

2023 Leading Third Crop Sires by SWs					
RANK	STALLION	BTW	GSW	EARNINGS	
1	PRACTICAL JOKE	3	2	\$2,098,048	
2	CLASSIC EMPIRE	2	2	\$1,133,491	
-	Gun Runner	2	-	\$2,121,799	

THE ROCK ON WHICH CAIN WAS RAISED



Codee, Hailey, and Edie Kate Guffey | Courtesy Guffey family

by Chris McGrath

They had raised him--and now they were raising the roof. "I think he's number 12," Codee Guffey was saying. "I think that's him?!" If he wasn't sure, if in fact he was nearly incredulous, it was not because he had got the number or the silks wrong. Of course he knew the horse perfectly well, muddled as he was, with that white patch on his forehead. It was just that **Raise Cain** (**Violence**) was suddenly putting it all together in pretty unrecognizable fashion, relative to five previous starts that had made him 23-1 for the GIII Gotham S.

"He was on that rail, at the turn there, but then bounced outside and got to the center of the track," Guffey recalls. "And from there, well, he just put on a show."

Sure, the placed horses had also been way off the early pace. But Raise Cain left them for dead, too, checked in his run before bursting seven and a half lengths clear. And whatever he does from here, Guffey and the rest of his family are ecstatic to have produced a GI Kentucky Derby contender within a decade of founding Rock Ridge Farm as complete outsiders to the industry.

Raise Cain's dam is one of only 15 mares at this boutique, 274-acre operation near Versailles, established by Guffey's uncle Kerry Smith, his wife Lou and their son Joe. It's a genuine family affair, with Guffey residing on the farm with his wife and their young daughter, while also maintaining a role in Smith's construction business.

Cont. p3

OWNER RON PAOLUCCI PLEADS GUILTY TO TAX FRAUD

by Bill Finley

Ron Paolucci, whose Looch Racing Stables finished second nationally in wins in 2017 and 2018, pled guilty on Feb. 28 to two counts of tax fraud and tax evasion in a federal court in Texas. Paolucci faces up to eight years in prison on the two counts, as well as \$350,000 in fines. He will also be required to pay \$13 million in restitution to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

The story was first reported by *The Paulick Report*.

The prosecution alleged that, during a seven-year period from 2014 through 2020, Paolucci failed to pay the IRS over \$13 million in withholdings for income, Medicare and Social Security that he took from employees at companies he owned, including American Management Staffing (AMS).

Cont. p6

IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

PENSEE DU JOUR A SIGNIFICANT WINNER FOR BALLYMORE

Ballymore Thoroughbreds' **'TDN Rising Star' Pensee Du Jour (Ire)** (**Camelot** **IGBI**) is now a stakes winner after running out an easy winner in the Listed Prix Rose de Mai on Thursday. Brian Sheerin finds out more from Anthony Stroud.

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PUBLISHER & CEO

Sue Morris Finley @suefinley
suefinley@thetdn.com

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

Gary King @garykingTDN
garyking@thetdn.com

EDITORIAL

editor@thetdn.com

Editor-in-Chief

Jessica Martini @JessMartiniTDN

Senior Contributing Editor

Alan Carasso @EquinealTDN

Senior Racing Editor

Steve Sherack @SteveSherackTDN

Senior Editor

Christina Bossinakis @CBossTDN

Contributing Editor

Brian DiDonato @BDiDonatoTDN

Assistant Editor

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

Friday, March 10, 2023



The Friday cartoon, by Remi Bellocq. To inquire about purchasing prints or ordering commissions, email remibellocqcartoons@gmail.com. Follow Remi on Twitter at [@BellocqRemi](https://twitter.com/BellocqRemi).

2023 MATING PLANS, PRESENTED BY SPENDTHRIFT

7

Woodford Thoroughbreds shares their plans for the breeding season.

THE TDN WRITERS' ROOM PODCAST

10

Four days after his Forte (*Violence*) won the GII Fountain of Youth S., co-owner Mike Repole joined us on the TDN Writers' Room Podcast.

GABAPENTIN: WHAT IS IT?

12

The news that one of trainer Saffie Joseph, Jr.'s trainees tested positive for gabapentin led to a question: what exactly is gabapentin?

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Breeder Spotlight >>> PRESENTED BY KEENELAND



Raise Cain, cont. from p1

So while even the biggest Bluegrass farms would be abuzz after last Saturday's race, you can imagine the glow suffusing one as intimate as this.

"We're all over the moon," Guffey confirms. "We can hardly believe that we raised a colt that's currently sitting fifth on the Derby leaderboard. We've had others that we thought might bring us that recognition, but you get used to your hopes getting let down. At some point you kind of become numb to it, it's just racing, you can't assume or guarantee anything.

"Raise Cain hadn't run a bad race yet: some better than others, but he'd shown the potential to run respectably. But to see him run a monster race like that was a total surprise, and had us all just extremely proud to even be associated with him. And we're very, very hopeful he'll go on from here."



Raise Cain's 7 1/2-length Gotham win last Saturday | Sarah Andrew

Raise Cain is out of Lemon Belle (Lemon Drop Kid), acquired for \$285,000 as an 8-year-old at the 2018 Keeneland November Sale. She had won only a sprint maiden in a light career but was a half-sister to GI Breeders' Cup Ladies' Classic winner Unrivaled Belle (Unbridled's Song), whose daughter Unique Bella (**Tapit**) had recently rounded off her career with a third Grade I win. And, crucially as things have turned out, Lemon Belle was carrying a foal by **Violence**.

When she delivered an outstanding colt, it was quickly decided that she should return to Hill 'n' Dale for a repeat cover. After all, Rock Ridge had already had a good experience with **Violence**,

having bought a mare carrying a filly from his debut crop that made \$235,000 as a yearling.

"Typically, we don't keep colts," Guffey says. "But Lemon Belle's first **Violence** colt was such a super physical that we certainly tossed that idea around. We did end up selling him, at the Keeneland September Sale for \$125,000. Unfortunately **Violence** didn't really have a lot going for him at that time, but Kip Elser spun him around as a 2-year-old and Spendthrift bought him for \$550,000. They named him Nasty Habit, Bob Baffert had him for a while, and I think he bounced around to a couple different trainers without making a start. But I did see he's now back on the work tab [breezed at Payson Park Sunday]."



Raise Cain's year-old full-brother as a 2-year-old | ThoroStride

It would be a bonus if that colt can repay such perseverance, but the stakes have now been raised for the dam regardless. "So then she had this second **Violence** colt," Guffey says. "And he was just like his brother, a beautiful yearling--which **Violence** will get you. Though he follows the mare, too, in that she's extremely classy and handles everything so well. He was the same, always a good-looking, classy horse, definitely a favorite in our crop that year."

With **Violence** having meanwhile renewed commercial momentum, the colt we now know as Raise Cain made \$180,000 from Andrew N. Warren, again at the Keeneland September Sale, but conversely proved no kind of pinhook--returning from OBS the following June as a \$65,000 RNA. **Cont.**

Raise Cain, cont.

"I was disappointed when I saw he was in the 2-year-old sale, and then didn't even get sold," Guffey admits. "I thought maybe he had regressed. But I'm glad they hung in with him and saw it out, because they're being rewarded now."

"I was interested to read Ben Colebrook complimenting the horse on how well he handles things. He thought he'd navigate the larger field better than he would a small one, and that didn't surprise me at all: he was just so laidback and easy-going from day one."

Guffey and his family find themselves well placed to profit now, having since ponied up fees for Lemon Belle to visit **Constitution**--their son was safely delivered just a couple of weeks ago--and **Justify** next.

"I was just so positive that one of her **Violence** colts would hit, so we rolled the dice a bit," Guffey explains. "So you could say Raise Cain is kind of hitting

just at the right time for that mare. We loved her pedigree when we bought her. She's quite a plain Jane, she's Lemon Drop Kid, doesn't have a lot of chrome on her--but she's a pretty mare. And with the strength of her family, that's probably what interests us more than anything at this stage: trying to buy into

really deep families, and to keep some fillies to build off of that."

Unfortunately they haven't yet got a filly out of the mare, who has now given them four colts in a row. Otherwise, however, Lemon Belle is becoming a model for the evolving strategy: keep the quantity limited, gradually increase the quality.

"When we bought the farm, I had just graduated from UK and my uncle just pitched the idea on our way home from Keeneland one day," Guffey recalls. "Living in Central Kentucky, we'd always enjoyed going to the races there,

but when he said how about finding some Thoroughbred mares, I thought he was crazy." **Cont.**



Violence | Sarah Andrew

Here's to the Breeders

of recent graded stakes-winning Keeneland graduates



Chad Brown & Head of Plains Partners
Practical Move, San Felipe S. (G2)

D. J. Stable, LLC
Value Engineering, Mac Diarmida S. (G2)

Helen K. Groves Revocable Trust
Emmanuel, Canadian Turf S. (G3)

Lannister Holdings & Glidawn Stud
Sound Money, Mahab Al Shimaal (G3)

Rock Ridge Thoroughbreds, LLC
Raise Cain, Gotham S. (G3)

South Gate Farm
Forte, Fountain of Youth S. (G2)

St. Elias Stables LLC
Danse Macabre, Herecomesthebride S. (G3)

Stride Sales and Syndicate
Little Vic, Tom Fool H. (G3)

Rock Ridge Thoroughbreds bred **Raise Cain**, winner of the Gotham S. (G3) on Saturday who now ranks fifth on the Kentucky Derby Leaderboard



A far superior racehorse to his ace sire **CONSTITUTION**

Grade 1-winning juvenile

1st Champagne Stakes [G1], 1m, by 4 lengths

1st MSW, Saratoga, 6½f, by 4¼ lengths on debut

Brilliant Triple Grade 1-winning 3YO

1st Travers Stakes [G1], 1¼m, by 5½ lengths

1st Belmont Stakes [G1], by 3¾ lengths

over a reduced 1⅛m trip

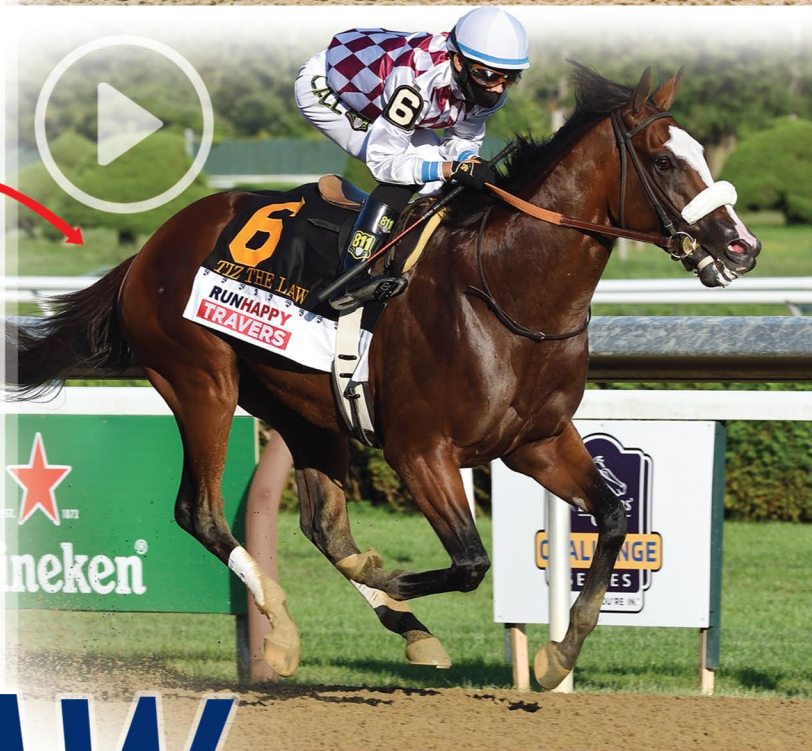
1st Florida Derby [G1], 1⅛m, by 4¼ lengths

*Three of the previous four winners finished first
in the Kentucky Derby on their next start*

1st Holy Bull Stakes [G3], 1⅛m, by 3 lengths

2nd Kentucky Derby [G1], 1¼m on September 5th

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“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

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Raise Cain, cont.

Guffey continued: "But we're all very tight-knit, I worked for his company, and so I thought, 'Well, if that's what he wants, I'll make it happen.'"

The land had to be good, out there on Grassy Springs Road, if the neighbors included the likes of Pin Oak and Woodford Thoroughbreds. It had been lying idle for a while, having been part of the ill-fated ClassicStar venture, and needed some patching up.

"But we jumped in there and made repairs and improvements," Guffey recalls. "A real labor of love, that's for sure. And the following fall we went to the sale and started buying mares. It was a little intimidating. You're a new buyer and everybody comes running, wanting to sell you something. But we still have a couple that we bought that first year."

To be fair, they actually felt a degree of comfort with the whole environment, as longstanding breeders of pedigree cattle.

"This is on a much larger scale and, obviously, takes more money," Guffey acknowledges.

"But the purebred cattle, where you're evaluating pedigrees and matings, made it easier to catch onto, I guess. Just doing your nightly research, you catch on pretty quick to what sells. And actually I've got registered Angus and Hereford cattle right here on the horse farm. Six months later, there may be yearlings in that same field. They coexist on our farm, and I think they complement each other."

Guffey stresses his gratitude for the mentorship of Hunter Simms of Warrendale, who handles all their sales, and also to Dr. Jeremy Whitman of Equine Medical. But while he will always bounce ideas around with Simms, in reducing his shortlists of potential purchases or matings, ultimately Rock Ridge do everything on their own account.

"Everything takes place here on the farm," Guffey says. "Our farm manager is Mike Bryant and since adding him to our operation, around 2016, he's really helped move our program forward. But yes, we do everything ourselves. Hard work was

bred into my family, and that's how they raised me and my cousins as well. Work hard and put in the time, and you'll be rewarded."

The time, of course, itself being a type of work.

"That's what I tell everybody," Guffey emphasizes. "You've got to be patient. You buy these mares, and you've got to give them a couple foals to see how they're going to produce. Well, you're talking about eight years before you can begin to see what you've got. So that's what feels good right now, to be approaching that timeline where we're starting to see the fruits of our labor."



Guffey with his daughter | Keeneland

In playing the long game, Rock Ridge always have a little ongoing action on the racetrack, too, sending Dallas Stewart and Helen Pitts either nicely bred fillies bought as yearlings, or one or two homebreds that don't get an adequate market response.

"Right now we have a nice filly named Alexa Lou, she's by Speightstown out of a full sister to Rachel Alexandra (Medaglia d'Oro)," Guffey notes. "We bought her from Stonestreet as a yearling [\$285,000 RNA] and she broke her maiden second time

out at Churchill in the fall. She had to come home for a little while, had a screw put in a knee, but she'll start back jogging [with Stewart] next couple of weeks and we're real excited about her."

Their biggest racetrack thrill to date was the GIII Peter Pan S. success of Promise Keeper (Constitution) a couple of years ago. He was bred on the farm but Rock Ridge were welcomed back into partnership by Woodford Thoroughbreds and WinStar. His mother Mira Alta (Curlin) now has an Essential Quality filly at foot and was only this week favored by an audience with Flightline himself.

"Now that we've gained a bit of confidence in what we're doing, we're starting to breed these mares to better stallions," Guffey explains. "And also trying to buy better mares, which is easier said than done. Starting out, we wanted to cut our teeth a little. But we feel good about where we're at, and confident about putting more in them." **Cont.**

> APR. 30

April Selected Horses
of Racing Age Sale



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September
Yearling Sale

Raise Cain, cont.

