

FORTE TAKES THE BLAME TO STAY STRONG



Violence | Sarah Andrew

by Chris McGrath

With commercial sires nowadays represented by such enormous cavalries, it's unsurprising that they should encounter random statistical clusters. These tend to even themselves out, so that a stallion that "hits form" with a sudden spate of stakes performers will also endure barren spells that naturally receive rather less attention. What every farm covets, then, is for a horse to get on a roll while there are still mares out there with mating decisions pending for this spring--and there's no better way to do that than making some noise on the Classic trail.

In that context, it was a remarkable weekend. **Violence** accounted for the dashing winners of two Derby rehearsals; while **Practical Joke**, who added one for himself, followed through with two other stakes winners, one of which banked 50 starting points for the GI Kentucky Oaks. On that front, however, **Girvin** was the man of the hour, making a double play with trial winners on opposite coasts. Less feted, meanwhile, but perhaps most significant in the longer term, was another stellar weekend for **Blame** as an emerging broodmare sire.

Among all these, the obvious imperative is to consider the genetic wiring that must sustain Forte (**Violence**) as he stretches out in distance. Before doing so, however, it's worth acknowledging that each of these stallions has a wider momentum than mere coincidence. **Cont. p3**

HISA TO BEGIN USING CAN'T-RACE FLAGS BEGINNING MARCH 27

The Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority (HISA) will begin using "can't-race" flags to enforce its existing Racetrack Safety and Registration regulations beginning on Mar. 27, 2023. Covered Persons and Horses who are not in compliance with HISA's Racetrack Safety and Registration rules, which went into effect on July 1, 2022, will be at risk of being unable to race until they comply with the rules.

In order to be in full compliance with the Racetrack Safety and Registration rules:

- Covered Persons must ensure that they and their Covered Horses are registered in the **HISA Portal**.
- Covered Persons must ensure that they have paid any overdue fines issued to them. **Cont. p6**

IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

CLASSIC BLOODLINES UNDERPIN AL SHIRA'AA OPERATION

Emma Berry speaks with Kieran Lalor of Al Shira'aa on the operation's burgeoning bloodstock portfolio based at Meadow Court Stud in Ireland.

MCGRATH VALUE SIRE
AGAIN.

"was made pick of this intake last year and I do retain every faith"
—Chris McGrath

KNOWN AGENDA
GI DNA.
\$10,000 S&N
SPENDTHRIFT

Only 6 three-year-olds have won a Triple Crown race and the Breeders' Cup Classic.

'89 Sunday Silence

'90 Unbridled

'92 A.P. Indy

'07 Curlin

'15 American Pharoah

'20 Authentic



AUTHENTIC
Into Mischief's Horse of the Year.

 **SPENDTHRIFT** | \$60,000 S&N

GIRVIN

GI Winner
FAIZA

GII Winner
DORTH VADER

GII Winner
DAMON'S MOUND

5 Stakes Winners

9 Stakes Horses

From Just 59 Starters

**HE SHOULDN'T BE ABLE TO DO THIS FROM A \$7,500 FEE,
BUT HE HAS.**

AIRDRIE
STUD INC.

Think About It!

859-873-7270
www.airdriestud.com



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 Bossinakos @CBossTDN

Contributing Editor

Brian DiDonato @BDiDonatoTDN

Assistant Editor

Jill Williams @JillWilliamsTDN

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

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

Photographer/Photo Editor

Sarah K. Andrew @SarahKAndrew
photos@thetdn.com

Associate Producer

Katie Petrunyak

Social Media Manager

Sara Gordon

Director of Customer Service

Vicki Forbes | customerservice@thetdn.com

Marketing Manager

Alayna Cullen Birkett @AlaynaCullen

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

Wednesday, March 8, 2023



March 17, 2007. *Street Sense* gets his nose down on the line ahead of *Any Given Saturday* in the *GIII Tampa Bay Derby*. [Click here](#) to read the result in the TDN archive. | Horsephotos

PA COMMISSION RESCINDS NESS PENALTIES

8

The Pennsylvania State Horse Racing Commission (PSHRC) has rescinded an Aug. 18, 2022, ruling against trainer Jamie Ness that suspended him six months and fined him \$5,000 for a positive drug test for bufotenine in a winning horse at Parx.

KEEPMEINMIND & FIRE AT WILL SETTLE IN AT SEQUEL

8

Keepmeinmind (Laoban), whose prowess on the track first brought sire Laoban to the national forefront, and GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf winner and Eclipse finalist *Fire At Will* (Declaration of War) join *Honest Mischievous*, Freud and Mission Impazible at Sequel New York's stallion roster.

TRAVERS HIGHLIGHTS SARATOGA STAKES SCHEDULE

9


The stakes schedule for the 2023 summer meet at historic Saratoga Race Course will include 71 stakes worth \$20.8 million in total purses.



PA BREEDERS
release their
2023 PA-BRED
STAKES SCHEDULE

PENNSYLVANIA
HORSE BREEDERS
ASSOCIATION

[CLICK HERE FOR A FULL LIST OF 2023 STAKES RACES](#)

#PABred   

Forte Takes the **Blame** cont. from p1



Girvin | *EquiSport*

Girvin had already announced himself so persuasively, in launching talented juveniles like Damon's Mound last year, that he earned an immediate transfer from Florida to Kentucky. Faiza made a key contribution to that breakout, as a spectacular pinhook (\$90,000 yearling/\$725,000 juvenile) who then won a Grade I on her second start, and she continued her flawless progress in the GIII Santa Ysabel S. on Sunday. Her success was

rather more anticipated than that of Dorth Vader the previous day, but a filly homebred at \$7,500 has now won four of six starts since stumbling on debut: a maiden, two stakes and now the GII Davona Dale S. **Girvin's** precocious stock, then, is consolidating in most encouraging fashion—especially given that he has so far been working with material commensurate with his opening fee. Dorth Vader, for instance, is out of a Yonaguska mare who won under a \$5,000 tag in Alberta. It's going to be fun to see what **Girvin** can do with his upgrade at Airdrie.

Practical Joke belongs to the previous intake, meaning that he has had to deal throughout with a fairly epoch-making inconvenience in **Gun Runner**. As a dual Grade I-winning juvenile by into Into Mischief, he secured significant numerical opportunity at Ashford and has already had a couple of hundred individual starters. But he's taking the chance he was given, reliably slipstreaming **Gun Runner** in their class and already indebted to this second crop for a first Grade I success in Chocolate Gelato's Frizette last fall.

The flamboyant talent of Practical Move is offering to take his sire to another level, albeit we'll have to see quite how far he can stretch his speed. That kind of question has obviously been answered quite brilliantly by Into Mischief himself, since the elevation of his mares, and **Practical Joke** is making a promising early "Move" in the intensifying competition among his sons.

SEND YOUR MARE TO MARYLAND

After she foals here, breed to one of our stallions and your 2023 foal is eligible to be a registered Maryland-bred*

28.5

In 2022, Maryland stallions boasted the largest average book of mares outside of Kentucky.

Quality speaks for itself.

With a history full of outstanding runners, stallions and horsemen, the tradition of breeding good horses here continues. Our tracks offer competitive purses and programs that reward breeders and owners and developers of Maryland-breds*.

ANNE LITZ



Maryland
We grow horses

MARYLAND: IT'S THE PLACE TO BE

Better stallions. Better mares. Maryland-breds.

*Horses must be registered with the Maryland Horse Breeders Association to be eligible to earn bonuses

Little Vic--from **Practical Joke**'s debut crop--is certainly trading unapologetically in speed, and continued his fertile winter campaign with a career best in the GIII Tom Fool H. But Shidabhuti will be another looking to extend, having pried open an Oaks gate in maintaining her unbeaten start in the Busher S.

Blame is obviously a proven operator by this stage, and we've long admired his black-type output at ratios that stack up well against several more expensive covers. Indeed, this spring he has Derby and Oaks contenders himself in Litigate and Wet Paint. As a broodmare sire, however, he has barely started--and is rapidly opening up exciting horizons.

With his beautifully shaped pedigree, lining up his fourth dam Thong against his sire Arch's third dam Courtly Dee (both by sons of Nasrullah, in Nantallah and Never Bend), I've always said **Blame** looked a great option for someone who wouldn't mind retaining a filly. And his daughters arguably gave us both the leading juveniles of 2022, in Forte himself and Loggins (**Ghostzapper**); while two others produced sophomore stakes winners to sandwich the champion's comeback win last Saturday. Danse Macabre (**Army Mule**) won the GIII Herecomesthebride S. on the same card, while Botanical (Medaglia d'Oro) collected 20 Oaks points in the Cincinnati Trophy at Turfway. Note this well: Forte, Loggins, Danse Macabre and Botanical are all the very first foals to represent

their dams on the track.

Botanical is bred on a cross akin to the one that gave us Forte, who is by a son of her sire. But while Medaglia d'Oro has long been a byword for versatility, it's conceivable that **Violence** may need Forte to summon the two-turn influences channelled through his dam to see out the punishing test awaiting on the first Saturday in May.

In winning the GII Fountain of Youth S., Forte was redressing his sire's narrow defeat (by the subsequent Derby winner) in the same race 10 years previously. True to the Medaglia d'Oro legacy, **Violence** did prove adaptable even in the span of a career that came to a premature end that day, having won the GI Hollywood Futurity on synthetics after making his name on dirt in New York. He made a flying start at Hill 'n' Dale, missing the 2017 freshman's laurels by cents (to Overanalyze!) and rewarded with 214 mares at a fee hiked from \$15,000 to \$25,000. With his debut crop thriving as sophomores, he proved all the rage at the yearling sales in 2018 and was raised further to \$40,000. But he then mustered just two stakes winners in 2019, sending his yearling average plummeting from over \$130,000 to barely \$45,000. With his fee retreating to \$25,000, he then turned things round with three Grade I winners in 2020, from three different crops. He was back in the game, albeit that hump in the road will tell in a somewhat diminished juvenile



STAND OUT AT...

NY Bred
YEARLINGS

AUGUST 13-14, 2023
— SARATOGA SPRINGS, NY —
SELECTED YEARLINGS

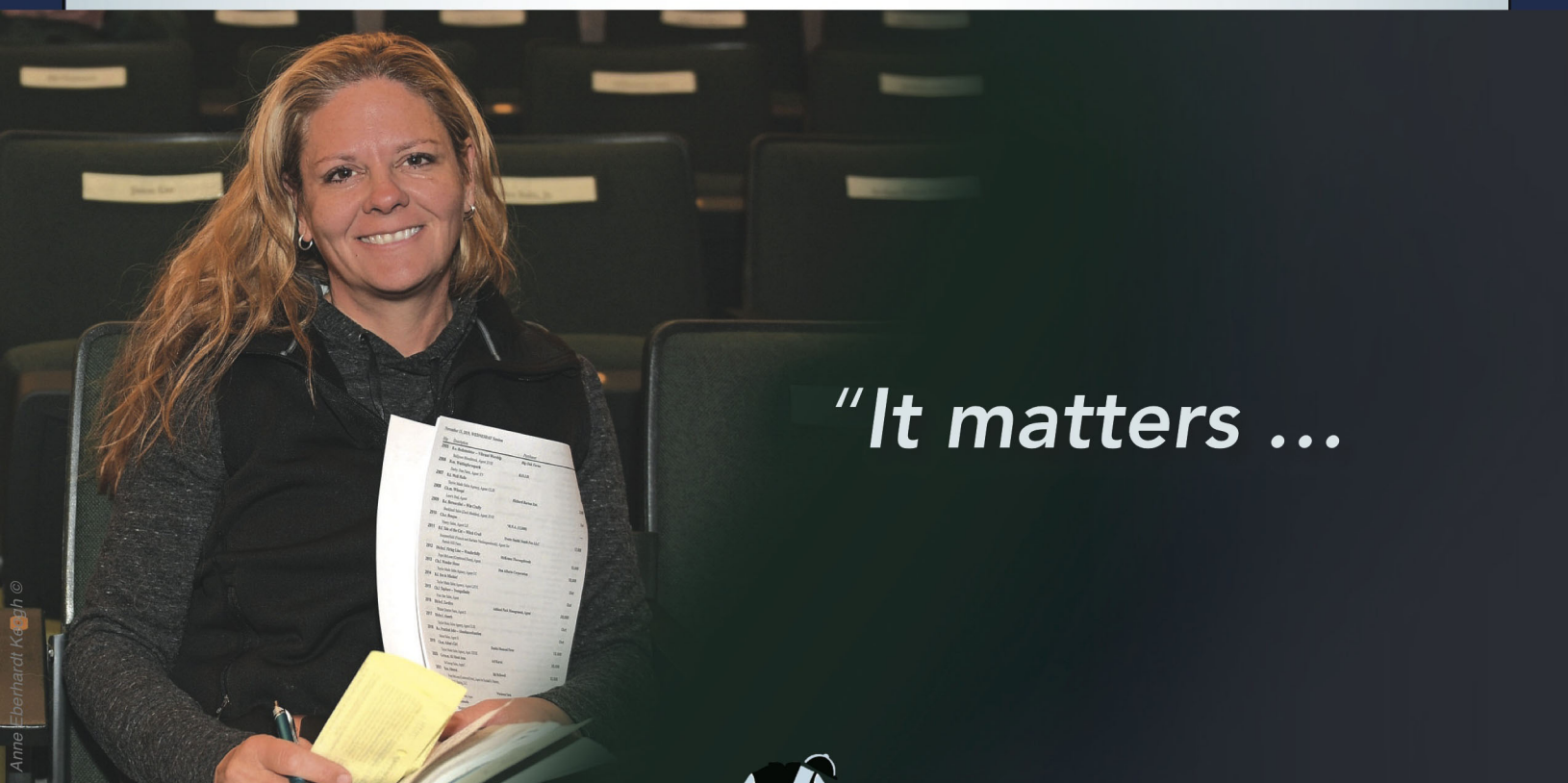
**#1 MARKETPLACE FOR
NY-BREDS, HELD DURING
THE SARATOGA MEET.**

 **Fasig-Tipton**
125 Years

[LEARN MORE](#) **NOMINATE NOW!**



EST. 1962



"It matters ..."



