



THE HAPPY BLEND BEHIND LITIGATE



Happy and Pattie Broadbent | Horsephotos

by Chris McGrath

In an era when it appears that no horse can run twice under the same moon, once again we're going to have plenty of relatively unexposed animals converging on the GI Kentucky Derby. That requires us to fall back on some secondary evidence, in pedigree and upbringing, to estimate what latent resources may be summoned to deal with the startling novelty of a 20-horse stampede.

That's why the handicapping jury should heed the defense attorney for **Litigate** (Blame), despite a pedestrian 77 Beyer in the GIII Sam F. Davis S. last Saturday. Because everything about this horse tells me that the more he gets tested, the more exemplary he can become.

Before we get to his pedigree, which is copper-bottomed for the job, we need to emphasize that Litigate benefitted from as good a grounding as any Thoroughbred in the crop. All who know and admire John Mayer of Nursery Place are aware of his resolutely self-effacing nature. So let's just put it front and center that this colt was prepared for his vocation at a farm where absolutely no corners are cut, by one of the most respected horsemen in the Bluegrass.

It was typically astute to unearth Litigate's dam, Salsa Diavola (Mineshaft), for just \$12,500 down the field in her second (and final) start in maiden claimer at Woodbine in 2016.

Cont. p3

ECLIPSE AWARD WINNING OWNER DIANA FIRESTONE PASSES AWAY AT 91 by Bill Finley

Diana Firestone, who, along with her husband Bert campaigned a number of champion horses, including 1980 GI Kentucky Derby winner Genuine Risk, passed away peacefully at her home in Florida on Feb. 12. She was 91.

In 1980, the Firestones won an Eclipse Award as the nation's top owners. Bert Firestone passed away in 2021.

"I can't say enough good things about her and Bert and the opportunity they gave me when I shifted from the Midwest to New York," said Hall of Famer Bill Mott, who was hired by the Firestones to be their private trainer in 1986. "They gave me the opportunity to break into New York and they treated me like family. She was a wonderful person and a very good horse person herself. She was very knowledgeable about racing and breeding. She always conducted herself so well and was a very kind person."

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Rank	Stallion 2023 location & Fee (sents to original order)	BTW [% of starters]	BTH [% of starters]	GSW [% of starters]	GSH [% of starters]	G1SW [% of starters]	G1SH [% of starters]	Starters	Wnrs [% of starters]	Wins	Highest Earner	Earnings /Starter	Earnings
1	Into Mischief (2005) by Harlan's Holiday FYR: 2010 Crops: 12 Stands: Spendthrift Farm KY (Fee \$250,000) Named Foals: 181 Starters: 55	5 [9.09]	6 [10.91]	3 [5.45]	3 [5.45]		1	55	20 [36.36] AWD YTD: 7.01	21	\$150,350 Rocket Can AWD Lifetime: 6.78	\$23,497	\$1,292,350
	Army Mule	3	5		1			35	8	9	\$156,975	\$15,441	\$540,431
2	(2014) by Friesan Fire FYR: 2020 Crops: 2 Stands: Hill 'n' Dale at Xalapa KY (Fee \$12,500) Named Foals: 96 Starters: 35	[8.57]	[14.29]	-	[2.86]	_	-		[22.86] AWD YTD: 6.67		Klassy Bridgette AWD Lifetime: 6.17		

Ranked behind only Into Mischief by 2023 Stakes Winners.



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PUBLISHER & CEO

Sue Morris Finley @suefinley suefinley@thetdn.com

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

Gary King @garykingTDN garyking@thetdn.com

EDITORIAL

editor@thetdn.com

Editor-in-Chief

Jessica Martini @JessMartiniTDN

Senior Contributing Editor

Alan Carasso @EquinealTDN

Senior Racing Editor

Steve Sherack @SteveSherackTDN

Senior Editor

Christina Bossinakis @CBossTDN

Contributing Editor

Brian DiDonato @BDiDonatoTDN

Assistant Editor

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Staff Writers

Patrycja Szpyra @QueenOfSuites Stefanie Grimm @SGrimmTDN J.N. Campbell @campbellparlay

Margaret Ransom @MargaretDammit News and Features Editor

In Memoriam: Ben Massam (1988-2019)

ADVERTISING

advertising@thetdn.com

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Alycia Borer

Advertising Manager

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Advertising Designers

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Photographer/Photo Editor

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Associate Producer

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Marketing Manager

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Chief Financial Officer

Ray Villa

rayvilla@thetdn.com | accounting@thetdn.com

WORLDWIDE INFORMATION

European Editor

Emma Berry | emmaberry@thetdn.com

Associate International Editor

Heather Anderson @HLAndersonTDN

Associate European Editor

Brian Sheerin @BrianSheerin91

Cafe Racing

Sean Cronin & Tom Frary caferacing@thetdn.com

60 Broad Street, Suite 100 Red Bank, NJ 07701 732-747-8060 | www.TheTDN.com

TODAY in the



Wednesday, February 15, 2023



Having a ball. In a photo tweeted by Centennial Farms, Litigate plays at Palm Beach Downs the morning after his victory in the GIII Sam F. Davis S. | Centennial Farms

TRAINER JOHN VEITCH PASSES AWAY

10

Hall of Famer John Veitch, whose Alydar was a part of one of the sport's greatest rivalries, passed away Tuesday in Lexington, Kentucky. He was 77.

PLETCHER ON THE CURLINS

10

In Sid Fernando's Taking Stock column, he examines the healthy returns for Hall of Fame trainer Todd Pletcher alongside one of his favorite sires, **Curlin**. The two seem to fit each other like a glove.

KNICKS GO READY FOR SOPHOMORE SEASON

13

The Korea Racing Authority's Lee Joo-Win fielded a set of questions reflecting on last year's debut season at Taylor Made for Knicks Go and optimism regarding the upcoming one.



Litigate, cont. from p1

Her family is saturated with the quality you would expect when Numbered Account (Buckpasser) surfaces as fourth dam; while mating her with Blame, whose third dam is none other than Special (Forli {Arg}), makes Litigate a top-to-bottom aristocrat. He always had a physique to match, too, judging from the \$370,000 paid by Centennial Farms as a Keeneland September yearling.

Fortunately, Mayer's unyielding modesty will not prevent a due testimonial to his work--and that of his sons Griffin and Walker--from Happy Broadbent, vice-president of Brisnet. He has had a ringside seat to the rise of Litigate, both as Mayer's brother-in-law and as a partner in Salsa Diavola.

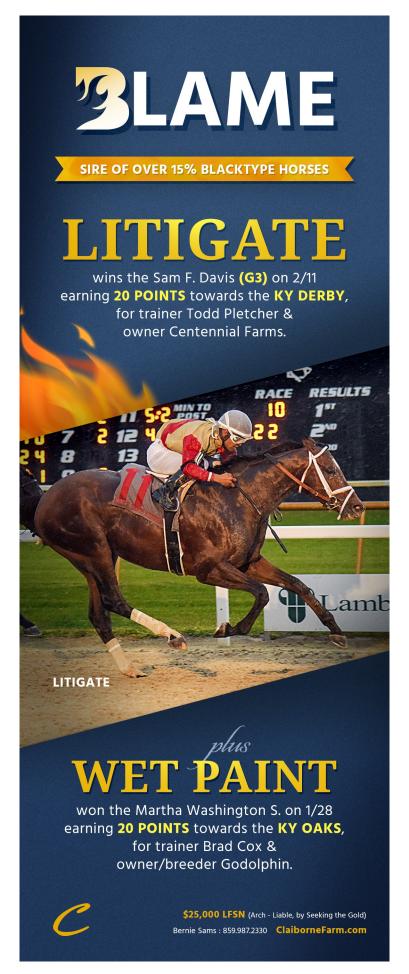
"John Mayer is the hardest-working guy I know," Broadbent says. "Now that the foaling season has started, he won't come off that farm until June, literally until the last mare has foaled. If that means mucking out a 12-stall barn by himself, he'll be doing it to this day. I'm fortunate enough, one, to be his brother-in-law; but also to see first-hand the way he raises these horses. He always does what's best for the horse."

After a lifetime in the business, Broadbent sets three horsemen apart. All happen to share the same first name; and two of them, to Broadbent's immense gratification, are partners in Salsa Diavola (among several other mares) at Nursery Place.

"The three people top of my list, as far as hardboot horsemen, are my brother-in-law John Mayer, my other partner John Donaldson, and John Williams," Broadbent explains. "I was fortunate enough to work for him [at Spendthrift] back in 1980, when the first crop of Seattle Slew was going through as yearlings. And with the other two, believe it or not, I have now been partners for 30 years: we bought our first mare in 1993, and we've bought and sold and traded horses together ever since.

"John Donaldson moved here [to Kentucky] from Arizona in '79. He told me recently that the best thing that ever happened to him in this business was walking through the door of my dad's office and getting hired to do bloodstock research. That's how he got started on his career, and how I got started with him too-because I always recognized his great eye for a horse, his knowledge of conformation and pedigree. He does a lot of consulting for Stonestreet, he's heavily involved in the matings of all those mares. So along with all the information that comes through Brisnet, the three of us have all been able to add something different."

Between them they certainly spotted a bargain in Salsa Diavola, a half-sister to dual graded stakes-winning sprinter Pacific Ocean (Ghostzapper) and the stakes-placed dam of Blamed, a dual Grade III winner by Litigate's sire.



Their dam is an Unbridled half-sister to Mutakddim (Seeking

the Gold), a prolific stallion in Argentina, out of a Seattle Slew half-sister to the Mr. Prospector siblings Rhythm, a champion juvenile, and Not For Love, the lesser racehorse but superior sire of the pair. The next dam is Grade I winner Dance Number (Northern Dancer), a half-sister to Private Account (Damascus) out of the elite runner/producer Numbered Account.

"At the time we bought Salsa Diavola out of Canada, we felt that Mineshaft was going to be a good broodmare sire,"

Broadbent recalls. "And with the deep, blue-hen family she had, we thought we'd take a shot with her. When we claim a filly, or buy one privately, typically we'd look to sell them on. But at the time we'd started to keep a few mares ourselves and this one, with her background and looks, was one we decided to be patient with."

Litigate | SV Photography

Admittedly they tested the water with her, offering her with a maiden cover by Ghostzapper at the Keeneland November Sale

> of 2017, but fortunately she failed to meet her reserve at \$130,000.

"And this colt, Litigate, when he went through the ring was just an outstanding individual," Broadbent recalls. "We've been watching him since; weren't quite sure at first, but then all of a sudden he started firing bullet works. We knew he was in great hands, with Centennial and Todd Pletcher, so we were hoping that something like this was going to happen. Because it's the kind of pedigree we

liked to see in the olden days, blue blood all the way. And it just screams distance. He should run all day long."

Which is just what excited many of us about Litigate: the fact that he was able to win a sprint maiden on debut at Aqueduct in November, despite a pedigree tailor made for the first Saturday in May (not to mention Belmont in early June). Cont.

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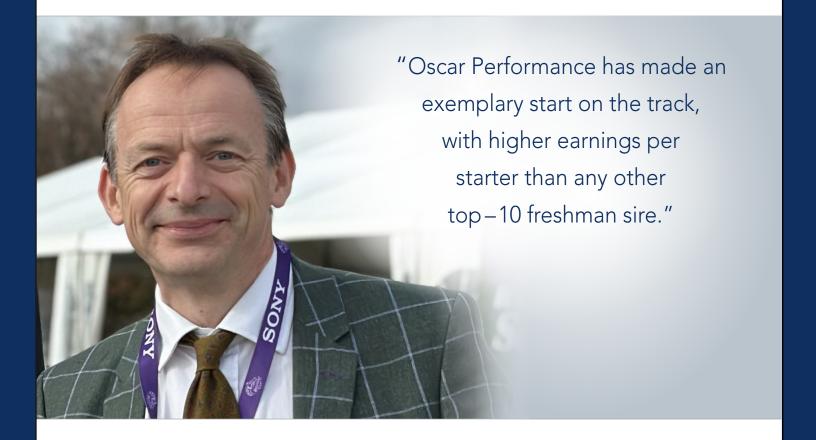






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— Chris McGrath





He did, admittedly, get outgunned by a flashy talent next time out, but Pletcher relied on him from eight nominations to extend his race record when introduced to a second turn at Tampa Bay. Sure enough, Litigate was able to break clear of a wide draw before dropping inside, then sweeping round rivals while still green in delaying a switch of leads. He will need to keep learning new tricks against more potent competition, but he certainly has the pedigree to keep building.

Salsa Diavola's first four dams are by Unbridled, Seattle Slew, Northern Dancer and Buckpasser; and Seattle Slew recurs along her top line, of course, behind Mineshaft's sire A.P. Indy. But it's the sheer, undiluted quality of the families entwined by the mating with Blame that already makes you hope that Litigate can progress sufficiently to earn a chance at stud. Salsa Diavola's own maternal line we have already sketched out (and it's intriguing that the genes have worked even better in the stallion shed than on the track, in the case of Mutakddim and Not For Love). Her sire's granddam is Up the Flagpole (Hoist the Flag). Blame, as mentioned, goes back through Special to Thong (Nantallah) and the associated dynasty; and his sire Arch is a grandson of Courtly Dee's daughter Althea (Alydar). Find me the weak link in that chain.