Casting his mind back, Guffey marvels at everything that has grown from that first, nearly throwaway remark by his uncle. "He's a risk-taker," he says admiringly. "I mean, he started his construction company 40 years ago from nothing, so that was most definitely his style. He likes to throw you to the wolves and let you figure it out! So you've got to be willing to put in the work, and fight through the harder times and see it through. And we've definitely done that."

Guffey was getting married right about the time the venture was getting underway. When he told his fiancée Hailey what his uncle was suggesting, she said: "Do you realize how hard that industry is? Are you sure you know what you're doing?"

"No, I really don't know what I'm getting into," Guffey replied. "But we're going to try it anyway."

"Living our whole lives in the Lexington area, I guess you get somewhat educated in parts and pieces of it," Guffey reflects now. "So she knew well enough that it was a very tough game. But we've had a lot of fun, we've met some great people and we love raising these foals. This is my favorite time of year, when you get to see the babies born and watch them grow. Our little girl is only three but loves when we all go to the barn together. And my uncle and aunt, and all my other family, come out on the weekends to look at the foals and it's kind of an escape from the day job."

"So while I doubt I fully understood what my uncle was getting at, that day, I definitely don't regret it. Like I said, it's disappointing when horses don't pan out quite the way that you hope. What we hope for, when we go to the sale, is that these horses will get in good hands so that they can do some of the work for us and improve the mare's page. You can't do it all yourself, the way those larger operations can. So when one comes along like Raise Cain, it's surreal. When we got into it, raising horses of that quality was what we dreamed of. And knowing that they're few and far between, we're going to enjoy every second."

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Raise Cain | Sarah Andrew

Paolucci, cont. from p1

Ron Paolucci | John Engelhardt

Paolucci's employees allegedly received false W-2 statements from Paolucci's companies that showed that taxes had been withheld from their pay and sent to the IRS. Instead, it has been alleged that Paolucci took \$13,561,116 out of his employees' checks during the period in question but never sent the money to the IRS.

Paolucci also admitted to defrauding the government when it came to his own earnings. Paolucci admitted that he failed to report more than \$17 million he received in compensation from AMS from 2015 to 2020. On his 2017 taxes, Paolucci reported that his wages for the year were \$0 when he actually took in \$3.3 million from his company AMS.

Looch Racing Stables operated from 2011 to 2018 and piled up hundreds of wins, many of them on the Ohio racing circuit. He had 160 wins in 2017 and 215 in 2018. Looch won a total of 871 races. At times, Paolucci branched out and was a partner on a handful of top horses, among them Ria Antonia (Rockport Harbor), the winner, via disqualification, of the 2013 GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies.

Paolucci was outspoken and in 2018 said he was leaving the sport because he felt he was being mistreated.

"This is a game that says it wants guys like me," he said. "But it really doesn't. I speak my mind, run where I want to, I don't believe in the politics."

Paolucci disbanded Looch Racing but continued to run horses under his own name. Under the name of Ron Paolucci Racing LLC, Paolucci had 799 starts and 191 wins in 2019. He had 45 more wins in 2020 and won 10 races in 2021. He had just one win in 2022 and has not started a horse since May 17 of last year when he had a start at Thistledown.

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MATING PLANS

presented by  SPENDTHRIFT

2023 MATING PLANS, PRESENTED BY SPENDTHRIFT: WOODFORD THOROUGHBREDS

With the breeding season underway, the TDN staff is continuing the '2023 Mating Plans' series, presented by Spendthrift Farm, to find out what stallions breeders have chosen for their mares this year, and why. Here Woodford Thoroughbreds shares their plans for the breeding season.

As a commercial breeding farm, Woodford Thoroughbreds operates with two principals in mind when choosing our matings. 1). We are producing racehorses. In 2023, Woodford is the breeder of Mimi Kakushi (**City of Light**), a Group 3 winner on the Oaks trail; Rocket Can (Into Mischief), the winner of the GIII Holy Bull S. who was recently second in the GII Fountain of Youth S. on the Derby trail; SW Drew's Gold (**Violence**) and 'TDN Rising Star' Sunday Shoes (Pioneerof The Nile). 2). We are bringing a horse to the market that the buyer's bench is excited to purchase based on pedigree and conformation.

With these goals in mind, here are a few of the matings we have picked out for 2023.

HOT CASH (m, 8, **Ghostzapper**--Collect the Cash, by Dynaformer) and **MESSAGE** (m, 7, Warrior's Reward--Song'n Dance, by Carson City) to be bred to **Flightline**.

When you are playing at the upper level, you have to breed to a horse like **Flightline** although it goes against two of our basic rules. First, he's very expensive at \$200,000 which means the fall could be steep if the resulting foal doesn't hit the commercial mark. Second, we are breeding two young mares to him when we would rather breed to a more established horse.

However, we think Grade III-placed Hot Cash will benefit from **Flightline**'s leg and scope. The mare has also already proven her

first two efforts, a **Curlin** filly and **Quality Road** filly, to be standouts.

Woodford only purchased Message at Keeneland this past November. She was wicked quick on the racetrack, but she's also a scopey mare with a lot of length, leg, power and class to her. We think she'll fit the stallion nicely in a like-to-like way. Her first foal by **Charlatan** was born in January and he's an exceptional package already.

LASKARINA (m, 9, Distorted Humor--General Jeanne, by Honour and Glory) to be bred to **Tapit**.

This is really a no-brainer breeding. Besides being by a top broodmare sire, she's a half-sister to the prolific producer Justwhistledixie (Dixie Union), the dam of three sons of **Tapit**--multiple Grade II winner Mohaymen, Grade III winner Kingly and Grade III winner Enforceable. Laskarina's best-looking individual

so far is a **Tapit** filly that Woodford sold at Fasig-Tipton in Saratoga in 2022. We don't mind going back to the well.

MACHA (m, 13, Majestic Warrior--Giant Leap, by Giant's Causeway) to be bred to **Good Magic**.

This mare who finished third in the GII Honeymoon H. as a 3-year-old has produced a stakes winner. We also hear some great things about her 3-year-old Dime (**Curlin**), but that filly has yet to make a start. We're still hopeful!

Her 2-year-old was purchased from the 2022 Keeneland

September Sale by Amy Moore, who is the breeder of champion 2-year-old colt and leading Kentucky Derby favorite Forte (**Violence**). We know the filly now named Wayward (Into Mischief) will get a great start with Amy.

We have been terribly impressed by **Good Magic**'s start to stud and think he's great value. He has better numbers than some other higher-priced horses that started his same year at stud.

PROJECT WHISKEY (m, 6, Tapizar--Over the Moon, by Malibu Moon) to be bred to **Uncle Mo**.

You can't look at this mare without the thought "pretty" crossing your mind. She's a beautiful mare that won the GIII Delaware Oaks as a 3-year-old and the Parx Juvenile Fillies S. as a 2-year-old. We love that she had speed and class early on.



Graded stakes-placed Message will visit **Flightline** in 2023

Thorostride

CROSS TRAFFIC

His best-bred crop *jammed* up the winner's circle with black type 2yos in 2022.

	Wnrs	BTH	BTH/Starters
Bolt d'Oro	29	15	19%
Quality Road	15	7	19%
Constitution	11	4	17%
CROSS TRAFFIC	33	13	16%
City of Light	11	6	16%
Girvin	20	8	15%
Oscar Performance	17	6	15%

It's no wonder he's a
2023 McGrath Value Sire.



Woodford Thoroughbreds/Project Whiskey, cont.

Uncle Mo is a horse that consistently gets a top racehorse prospect and we think he is ready for another upswing in the market. At \$150,000 he's expensive, but he gets you that Saturday afternoon horse and that's what we're looking for. The cross of **Uncle Mo** with the A.P. Indy line is a strong one.

MAEVE THE BRAVE (IRE) (m, 4, Invincible Spirit {Ire}--Liscune {Ire}, by King's Best) to be bred to **Oscar Performance**.

You may be wondering how we acquired this particular broodmare. In 2019, Woodford purchased five weanlings at Tattersalls. We re-sold three, retained one who is a stakes winner still running in the U.K. and brought this filly to the U.S. She was bought for nearly \$600,000 U.S. dollars, being a full-sister to three black-type horses including Music Box (IRE), whose race earnings total \$1.19 million.

Oscar Performance was the clear choice when looking at the stallions standing in Kentucky who are unequivocally grass horses.

LUCY N ETHEL (m, 10, During--Kid Silver, by Silver Ghost) to be bred to **Life Is Good**.

"Lucy" has one of the strongest race records in our broodmare band having won the GII Prioress S. at Saratoga and the GIII Old Hat S. at Gulfstream Park. She bankrolled nearly \$400,000 on the track and she is an athletic and supremely balanced mare.

Lucy gave us a beautiful foal right off the bat, a **Quality Road** filly that brought \$600,000 at the 2021 Fasig-Tipton Saratoga Sale. Lucy is currently pregnant to Into Mischief. Breeding to his son **Life Is Good** will be the same cross.

We're excited to be breeding to **Life Is Good**. His speed was his weapon and he was much the best when winning the GI Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile as a 3-year-old. He continued his winning ways with three Grade I races at four.



MGSW Lucy N Ethel will visit **Life Is Good** | Sarah Andrew

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VIVA VEGAS (m, 9, **The Factor**--Viva Vega, by Cobra King) to be bred to **Munnings**.

The Factor is one of those conundrums where he has the ability to get a quality racehorse, but his commercial appeal is underrated. Viva Vegas is a big, scopey mare and you can imagine how lovely she is knowing she brought \$190,000 at OBS as a short yearling. On the racetrack she won a stakes race and is multiple graded stakes placed.

Munnings will make a nice physical compliment, giving her a little substance and some additional speed. He also has a liking for the turf which will benefit this mare's sire line.

DON'T LEAVE ME (m, 11, Lemon Drop Kid--See How She Runs, by Maria's Mon) to be bred to **Not This Time**.

Don't Leave Me is a multiple Grade III winner and is out of a Grade I-winning dam.

Woodford is proud to have purchased this mare out of the Pin Oak Dispersal in 2021 carrying an Authentic colt and she's currently pregnant to Into Mischief.

We were very impressed with the year **Not This Time** had in 2022 and when looking for proven stallions, he has become a standout. We think he'll be a nice physical match for the mare.

Woodford Thoroughbreds Mating Plans, cont.

CEDAR HALL (m, 6, Bayern--Dahteste, by Majestic Warrior) to be bred to **Independence Hall**.

In hindsight, Cedar Hall might have been a value play, being stakes placed, when we purchased her pregnant to **Volatile** for \$95,000 in 2021. She probably would have brought twice that this past November! This is a really pretty mare and we actually purchased her with the purpose of breeding her to **Independence Hall**.

Woodford bred **Independence Hall**, sold him as a yearling, bought back into him during his race career and now owns a considerable number of shares in the horse, which means we will support him. His first crop of foals are hitting the ground now and from photos we have seen, they look to be very racey individuals.



Cedar Hall will visit Woodford-bred Independence Hall in 2023

Courtesy Woodford Thoroughbreds

RITE MOMENT (m, 19, Vicar--Moments of Joy, by Lost Code) to be bred to **City of Light**.

Rite Moment is one of the oldest and most proven mares in the band. She herself was a multiple Grade II winner and has produced two previous black-type horses, but her standout produce is current graded stakes winner Mimi Kakushi (**City of Light**). Mimi Kakushi won a stakes race and then followed that up with a win in the G3 U.A.E. Oaks. She is potentially being pointed to the GI Kentucky Oaks. It only makes sense to go back to the well and should the mare have a filly, we'll likely retain her as a broodmare prospect.

Interested in sharing your own mating plans? Email garyking@thetdn.com.

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BREEZE: 7:45am on Monday 20 March, Dubai Racing Club Training Track
SALE: 5:00pm on Tuesday 21 March, Parade Ring at Meydan Racecourse

Catalogue online at Goffs.com

MIKE REPOLE JOINS THE TDN WRITERS' ROOM PODCAST

Four days after his Forte (**Violence**) won the GII Fountain of Youth S. in his 3-year-old debut, co-owner Mike Repole was still beaming. At this point, Forte's lead-up to the GI Kentucky Derby has been perfect. There have been no hiccups and his race in the Fountain of Youth checked every conceivable box. So what did Repole, who owns the horse in partnership with Vinnie Viola, think? We had Repole join us on the TDN Writers' Room podcast presented by **Keeneland** to find out. Repole was this week's **Green Group** Guest of the Week.



Click on the play button to watch this week's podcast

"The script you write never works out," Repole said. "But the way things have turned out with Forte, I couldn't have written that script any better. We just got his Ragozin number, which was a 7 3/4, which was the lowest number of his career off a four-month layoff. So it's always a promising sign. You don't really know who the competition was in the race. But he hadn't raced in four months and all those horses had starts either four weeks ago or eight weeks ago. So everything really worked out."

That Repole and Viola have a horse like Forte is no accident. They have spent millions at the sales acquiring dozens of horses. Forte, who cost \$110,000, was one of 43 yearlings they bought at the 2021 Keeneland September sale. Over the last two years at Keeneland, they have spent \$30 million on 75 horses. Repole acknowledged that their way of attacking the sales only works if you can come up with a couple of stars.

"When you buy 100 horses, if you can get 2% of them to be Grade I winners, you're going to pay for the whole crop," Repole said. "Now, it sounds easy, but you need to find a Nest and you need a Forte. It is very difficult. But I think I play at all different levels. And listen, I don't want to give away a secret here, but I'm aggressive." **Cont.**



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"She has plenty of substance, muscle and length. She's smart, sound and everything you want in a racehorse thus far in her career. I think she'll have the speed, and based on her physical, she'll be able to go longer."

- Nellie Breeden, Two Springs Farm

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Mike Repole, cont.

Repole made some news during the interview, revealing that his preference is that Forte run as a 4-year-old. He said he would not enter into an agreement for Forte with a stud farm unless they agreed to give him an option to run the horse next year.

"I have to have an option to run him at four, whether we do or not," he said. "It has to be that I get to choose, and everybody knows that's the plan. Let's be honest, we don't know if he's going to or not. In this sport, we don't even know that he's going to have a next start. But I have to have that option."

As for Nest ([Curlin](#)), the 3-year-old filly champion of 2022 that Repole owns along with Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners, Repole said she will make her 4-year-old debut in the GI La Troienne S. on Apr. 5 at Churchill Downs.

"We gave her time off and she's grown up and she's developed," Repole said. "We all know what happens with Curlins between three and four. It's hard to think this way, but she might even be better this year."

Elsewhere on the podcast, which is also sponsored by [Coolmore](#), the [Pennsylvania Horse Breeders Association](#), [Woodford Thoroughbreds](#), the [Kentucky Thoroughbred Association](#), [XBTv](#), [1/st Racing](#), [WinStar Farm](#) and [West Point Thoroughbreds](#), Randy Moss, Zoe Cadman and Bill Finley took a

look back at a big weekend of racing that included the Fountain of Youth S., the GII San Felipe S. and the GI Santa Anita H. and a look ahead to the GII Tampa Bay Derby. The subject of Alex Canchari's suicide brought about an important discussion of how jockeys best deal with mental health issues. Canchari's death came six weeks after jockey Avery Whisman also took his own life. Cadman, a former rider, pointed out that both jockeys were not actively riding at the time of their deaths and said that down time can be difficult for any rider. Finley raised the issue of whether or not it's time to allow jockeys to ride at slightly heavier weights, but Cadman and Moss both maintained that would not solve any problems.

Click [here](#) to watch the podcast and click [here](#) for the audio-only version.

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WHAT DID YOU DO LAST WEEKEND?

Class never sleeps and the **Medaglia d'Oros** keep busy: Endorsed wins his G2, Kentucky Oaks prospect Botanical takes a \$150k Stakes race, and grandson Forte dominates the Derby hopefuls.