ALOHA WEST

Hard Spun – Island Bound, by Speightstown

G1 Breeders' Cup Sprint

While I believe in ALOHA WEST and his potential as a stallion, I also believe in Mill Ridge and the support and belief of the breeders that make up the syndicate.

Mill Ridge has a history of making stallions with DIESIS and GONE WEST as examples. Their resurgence now with OSCAR PERFORMANCE matters, and we wanted to buy into ALOHA WEST. We have supported him with two of our mares on our share, and have booked several more client mares to him with such an outstanding price point."

— Carrie Brogden



Forte | Lauren King

footprint this year (graduating from his 2020 book, which slipped to 86 mares).

Overall, after one or two wild swings early in his career, it feels safe to say that **Violence** has completed a process of consolidation with the emergence of Forte. Always a glossy physical, he's now up to \$50,000 and already has **Volatile** at stud to heighten the sense that the ageing Medaglia d'Oro has belatedly organised his legacy. For quite a while, the dynasty had seemed insecure, with no heir quite matching the status of his daughters Rachel Alexandra and Songbird, or his gelded son Golden Sixty. But now he has **Violence** competing with a champion freshman in Bolt d'Oro, with **Higher Power** starting out too. Certainly anyone who consecutively replays the Fountain of Youth and then the GIII Gotham S. will observe a common swagger to Forte and Raise Cain. But that kind of natural speed is consistent with the races won by their sire's most accomplished stock to date: GI Woody Stephens S., GI Alfred G. Vanderbilt S., GI Bing Crosby S.

In vividly diversifying the legacy of turf monster El Prado (Ire), Medaglia d'Oro can also include sprint speed among his variegated resume: think Astern (Aus), Vancouver (Aus), Warrior's Reward. Quite apart from his sire-line, however, the seeding of **Violence**'s own family also has a strong flavor of chlorophyll: his first two dams are by transatlantic influences in Gone West and Storm Cat, and the next two are by venerable European Classic influences in Blushing Groom (Fr) and Nijinsky. How curious, if these names should end up helping to create a legacy on dirt for Medaglia d'Oro.

With the help of their classic qualities, this well-known family has achieved that elusive balance between speed and stamina. **Violence**'s third dam is Hall of Famer Sky Beauty, whose own dam was Dayjur's Grade I-winning half-sister Maplejinsky, their mother in turn being champion sprinter Gold Beauty. Bearing in



CATALINA CRUISER

Union Rags – Sea Gull, by Mineshaft

FIRST 2YOs THIS YEAR
20 CATALOGUED AT OBS MARCH

"We expected to see a lot of quality horses from Catalina Cruiser. When we saw her we were thrilled. She's got a beautiful way of moving, gets over the ground effortlessly and has a fantastic mind; her demeanor is really good. She's always been a queen from the beginning." - **David Scanlon**, Scanlon Training Center

WATCH VIDEO



FILLY 0/0
FROLIC'S DREAM
\$320,000 SARATOGA
YEARLING



LANE'S END

\$15,000

lanesend.com | t: 859.873.7300

mind that you'll also find Maplejinsky as third dam of Point Of Entry (Dynaformer), this maternal background should certainly help **Violence** stretch the speed he has imparted to his best stock; and he does have a Grade I winner over 10 furlongs in Argentina. Nonetheless it is a comfort for those in Forte's camp for the Derby to know that he can also draw on the resources of his dam Queen Caroline.

Blame himself obviously offers her a bedrock. Besides extending the doughty Arch-Roberto brand, he also introduces more Nijinsky as sire of his grandam--whose celebrated mother, Special was of course by another sturdy influence in Forli (Arg). Queen Caroline is out of a Forestry mare, but the next dam is by Seattle Slew and soon tapers through three generations of Phipps-Wheatley royalty to a sister of Busher (and then to the Colonel Bradley matriarch Baby League and her legendary dam La Troienne {Fr}). Queen Caroline herself showed plenty of talent, at around a mile on turf, winning four black-type races. A couple of those were restricted to Virginia-breds, but she only missed a graded stakes podium by a neck. (Remarkably, she was the very first purchase made by Amy Moore--as a \$170,000 Keeneland September yearling--to found South Gate Farm.)

Queen Caroline's dam was a sharp sort, promptly adding a listed sprint to her maiden win at two, but more importantly she was out of a half-sister to the increasingly important Storm Cat mare Contrive: not only dam of champion juvenile filly Folklore (Tiznow) (herself responsible for the mother of Japanese star Contrail (Jpn) (Deep Impact {Jpn}) but also second dam of **Essential Quality (Tapit)**.

This all feels like a pretty strong foil to the speed hitherto trademarked by **Violence**. A similar exercise will be necessary, incidentally, with Raise Cain. He was bred by Rock Ridge Thoroughbreds from a Lemon Drop Kid mare who had won a sprint maiden in a light career, more significantly a half-sister to GI Breeders' Cup Ladies' Classic winner Unrivaled Belle (Unbridled's Song). The latter's daughter Unique Bella also had elite talent but remember that she operated very effectively round a single turn, despite being by **Tapit**.

So we'll have to see how the profile of **Violence** evolves as these sons seek to adapt their flair to the demands of the Triple Crown trail. Raise Cain certainly exhibited a full armory on Saturday: through the race he exuded contempt for the idea that the traffic around him might be running fast, and then devoured open ground like a horse eager for more. Admittedly his earlier work now seems to require some imaginative reinterpretation, whereas Forte is obviously a proven star already.

As has been well documented by now, as a \$110,000 yearling Forte lurked an awfully long way down the list of 2021 purchases by Repole Stable and St Elias. (Certainly it was only a

marginal reward for his \$80,000 pinhookers, though Reiley McDonald could comfort himself with a trifecta of Eaton graduates in the GI Hopeful S.) Regardless, **Violence** has now put two sets of connections exactly where thousands of others had dreamed of being when the class of 2020 slithered into the straw. But if it turns out that none of them can outstay Forte, we know who else can share the **Blame**.

[Share this story](#) 

HISA to Begin Using Can't-Race Flags cont. from p1

- Jockeys must have the dates of their most recent baseline concussion test and physical examination entered into the HISA portal, and those dates must fall within the last 12 months.

In addition to HISA's use of can't-race flags beginning on Mar. 27, HISA's Anti-Doping and Medication Control (ADMC) Program is also expected to launch that day pending final approval of the ADMC rules by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). This will



Coglianes photo

mean that all of HISA's ADMC, Racetrack Safety and Registration regulations are expected to be in full effect as of Mar. 27, 2023.

"Mar. 27, 2023 will truly be the start of a new era in Thoroughbred racing," said HISA CEO Lisa Lazarus. "An added level of enforcement of our Racetrack Safety and Registration rules, coupled with the launch of our ADMC Program, will be a clear sign to all that the racing industry is taking equine wellbeing and rider safety incredibly seriously. I am grateful for the high level of engagement and compliance we've seen with our Racetrack Safety and Registration rules since they went into effect on July 1, 2022, and I hope that the use of can't-race flags serves as one more mechanism to ensure uniformity and compliance across the country as we continue our implementation process."

[Share this story](#) 

HISA AUTHORITY CHALLENGES 'PIGGYBACK' STRATEGY IN AMENDED LOUISIANA

LAWSUIT *by T. D. Thornton*

The recently amended federal lawsuit spearheaded by the state of Louisiana against the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act (HISA) Authority and the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) is facing a new challenge from the HISA Authority defendants, who filed a Mar. 6 motion to strike the latest version of the complaint based on allegations that the plaintiffs are "improperly"



Sarah Andrew photo

attempting to use federal rules of civil procedure to turn the case to their advantage.

The chief beef in the HISA Authority's Mar. 6 "motion to strike" filed in U.S. District Court (Western District of Louisiana) centers on the addition of an expanded slate of new plaintiffs to the lawsuit initially filed on June 29, 2022.

The plaintiffs had amended that complaint on Feb. 6, 2023, and changes to the lawsuit included the addition of 14 new individual Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association (HBPA) affiliates, plus a wide swath of states, racing commissions, and individual racetracks.

"Plaintiffs, having obtained a preliminary injunction from this Court that redresses their alleged harms, now seek to add a 'vast number of organizations' and States as new plaintiffs in a blatant attempt to 'extend the injunction nationwide,'" the HISA Authority's Monday filing stated.

These new plaintiffs, the HISA Authority's motion stated, "have already been litigating challenges to HISA in other federal courts for almost two years. Plaintiffs' gamesmanship is transparent. Their tactic? To use [federal civil procedure rules] to dodge [the legal] standard that dooms the pending intervention motion these same would-be parties previously filed now that the Court has issued a preliminary injunction in Plaintiffs' favor."

The HISA Authority's motion continued: "Their strategy? To use the geographic 'range, literally from coast-to-coast,' of the new parties as justification for a shotgun request that the Court 'extend the injunctive relief currently in effect to provide nationwide relief.' Their end goal? To dismantle nationwide regulatory reforms that Congress recently amended and reaffirmed after the Fifth Circuit's opinion reinstating the preliminary injunction.

"Allowing the would-be parties—representing thousands of industry members from across the country—to piggyback on the favorable relief Plaintiffs already secured would undermine principles of justice, encourage forum shopping, prejudice Defendants, and set a dangerous precedent for future litigants looking to parlay any single plaintiff's preliminary win into an expansive nationwide class action that topples congressionally mandated regulations before any briefing on dispositive motions."

That outcome, the HISA Authority argued, "is particularly unwarranted given that a prior stay order entered by the Fifth Circuit and intervening administrative actions by the FTC (on top of Congress's **recent amendment** reinforcing its commitment to the HISA regime) cast substantial doubt on the continued viability of the claims underlying the preliminary injunction presently in effect."

The HISA Authority summed up: "The Court should strike Plaintiffs' amended complaint—at least as to the addition of the 'vast number' of new parties seeking to expand the existing relief into a nationwide preliminary injunction."

The plaintiffs, back on Feb. 6, articulated the revised version of the lawsuit this way:

"This First Amended Complaint seeks to prevent HISA from continuing to exercise 'unchecked government power' through its FTC-approved rules or any other rules that the FTC may approve now that the Fifth Circuit has issued its mandate [in a separate, but related, case headed by the National HBPA].

"The broad collection of plaintiffs from around the country further justifies Plaintiffs' request for nationwide injunctive relief herein," the plaintiffs' amended complaint continued.

"And this Court has already recognized that the challenged HISA rules offend the Administrative Procedure Act and HISA's statutory authority," the plaintiffs stated.

"The Fifth Circuit has further cemented the rightfulness of that decision by rejecting Defendants' appeal of the preliminary injunction order and **denying Defendants' requests** for additional appellate review in this case that came after Congress tweaked the HISA Act, just as the **Fifth Circuit did** in [the National HBPA appeal]," the plaintiffs' amended complaint stated.

THE value of 2023!

Grade 1-winning juvenile

8th Aug 2019 1st MSW, Saratoga, 6½f, by 4¼ lengths on debut

5th Oct 2019 1st Champagne Stakes [G1], 1m, by 4 lengths

Brilliant Triple Grade 1-winning 3YO

1st Feb 2020 1st Holy Bull Stakes [G3], 1¼m, by 3 lengths

28th Mar 2020 1st Florida Derby [G1], 1¼m, by 4¼ lengths
Three of the previous four winners finished first in the Kentucky Derby on their next start

2nd May 2020 Kentucky Derby [G1], postponed due to COVID

20th June 2020 1st Belmont Stakes [G1], over a reduced 1¼m trip, by 3¾ lengths

8th Aug 2020 1st Travers Stakes [G1], 1¼m, by 5½ lengths

5th Sep 2020 2nd Kentucky Derby [G1], 1¼m, by just 1¼ lengths to HOTY Authentic still earning a 103 Beyer. Tiz The Law was the shortest-priced Derby favorite since Spectacular Bid in 1979 despite drawing post 17

“It was disappointing after he won the Florida Derby not having the Kentucky Derby five weeks later. Barclay had him ready to peak on the first Saturday in May.”

Owner Jack Knowlton of Sackatoga Stable



TIZ THE LAW

An even better racehorse
than his sire
CONSTITUTION (by Tapit).



Call (859) 873-7088 today!