Broadbent says that no decision has yet been made on Salsa Diavola's next date, but the team are certainly pleased that they sent her back to Blame after his first cover proved so productive.

"John [Mayer] told me Saturday night that the mare's starting to bag up now and probably about 10 days away from foaling a full-brother or sister to Litigate, so fingers crossed," he says. "John has always loved Blame, since day one, and we've had some luck with his babies before. He was a hard-knocking racehorse, and an underrated stallion in my opinion."

No dissent to that view here, the Claiborne stallion having featured as high as the top step of our "Value Podium" among established sires. *Cont.*



Blame | Claiborne



Even before the rise of Litigate he had already made a game-changing step forward with this sophomore crop, in the role of a highly precocious broodmare sire. Both Forte (Violence) and Loggins (Ghostzapper), who ran the champion so close in the fall, are respectively first foals of daughters of Blame.

So this esteem from breeders who can think for themselves is unsurprising. Only the previous weekend, we had seen how Nursery Place can prosper against the tide. Hot Spell (Salt Lake) was already 11 when added to the broodmare band for \$85,000 at Keeneland January in 2015. She'd shown stakes talent in a brief career, but little as a producer and was being culled with a cheap cover. Nursery Place sent her to the upwardly mobile Quality Road, then still standing at \$35,000,

Hopkins won the Palos Verdes Feb. 5 | Benoit

and the resulting colt made \$900,000 as a Keeneland September yearling to a partnership of Bob Baffert's patrons. They called

him Hopkins and, while he has made them wait, he's putting it all together now and ran out a decisive winner of the GIII Palos Verdes S.

"So that's two weekends in a row the program has produced a graded stakes winner," Broadbent says. "Hopkins was an absolute beast when we sold him. We never imagined he might

bring what he did, but they've handled him the right way. I give credit to Bob, and to Tom Ryan, for being so patient. He's shown along the way in the mornings that he was going be a nice horse and they have given him the time he needed to do that."

Actually Broadbent himself is on a particular roll. Because if you go back another weekend, there he was in Palm Beach among the First Row partners collecting an Eclipse Award for their mare Goodnight Olive (Ghostzapper).

"Her winning at the Breeders' Cup was a huge pinnacle for me," he explains. *Cont.*



"I always tell people my blood's not red, but Keeneland green: my mother's grandfather was Hal Price Headley, [co-]founder of

Keeneland; and my grandfather Louis Lee Haggin II was president there for many years. So to win a Breeders' Cup race in front of a home crowd, with mom and whole family all there, was very special."

Broadbent's 87-year-old father-in-law Bill Robbins (along with brothers-in-law Will and Earl Robbins) has also shared the ride with First Row Partners--who had similarly hit the jackpot as co-owners of dual graded stakes winner Nay Lady Nay (Ire) (No Nay Never). She was sold to

Broadbent is among the partners in Goodnight Olive | Coady

Juddmonte for \$1.7 million at Fasig-Tipton in November 2021, having cost \$210,000 as an OBS March juvenile.

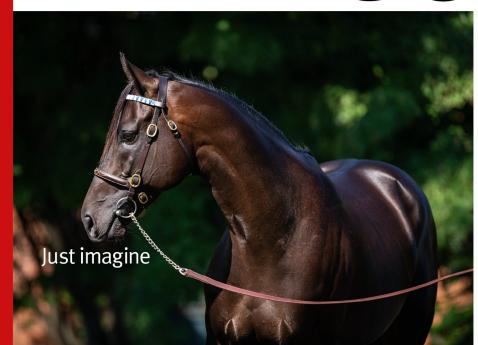
"She was the only No Nay Never from his first crop to be sold over here as a 2-year-old," Broadbent remembers. "I was saying we must be crazy, buying a horse by some no-name sire out of a no-name mare! Next thing you know, he's the hottest young sire in Europe and her full-brother Arizona was winning at Royal Ascot."

> But Broadbent, whose late father Dick founded **Bloodstock Research** Information Services, knows that such dividends are typically won only by playing the long game.

"My dad revolutionized the horse industry with computerized pedigrees," he reflects. "It's amazing to think back to what he was doing back in the '70s and '80s, and everything the internet evolved into since. I was fortunate to work for him 23

years, and I'm still with Brisnet after 37 years, doing what I love every day, working in same building, with so many great people.

"When I was young, Dad had me going round every summer learning every aspect of this business, from yearlings to broodmares to stallions to foaling. Cont.



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It's been my passion all the way through, the one thing I really know is to surround myself with good people--which is just what this horse has been all about.

"We've got probably the best group of yearlings we've had in a long time. Salsa Diavola has a Twirling Candy filly that's one of the best on the farm, we think she's going to be a star come September at Keeneland. So let's hope Litigate stays healthy and carries on from here."

On Monday morning Broadbent telephoned Don Little, Jr. of Centennial to offer gratitude and congratulations. He also mentioned how Little's sister Andy, lost to cancer a few years ago, had been at school in Virginia with Broadbent's wife Pattie.

"I told him of that connection, and all the fun the girls had together through college," Broadbent says. "And Don said, 'Well, we've got an angel looking over the gate, going forward.'

"There's no bigger thrill than to have a horse on the Derby trail. We were fortunate enough, back in 2006, to have a horse we bred, Steppenwolfer (Aptitude), run third. That was just an unbelievable ride he gave us, one of the thrills of my life. The difference in the number of texts and messages you get, between Hopkins and Litigate, is night and day. It just shows you how the Derby captures the imagination. And I know the people around him couldn't be more excited about this horse as he stretches out."

Share this story ①

Diana Firestone, cont. from p1

Firestone was born in New Brunswick, New Jersey in 1932 and was the granddaughter of Robert Wood Johnson, the founder of the health products manufacturer Johnson & Johnson. *Cont.*



Diana Firestone with Matt Firestone, Bert Firestone, and Joe Bravo in the winner's circle at Monmouth Park | Equi-Photo



GIFT BOX

Twirling Candy - Special Me, by Unbridled's Song

A STALLION'S PEDIGREE

G1 UPDATE IN THE FAMILY

Gift Box's dam Special Me added a second G1W when Gina Romantica won the Queen Elizabeth II Challenge Cup at Keeneland. Gift Box is the best son at stud of Classic sire Twirling Candy, himself a son of prolific sire of sires Candy Ride.

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Diana Firestone, cont. from p1

She was the daughter of John Seward Johnson, an executive with Johnson & Johnson, and Ruth Dill Johnson, a native of Bermuda.

A lifelong equestrienne, Firestone learned to ride in England with her siblings. While in prep school in Washington, D.C., she rode hunters and jumpers and fox hunted across Virginia's northern landscape. After graduating from Bennett Junior College, Firestone had a renowned equestrian career, representing the United States in horse shows worldwide.

"Horses, with the single exception of my family, have been the most important thing in my life," Firestone once said.

"She was an amazing mother and an amazing horse woman,"

said Firestone's daughter Alison Robitaille. "Pretty much every animal loved her. Whether it was dogs, horses, whatever, when it came to animals she was like a magnet. She gave to me my love of horses and introduced me to them at an early age, which I am very grateful for."

In recognition of Firestone's commitment to equestrian sports, the American Horse Shows Association awarded her the Walter B. Devereux Trophy for having exemplified the ideal of good sportsmanship through

commitment, dedication and service.

The Firestones were perennially among the top owners in the sport in the 70s and 80s and horses running under their familiar green and white silks accounted for 51 graded or group stakes wins.

Teaming up with trainer Leroy Jolley, they landed their first Eclipse Award with Honest Pleasure, the champion 2-year-old of 1971. He was followed by 1977 champion sprinter What a Summer.

But the Firestones will always be best remembered for winning the Derby with Genuine Risk, who, at the time, became only the second filly to win the sport's most prestigious race. She

finished second in a controversial running of the GI Preakness S. and was then second in the GI Belmont S. She is the only filly to win or place in all three Triple Crown races. In 1986, Genuine Risk was enshrined in the Racing Hall of Fame.

Two years after Genuine Risk, the Firestones had another Eclipse Award winner. Already a champion in France, April Run (Ire) won an Eclipse Award as the nation's outstanding turf mare in 1982. In 1987, the Firestone's Theatrical (Ire) won six Grade I races, including the GI Breeders' Cup Turf, and was named champion turf male. He was the first Breeders' Cup winner and Eclipse champion for Mott.

The Firestones were also active in Europe. In 1981, their Blue Wind (Ire) was named champion 3-year-old filly in both England

> and Ireland and April Run was named champion 3-year-old filly in France. That same year, Play it Safe (Ire) was named champion 2-year-old filly in France.

> The Firestone homebred Winchester became the couple's final top-level victor with four Grade I wins from 2008 to 2011, and they completed the dispersal of their bloodstock in January 2020. The Firestones, who owned both Gulfstream Park and Calder Racecourse from 1989 to 1991, began scaling back their racing



Genuine Risk | Horsephotos

ventures in the late 1980s.

Firestone is survived by four children, Robitaille, Lorna Stokes, Christopher Stokes, Cricket MacDonald and three stepsons, Matthew Firestone, Ted Firestone and Greg Firestone. She is also survived by 16 grandchildren.

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HALL OF FAME TRAINER JOHN VEITCH **PASSES AWAY AT 77**

by Bill Finley



John Veitch at his Hall of Fame induction in 2007 | Horsephotos

John Veitch, a Hall of Famer who trained numerous stars, including Alydar, whose legendary battles with Affirmed were part of one of the sport's greatest rivalries, passed away Tuesday in Lexington, Kentucky. He was 77.

The news of Veitch's passing was first reported by the Blood-Horse.

Veitch's training career ran from 1974 through 2003. According to Equibase, he had 410 career winners and his stable amassed earnings of \$20,097,980. He won 76 graded stakes and 93 stakes races overall.

Veitch's best years came as the head trainer for Calumet Farm. For Calumet, he trained three champions, Before Dawn, Davona Dale and Our Mims. But he was best known for being the trainer of Alydar, who finished second behind Affirmed in all three Triple Crown races in 1978.

"At this point, I'm not going to concede anything to Affirmed," Veitch told the New York Times prior to the 1978 GI Belmont S. "Affirmed is a damn fine race horse. We're looking forward to meeting him again in the Belmont, and I'm confident it will be the most favorable race for Alydar."

In what many regard as one of the best races ever, Alydar battled Affirmed all the way to the wire in the Belmont, but lost by a head.

Alydar went on to become one of the greatest sires of his generation.

In 1982, Veitch parted ways with Calumet and became the private trainer for Darby Dan Farm. For Darby Dan, he campaigned Proud Truth, the winner of the 1985 GI Breeders' Cup Classic. While with Darby Dan, he also won the GI Florida Derby with Brian's Time and the GI Yellow Ribbon S. and the GII Queen Elizabeth II Challenge Cup with Plenty of Grace.

The son of Hall of Fame trainer Sylvester Veitch, Veitch was born in Lexington in 1945. After attending Bradley University, where he was a member of the football team, the trainer worked as an assistant to his father and Elliott Burch before going out on his own.

In 1998, Veitch closed his small public stable and took the job of racing consultant to a member of Saudi Arabia's royal family. He returned to the United States in April 2000 and trained for Calumet Farm's new owner Henryk deKwiatkowski in 2001.

He stopped training in 2003 and accepted a job as the chief steward for the Kentucky Racing Commission. His tenure as a steward ended in controversy after Life At Ten was allowed to compete in the GI Breeders' Cup Ladies Classic at Churchill Downs even though jockey John Velazquez told a televised audience that he was concerned with the way his mount was warming up. Life At Ten trailed the field throughout as the favorite and was not selected for a post-race test. The KHRC charged Veitch with five administrative violations for not reacting appropriately to Velazquez's comment. Some seven years later, Veitch reached a settlement with the commission and his one-year suspension was removed from his record.

He was elected to the Racing Hall of Fame in 2007.

Share this story (1)





by Sid Fernando



PLETCHER ON THE CURLINS

by Sid Fernando

Hall of Famer Todd Pletcher is on fire, unveiling one promising colt or filly after another in maiden, allowance, and stakes races it seems.

Last month, Pletcher won his eighth Eclipse Award as North America's leading trainer. Not only that, but three horses trained by Pletcher also won Eclipses: Forte (Violence), champion 2-year-old colt; Nest (Curlin), champion 3-year-old filly; and Malathaat (Curlin), champion older female.

Like Pletcher, Curlin shone at the Eclipses. Aside from Nest and Malathaat, his Elite Power was named champion sprinter of 2022, giving the Hill 'n' Dale-based stallion three individual Eclipse winners in one year, the first time any stallion has had more than two in a year.

Curlin and Pletcher, in case it wasn't evident, have a special long-term relationship. On Saturday, the promising Pletcher-trained Julia Shining (Curlin), a Grade II-winning 3-year-old sister to Malathaat owned and bred by Stonestreet, finished third in her season debut in the one-mile-and-40-yard Suncoast S. at Tampa Bay Downs. Cont.

Taking Stock, cont.

Julia Shining was 1 1/4 lengths behind 2-year-old champion Wonder Wheel (Into Mischief), who in turn was a neck behind 38-1 upsetter Dreaming of Snow (Jess's Dream), a granddaughter of Curlin. This Saturday, Pletcher saddles Crupi

(Curlin) in the GII Risen Star S. at Fair Grounds for Repole Stable and St. Elias Stable. Crupi is a maiden; he has placed in each of his five starts, but like Julia Shining, who won the GII Demoiselle at 1 1/8 miles last year, he figures to improve as the year progresses and the distances increase. That's simply a function of the Curlins.

