire}), SP-Ire.

Diamondsareforever, a homebred for Richard and Roisin Henry, won on debut at Dundalk on Wednesday evening. Racingfotos.com
BRITAIN

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:
Em Jay Kay (GB), g, 3, Brazen Beau (Aus)--Skara Brae (GB), by Inchinor (GB). Wolverhampton, 12-21, 5f 21y (AWT), 1:01.56. Lifetime Record: 7-1-2-3, $15,022. B-Rosyground Stud (GB). *3,500gns RNA Ylg ‘20 TATASY.

FRANCE

CONDITIONS RESULTS:
5th-Marseille-Pont de Vivaux, €16,000, Cond, 12-21, 3yo, 7 1/2f (AWT), 1:31.11, st. INVESTISSEUR (FR) (c, 3, Al Wukair (Ire)--Felcine (Ire) (GSP-Ity & MSP-Fr, $111,728), by Duke Of Marmalade (Ire)) Lifetime Record: 7-2-1-1, €33,060. O-Jean-Claude Seroul; B-Elevage Haras de Bourgeauville (FR); T-Jerome Reynier. *€70,000 Wlg ‘19 ARQDEC.

8th-Marseille-Pont de Vivaux, €15,000, Cond, 12-21, 4yo/up, 7 1/2f (AWT), 1:28.81, st. SPANISH HONEY (IRE) (f, 4, Iffraaj (GB)--Desert Song, by Unbridled’s Song) Lifetime Record: 17-5-4-0, €58,450. O-Mme Carina Horn; B-Hamidreza Mojtahedzadeh (IRE); T-Gianluca Bietolini. *€18,000 Wlg ‘18 GOFNOV; €62,000 Ylg ‘19 GOFORB.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:
Machito (Ire), c, 2, Dandy Man (Ire)--Naadrah (GB) (SP-Fr), by Muhtathir (GB). Marseille-Pont de Vivaux, 12-21, 7 1/2f (AWT), 1:31.92. B-Herbertstown Stud Ltd (IRE). *£32,000 Ylg ‘21 GOUKPR; 27,000gns HRA ‘22 TATAUT.

SOUTH AFRICA

CAPE YEARLING SALE CATALOGUE NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

The 2023 Cape Yearling Sale catalogue is now online and can be viewed on the Bloodstock South Africa website.

Potential standouts include lot 13, a Querari (Ger) half-brother to G1 Cape Derby runner-up Sachdev (SAf) (Silvano {Ger}); an Erupt (Ire) half-sister to multiple Grade 1-placed Driving Miss Daisy (SAf) (Master Of My Fate (SAf)) (lot 35); and a Colt out of G3 Fillies Mile winner Banbury (SAf) (Horse Chestnut (SAf)), by Ideal World, who will pass through the ring as lot 88.

The 2023 Cape Yearling Sale will be held at Hollywoodbets Kenilworth at 12:30 p.m. local time on Sunday, Feb. 26.

ASIA

Wednesday’s Result:
HYOGO GOLD TROPHY-Listed (Jpn-G3), ¥57,000,000, Sonoda, 12-21, 3yo/up, 1400m, 1:27.30, gd.
1--RAPTUS (JPN), 130, g, 6, Deep Brillante (Jpn)
  1st Dam: Air la Jolla (Jpn), by Boston Harbor
  2nd Dam: Tenzan Storm, by Storm Cat
  3rd Dam: Rythmical, by Fappiano
  O-Hidakai Breeders Union; B-Fujiwara Bokujo (Jpn); T-Masahiro Matsunaga; J-Hideaki Miyuki; ¥30,000,000. Lifetime Record:
  GSP-Kor, 24-10-2-2. *1/2 to Majesty Hearts (Jpn) (Heart’s Cry {Jpn}), MGSP-Jpn, ¥1,471,091.
  2--Shamal (Jpn), 128, c, 4, Smart Falcon (Jpn)--Native Code (Jpn), by Agnes Digital. O-Toshiya Kanayama; B-Okada Stud (Jpn); ¥12,000,000.
  3--Success Energy (Jpn), 130, h, 8, Kinshasa no Kiseki (Aus)--Success Ai Ni (Jpn), by Jungle Pocket (Jpn). O-Tetsu Takashima; B-Taniguchi Farm (Jpn); ¥7,500,000.
  Margins: 1, 1 1/4, NO. Odds: 10.20, 0.60, 31.90.

Garry Charny Joins The Board Of Racing NSW

Lindsay Park Ladies Having A Ball With ‘Belle’

Pre-Christmas Yearling Sale To Stay

Rapid Reflections With Sterline Alexiou

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