COOLMORE®

A M E R I C A

Dermot Ryan, Charlie O'Connor, Adrian Wallace, Robyn Murray, Blaise Benjamin, Charles Hynes or Michael Norris. Tel: 859-873-7088. Fax: 859-879 5756.

PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION RESCINDS NESS PENALTIES FROM '22 *by T.D. Thornton*

The Pennsylvania State Horse Racing Commission (PSHRC) has rescinded an **Aug. 18, 2022, ruling** against trainer Jamie Ness that suspended him six months and fined him \$5,000 for a



Jamie Ness | MJC

positive drug test for bufotenine in a winning horse at Parx.

Bufotenine is a psychoactive substance often referred to as "toad venom" because one of its sources is the skin of toads from the genus *Bufo*. In humans, it has been used for centuries in traditional forms of medicine as both a hallucinogen and a purported aphrodisiac. Starting in the 1990s, it briefly cycled into popularity as a street drug of abuse in the United States because of its ability to produce effects similar to those from mescaline and psilocybin mushrooms.

But another source of bufotenine is reed canary grass, a pasture plant. Ness's attorney, Drew Mollica, had argued that inadvertent contamination could have been a factor as the source of the traces of bufotenine that showed up in the positive post-race blood test of Crabs N Beer (Blofeld), who won a starter-optional claimer by 2 1/2 lengths as the 3-5 favorite on Feb. 23, 2022.

"Common sense and science carried the day, and a possible career-threatening suspension was rescinded," Mollica told TDN. "The system is often draconian and unfair, but in this instance justice was served."

The rescinded ruling, dated Mar. 6, 2023, reads as follows:

"The Association of Racing Commissioners International (ARCI) does not specify a threshold level for the substance Bufotenine. Based upon the PSHRC's analysis and investigation, the Commission has determined that the proper procedure would be to utilize the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities (IFHA) recommended residual limit of 10mcg/ml in

urine. Based on the IFHA established threshold level, the finding in Sample No. 390762 will not be determined as a positive result. As such, there is no violation of the Commission's Rules of Racing. Therefore, the Parx Board of Stewards Ruling No. 22226PP is hereby RESCINDED."

Mollica explained the appeals process this way:

"We appealed on numerous levels. We did not go to a hearing, but they investigated it, and this is what they came up with. Bufotenine is a known contaminant, and our premise was it's culled in urine. They never took urine from this horse. They only took blood. And we argued that it was a known contaminant, and it was a low number in blood, and it should never have been a positive at all."

Ness is currently third in the North American training standings so far this year, and seventh based on earnings. He is currently atop the Parx leaderboard in both wins and earnings for 2023.

[Share this story](#)

NEW STALLIONS KEEPMEINMIND AND FIRE AT WILL SETTLE IN AT SEQUEL *by Diana Pikulski*

Keepmeinmind (Laoban--Inclination, by Victory Gallop), whose prowess on the track first brought sire Laoban to the national forefront, and GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf winner and Eclipse finalist **Fire At Will** (Declaration of War--Flirt, by Kitten's Joy) join **Honest Mischief**, Freud and Mission Impazible at Sequel New York's stallion roster, bringing diverse and interesting options for Thoroughbred breeders in the Empire State.

Bred by Southern Equine Stables, the physically impressive Keepmeinmind broke his maiden in the GII Kentucky Jockey Club S. in November of his 2-year-old season. Prior to that, he was



Serving the Thoroughbred Industry Since 1979



Mobile contacts: 859.396.0761 / 352.237.3809

www.louiseereinagel.com

runner-up to future two-time Eclipse Award winner **Essential Quality** (Tapit) in the GI Claiborne Breeders' Futurity. He finished third in the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile behind **Essential Quality** and Hot Rod Charlie.

"Keepmeinmind had a great 2-year-old campaign," said Carlos Manresa, director of operations at Sequel New York. "He was really the first of the Laobans to make national notoriety, along with, of course, Simply Ravishing."



Keepmeinmind | Sarah Andrew

At age three, Keepmeinmind was a respectable sixth in the GI Kentucky Derby and fourth in the GI Preakness S. He finished just a half-length behind **Essential Quality** in the 2021 GI Jim Dandy S. Keepmeinmind was originally trained by Robertino Diodoro, and at age four he was transferred to Todd Pletcher for whom he won a Saratoga allowance. He was then third to **Life Is Good** (Into Mischief) in the 2022 GI Woodward S.

Pletcher told the TDN, "Keepmeinmind is a specimen with a terrific disposition. He competed with and beat the best of the best. A big boost for the New York breeding roster."

"He's a more elegant, refined version of Laoban," said Manresa of Keepmeinmind. "He's got the big, big hip, but he's also a leggy, stretchy horse that you would expect from the **Uncle Mo** line."

Keepmeinmind will stand in 2023 for \$6,500.

Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf winner Fire At Will retired with a record of 6-3-0-1 and earnings of \$675,932. Bred in Kentucky by Troy Rankin and raced by Three Diamonds Farm, Fire At Will broke his maiden at two in his second start in Saratoga's With Anticipation S. He then took the GI Pilgrim S. on the turf at Belmont. He punctuated the year with a victory in the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf at Keeneland. He was an Eclipse Award finalist for the 2-year-old champion male, eventually won by **Essential Quality**.

"It's definitely an interesting time to bring a horse that has

been successful on multiple surfaces to stud in New York," said Manresa. "New York is in a shift towards all alternative racing surfaces, specifically at Belmont. There's been a lot of discussion over having a synthetic course as well as the dirt and grass surfaces."

Fire At Will brings an impressive performance on the grass as well as proven turf pedigree to New York. Fire at Will is the first foal from the Kitten's Joy mare Flirt. His sire Declaration of War won the G1 Juddmonte International S. in 2013.

"[Fire At Will] is absolutely the fastest 2-year-old I have ever trained on the turf," conditioner Mike Maker told the TDN.

"Fire At Will is standing at Sequel New York in partnership with Three Diamonds Farm, which is owned and managed by Kirk and Deborah Wyckoff," said Manresa. "They're tremendous supporters of the New York-bred program, and it just seemed like the perfect fit for this Breeders' Cup champion to come to stud in New York."

His fee for the upcoming season will be \$6,000.

"We try to make a habit out of selecting the perfect stallions for us," said Manresa. "And this year, we got lucky and were able to attract two phenomenal stallions that had exceptional racing careers at two years old, both being Breeders' Cup participants, both being placed in the Breeders' Cup, and one of them being a Breeders' Cup champion."

[Share this story](#)

TRAVERS HIGHLIGHTS SARATOGA STAKES SCHEDULE

The stakes schedule for the 2023 summer meet at historic Saratoga Race Course will include 71 stakes worth \$20.8 million in total purses, the New York Racing Association announced Tuesday.



Saratoga | Sarah Andrew

Highlighted by the 154th renewal of the \$1.25-million GI Travers Aug. 26 and the \$1-million GI Whitney Aug. 5, the 40-day summer meet will open Thursday, July 13 and continue through Monday, Sept. 4.

Whitney Day provides a trio of Grade I events, including the GI Test S. and the GI Saratoga Derby Invitational.

The Travers Festival offers nine stakes including six Grade I's from Wednesday, Aug. 23 through Saturday, Aug. 26. The lucrative Travers Day card features five Grade I stakes, including the GI Resorts World Casino Sword Dancer, GI Ballerina H., GI Forego and GI H. Allen Jerkens Memorial.

Following the four-day opening weekend, racing will be conducted five days a week, Wednesdays through Sundays, apart from closing week, when the 2023 summer meet will conclude on Labor Day.

Saratoga Live, the acclaimed television show produced by NYRA in partnership with FOX Sports, will return for its eighth season to provide expansive on-site daily coverage of the summer meet to a nationwide audience on the networks of FOX Sports.

The complete stakes schedule for the 2023 summer meet is available at

<https://www.nyra.com/saratoga/racing/stakes-schedule/>.

[Share this story](#) 

MOUNT CRAIG, EK HASEENA TOP FASIG-TIPTON MARCH DIGITAL SALE

The Fasig-Tipton March Digital Sale closed Tuesday afternoon with 29 horses sold for \$795,000. Offerings included breeding stock, horses of racing age, 2-year-olds, and yearlings.

Mount Craig (Arrogate) (**Hip 11**), a 4-year-old racing/stallion prospect, topped the sale when sold for \$140,000 to Harry Rosenblum from the consignment of Juddmonte. Out of the stakes winning, graded stakes-placed **Curlin** mare Flash Forward, Mount Craig is placed in four of five starts at three and four with earnings to date of \$54,074. A late addition to the sale after a running a good third in maiden special weight company Mar. 2, Mount Craig sold from trainer Bill Mott's stable at Oaklawn Park.

"Fasig-Tipton does a great job with their internet bidding," said Rosenblum. "They have a good product and great people. We're thrilled to get Mount Craig as a racing prospect."

Ek Haseena (Songandaprayer) (**Hip 10**), dam of recent G3 Saudi Derby winner Commissioner King (Commissioner), was the sale's top-priced broodmare. George Sharp purchased Ek Haseena for \$130,000 from the consignment of Taylor Made Sales Agency, agent for Danny and Allison Caldwell. A stakes-placed winner herself, Ek Haseena is already the dam of four winners from five to race. Ek Haseena was offered in foal to Jimmy Creed.

"We had a fantastic sale," said Fasig-Tipton Director of Digital Sales Leif Aaron. "This was the first calendar sale of the year and we're thrilled with the results. It was great to see the 17-minute bidding war on Terrier (sold for \$55,000), which showed that for the right horse, the digital platform can offer the same spirited bidding and excitement of an in-person sale."

In total, 29 horses sold for \$795,000, good for an average of \$27,413. The RNA rate was 17%. Two-hundred-fifty users registered to bid on the 35 offerings.

[Share this story](#) 



FUN TO DREAM CROWNED CTBA HORSE OF THE YEAR



Fun to Dream | Horsephotos

Grade I winner **Fun to Dream** (Arrogate) was crowned California-bred Horse of the Year at the CTBA Awards dinner Monday night. The 4-year-old filly, who is out of the Maria's Mon mare Lutess, was bred by Connie Pageler and trainer Bob Baffert and is owned by Paegler and Natalie J. Baffert. The gray filly was also named Cal-bred champion 3-year-old filly and sprinter, and her dam was named Cal-bred broodmare of the year.

"I did this, it was a crazy thing, I called Garrett O'Rourke at Juddmonte and I told him I'm going to do something really crazy, I'm sending you a mare that I claimed for \$8,000," Bob Baffert, who was voted Trainer of the Year, said. "I told Connie, we're going to breed her to Arrogate, one of the greatest horses I ever trained. And we got lucky. We talked about what to name her and it's fun to dream, that's why we're all in this business. And that's how she got her name."

“Connie sold the mare and I’m going to get crazy again and do a foal share with **Justify**. So, hopefully, I’ll be up here in a couple of years and maybe we can catch lightning in a bottle twice.”

In 2022, Fun to Dream had five wins in six starts, including the GI La Brea S., and earned of \$426,590. Overall, she has six wins in seven starts and earnings of \$546,590.

Other 2022 Cal-bred champions include: 2yo Male: **Giver Not a Taker** (Danzing Candy); 2yo Female: **Sell The Dream** (**Munnings**); 3yo Male: **Slow Down Andy** (**Nyquist**); 3yo Female: **Fun to Dream**; Older Male: **The Chosen Vron** (Vronsky); Older Female: **Becca Taylor** (Old Topper); Sprinter: **Fun to Dream** Turf Horse: **The Chosen Vron**; Sire of California Conceived Foals by Earnings: **Grazen** (Benchmark); Sire of California Conceived Foals by No. of Winners: **Grazen**; Sire of California Conceived Foals by Turf Earnings: **Grazen**; Sire of California Conceived 2-Year-Olds by Earnings: **Stay Thirsty** (Bernardini); Trainer of the Year: Bob Baffert; Broodmare of the Year: **Lutess** (Maria’s Mon); Breeder of California Foaled Thoroughbreds by Earnings: Nick Alexander; Scoop Vessels Award: The Derby Room; CTBA Hall of Fame: Joe Harper, **Nashoba’s Key** (Silver Hawk).

[Share this story](#) 

FORTE TABBED AS MORNING LINE FAVORITE FOR KD FUTURE WAGER POOL 5

Repole Stable and St. Elias Stable’s champion and last weekend’s GI Fountain of Youth S. winner **Forte** (**Violence**) was tabbed as the 4-1 overall morning-line betting favorite for Pool 5 of the Kentucky Derby Future Wager, which is set to open at noon on Friday. The pool will run concurrently with the first and only pool for the Kentucky Oaks Future Wager.

In addition to \$2 win and exacta betting, an Oaks/Derby Future Double will be offered. The Kentucky Derby Future Wager closes Sunday at 6 p.m. EST while the Oaks Future Wager will close 30 minutes later at 6:30 p.m. EST.