I spoke to Pletcher about this recently, and he said, "Curlin is my favorite stallion I didn't train. We're big Curlin fans."

Pletcher has trained a number

of prominent stallions throughout his career, including More Than Ready, Scat Daddy, Quality Road, Uncle Mo, Speightstown, and Munnings, among others. There isn't another modern-day trainer with such a striking record as a stallion maker. None of these stallions, however, regularly imparts stamina in the pronounced manner that Curlin does. And many of the better Curlins frequently get even more stamina in their pedigrees from their broodmare sires, because the stallion nicks so well

with Seattle Slew-line mares. Both Nest and Malathaat (and Julia Shining), for instance, are from A.P. Indy mares; Crupi, who was bred by Claiborne, is from a mare by A.P. Indy's top sire son Malibu Moon, the sire of Gl Kentucky Derby winner Orb. (Skinner, a promising maiden winner from over the weekend for John Shirreffs, is also from a Malibu Moon mare and was bred by Stonestreet.) In different hands, the Curlin sons and daughters that have excelled with Pletcher may not have



Todd Pletcher | Horsephotos

realized their potential. They have with Pletcher because he understands pedigrees and specifically knows how the Curlins tick. *Cont.*



Taking Stock, cont.

"A lot of our training program builds toward stamina," Pletcher said. "I don't think [the Curlins] want to be rushed off their feet. We always feel like you want to let a horse be comfortable, and if you're trying to take them out of their comfort zone early on, then you're probably not going to finish the way you want to. We would expect them, hopefully, to put themselves in a tactical position, but you wouldn't see too many of them going wire to wire. We've recognized that, for whatever reason, he fits our program well."

Pletcher's Curlins

Curlin, a son of the Mr. Prospector stallion Smart Strike, has been represented by six Eclipse winners to date, and Pletcher

has handled three of them. In addition to Nest and Malathaat, he also trained Vino Rosso (Curlin), champion older male of 2019.

Though the Curlins aren't especially noted for early maturity and front-running speed, the best of them have plenty of class, are seemingly Classics contenders every year, improve with time, and are particularly adept at a mile and a sixteenth and above on dirt. That's because Curlin, a two-time Horse of the Year, was a Classic winner and a

mile-and-a-quarter specialist who also stayed a mile and a half on dirt (he lost the GI Belmont S. by a head to the Pletcher-trained A.P. Indy filly Rags to Riches, who, like Curlin, was out of a mare by Deputy Minister). In fact, it was notable and surprising that in 2022 Curlin got a champion sprinter and two others, Cody's Wish and Obligatory, that won Grade I races at seven furlongs. Both Cody's Wish, who won the GI Forego at Saratoga, and Obligatory, first in the GI Derby City Distaff at Churchill, won their respective sprints by closing from the back of the pack.

Bill Mott trained the trio of Elite Power, Cody's Wish, and Obligatory, and before them he'd trained Gl Coaching Club American Oaks winner Paris Lights, giving him four of Curlin's 20 top-level winners.

Only Pletcher has more, and then some. He has trained an astounding eight of the 20, or 40% of Curlin's Grade I winners. Aside from champions Nest, Malathaat, and Vino Rosso, Pletcher handled Belmont S. and Gl Metropolitan H. winner

Palace Malice, who was from Curlin's first crop; GI Florida Derby winner Known Agenda; the fillies Curalina, who won the Coaching Club American Oaks, and Off the Tracks, winner of the GI Mother Goose. Keen Ice, who won the GI Travers for Dale Romans, won the GII Suburban at a mile and a quarter for Pletcher.

I asked Pletcher if there is a common physical thread among the Curlins.

"I think yes and no," he said. "I do think there are some similarities in the good ones, that they're medium--at least medium--to larger size. Some of them can tend to be a little bit small, and we've found that the better ones maybe have a little more size and scope, but in terms of a particular conformational prototype, I don't know that there is. Keen Ice was a big strong

horse, and so is Palace Malice. Off the Tracks was a very talented filly, but conformationally she was very, very incorrect but was able to overcome that with good mechanics. Malathaat is a scopey, long mare; Curalina was a little more refined, but she was impressive as a 2-year-old; Nest is not real big, but she's one of the best walkers I've seen. For a filly that's probably just over 15.3, she covers a lot of ground. There is an athletic component to the good ones, and in

particular, I'd say Nest would



Curlin | Sarah Andrew

stand out as an outstanding walker."

Pletcher also noted that some of the Curlins may show talent in workouts that takes some time to translate to races. "Known Agenda reminded me a lot of Vino Rosso in that way. If we hadn't had the setback that ultimately made them decide to retire him to stud, Known Agenda was going to be a good 4-year-old. As a younger horse, he would display more talent sometimes in the mornings than we were producing in the afternoons. But then he kind of put it together in the Florida Derby, and I thought if we'd had a chance to go on with him, we would have seen him get more consistent. I'm not saying he would have won the Breeders' Cup Classic like Vino, but he had that sort of potential."

Mike Repole's Repole Stable, which co-owns Nest with Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners and Michael House, raced Vino Rosso in partnership with Vinnie and Teresa Viola's St. Elias Stable, which bred and raced Known Agenda. Both Repole and Viola are billionaire patrons of Pletcher, and they race Forte (Violence), the current Derby favorite, in partnership as well. *Cont.*

Taking Stock, cont.

However, they know the value of the Curlins and their trainer's ability with them, and they've loaded up on more sons and daughters of the stallion to send Pletcher's way. Last September at Keeneland, the two combined to sign for two fillies at \$650,000 and \$450,000, and two colts at \$400,000 each. Meanwhile Repole, in partnership with Coolmore, bought a colt for \$1.1 million, and in another partnership with Spendthrift bought a colt for \$525,000. For his own account, Repole then purchased another five with agent Jacob West signing the tickets: three fillies for \$675,000, \$500,000, and \$250,000; and two colts for \$320,000 and \$275,000.

So be prepared to see even more Curlins in Pletcher's hands this year, and not just from Repole and Viola. Stonestreet, which raced Curlin with Steve Asmussen and is the stallion's majority owner, campaigns Grade I winner Clairiere with Asmussen, but the operation sent Julia Shining to Pletcher instead of Asmussen, presumably because of Pletcher's success with her Grade I-winning dam, Dreaming of Julia (A.P. Indy), and with her champion sister Malathaat, but also for his sterling record with their stallion.

Pletcher is a maestro with the Curlins.

Sid Fernando is president and CEO of Werk Thoroughbred Consultants, Inc., originator of the Werk Nick Rating and eNicks.

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KNICKS GO READY FOR SOPHOMORE SEASON AT TAYLOR MADE

After a debut season at Taylor Made during which he covered a book of better than 150 mares, Horse of the Year and five-time Grade I winner Knicks Go (Paynter) is champing at the bit to get back to work as breeding sheds open their doors across Central

Kentucky. The Korea Racing
Authority raced the gray to 10
victories over the course of fourplus seasons and earnings north
of \$9.2 million, and his first year
at Taylor Made has led to even
greater optimism for his second.
The KRA's Lee Joo-Win was
generous enough to field a set of
questions reflecting on last year
and looking forward to 2023:

TDN: As a racehorse, you just don't see things like what Knicks Go accomplished. Grade I winner at two and later at eight, nine and 10 furlongs, yet strikes as a horse that was perhaps underrated.

Lee Jin-Woo: Knicks Go's race record speaks for itself, as he is an Eclipse Award winner and was Longines #1 Racehorse in the world of 2021. He was a Grade I winner at two at Keeneland and also won Grade Is as a 4- and 5-year-old. He danced all the dances winning both the GI Breeders' Cup Classic and GI Dirt Mile in strong wire-to-wire fashion. Our genetic research tells us speed can be genetically passed onto offspring and we are already getting great reviews from the early foal reports. Everyone says they are very athletic, well-balanced and smart foals so far.

TDN: How was Knicks Go selected as a yearling and why was it decided to race him in the U.S. instead of exporting him to Korea?

L J-W: K-Nicks is the genomic selection system made by the Korea Racing Authority. Genomic selection is a breeding technique that uses genomic data, such as single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs), to predict an individual's breeding value for racing ability. Knicks Go was selected by K-Nicks at the 2017 Keeneland September sale. He had the highest breeding value among about 100 samples collected four weeks prior to the sale. His breeding value is 150, which is in the top 3% of the Thoroughbred population.

TDN: What stands out about Knicks Go as a physical specimen? Are there other attributes that make him desirable?

L J-W: As Brad Cox said after winning the Breeders' Cup Classic, Knicks Go is built for American dirt racing. In other words, he has innate precocity, speed and stamina. He's a very well-balanced,

athletic horse, correct, with a big walk. Knicks Go is an extremely intelligent horse that loved to train and race. As a middle-

distance racehorse rather than a sprinter, he has tremendous turn of foot in his two-turn races. A large, strong heart and athletically superior conformation made this possible. If you watch his races, he was always able to put a few lengths on the competition coming out of the turn. *Cont.*



Knicks Go | Amy Lanigan

Knicks Go, cont.

That's purely an athletic trait, being able to corner those turns at a high rate of speed. Also, Knicks Go was a very sound racehorse in his career and raced without Lasix as an older horse

TDN: What does Knicks Go offer from a pedigree standpoint?

L J-W: Knicks Go is an Awesome Again line, and free of A.P. Indy and Storm Cat in his pedigree, so he can be tried with a lot of different bloodlines through A.P. Indy and sons and grandsons as well as anything from the Storm Cat line. Very outstanding sires such as Mr. Prospector and Northern Dancer have a moderate height and have well-balanced conformation, delivering excellent heritability.

TDN: Talk about his first book of mares (quantity and quality)

that he covered in 2022 and how he adapted to life as a stallion.

L J-W: Knicks Go had a very strong book of 151 mares in his first year at stud. Both his CI and CPI ranked #3 amongst all stallions in his crop. He received very good support from all of the big commercial breeders in Central Kentucky and was very well backed by Taylor Made's large client base of both commercial and breed-to-race customers. It can be a little bit of an adjustment coming straight into the breeding shed off the racetrack with only a few weeks in between. He settled in well after just a few weeks of breeding. He has great libido and fertility and is just as professional in the breeding shed as he was on the racetrack.

TDN: Can you tick off some of the breeders who patronized the stallion in his first year?

L J-W: We had a wonderful response from some top breeders, including Ashview Farm, Ballyrankin Stud, Bloodstock Investments, Joel Politi, Calumet Farm, Castleton Lyons, Clarkland Farm, Classic Bloodstock, Coteau Grove Farms, Crestwood Farm, Denali Stud, Watercress Farm, Machmer Hall, Manganaro Bloodstock, Narvick International, Allen Poindexter, Pollock Farms, Ramspring Farms, Rose Hill Farm, Runnymede Farm, Shawnee Farm, Spruce Lane Farm, St. George Stables, LLC, Stonehaven Steadings, Stoneriggs Farm, Town & Country,

Parkland Thoroughbreds, Team Block, Walking L. Thoroughbreds and Woods Edge Farm (Peter O'Callaghan actually purchased Knicks Go as a weanling).

TDN: The list of sires set to be represented by their first foals in 2023 is impressive. How does Knicks Go fit in?



Knicks Go winning the Classic | Breeders' Cup/Eclipse Sportswire

L J-W: We believe Knicks Go was the best racehorse to retire to stud in 2022. Knicks Go was a very precocious racehorse breaking his maiden first-time out in July of his 2-year-old year, won the Breeders' Futurity at Keeneland by 5 1/2 lengths and ran a very game second to Game Winner in the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile. He really thrived as an older horse under the training of Brad Cox and the switch to Joel Rosario. The more aggressive training and riding style was a natural fit

that led to winning TWO different Breeders' Cup races along with the historic GI Whitney H. at Saratoga in a romp and the GI Pegasus World Cup.

TDN: How do the KRA plan on supporting him at stud? Were they/are they involved in purchasing mares to breed to him? Will they be targeting his progeny at the sales?

L J-W: KRA is promoting the establishment of a joint venture in the U.S., and the venture will purchase Knicks Go's weanlings and yearlings. Mares that are suitable for Knicks Go based on our genetic system have also been purchased.

TDN: Are there any plans in place to stand KG in Korea?

L J-W: The KRA is committed to keeping Knicks Go in the United States and giving his progeny the opportunity to perform as racehorses. He will be given every chance to be a successful stallion in the United States. Just like any other stallion standing in Kentucky, the success of his progeny will be evaluated and that will determine his long-term future.



Knicks Go at Taylor Made Farm



ROUNDUP sponsored by BIEDERMAN REAL ESTATE

KEENELAND MOVES DATE FOR APRIL SALE



Keeneland April Sale | Keeneland

Keeneland will hold its 2023 April Selected Horses of Racing Age Sale this year on Sunday, Apr. 30 beginning at 4 p.m. ET. Entry deadline for the print version of the April Sale catalog is Monday, Apr. 3 and approved supplemental entries will be accepted until the sale.

Keeneland successfully held its April Selected Sale last year on closing day of the Spring Meet, and the sale will return to that position on the calendar in 2024. This year's move to Sunday is a one-time event to avoid conflict with the Ocala Breeders' Sales Company's Spring Sale.