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Darley

GABAPENTIN: WHAT IS IT?

by Dan Ross

The **news last week** that leading trainer Saffie Joseph, Jr. has been suspended for 15 days and fined \$500 by the Pennsylvania Racing Commission--pending appeal--after one of his trainees tested positive for the substance gabapentin after winning a graded stakes at Presque Isle Downs last September led to a collective head scratch.

What exactly is gabapentin?

"It is a drug that is used as an anti-convulsant in people. It is also used for neurotrophic pain--in other words, pain originating from nerves," said former California Horse Racing Board (CHRB) director Dr. Rick Arthur. "For example, if you have shingles, they're likely to put you on gabapentin."

According to the government-run **MedlinePlus website**, gabapentin is commonly prescribed to help control certain types of seizures in people who have epilepsy, and works by decreasing abnormal excitement in the brain.

Common gabapentin medications include Horizant, Gralise, and Neurontin.

Its use in human medicine has increased as an alternative pain relief to highly addictive opioids, said Arthur. But "frankly, it is not very effective," he added, of the orally administered drug.

Gabapentin is a Class 3, penalty category B drug according to the Association of Racing Commissioners International (ARCI), meaning it is deemed to have certain uses in racehorses.

Under the Horse Racing and Integrity Act (HISA)'s impending Anti-Doping and Medication Control (ADMC) program, gabapentin is listed as a category B controlled substance. This means it is permitted for use in certain windows. **Cont.**



Gabapentin | Sue Finley photo



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Gabapentin, cont.

When HISA's ADMC goes into effect on Mar. 27, a first-time gabapentin positive comes with a possible 15-day suspension, a fine of up to \$1,000, and automatic disqualification of the race-day results.

So, for what kinds of issues can gabapentin be used to treat in horses?

"It was advocated about 10, 15 years ago as a way to treat navicular disease," Arthur said. "But that kind of fell apart as it didn't work."

It is also used to treat lameness in horses, "but more as a desperation move when they don't know what it is," he added.

Because of its use as an anti-anxiety medication in humans, some say it has the same potential off-label use for horses, too.

Neither Southern California-based private veterinarian, Dr. Ryan Carpenter, nor current CHRB equine medical director, Dr. Jeff Blea, are aware of gabapentin being used as a calming agent in racehorses. Though Blea admitted that it could have that effect.

According to the CHRB's stewards rulings webpage, there have been roughly 18 individual gabapentin positives since 2005.

"For the most part, they were normally cases where the humans associated with the horse were on gabapentin," said Arthur, explaining how most cases were ruled instances of environmental contamination.

"We have no idea how the transfer occurs. We were suspicious that it was secondary contamination from someone urinating in the stall but we never confirmed that," he said.

In one instance, an off-track veterinarian had prescribed gabapentin to a dog that was brought to the barn, said Arthur.

"We assumed it was from urine," said Arthur, when asked about how the transfer was made. "Why someone would let a dog urinate in the stall I don't know."

While the relationship between a person or an animal prescribed gabapentin and a positive finding in a horse is clear "in most cases," said Arthur, "there were a number of instances where there was no explanation for it other than the horse being administered gabapentin."

According to Arthur, if the reported finding shows gabapentin at nanograms in the low single digits, that is typically an indication of environmental contamination.

"If it's up over 15, 20 nanograms, I would expect that to be an intentional administration," said Arthur. "We had one case around 100 nanograms, which would be impossible to explain by accidental contamination." ***Cont.***

Alex Canchari Memorial Fund



We are speechless and completely heartbroken about the passing of my brother, Alex.

He leaves behind his fiancée Brooke-Lyn, son Leon, daughter Penelope, and another unborn child who is due in August.

Alex had a heart of gold and encouraged and saw the good in everyone. We wish he could have seen that light in himself.

All funds raised will benefit his children. Due to the circumstance of his death, there are no life insurance policies available.

Please help Brooke and the kids during this difficult time. We appreciate you all so much and know Alex was deeply loved by so many.

Donate Now



Ashley Canchari is organizing this fundraiser.



Gabapentin, cont.

The Pennsylvania Racing Commission did not publish the amount at which gabapentin was found in Artie's Princess' (We Miss Artie) post-race sample. However, Joseph told the *TDN* last week that the horse tested positive at a level that should be considered below the recognized threshold level.

Joseph also told the *TDN* that the horse was tested 24 hours before the race by the same laboratory. "The horse was negative and was then positive the next day when no vet treated her. How is that possible? The proof is in the pudding," said Joseph.

According to Arthur, "you would not expect this drug to work for more than 12 to 24 hours in any sense as an analgesic or pain-reducing medication."

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SCREENING LEVELS AND TRANSPARENCY AMONG KEY TOPICS DAY 2 OF HBPA CONFERENCE *Edited Press Release*



Dr. Steven Barker | HBPA

Scientifically based screening levels and transparency in how policy is made were among key items addressed in the Kent Stirling Memorial Medication Panel, held during Wednesday's second day of the National Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association (HBPA) conference at the Hotel Monteleone.

The National HBPA has long advocated for scientifically developed screening and threshold levels used to determine if a positive finding is a legitimate rules violation, or if a negligible amount was inadvertently transferred to a horse or by contamination with no pharmacological impact on the animal's performance.

The topic comes to the fore with the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority (HISA) taking over control of equine-testing policy and enforcement as early as Mar. 27.

Bringing sensitivity into sharper focus, drug-testing and toxicology expert Dr. Steven Barker--now an Emeritus Professor at Louisiana State University after retiring following years as head of its state equine drug-testing lab--used an example of bufotenine, which can be detected in horses' post-race tests if (among other things) they ate hay with reed canary grass in it, and a flea.

Barker cited three horses in the Mid-Atlantic in whom bufotenine was detected at the extremely low levels of between 34.5 and 56.6 picograms per milliliter in blood and between 731.5 and 1,964.5 picograms/ml in urine. If those sound like big numbers, Barker said to consider that "the weight of a new-born female flea, prior to its first blood meal, is 450 micrograms. The blood volume of a horse is approximately 50,000 milliliters.

"So if a horse has 56 picograms per mil of bufotenine in a sample, the total amount of bufotenine in the entire horse is 2.8 micrograms--which would be 0.62 percent of a female flea," Barker said. "So you imagine a 500-kilogram animal that has 0.62 of a female flea distributed throughout its entire body, what do you think the drug effect would be? Zero to nothing. And this is the case in a lot of the positives being called now."

He continued, "...If HISA is going to do its job, these kinds of positives have to be given scientific consideration. Not 'Oh, we found it, we confirmed it, you're guilty.' I've seen that way too much. Are they going to worry about the integrity of the industry, worried about giving the industry a black eye for all these positives? **Cont.**

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National HBPA conference, cont.

When really the more important thing is the integrity and reputation of trainers, owners and the horses affected.”

Comparing U.S. Racing Testing Numbers and Human Sports

Dr. Clara Fenger, a Central Kentucky-based veterinarian and racehorse owner with additional degrees in internal medicine and equine exercise physiology, explained that in 2021, the World Anti-Doping Agency reported 0.77% positive tests out of the 241,430 athletes tested worldwide, with 40% of the violations being for illegal anabolic steroids. A very small amount are from inadvertent environmental contamination.

In the United States in 2020, out of 243,627 racehorse tests, only 0.43% were declared post-race positives. Of those, 28 percent were for Class 1 substances, and most of those could reasonably be considered inadvertent environmental transfer, such as with methamphetamine and morphine, she said.

While violations in human sports were down 1.19% from 2013, U.S. horse racing rose to that 0.43% of positive findings from 0.34% in 2013, Fenger said. While that still reflects very few “true” attempts to cheat, in her words, she explained the bump in horse racing is explained by labs using their increased sensitivity to find irrelevant minuscule levels of substances that would not be called positives in human testing.

Fenger said labs that will enter into contracts to do testing for HISA must be able to detect substances down to a specified minimum level, known as Minimum Required Performance Levels (MRPL).

“For substances that reflect actual cheating, this is a great system,” Fenger said. “Because if one lab can find it really, really low, they can share their methods with other laboratories and they can all find it better... But for therapeutic medication, this represents a huge difference in regulations state to state, depending on the laboratory doing the testing.”

Underscoring the point of cross contamination, equine pharmacology and toxicology expert at the University of Kentucky’s Gluck Equine Research Center Dr. Thomas Tobin offered examples of minute levels of substances transferring to a horse without direct administration.

One came amid a rash of positive findings for the seizure and shingles drug Gabapentin in Ohio, which has an “in-house” screening level of eight nanograms (parts per billion) per millimeter of plasma, Tobin said. The finding of 89.4 ng/ml in a horse’s post-race test was traced to the groom, who had a prescription for Gabapentin and urinated in the horse’s stall.

In another case, it was a dog urinating in the stall.

“It’s now official in the published domain that you can dose a dog with Gabapentin and it can turn up in a racehorse,” Tobin said.

Alluding to Tobin and Barker noting their research benefits from data acquired through open-records requests, former active-duty judge advocate with the U.S. Marine Corps and El Paso attorney Daniel Marquez countered, “That’s accountability, that’s transparency. With the addition, the inclusion of private entities into the HISA rule-making and

policy adoption, we threaten that accountability, that transparency.”

“With HISA and the reliance on individual labs, some of which are private, we lose part of that arm of accountability. Private labs are not subject to those (Freedom of Information Act) laws or state open-record laws.”

To view the full release from Wednesday’s session, click [here](#).

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Coady

WEEKLY STEWARDS AND COMMISSIONS RULINGS: FEB. 28-MAR. 6

Every week, the *TDN* publishes a roundup of key official rulings from the primary tracks within the four major racing jurisdictions of California, New York, Florida and Kentucky.

Here’s a primer on how each of these jurisdictions adjudicates different offenses, what they make public (or not) and where.

With the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act (HISA) having gone into effect on July 1, 2022, the *TDN* will also post a roundup of the relevant HISA-related rulings from the same week. **Cont.**

Seeing
RED?

Click on a **stallion’s name** to learn more about them on their page on the farm’s website.

Weekly Rulings, cont.California

Track: Santa Anita

Date: 03/03/2023

Licensee: Ed Carroll, owner

Penalty: Suspended license

Violation: Failure of financial responsibility

Explainer: Owner Ed Carroll (DBA: Carroll Boys Racing), having failed to respond to written notice to appear before the Board of Stewards at Santa Anita Park on March 2, 2023, is suspended for violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1547 (Failure to Appear) pending an appearance at a hearing before the Board of Stewards to answer to charges alleging violation of CHRB rule #1876 (Financial Responsibility- \$491.76 to DVM Melinda Blue). Suspension to commence on Mar. 10, 2023.

Track: Santa Anita

Date: 03/03/2023

Licensee: Abel Cedillo, jockey

Penalty: Three-day suspension

Violation: Careless riding

Explainer: Jockey Abel Cedillo, who rode Ava's Storm in the seventh race at Santa Anita Park on February 20, 2023, is suspended for 3 racing days (Mar. 10, 11 and 12, 2023) for altering course without sufficient clearance and causing interference in the backstretch. This constitutes a violation of California Horse Racing Board rule #1699 (Riding Rules – careless riding).

New York

Track: Aqueduct

Date: 03/03/2023

Licensee: Charlton Baker, trainer

Penalty: Ten-day suspension, \$1,000 fine

Violation: Medication violation

Explainer: Having received a report from the NYS Gaming Commission Drug Equine Testing Laboratory of the finding of Flunixin in the post-race sample taken from horse "Daufuskie Island" #1 which raced at Aqueduct racetrack in the 3rd race and finished 1st on Oct. 7 2022. Trainer of record Mr. Charlton Baker having been notified of the post-race findings and having waived his right to an appeal is hereby fined the sum of one thousand (\$1,000) dollars and suspended 10 Calendar days effective Mar. 5, 2023 through Mar. 14, 2023 inclusive.

Furthermore, the Stewards order horse "Daufuskie Island" disqualified from any part of the purse and the purse redistributed as follows:

1. (#2) Risk Profile
2. (#4) Doctor Love
3. (#3) R Boy Cheekum

Ordered that during your period of suspension, you shall not directly nor indirectly participate in New York State Pari-mutuel horse racing. You are denied the privileges and use of the grounds of all racetracks, you are forbidden to participate in any share of purses or other payment. Every horse is denied the privileges and use of the grounds and shall not participate in pari-mutuel racing in New York State, that (a) is owned or trained by you, or by individuals who serves as your agent or employee during your suspension: or (b) for which you during your suspension are directly or indirectly with training, including any arrangement to care for, train, enter, race, invoice, collect fees or other payments, manage funds, employ or insure workers, provide advise or other information or otherwise assist with any aspect of the training of such horses.

Track: Aqueduct

Date: 03/05/2023

Licensee: Dylan Davis, jockey

Penalty: Three-day suspension

Violation: Careless riding

Explainer: Jockey Mr. Dylan Davis is hereby suspended 3 NYRA racing days, this for interference during the running of the 3rd race at Aqueduct racetrack on March 3rd 2023. Having appealed a stay has been granted.

NEW HISA STEWARDS RULINGS

The following rulings were reported on HISA's "rulings" portal, except for the voided claim rulings which were sent to the TDN directly. Some of these rulings are from prior weeks as they were not reported contemporaneously.

HISA's whip use limit is restricted to six strikes during a race.

Violations of Crop Rule:Golden Gate Fields

- Francisco Monroy – violation date March 5; \$250 fine and one-day suspension, 7 strikes

Oaklawn Park

- Mickaëlle Michel – violation date February 26; \$250 fine and one-day suspension, 7 strikes
- Eduardo Gallardo – violation date March 2; \$250 fine and one-day suspension, 7 strikes
- Kylee Rose Jordan – violation date March 4; \$250 fine and one-day suspension, 7 strikes
- Hugo Torres – violation date March 5; \$250 fine and one-day suspension, 8 strikes

Santa Anita

- Abdul Alsagoor – violation date March 3; \$250 fine and one-day suspension, 7 strikes

PACIFIC CLASSIC HEADS 2023 DEL MAR STAKES SCHEDULE



Benoit

The \$1,000,000 GI FanDuel Racing Pacific Classic tops 39 stakes over 31 days, a record-tying stakes schedule worth \$8,275,000 for Del Mar's 84th season, beginning Friday, July 21.

The Pacific Classic Day card, set for Sept. 2, will feature five graded stakes, including the GII Del Mar H. and GII Del Mar Mile.

Del Mar has slated six Grade I races over the course of an eight-week summer stand, as well as six Breeders' Cup "Win & You're In" tests that each guarantee a spot in the starting gate for their major counterparts during the two-day, \$28 million end-of-season championship spectacular that will be held this year at Santa Anita.

The "Win & You're In" races are the GI Bing Crosby (\$2-million Breeders' Cup Sprint); GI Clement L. Hirsch (\$2-million Breeders' Cup Distaff); GII Pat O'Brien S. (\$1-million Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile); FanDuel Racing Pacific Classic (\$6-million Breeders' Cup Classic); GII Del Mar H. (\$4-million Breeders' Cup Turf); and GIII Green Flash H. (\$1-million Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint).

"We've got a stakes schedule that mirrors our record program of last year," said Del Mar vice president and racing secretary David Jerkens. "We made a couple of very minor tweaks, but otherwise it's the same offerings at the same value that our horsemen and women found especially pleasing last year."

The seaside oval will kick off its season with a three-day weekend (July 21-23), then have five four-day weeks (Thursday through Sunday), a five-day week (including Labor Day Monday, Sept. 4), then finish with a Friday through Sunday weekend (Sept. 8-10).

For Del Mar's complete 2023 stakes schedule, click [here](#).

