

TDN DERBY TOP 12: FORTE VS. EVERYONE ELSE



Mike Repole leads Forte into winner's circle | Coglianese

by T.D. Thornton

Only one contender within the Top 12 was in action last week. But Sunday's news about 'TDN Rising Star' **Arabian Knight** (Uncle Mo) being declared off the GI Kentucky Derby trail left a void within the top tier that widens the gap between the juvenile champ and a cast of aspirants aiming to define themselves at longer distances.

1) FORTE (c, **Violence**--Queen Caroline, by **Blame**) 'TDN Rising Star'. O-Repole Stable and St. Elias Stable; B-South Gate Farm (KY); T-Todd Pletcher. Sales history: \$80,000 Wlg '20 KEENOV; \$110,000 Ylg '21 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: Ch. 2yo Colt, MGISW, 6-5-0-0, \$1,833,230. Last start: 1st GII Fountain of Youth S. at Gulfstream Mar. 4. Kentucky Derby Points: 90.

Purchased by Jacob West Bloodstock
EATON SALES **SOLD**
THOROSTRIDE--featured horse

Forte is the kingpin as we edge toward the seven-week mark to the Derby. We would have to see a vibrantly unexpected stakes performance from some other contender(s) between now and Apr. 8--the last of the nine-furlong points preps--in order to trigger a significant shake-up atop the current rankings.

Cont. Pg. 3

JAMES, LONGORIA BACK FOR MORE AT OBS

by Jessica Martini

Hotelier Greg James, who has over two decades of pinhooking under his belt, will be looking to follow up on a career year in the sales arena when the 2-year-old auction season opens next week with the Ocala Breeders' Sales Company's March Sale. James, with consignor Jesse Longoria, will offer six juveniles at the three-day auction, led off by a New York-bred son of Laoban (hip 79) who is scheduled to work during Tuesday's first session of the sale's under-tack show.

"So far, Jesse is very optimistic," James said of expectations for his March sextet. "We've got a nice New York-bred Laoban that he likes and we have a couple other horses that he calls push button. That's always a good word to hear around Jesse, that they are push button."

Cont. Pg. 9

IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

ROGER VARIAN BUILDING ON BANNER YEAR

The TDN's Emma Berry takes a closer look at veteran conditioner Roger Varian's promising stable, which includes the addition of recent Shadai purchase The Platinum Queen.

NEW FOR 2023

SIR WINSTON

AWESOME AGAIN -- LA GRAN BAILADORA

**PRECOCIOUS
STAKESWINNER AT 2
— & —
G1 CLASSIC WINNER**

EARNINGS: \$1,277,623

2023 Stud Fee: \$7,500

859.252.3770
www.crestwoodfarm.com

PROVEN VALUE

LEADERS OF THEIR CROP

STALLION	2023 FEE	AVG. EARNINGS/RUNNER
Take Charge Indy	\$10,000	\$98,995
Paynter	\$7,500	\$96,523
Violence	\$50,000	\$74,211
Jimmy Creed	\$10,000	\$69,138



**TAKE
CHARGE INDY**

First 2YOs since
returning this year
\$10,000



PAYNTER
22 BTWs from ages 2 to 6,
colts and fillies, all surfaces,
from 5 furlongs to 1 1/2 miles
\$7,500

WINSTAR WinStarFarm.com | 859-873-1717

*BLOODHORSE.COM, LEADING SIRES (LIFETIME) LIST, SEVENTH-CROP SIRES STANDING IN KENTUCKY, BY NORTH AMERICAN EARNINGS, 3/13