"The April Selected Sale feeds off the energy and excitement of the Spring Meet and gives horsemen a terrific opportunity to cash in on or buy quality individuals, especially those who run well at Keeneland, as they transition to summer racing," Keeneland Vice President of Sales Tony Lacy said. "While we feel closing day remains the ideal position for the April Sale, the shift to Sunday this year still allows us to properly showcase these horses before attention moves to Louisville and Kentucky Derby Week. We look forward to resuming the sale's Spring Meet closing-day schedule in 2024 and beyond."

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HAVE A NEW FOAL?





HORSESHOE INDIANAPOLIS EARMARKS OVER \$4.75 MILLION FOR 2023 STAKES



Horseshoe Indianapolis | Coady

Highlighted by the \$300,000 GIII Indiana Derby July 8, Horseshoe Indianapolis has finalized a 2023 racing season featuring 38 black-type events worth \$4.75 million. Eight stakes worth \$1.1 million are slated for the Indiana Derby Day card, including the GIII Indiana Oaks.

"Each year, Indiana Derby Day continues to grow and sets new handle records," said Vice President and General Manager of Racing Eric Halstrom. "Our racing office staff works very hard to assemble top quality fields for each of these stakes. With all the activities surrounding the event, Indiana Derby Day has become one of Indiana's biggest summer sporting events and attracts some of the nation's top 3-year-olds. It's definitely a day to put on your calendars each July."

A total of 10 of the stakes will be run on the turf course and another 28 are specifically for Indiana-bred and -sired runners. More than \$2.9 million will be dispersed to horses that are part of the Indiana breeding program.

The 123-day racing season at Horseshoe Indianapolis kicks off Apr. 18. Click here for more information.

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GRADED STAKES ENTRIES



Saturday, Fair Grounds #13, post time: 7:14 p.m. EST

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

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Quiet as Midnight 🛪	Midnight Lute	PoBoy Racing, LLC and Metoyer, Rand S.	Chatters	Nieves	122
2	Single Ruler	Empire Maker	Rocker O Ranch, LLC	Desormeaux	Riguelme	122
3	Shaq Diesel	Khozan	Bishop, Chester A., Hinkson, Anthony and	Richards	Beschizza	122
	·		Stanford, Donovan			
4	Determinedly 🖛	Cairo Prince	John C. Oxley	Casse	Gutierrez	122
5	Harlocap 🛪	Justify	Harlo Stables Corp. and Villa Rosa Farm, Inc.	Asmussen	Velazquez	122
6	Angel of Empire Classic Empire Alba		Albaugh Family Stables LLC	Cox	Saez	122
7	Sun Thunder	Into Mischief	R.T Racing Stable and Cypress Creek Equine	McPeek	Hernandez, Jr.	122
8	Tapit's Conquest 🛪	Tapit	LaPenta, Robert V., e Five Racing Thoroughbreds	Cox	Geroux	122
			and Madaket Stables LLC			
9	Curly Jack 🖛	Good Magic	Michael McLoughlin	Amoss	Morales	122
10	Two Phil's 🛪	Hard Spun	Patricia's Hope LLC and Sagan, Phillip	Rivelli	Loveberry	122
11	Silver Heist 🖛	Tapit	Whisper Hill Farm, LLC	Asmussen	Lanerie	120
12	Crupi 🖛	Curlin	Repole Stable and St. Elias Stable	Pletcher	Graham	122
13	Victory Formation 🖛	Tapwrit	Spendthrift Farm LLC and Frank Fletcher Racing	Cox	Prat	122
			Operations, Inc.			
14	Private Creed 🛪	Jimmy Creed	Mike McCarty	Asmussen	Gaffalione	120

Breeders: 1-Four Pillars Holdings, LLC, 2-Don Alberto Corporation, 3-Bishop Racing, Inc., 4-Bedouin Bloodstock LLC, 5-Breed First LLC, 6-Forgotten Land Investment Inc & BlackDiamond Equine Corp, 7-Southern Equine Stables, LLC, 8-WinStar Farm, LLC & Tapit Syndicate, 9-Betz/J.Betz/Burns/Camaquiki/C.Kidder/etal, 10-Phillip Sagan, 11-Whisper Hill Farm, LLC, 12-Claiborne Farm, 13-Gainesway Thoroughbreds Ltd.,

Saturday, Fair Grounds #12, post time: 6:41 p.m. EST

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

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER		JOCKEY	WT
1	Vahva 🖛	Gun Runner	Belladonna Racing, LLC, Hudson, Jr., Edward J.,	Saez	122	
			West Point Thoroughbreds, LBD Stable LLC, Nice			
			Guys Stables, Manganaro Bloodstock, Runnels			
			Racing, Hornstock, Steve and Twin Brook Stables			
2	Hoosier Philly 🖛	Into Mischief	Gold Standard Racing Stable, LLC	Amoss	Morales	122
3	Knockyoursocksoff 🛪	Kitten's Joy	Town and Country Racing, LLC	Block	Prat	122
4	Chop Chop	City of Light	Selective, LLC	Cox	Geroux	122
5	Pretty Mischievous	Into Mischief	Godolphin, LLC	Walsh	Gaffalione	122
6	Miracle	Mendelssohn	WinStar Farm LLC and Siena Farm LLC	Pletcher	Velazquez	122

Breeders: 1-Woodford Thoroughbreds, LLC, 2-Candy Meadows LLC, 3-Zayat Stables, 4-Cobra Farm & MRJ Thoroughbreds, 5-Godolphin, 6-Magnolia Mares, LLC & Pony ExpressSales,Inc.



Saturday, Oaklawn #9, post time: 5:42 p.m. EST RAZORBACK H.-GIII, \$600,000, 4yo/up, 1 1/16m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Long Range Toddy Take Charge Indy		Zenith Racing	Stewart	Bejarano	115
2	Law Professor	Constitution	Twin Creeks Racing Stables, LLC	Atras	Ortiz	120
3	Rated R Superstar	Kodiak Kowboy	Danny R. Caldwell	Villafranco	Cabrera	118
4	Ginobili Munnings Slar		Slam Dunk Racing, McClanahan, J & Nentwig, M	Miller	Santana, Jr.	119
5	Trademark 🛪	Upstart	BBN Racing, LLC	Oliver	Garcia	116
6	West Will Power	Bernardini	Gary and Mary West	Cox	Rosario	122
7	Last Samurai 🖛	Malibu Moon	Willis Horton Racing LLC	Lukas	Torres	118
8	Hero Status	Flatter	MyRacehorse and Agnew, Dan J.	Glatt	Smith	116
9	Keystone Field 🛪	Candy Ride (Arg)	Three Diamonds Farm	Maker	Castillo	115
10	Caddo River	Hard Spun	Shortleaf Stable, Inc.	Lukas	Saez	116

Breeders: 1-Willis Horton Racing LLC, 2-Twin Creeks Farm, 3-Thorndale Stable L.L.C., 4-Hinkle Farms, 5-Brereton C. Jones, 6-Gary & Mary West Stables Inc., 7-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC, 8-Fred W. Hertrich III, 9-CRK Stables, LLC, 10-Shortleaf Stable

Saturday, Fair Grounds #10, post time: 5:37 p.m. EST

MINESHAFT S. PRESENTED BY RELYNE GI BY HAGYARD-GIII, \$250,000, 4yo/up, 1 1/16m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Hoist the Gold 🖛	Mineshaft	Dream Team One Racing Stable	Stewart	Hernandez, Jr.	118
2	Run Classic 🖛	Runhappy	Tom R. Durant	Calhoun	Gutierrez	118
3	B Tawny Port Pioneerof the Nile Pe		Peachtree Stable	Cox	Geroux	118
4	Farmington Road Quality Road		Chrysalis Stables LLC	DeVaux	Gaffalione	118
5	Big Blue Line 🖛	Atreides	Silverton Hill LLC	McGee	Lanerie	118
6	Happy American 🛪	Runhappy	Lothenbach Stables, Inc.	Pessin	Graham	124
7	Pioneer of Medina 🖛	Pioneerof the Nile	Sumaya U.S. Stable	Pletcher	Saez	118
8	Mr. Wireless	Dialed In	Lapczenski, Jon and JIL Stable	Calhoun	Parker	118
9	King Fury	Curlin	Fern Circle Stables & Three Chimneys Farm LLC	McPeek	Murrill	118

Breeders: 1-Dream Team Racing, 2-Millennium Farms, 3-WinStar Farm, LLC, 4-Chrysalis Stables, 5-Barak Farm, 6-Claiborne Farm, 7-International Equities Holding, Inc., 8-John Kerber & Iveta Kerber, 9-Heider Family Stables, LLC

Saturday, Laurel #8, post time: 3:58 p.m. EST

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

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Prodigy Doll 🖛	Shanghai Bobby	HnR Nothhaft Horse Racing, LLC	Schoenthal	Karamanos	122
2	Liscolvin 🖛	Speightstown	Hill N' Dale Equine Holdings, Inc.	Lynch	Pennington	122
3	Pass the Champagne	Flatter	R. A. Hill Stable, Black Type Thoroughbreds,	Weaver	Cruz	122
			Rock Ridge Racing, BlackRidge Stables & Brown, J			
4	Quiet Imagination	Imagining	Harry Kassap LLC	Woolley	Marquez	122
5	Swayin to and Fro	Straight Talking	Baxter Racing Stable	Serey, Jr.	Monterrey	122
6	Union Lake	Speightster	Steven Schoenfeld	Terranova, II	Cancel	122
7	Moody Woman	Gormley	Robert James McGee	McMullen	Lopez	122
8	Fille d'Esprit	Great Notion	C J I Phoenix Group and No Guts No Glory Farm	Robb	Perez	122

Breeders: 1-Tolo Thoroughbreds & Michael A. Spirito, 2-Springhouse, W. Duignan, TranquilityInvestments & Speightstown Syndicate, 3-Preston Madden, 4-Harry Kassap LLC, 5-Franklin G. Smith Sr., 6-Richard Bosshard Jr., 7-Double Eagle Thoroughbreds, 8-Sweet Spirits Stables, LLC

Saturday, Laurel #9, post time: 4:29 p.m. EST GENERAL GEORGE S.-GIII, \$250,000, 4yo/up, 7f

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Sir Alfred James Munnings		Built Wright Stables, LLC.	Cash	Acosta	124
2	Momos Distorted Humor Iron		Ironhorse Racing Stable, LLC and Bobo, Tami	Trombetta	-	122
3	Beren	Weigelia	St. Omer's Farm and Feifarek, Christopher J.	Reid, Jr.	Pennington	122
4	Yodel E. A. Who	Creative Cause	Johnson, Troy, Lo, Charles and Jagger, Inc.	Ness	Rodriguez	120
5	John the Bear 🖛	The Factor	Euro Stable	Gonzalez	Toledo	122
6	Pirate Rick 🛪	Liam's Map	Built Wright Stables, LLC.	Cash	Gomez	122
7	Eastern Bay	E Dubai	Built Wright Stables, LLC.	Cash	Humphrey	122
8	Factor It In 🖛	The Factor	Michael Scheffres	Mancilla	Cruz	122

Breeders: 1-Mt. Joy Stables, Pope McLean, MarcMcLean & Pope McLean Jr., 2-Tami D. Bobo & Distorted Humor Syndicate, 3-Susan C Quick & Christopher J Feifarek, 4-Heinz H. Steinmann, 5-George Bolton & Barry Lipman, 6-Woods Edge Farm, LLC, 7-Nancy Lee Farms, 8-Pope McLean, Marc McLean, Pope McLeanJr. & Phil Hager

Saturday, Fair Grounds #11, post time: 6:09 p.m. EST

FAIR GROUNDS S.-GIII, \$150,000, 4yo/up, 1 1/8mT

	, , , , , , ,				
HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
Tiz the Bomb	Hit It a Bomb	Brookdale Racing, Inc.	McPeek	Hernandez, Jr.	118
Two Emmys 🖛	English Channel	Wolfe Racing LLC and Robertson, Hugh H.	Robertson	Graham	118
Cavalry Charge	Honor Code	West Point Thoroughbreds, Sandbrook, William and Masiello, Robert	Stewart	Cohen	118
Gentle Soul	Tapizar	Mueller, Martin, Ladd, Don, Reid, Richard, Bowley, Joe and Cieminis, Arvydas	Calhoun	Gutierrez	122
English Tavern 🖛	English Channel	Romans, Jr., Jerry and Smith, Hamilton A.	Lovell	Parker	118
Pixelate	City Zip	Godolphin, LLC	Stidham	Saez	118
Corelli	Point of Entry	Augustin Stable	Thomas	Geroux	118
Bay Street Money	Street Sense	Sanford J. Goldfarb	Maker	Gaffalione	118
	HORSE Tiz the Bomb Two Emmys Cavalry Charge Gentle Soul English Tavern Pixelate Corelli	HORSE Tiz the Bomb Two Emmys English Channel Cavalry Charge Honor Code Gentle Soul Tapizar English Tavern English Channel City Zip Corelli Point of Entry	HORSE Tiz the Bomb Hit It a Bomb Brookdale Racing, Inc. Two Emmys English Channel Wolfe Racing LLC and Robertson, Hugh H. Cavalry Charge Honor Code West Point Thoroughbreds, Sandbrook, William and Masiello, Robert Gentle Soul Tapizar Mueller, Martin, Ladd, Don, Reid, Richard, Bowley, Joe and Cieminis, Arvydas English Tavern English Channel Romans, Jr., Jerry and Smith, Hamilton A. Pixelate City Zip Godolphin, LLC Corelli Point of Entry Augustin Stable	HORSE SIRE OWNER TRAINER Tiz the Bomb Hit It a Bomb Brookdale Racing, Inc. McPeek Two Emmys English Channel Wolfe Racing LLC and Robertson, Hugh H. Robertson Cavalry Charge Honor Code West Point Thoroughbreds, Sandbrook, William Stewart and Masiello, Robert Gentle Soul Tapizar Mueller, Martin, Ladd, Don, Reid, Richard, Bowley, Joe and Cieminis, Arvydas English Tavern English Channel Romans, Jr., Jerry and Smith, Hamilton A. Lovell Pixelate City Zip Godolphin, LLC Corelli Point of Entry Augustin Stable Thomas	HORSE SIRE OWNER TRAINER JOCKEY Tiz the Bomb Hit It a Bomb Brookdale Racing, Inc. Two Emmys English Channel Wolfe Racing LLC and Robertson, Hugh H. Robertson Graham Cavalry Charge Honor Code West Point Thoroughbreds, Sandbrook, William Stewart Cohen and Masiello, Robert Gentle Soul Tapizar Mueller, Martin, Ladd, Don, Reid, Richard, Bowley, Joe and Cieminis, Arvydas English Tavern English Channel Romans, Jr., Jerry and Smith, Hamilton A. Lovell Parker Pixelate City Zip Godolphin, LLC Stidham Saez Corelli Point of Entry Augustin Stable Thomas Geroux