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TOM SAGE AGAIN NAMED CHAIRMAN OF ARCI



Tom Sage | Jennie Rees

The Nebraska Racing and Gaming Commission's executive director, Tom Sage, has been appointed the repeat chairman of the Association of Racing Commissioners International (ARCI). Sage first served as chairman in 2020. The ARCI chairs generally serve one-year terms, but Sage was awarded a subsequent term due to the effects of COVID-19 on the industry and returns again for the coming year. The current outgoing ARCI chair is Louisiana Racing Commission executive director Charles Gardiner III.

The new chair-elect is Doug Moore, who was appointed to the Washington Horse Racing Commission's board after retiring as its executive director. Anthony Salerno of the Pennsylvania Racing Commission was named treasurer.

In his address, Sage said: "Our U.S. members face enormous problems caused by the uncertainty of the implementation of the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act [HISA] and its programs... There's an expectation in some parts of the industry that all regulatory turmoil and new costs will result in fewer breakdowns, fewer equine deaths, and apprehend more criminals. We'll see. We call it like it is, realizing not everyone will like what we say. To us, integrity counts more than narrative. Our agenda remains simple: To do the right thing."

ARCI is the umbrella organization representing governmental regulators of horse and greyhound racing.

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Listen to this week's podcast

March 9, 2023

Mike Repole Effusive In Praise for Leading Derby Contender Forte

BRAZILIAN CHAMPION, U.S. GRADE I WINNER IVAR RETIRED



Ivar winning the Shadwell Turf Mile | Coady

Ivar (Brz) (Agnes Gold {Jpn}--May Be Now, by Smart Strike), a dual Group 1 winner in Argentina and later winner of the GI Shadwell Turf Mile at Keeneland, has been retired from racing and will enter stud for the upcoming Southern Hemisphere breeding season at Haras Carampangue in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The news was announced jointly on Twitter by Stud RDI and Bonne Chance Farm, who campaigned Ivar in partnership.

Perfect in three starts as a late-season juvenile in Argentina, Ivar annexed a Churchill allowance in his second U.S. appearance for Kentucky Oaks-winning trainer Paolo Lobo in the spring of 2020 and two starts later defeated **Raging Bull (Fr)** (Dark Angel {Ire}) and Without Parole (GB) (**Frankel {GB}**) in the Shadwell Turf Mile. He went on to finish a close fourth at 7-1 behind Order of Australia (Ire) (**Australia {GB}**) in that year's GI Breeders' Cup Mile.

Fourth when first off a five-month layoff in defense of his Turf Mile title in the fall of 2021, Ivar ran home strongly to round out the trifecta behind the impressive Space Blues (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}) in the Breeders' Cup Mile at Del Mar and was subsequently runner-up to champion Modern Games (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}) in last year's GI Ricoh Woodbine Mile, to **'TDN Rising Star'** Annapolis (**War Front**) in the Coolmore Turf Mile and closed his career with a second in this year's GI Pegasus World Cup Turf. The Southern Hemisphere 6-year-old retires with a record of 5-3-2 from 15 starts and earnings of \$1,551,053.

Ivar's dam, a \$60,000 Keeneland September yearling purchase, became a Group 2 winner in Brazil before her immediate female family took off. Her year-older half-sister Ann of the Dance (English Channel) won in stakes company and was placed at Grade III level and Al's Gal (English Channel) took out the GI E.P.

Taylor S. in 2016. May Be Now was sold for \$67,000 in foal to **Hard Spun** at Keeneland November in 2017. Ivar's late sire was also responsible for Stud RDI and Bonne Chance's 2021 GI Keeneland Turf Mile hero In Love (Brz).

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CHAMPION XTRA HEAT PASSES AWAY



Xtra Heat | Courtesy Woodford Thoroughbreds

Xtra Heat (Dixieland Heat--Begin, by Hatchet Man), winner of 25 black-type races in an overachieving career that saw her named the Eclipse Award-winning 3-year-old filly of 2001, passed away last December at the age of 24, according to a release from Woodford Thoroughbreds.

Bred in Kentucky by Pope McLean, Sr., Pope McLean, Jr., Marc McLean and P. Feringa, the diminutive Xtra Heat sold for less than five figures as a weanling, yearling and 2-year-old, but won her first six races before tasting defeat for the first time in the 2000 GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies, her lone career foray around two turns.

She went nine-for-13 during her championship season in 2001, breaking through at the Grade I level with a victory over Above Perfection (In Excess {Ire}) and Harmony Lodge (Hennessy) in the Prioress S. ahead of a runner-up effort to Victory Ride (Seeking the Gold) in that year's GI Test S. Following three subsequent facile scores against her peers in the Mid-Atlantic region by a combined 22 3/4 lengths, Xtra Heat was given her chance against the boys in the GI Breeders' Cup Sprint, and the fleet filly cut out the running after breaking like a shot from the rail before being run down in the dying strides by Squirtle Squirt (Marquetry).

Wire-to-wire winner of her first two starts at four, including the GII Barbara Fritchie H. with 128 pounds on her back and spotting her rivals between 13 and 16 pounds, Xtra Heat ventured to old Nad Al Sheba Racecourse in Dubai and finished a creditable third behind the repeating Caller One (Phone Trick).

Xtra Heat, cont.

Xtra Heat | Horsephotos

Following a sixth-place effort in the 2002 Sprint, Xtra Heat was offered at the Fasig-Tipton Night of the Stars sale and was led out unsold when bidding reached \$1.7 million. Owners Kenneth Taylor and Harry Deitchman sold Xtra Heat to ClassicStar in a private transaction and she closed her career with a successful title defense in the Barbara Fritchie. She was retired with a mark of 35-26-5-2 and earnings of \$2,389,635 and was trained throughout her career by John D. Salzman. Woodford Thoroughbreds purchased Xtra Heat privately through a ClassicStar dispersal in 2006. She was inducted into racing's Hall of Fame in 2015.

The first three foals out of Xtra Heat achieved black-type, including the stakes-winning and Grade III-placed Southwestern Heat (Gone West), who went on to a stallion career in Australia; the stakes-placed X Rated Cat (Storm Cat); and SW & GSP Elusive Heat (Elusive Quality), a \$750,000 FTFEB graduate who serves as the granddam of multiple Grade III winner Scalding (Nyquist), SW & GSP Tracksmith (Street Sense) and SW Hot and Sultry (Speightster). Woodford pensioned Xtra Heat from broodmare duties in 2019 and since that time, she has enjoyed her time in the Florida sun at Woodford's Reddick, Florida farm, according to the release.

"Xtra Heat knows her place in the world and is always first at feed time," Woodford owner John Sykes said in 2022. "Xtra Heat is confident in her bearing, but easy to be around. The little brown mare with a great big heart inspires our team to look for potential in every horse."

With the news of the mare's passing having been made public, Sykes said, "I have always been proud to have the privilege of owning and being responsible for a Hall of Fame horse. She will be greatly missed on the farm and by the team."

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

On Mar. 9, *Thoroughbred Daily News* published a **letter to the editor** that lambasted the Thoroughbred industry's media as biased while hiding his or her identity under the cloak of anonymity.

To which I answer without anonymity, nonsense.

I don't really know the motivation of this anonymous toxic waste, although it fits into the pattern of blaming the media for just about everything that goes wrong in an industry or a society, whether characterized as "fake news" or not. The anonymous writer must have some beef with the industry and decided to turn to media bashing.

I covered my first horse race in 1978; I have worked for a major U.S. newspaper, the *Philadelphia Inquirer*; and I have been an editor or contributor to Thoroughbred publications, namely the *Thoroughbred Record* and *Thoroughbred Times*.

The motivation of most all the journalists I've encountered in that time, which probably number in the thousands, was to get the story and get it right. That means telling both sides of the story. True, I have seen instances where the text may have been influenced by a losing bet, and industry members have at times tried unsuccessfully to throw their weight around in publications.

But those instances are exceedingly rare. To say that these journalists are "dishonest," to use the word of the anonymous coward, borders on libel. To take the *Thoroughbred Daily News* as an example, I have known Bill Finley since the early 1980s and have always--always--found him to be honest and dogged in getting the information correctly.

I read T. D. Thornton to help me understand complex topics, and I trust his reporting. I've known TDN Publisher Sue Finley for more than 40 years, and I can attest that her motivation is to present the news in an honest, accurate, and balanced publication.

They and others whose bylines appear in industry publications are not motivated by clickbait or negativity or fearmongering, to again dip into the anonymous writer's bucket by bile.

If you are not accurate, honest, and balanced in your reporting and writing, you fail. Period.

These writers have not failed; some industry members may not like what they write, but you can't please the biased individuals who turn to the anonymous poison pen to spew their grievances. Based on the last paragraph, a rambling dissertation about training champions and, well, I am not sure what, I can't figure out what the grievance is.

The anonymous writer ends with the exhortation or command to "Be better." **Cont.**

Letter to the Editor, cont.

From the perspective of almost 58 years in journalism, my experience has been that writers and editors get up each morning determined to be honest, accurate, and balanced in their work and thus to be better day by day.

Don Clippinger, an Eclipse Award winner, was editor of Thoroughbred Record and editorial director of Thoroughbred Times until his retirement in 2009.

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TICKETS ON SALE FOR NEW SECRETARIAT EXHIBIT LAUNCH PARTY



Kentucky Derby Museum

The **tickets are on sale** for the Apr. 20 Kentucky Derby Museum's Secretariat Bourbon Dinner, presented by Fifth Third Bank. Guests at this launch party will have several opportunities, including being the first to explore the new exhibit, *Secretariat: America's Horse*, before it opens to the public Apr. 21.

At the dinner, guests will view never-before-seen video of Secretariat's connections. Along with a seated dinner, guests will enjoy a pour of the rare Double Double Oaked Woodford Reserve, while learning from Woodford Reserve Master Distillers Chris Morris and Elizabeth McCall.

VIP tickets cost \$250 each, and Dinner Party tickets cost \$200 each. Dinner guests will also have a guaranteed opportunity to purchase one **Secretariat Woodford Reserve Double Oaked Personal Selection Box Set**. Guests will also have the exclusive opportunity to have their bottle signed by Morris and McCall.

For more information, click [here](#).

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EARLE MACK CONTINUES AID IN UKRAINE



Earle Mack (right) | Sarah Andrew

Operation Heat Ukraine, a humanitarian effort begun by owner/breeder Earle I. Mack, who is also the former Ambassador to Finland, and former New York Governor George E. Pataki, will undertake a fourth mission to Ukraine. Mack and Pataki have already **donated and delivered** nearly 1,000 industrial and residential heaters benefitting over one million Ukrainian civilians. Operation Heat Ukraine is a non-profit focused on helping those suffering due to the continued Russian attacks.

"As we reach the one-year mark of the war in Ukraine, it has never been more important to bring awareness to the struggles of innocent civilians," said Mack. "We hope that, through our support, some of the basic needs of Ukrainian civilians will be met and urge anyone who can help to get involved."

Long known for his philanthropy, including founding The Man O' War Project which helps military veterans through the use of retired racehorses, Mack was **honored with an Eclipse Award of Merit** last year. With Operation Heat Ukraine, Mack has been raising awareness in support of Ukraine's civilians and has traveled to Ukraine a number of times to disperse millions of dollars' worth of heaters and generators for homes, hospitals, schools, and refugee centers.

For more information or to donate, visit heatukraine.org.

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Saturday, Santa Anita #8, post time: 7:00 p.m. EST

BEHOLDER MILE S.-GI, \$500,000, 4yo/up, f/m, 1m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Kirstenbosch	Midnight Lute	Keith Abrahams	Sadler	Kimura	122
2	Pauline's Pearl	Tapit	Stonestreet Stables LLC	Asmussen	Velazquez	122
3	Awake At Midnyte 🦋	Nyquist	Reddam Racing LLC	O'Neill	Gutierrez	120
4	Midnight Memories	Mastery	Michael E. Pegram, Karl Watson, & Paul Weitman	Baffert	Vazquez	122
5	A Mo Reay 🦋	Uncle Mo	Hunter Valley Farm	Cox	Prat	122
6	Ganadora 🦋	Quality Road	Baoma Corp	Baffert	Maldonado	120
7	Desert Dawn	Cupid	H and E Ranch, Inc.	D'Amato	Rispoli	122
8	Fun to Dream	Arrogate	Natalie J. Baffert and Connie Pageler	Baffert	Hernandez	120

Breeders: 1-Keith Abrahams, 2-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC, 3-Forty Oaks, 4-Michael E. Pegram, Paul Weitman & Karl Watson, 5-T & G Farm of Kentucky LLC, 6-Gainesway Thoroughbreds LTD, Brian Graves & Michael E. Hernon, 7-H & E Ranch, 8-Connie Pageler & Bob Baffert

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, Tampa Bay Downs #9, post time: 4:04 p.m. EST


HILLSBOROUGH S.-GII, \$225,000, 4yo/up, f/m, 1 1/8mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Kalifornia Queen (Ger)	Lope de Vega (Ire)	Madaket Stables LLC, Michael Dubb, & First Row Partners	Brown	Zayas	119
2	Surprisingly	Mastery	Phipps Stable	McGaughey III	Lopez	119
3	Temple City Terror 🦋	Temple City	Town and Country Racing, LLC	Walsh	Gallardo	119
4	Rougir (Fr)	Territories (Ire)	Peter M. Brant and Michael B. Tabor	Brown	Diaz, Jr.	123
5	Gam's Mission	Noble Mission (GB)	Lazy F Ranch	DeVaux	Leparoux	119
6	Shantisara (Ire)	Coulsty (Ire)	Madaket Stables LLC, Michael Dubb, & Robert V. LaPenta	Brown	Ortiz, Jr.	119
7	Scottish Star (Arg)	Key Deputy	La Providencia, LLC and LNJ Foxwoods	Pletcher	Saez	119

Breeders: 1-Stall Torjager, 2-Phipps Stable, 3-Upson Downs Farm, 4-Jan Krauze, 5-Lazy F Ranch, 6-Mr Oliver Donlon, 7-La Providencia



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Saturday, Tampa Bay Downs #11, post time: 5:15 p.m. EST**LAMBHOLM SOUTH TAMPA BAY DERBY-GIII, \$400,000, 3yo, 1 1/16m**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Lord Miles	Curlin	Vegso Racing Stable	Joseph, Jr.	Lopez	120
2	Classic Car Wash	Noble Bird	Gary Barber	Casse	Jaramillo	120
3	Classic Legacy	Into Mischief	Bruce Lunsford	Mott	Ortiz, Jr.	120
4	Groveland	Street Sense	Godolphin, LLC	Harty	Centeno	120
5	Mikey Bananas 🦋	Constitution	Perrine Time Thoroughbreds	Hamm	Morales	120
6	Tapit Trice 🦋	Tapit	Whisper Hill Farm, LLC and Gainesway Stable	Pletcher	Saez	120
7	Freedom Road 🦋	Malibu Moon	Pinnacle Racing Team and Madaket Stables LLC	Sacco	Diaz, Jr.	120
8	Dreaming of Kona 🦋	Fast Anna	Aldana Gonzalez Racing LLC, Lisa Ballou & Steve Ballou	Spieth	Spieth	120
9	Shesterkin 🦋	Violence	Robert V. LaPenta	Pletcher	Zayas	120
10	Champions Dream 🦋	Justify	Rosedown Racing Stables, LLC	Casse	Gallardo	120
11	Zydeceaux	Cajun Breeze	Stud Carmen Cristina, LLC	Minguet	Marin	120
12	Prairie Hawk	Curlin	Peachtree Stable and WinStar Farm LLC	Joseph, Jr.	Camacho	120