ALL FEES S&N

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

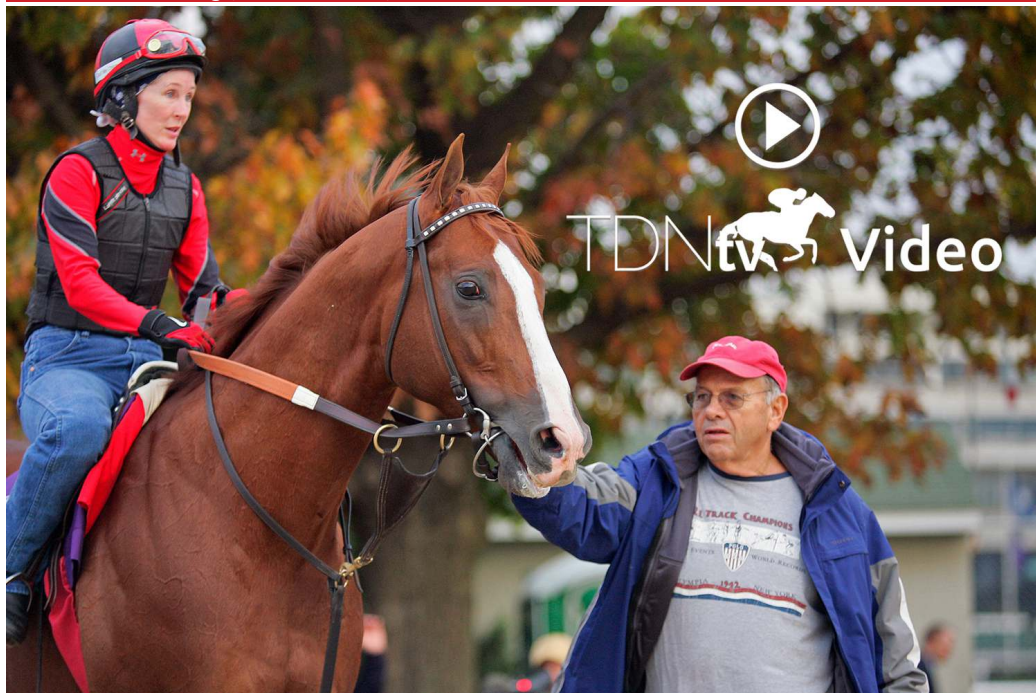
Red Bank, NJ 07701

732-747-8060 | www.TheTDN.com

TODAY in the

TDN 
THOROUGHBRED DAILY NEWS

Tuesday, March 14, 2023



Shortly after announcing his retirement from training, Bill Spawr sat down with Zoe Cadman to reminisce on a storied career. GISW Bordonaro, pictured here ahead of the 2006 Breeders' Cup, was one topic of their discussion. [Click here](#) for video. | Horsephotos

WARREN RIDING HIGH ON DERBY TRAIL

11

Andrew Warren has been building his racing stable from the ground up for four years and the pieces recently fell into place for him to have, as he puts it, "the best week I've ever had in racing."

FORTE MADE 3-1 FAVORITE IN KDFW POOL FIVE

13

Eclipse Award winner Forte (*Violence*) closed as the 3-1 favorite (\$8.76 will pay) in the fifth pool of the Kentucky Derby Future Wager

NHC CROWNS A WINNER

13




Paul Calia, a retired disability advisor for Social Security from Kansas City, Missouri, toppled a field of 779 entries to take home the grand prize of \$800,000.

BREED TO A PA STALLION IN 2023
50% BREEDER AWARDS

ELIGIBLE FOR 2YO
PA-SIRED PA-BRED
\$1 MILLION
STALLION SERIES



PENNSYLVANIA
HORSE BREEDERS
ASSOCIATION

PABRED.COM   
#PABRED ON SOCIAL MEDIA



Strong challengers emerging from the pipeline aren't outside the realm of possibility--plenty of Derby winners bloom late. But with so many horses on the Derby trail light on overall experience, any big, unforeseen upsetter in a late-season prep would likely head to Louisville with the public having doubts about their true position in the pecking order. Conversely, even if Forte doesn't shine in his final prep, he will still be given a measure of respect by bettors based on his overall body of work.

This **'TDN Rising Star'** has only one loss in six starts, and you have to go all the way back to last July to find it (fourth as the beaten fave in the GIII Sanford S. at Saratoga). Since then he's done nothing but win graded stakes, at seven furlongs (GI Hopeful S.) and three times over 1 1/16 miles, including the GI Breeders' Futurity S., GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile, and in his 3-year-old return, the GII Fountain of Youth S.

Forte's lanky athleticism, stalking prowess, and far-turn blast-off ability have been on full display in each of his two-turn races, and trainer Todd Pletcher is leaning toward the Apr. 1 GI **Curlin** Florida Derby at Gulfstream as Forte's final tightener.

One quirk, though: All three of Forte's route wins have come on tracks with short-stretch configurations that end at or just beyond the sixteenth pole. Will roughly an extra half a furlong in the home straight make any difference? Probably not based on the way Forte has authoritatively uncoiled through the lane. But a good chunk of the Top 12 contenders ranked beneath him are off-the-pace closers who figure to improve at nine and 10 furlongs, and that sort of multi-attack, firing-line stretch fight is something Forte has yet to encounter.

2) PRACTICAL MOVE (c, Practical Joke--Ack Naughty, by Afleet Alex) O-Leslie & Pierre Jean Amestoy & Roger Beasley; B-Chad Brown & Head of Plains Partners (Ky); T-Tim Yakteen. Sales history: \$90,000 RNA yrl '21 KEESEP; \$230,000 2yo '22 OBSAPR. Lifetime Record: MGSW, 6-3-1-2, \$434,200. Last Start: 1st GII San Felipe S. at Santa Anita Mar. 4. Kentucky Derby Points: 60.