Breeders: 1-Spendthrift Farm, LLC, 2-Tottenwood Thoroughbreds, Inc., 3-Glencrest Farm LLC, 4-Martin Mueller, Richard Reid, DonaldLadd, Joe Bowley & Garry Randall, 5-Dr. Charles H. Huber & English ChannelCo-Owners, 6-Godolphin, 7-George Strawbridge Jr., 8-Adena Springs

Saturday, Gulfstream #11, post time: 5:06 p.m. EST ROYAL DELTA S.-GIII, \$150,000, 4yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16m

PP	HORSE SIRE		OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Don't Get Khozy Khozan		Imaginary Stables	Dobles	Vasquez	120
2	Kathleen O. Upstart		Winngate Stables, LLC	McGaughey III	Castellano	120
3	Midnight Stroll Not This Time		Gatsas Stables, R. A. Hill Stable & Schoenfeld, S	Terranova, II	Zayas	120
4	Jungle Juice (Ire)	Bungle Inthejungle (GB)	Ford, Beth and Meah, David	Meah	Bridgmohan	120
5	Classy Edition	Classic Empire	Low, Lawana L. and Robert E.	Pletcher	Ortiz, Jr.	120
6	Soul of an Angel	Atreides	James, Gerald and Hall Performance LLC	James	Morelos	118
7	Tap Dance Fever 🖛	Tapiture	J.P.G. 2 LLC, Mr Pug LLC, Winning Stables, Inc.	Bennett	Ferrer	120
			and Team Equistaff, LLC			

Breeders: 1-Special Effort Farm, Laura Colon & Michael Colon, 2-Gainesway Thoroughbreds Ltd & BridlewoodFarm, 3-Dr. Carolin Von Rosenberg DVM, 4-Ballybrennan Stud Ltd, 5-Chester Broman & Mary R. Broman, 6-Westbrook Stables, LLC, 7-John R. Penn

NORTH AMERICAN RACING



IN ORDER OF PURSE:

3rd-Mahoning Valley, \$24,300, Msw, 2-14, 3yo, 6f, 1:14.36, ft, 7 lengths.

ABKER (g, 3, Outwork--Shezgoodasitgets, by Wimbledon), third in his debut over this track and trip Jan. 11, was sent off the slight 3-2 second choice to get the job done this time. Quickly to the front, the grey was prompted by half of the favored entry Hitsville (Ghostzapper) through modest splits of :24.53 and :48.11. Comfortably clear and still moving strongly turning for home, the gelding strolled home a seven-length winner. Hitsville was second and Warhorse West (West Coast) rounded out the trifecta. Sales history: \$9,000 2yo '22 OBSOPN. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-1, \$17,010.

Click for the Equibase.com chart.

O-Scott Herbertson; B-Robert Wright & Outwork Syndicate (KY); T-Jonathan Wong.



Outwork | Sarah Andrew



SECOND-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: WEDNESDAY, FEB. 152023 Stud Fees Listed

City of Light (Quality Road), Lane's End Farm, \$60,000 209 foals of racing age/14 winners/4 black-type winners 8-Turfway, 9:25 p.m. EST, Msw 6 1/2f, La Village Lumiere, 12-1

Eastwood (Speightstown), Blackstone Farm 17 foals of racing age/3 winners/0 black-type winners 4-Parx Racing, 1:16 p.m. EST, Msw 6f, Go East, 3-1

Good Magic (Curlin), Hill 'n' Dale at Xalapa, \$50,000 237 foals of racing age/31 winners/7 black-type winners 5-Turfway, 7:55 p.m. EST, Msw 6 1/2f, Cozee Magic, 15-1

Hoppertunity (Any Given Saturday), Northview Stallion Station 155 foals of racing age/10 winners/1 black-type winner 5-Charles Town, 8:53 p.m. EST, Msw 6 1/2f, Funkle, 8-1

Mo Town (Uncle Mo), Coolmore Ashford, \$5,000 171 foals of racing age/27 winners/2 black-type winners 4-Parx Racing, 1:16 p.m. EST, Msw 6f, Mobeer, 5-2

Redesdale (Speightstown), McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds

74 foals of racing age/7 winners/0 black-type winners 2-Charles Town, 7:30 p.m. EST, Alw 4 1/2f, Haggersdale, 5-2 \$5,000 EAS OCT yrl

 $\Diamond \Diamond \Diamond$







IN JAPAN:

Morning Haze, c, 4, Arrogate--Stormy Sunday, by Sir Cat. Himeji, 2-14, Allowance, 1400m. B-Kendall Hansen Racing (KY).

*Took his record to two-for-two with an eight-length victory, having graduated by the better part of 15 lengths over track and trip Jan. 27. **\$285,000 Wlg '19 KEENOV. ***1/2 to Hansen (Tapit), Ch. 2yo Colt, GISW, \$1,810,805; and Anonymity (Tapit), GISP, \$324,200.



ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

7th-Sunland, \$42,200, (S), 2-14, (NW2L), 3yo, 5 1/2f, 1:05.13, ft, 3 lengths.

BEACH RUNNER (g, 3, Attila's Storm--Beach Club, by Pulpit) Lifetime Record: 8-2-0-3, \$58,645. O-G Robertson & Bobby McQueen; B-Tom & Leslie Goncharoff (NM); T-Dick Cappellucci.

7th-Mahoning Valley, \$40,900, (S), 2-14, 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:13.93, ft, 9 3/4 lengths.

R THREE ANGELS (f, 4, Kiss the Ghost--Hot Tub Holiday, by Harlan's Holiday) Lifetime Record: SW 17-8-2-3, \$270,484. O-Jason DaCosta; B-CFP Thoroughbreds LLC (OH); T-Jason DaCosta. *\$3,000 Ylg '20 FTKOCT.

Raised and Sold by HERMITAGE FARM

8th-Mahoning Valley, \$26,400, 2-14, (NW3L), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:14.75, ft, 3 1/2 lengths.

AWESOMELY SHY (f, 4, Gormley--Awesome Story, by Awesome Again) Lifetime Record: 8-3-2-0, \$70,688. O/B-Paul King (KY); T-Aaron M. West.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Jed, g, 3, Abstraction--Katy's Kitten, by D'wildcat. Sunland, 2-14, (S), 6f, 1:11.48. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$22,080. B-Stephen R Brown (NM). *1ST-TIME STARTER.

Cairo Moon, f, 3, Cairo Prince--Mizzen Moon (SP), by Mizzen Mast. Sunland, 2-14, 5 1/2f, 1:05.13. Lifetime Record: 4-1-3-0, \$37,916. B-TK Stables LLC (KY). *\$35,000 Ylg '21 KEESEP.



Cairo Prince | Sarah Andrew

Bronze Kettle, g, 3, Kettle Corn--Princess Claire, by Free Thinking. Mahoning Valley, 2-14, (S), 6f, 1:16.24. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$19,080. B-Jim Nelson & Kathryn Nelson (OH). *\$6,000 Ylg '21 OTBOMX. **1ST-TIME STARTER.

ALL TDN WINNERS BY SIRE

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Abstraction, Jed, g, 3, o/o Katy's Kitten, by D'wildcat. MSW, 2-14, Sunland

Attila's Storm, Beach Runner, g, 3, o/o Beach Club, by Pulpit. ALW, 2-14, Sunland

Cairo Prince, Cairo Moon, f, 3, o/o Mizzen Moon, by Mizzen Mast. MSW, 2-14, Sunland

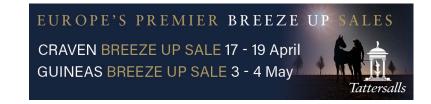
Gormley, Awesomely Shy, f, 4, o/o Awesome Story, by Awesome Again. ALW, 2-14, Mahoning Valley

Kettle Corn, Bronze Kettle, g, 3, o/o Princess Claire, by Free Thinking. MSW, 2-14, Mahoning Valley

Kiss the Ghost, R Three Angels, f, 4, o/o Hot Tub Holiday, by Harlan's Holiday. ALW, 2-14, Mahoning Valley

Outwork, Abker, g, 3, o/o Shezgoodasitgets, by Wimbledon. MSW, 2-14, Mahoning Valley





THORMANS LOOKING **FORWARD TO THE NEXT** CHAPTER AT TRICKLEDOWN



Sara and Paul Thorman | Tattersalls

By Brian Sheerin

The husband-and-wife team of Paul and Sara Thorman at Trickledown Stud, one of the most recognisable names in any sales catalogue, have revealed a change of emphasis that will see the operation concentrate more on pinhooking rather than breeding in the coming years.

Trickledown consigned over 300 horses annually in its pomp but, after reducing the broodmare band to just four ahead of the breeding season, Paul explained how he and his wife Sara will bid to enjoy life a bit more whilst running a more streamlined version of the outfit.

On the decision to scale back the broodmare band, he said, "We're only covering four mares this year. If you are paying 20 or 30 quid a day to keep them, that concentrates the mind."

He added, "It all came down to whether I could breed each mare I had for profit and, most of the mares I had, they were there to keep stallion numbers up when I was involved with the stallions.

"I'm no longer involved with any stallions so those mares became obsolete. It's all about making economic sense of it-you're better off with four or five good mares rather than 15 ordinary ones." Cont. p3

AIR DE VALSE TOPS TUESDAY'S ARQANA **FEBRUARY SESSION AT 240K**

The group heroine Air De Valse (Fr) (Mesnil Des Aigles (Fr)) took top honours during the first session of the Argana February Mixed Sale on Tuesday.

The Bridge Consignment shelled out €240,000 for the 7-yearold G3 Prix du Petit Couvert heroine from the Corine Barande-Barbe draft. Placed in the G1 Prix de l'Abbaye in 2021, Air De Valse is a daughter of listed winner Air Bag (Fr) (Poliglote {GB}).

Jérôme Glandais, the Director of Haras du Logis Saint-Germain said, "She's been bought for Mr. Benaroussi, who continues to invest in breeding. For the moment we haven't decided what stallion she will go to or where she will be boarded."

Shalaa (Ire) mare Majal (Fr) (lot 173) changed hands for €102,000 to Eamon Reilly of BBA Ireland. Cont. p5

IN TON AMERICA TODAY

THE HAPPY BLEND BEHIND LITIGATE

Co-breeders Happy and Pattie Broadbent celebrated the victory of Litigate (Blame) in the GIII Sam F. Davis S. on Saturday and Chris McGrath finds out more.





PUBLISHER & CEO

Sue Morris Finley @suefinley suefinley@thetdn.com

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

Gary King @garykingTDN garyking@thetdn.com

European Editor

Emma Berry @collingsberry emmaberry@thetdn.com

Associate International Editor

Heather Anderson @HLAndersonTDN

Marketing Manager

Alayna Cullen @AlaynaCullen alaynacullen@thetdn.com

Associate European Editor

Brian Sheerin @BrianSheerin91

Cafe Racing

Sean Cronin & Tom Frary caferacing@thetdn.com

Contributing Editors

Alan Carasso Christina Bossinakis

Regular Columnists

Chris McGrath | John Berry

ADVERTISING

advertising@thetdn.com

Director of Advertising

Alycia Borer

Advertising Manager

Lia Best

Advertising Designers

Amanda Crelin Amie Newcomb

Advertising Assistant/Dir. of Distribution Kristen Zaidi

Advertising Assistant

Liz Fronczek

60 Broad Street, Suite 100 Red Bank, NJ 07701

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TODAY in



Stradivarius has taken up stud duties at The National Stud in Newmarket. Alayna Cullen chats to Joe Bradley, Head of Bloodstock Operations, to find out how the son of Sea The Stars is settling in. | TDNtv

SAFFRON BEACH WILL BE COVERED BY FRANKEL

7

Dual Group 1 winner Saffron Beach (GB) (New Bay {GB}) has been retired and will be covered by Frankel (GB).