The complete field for Pool 5 of the Kentucky Derby Future Wager (with morning line odds): #1 **Angel of Empire** (**Classic Empire**), 30-1; #2 **Arabian Knight** (**Uncle Mo**), 10-1; #3 **Arabian Lion** (**Justify**), 50-1; #4 **Blazing Sevens** (**Good Magic**), 40-1; #5 **Cagliostro** (**Upstart**), 99-1; #6 **Cairo** (**IRE**) (**Quality Road**), 50-1; #7 **Classic Car Wash** (Noble Bird), 99-1; #8 **Classic Catch** (**Classic Empire**) 50-1; #9 **Confidence Game** (**Candy Ride** {**Arg**}), 30-1; #10 **Congruent** (**Tapit**), 80-1; #11 **Cyclone Mischief** (Into Mischief); #12 **Denington** (**Gun Runner**), 80-1; #13 **Disarm** (**Gun Runner**), 99-1; #14 **Forte**; #15 **Geaux Rocket Ride** (**Candy Ride** {**Arg**}), 20-1; #16 **General Jim** (Into Mischief), 80-1; #17 **Hejazi** (Bernardini), 40-1; #18 **Hit Show** (**Candy Ride** {**Arg**}), 30-1; #19 **Instant Coffee** (Bolt d’Oro), 30-1; #20 **Kingsbarns** (**Uncle Mo**), 50-1; #21 **Litigate** (**Blame**), 50-1; #22 **Mage** (**Good Magic**), 80-1; #23 **Major Dude** (Bolt d’Oro), 50-1; #24 **Mandarin Hero** (**Jpn**)

(Shanghai Bobby), 50-1; #25 **National Treasure** (**Quality Road**), 30-1; #26 **Perriere** (**Jpn**) (Henny Hughes), 50-1; #27 **Practical Move** (**Practical Joke**), 8-1; #28 **Raise Cain** (**Violence**), 50-1; #29 **Red Route One** (**Gun Runner**), 40-1; #30 **Reincarnate** (**Good Magic**), 30-1; #31 **Rocket Can** (Into Mischief), 40-1; #32 **Skinner** (**Curlin**), 40-1; #33 **Sun Thunder** (Into Mischief), 99-1; #34 **Tapit Trice** (**Tapit**), 15-1; #35 **Tapit’s Conquest** (**Tapit**), 80-1; #36 **Two Eagles River** (Cloud Computing), 80-1; #37 **Two Phil’s** (**Hard Spun**), 80-1; #38 **Verifying** (**Justify**), 50-1; #39 **Victory Formation** (**Tapwrit**), 80-1; and #40 “All Other 3-Year-Olds”, 5-1.

In the Kentucky Oaks Future Wager, champion **Wonder Wheel** (Into Mischief) was made the 8-1 morning-line favorite in the field of 39 individual betting interests plus an option for “All Other 3-Year-Old Fillies” from the 2020 foal crop that were not listed.

The \$3-million GI Kentucky Derby presented by Woodford Reserve will be contested Saturday, May 6 and the \$1.25-million GI Longines Kentucky Oaks will run one day prior on Friday, May 5.

More information, Brisnet past performances and real-time odds on both wagers will be available **online** before the pool opens Friday. The sixth and final pool for the KDFW will open on Mar. 30.

[Share this story](#) 

THIS DATE IN HISTORY...

March 10, 1808...Diomed, winner of the inaugural Epsom Derby in 1780, died in Virginia at age 31. Imported to the U.S. in 1798, he became an influential American sire.

March 10, 1993...Jockey Eddie Delahoussaye became the 14th rider to record his 5,000th career winner, riding Ackler to victory at Santa Anita.

Courtesy of the National Thoroughbred Racing Association.



THE TRUSTED EXPERT
FOR QUALITY
KENTUCKY REAL ESTATE
SINCE 1994

Tom Biederman
biedermanrealestate.com
Call 859.277.2030

BIEDERMAN
REAL ESTATE • AUCTIONEERS

Saturday, Oaklawn #9, post time: 5:54 p.m. EST

AZERI S.-GII, \$350,000, 4yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Secret Oath	Arrogate	Briland Farm	Lukas	Gaffalione	119
2	Lovely Ride	Candy Ride (Arg)	John Holleman, Flying P Stable and Larry Nafe	Diodoro	Torres	124
3	Clairiere	Curlin	Stonestreet Stables LLC	Asmussen	Rosario	119
4	Le Da Vida (Chi)	Gemologist	Masaiva Corp.	Correas, IV	Cheminaud	119
5	Interstatedaydream 🌿	Classic Empire	Flurry Racing Stables LLC	Cox	Geroux	119
6	Hidden Connection 🌿	Connect	Hidden Brook Farm and Black Type Thoroughbreds	Calhoun	Gutierrez	117
7	Hot and Sultry 🌿	Speightster	Alex and JoAnn Lieblong	Casse	Cabrera	119
8	Moon Swag 🌿	Malibu Moon	Farfellow Farm, Ltd.	Walsh	Santana, Jr.	121

Breeders: 1-Briland Farm, Robert & Stacy Mitchell, 2-Allied Racing Stable, LLC, 3-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC, 4-Haras Santa Olga, 5-William D. Graham, 6-St. Simon Place, 7-Cobalt Investments, LLC, 8-Spendthrift Farm LLC

Saturday, Gulfstream #8, post time: 4:07 p.m. EST

HURRICANE BERTIE S.-GIII, \$125,000, 4yo/up, f/m, 6 1/2f

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Diamond Wow	Lookin At Lucky	Diamond 100 Racing Club, Amy Dunne, and Patrick Biancone LLC	Biancone	Bridgmohan	118
2	Colorful Mischief	Into Mischief	St. Elias Stable	Pletcher	Ortiz	118
3	Fire On Time 🌿	Not This Time	Albaugh Family Stables LLC	Romans	Perez	118
4	Frank's Rockette	Into Mischief	Frank Fletcher Racing Operations, Inc.	Mott	Alvarado	124
5	Drifaros 🌿	Kantharos	My Purple Haze Stables	Pompay	Castellano	122
6	R Adios Jersey	Adios Charlie	Averill Racing LLC, ATM Racing and Jayson Werth	Bennett	Reyes	122

Breeders: 1-Diamond 100 Racing Club LLC, 2-Clearsky Farms, 3-Jorge S. Wagner Jr., 4-Frank Fletcher, 5-Hidden Springs Farm, 6-Ocala Stud & J. Michael O'Farrell Jr.-Godolphin

2023 Keeneland Sales Dates

April Selected Horses
of Racing Age Sale | Apr. 30

September Yearling Sale | Sept. 11-23

November Breeding Stock Sale | Nov. 7-16

November Horses of Racing Age Sale | Nov. 17



[LEARN MORE](#)

NORTH AMERICAN RACING



SECOND-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8 2023 Stud Fees Listed

Awesome Slew (Awesome Again), Ocala Stud, \$4,000
77 foals of racing age/15 winners/1 black-type winner
8-Tampa Bay Downs, 3:55 p.m. EST, Aoc 1m, Pretty'n Awesome, 3-1
\$10,000 OBS OCT yrl; \$29,000 OBS OPN 2yo

Sharp Azteca (Freud), Three Chimneys Farm, \$15,000
200 foals of racing age/45 winners/4 black-type winners
1-Penn National, 6:00 p.m. EST, Alw 6f, In Good Trouble, 6-1
\$30,000 SAR AUG yrl

West Coast (Flatter), Lane's End Farm, \$10,000
198 foals of racing age/14 winners/2 black-type winners
7-Fair Grounds, 5:15 p.m. EST, Msw 5 1/2ft, San Mateo Kat, 8-1
\$70,000 FTK OCT yrl



[CLICK HERE](#)

to view the largest selection of farms
for sale in Kentucky's Bluegrass Region

www.kyhorsefarms.com | 859.255.3657 | LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY



[Click Here](#)

to be added to our mailing list to
receive the TDN in your inbox every day



Follow the TDN staff on Twitter
Thoroughbred Daily News

@SGrimmTDN	@BDiDonatoTDN	@SteveSherackTDN
@JessMartiniTDN	@campbellparlay	@suefinley
@EquinealTDN	@HLAndersonTDN	@garykingTDN
@MKane49	@thorntontd	@MargaretDammit
@SarahKAndrew	@CBossTDN	@QueenOfSuites



STAKES RESULTS:

WASHINGTON CROSSING S., \$75,000, Parx Racing, 3-7, 4yo/up, 1m 70y, 1:46.16, ft.

1--**FOREWARNED, 126, h, 8, Flat Out--Fortune Play (MSW & GSP, \$374,204), by Five Star Day.** (\$65,000 RNA 2yo '17 KEENOV; \$40,000 3yo '18 EASDEC). O-Trin-Brook Stables, Inc.; B-Preston Stables LLC (OH); T-Uriah St. Lewis; J-Dexter Haddock. \$43,200. Lifetime Record: 58-12-10-4, \$987,383.



TAYLOR MADE FOR YOU!

2--**Prince of Rain, 122, g, 6, El Padrino--Cimarron Rain, by Indian Charlie.** O-Z and Z Stables; B-Angelo Zalalas (PA); T-Michael Zalalas. \$14,400.

3--**Ruby Bleu, 122, g, 9, Messner--Ruby Soul, by Perfect Soul (Ire).** O-Albert R Lupcho, Jr.; B-Donald L. Brown (PA); T-Miguel A. Rodriguez. \$7,200.

Margins: HF, 6HF, 3/4. Odds: 5.10, 3.00, 5.90.

FISHTOWN S., \$75,000, Parx Racing, 3-7, 4yo/up, 6f, 1:13.15, ft.

1--**TWISTED RIDE, 126, g, 4, Great Notion--Diva's Gold (MSP, \$389,790), by Tenpins.** O-Kasey K Racing Stable LLC, Michael Day & Final Turn Racing Stable LLC; B-Kasey K Racing Stable (PA); T-Michael M. Moore; J-Andy Hernandez. \$43,200. Lifetime Record: 13-6-2-2, \$292,978. *Full to Goodonehoney, SW, \$193,098.

2--**Smooth B, 124, h, 8, Weigelia--Katarica Disco, by Disco Rico.** O-LC Racing; B-St. Omer's Farm & WynOaks Farm, LLC (PA); T-Robert E. Reid, Jr. \$14,400.

3--**Sir Alfred James, 126, g, 7, Munnings--Super Phoebe, by Malabar Gold.** (\$17,000 RNA Wlg '16 KEENOV; \$27,000 RNA Ylg '17 KEESEP). O-Built Wright Stables, LLC.; B-Mt. Joy Stables, Pope McLean Sr., Marc McLean & Pope McLean Jr. (KY); T-Norman L. Cash. \$7,200.

Margins: HD, 2, 4. Odds: 1.60, 3.70, 5.00.

© Copyright Thoroughbred Daily News.

This newspaper may not be reproduced in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, without prior written permission of the copyright owner, Thoroughbred Daily News, LLC. Information as to the American races, race results and earnings was obtained from results charts published by The Jockey Club Information Services and utilized here with their permission.

PENN'S LANDING S., \$75,000, Parx Racing, 3-7, 4yo/up, f/m, 6 1/2f, 1:19.15, ft.

1--**DISCO EBO, 123, f, 4, Weigelia--Katarica Disco, by Disco Rico.** (\$52,000 Ylg '20 EASOCT). O-Cash is King LLC and LC Racing LLC; B-St. Omer's Farm (PA); T-Robert E. Reid, Jr.; J-Frankie Pennington. \$41,400. Lifetime Record: 16-8-2-2, \$463,444. *Full to Disco Rose, GSP, \$449,280; Smooth B, MSW, \$746,798; Pink Princess, SP, \$572,135; and to Fat Kat, SW, \$423,318.

2--**Centre Court Champ**, 121, m, 5, Dominus--Wimbledon Star, by Wimbledon. (\$2,200 Ylg '19 FTKOCT). O-Jack J. Armstrong; B-Stoneview Farm Inc. (KY); T-Robert Mosco. \$13,800.



3--**Sweet Willemina**, 121, m, 6, Raison d'Etat--Williams Bay, by Kitten's Joy. (\$1,100 Ylg '18 KEESEP). O-Richard Ciavardone & Home Team Stables; B-Calumet Farm (KY); T-Scott A. Lake. \$6,900.

B A BUCKLAND Sales Graduate B
Margins: 6 3/4, HD, 3 3/4. Odds: 0.60, 8.00, 8.70.

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

8th-Sunland, \$53,800, (S), 3-7, (NW2X), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:10.23, ft, 3/4 length.

ATTILIANO (g, 6, Attila's Storm--Applelina, by Survivor Slew) Lifetime Record: SW. 20-4-3-5, \$218,499. O/B-Pierre J. & Leslie A. Amestoy (NM); T-Todd W. Fincher.

7th-Sunland, \$51,800, (S), (C)/Opt. Clm (\$17,500), 3-7, 3yo/up, f/m, 5 1/2f, 1:03.36, ft, 1 1/2 lengths.

BLUE BLAZES WHO (m, 6, Quinton's Gold--Silverup, by Prenup) Lifetime Record: 20-5-3-4, \$119,644. O-Scott Bean & James Masek; B-Sam E. & Sammy L. Stevens (NM); T-Joel J. Gonzales. *1/2 to Ol Winedrinker Who (Sligo Bay {Ire}), MSW, \$814,307.