Breeders: 1-Vegso Racing Stable, 2-Sherry R. Mansfield & Kenneth H. Davis, 3-W. Bruce Lunsford, 4-Godolphin, 5-WinStar Farm, LLC &Blazing Meadows Farm LLC, 6-Gainesway Thoroughbreds Ltd., 7-Edwin C. Anthony, 8-eLGee farm, 9-George Krikorian, 10-John C. Oxley, 11-Dee Ellen Cook & Suzette Parker, 12-WinStar Farm, LLC

Saturday, Tampa Bay Downs #10, post time: 4:45 p.m. EST**FLORIDA OAKS-GIII, \$200,000, 3yo, f, 1 1/16mT**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Mission of Joy	Kitten's Joy	RyZan Sun Racing, LLC and Madaket Stables LLC	Motion	Gallardo	119
2	Allamericanbeauty 🦋	Into Mischief	Courtlandt Farms	McGaughey III	Zayas	119
3	Alpha Bella	Justify	Don Alberto Stable	Pletcher	Saez	119
4	Faccia Bella 🦋	Summer Front	Joseph Scurto and Brian Schiewe	Raven	Castanon	119
5	Dreaming of Snow	Jess's Dream	Team Equistaff, LLC. and Winning Stables, Inc.	Bennett	Camacho	121
6	Navy Goat	Army Mule	Lael Stables	Delacour	Centeno	119
7	Stephanie's Charm	Distorted Humor	R.T Racing Stable	Jimenez	Diaz, Jr.	119
8	Juniper's Moon 🦋	Galileo (Ire)	Team Spoor	Dutrow	Lopez	119
9	Mohawk Trail 🦋	Pioneerof the Nile	NBS Stable	Danner	Morales	119
10	Free Look 🦋	Tapit	Klaravich Stables, Inc.	Brown	Ortiz, Jr.	119
11	Grace Darling (Ire)	Kingman (GB)	William K. Werner	Lynch	Leparoux	119
12	Ticker Tape Home	Medaglia d'Oro	Live Oak Plantation	Casse	Jaramillo	119
13	Love Foreverafter	English Channel	Edward A. Seltzer and Beverly S. Anderson	Delgado	Sutherland	119
14	Embrace Me 🦋	Candy Ride (Arg)	Mark T. Anderson	Albertrani	Batista	119

Breeders: 1-Sam-Son Farm, 2-Mt. Brilliant Farm & Ranch, LLC, 3-Don Alberto Corporation, 4-Brereton C. Jones, 5-Karyn Philipp, 6-Belvedere Farm, 7-Fred W. Hertrich III & John D. Fielding, 8-Carolyn Gray & Fletcher Gray, 9-Westbury Stables LLC, 10-KatieRich Farms, 11-Springbank Way Stud, 12-Sam-Son Farm, 13-Edward Seltzer, 14-Stone Farm

Saturday, Santa Anita #5, post time: 5:30 p.m. EST**SAN CARLOS S. PRESENTED BY FANDUEL-GIII, \$200,000, 4yo/up, 7f**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Holden the Lute	Midnight Lute	Lee Drummond, Paul Schwartz, and John V. Xitco	Glatt	Dettori	120
2	Forbidden Kingdom	American Pharoah	MyRacehorse and Spendthrift Farm LLC	Mandella	Hernandez	124
3	Spirit of Makena	Ghostzapper	Bruce Chandler	Papaproddromou	Bravo	120
4	Clem Labine	Grazen	Mia Familia Racing Stable, Bob Davis, Moon S. Han, and Dudley P. Ward	Barocio	Frey	120
5	Get Her Number	Dialed In	Gary Barber	Miller	Prat	124
6	Howbeit	Secret Circle	It Pays to Dream Racing Stable, Inc., Saints or Sinners, Danny Haramoto, Sheldon Kawahara, & Gregory Yamamoto	Glatt	Smith	124

Breeders: 1-Michael E. Pegram, Karl Watson & PaulWeitman, 2-Springhouse Farm, 3-Bruce Chandler, 4-Nick Alexander, 5-Philip Robertson & Brenda Robertson, 6-University of Kentucky

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

Saturday, Tampa Bay Downs #8, post time: 3:33 p.m. EST**\$100,000 MICHELOB ULTRA CHALLENGER S.-GIII, \$100,000, 4yo/up, 1 1/16m**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Trademark 🦟	Upstart	BBN Racing, LLC	Oliver	Garcia	121
2	Skippylongstocking 🦟	Exaggerator	Daniel Alonso	Joseph, Jr.	Ortiz, Jr.	121
3	Mighty Heart	Dramedy	Lawrence Cordes	County, Jr.	Nicholls	119
4	Classic Causeway	Giant's Causeway	Kentucky West Racing LLC and Clarke M. Cooper	McPeck	Leparoux	123
5	Surly Furious	Upstart	Novogratz Racing Stables Inc.	Wisner	Allen, Jr.	121
6	The Reds 🦟	Tonalist	Flanagan Racing	Joseph, Jr.	Zayas	121
7	Tax	Arch	R. A. Hill Stable and Danny Gargan	Gargan	Lopez	121
8	Business Model	Candy Ride (Arg)	Qatar Racing and Marc Detampel	Walsh	Saez	121
9	Brooklyn Strong	Wicked Strong	Mark Schwartz	Barboza, Jr.	Camacho	119

Breeders: 1-Brereton C. Jones, 2-Brushy Hill, LLC, 3-Larry Cordes, 4-Kentucky West Racing LLC & Clarke M.Cooper Family Living Trust, 5-Brereton C. Jones, 6-R. S. Evans, 7-Claiborne Farm & Adele B. Dilschneider, 8-Godolphin, 9-Cheryl Prudhomme & Dr. Michael Gallivan

Sunday, Santa Anita #7, post time: 6:30 p.m. EDT**SANTA ANA S.-GIII, \$100,000, 4yo/up, f/m, 1 1/4mT**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Annaghlasa (Ire)	Estdihkaar (Ire)	Strand Beach, LLC	D'Amato	Vazquez	120
2	Queen Ofthe Temple	Temple City	Radley Equine, Inc., Roger Featherston, Rick Gold, and Tony E. Maslowski	Blackner	Hernandez	120
3	Australia Mia	Street Sense	Don Alberto Stable	McCarthy	Dettori	124
4	Ascendancy 🦟	Classic Empire	Jauregui Racing Stables Inc., Dan Barrett, David Crossley, David Foran, Daniel Preiss, Angel D. Valadez,, and Graham Witherall	Jauregui	Contreras	120
5	Duvet Day (Ire) 🦟	Starspangledbanner (Aus)	Jane Bacharach and Richard Schatz	McCarthy	Kimura	122
6	Myfavoritedaughter 🦟	Carpe Diem	Marie J. Fritts and Lauri Seymour	Cerin	Bravo	120
7	Buzz of New York (Ire)	Toronado (Ire)	Red Baron's Barn LLC and Rancho Temescal LLC	D'Amato	Rispoli	120
8	Harper's Gallop	Suances (GB)	Red Baron's Barn LLC and Vaya Con Suerte, LLC	Powell	Velazquez	120
9	Ballet Dancing 🦟	Medaglia d'Oro	Westerberg, Mrs. John Magnier, Michael B. Tabor, and Derrick Smith	Callaghan	Prat	120

Breeders: 1-Leaf Stud, 2-Erv Woolsey & Ralph Kinder, 3-Don Alberto Corporation, 4-Hunter Valley Farm, 5-John Yarr, 6-Forever Spring Farm LLC, 7-Mr Ronan Fitzpatrick, 8-Red Baron's Barn & Vaya Con Suerte, 9-Ashview Farm & Old Oak Farm



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IN ORDER OF PURSE:

5th-Oaklawn, \$104,000, Alw, 3-9, (NW1\$X), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:10.13, sy, neck.

GUNNING (f, 4, **Gun Runner--Puca {SW & GSP, \$299,406}, by **Big Brown**)** made three of her initial four starts at Churchill Downs, including a five-length win to break her maiden at second asking in July. Third in Ellis Park's **Runhappy** Audubon Oaks in August, she was last spotted trailing home 20 lengths behind MGISW Echo Zulu (**Gun Runner**) in the GIII Dogwood S. Sept. 24. The 5-2 second choice off the extended layoff here, the chestnut stayed off the pace early, racing in mid pack behind Hypersport (**Blame**) through a quick :21.74 opening quarter. Positioned three wide for her challenge around the far turn, she led a sustained rally down the lane, went eye-to-eye with Hypersport through the final furlong, and just narrowly prevailed in her first start shorter than seven panels. Out of a half-sister to GISW Finnegan's Wake (Powerscourt {GB}), Gunning is the older half-sister to GI Kentucky Derby contender Mage (**Good Magic**). Puca saw her 2-year-old full-brother to Mage bring \$325,000 at last year's Keeneland September Yearling Sale. She produced a colt by **McKinzie** in 2022. Sales History: \$70,000 RNA Ylg '20 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: SP, 5-2-1-1, \$173,735. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.**

O/B-Grandview Equine (KY); T-Kenneth G. McPeck.

— Runnymede Farm Foaled and Raised —



Gunning | Coady

7th-Oaklawn, \$103,000, Alw (NW2L)/Opt. Clm (\$100,000), 3-9, 3yo, 1 1/16m, 1:45.38, sy, 1 1/2 lengths.

MENDELSSOHN'S MARCH (c, 3, **Mendelssohn--Unappeased {Ire}, by Galileo {Ire})** led the whole way when debuted over a mile on the grass at the Fair Grounds Feb. 2 just to be nailed on the line by a drifting rival. He was awarded the win via a steward's decision. Off at 8-1 behind heavily favored Heroic Move (**Quality Road**), the Triple Crown-nominated colt raced in the second flight along the rail, taking kickback on the dirt for the first time. Still rated in sixth as the tightly bunched field, paced by Heroic Move, swung around the turn, Mendelssohn's March wove his way through traffic, finally found racing room with a furlong to run, and sprinted through an opening to clear off close to home to win by 1 1/2 lengths. Longshot El Tomate (**Runhappy**) closed from last to get up for the exacta.

Unappeased, already responsible for Oaklawn S. winner and GI Kentucky Derby third Mr. Big News (Giant's Causeway), SW & GISP, \$478,753, traces back to a prolific family that includes MGSW & G1SP Danon Ballade (Jpn) (Deep Impact {Jpn}) and MGISP Sligo Bay (Ire) (Sadler's Wells). Third dam Ballade also produced Canadian Horse of the Year Glorious Song (Halo), champion grass horse MG1SW Singspiel (Ire) (In the Wings {GB}), champion 2-year-old Devil's Bag (Halo) and MGSW Saint Ballado (Halo). Unappeased has a 2-year-old **Hard Spun** filly but did not produce a foal last year after breedings to both **Constitution** and **American Pharoah**. Sales History: \$110,000 Ylg '21 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, \$91,800. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.**

O-Harold Lerner LLC, Nehoc Stables, AWC Stables and Team Stallion Racing Stable; B-Don Alberto Corporation (KY); T-Kenneth G. McPeck.

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8th-Fair Grounds, \$52,000, Alw (NW2\$X)/Opt. Clm (\$50,000), 3-9, 4yo/up, 1 1/16mT, 1:48.67, fm, 1/2 length.

NATIVE THUNDER (c, 4, **American Pharoah--Miss Houdini {GISW, \$187,600}, by Belong to Me)** took four tries to break his maiden, finally getting the elusive win in an off-the-turf event at Monmouth last June after three consecutive grass starts. He picked up another win next time out at Gulfstream on the all-weather surface but faltered to trail the field home in the Tropical Park Derby Dec. 26 for his last start under trainer Todd Pletcher. Now in the Dallas Stewart barn but given only a 9-1 shot Thursday, the well-bred colt trailed the field through a half in :50.73. He began to pick up the pace past the quarter pole, fanned out to the center of course for the stretch run, and rallied late, out-kicking Hidden Enemy (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}) to win by a half-length. Out of GISW Miss Houdini, Native Thunder is a

half-brother to a pair of millionaires in Ce Ce (Elusive Quality), Ch. Female Sprinter, MGISW, \$2,407,100 and Papa Clem (Smart Strike), MGSW & GISP, \$1,121,190. This is also the family of SW & GSP Glinda the Good (**Hard Spun**), herself the dam of champion 2-year-old colt and leading sire **Good Magic** (Curlin). Miss Houdini has not produced a live foal since Native Thunder but was bred to **Global Campaign** for the 2023 season. Sales History: \$200,000 Ylg '20 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 7-3-0-1, \$96,530. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.**

O-Travis Lance Fenton; B-Bo Hirsch LLC (KY); T-Dallas Stewart.

Foaled and Raised by **COLUMBIANA FARM**



IN ORDER OF PURSE:

3rd-Gulfstream, \$53,000, (S), Msw, 3-9, 3yo, 6 1/2f, 1:16.33, ft, 7 1/4 lengths.

KHOZEIRESS (c, 3, Khozan--Bridled Heiress, by Wildcat Heir) was no match for the eventual winner, but ran on well to be second when debuted in an optional claimer at Gulfstream Dec. 26. Racing with Lasix in his system for the first time here, the popular 4-5 choice was sent from the gate to set the tempo, clearing from an outside gate over to the rail while setting a :23.00 opening quarter. Bernardo's Legacy (Khozan) tried to keep pace into the far turn, but was easily outrun as Khozeiress continued to power on up front, drawing off nicely into the lane. Adios Papa Chico (Adios Charlie) chased him home but settled for second, 7 1/4 lengths back of the winner. Bridled Heiress has visited Khozan for each of the last four seasons--producing a 2-year-old filly Heirozan, and a yearling colt named Bridoza. She returned to the leading Florida sire for a 2023 foal. Lifetime Record: 2-1-1-0, \$41,800. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.**

O/B-Purple Haze Stables (FL); T-Teresa M. Pompay.

5th-Fair Grounds, \$50,000, Msw, 3-9, 3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/8mT, 1:58.05, fm, 2 1/4 lengths.

CLEVER JOKE (f, 3, Practical Joke--La Piba {SW, \$157,001}, by Lookin At Lucky) was a former member of Chad Brown's shedrow where she finished third at Saratoga on debut over a turf route Aug. 28 and then after a break, just hit the board at Tampa Dec. 3. Starting anew for the Wayne Catalano barn in this spot as the 4-5 favorite, she was full of run early along the rail. The bay filly finally settled down the backstretch as the leaders crept along at :52.48 for the first half mile. Looking for running

room around the far turn, she found an opening to the outside at the top of the lane and passing the sixteenth pole, cruised on by Tiana's Star (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}) to declare victory by 2 1/4-lengths. The winner has a 2-year-old half-sister named Briseida (**Runhappy**) and also a yearling of the same sex by Maximus Mischief. Her dam was bred to **Silver State** last year. Sales History: \$200,000 Ylg '21 KEESEP; \$90,000 3yo '23 OBSWIN. Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-2, \$45,100. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.**

O-Forge Ahead Stables LLC; B-Clarkland Farm LLC (KY); T-Wayne M. Catalano.