CHAMPION OISIN MURPHY RETURNS THURSDAY

7

Champion jockey Oisin Murphy returns from his 14-month riding ban at Chelmsford on Thursday.

EFFORIA RETIRED TO STUD AT SHADAI

10

2021 Japanese Horse of the Year Efforia (Jpn) (Epiphaneia {Jpn}) has been retired and will stand at Shadai Stallion Station.

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Trickledown Stud Cont. from p1

Trickledown consigned over 100 horses last year at various sales, many of which were on behalf of or in partnership with long-standing clients and, while the aim is to maintain those relationships, Thorman expects that numbers to fall over the course of time.

He said, "We thought we were cutting back last year but we've been terrifically well-supported by a number of people over the years and two or three of them have asked us to keep selling for them.

"We sold well over 100 horses last year and, at our height, we would see about three times that number. Yes, we'll keep consigning but, by natural progression, in terms of younger people tending to go to younger consignors, I'd expect that number to keep declining."

Thorman added, "But in deciding to scale back a little, it came down to a few things; we have always pinhooked but we didn't have our own farm and, when the farm that we were operating from got sold for building purposes, we decided we wanted to spend our time doing other things.

"We have grandchildren we'd like to spend more time with. Without the farm, we spend a lot more time in the car going around and seeing horses but, seeing them every couple of months isn't the same as seeing them every day. We will still be consigning for people and look forward to doing that for as long as we can but there is a change of emphasis to the whole thing."

That change of emphasis has been largely funneled into the pinhooking of foals to yearlings, of which, Thorman points to it being a more practical facet of the business to concentrate on compared to breeding a large number of mares.



Fulminate, a daughter of G1 Yorkshire Oaks heroine Quiff (GB)
(Sadler's Wells), was picked up for just 20,000gns by the Thormans out
of the December Mares Sale in foal to Classic winner Kameko

Tatteralls



He explained, "We bought quite a lot of foals last year. You know that when you buy a foal, it will cost you somewhere between 10 and 15 grand to get them to a sale the following year. Win or lose, you can see how much you are in for and how long you are in for. If you do your dough, you've got a choice of either letting them go at a loss or racing them. It's finite. Whereas with mares, it's an open-ended book."

Thorman added, "If you look at some of the sales results lately, with mares being led out without a bid, it shows that we all need to up our game. My way of trying to do that is by going from 20 mares to four mares and investing a bit more on the ones I'm paying daily keep on rather than having a farm full of soldiers and not generals."

He may carry a reputation for being a man who knows what he is doing when it comes to purchasing young stock with a view to reoffering them at public auction in a bid to turn a profit but Thorman does not underplay the role luck plays in the transaction.

"Because the budget won't stretch to those expensive foals, we bought several foals between 10 and 30 grand knowing full well that, even at that level, something would have to happen with the individual or the pedigree for us to make it work." Cont. p4



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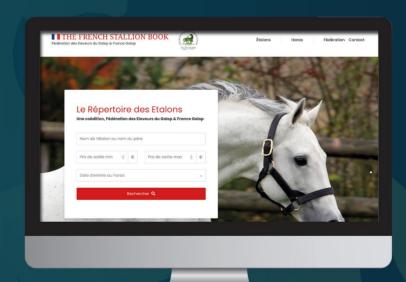
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Trickledown Stud Cont.

He added, "We've been lucky over the years and were buying Royal Applauses and Acclamations before they were popular. I like to do a lot of research, not so much into the families, but more so into where the half-brother has gone into training and that sort of thing. If there's a foal who is a half to a yearling that we saw and liked and say it had gone into training with an Archie Watson or some trainer who does well with 2-year-olds, those are the types of horse we tend to like.

"We bought a Mohaather (GB) filly at the Tattersalls February Sale because we knew there were two siblings to run for her. Now, we had outrageous luck because her half-sister won that night at 25-1 by about half an inch. There's a 90 grand colt to run for Richard Hannon in the pedigree so I feel we have a chance."

He added, "One year, I decided that I was so crap at picking foals that would turn out to be improvers, that I just decided to buy brothers and sisters to yearlings who'd gone into training with Richard Hannon, Sr. I bought five foals and four of the siblings won for the Hannons. Three of them made profit at the sales and I thought, why bother going around looking at foals and knocking this for turning out half an inch or that for being too big? Fresh news may not be everything but it's a big part of

it, isn't it? Why not work with the most recent information you've got to work with? It's not a bad template."

Thorman is backing Solder's Call (GB) to be the next Royal Applause (GB) or Acclamation (GB) but admitted that nobody would have tipped Havana Grey (GB) to scoop the champion first-season sire title this time 12 months ago. Therein lies the beauty of this game.

"You need luck. We picked a Ulysses (Ire) a couple of years ago, bought him out of our own draft for small money, but he turned into the most beautiful yearling and we got 140,000gns for him. We didn't get that because we were geniuses, but because the dice rolled our way and the horse came up, as did the stallion, who was hot at the time. When you do this for long enough, you realise the importance of luck.

"Who would have picked Havana Grey this time last year? Tell me who this year's Havana Grey is going to be because that's the one we all hope we've bought one by. I'm a big fan of Soldier's Call and, while I only managed to buy one by him last year, I think he has a lot going for him. "The Clipper Logistics outfit have 24 to go into training by him and they've gone to Archie Watson and Karl Burke. I think he'd have to be a pretty moderate stallion not to make a big impact this year as he's been given a great chance. I'd be big on him."

All four stand at Kildangan Stud Cont. p5

SPEED v speed

Take your pick: the fastest Dubawis or the fastest Shamardals?



The Dubawis NEW NAVAL CROWN

Won the G1 Platinum Jubilee, second in the G1 July Cup. Beat the Guineas runner-up over a mile.

€15,000 Oct 1, SLF **SPACE BLUES €16,000** Oct 1, SLF



The Shamardals EARTHLIGHT

The fastest winner of the G1 Middle Park ever. Also won the G1 Morny and runner-up in the G1 Forêt.

€15,000 Oct 1, SLF

BLUE POINT €35,000 Oct 1, SLF

Darley

Trickledown Stud Cont.

He added, "But this is an extraordinary industry. I had clients who had breeding rights to Time Test (GB) and, when they were making 90,000 to 100,000, I told them to sell. Now the market has reacted too much the other way and I think he's a bit of value. We're great for putting horses up on pedestals and then throwing stones at them. I think we react too negatively or positively to fashion and it tends to even out to a level over time. But isn't this the best part of the season, those first-crop 2-year-olds?"

Trickledown Stud has been a constant on the sales scene down through the years and, while Thorman is at pains to point out that he is not the retiring kind, he does admit to being as excited about spending more time with his grandkids as he is about seeing how Soldier's Call performs with his first runners this spring.

"Mick Channon was interviewed the other day and, to paraphrase him, he said, 'I wish could meet the fella who said life begins at 40 because I'd give him a smack in the mouth.' How right he is. When you get the other side of 60, does it matter if you sell another 100 grand horse or another winner? I'm pleased to wake up every morning and, touch wood, we're both healthy.

"Grandkids have provided us with that viewpoint. I mean, our own daughter, she spent the majority of her younger days

hanging out in the hay net in the tack room whilst we were flat out on the farm. We're not retiring but we're going to try and enjoy life a little bit more."

Share this story



Argana February Mixed Sale Cont. from p1

Offered by Haras de Bouquetot, the winner is a half-sister to G3 Prix La Force victor Pao Alto (Fr) (Intello {Ger}), while her dam, a winner at Group 3 level in Germany, is a half-sister to G1 French Oaks heroine Palmas (Ger) (Lord Of England (Ger)).

Reilly said, "She's a lovely filly, that moves nicely and has an exceptional pedigree page. She'll come back to Ireland and start her broodmare career."

The winning jumper **Santa Fix (Fr)** (Saint Des Saints {Fr}) (lot 118) was signed for by Paul Basquin for €92,000 on behalf of a partnership between Haras du Saubouas and Haras d'Etreham. She is a half-sister to listed-winning jumper Fixe Le Kap (Fr) (Kapgarde {Fr}), as well as A Mi Manera (Fr) (Great Pretender {Ire}), a dual graded winner over jumps.

"She's a magnificent filly that moves really well," said Paul Basquin. "She's from a lovely family and by Saint des Saints, an excellent broodmare sire. She's been bought for a partnership between Haras de Saubouas and Haras d'Etreham. She'll be covered by Paradiso (Fr), a stallion that we estimate and want to support by sending him mares of this quality." Cont. p6





Group winner Air De Valse in the ring | Zuzanna Lupa

Arqana February Mixed Sale Cont.

The fourth dearest lot of Tuesday's session was lot 70, a nomination to Group 1 sire Camelot (GB) to aid the Red Cross in Syria and Turkey. Offered by Coolmore, the nomination was snapped up by Rahinston Stud for €62,000.

"I've bought it for a client of the farm, an owner/breeder who wants to breed the nomination to race if all goes well, said Rahinston's Harry Fowler. "We're delighted to support such a worthy charity, especially one that is at the forefront of all our minds. When the opportunity arose for such a lovely stallion and such a good cause, we felt we should support this very generous offer from Coolmore. It's also great of Arqana to facilitate the sale. A stallion like Camelot is not easy to get into; he's a beautiful horse and has a phenomenal record. We've an idea which mare we will send to him but we're not 100% sure, let's see how they all foal. But the progeny will be kept to race."

Cont. p7



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SPONSORS OF THE FOLLOWING STATS FOR THE:

ARQANA FEBRUARY MIXED SALE

SESSION TOTALS	2023	2022
Catalogued	191	226
Number Offered	148	181
Number Sold	111	140
Not Sold	37	41
Clearance Rate	75%	77.4%
High Price	€240,000	€120,000
• Gross	€1,805,000	€1,647,000
Average (% change)	€16,261 (+38.2%)	€11,764
Median (% change)	€9,000 (+50%)	€6,000

Starspangledbanner gelding rockets into Derby favouritism

Written by Trent Masenhelder

The John Size-trained Beauty Eternal (Starspangledbanner) laid a marker for the March 19 G1 Hong Kong Derby (2000 metres) with a dominant display in Class 3 company on



STARSPANGLED BANNER

Sire of 4 Gr.1 winners in 2022

All from €15,000 nominations

STATE OF REST 1st Prince of Wales's Stakes-Gr.1

1st Prix Ganay-Gr.1

ARISTIA 1st Prix Jean Romanet-Gr.1

2nd Nassau Stakes-Gr.1

CALIFORNIA SPANGLE 1st Hong Kong Mile-Gr.1

RHEA MOON 1st American Oaks-Gr.1

2022 yearlings, from €22,500 nominations, sold for €730,000, €665,000, €665,000, €425,000, €415,000, €330,000, €325,000, €290,000, €265,000, €250,000 etc.

COOLMORE

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Argana February Mixed Sale Cont.

At the close of trade, 111 lots sold from 148 offered (75%) for a gross of €1,805,000. The average rose 38.2% to €16,261, while the median rose by 50% to €9,000 from last year's opening session.

The second and final session of the February Mixed Sale begins at 11 a.m. local time. For the complete sale results, please visit the Argana website.

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SESSION TOPPERS

ARQANA FEBRUARY MIXED SALE DAY 1

LotNameStatusPrice (€)51Air De Valse (Fr)Horse-in-Training240,000(m, 7, Mesnil Des Aigles {Fr}--Air Bag {Fr}, by Poliglote {GB})Bred by Mme Corine Barbe (Fr)Consigned by Corine Barande-Barbe

173 Majal (Fr) Broodmare Prospect 102,000

Purchased by Bridge Consignment, Ltd.

(f, 4, Shalaa {Ire}--Peaceful Love {Ger}, by Dashing Blade {GB}) (€200,000 Ylg '20 ARQAUG) Bred by La Motteraye, Gerard Ferron & Al Shaqab Racing (Fr) Consigned by Haras de Bouquetot Purchased by BBA Ireland

118 Santa Fix (Fr) Broodmare 92,000

(m, 9, Saint Des Saints {Fr}--Lady Fix {Fr}, Turgeon) Bred by Oliver Tricot & Max Hennau (Fr) Consigned by Haras du Lieu des Champs Purchased by Haras du Saubouas

EUROPEAN NEWS

SAFFRON BEACH RETIRED AND SET FOR DATE WITH FRANKEL

Connections of **Saffron Beach (Ire)** (New Bay {GB}) have announced on Valentine's Day that the dual Group 1 winner is set for a date with superstar stallion Frankel (GB) after bringing the curtain down on the career of Jane Chapple-Hyam's top-notcher.

Saffron Beach had been earmarked for a tilt at the G1 Saudi Cup after selling to Prince Faisal bin Khalid bin Abdulaziz's Najd Stud for 3.6 million at the Tattersalls December Mares Sale.

However, it was confirmed on Tuesday that the six-time winner, who recorded just shy of £1 million in career-earnings,

would embark on a new career as a broodmare rather than take on the Saudi Cup challenge after an unsatisfactory scope.

Runner-up to Mother Earth (Ire) (Zoffany {Ire}) in the G1 1000 Guineas in 2021, Saffron Beach broke her Group 1 duck when accounting for that rival in the Sun Chariot S. back at Newmarket in October of that same season.

The second of her top-level triumphs came in the Prix Rothschild last summer, where Saffron Beach accounted for a classy field to win in comfortable fashion under William Buick.