6th-Sunland, \$48,000, (S), 3-7, (C), 3yo/up, 5 1/2f, 1:02.97, ft, 1/2 length.

HOLLYWOOD HENRY (g, 8, Roll Hennessy Roll--Ringback, by Gone Hollywood) Lifetime Record: MSP, 34-12-7-5, \$448,165. O-Bennie A. Vanecek; B-Fred Alexander (NM); T-Fred I. Danley. *\$17,500 Ylg '16 RUIAUG.

5th-Will Rogers Downs, \$33,000, 3-7, (NW26MX), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:10.12, ft, 3 3/4 lengths.

CHIPOFFTHEOLDBLOCK (g, 6, Ready's Image--Mizzen My Momma, by Mizzen Mast) Lifetime Record: SW & GSP, 37-10-6-5, \$510,396. O-Penny S. Lauer; B-Penny S & Michael E. Lauer (IN); T-Michael E. Lauer. *1/2 to Drinkatthecreek (Itsmyluckyday), SP, \$226,101.

8th-Mahoning Valley, \$26,400, 3-7, (NW3L), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:13.52, my, head.

LOVELY LISA (f, 4, Hard Spun--Roberta Turner, by Smart Strike) Lifetime Record: 14-3-2-4, \$80,840. O-Robert J. Turner; B-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC (KY); T-Rey Hernandez.

4th-Mahoning Valley, \$25,900, 3-7, (NW2L), 3yo/up, f/m, 1m, 1:43.24, my, 7 lengths.

STEPPER (f, 4, War Front--Amazing Shoes {SP}, by Empire Maker) Lifetime Record: 10-2-1-1, \$91,912. O-KatieRich Stables LLC; B-Claiborne Farm (KY); T-Daniel Leitch. *\$400,000 Ylg '20 FTKSEL; \$35,000 RNA 3yo '22 KEENOV.



10th-Will Rogers Downs, \$25,300, 3-6, (NW1X), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:11.45, ft, 1/2 length.

LINGERING PROMISE (m, 6, Mr. Nightlinger--Kept Promise, by Western Expression) Lifetime Record: 12-4-3-1, \$108,032. O/B-Bryan Hawk (OK); T-Joe S. Offolter. *\$4,800 RNA Ylg '18 OKCYRL.

7th-Will Rogers Downs, \$23,000, 3-7, (NW1X), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:11.70, ft, 1 1/2 lengths.

REVIVAL (g, 6, Super Saver--Finding Forestry, by Forestry) Lifetime Record: 17-3-4-1, \$71,351. O-Ra-Max Farms LLC; B-WinStar Farm, LLC (KY); T-Theresa Sue Luneack. *\$30,000 Ylg '18 KEESEP.



ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Divinary, f, 3, Divining Rod--Ultimate Avary, by Love of Money. Parx Racing, 3-7, (S), 6 1/2f, 1:24.11. Lifetime Record: 7-1-2-2, \$53,980. B-Smith Farm & Stable (PA).

Mingus, g, 3, Magna Graduate--Juliard, by Dixieland Band. Will Rogers Downs, 3-7, (S), 6f, 1:13.21. Lifetime Record: 4-1-0-1, \$19,498. B-Clark O. Brewster (OK).

Red River Witch, f, 3, Wilburn--Foreign Sultress (MSW, \$178,362), by Foreign Policy. Will Rogers Downs, 3-7, 1m, 1:42.53. Lifetime Record: 7-1-0-2, \$24,038. B-Scattered Acres LLC (OK).

Gospel Molly, f, 4, Wicked B. Havior--Mollyisintheclouds, by Cloud Hopping. Will Rogers Downs, 3-6, (S), 6f, 1:12.78. Lifetime Record: 9-1-2-2, \$45,026. B-William B Haines (OK).

ALL TDN WINNERS BY SIRE

sponsored by

IRT Your Horse.
Our Passion.

IRT USA: Tel +1 630 377 2300
Tel +44 1638 668 003

www.irt.com  

Attila's Storm, Attilianno, g, 6, o/o Applelina, by Survivor Slew.
ALW, 3-7, Sunland

Divining Rod, Divinary, f, 3, o/o Ultimate Avary, by Love of Money. MSW, 3-7, Parx Racing

Flat Out, Forewarned, h, 8, o/o Fortune Play, by Five Star Day.
Washington Crossing S., 3-7, Parx Racing

Great Notion, Twisted Ride, g, 4, o/o Diva's Gold, by Tenpins.
Fishtown S., 3-7, Parx Racing

Hard Spun, Lovely Lisa, f, 4, o/o Roberta Turner, by Smart Strike.

ALW, 3-7, Mahoning Valley

Magna Graduate, Mingus, g, 3, o/o Juliard, by Dixieland Band.

MSW, 3-7, Will Rogers

Mr. Nightlinger, Lingering Promise, m, 6, o/o Kept Promise, by Western Expression. ALW, 3-6, Will Rogers

Quinton's Gold, Blue Blazes Who, m, 6, o/o Silverup, by Prenup.
AOC, 3-7, Sunland

Ready's Image, Chipofftheoldblock, g, 6, o/o Mizzen My Momma, by Mizzen Mast. ALW, 3-7, Will Rogers

Roll Hennessy Roll, Hollywood Henry, g, 8, o/o Ringback, by Gone Hollywood. ALW, 3-7, Sunland

Super Saver, Revival, g, 6, o/o Finding Forestry, by Forestry.
ALW, 3-7, Will Rogers

War Front, Stepper, f, 4, o/o Amazing Shoes, by Empire Maker.

ALW, 3-7, Mahoning Valley

Weigelia, Disco Ebo, f, 4, o/o Katarica Disco, by Disco Rico.

Penn's Landing S., 3-7, Parx Racing

Wicked B. Havior, Gospel Molly, f, 4, o/o Mollyisintheclouds, by Cloud Hopping. MSW, 3-6, Will Rogers

Wilburn, Red River Witch, f, 3, o/o Foreign Sultress, by Foreign Policy. MSW, 3-7, Will Rogers



Disco Ebo romps in Penn's Landing S. | Nikki Sherman/Equi-Photo

CLASSIC BLOODLINES UNDERPIN BURGEONING AL SHIRA'AA OPERATION



Kieran Lalor | Zuzanna Lupa

By Emma Berry

On the wall of Kieran Lalor's office is the photo of the 1965 Irish Derby winner Meadow Court, his celebrity co-owner Bing Crosby in shot, presumably just before, as legend has it, the great crooner serenaded the crowds at the Curragh with a rendition of *When Irish Eyes Are Smiling*.

The success of the colt, who was also runner-up to the great Sea-Bird in the Derby and went on to give Lester Piggott his first success in the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth S., prompted his legendary trainer Paddy Prendergast to rename his stables in his honour. The property at Maddenstown, on the Curragh, subsequently passed into the hands of John and Eimear Mulhern, before being sold in 2016 to Abu Dhabi's Sheikha Fatima bint Hazza bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

The experienced equestrian is the eldest daughter of Sheikh Hazza bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the younger brother of the current president of the United Arab Emirates and the son of the founder and inaugural president of the UAE, Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan. Beyond the sheikha's equine interests she has recently launched the Fatima bint Hazza Academic Scholarship Fund, aimed at encouraging and enabling Emirati women to take advantage of higher education. **Cont. p3**

LOPE DE VEGA'S ALGOLIA POWERS TO TDN RISING STARDOM AT CHANTILLY by Sean Cronin

Andre Fabre's team has hit the ground running as winter slowly transitions to spring and the veteran maestro unleashed G1 Prix de Diane entry **Algolia (Ire)** (Lope De Vega {Ire}--Viva Rafaela {Brz}, by Know Heights {Ire}) to claim 'TDN Rising Stardom' with a scintillating performance in Tuesday's Prix du Soissonnais over one mile at Chantilly.

Her victory was the middle leg of a Fabre hat-trick on the card, the trainer also successful with the dual Group 1-placed **Ancient Rome (War Front)** coming back off a nine-month break and capping a treble initiated by **Swing Vote (GB)** (Shamardal) in the colts' and geldings' division of the one-mile maiden. Fabre is also responsible for Europe's first Rising Star of the year, **Pensee Du Jour (Ire)** (Camelot {GB}), who impressed on debut at the same venue last month. The stable's thermostat is set to hot and running at over 40% with 13 wins from 32 attempts this year.

Cont. p9

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

FORTE TAKES THE BLAME TO STAY STRONG

Chris McGrath examines the success of GII Fountain Of Youth S. hero and champion **Forte**, by **Violence** and out of a **Blame** mare.

An aid to post foaling RECOVERY



"Re-Vive Mash is always a winner post foaling. Full of rehydration and all the nutrients required to encourage recovery after the stresses of foaling. Mares devour it! Smells delicious!"
Tracy Vigors - Hillwood Stud



A quick soaking, fully fortified mash for strategic use pre- and post foaling.

Ready in 10 minutes

Contact the Thoroughbred Office. Tel: +44 (0) 1488 73 456 or visit www.saracenhorsefeeds.com/thoroughbred



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 Birkett @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

732-747-8060 | www.TheTDN.com/europe

Wednesday, March 8, 2023



Wertheimer & Frere's Algolia (Ire) (Lope De Vega {Ire}) ran out a five-length winner at Chantilly on Tuesday to become the 10th 'TDN Rising Star' for her Ballylinch Sire. See TDN Europe for more. | Scoop Dyga

'PHOENIX' GOOD ADVERTISEMENT FOR IRISH RACING **8**

Jim Ryan of Milltown Stud bred GI Frank E. Kilroe Mile S. winner Gold Phoenix (Ire) (Belardo {Ire}). Brian Sheerin has the details.

AIDAN O'BRIEN DOMINATES DERBY NOMINATIONS **10**

A total of 83 horses are nominated to the G1 Derby at Epsom in June, and 31 of them are trained by Aidan O'Brien.

TATTERSALLS ASCOT MARCH CATALOGUE OUT **11**

The catalogue for the Tattersalls Ascot March Sale on Mar. 22 is now available online.

Don't Miss!

Breaking News • Featured Videos
Podcasts & Features • Sire Lists & TDN Rising Stars
TDN Archives

thetdn.com/europe

Al Shira'aa Cont. from p1

The Thoroughbred arm of Sheikhha Fatima's global equine operation known as Al Shira'aa is managed by Lalor, who returned home to Ireland after a long stint in the Bluegrass at Ashford, Castleton Lyons and WinStar, and has overseen significant investment and development at the storied farm over the last six years.

A nod to the multi-national ties of the property is provided by the welcome signs at the entrance, which are printed in Arabic, Gaelic and English. Once inside, a glance at the newly constructed stable yards and offices confirms the blending of styles: plenty of stylish modern glass melded with the grey native stone of Ireland.

At a time when Sheikhha Hissa has stepped modestly into the limelight in her aim to continue the Thoroughbred breeding tradition of her late father Sheikh Hamdan at Shadwell, it is heartening to find another Arab woman at the helm of a relatively new enterprise with horses in

training in Ireland, France and America. The seeds of Sheikhha Fatima's equine interests were sown first in the sport horse world and Al Shira'aa has been the title sponsor of show jumping's iconic Hickstead Derby since 2017, as well as backing

the British Young Horse Championships at Bolesworth.

It is a name which is gradually seeping into the consciousness of the racing world. Lalor has been busy on behalf of "The boss" through recent yearling sale seasons, buying selectively with an eye very much on the long-term future of the farm.

Half-sisters to Classic winners Mother Earth (Ire) (Zoffany {Ire}) and Poetic Flare (Ire) (**Dawn Approach {Ire}**), and to Arc winner Waldgeist (GB) (Galileo {Ire}) were recruited in 2021. The first of that



Mares and foals at Meadow Court Stud | Al Shira'aa

trio, Ocean Jewel (Ire), was one of the first-crop winners for **Sioux Nation** when striking for Willie McCreery last September before adding some black type to her name with a runner-up spot in the Listed Ballyhane Blenheim S. **Cont. p4**

MAKING A BIG IMPRESSION!

“All the Arizonas seem to be stamped the same, plenty of size, bit of scope and they walk very well. I thought he was a very good physical, like they all have been”

Peter Nolan, purchaser of the Dream Impossible colt for €60,000 at Goffs November



“He was a beautiful colt, I'm very impressed with the stock by the sire”

Paula Flannery, purchaser of the colt ex Princess Theodora for €35,000 at Goffs November



“The Arizonas were all very athletic, good looking and looked like they were going to be good racehorses. He is an absolutely smashing foal and a great walker”

Ausra Mackeviciute, purchaser of the colt ex What Endures for €42,000 at Goffs November



“I decided to go to Arizona because I had seen him at Castlehyde and really liked him”

Dan Creighton on the mating plans for Salcey Forest Stud, EBN, 8/2/23



His only colts offered at Tattersalls December sold for 45,000gns to MC Bloodstock and 35,000gns to Ray Townsend

ARIZONA

Gr.2-winning 2YO at Royal Ascot, just like his sire NO NAY NEVER

COOLMORE

Fee: €5,000

Expert Eye

Acclamation - Exemplify (Dansili)

£7,500 1st Oct Special Live Foal

Eyes on the prize

The brilliant 2YO who progressed to Royal Ascot and Breeders' Cup glory

28

First Crop
WINNERS

42%

Winners to
RUNNERS

FIVE
First Crop
progeny rated

90+

by Timeform

2022

YEARLINGS

sold for

\$145,000, 120,000gns

90,000gns, €80,000, etc.