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In this continuing series, Alan Carasso takes a look ahead at US-bred and/or conceived runners entered for the upcoming weekend at the tracks on the Japan Racing Association circuit, with a focus on pedigree and/or performance in the sales ring. Here are the horses of interest for this weekend running at Chukyo and Hanshin Racecourses:



Ange Field as a foal | JRHA

Saturday, March 11, 2023

4th-CKO, ¥10,480,000 (\$77k), Maiden, 3yo, 1400mT

GARMISCH (c, 3, **Uncle Mo**--Fiduicia, by **Medaglia d'Oro**) is the second foal to race out of this dam, a Japanese stakes-winner and Group 3-placed turf sprinter whose first produce, **Gran Aplauso** (**Gun Runner**), was victorious on debut in a 1200-meter turf maiden in the summer of 2021. Fiduicia is a daughter of Japanese champion older mare Believe (Jpn) (Sunday Silence), who defeated the boys in the Takamatsunomiya Kinen and Sprinters S. when they were contested as listed races and went on to produce Gendarme (Kitten's Joy), upset winner of the 2022 G1 Sprinters' S., as well as MSW & G1SP Faridat (Kingmambo). *B-North Hills Co Ltd (KY)*

6th-CKO, ¥14,880,000 (\$109k), Allowance, 3yo, 1800m

BOLD ZONE (c, 3, **Mendelssohn**--Halo Dolly, by Popular), a \$40,000 Keeneland September yearling turned \$280,000 OBS March breezer, was let go at debut odds of 8-1 going this trip at Nakayama back in January and overcame a wide trip to draw clear by 3 1/2 lengths ([video](#), [SC 7](#)). The Feb. 12 foal is one of two winners from two out of the mare, winner of the GII Yellow Ribbon S. and GIII Wilshire H. and also the dam of GIII San Simeon S. hero Barraza, a son of **Mendelssohn**'s all-conquering half-brother Into Mischief. Spendthrift acquired Halo Dolly for \$300,000 at the 2014 Keeneland November Sale. *B-Spendthrift Farm LLC (KY)*

Sunday, March 12, 2023

2nd-HSN, ¥10,480,000 (\$77k), Maiden, 3yo, 1200m

ANGE FIELD (JPN) (f, 3, **Justify**--Not Now Carolyn, by **Tapit**) is out of a winning daughter of Eclipse Award, Grade I and inaugural Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Sprint winner Maryfield (Elusive Quality), who cost Shimokobe Farm \$140,000 with this filly in utero at the 2019 Keeneland November Sale. Not Now Carolyn, a half-sister to Irish Group 2-placed Radio Silence (**War Front**), was exported to Japan and the filly--foaled Apr. 16, 2020--fetched ¥80 million (\$745,639) at that year's JRHA Select Sale. This is also the family of recent GII Risen Star S. runner-up Sun Thunder (Into Mischief). *B-Shimokobe Farm*

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IN SAUDI ARABIA:

Tabashir, c, 3, **Sharp Azteca**--Wild Mocha, by **Medaglia d'Oro**. King Abdulaziz, 3-9, Maiden, 1200m. B-Glen View Oaks LLC (KY). *\$16,000 Ylg '21 OBSJAN; \$55,000 2yo '22 OBSAPR.

[VIDEO \(SC 7\)](#)

Bottle Rocket Man, h, 5, **Into Mischief**--Gaudete, by Distorted Humor. King Abdulaziz, 3-9, Allowance, 1600m. B-Breffni Farm (KY). *1/2 to Snowboarder (Raven's Pass), GSP-UAE & Eng, \$251,345. **\$350,000 Ylg '19 KEESEP; \$70,000 HRA '21FTKJUL.

[VIDEO \(SC 11\)](#)

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IN AUSTRALIA:

Sisterhood (Aus), f, 3, **American Pharoah**--Not Only Florina (Ire) (SW-Fr), by Makfi (GB). Pakenham, 3-9, Maiden, 1200mT, 1:11.98. B-R J Crabtree (Vic).



SECOND-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: FRIDAY, MARCH 10

2023 Stud Fees Listed

Aldrin (Malibu Moon), O'Sullivan Farms

46 foals of racing age/3 winners/0 black-type winners

7-Charles Town, 10:02 p.m. EST, Msw 4 1/2f, Dr Rendezvous, 15-1

5-Charles Town, 9:02 p.m. EST, Alw 7f, Xanthe, 9-2

Army Mule (Friesan Fire), Hill 'n' Dale at Xalapa, \$12,500

143 foals of racing age/31 winners/7 black-type winners

3-Sam Houston Race, 3:00 p.m. EST, Msw 5fT, Fly Condor, 9-2

\$17,000 RNA KEE NOV wnl; \$52,000 KEE SEP yrl

8-Turfway, 9:25 p.m. EST, Aoc 6f, Hot Little Thing, 7-2

\$35,000 FTK OCT yrl; \$80,000 OBS MAR 2yo

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Bucchero (Kantharos), Pleasant Acres Stallions

155 foals of racing age/18 winners/0 black-type winners
4-Gulfstream, 2:08 p.m. EST, Aoc 5fT, Takecareofbusiness, 4-1
\$40,000 OBS MAR 2yo

City of Light (Quality Road), Lane's End Farm, \$60,000

209 foals of racing age/17 winners/4 black-type winners
1-Aqueduct, 1:20 p.m. EST, Msw 1 1/8m, Kaon, 6-1
\$150,000 KEE SEP yrl

Cloud Computing (Maclean's Music), Spendthrift Farm, \$5,000

198 foals of racing age/23 winners/1 black-type winner
6-Laurel, 2:52 p.m. EST, Aoc 1m, Crypto Mama, 6-1
\$30,000 KEE NOV wnl; \$47,000 KEE SEP yrl

Destin (Giant's Causeway), Sequel New York

77 foals of racing age/5 winners/0 black-type winners
7-Laurel, 3:21 p.m. EST, Msw 5 1/2f, Destined to Dance, 15-1
\$14,000 RNA FTK FEB wnl; \$12,000 RNA OBS OPN 2yo
4-Fair Grounds, 3:45 p.m. EST, Alw 1m, Make Your Destiny, 12-1
\$11,000 FTK OCT yrl

Good Magic (Curlin), Hill 'n' Dale at Xalapa, \$50,000

237 foals of racing age/34 winners/7 black-type winners
3-Laurel, 1:26 p.m. EST, Msw 5 1/2f, Daylight Queen, 20-1
\$20,000 EAS MAY 2yo

Good Samaritan (Harlan's Holiday), WinStar Farm, \$7,500

172 foals of racing age/27 winners/1 black-type winner
8-Turfway, 9:25 p.m. EST, Aoc 6f, Holiday Decision, 30-1
\$35,000 KEE NOV wnl; \$105,000 KEE SEP yrl
6-Sam Houston Race, 4:26 p.m. EST, Alw 5fT, Queens Holiday, 15-1
\$23,000 RNA TTA APR 2yo

Irish War Cry (Curlin), Northview Stallion Station

103 foals of racing age/6 winners/0 black-type winners
3-Laurel, 1:26 p.m. EST, Msw 5 1/2f, Italian War Cry, 8-1
\$25,000 EAS OCT yrl

Justify (Scat Daddy), Coolmore Ashford, \$100,000

343 foals of racing age/35 winners/7 black-type winners
8-Turfway, 9:25 p.m. EST, Aoc 6f, Rarefy, 7-5
\$750,000 KEE SEP yrl

Mobile Bay (Lone Star Special), Whispering Oaks Farm

7 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners
4-Sam Houston Race, 3:29 p.m. EST, Msw 1m, Destron Bay, 20-1

Mor Spirit (Eskendereya), Spendthrift Farm, \$5,000

190 foals of racing age/27 winners/1 black-type winner
5-Fair Grounds, 4:15 p.m. EST, Alw 6f, Mor Big Lee, 10-1
RNA TTA YHR yrl

Mo Town (Uncle Mo), Coolmore Ashford, \$5,000

171 foals of racing age/29 winners/2 black-type winners
3-Charles Town, 8:02 p.m. EST, Alw 4 1/2f, Colt Rock, 15-1

Ransom the Moon (Malibu Moon), Calumet Farm, \$5,000

101 foals of racing age/13 winners/1 black-type winner
6-Santa Anita, 6:09 p.m. EST, Msw 1mT, Tennessee Moon, 6-1

Sharp Azteca (Freud), Three Chimneys Farm, \$15,000

200 foals of racing age/45 winners/4 black-type winners
7-Laurel, 3:21 p.m. EST, Msw 5 1/2f, Black Diamond Rain, 10-1
\$28,000 EAS DEC wnl; \$20,000 EAS OCT yrl; \$35,000 EAS MAY 2yo

Tapwrit (Tapit), Gainesway Farm, \$10,000

176 foals of racing age/19 winners/2 black-type winners
3-Sam Houston Race, 3:00 p.m. EST, Msw 5fT, Irish Writ, 6-1



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8th-Oaklawn, \$106,000, 3-9, 4yo/up, 6f, 1:09.80, sy, 1 1/4 lengths.

HEART RHYTHM (h, 5, Flat Out--Nothing But Heart, by Officer)

Lifetime Record: MSP, 25-7-6-6, \$496,015. O-TEC Racing (Elliott S. Logan); B-Terrazas Thoroughbreds, LLC (KY); T-John Alexander Ortiz. *\$6,500 RNA Ylg '19 FTKOCT. **1/2 to She Takes Heart (Wilburn), SP, \$228,390.

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9th-Gulfstream, \$54,000, (S), 3-9, 4yo/up, f/m, 5fT, :56.29, fm, neck.

DAVID'S ROSE (f, 4, Uncaptured--Rosie Red, by Exchange Rate) Lifetime Record: 15-4-2-2, \$126,680. O/B-Trilogy Stable & Plesa (FL); T-Edward Plesa, Jr.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Fever Nation, g, 3, Alternation--Cecilia's Fever, by Stormy Atlantic. Hawthorne, 3-9, (S), 5f, :58.13. Lifetime Record: 5-1-3-0, \$47,680. B-Jim Edgar (IL).

Seismic Spirit (Ire), g, 3, Belardo (Ire)--Tough Spirit (Ire), by Iffraaj (GB). Santa Anita, 3-9, (C), 6fT, 1:09.50. Lifetime Record: 5-1-1-2, \$52,540. B-Denis McDonnell (IRE). *€100,000 Ylg '21 GOFSP; \$55,000 2yo '22 KEENOV.

Roaring Ginger, f, 3, City Weekend--I Run for Dan, by Formal Dinner. Mahoning Valley, 3-9, (S), 6f, 1:16.98. Lifetime Record: 3-1-2-0, \$31,800. B-R Gorham (OH).

Constitution Coal, g, 3, Constitution--Canaryinacoalmine, by Birdstone. Mahoning Valley, 3-9, (S), 6f, 1:15.37. Lifetime Record: 8-1-1-0, \$28,641. B-Catherine Jacob & Paul Doughty (OH).

Kat Trax, f, 3, Cowtown Cat--Mendassity, by Touch Gold. Mahoning Valley, 3-9, (S), 6f, 1:15.07. Lifetime Record: 5-1-0-1, \$24,378. B-Mapleton Thoroughbred Farm (OH).

Butler Cabin, c, 3, Free Drop Billy--Xoxo (GSP, \$142,650), by Majestic Warrior. Fair Grounds, 3-9, (C), 1m 70y, 1:44.53. Lifetime Record: 2-1-1-0, \$20,400. B-Malibu Farm, LLC (KY).

Luminous Flight, f, 3, Requite--My Queen Olivia (SW), by Half Ours. Fair Grounds, 3-9, (S), 6f, 1:12.57. Lifetime Record: 2-1-1-0, \$38,600. B-Brandon Adcock (LA).

Mooncapture, c, 3, Uncaptured--Moonshot, by Grand Slam. Gulfstream, 3-9, (C), 5 1/2f (AWT), 1:03.08. Lifetime Record: 4-1-1-0, \$42,190. B-Cheryl Janine & James P McGuire (FL). *\$42,000 Ylg '21 OBSOCT; \$60,000 2yo '22 OBSAPR.

Halcyon Hammock Graduate | Hip 696 - Half sis sells at OBSMAR

Comanche Warrior, g, 3, Yockey's Warrior--Jettin Jana, by Mauk Four. Fair Grounds, 3-9, (S), 6f, 1:11.01. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, \$30,000. B-Jerry D. Cart (LA).

War Room, g, 4, Constitution--Whisper Number, by First Samurai. Hawthorne, 3-9, 5f, :58.40. Lifetime Record: 6-1-0-0, \$29,890. B-Twin Creeks Farm (KY). *\$370,000 RNA Ylg '20 KEESEP. **1/2 to Ms Locust Point (Dialed In), GSW, \$675,975; Full to Warrant, GSW & GISP, \$937,825.

Idiot's Gold, g, 4, Idiot Proof--Sizzling Gold, by Formal Gold. Golden Gate Fields, 3-9, 5 1/2f (AWT), 1:05.57. Lifetime Record: 6-1-3-1, \$49,420. B-Victory Rose Thoroughbreds (CA).

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Alternation, Fever Nation, g, 3, o/o Cecilia's Fever, by Stormy Atlantic. MSW, 3-9, Hawthorne

American Pharoah, Native Thunder, c, 4, o/o Miss Houdini, by Belong to Me. AOC, 3-9, Fair Grounds

Belardo (Ire), Seismic Spirit (Ire), g, 3, o/o Tough Spirit (Ire), by Iffraaj (GB). MCL, 3-9, Santa Anita

City Weekend, Roaring Ginger, f, 3, o/o I Run for Dan, by Formal Dinner. MSW, 3-9, Mahoning Valley

Constitution, Constitution Coal, g, 3, o/o Canaryinacoalmine, by Birdstone. MSW, 3-9, Mahoning Valley

Constitution, War Room, g, 4, o/o Whisper Number, by First Samurai. MSW, 3-9, Hawthorne

Flat Out, Heart Rhythm, h, 5, o/o Nothing But Heart, by Officer. AOC, 3-9, Oaklawn

Free Drop Billy, Butler Cabin, c, 3, o/o Xoxo, by Majestic Warrior. MCL, 3-9, Fair Grounds

Gun Runner, Gunning, f, 4, o/o Puca, by Big Brown. ALW, 3-9, Oaklawn

Khozan, Khozeiress, c, 3, o/o Bridled Heiress, by Wildcat Heir. MSW, 3-9, Gulfstream

Mendelssohn, Mendelssohns March, c, 3, o/o Unappeased (Ire), by Galileo (Ire). AOC, 3-9, Oaklawn

Practical Joke, Clever Joke, f, 3, o/o La Piba, by Lookin At Lucky. MSW, 3-9, Fair Grounds

Uncaptured, David's Rose, f, 4, o/o Rosie Red, by Exchange Rate. AOC, 3-9, Gulfstream

Uncaptured, Mooncapture, c, 3, o/o Moonshot, by Grand Slam. MOC, 3-9, Gulfstream

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Mendelssohns March (Mendelssohn) goes two-for-two
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'IT'S THE HUNDRED-YEAR ANNIVERSARY' - PENSEE DU JOUR A SIGNIFICANT WINNER



Anthony Stroud | Tattersalls

By Brian Sheerin

The Prix de Diane is the main aim for Thursday's impressive Saint-Cloud winner Pensee Du Jour (Ire), according to Anthony Stroud, who manages the interests of the Camelot (GB) filly's owners, Ballymore Thoroughbreds.

Carrying the silks of owner-breeder Diane Wildenstein, Pensee Du Jour made all of the running to win the Rose De Mai S. by seven lengths, with Stroud explaining the significance of the victory shortly afterwards.

He said of the 'TDN Rising Star', "Funnily enough, they [the Wildenstein family] started out in racing back in 1923 so this is the hundred-year anniversary--it's a very significant year."

The significance does not end there. Pensee Du Jour hails from a deep family that has been nurtured for generations by the Wildensteins. The homebred is from the family of the outstanding Peintre Celebre, who carried Daniel Wildenstein's colours to a host of big-race successes, including victory in the 1997 Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe.