Chapple-Hyam tweeted of the daughter of the winning Falling Petals (Ire) (Raven's Pass), "After a routine scope that was unsatisfactory for travel to the Saudi Cup, Saffron Beach has been retired from racing and will now visit Frankel at Juddmonte Farms.

"I wish to think Prince Faisal Bin Khaled and his team for entrusting me with her training and wish her all the best for her breeding career."

Continua, a Raven's Pass half-sister to Falling Petals is the dam of Group 3 winner and rising sire star Cotai Glory (GB) (Exceed And Excel {Aus}).

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Saffron Beach | Scoop Dyga

OISIN MURPHY TO RETURN AT CHELMSFORD ON THURSDAY

Three-time champion jockey Oisin Murphy, who is confirmed to ride Group 1 winner Missed The Cut (Quality Road) during the \$20-million G1 Saudi Cup meeting, will have his first ride back in the UK at Chelmsford on Thursday.

Murphy, who is returning to the saddle after a 14-month ban for alcohol and covid protocol breaches, will be aboard The Horse Watchers syndicate's **Jupiter Express (Ire)** (Kodiac {GB}) in the Winning Connections Networking H. at Chelmsford for trainer Mick Appleby. Gavin Horne will continue his association with Murphy. Cont. p8



Oisin Murphy | PA Sport

Oisin Murphy Cont.

"Gavin had asked Mick if there was anything he could ride when he was available," said The Horse Watchers syndicate's Chris Dixon.

"Tom Marquand rode Jupiter Express to be second last time, but he's in Australia now so the jockey who rode him last time wasn't there and this was an opportunity for him to have a ride when he came back.

"Mick was always going to support him, he's ridden plenty of winners for him over the years--and us--so when a top jockey is available we are not afraid to use them. We're happy to give him his first ride back.

"He's been freshened up since his last run as he'd been a little busy and we'd aimed at this card ever since really. He's got a decent chance, he's in good form and hopefully there's a little bit of mileage in his handicap mark."

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SUBJECTIVIST PLEASES JOHNSTON IN NEWCASTLE SPIN

Group 1 winner **Subjectivist (GB)** (Teofilo {Ire}), who races for Dr. J. Walker, turned in a pleasing work over the Newcastle all-weather under Joe Fanning in advance of a start in the Feb. 25 \$2.5-million G3 Red Sea Turf H. in Riyadh during the \$20-million G1 Saudi Cup two-day meeting.

"I was pleased with what I saw at Newcastle," said trainer Charlie Johnston, who has taken over the training of Subjectivist after the retirement of his father, Mark. "The difficulty with any horse is that you don't put really put them into the red zone at home, but particularly with a horse of this nature who runs over these distances.

"We've never gone to the distances which he excels over, and we don't have many 120-rated stayers to work him either, so of course there's that unknown, but both myself and Joe were pleased with how he went.

"Joe knows the horse better than anyone and he said he got better and better the further he went which obviously bodes well for next weekend."

Although he currently holds a three-race winning streak of the 2020 G1 Prix Royal Oak, the G2 Dubai Gold Cup in March of 2021 and the G1 Gold Cup that same year, the bay has been on an injury-incurred layoff for the past 18 months.

"It's been an 18-month rehab journey, so to have come this far is great and we're all very much looking forward to having him on the track again," he said.

"It's a bit of an unknown in the sense we aren't entirely sure what we have back, and it will be asking a lot to have the same horse that we had 20 months ago. I sincerely hope we do, but we won't find that out until he runs in Saudi."

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Subjectivist | Racingfotos.com

ALGIERS PRIMED FOR DUBAI WORLD CUP BID, TO BYPASS SAUDI CUP

Algiers (Ire) (Shamardal), the winner of the first two rounds of the G2 Al Maktoum Challenge R1/R2 this season, will be aimed at the \$12-million G1 Dubai World Cup at the end of March and bypass a shot at the \$20-million G1 Saudi Cup on Feb. 25.

"He won Round 2 very well and the step up in trip on the dirt was no problem, so it's all systems go for the World Cup," said trainer Ed Crisford, who trains with his father, Simon.

"We took him out of the Saudi Cup as we just felt we'd be better off staying in Dubai and aiming at the big one on World Cup night.

"Round 3 of the Al Maktoum Challenge is on Super Saturday [on Mar. 4], but I'd say we'll swerve that and go straight to the World Cup. He's had two quite good runs in quick succession, so we can freshen him up and ready him for the big night." Cont. p9



Algiers | Dhric/AK/DRC

Algiers Cont.

The gelding ran out a 6 1/2-length winner of the Al Maktoum Challenge Round 1 on Jan. 6, the first day of the Dubai World Cup Carnival, and he was six lengths clear of Bendoog (Gun Runner) in the Al Maktoum Challenge Round 2 on Feb. 3.

He added of the 6-year-old, who will be ridden by James Doyle, "I think we'll find a lot out next weekend in Saudi in terms of what horses are coming. The Japanese and the Americans have some seriously good dirt horses and I think it'll all come to light after Saudi.

"The World Cup will be a big step up for our horse, but he's the best horse in the UAE at the moment on the dirt and it's hugely exciting."

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HORSERACING INDUSTRY CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR YORK IN JUNE

The sixth annual Horseracing Industry Conference will be returning to York Racecourse on Thursday, June 1, 2023, the Racing Foundation and University of Liverpool Management School announced on Tuesday.

'Modernising racing: How far and how fast?' is the focus of the conference, which will bring together experts from both within and outside of the racing industry. Refreshments will be served, as well as a two-course lunch, followed by a champagne reception. Tickets are £55 and can be purchased on the Racing Foundation's website.

Rob Hezel, Chief Executive at the Racing Foundation, said, "The Racing Foundation is delighted to announce the date for the sixth annual Horseracing Industry Conference which will be delivered with a focus on minimising the event's environmental impact.

"The 2023 conference comes at a crucial time for British racing as it awaits publication of the sport's new strategy.

"The pace of societal change we are experiencing today demands the industry thinks creatively and boldly to safeguard the sport for tomorrow.

"I know this year's topic, 'Modernising racing: How far and how fast?' will offer important insight and generate engaging debate at the conference. I look forward to the contributions from keynotes speakers, industry leaders and the conference delegates."

Neil Coster, Director of Studies for the Thoroughbred Horseracing Industries MBA at the University of Liverpool Management School, said, "The University of Liverpool Management School is looking forward to welcoming this year's delegates to York Racecourse for the annual Horseracing Industry Conference.

"The 2023 conference will welcome experts outside of the world of racing as well as those within it, embracing innovative thinking often overlooked in racing.

"In past years, the conversation surrounding the conference topics transcends well beyond the keynote talks. I look forward to again discussing racing's challenges with this year's delegates during the networking sessions throughout the day.

"The conference is a superb continual professional development opportunity for all working in, or passionate about, the sport of horseracing."

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BREEDING RIGHT IN HARRY ANGEL HIGHLIGHT OF AUCTAV FEBRUARY CATALOGUE

A breeding right in young stallion **Harry Angel (Ire)** (lot 19) is one of the late additions to the upcoming Auctav February Sale from 6-6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 22. For the catalogue, which features breeding rights and stallion shares across National Hunt, Flat and Trotting bloodlines, please click here.

The catalogue features breeding rights in fellow Flat Stallions Ultra (Ire) (lot 20), and Cloth Of Stars (Ire) (lot 11), as well as a half-share in Almanzor (Fr) (lot 8), and full shares in both Waldpark (Ger) (lot 9B) and Dariyan (Fr) (lot 17). There are also 10 shares in Scat Daddy horse Van Beethoven (lot 13) that are being sold as one lot.

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BRITAIN

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNER:

Jahidin (Fr), g, 3, Kheleyf--Loda (Fr) (SW-Fr, \$164,989), by Zieten. Newcastle, 2-14, 7f 14y (AWT), 1:27.39. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, \$6,354. B-Ecurie Jarlan & Maxime Jarlan (FR). *€4,000 Ylg '21 ARQFEB.

FRANCE

Tuesday's Result:

4th-Pornichet, €19,000, Mdn, 2-14, 3yo, f, 10 1/2f (AWT), 2:14.70, st.

LADY BERMA (IRE) (f, 3, Frankel {GB}--La Berma {Ire} {SW & MGSP-Fr, \$138,886}, by Lawman {Fr}), sent off the 19-10 second favourite, was green initially before being placed on the lead after the first two furlongs. Always doing enough in front, the homebred was driven out to hold on by a diminishing head margin from Dschingis Grace (Fr) (Dschingis Secret {Ger}). The winner is the first foal out of the dam, who took the Listed Prix du Pont-Neuf and was placed in the G2 Prix de Sandringham, G3 Prix Eclipse and G3 Prix du Pin. A granddaughter of the G1 Argentine Oaks-winning champion Netherland (Arg) (Roy), her 2-year-old colt by No Nay Never was sold to Mandore International Agency for €85,000 at the Argana Deauville August Yearling Sale, while she also has a yearling colt by that sire to follow. Sales history: €290,000 RNA Ylg '21 ARQAUG. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, €9,500. Video, sponsored by TVG. O/B-Yeguada Centurion SLU (IRE); T-Christopher Head.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNER:

Karburan (Fr), g, 3, **Zarak (Fr)**--Lilly Du Havre (Fr), by Le Havre (Ire). Pornichet, 2-14, 10 1/2f (AWT), 2:10.15. B-J Cypres, N Cypres & EARL Ecurie des Mottes (FR).

WORLDWIDE NEWS

JAPANESE HORSE OF THE YEAR EFFORIA RETIRED TO STUD

2021 Japanese Horse of the Year **Efforia (Jpn)** (Epiphaneia {Jpn}--Katie's Heart {Jpn}, by Heart's Cry {Jpn}) has been retired from racing and will take up stallion duty at Shadai Stallion Station, owner U Carrot Farm announced on their website. The

5-year-old was pulled up in Sunday's G2 Kyoto Kinen with atrial fibrillation, and, although a Monday morning electrocardiogram showed no abnormalities, the decision was made to retire the 2021 Japanese Champion 3-Year-Old Colt.

Bred by Northern Farm, the colt won his two juvenile starts for trainer Yuichi Shikato in 2020, and then strode to victories in the G3 Tokinorminoru Kinen, and the G1 Satsuki Sho (Japanese 2000 Guineas) in succession at three. Second by only a nose to subsequent globetrotter Shahryar (Jpn) (Deep Impact {Jpn}) in the G1 Tokyo Yushun (Japanese Derby), the bay was back on top in the G1 Tenno Sho (Autumn) and sealed his dual championship honours with a 3/4-length victory in the G1 Arima Kinen that December.

Winless in three starts as a 4-year-old last year, Efforia made his 5-year-old bow in the G2 Kyoto Kinen on Sunday and retires with a record of 11-6-1-0 and \$6,884,415 in earnings.

Out of the three-time winner Katie's Heart, Efforia is a half-brother to two winners, while his dual French listed-winning second dam Katie's First (Kris {GB}) is a half-sister to three-time Japanese champion Hishi Amazon (Theatrical {Ire}) and three other stakes winners. My Katies (Jpn) (Sunday Silence), a half-sister to Katie's Heart, foaled fellow Japanese Horse of the Year and sire Admire Moon (Jpn) (End Sweep).

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Efforia winning the Arima Kinen | JRA

JET DARK TO RETURN HOME TO STAND AT DRAKENSTEIN STUD

Multiple Grade 1 winner **Jet Dark (SAf)** (Trippi--Night Jet (SAf), by Jet Master (SAf)) has been retired and will take up stallion duty at Drakenstein Stud where he was foaled and raised, owners Nick Jonsson and Tommy Crowe announced. Drakenstein's Gaynor Rupert is also now part-owner of the bay.

Cont. p11



Jet Dark | Drakenstein Stud

Jet Dark Cont.

The R200,000 BSA April yearling won Grade 1s at ages two, three, four and five and was named 2020/21 Equus Champion 3-year-old Colt, 2020/21 and 2021/22 Equus Champion Miler, 2021/22 Equus Champion Older Male and 2021/22 Equus Champion Middle Distance Horse. He heads to the breeding shed with a record of 19-9-3-2, R5,697,850 and a final victory in the G1 WSB Cape Met over 10 furlongs on Jan. 28.

"Jet Dark was an incredibly easy horse to train," trainer Justin Snaith said. "He was a gentleman with the most kind temperament which allowed me to get the best of him while retiring him completely sound. I will be sad to see him go as I believe he had a few Group 1s left in the tank. I cannot wait to buy his yearlings."

A half-brother to Grade 3-placed Night Ruler (SAf) (Kingsbarns {Ire}), Jet Dark will stand for a fee of R30,000 for his first season. G1 Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe hero and sire Peintre Celebre is under the fourth dam.

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2023 Japanese Group Races

<u>Date</u>	Race
Feb. 18	G3 Diamond S.
	G3 Kyoto Himba S.
Feb. 19	G1 February S.
	G3 Kokura Daishoten
Feb. 26	G2 Nakayama Kinen
	G3 Hankyu Hai
Mar. 4	G3 Yukan Fuji Sho Ocean S.
	G2 Tulip Sho
Mar. 5	G2 Hochi Hai Yayoi Sho

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Friday, Dubai, UAE, post time: 20:20 p.m.