EISAMANEQUINE.COM

THOROSTRIDE—featured horse

Practical Move's decisive win in the GII San Felipe S. (100 Beyer Speed Figure) was a huge coming-out party considering the race was his 3-year-old debut and his juvenile form was built around him inheriting a maiden win via DQ and a GII Los Alamitos Futurity score when this colt was a 10-1 outsider against four foes of dubious quality.

Apparently, I misread the tea leaves prior to the San Felipe. But now, looking at Practical Move's overall juvenile season, I can see a developmental arc that is more positive than I initially gave him credit for. (Yes, hindsight is the great friend of all Derby prognosticators.)

For starters, this son of **Practical Joke** packed in five starts in roughly a four-month span, which, although they did not produce breakthrough results at the time, should provide a stable foundation that will aid him in the long run.

He also ran into a combination of hot horses and bad trip luck--second behind the highly hyped **'TDN Rising Star'** Cave Rock (Arrogate) in his 24-1 debut; some bumping and rough-housing in starts two and three, and then being outgunned by one-turn specialist and subsequent Grade II stakes winner Havnameltdown (Uncaptured) in the seven-eighths GIII Bob Hope S. at Del Mar. Yet in none of his adversity-tinged defeats at age two was Practical Move worse than third.

Last week on "At the Races with Steve Byk," trainer Tim Yakteen described him as a big, "very straightforward" colt who never gets discouraged.

"It's very likely that I'll come back with Practical Move in the [Apr. 8 GI] Santa Anita Derby," Yakteen said. "He's run well on the track, and that will probably be the best scenario for us. But I didn't want to etch anything in stone and [instead I'll] leave myself the options. Because fortunately, there are a number of options that we can take advantage of. It's just a matter of how many weeks I want [between starts] and where I want him to be. But ideally, I'll run him out of his own stall."

HAVE A NEW FOAL?

[Click here](#) to submit your Foaling News for Stakes Winning and/or Stakes Producing Mares for publication in the TDN.



3) TAPIT TRICE (c, Tapit--Danzatrice, by Dunkirk) 'TDN Rising Star' O-Whisper Hill Farm LLC and Gainesway Stable (Antony Beck); B-Gainesway Thoroughbreds Ltd. (KY); T-Todd Pletcher. Sales history: \$1,300,000 Ylg '21 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: GSW, 4-3-0-1, \$100,150. Last start: 1st GIII Lambholm South Tampa Bay Derby at Tampa Bay Downs Mar. 11. KY Derby Points: 50.

Co-Bred & Consigned by  **GAINESWAY**

Owned by **Whisper Hill Farm**

Did you come away with a “glass half full” or “glass half empty” vibe after watching 2-5 favorite **Tapit** Trice snatch victory from the jaws of defeat with a last-to-first run in the GIII Lambholm South Tampa Bay Derby?

This son of **Tapit**'s habitual slow-to-go style (fourth flat-footed break in as many races) almost cost him dearly. But the pace was fast and the competition was notches below what this '**TDN Rising Star**' will encounter in Louisville, enabling him to pass every horse in the field of 12 with a nine-wide rush while encountering little serious resistance.

Yes, **Tapit** Trice got the job done by overcoming some self-created trip adversity. But the visual of jockey Luis Saez having to hustle and pump on **Tapit** Trice at multiple points in the race will linger when assessing his chances in the 20-horse Derby, where positioning is crucial. You don't necessarily have to be winging it on the front end, but the Kentucky Derby has been



Tapit Trice | *Lauren King*

won by speed-centric, forwardly-placed types in eight of the last nine years.

Tapit Trice's Tampa Derby grade rates as an “incomplete” in terms of overall progression. But this long-striding colt's first three races were so replete with eye-catching, positive attributes and an unruffled, confident demeanor that it doesn't make sense to dock his chances too severely because he didn't win a March prep with astounding dominance. **Cont.**



STAND OUT AT...

THE 102ND

SARATOGA

SALE

SELECTED YEARLINGS

TOP SIRES SHINE

BRIGHTER

AT SARATOGA

NOMINATE NOW!

VIEW STATS



Fasig-Tipton
125 Years

AUGUST 7-8
SARATOGA SPRINGS, NY

And hearing trainer Todd Pletcher say in the aftermath of the win that the colt will likely get a nine-furlong try in the GI Toyota Blue Grass S. is certainly more reassuring than hearing that **Tapit** Trice would spend eight weeks training up to the Derby.