Group 1 targets now await Pensee Du Jour, who made it two wins from as many outings on Thursday, and will warm up for a tilt at the Prix de Diane by running in the G3 Prix Penelope back at Saint-Cloud next month. [Cont. p3](#)

MALAVATH AND AMAZING GRACE BOLSTER MOYGLARE'S AMERICAN TEAM *by Emma Berry*

Following a momentous 60th anniversary year for Moyglare Stud, with a Classic winner and a champion stayer to the team's credit, owner Eva-Maria Bucher-Haefner and her bloodstock advisor Fiona Craig picked up a smart pair of fillies at Arqana's Breeding Stock Sale last December.

Both Malavath (Ire) (Mehmas {Ire}) and Amazing Grace (Ger) (Protectionist {Ger}), who are Group 2 winners and were Group 1-placed in France and Germany respectively, will remain in training this season. They have now left Europe to join Christophe Clement's team of horses, which is currently stabled at Payson Park in Florida.

"They didn't arrive there until the middle of January but they have both been kept on the go," reported Craig. "After the sale, Amazing Grace went to Nicolas Clement [in Chantilly] and Malavath went back to Francis Graffard, so they were in really good nick when they arrived." [Cont. p5](#)

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

THE ROCK ON WHICH CAIN WAS RAISED

Chris McGrath speaks with Codee Guffey of Rock Ridge Farm on the success of farm graduate Raise Cain ([Violence](#)), who won the GIII Gotham S.

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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

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Advertising Assistant

Liz Fronczek

60 Broad Street, Suite 100

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Friday, March 10, 2023



Hubie de Burgh, Nicolas de Chambure and Craig Bernick enjoying a gentle hike on the Grande Dune du Pilat. It looks a little windy! | CB photo

PENSEE DU JOUR TAKES SAINT-CLOUD STAKES

4

Pensee Du Jour (Ire) (Camelot {GB}) validated her Rising Star tag with a seven-length victory in the Listed Prix Rose de Mai at Saint-Cloud on Thursday.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: THE ST LEGER

6

Several readers respond to Emma Berry's Op/Ed on the G1 St Leger.

ANOTHER STAKES VICTORY FOR THE REVENANT

9

The durable Group 1-winning veteran The Revenant (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}) won the Listed Prix Altipan on Thursday.

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Diane Wildenstein | Scoop Dyga

Pensee Du Jour Cont. from p1

Stroud said, "She is potentially very good--a nice filly. Hopefully, depending on how she comes out of this race, she will run in the G3 Prix Penelope in three weeks. The ultimate aim is the Prix de Diane."

Asked why Pensee Du Jour did not run as a 2-year-old, he replied, "She is a big filly and was a bit backward last year. As well as that, the ground was quite hard last summer, so we just

took our time with her.

"She couldn't have won any easier today--we just wish the races were a bit faster for her and that there was more pace in the race. Otherwise, she wouldn't have to make her own running."

Diane Wildenstein was in attendance at Saint-Cloud to witness Pensee Du Jour make light work of her rivals and confirm herself a top-notch prospect.

Stroud continued, "The filly hasn't done it yet, she still has to go and do it, but everyone works so hard--the people at the stud and in the racing stables--to produce good racehorses.

"Everyone who is into breeding and racing racehorses, that's what their aim is, and that's what we are in this game to do."

He added, "It's a combination of an awful lot of hard work from an awful amount of people. She couldn't have done more than she's done and we'll find out a bit more on the next step."

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Listed Prix Rose de Mai winner by an easy 7 lengths!

Exciting Classic prospect **PENSEE DU JOUR** couldn't have been more impressive when retaining her unbeaten record at Saint-Cloud yesterday. Trained by **Andre Fabre** for owner/breeders **Ballymore Thoroughbred Ltd.**



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JUDDMONTE

PENSEE DU JOUR ROMPS IN THE ROSE DE MAI *by Sean Cronin*

Ballymore Thoroughbred Racing's undefeated 3-year-old filly **Pensee Du Jour (Ire)** (**Camelot {GB}**--Painter's Pride {Fr}, by Dansili {GB}) delivered a spectacular winning debut last month, attaining 'TDN Rising Star' status with a four-length tally atop Chantilly's all-weather surface, and made a smooth transition into black-type company with an impressive pillar-to-post victory on the turf in Thursday's Listed Prix Rose de Mai at Saint-Cloud. The 1-2 favourite broke smartly and held sway throughout the 10-furlong contest. Unflustered and dominating into the straight, she was allowed an inch of rein soon after passing the quarter-mile marker and lengthened clear in effortless style in the latter stages to easily outclass toiling rivals by daylight. At the line, she was seven lengths too good for the overmatched **Olkovskha (Fr)** (Zelzal {Fr}), herself three lengths clear of **Cracksmania (GB)** (Cracksman {GB}).



Pensee Du Jour | Scoop Dyga

"It was not the plan to make the running, but she has early speed and the idea was to travel handy," explained rider Mickael Barzalona. "We found ourselves in front and she settled well and travelled smoothly. She is an easy ride, she does what you want and has a nice acceleration. You can feel that she still has a lot to learn, but what she has done so far is very good and most promising. She has all it takes to make a top filly and has a lot going for her, but still has a few steps to climb to get there."

Pensee Du Jour is the latest of three reported foals, all winners, produced by an unraced daughter of GII Long Island H.-winning matriarch Peinture Bleue (Alydar). The January-foaled homebred bay--who boasts entries in the G1 Poule d'Essai des Poulisches, G1 Prix Saint-Alary and G1 Prix de Diane--is a half-sister to Group 3-winning G1 Dubai Golden Shaheen third Canvassed (Ire) (Shamardal). [Cont. p5](#)

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Listed Prix Rose de Mai Cont.

Peinture Bleue, in turn, is responsible for a sextet of stakes performers, headed by MG1SW sire Peintre Celebre (Nureyev), G2 Prix de Pomone victrix Peinture Rare (Ire) (Sadler's Wells) and G3 Prix de Barbeville winner Pointilliste (Giant's Causeway). Her many black-type descendants also include MG1SW dual South African champion Jet Dark (SAf) (Trippi). **Video, sponsored by TVG.**

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PRIX ROSE DE MAI-Listed, €55,000, Saint-Cloud, 3-9, 3yo, f, 10fT, 2:13.75, vsf.

1--**PENSEE DU JOUR (IRE)**, 125, f, 3, by **Camelot (GB)**

1st Dam: Painter's Pride (Fr), by Dansili (GB)

2nd Dam: Peinture Bleue, by Alydar

3rd Dam: Petroleuse (Ire), by Habitat

1ST BLACK-TYPE WIN. 'TDN Rising Star'. O-Ballymore Thoroughbred Racing; B-Dayton Investments Ltd (IRE); T-Andre Fabre; J-Mickael Barzalona. €27,500. Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, €41,000. *1/2 to Canvassed (Ire) (Shamardal), GSW & G1SP-UAE, \$424,594.

2--**Olkovskha (Fr)**, 125, f, 3, Zelzal (Fr)--Falcolina (Ire), by Falco.

1ST BLACK TYPE. (€29,000 Ylg '21 ARQOCT; €60,000 2yo '22

OSAMAY). O-Alain Jathiere & Solomon Kumin; B-Jacques Jean, Laurent Jean & Mme Marie-Therese Jean (FR); T-Christophe Ferland. €11,000.

3--**Cracksmania (GB)**, 125, f, 3, Cracksman (GB)--Panthelia (Fr), by Gentlewave (Ire). **1ST BLACK TYPE.** O/B-Guy Pariente Holding (GB); T-Philippe Sogorb. €8,250.

Margins: 7, 3, 2. Odds: 0.50, 26.00, 6.60.

Also Ran: Avolta (Ire), Akagera (Fr), A Minardiére (Fr), Khahira (Fr), Romina Power (Fr), Carvana (GB). Scratched: Elusive Princess (Fr).

Malavath/Amazing Grace Cont. from p1

She added, "But they had a long journey and they have had some good time out in the paddock with Christophe. He's stepping their work up now but there is no desperate rush to run them in Florida. We'll know a little bit more in the next few weeks. Malavath wants 7 1/2 [furlongs] to a mile, so she is a bit more straightforward and will probably go straight up to New York. There is a possibility that Amazing Grace could run in Florida, but we'll see."

The 5-year-old Amazing Grace, who was previously trained by Waldemar Hickst, was, like her sire, bred by Dr. Christoph Berglar. **Cont. p6**



Pensee Du Jour streaks to a seven-length victory at Saint-Cloud on Thursday. | Scoop Dyga



Malavath sold to Moyglare in December | Zuzanna Lupa

Malavath/Amazing Grace Cont.

Craig added, "She is an absolute beauty and she'll be so easy to breed. She's Monsun on top of Danehill Dancer. We bought her as a broodmare but then we thought we'd roll the dice. She's a good mare and we'll see if we could improve on that in America. We've got a lot of young mares so there's no big rush to put her in foal straightaway. And [GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf runner-up] Malavath is only four now, so that's an advantage."

Closer to home, the Moyglare team can also look forward to a fairly imminent return for the Dermot Weld-trained Irish 1000 Guineas winner Homeless Songs (Ire) (Frankel {GB}), while star stayer Kyprios (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}), who is raced in partnership by Moyglare and Coolmore, is being primed by Aidan O'Brien for another Cup campaign this summer.

"Homeless Songs has been kept in training all winter and she will either run in the Park Express on the opening day [of the turf season] or a week later in the Heritage S. I think a lot of it will depend on ground," Craig said. "And Kyprios is also back in full training."

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE ST LEGER

A selection of correspondence in response to Emma Berry's Op/Ed *Long May The Leger Run!*:

I read your article about the St Leger in the *TDN* with interest and I agree totally that it would be a great loss to British racing to see the Leger distance changed. When I started training I had horses for Lord Weinstock and Dick Hollingsworth, who only bred middle-distance horses, and I really enjoyed being able to allow their horses the time to develop and mature; they also

improved significantly from two to three, so if they showed any real ability at two they were going to be useful at three.

I remember, in the early days, having two two-year-olds for Dick Hollingsworth and not ringing him for ages, as I didn't know what to say. April came and I rang him one Sunday to say I was pleased with them and they were coming along nicely, to which he replied, "How on earth do you know? I hope you haven't done any work with them."

He went on to say that there was no point ringing him before July, as his two-year-olds shouldn't be doing anything before then. Not many owners would say that to you these days!

I love the St. Leger, not only as a test of stamina but as a test of a horse's bravery—they have to be tough to win it. It produces horses that go on and mature, having longevity, which is great for the sport and audience participation.

Best wishes,

Neil Graham

(Trainer of the 1988 St Leger winner Minster Son, now director of racing at Chelmsford City Racecourse)

Shortening Classic races, doping, railing against HISA, the US (more than any other nation, in my opinion) clinging to the ridiculous notion that fillies/mares can't compete with colts/geldings simply based on their gender—so many things sadden me in regards to racing these days.

I don't want any races shortened. If anything, I'd like to see some lengthened. This is especially pertinent in the US where many 'Classic' filly and mare races are shorter even than their male counterparts. I'd love to see both the Kentucky Oaks and Breeders' Cup Distaff (just to name two) go back to being 1 1/4[-mile] races. [Cont. p7](#)



2022 St Leger hero Eldar Eldarov | [Racingfotos.com](#)



JOB OPENINGS

A listing of career opportunities in the Thoroughbred industry


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Letters To The Editor Cont.

One of the brightest spots (again, in my opinion) is Japan. They keep showing the rest of the world what proper breeding and care can produce--and all drug free. They keep my faith and hope alive.

For me, the biggest light is the horse. Watching these beauties run (especially in the longer races) is what hooked me on the sport and keeps me coming back for more.

Jean B.

I read with interest your article of 8th March published in *TDN*. This brought back memories because the question of the St Leger distance, and also if it should be open to older horses, was a much discussed question late 1970s and early 80s. In recent years I had just accepted the race as a NH stallion maker. Interestingly, I once read Tony Morris suggesting his love of thoroughbred breeding may not have developed if this had been the case in his earlier years.

I was always horrified by any thoughts of lowering the distance of the St Leger. However, I was never certain my argument was based on anything but being a traditionalist. Although Peter Willett's argument is sound from a British breeding perspective, the move from the perception I had had in the 1970s that Australian racing was stamina laden to the current sprint-dominated racing and breeding seems to have worked in extreme and ultimately to, what Australians would consider, the detriment of their more prestigious races.

The other point of interest in your article was why a picture of The Minstrel should be on the copy of a June 1980 copy of Pacemaker. The indexing of my literature clearly works better than I thought and note it was a Richard Stone Reeves painting. Incidentally, on the changing face of racing, note the advert for Moyglare Stud selling a draft of yearlings at Keeneland (and they also sold in Europe as I recall).

Kind Regards,
Neville Sibley

EB replies: Yes, indeed, The Minstrel portrait was in regard to the publication of 'Decade of Champions' by Richard Stone Reeves and Patrick Robinson, a really special book.

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EUROPEAN NEWS

WILDCARD TOPS TATTERSALLS ONLINE MARCH SALE

Moriko De Vassy (Fr) (Cokoriko {Fr}) (lot 26) was knocked down for 85,000gns to dissolve a partnership and top the Tattersalls Online March Sale on Thursday.

The three-time winner and 6-year-old gelding, a full-brother to the Listed Prix Rose de Mai third Lisa De Vassy (Fr) (Cokoriko {Fr}), was picked up by Valentine Bloodstock.

Valentine Bloodstock's Ed Partridge said, "[He] was purchased on behalf of existing owners to form a new partnership. He is a smashing type of horse and his novice hurdle form is very good. Hopefully as he matures and goes back over hurdles he can fulfil the great level of potential he has previously displayed. My mother-in-law Jane Evans also trains the half-brother, black-type earner Moka De Vassy (Fr) (Karakter {Ire}), who it's planned will run in the Pertemps Final at the Cheltenham Festival next week, so Jane is well versed with the family and we hope he will go well after joining the stable."

Sacre Coeur (Fr) (Montmartre {Fr}) (lot 25) was offered by Jonjo O'Neill's Jackdaws Castle, and she went to Alne Park Stud for 12,500gns. The five-time scorer is a granddaughter of Listed Prix Belle de Nuit heroine Valley Quest (Ire) (Rainbow Quest).

At the close of trade, 13 lots sold for an aggregate of 141,300gns. The average was 10,869gns and the median was 2,800gns.

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Moriko De Vassy | Tattersalls Online



Meath-based trainer John McConnell and groom Emily Grifferty with racehorse Anna Bunina meet pupils from St Brigid's National School in Foxrock and Blessington National School in County Wicklow at HRI Racing Juniors education day at Leopardstown Racecourse
Healy Racing

OBSERVATIONS

on the European racing scene

SON OF G1 SAINT-ALARY HEROINE

WAVERING IN LINE FOR DEAUVILLE DEBUT

13.40 Deauville, Mdn, €27,000, unraced 3yo, c/g, 9 1/2f (AWT) Godolphin's **ILES ET AILES (GB) (Shamardal)** is an Andre Fabre-trained son of G1 Prix Saint-Alary heroine Wavering (Ire) (Refuse To Bend {Ire}) and thus kin to a group-placed trio headed by dual stakes-winning G2 Prix de Sandringham runner-up Life In Motion (Ire) (**Sea The Stars {Ire}**). His nine unraced rivals include Alain and Gerard Wertheimer's homebred **Double Major (Ire) (Daiwa Major {Jpn})**, who is a gelded half-brother to G3 Prix de Guiche winner Flop Shot (Ire) (New Approach {Ire}) out of a stakes-placed half-sister to G1 Grand Prix de Saint-Cloud victrix Plumania (GB) (Anabaa), from the Christophe Ferland yard.

HOW THEY FARED

15.00 Saint-Cloud, Listed, €55,000, 3yo, f, 10fT Ballymore Thoroughbred Racing's 'TDN Rising Star' **Pensee Du Jour (Ire) (Camelot {GB})** made a smooth transition into black-type company, returning off a spectacular winning debut at Chantilly last month, and justified odds-on favouritism with a daylight success in this Listed Prix Rose de Mai.