NAD	AL SHE	EBA TROPHY-G3, \$200,000, N	NH 4yo/up, & SH 3yo/up, 2810	mT		
SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	WT
1	12	Al Nayyir (GB)	Dubawi (Ire)	Dobbs	Watson	125
2	2	Away He Goes (Ire)	Farhh (GB)	Barzalona	Mohammed	125
3	14	Brilliant Light (GB)	Sea The Stars (Ire)	Steward	bin Suroor	125
4	1	Charging Thunder (GB)	War Command	Tudhope	O'Meara	125
5	13	Count Rostov (Fr)	Oasis Dream (GB)	Dawson	bin Harmash	125
6	5	Emperor Of The Sun (Ire)	Galileo (Ire)	de Vries	Nass	125
7	10	Global Heat (Ire)	Global Heat (Ire)	Cosgrave	bin Suroor	125
8	3	Kemari (GB)	Dubawi (Ire)	Doyle	Appleby	125
9	11	Magical Morning (GB)	Muhaarar (GB)	Scott	Murphy	125
10	4	Siskany (GB)	Dubawi (Ire)	Buick	Appleby	125
11	8	Tides Of War (Ire)	Galileo (Ire)	Fresu	Simcock	125
12	6	White Heart (Ire)	Camelot (GB)	O'Neill	Petersen	125
13	9	Ardakan (GB)	Reliable Man (GB)	Coen	Botti	121
14	7	Wickywickywheels (Ire)	The Carbon Unit	Mullen	Seemar	121

Friday, Dubai, UAE, post time: 20:55 p.m.

DUBAI MILLENNIUM S.-G3, \$150,000, NH & SH 4yo/up, 2000mT

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	WT
1	6	Nations Pride (Ire)	Teofilo (Ire)	Buick	Appleby	136
2	12	Daramethos (Ire)	Sea The Stars (Ire)	Fresu	Al Mheiri	130
3	3	Desert Fire (Ire)	Cape Cross (Ire)	Tudhope	bin Suroor	130
4	8	Freescape (GB)	Cityscape (GB)	Dobbs	Marnane	130
5	7	Good Fortune (Den)	Appel Au Maitre (Fr)	Barzalona	Jensen	130
6	2	Midlife Crisis (Fr)	Wootton Bassett (GB)	Moutard	Shimizu	130
7	10	Ursa Minor (Ire)	Sea The Stars (Ire)	Dawson	bin Harmash	130
8	5	Aeonian (Ire)	Ulysses (Ire)	Pinheiro	Al Mheiri	129
9	1	Ottoman Fleet (GB)	Sea The Stars (Ire)	Doyle	Appleby	129
10	11	Withering (GB)	Mondialiste (Ire)	de Vries	Nass	129
11	4	Zagrey (Fr)	Zarak (Fr)	Soumillon	Barberot	129
12	9	Annerville (Ire)	Iffraaj (GB)	Coen	Murtagh	125

Friday, Dubai, UAE, post time: 19:10 p.m.

UAE OAKS-G3, \$150,000, NH & SH 3yo, f, 1900m

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	WT
1	5	Ami Please	Goldencents	Fresu	O'Neill	125
2	4	Asawer	Nyquist	Dobbs	Watson	125
3	3	Awasef	Cairo Prince	Hitchcott	Watson	125
4	7	Habooba	Nyquist	Dawson	bin Harmash	125
5	2	Mimi Kakushi	City Of Light	Barzalona	bin Ghadayer	125
6	1	Priyanka	Mendelssohn	Mullen	Seemar	125
7	6	Solaire (Fr)	Dabirsim (Fr)	de Vries	Caullery	125

^{*}All post times are local time.





\$400K VINNIE COLT STARS AT INGLIS



Vinnie colt, the top lot | Inglis

by Lydia Symonds

At A Glance:

- At the close of trade on the final day the sale company reported that 535 lots (85%) sold for an aggregate of \$56,719,500, down from the same point last year at which the aggregate had surpassed \$67,228,500 at an extraordinary clearance rate of 92%.
- The average at the close of trade stood at \$103,882, again down from the average of \$121,132 the sale finished at last year.
- The median dipped to \$80,000, the same figure recorded in 2021, but down from last year's \$100,000.
- A colt by Yarraman Park's I Am Invincible was the highlight lot on the final day of trade at the Inglis Classic Yearling Sale, when he sold to Justin Bahen and Lees Racing for \$400,000.
- Legend Racing finished the sale as the leading buyer, spending \$1,530,000 on seven yearlings, while Mick Price Racing and Breeding were the second largest spender, buying five youngsters for \$1,090,000.
- Extreme Choice finished the week as the leading sire by average (with three or more lots sold) for the second consecutive year, selling six yearlings for an aggregate of \$1,945,000, which saw him finish with an average of \$324,167.

- Henry Field's Newgate Farm finished the leading vendor by aggregate with a total gross of \$3,786,000, while Tyreel Stud were crowned leading vendor by average (with three or more lots sold) having sold six yearlings for at an average of \$270,000.
- The top lot of the Highway Session was a Tyreel Stud-consigned colt by Smart Missile who sold to prominent Japanese owner Mr Suzuki for \$200,000.

A son of I Am Invincible will join the Kris Lees stable after Justin Bahen and the Newcastle-based trainer paid \$400,000 for the Yarraman Park-consigned colt on the final day of the Inglis Classic Yearling Sale on Tuesday.

"I am very pleased. It has exceeded our pre-sale expectations. We have had a broad section of buyers and we are particularly pleased with the number of international involvement and plenty of interstate buyers," said Hutch.

"We knew coming here there wasn't a big banger of a horse that was going to set a record like it did last year, but we knew we had a strong cross-section of nice horses. We have come out of a sale, conducted in difficult enough circumstances, and we are very pleased.

"There has been evidence of an area of selectivity to the market that hasn't been present to the same extent for the last number of years. You talk to a lot of buyers; they walked in to buy horses and they just found the competition really strong. Ultimately, I'm very pleased. It's the beginning of a number of significant sales for us."

With the first sale now in the bag, Hutch was already looking forward to the Inglis Premier Yearling Sale, which gets underway in Melbourne on Mar. 5.



Sebastian Hutch, Jemma Cutting & Justin Bahen | Inglis

"We've got Premier in a couple of weeks and that is a very important sale for us, with a brilliant catalogue and that has a fantastic reputation as a source of great horses and then obviously Easter is a few weeks after that.

"These are massive sales in the context of the calendar and they will give context of how the market is shaping up. There is very evidently still money in the market, it might be a case of vendors having to work a bit harder to get their horses sold but ultimately the rewards are there."

Lot 633 - I Am Invincible x Navajo Dreamer (Ire), colt - \$400,000

After paying \$400,000 for a colt by Yarraman Park's super star stallion I Am Invincible on the final day of the Inglis Classic Yearling Sale, Justin Bahen came to the conclusion that the youngster will prove to be good value.

Offered by Yarraman themselves, the colt is out of US

stakes-placed mare Navajo Dreamer (Ire) (Dream Ahead (USA)) and she is herself a half-sister to Grade II winner Hoh Buzzard (Ire) (Alhaarth {Ire}), the dam of Grade III scorer Via Villaggio (USA) (Bernardini {USA}).

Bahen said the colt would now head into training with Newcastle-based trainer Kris

"He is off a good farm, so that makes life easy. The stallion's doing everything in front of him.

You only have to look back to Saturday at the races, he was pretty in the finish of every race there (at Randwick). We thought that was where we'd have to be as far as the spend was.

"He will be trained at Newcastle by Kris Lees. I thought he might've ended up at a Magic Millions sale but he's ended up here where he stands out. In and around that money, I thought he was good buying for an I Am Invincible and a colt like him. He's sharp but he might take a little bit longer than normal, but I am happy to have a good horse at any age.

"I think it's been strong enough. I found it difficult on the ones I've tried to buy. We've got three now, so I am happy with that, and maybe one more later."

I Am Invincible had four lots sell for an aggregate of \$715,000 and an average of \$178,750, while Yarraman Park Stud sold 21 horses for a gross of \$2,146,500 and Matt Scown said he was very pleased with the results this week.

"It's been a great sale overall for us, 22 sold from 22 offered and this lovely Vinnie colt to end the sale for us," Scown said.

"We always try to target a really lovely colt for this sale because, like we've shown, you can sell them really well and this colt was no exception.

"We always like to bring a strong draft here, the buyers are always here, Inglis have done a great job in getting everyone here and the inspection process was as good as usual."

Lot 592 - Deep Field x Marcellina (NZ), colt -\$360,000

Having provided Silverdale Farm a good result earlier in the sale, Legend Racing's Bon Ho handed the farm another reason to celebrate when he bought a colt by Deep Field for \$360,000.

This was the second yearling Bon Ho had purchased off Silverdale this week, having bought a colt by Pierro for \$160,000 on Monday, while the The Everest-winning owner purchased a

> filly by I Am Invincible off Steve Grant's nursery for \$550,000 at last year's Inglis Premier Yearling

The farm's manager Robert Petith was confident the colt would sell well and expressed his gratitude to Bon Ho for his enormous support of their product.

"It's a fantastic result, he was a thrilled with the continued support from Bon Ho.

lovely colt," said Petith. "We are

"This is the second horse he's bought from us at this sale and we were also fortunate last year to sell him a Vinnie filly down in Melbourne and she won a trial on Monday for Hawkes Racing, so hopefully that helped in his selection of these two nice colts this week."

Catalogued as Lot 592, the youngster is out of Group 2 scorer Marcellina (NZ) (Savabeel), a half-sister to G2 Matriarch S. winner Oceanex (NZ) (Ocean Park {NZ}), Amexed (NZ) (Pentire (GB) and listed scorer Miss Aotearoa (NZ) (Per Incanto (USA)).

Sadly, this colt was the final foal Marcellina produced before her death in July 2022 and Petith said it was a bittersweet feeling.

"It is a bittersweet situation because she was a beautiful quality mare and we were very sad to lose her after only a couple of foals, but she did a great job including producing this beautiful colt and it is a wonderful result," said Petith.



Matt Scown | Inglis



Proisir colt | Inglis

"He is a tough colt and he has handled the sales in his stride. He is a good-moving horse who is very straightforward. We thought he would be around the \$300,000 mark, but wasn't sure where he'd go from there.

"We were optimistic. Coming from home he vetted up beautifully and he is a nice quality horse by a very good stallion, out of a performed mare with a good page and physically he was a very good colt, so we were hopeful of a good result."

Silverdale finished the sale having sold all eight of their yearlings for an aggregate of \$1,495,000 and they finished with a healthy average of \$186,875 and Petith was pleased with the week's results.

"We have had a good sale. Reserves are important and not getting carried away, but we do our best to bring a quality lineup of horses and we try to present them in the best possible way and we have been rewarded with some good results, who are all going to good stables."

Lot 658 - Proisir x Orovela (NZ), colt - \$320,000

Rich Hill Stud's stallion Proisir has been in insatiable form all season and on Tuesday at the Inglis Classic Yearling Sale that good form translated into yet another sales ring success as Mick Price Racing and Breeding secured a colt from the Wentwood Grange draft for \$320,000.

Proisir has sired seven stakes winners since August, headed by four Group 1 winners, including Legarto (NZ) and Pier (NZ), who won the G1 New Zealand 1000 Guineas and G1 New Zealand 2000 Guineas respectively, while his other daughter, Prowess (NZ), added another stakes win to her record last weekend when she won the G2 David and Karyn Ellis Fillies Classic at Te Rapa.

With this spate of good results, it is likely the stallion will be crowned New Zealand Champion Sire, bringing an end to

Savabeel's eight-year reign at the top of the table.

Proisir enjoyed exceptional results at the New Zealand Bloodstock Karaka Yearling Sale last month when 19 yearlings in Book 1 sold for an aggregate of NZ\$3,590,000, while he finished with an average of NZ\$188,947. Given Proisir's service fee in 2020 was NZ\$9000 (plus GST), this represented an average return this week of 21 times the stallion's seasonal fee.

The colt offered in Sydney on Tuesday was the only progeny of the stallion in the Inglis Classic Yearling Sale catalogue and Sean Hawkins of New Zealand's Wentwood Grange was delighted with how the colt was received by the buyers at the sale.

"He was targeted at this sale. We wanted to bring a draft of big, strong horses to Classic and he fitted that mould," said Hawkins.

"To have people like Mick buying from us is outstanding. We're looking to build those relationships (with Australian trainers) and get them into those top stables.

"We bred him in partnership with Danny Champion and Kezia Murphy. They raced the mare and then she retired to stud at Wentwood.

"At the time when we decided to bring him here, Proisir was going okay, but the run that he's had over the last few months has been exceptional. He was just a big, strong colt and he was exactly the sort of horse we wanted to bring to Classic this year.

"Proisir has kicked on unbelievably well. He's a credit to the team at Rich Hill and this result just goes to show how much the Australians appreciate him."

Over the two days of trade at the Inglis Classic Yearling Sale, Wentwood Grange sold all four of their yearlings for total receipts of \$710,000 and finished with an average of \$177,500.

"We've had a really good sale. We've sold all four of the horses we brought over and they've all sold well, really well. They were headlined by this horse, but we had a Vadamos filly as well that sold for \$180,000, which was an outstanding result."

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Five Things We Learned At Classic

Exceed's Stanislaus Impresses

Value Buy: Super Set Colt 170k

Nature Strip For The Newmarket?