Contact Shane Horan, Henry Bletsoe or Claire Curry
+44 (0)1638 731115 | nominations@juddmonte.co.uk

www.juddmonte.com



JUDDMONTE

Al Shira'aa Cont.

"It's easier to go to a sale, and you're seeing the select drafts of all these top breeders are putting on the market, but our ultimate goal is to breed our own Group 1 horses. We try and breed everything to be a racehorse first and foremost," Lalor says.

"We want those Classic types, the mile-and-a-quarter, mile-and-a-half horse, that's our ultimate goal. Now, we do go and buy some speed, like the **Sioux Nation** filly Ocean Jewel, but with the background of Mother Earth being a top-class, sound filly that ran in so many Group 1s and never threw in the towel. But the ultimate goal with her is to come to back to the broodmare band to be bred to try and produce a miler or a mile-and-a-quarter type of horse."

He adds of Sheikha Fatima, "She's very passionate about all breeds of horses. She was very successful at show jumping and dressage herself, and she has a big show jumping team competing all around Europe and the UAE."



Mutamakina (red cap) became the first top-level winner for the operation | Michael Burns

Her black-and-red racing silks have already been carried with some distinction in the Thoroughbred world, with Al Shira'aa celebrating its first top-level success in 2021 with Mutamakina (GB) (Nathaniel {Ire}) in the GI EP Taylor S. at Woodbine.

"She's going to **Wootton Bassett**. We're very excited, she's a fabulous filly," says Lalor of the 7-year-old mare who started out in training with Carlos Laffon-Parias, for whom she won a listed race in Vichy, before being transferred to Christophe Clement and winning four graded stakes in North America.

Laffon Parias, who, along with Pascal Bary, trains the French-based horses for Al Shira'aa, also oversaw the racing career of Rumi (Fr) (**Frankel {GB}**), a Group 2 and Group 3 winner who heads this year to be covered by **Kingman (GB)**.

Cont. p5

Tattersalls ONLINE

MARCH SALE

8 - 9 MARCH



Entries

Including

**17 Horses In/Out of Training
Point-to-Pointers**

Also features

Broodmares & 2YO's

VIEW CATALOGUE

www.tattersallsonline.com

Contact: **Katherine Sheridan**

T: +44 1638 665931

E: tattersallsonline@tattersalls.com

Al Shira'aa Cont.

Also heading to the Juddmonte covering shed is Jannah Flower (Ire), runner-up in the G1 Prix de Royallieu last year for Pascal Bary and, like Rumi and Mutamakina, bought by Shawn Dugan.

"She was twice a listed winner, second in a Group 2 and second in a Group 1 on the day before the Arc, and she's going to **Frankel**," Lalor adds of Jannah Flower.

The prefix of Jannah, which translates to paradise, is likely to be seen more widely in the coming years. This season, Sheikha Fatima and her team at Al Shira'aa will have high hopes for Jannah Rose (Ire), a **Frankel** filly bred by John Hayes and bought for €650,000, who has raced just once and won at Chantilly. She now holds entries for the French Classics, as does Saadiyat (Ire), a Lope De Vega (Ire) half-sister to Broome (Ire) and Point Lonsdale (Ire).

"Jannah Rose was quite possibly one of the nicest yearlings I've ever seen at a sale," Lalor recalls. "She was a fantastic-looking individual, and she moved great. She was one horse I said to the boss, 'We just have to own her, whatever it takes.' In her debut victory, she had to overcome quite a bit in that race to get out into the open. She was very green but when she engaged that run before the finish line, it really got the heart going. That was only a maiden win, but it was quite an emotional win, because she was a very expensive filly. A lot of things can go wrong, but

she's one we'll be very excited about."

He adds, "Our main focus has always been France. They have a great system, that really rewards breeders and owners."

The operation currently boards a group of mares in France with Julian Ince at Haras du Logis, which includes Celestial Beast, a full-sister to the GI Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint winner and sire Bobby's Kitten. Three of them are booked to Logis resident Victor Ludorum (Ire) and another three to Galiway (GB).

In America, the mares are entrusted to Gainesway, and the four being covered there this year are booked to the smart names of **Uncle Mo**, Into Mischief, **American Pharoah** and **Justify**.

"[Gainesway manager] Brian Graves has been a good friend of mine for a long time. They are part-owner in Miss Jessica J (Empire Maker), and so it was just an organic kind of relationship that started there. We've tried to have one every year from Europe go over there [to race]. Geoff and Sandra Mulcahy do all of our lay-ups over there and they do a great job, and once they go into the breeding arena they go to Gainesway."

He adds, "The two Triple Crown winners have both started well. **American Pharoah** has had some good winners here as well. I'd be all for them, and the boss, thankfully, feels the same. She jumped at the chance of using **Justify**." **Cont. p6**

Ascot March Sale

Wednesday 22 March

Horses in Training, Point-to-Pointers,
Stores & Two-Year-Olds

37 including
37 Lots from
GODOLPHIN

117 entries in total

CATALOGUE
ONLINE

Tel: +44 1638 665931

tattersallsascot.com



Tattersalls
Ascot



Al Shira'aa Cont.

While Al Shira'aa is very much an owner-breeder operation, all breeders have to sell some stock to keep the numbers at a reasonable level, and David Cox of Baroda Stud is called upon when required to offer youngsters for sale.

"Everybody has that decision, and it's a very difficult decision to make because inevitably you're going to sell a really good horse, but our limit is 30 mares," Lalor says.

"Until we expand to the level where we could have more flexibility we try to stay strictly to that number. The grand scheme is to improve on all this, so we have 28 [mares] at the moment, and when one comes in, one goes out.

"Obviously we do want to grow and expand, but that comes with time. We can't just go and buy a broodmare band in one or two years. We've obviously a lot of families in the racing stable and most of them will come into the breeding operation, but we have some flexibility in that regard because if they are doing well and they are healthy and

enjoying it they will continue racing. The boss likes to keep them in training, so we race as 4- or 5-year-olds. Mutamakina was six when she retired."

Classic relations loom large on the lists of horses of various

ages on the walls of Lalor's office. Lady In Lights (Ire), a Dansili (GB) half-sister to the Guineas winners **Magna Grecia (Ire)** and St Mark's Basilica (Fr), was bought in December 2020 carrying to **No Nay Never**, and her resultant foal, now two and named Spirit Lady (Ire), is one of an illustrious group of 12 juveniles currently being broken in by Ian McCarthy. Also among that intake is the **Siyouni (Fr)** half-sister to Native Trail (GB), named Native Pearl (Fr); Jannah Pearl (Fr), a Galileo (Ire) sister to Rumi; and Crimson Tide (Fr), a

full-sister to Glycon (Fr) (Le Havre {Ire}), all of whom were purchased at Arqana last August.

"The first thing we do when we buy a yearling, they come back here, and they go out together in the field for three months," Lalor notes. [Cont. p7](#)



Mares and foals at ease | Al Shira'aa



Part of the Meadow Court Stud complex | Al Shira'aa

Al Shira'aa Cont.

He adds, "So they detox from the sales, all of that prepping at such a young age can be quite a lot for them. We try to let them go back to being a horse, as opposed to going straight to a breaker or pre-trainer and then getting turned out in January for a month or so. And our first instruction to Ian is to let them do it in their own time, as individuals."

He continues, "It's the same with all the trainers. There's no pressure to push them."

"Like with Caelestis, the Dubawi [half-sister to Waldgeist], there was probably a lot of expectation for her to come out last year. But she was immature and green, and Pascal [Bary] said, 'No, she's not going to be ready until next year.'"

For someone who has cut their teeth with sport horses, as Sheikha Fatima has, waiting an extra year between a youngster's 2- and 3-year-old season clearly doesn't rankle. And, after all, with the earlier purchases now embarking on their broodmare careers, and the early drafts of homebreds in the paddocks, there is much to occupy the team's thoughts at all levels.

"Sheikha Fatima is very much involved," says Lalor. "We spent hours on the phone in December going over matings. I go and short-list at the sales, but she sees everything and makes the final decisions. She loves coming to the farm and seeing the foals, the development, how they grow. She has a really good eye for a horse, and with the matings, as I say, we spend



Meadow Court Stud | Al Shira'aa

hours going over them." [Cont. p8](#)



Meadow Court Stud from the air | Al Shira'aa

Meadow Court Stud | *Al Shira'aa*

Al Shira'aa Cont.

He adds, "Sometimes I wonder whether we are raising horses or trees. We've planted more than 2,000 trees on the farm and it's an organic farm, so we don't spray with chemicals, we use seaweed. It's going to be fabulous in 10 or 20 years when all these trees grow. Everything on the farm is done with the wildlife in mind.

"The boss is really passionate about it, and it's more fun when they're as involved as Sheikha Fatima is. That kind of makes it all worthwhile, and when you get to work with horses like this, trying to develop our own product."

At a time when the demise of the owner-breeder is much rued, it is indeed encouraging to see an historic farm rejuvenated, from the paddocks to the stock therein.

"I remember the first time we met the boss, and we spoke about what she wanted out of this," says Lalor. "We looked about, at all those Classic breeders. Coolmore are probably the best in the business, they're just exceptional, and Juddmonte, too. And so with the same goals and mindset, we dove into this. Hopefully I think we're on the right path, but we will keep trying to improve and try to keep moving in the right direction."

[Share this story](#) 

GOLD PHOENIX BREEDER: 'GRADE I WIN A GOOD ADVERT FOR IRISH RACING'

By *Brian Sheerin*

In becoming the latest Grade I-winning import for **trainer Phil D'Amato** at Santa Anita on Sunday, Gold Phoenix (Ire) (Belardo {Ire}) advertised the quality Ireland has to offer the international buyers, according to the horse's breeder Jim Ryan of Milltown Stud.

Gold Phoenix stormed to Frank E. Kilroe Mile S. glory for D'Amato, who has done similarly-well with Irish-breds **Rhea**

Moon (Ire) (**Starspangledbanner {Aus}**) and Going Global (Ire) (Mehmas {Ire}) in recent times.

It was the gelding's debut victory at Dundalk for Kieran Cotter in 2021 that caught the attention of his current connections, for which Gold Phoenix has gone from strength to strength, culminating with that \$250,000 race success at Santa Anita.

Ryan said, "We're all delighted. It's great to see a horse that you bred go on and do well. He has a very nice full-brother yearling here, too, and he's very like Gold Phoenix. The mare [Magnifica (Mizzen Mast)] is in foal to Lucky Vega (Ire), which is great, because it's the same cross so we look forward to that. She is due to foal in the next few weeks."

Gold Phoenix, who Ryan bred and raced in partnership with the late Dr. Kai Chah Tan, owner of Dragon Pulse (Ire), failed to sell at the Goffs Sportsman's Sale in 2019. Having picked up the mare almost 10 years ago at Keeneland for \$70,000, Ryan was convinced her Belardo [who now stands at Bearstone Stud] yearling was better than the market gave him credit for and decided to place him in training, a decision that has been handsomely rewarded.

Ryan recalled, "Time goes by quickly—I bought the mare at Keeneland nearly 10 years ago now and she has worked out to be lucky for us. I liked Mizzen Mast and she was a good-looking mare by him. She was also a winner and her own brother won the Hong Kong Derby. It's a great Juddmonte family and, with a Juddmonte family, anything can happen at any time. It's just a case of changing the matings up and sometimes that works. In this case, obviously it did."

He added, "Gold Phoenix was always a very good-looking horse. He always looked like he would make a good racehorse and that's why we went back to Belardo again. We don't normally do that but, because Gold Phoenix was so nice, we did.

[Cont. p9](#)



Gold Phoenix: bred by Jim Ryan in Ireland | *Benoit*

Gold Phoenix Cont.

“He was a lovely foal and a lovely yearling, very light on his feet and a great walker, but that’s the way sales go—it’s just fashion,” he said. “We’d belief in him. If they are not making enough and we have faith in them, we don’t mind bringing them home and putting a saddle on them. We are always prepared to do that.”

As well as signaling out D’Amato for high praise, Ryan pointed out that the victory advertised yet again Dundalk racecourse, and more importantly Irish racing as a whole, as being a proper nursery ground for future top-notchers.

He said, “It’s extraordinary how well Phil D’Amato has done with his European-bred horses and it’s a great advert for Dundalk racecourse. For horses that can come out of there and run well all over the world, I think it’s a great advertisement for the track and the people who are running it. “There will be more buyers for owners in Ireland now that people know that this sort of success can happen. It’s a good advert for Irish racing.

“It was also Belardo’s first Grade I winner, so you’d have to be delighted about that as well. Belardo is a lovely horse and represents more success for Ballylinch Stud and John O’Connor who bred him.”