16.10 Saint-Cloud, Listed, €52,000, 4yo/up, 8fT

Al Asayl France's 2020 G1 Queen Elizabeth II S. hero and dual Listed Prix Altipan winner **The Revenant (GB) (Dubawi {Ire})** went postward for his third start in the latter contest here. Coming back off a five-month break, he took his Saint-Cloud record to six wins from eight starts and a hat-trick of Altipan victories with a 1 1/4-length tally.

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BRITAIN

CONDITIONS RESULTS:

2nd-Southwell, £8,000, Cond, 3-9, 4yo/up, 12f 14y (AWT), 2:40.13, st/sl.

KING ATHELSTAN (IRE) (g, 8, Mayson {GB}--Ashtaroute, by Holy Bull) Lifetime Record: 38-4-5-7, \$33,170. O-N Ender; B-M J Rozenbroek (IRE); T-Sara Ender. *€13,000 Ylg '16 TIRSEP; €11,000 2yo '17 GBMBR; £3,000 5yo '20 GUKDEC.

6th-Southwell, £8,000, Cond, 3-9, 4yo/up, 7f 14y (AWT), 1:27.25, st/sl.

LORD CHERRY (IRE) (g, 4, Profitable {Ire}--Winning Sequence {Fr}, by Zafonic) Lifetime Record: 12-2-3-0, \$17,066. O-B Piper & D Cobill; B-Epona Bloodstock Ltd (IRE); T-Stuart Williams. *36,000gns Ylg '20 TATOCT.

7th-Southwell, £8,000, Cond, 3-9, 3yo/up, 6f 16y (AWT), 1:15.11, st/sl.

AIKIDO (IRE) (g, 5, Dandy Man {Ire}--Quintessenz {Ger}, by Soldier Hollow {GB}) Lifetime Record: 22-3-1-0, \$32,474. O-Karen Spark & Christine Jordan; B-Quintessenz Partnership (IRE); T-Ewan Whillans. *27,000gns Wlg '18 TATFOA; £50,000 Ylg '19 GOFFPR.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Dumfries (GB), c, 3, Cityscape (GB)--Milldale (GB), by Bushranger (Ire). Southwell, 3-9, 8f 13y (AWT), 1:40.90. Lifetime Record: 4-1-1-0, \$15,334. B-Whaddon Manor Stud (GB). *5,500gns Ylg '21 TATOCT.



DID YOU KNOW?

Zarak (Dubawi) was tabbed as a "TDN Rising Star"

Visit the [TDN Rising Stars](#) section on our website!

FRANCE

Thursday's Results:

PRIX ALTIPAN-Listed, €52,000, Saint-Cloud, 3-9, 4yo/up, 8fT, 1:45.53, vsf.

1--**THE REVENANT (GB)**, 126, g, 8, **Dubawi (Ire)**--**Hazel Lavery (Ire)** (GSW-Eng, \$246,630), by **Excellent Art (GB)**.

O-Al Asayl France; B-Al Asayl Bloodstock Ltd (GB); T-Francis-Henri Graffard; J-Tony Piccone. €26,000. Lifetime Record: G1SW-Eng, MGSW & G1SP-Fr, GSW-Ger, 23-13-4-3, €1,371,520.

2--**Anthorus (Fr)**, 126, c, 4, Territories (Ire)--Anna Platini (GB), by Dubawi (Ire). O/T-Henri-Alex Pantall; B-Henri-Alex Pantall & Mme Yvette Pantall (FR). €10,400. €10,400.

3--**Titanium (Fr)**, 126, g, 4, **Zarak (Fr)**--Kyurem (Ire), by Verglas (Ire). **1ST BLACK TYPE**. (€50,000 Ylg '20 ARQSEP). O-Ecurie 4L, Comte Guillaume de Saint-Seine, Alessandro Botti, Giuseppe Botti, Ecurie Vitale, Scuderia Visconti di Modrone & Giovanni Neri; B-Haras de la Perelle (FR); T-Alessandro & Giuseppe Botti. €7,800.

Margins: 1 1/4, 1 1/4, HF. Odds: 0.60, 8.30, 10.00.

Also Ran: Bennetot (Ire), Monarchic (Ire), Best Lightning (Fr), Siam Paragon (Fr), Jacinda (GB). Scratched: Loliwood (Fr).

Al Asayl France's homebred 2020 G1 Queen Elizabeth II S. hero The Revenant, returning off an Oct. 15 seventh when making his fourth start in the Ascot benchmark last time, registered a hat-trick in Saint-Cloud's Listed Prix Altipan with a comfortable win in Thursday's latest edition of the one-mile test.

It was the 8-year-old gelding's sixth success in eight outings over the track's course and distance. Settling into a smooth rhythm racing at the tail of the eight-runner field into the straight, the 3-5 favourite made relentless progress saving ground along the far-side rail to launch his challenge with 300 metres remaining and was pushed out to defeat **Anthorus (Fr)** (Territories {Ire}) by 1 1/4 lengths in snug fashion.

"He is such a special horse for us and by winning this race for the third time shows us that he can still compete at a high level at the age of eight," commented Francis Graffard. "That's what I wanted to find out with this first start, to see if he still possessed his fighting spirit, because he had a hard race last time out at Ascot. The race unfolded perfectly for him. He settled into a great rhythm, it was a ground-saving trip on the inside and he idled once in front because he knows the job. I didn't work him too hard at home and he will come on for the run. The program is straightforward and it should be the [G3 Prix] Edmond Blanc and then the [G2 Prix du] Muguet. However, he will not run if the going is not soft enough. He needs that ground, more than ever, and didn't really get it last year."

The Revenant, a half-brother to the hitherto untried 3-year-old filly Andraste (GB) (**Saxon Warrior {Jpn}**), is the second of five foals and lone winner produced by G3 St Simon S. victrix Hazel Lavery, herself a half-sister to MGSP Czech champion Leo Gali (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}). The April-foaled chestnut's third dam Rapid Repeat (Ire) (Exactly Sharp) is kin to four black-type performers headed by G3 Derrinstown Stud Derby Trial-winning sire Artema (Ire) (Common Grounds {GB}). **Video, sponsored by TVG.**

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The Revenant | Scoop Dyga

2nd-Saint-Cloud, €28,000, Cond, 3-9, 3yo, 10fT, 2:17.49, vsf. **DON DIEGO DE VEGA (FR)** (c, 3, **Lope De Vega {Ire}**--**Fairly Fair {Fr}** {SW-Fr}, by **Sinndar {Ire}**) graduated in his Dec. 9 debut at Deauville when last seen and lobbed along in third until taking second at halfway here. Stoked into action soon after passing the quarter-mile pole, the 24-5 chance inched ahead with 300 metres remaining and was ridden out inside the final furlong to prevail by a length from St James Park (Fr) (Pedro The Great). Don Diego De Vega is the fifth of six foals and one of two scorers out of Listed Prix Finlande victrix Fairly Fair (Fr) (Sinndar {Ire}), herself a half-sister to GII Del Mar Derby-winning GI Hollywood Derby runner-up Fairly Ransom (Red Ransom) and G3 Prix La Force and G3 Prix Quincey victor Graphite (Fr) (Shamardal). Fairly Fair is out of a dual Group 3-placed full-sister to G1 Prix Ganay-winning sire Fair Mix (Ire) (Linamix {Fr}) and has a 2-year-old colt by **Wootton Bassett (GB)**, named Al Mudhaffar (Ire), to come. Sales history: €90,000 Ylg '20 ARQOCT. Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, €27,500. **Video, sponsored by TVG.**

O-Alexandre Foulon, Ecurie Vivaldi, Hubert Meraud & Hubert Guy; B-Ecurie des Monceaux, Langlais Bloodstock, W McAlpin & Kastro Stud Farm (FR); T-Stephane Wattel.

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for 3yos and upward that raced between 1st January 2023 to 5th March 2023

RANK	RATING	HORSE	TRAINED IN
1	125	Golden Sixty (AUS)	HK
2	123	Romantic Warrior (IRE)	HK
3	122	California Spangle (IRE)	HK
4	121	Art Collector (USA)	USA
4	121	Mostahdaf (IRE)	GB
6	120	Anamoe (AUS)	AUS
6	120	Do Deuce (JPN)	JPN
6	120	Elite Power (USA)	USA
6	120	Panthalassa (JPN)	JPN



Golden Sixty ©Hong Kong Jockey Club



CONDITIONS RESULTS:

4th-Saint-Cloud, €23,000, Cond, 3-9, 4yo/up, 12 1/2ft, 2:53.65, vsf.

DREAMS (FR) (h, 5, Morandi {Fr}--Many Dreams {Fr}, by Lando {Ger}) Lifetime Record: 16-3-3-2, €54,440. O-Paolino Flore; B-SCEA Ecurie de Montfort (FR); T-Luigi Maceli.

IN QATAR:

Inverness (Ire), c, 4, Highland Reel (Ire)--Four Eleven, by Arch. Al Rayyan, 3-9, Cond., 3200mT, 3:23.62. B-Knockainey Stud.
*Won by 4 1/2 lengths. **€60,000 Wlg '19 GOFNOV; 110,000gns Ylg '20 TATOCT; 380,000gns HRA '22 TATAUT.

VIDEO (SC 8)



IN THE UAE:

Nibras Passion (GB), g, 5, Iffraaj (GB)--Poppet's Passion (GB), by Clodovil {Ire}). Abu Dhabi, 3-9, Hcp., 1400mT, 1:22.84. O-Saeed Humaid Al Tayer. B-Wharton Manor Stud (GB). T-Ismail Mohammed. *22,000gns Ylg '19 TATOCT; 40,000gns 2yo '20 TATJUN. **1/2 to Mubaalegh (GB) (Dark Angel {Ire}), SP-Ger, \$203,185; and Lord Tennyson (GB) (Poet's Voice {GB}), SP-Eng.

WORLDWIDE NEWS

HAGGAS QUARTET PRIMED FOR AUSSIE VENTURE

Four horses trained by William Haggas are in good form in advance of planned starts in Australia in the coming weeks.

Competing on Saturday are Roy and Gretchen Jackson's Lael Stables colourbearer **Purplepay (Fr) (Zarak {Fr})**, who will run in the 1500-metre G1 Coolmore Classic at Rosehill Gardens. **Cont. p11**



Don Diego De Vega winning the Prix Gris Perle (conditions) at Saint-Cloud. The son of Lope De Vega was purchased from Monceaux for €90,000 at Arqana October by Hubert Guy. | Scoop Dyga



Purplepay | Great British Racing International

Haggas Quartet Cont.

"They're lovely people and this filly came to us by accident really," said Haggas, who has already saddled three-time Australian Group 1 winner Addeybb (Ire) (Pivotal {GB}) Down Under. "She was bought to go to the States and then missed her flight and didn't go to the States, so they sent her to us, which is terrific."

Joining the G2 Prix de Sandringham heroine who was also third in the G1 Criterion Internationa is **Protagonist (Fr)** (**Wootton Bassett {GB}**), who will compete in the G3 Sky High S. over 2000 metres for Australian Bloodstock.

Haggas added, "Protagonist was bought privately by Australian Bloodstock after they sent us **Earl Of Tyrone (Ire)** (**Australia {GB}**). He was previously owned by Michael Buckley, owner of **Constitution Hill (GB)** (Blue Bresil {Fr}).

Earl Of Tyrone is bound for the Mar. 25 G1 Tancred S. or the Apr. 8 G1 Sydney Cup. Rounding out the quartet is **Dubai Honour (Ire)** (Pride Of Dubai {Aus}) for Mohamed Obaida, who is being aimed at the G1 Ranvet S. at Rosehill on Mar. 18.

Haggas added, "We got very lucky. They all had a good trip and seem in good form. The one thing that I was concerned about was the weather and I've been right so far in that all the horses we sent want a bit of cut in the ground. It's been a very hot spell so far and the ground is quick. There's nothing I can do about the weather.

"The plan is to run Dubai Honour next week at Rosehill in the Ranvet S. and Earl of Tyrone will either go for the Tancred S. on the 25th Mar. or straight for the Sydney Cup on the 8th Apr."

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GOLDEN SIXTY THE GOLDEN CHILD OF THE LONGINES WBRR

Hong Kong Horse of the Year **Golden Sixty (Aus)** (Medaglia d'Oro) has been given a mark of 125 to top the latest version of the Longines World's Best Racehorse Rankings.

The gelding ran out a one-length winner of the G1 Stewards' Cup, defeating **Romantic Warrior (Ire)** (Acclamation {GB}) (123), with **California Spangle (Ire)** (**Starspangledbanner {Aus}**) (122) in third. Golden Sixty then padded his record with a head tally over Romantic Warrior in the G1 Citi Hong Kong Gold Cup.

G1 Pegasus World Cup hero **Art Collector** (Bernardini) has been ranked at 121, equal to G3 Neom Turf Cup hero **Mostahdaf (Ire)** (**Frankel {GB}**). Four horses share a mark of 120 including **Elite Power (Curlin)**, who won the G3 Riyadh Dirt Sprint; **Panthalassa (Jpn)** (Lord Kanaloa {Jpn}), successful in the G1 Saudi Cup defeating **Country Grammer (Tonalist)** (119), **Café Pharoah (American Pharoah)** (118) and **Geoglyph (Jpn)** (Drefong) (118); crack Australian sprinter **Anamoe (Aus)** (Street Boss) (120), and **Do Deuce (Jpn)** (Heart's Cry {Jpn}) (120).

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Golden Sixty | HKJC

BAHRAIN LISTED RACES ATTRACT GODOLPHIN PARTICIPATION

A trio of runners bearing the Godolphin royal blue will contest the Listed His Majesty The King's Cup Sponsored By Bapco and the Listed Al Methaq Mile in Bahrain on Friday.

G3 Glorious S. winner and Group 1-placed **Passion And Glory (Ire)** (Cape Cross {Ire}), representing Saeed bin Suroor, and **First Ruler (GB)** (Dubawi {Ire}) from the Charlie Appleby yard both line up in the King's Cup. Appleby also saddles listed winner and multiple group-placed **Modern News (GB)** (Shamardal) in the Al Methaq Mile. [Cont. p12](#)



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Bahraini Listed Races Cont.

Appleby said, "First Ruler has got a progressive profile. This is his first test at listed level so we will learn a bit more about him. His profile is going the right way that he doesn't look out of place at this level, but we will be wiser afterwards. The track and conditions should suit him."

On Modern News Appleby added, "Modern News is a solid campaigner; I was delighted with his last start at Meydan and stepping back up to a mile will suit him. With a nice draw, I think he is the one they've got to beat. He has got a penalty, but I think he can overcome that, and conditions will suit him."

Zagato (GB) (**Frankel {GB}**), who won last year's edition of the King's Cup, will attempt to defend his crown for trainer Fawzi Nass. Allan Smith has two in the race for Al Adiyat Racing: **Rayounpour (Ire)** (Cape Cross {Ire}) and **Recovery Run (GB)** (Nathaniel {Ire}).

Smith said, "Recovery Run and Rayounpour have both been in and out of form this season, but they're both working well so we're hopeful. The competition is getting much better in Bahrain and the strength of the horses is amazing in the last three years. We love the competition that's what it's all about, it makes everyone get better horses and improve their stable."

Smith added, "This is the raceday of our season. It always has been The King's Cup. It's the equivalent to Royal Ascot; it's the pinnacle of racing in Bahrain."

The feature race, The King's Cup, will be available to watch live on Racing TV and via live stream on [The Bahrain Turf Club website](#) at 12:45 p.m. UK time.

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