After Dr. Tan passed away, Ryan was bolstered by the support of long-time friend John Kirkland, who enjoyed notable success with homebreds Ocean Quest (Ire) (**Sioux Nation**) and Ocean Vision (Ire) (US Navy Flag) last year. In fact, Ocean Quest landed the first maiden of the year at the Curragh for Jessica Harrinton last term while Ocean Vision became Tim Donworth’s first listed winner in France. Both horses spearhead what is said to be a promising string of about a half-dozen horses that Kirkland has in training in France and Ireland this year.



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

Ryan said, “We bred Gold Phoenix on behalf of Dr. Tan, which is Mighty Universe, and raced him in partnership with him. Sadly, Dr. Tan passed away a year-and-a-half ago, and that was a very sad time for us. It was a shame that he wasn’t alive to see what Gold Phoenix achieved. He had a lot of success, including with Dragon Pulse, and a lot of horses he bred here in Ireland went on and enjoyed success in Singapore for him. He was a great man and went way before his time.”

He added, “John Kirkland owns Ocean Quest and Ocean Vision in partnership with me. He’s been a big supporter of us over the past two years and is a great partner to have. John has been a friend for over 25 years and, when Dr. Tan passed away, he decided to take up the mantle.

“We have a half-dozen horses to look forward to this year and we’d be hoping that Ocean Quest could make up into a nice 3-year-old. She may even be a Commonwealth Cup type but she will start off in the Guineas Trial at Leopardstown first to see if she gets the seven furlongs. We’ll play it by ear.

“Ocean Vision was third in Doha over a mile last week. That was his first time over a mile and he stayed really well. John is enjoying it and has had great success already.

“Matilda Picotte (Ire) (**Sioux Nation**) was also bred here. It’s funny, Ocean Quest and Matilda Picotte shared the same paddock when they were younger and, when they ran in the Ballyhane S. last year, they were drawn either side of the track and raced for different trainers but just a short-head separated them in the finish. It was quite extraordinary.”

[Share this story](#)

Algolia Cont. from p1

The 3-1 second choice broke smartly from the outside stall and stalked the tempo in a close second for most of this debutantes’ heat. Nudged along to seize control passing the quarter-mile pole, she quickened clear approaching the final furlong and powered further away from stablemate **Firyali (GB)** (New Bay {GB}) in the closing stages to hit the line with an impressive five-length buffer, becoming the 10th Rising Star for her sire (by Shamardal). Lope De Vega’s ‘Rising Star’ roll of honour also features GI Breeders’ Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf and GI Just A Game heroine **Newspaperofrecord (Ire)**, National Stud resident **Lope Y Fernandez (Ire)**, who placed five times at the highest level, and another GI Breeders’ Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf victrix in **Aunt Pearl (Ire)**.

Algolia is the fifth foal and scorer produced by G1 Grande Premio Diana (Brazilian Oaks) heroine and GI Flower Bowl third Viva Rafaela (Brz) (Know Heights {Ire}), herself a daughter of G1 Grande Premio Marciano de Aguiar Moreira victrix Linda Rafaela (Brz) (Bin Ajwaad {Ire}). [Cont. p10](#)

Algolia Cont.

The April-foaled homebred chestnut is a half-sister to last term's Listed Prix Charles Laffitte scorer Babala (Ire) (Sea The Stars {Ire}). Viva Rafaela, whose family features a swathe of Brazilian elite-level performers, is kin to the Group 1-placed duo Baby Go Far (Brz) (Elusive Quality) and Unique Zuca (Brz) (Northern Afleet). The latter threw GSW G1 Grande Premio Cruzeiro do Sul runner-up Galaxy Runner (Brz) (Drosselmeyer) while another half-sister, Awesome Rafaela (Brz) (Elusive Quality), is the dam of GII Edgewood S. victrix New Year's Eve (Kitten's Joy).

[Share this story](#) 

HAGYARD
Equine Medical Institute
hagyard.com • (859) 255-8741

NEW
TDN
RISING STAR

4th-Chantilly, €27,000, Mdn, 3-7, unraced 3yo, f, 8f (AWT), 1:40.77, st.

ALGOLIA (IRE), f, 3, by Lope De Vega (Ire)

1st Dam: Viva Rafaela (Brz) (G1SW-Brz & GISP-US, \$246,353), by Know Heights (Ire)

2nd Dam: Linda Rafaela (Brz), by Bin Ajwaad (Ire)

3rd Dam: Poli Arumba (Brz), by Executioner

Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, €13,500. *1/2 to Babala (Ire) (Sea The Stars {Ire}), SW-Fr. **Click for the free EquineLine.com catalogue-style pedigree. Video, sponsored by TVG.**

O/B-Wertheimer & Frere (IRE); T-Andre Fabre; J-Mickael Barzalona.

EUROPEAN NEWS

83 NOMINATIONS REMAIN FOR THE 2023 DERBY AT EPSOM

After the Mar. 7 scratching stage, 83 horses remain signed on for the 2023 G1 Derby at Epsom Downs on Saturday, June 3. Worth £1.5 million, the 1 1/2-mile contest is the richest race in Britain.

Of the 83, 45 are trained in Ireland and of that number, 29 are trained by Ballydoyle supremo Aidan O'Brien for various Coolmore partnerships. [Cont. p11](#)



Algolia is the 10th 'TDN Rising Star' for her Ballylinch Stud-based sire. | Scoop Dyga



Auguste Rodin | Racingfotos.com

Derby Nominations Cont.

Top of the heap are Deep Impact (Jpn)'s G1 Vertem Futurity Trophy hero **Auguste Rodin (Jpn)** and the late Shadai kingpin's son's **Victoria Road (Ire)** (**Saxon Warrior (Jpn)**). The last-named won the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf at Keeneland in November. The winning duo of **Alfred Munnings (Ire)** (Dubawi {Ire}) and **Tower Of London (Ire)** (Galileo {Ire}) are other potential Classic stars-in-waiting.

O'Brien's sons, Joseph and Donnacha, field eight between them, led by Group 1 winners **Proud And Regal (Ire)** (Galileo {Ire}) for the latter, and **Al Riffa (Fr)** (**Wootton Bassett (GB)**) for the former.

There are also three chances for His Majesty the King and Her Majesty the Queen Consort to scoop the Blue Riband this year, with the **G1 QIPCO 2000 Guineas-nominated** winner **Slipofthepen (GB)** (Night Of Thunder {Ire}) trained by John and Thady Gosden, the William Haggas-trained group-placed **Desert Hero (GB)** (**Sea The Stars (Ire)**) and the winning Sir Michael Stoute charge **Circle Of Fire (GB)** (Almanzor {Fr}) all nominated. Stoute claimed the 2022 Derby with Desert Crown (GB) (Nathaniel {Ire}), and he also entered **Crystal Mariner (Ire)** (**Sea The Stars (Ire)**) for Robert Ng.

The Gosdens have the largest UK Derby arsenal with 15 colts nominated. Anchoring their brigade is George Strawbridge's 'TDN Rising Star' **Epictetus (Ire)** (**Kingman (GB)**), who was second in the Vertem Futurity Trophy S. behind the aforementioned Auguste Rodin.

Of Andrew Balding's quartet, three bear the colours of King Power Racing led by G2 Royal Lodge S. hero **The Foxes (Ire)** (**Churchill (Ire)**).

The second entry stage is set for Tuesday, Apr. 4.

[Share this story](#)

TATTERSALLS ASCOT MARCH CATALOGUE RELEASED

The Tattersalls Ascot March Sale catalogue is now **online**. A total of 117 lots have been catalogued, consisting of 20 fillies/mares in/out of training, 91 colts/geldings in/out of training, two stores, and four point-to-pointers. Selling begins at 11 a.m. local time on Mar. 22.

The 91-rated **Cosmic Desert (GB)** (New Approach {Ire}) (lot 104) is part of Godolphin's 37-strong draft, as is lot 106, **Al Waiqidi (GB)**, one of six sons of Dubawi (Ire) in the sale.

Other trainers and studs represented include; Barbury Castle Stables, Belstane Racing Stables, DML Racing, East Everleigh Racing, Elton Racing, Faringdon Place Stables, G.L. Moore Racing LLP, Grange Hill Farm, Harry Fry Racing, Lodge Hill Stables, Maunby House Stables, Park House Stables, Robins Farm, Shade Oak Stud, Summerdown Stables, The Royal Studs, Tweenhills Farm & Stud, Venn Farm Stables and Windsor House Stables.

Past graduates of the sale include G2 Premier Novices' Hurdle winner Nemean Lion (Ger) (Golden Horn {GB}), as well as 11-length bumper winner Seeyouinmydreams (GB) (Telescope {Ire}).

[Share this story](#)



Cosmic Desert has been entered in the March Sale | Tattersalls Ascot

© Copyright Thoroughbred Daily News.

This newspaper may not be reproduced in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, without prior written permission of the copyright owner, Thoroughbred Daily News, LLC. Information as to the American races, race results and earnings was obtained from results charts published by The Jockey Club Information Services and utilized here with their permission.

OBSERVATIONS

on the European racing scene

HOW THEY FARED

14.25 Chantilly, Mdn, €27,000, unraced 3yo, c/g, 8f (AWT)
Godolphin's **Swing Vote (GB)** (Shamardal), an Andre Fabre-conditioned son of G1 Oaks heroine Qualify (Ire) (Fastnet Rock {Aus}), shaped with abundant promise as the 4-5 favourite and prevailed by a comfortable 3/4-of-a-length on debut, initiating a 98-10 treble on the card for his trainer.

15.35 Chantilly, Mdn, €27,000, unraced 3yo, f, 8f (AWT)
Alain and Gerard Wertheimer's **Algolia (Ire)** (Lope De Vega {Ire}), a daughter of G1 Grande Premio Diana (Brazilian Oaks) winner Viva Rafaela (Brz) (Know Heights {Ire}) and another Fabre representative, was let go as the 3-1 second choice and defeated her 10 rivals by five lengths and more with a display deemed worthy of 'TDN Rising Star' status.

16.45 Chantilly, Cond, €18,000, 4yo, 9f (AWT)
Coolmore and Westerberg's dual Group 1-placed **Ancient Rome (War Front)** made his return for Andre Fabre off a nine-month break having placed ninth in June's G1 Prix du Jockey Club when last seen. Comfortable throughout, he dominated from the two pole and coasted to the line hard on the steel for an impressive comeback triumph as the 1-2 favourite.

FRANCE

Tuesday's Results:

6th-Chantilly, €18,000, Cond, 3-7, 4yo, 9f (AWT), 1:50.78, st.
ANCIENT ROME (c, 4, War Front--Gagnoa {Ire} {MGSW & MG1SP-Fr, G1SP-Ire, \$597,492}, by Sadler's Wells) snagged the G3 Prix des Chenes and placed in the G1 Prix Jean-Luc Lagardere and G1 Criterium International as a juvenile, but had not been seen since running ninth in last June's G1 Prix du Jockey Club on the turf here. Under a tight grip in fourth for the most part, the 1-2 favourite loomed large out wide with 350 metres remaining and coasted home in second gear once cruising to the front approaching the final furlong. At the line, he was value for much more than the half-length margin back to Marvanco (Fr) (George Vancouver). Ancient Rome is the seventh of 10 foals and one of seven scorers from as many runners produced by MGSW G1 Prix Saint-Alary, G1 Prix de Diane and G1 Irish Oaks placegetter Gagnoa (Ire) (Sadler's Wells). He is a full-brother to G3 Naas Juvenile Fillies Sprint victrix Etoile and kin to Listed Prix

Amandine third Galateia (Ire) (Dansili {GB}) and a 2-year-old filly and yearling filly by **Justify**. The January-foaled dark bay's dam, who was bred to **Run Runner** last year, is kin to three black-type winners, namely G1 Derby-winning sire Pour Moi (Ire) (Montjeu {Ire}), GSW G1 Irish Derby third Dawn Patrol (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}) and Listed Salsabil S. victrix Kissed (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}). Gagnoa's siblings also include the dam of G1 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf heroine Pizza Bianca (Fastnet Rock {Aus}). Lifetime Record: GSW & MG1SP-Fr, 10-4-2-1, €222,030. **Video, sponsored by TVG.**

O-Michael Tabor, Derrick Smith, Susan Magnier & Westerberg; B-Orpendale, Chelston & Wynatt (KY); T-Andre Fabre.

[Share this story](#) 



Ancient Rome is led back to the scales | Scoop Dyga

2nd-Chantilly, €27,000, Mdn, 3-7, unraced 3yo, c/g, 8f (AWT), 1:40.13, st.

SWING VOTE (GB) (c, 3, Shamardal--Qualify {Ire} {G1SW-Eng & GSW-Ire, \$485,356}, by Fastnet Rock {Aus}) was swiftly into stride and settled behind the leaders in fifth before tanking forward to race in a handy third. Nudged along approaching the quarter-mile marker, the 4-5 chalk surged to the front entering the final furlong and was pushed out in the latter stages to deny Le Boss (Fr) (Almanzor {Ire}) by 3/4-of-a-length in snug fashion. Swing Vote is the third of five foals and second scorer produced by G1 Oaks heroine Qualify (Ire) (Fastnet Rock {Aus}), herself a full-sister to MGSP G2 Futurity S. third and multiple Bahrain champion Shogun (Ire), and his fourth dam is G1 Oaks runner-up and matriarch Media Luna (GB) (Star Appeal {Ire}). The March-foaled homebred bay is half to a 2-year-old filly by **Kingman (GB)** and a yearling colt by Lope De Vega (Ire). Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, €13,500. **Video, sponsored by TVG.**
O/B-Godolphin (GB); T-Andre Fabre.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Aha (Fr), f, 3, **Bathyrhon (Ger)**--That's Crazy (Ire), by Lord Shanakill. Chantilly, 3-7, 13 1/2f (AWT), 2:55.19, B-Mme Pia Brandt (FR).

BRITAIN

CONDITIONS RESULTS:

2nd-Southwell, £10,000, Nov, 3-7, 3yo/up, 4f 214y (AWT), :59.26, st.

CRIMSON ANGEL (GB) (f, 3, **Harry Angel {Ire}**--**Fanrouge {Ire}**, by **Red Clubs {Ire}**) Lifetime Record: 3-2-0-0, \$13,463. O-Oak Lodge Racing; B-Mrs Tina Cox (GB); T-Clive Cox.

5th-Southwell, £8,000, Cond, 3-7, 4yo/up, 8f 13y (AWT), 1:41.83, st.

TOM TULLIVER (GB) (g, 6, **Hot Streak {Ire}**--**Belle Isle {GB}**, by **Pastoral Pursuits {GB}**) Lifetime Record: 42-3-5-3, \$32,489. O-Southwell Racing Club; B-Biddestone Stud Ltd (GB); T-Scott Dixon. *45,000gns Ylg '18 TAOCT; £9,500 3yo '20 GUKDEC. **1/2 to Abel Handy (Ire) (Arcano {Ire}), GSW-Eng, \$121,569;

and Woody Creek (GB) (Zoffany {Ire}), GSP-Ire.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Burdett Road (GB), c, 3, **Muhaarar (GB)**--Diamond Bangle (Ire), by Galileo (Ire). Lingfield, 3-7, 8f 1y (AWT), 1:37.80. Lifetime Record: 5-1-2-0, \$9,900. B-Stetchworth & Middle Park Studs Ltd (GB). *18,000gns RNA Wlg '20 TATFOA.

Star Angel (GB), f, 4, **Sea The Stars (Ire)**--Memoria (GB), by Teofilo (Ire). Southwell, 3-7, 12f 14y (AWT), 2:37.79. Lifetime Record: 4-1-1-0, \$10,803. B-Brook Stud Bloodstock Ltd (GB). *165,000gns Ylg '20 TATOCT.



Follow the TDN staff on Twitter
Thoroughbred Daily News

@garykingTDN

@CBossTDN

@collingsberry

@EquinealTDN

@HLAndersonTDN

@AlaynaCullen

@BrianSheerin91

@tdncronin



Godolphin's Swing Vote, out of Oaks winner Qualify, graduated at first asking on Tuesday. | Scoop Dyga



TORONADO AND PIERRO YEARLINGS TOP PREMIER DAY 3



Olly Coolman | Inglis

by Jessica Owers

At A Glance:

- The Day 3 aggregate for the Premier Session was \$5,565,000 (as at 5 p.m. AEDT) which is down from last year's corresponding figure of \$7,340,000. In 2021 it was \$6,053,000.
- The Day 3 average for the Premier Session was \$126,477, which is below last year's figure (\$135,926) and very similar to 2021 (\$123,541).
- The Day 3 clearance rate for the Premier Session was 71%, which is well down on the 2022 figure (93%) and 2021 (88%). The Day 3 median for the Premier Session was \$100,000, which is down on the past two years (\$130,000 in 2022, \$120,000 in 2021).
- Overall spending for the three days of the Premier Session reached \$58,394,000, which is considerably less than 12 months ago (\$77,270,000) and 2021 (\$64,210,000).
- Two yearlings made a Day 3-best \$400,000. A Toronado (Ire) colt was bought by Anton Koolman Bloodstock from the draft of Collingrove Stud, and a Pierro filly was knocked down to Robert

Hickmott Training Services from the Blue Gum Farm consignment.

- The leading sire for the Premier Session on aggregate was Yarraman Park Stud's I Am Invincible; he had 10 yearlings gross \$3,368,000 at an average of \$368,000 (also a sale-best), all on Day 1.
- Swettenham Stud's Toronado had 25 yearlings (the most by any sire) sell for a combined \$3,662,000 at an average of \$146,480, while Yulong's Written Tycoon also broke the \$3-million mark (his aggregate for 16 yearlings was \$3,375,000).
- Blue Gum Farm won its fourth top vendor title from the past five years, after they finished with an aggregate of \$4,620,000. (28 yearlings sold for an average price of \$165,000).
- MG Price Racing and Breeding was the Premier Session's leading buyer by aggregate across the three days. They spent \$1,790,000 on 10 yearlings at an average of \$179,000.

The third and final day of the 2023 Inglis Premier Yearling Sale wound up on Tuesday evening with a Toronado (Ire) and Pierro pair topping proceedings, bringing to a close a Premier Session that favoured buyers rather than vendors.

Day 3 of the 2023 Inglis Premier Yearling Sale wound up on Tuesday afternoon without threatening the order of things. Strong trade was aplenty, but the best-selling pair of the day (Lots 589 and 615) didn't budge the sale's top-selling youngster, who remained Lot 159 from Day 1 at \$1.1 million.

A total of 75 yearlings were offered on Tuesday as part of the final Premier Session and ahead of the Showcase Session, and they grossed \$5,565,000 for an average of \$126,477. The median was \$100,000 with a clearance rate of 71%.

Overall, it dragged the Premier session to a gross of \$57,959,000 across the three days, which was down on last year's \$77,270,000. This is an interesting comparison because the 2022 catalogue had 590 yearlings, which was marginally less than the 615 of this week.

However, the top lot this year of \$1.1 million was significantly up on the 2022 figure of \$950,000.

As such, the stats for the 2023 Inglis Premier Yearling Sale yoyoed comparatively on last year's, although feedback was that things had come back to the buyer's favour.

Gross, average and clearance figures on Tuesday were down on 2022, but the top lot was up, with Lot 589 and 615 selling for \$400,000, as against last year's Day 3 top lot of \$340,000.

Lot 589--Toronado (Ire) x Mojo Moon, Colt - \$400,000

One half of Tuesday's top-selling pair came early in proceedings, with Collingrove Stud presenting Lot 589 just over an hour into trade.

This neat colt is just the second foal from the Greenwood Lake (USA) mare Mojo Moon, who ranks well as a half-sister to the excellent gelding Testashadow (Testa Rossa). Testashadow won the G3 Festival S. and R. Listed Magic Millions Cup, and he was placed in a stack of Group races.

Lot 589's page is also recognisable for the presence of Zoustar. The Widden stallion is there via the third dam Crestfallen (Rivotious {USA}), who was a half-sister to Zoustar's dam.

This Toronado (Ire) colt was one of the 19 yearlings offered by Collingrove Stud and he was by far the best-selling, going to the New South Wales-based Anton Koolman Bloodstock for \$400,000.

"I'm pretty fond of Toronado," said Olly Koolman after signing the ticket. "I bought Senor Toba at this sale a couple of years ago and so he (Toronado) means a fair bit to me. I think he's a great stallion. He puts great bone and strength into horses and they can get over a bit of a trip but they've got a turn of foot, and I just think this horse (Lot 589) will be perfect for what we're looking for."

Koolman went in for four horses this week. Others he bought in partnership included a filly by So You Think (NZ) (Lot 138), a colt by Brutal (NZ) (Lot 332), another by Grunt (NZ) (Lot 383) and Lot 589. The latter, he said, was for Hong Kong.

"We're looking for a 1600-metre to 1800-metre horse for Hong Kong eventually," he said. "We've bought from a range of stallions at this sale for a range of clients, but this purchase was for a Hong Kong order. He will actually race in Australia prior to going there."

"There's a selection of horses that we're getting together now, and they'll stay with David Pfeiffer until such time as we choose to take them up."

Reflective of both the day's stats and those of the Premier Session overall, Koolman said the sale had been an interesting few days.

"I think the vendors are having to work a bit harder than they're used to, which doesn't worry me so much," he said. "I

haven't found it too difficult to find a nice horse and we're going home pretty satisfied."

Lot 615--Pierro x Now Now, filly - \$400,000

The other half of Day 3's session-topping pair was Lot 615, a filly by Pierro from the Danehill Dancer (Ire) mare Now Now. Offered by Blue Gum Farm, who is newly flush as the new home of Flying Artie, she sold to trainer Robert Hickmott for \$400,000.

Her dam is fairly well-known. Now Now was a half-sister to the South African Group-placed Rock Cocktail (Rock Of Gibraltar {Ire}), but, more significantly, Lot 615 is a half-sister to Fiesta (I Am Invincible).

Fiesta was one of the brilliant 2-year-olds of her crop, winning the G2 Silver Shadow S., G3 Widden S. and two other group races. She was also second in the G1 Flight S., G2 Tea Rose S. and G2 Percy Sykes S., making her equally as good as a

3-year-old.

On the third line of this family are the stakes winners Stick Around (Twig Moss {Fr}), Charm Scene Land (Brocco {USA}) and Kingsgate (Danzero), the latter twice second in the G1 Epsom H.

Hickmott signed for only two yearlings during the sale this week, the other being a colt by Yes Yes Yes (Lot 585) for whom he paid \$60,000. Lot 615 was a final grab in the Premier Session.

"She was obviously the last horse of that part of the sale," the trainer said. "A lovely filly. Jason and Sean (of Trilogy

Racing) bought her as a weaner for \$400,000 and they were quite happy to stay in her. They bought her more as a racing proposition."

The Pierro filly had previously gone through the ring last year at the 2022 Inglis Sydney Weanling Sale, going to Trilogy for an identical price as to what she made on Tuesday. Hickmott said at that weanling price, it was going to be hard for anyone to make much more on her.

Plus, he added, Pierro as a staying-prospect stallion probably wasn't high on many people's agendas.

"She looks a real staying type, although Fiesta was a very sharp mare," Hickmott said. "She's got a bit of staying quality about her and she'll be given all the time in the world to be able to produce something on the track."

Hickmott said his new filly would get four or five weeks before she was sent to be race educated.



A filly by Pierro | Inglis



Sam Fairgray | Inglis

He said she looked a nice type on-complex, but she would be even better in two or three months.

"She had a bit of a pot belly and a bit of length about her, but she's got plenty to go," he said. "I was probably lucky to get her at this sale. In two months' time she could really develop, which would put a couple of hundred on her.

"Lovely pedigree, great temperament and, if you see her walk, she's a real beautiful-moving filly as you'd like to see in a staying horse."

Lot 560--Written Tycoon X Mantra of Life (USA), Filly - \$370,000

This chestnut filly was offered by Noorilim Park, which continued its stellar week of trade into Day 3. The Arcadia-based farm sold the sale's top lot on Day 1 for \$1.1 million, each among the 26 yearlings in its draft.

Lot 560 proved its third-highest seller after Lots 159 and 295, the latter a Written Tycoon filly that sold for \$400,000 earlier in the sale. Lot 560 is just the third foal from the American-bred mare Mantra Of Life (USA) (Dubawi {Ire}), herself a half-sister to both a French stakes winner and the dam of a Japanese stakes winner.

There is a lot of international flair on this page, including the dual Group 1 winner in France, Maxios (GB), who is now a sire, and the G1 American Oaks winner Emollient (USA) (Empire Maker {USA}).

Lot 560 sold to Yu Long Investments for \$370,000, and she was a delightful prospect for Yulong's Sam Fairgray, who was

on-hand to sign the ticket.

"It's a nice pedigree and there's a lot of mix there in the female line that we think will work well with Written Tycoon," Fairgray said. "He likes mares with Mr Prospector in the pedigree and she has that, and she's just a lovely individual.

"We're really pleased to get her because we've liked her since the first moment we inspected her and she'll race in our colours."

Despite the number of mares that Yulong has gone in for by Written Tycoon in the last two years, Fairgray said Lot 560 would complement things well.

"We've seen the good stallions end up being good broodmare sires, so if she can perform on the track she could become a good broodmare for us too," he said.

Lot 560 was part of the single season crop of Written Tycoons that was bred at Arrowfield Stud in 2020. This filly is branded as such, and the relationship wasn't lost on Fairgray.

"We've got a couple of stallions that were bred by them too, so we're pleased to have another one off their farm," he said.

Yulong had Alabama Express represented among the freshman sires in this sale. Across the Premier Session of the Inglis Premier Yearling Sale, the young stallion had 15 youngsters catalogued of which eight sold (at the time of the writing). His top price was \$400,000 (Lot 444) and an aggregate of \$1,435,000.

"Alabama Express has been hugely popular, which has been great," Fairgray said. "They were lovely horses though. They've gone to some good stables and that's all we can ask."

Click [HERE](#) to read today's edition of



Sponsored by



will@wjbloodstock.com
+61 0481 291 008

Oxley Road Retired To Stud

RNSW Accused Of Ad Hoc Bonus To Strappers

King's Gambit Shines In Trial

TDN AusNZ Trivia Test Your Knowledge

Fangirl Out Of All-Star Mile, My Oberon In



FIND US ON FACEBOOK
www.facebook.com/thoroughbreddailynews