Speed-figure gurus might not be too enthused about the 88 Beyer (four-point regression) **Tapit** Trice posted, and that's a valid concern. But this colt hit his best stride through a closing sixteenth in :6.14, and that's the fastest final-half-furlong clocking from 16 Derby qualifying points stakes run at 1 1/16 miles in 2022-23.



4) GEAX ROCKET RIDE (c, **Candy Ride {Arg}--Beyond Grace, by **Uncle Mo**)** O-Pin Oak Stud LLC; B-OXO Equine LLC (Ky); T-Richard Mandella. Sales history: \$350,000 yrl '21 FTKJUL. Lifetime Record: GSP, 2-1-1-0, \$120,200. Last Start: 2nd GII San Felipe S. at Santa Anita Mar. 4. Kentucky Derby Points: 20.

**CONGRATS TO PIN OAK FROM TAYLOR MADE
BRED & RAISED BY OXO EQUINE LLC**

In just his second career start and first around two turns, Geaux Rocket Ride was narrowly favored in the betting for the San Felipe S., closing at 2.7-1 odds.

That respect on the tote board said a lot about this speed-oriented son of **Candy Ride (Arg)**. But it also spoke

volumes about the public's confidence in trainer Richard Mandella, who is known for his judicious approach with young horses.

Although Geaux Rocket Ride finished second, without question he turned in the best runner-up effort we've witnessed in any 2023 Derby prep. He forced the issue on the front end of a robust tempo yet still managed to finish with purpose behind the much more experienced Practical Move. That combination of early torque matched with still-developing staying power is an attribute you don't see often in second-time-starters.

Jim and Dana Bernhard, who in autumn took over as the new owners of Pin Oak Stud, confirmed in a Twitter post four days after the San Felipe that the Santa Anita Derby will be next for their top sophomore.

Since 1900, 25 horses have attempted to win the Derby off exactly three lifetime starts. Only three have won: **Justify** in 2018, Big Brown in 2008, and Regret in 1915. Beyond those three, only one of the remaining 22 managed to hit the board (**Curlin**, third in 2007). **Cont.**

Seeing
RED?

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

100TH
GRADED STAKES WINNER

200TH
GRADED STAKES WIN

TAPIT TRICE
WINS THE TAMPA BAY DERBY (G3)
EARNING **50 POINTS** TOWARD THE KENTUCKY DERBY
FOR WHISPER HILL FARM & BREEDER/CO-OWNER GAINESWAY

TAPIT

\$185,000 LFSN

RYAN NORTON
(859) 771-2150

LAKOTA GIBSON
(859) 797-7102

5) ROCKET CAN (c, Into Mischief--Tension, by Tapit)
 O-Frank Fletcher Racing Operations Inc.; B-Woodford Thoroughbreds LLC (KY); T-Bill Mott. Sales history: \$245,000 RNA Ylg '21 FTSAUG. Lifetime Record: 5-2-1-0, \$249,738. Last Start: 2nd GII Fountain of Youth S. at Gulfstream Mar. 4. KY Derby Points: 40.

Discover #whywoodford / woodfordthoroughbreds.com

Rocket Can, an Into Mischief gray with six starts, turned the corner on Oct. 30 when first tasked with two-turn races. Yet both his trainer, Bill Mott, and jockey, Junior Alvarado, have acknowledged this colt still has some maturing to do.

Alvarado said Rocket Can got upset for unknown reasons in the post parade of the Fountain of Youth S. at Gulfstream prior to running a decent second, 4 1/2 lengths behind Forte.

Mott concurred in the post-race interview.

"He broke awfully sharp," Mott said. "He was a little geared up in the post parade. He was a little more wound up than I actually like to see him. I was hoping he wouldn't get too excited, but he still looked like he ran his race."

Rocket Can was credited with a 91 Beyer, which, in theory at least, turns down the heat on some of the criticism this colt faced for running back-to-back 82 Beyers and not advancing, numbers-wise, between a second-place try in a Nov. 26 allowance at Churchill and winning the GIII Holy Bull S. at Gulfstream Feb. 4.



Rocket Can | Coglianese

But speed figures never tell the entire story. Rocket Can gave up real estate on both turns of the Holy Bull while always within striking distance of the leaders, and the stretch runs in all four of his two-turn races have been characteristically strong (two wins, two seconds, never shying from engagement).



FIND US ON FACEBOOK

www.facebook.com/thoroughbreddailynews

TIMING IS EVERYTHING
 Sunday, April 30 at 4 p.m.

April Selected Horses of Racing Age Sale

Entry Deadline | April 3

Supplemental entries will continue to be considered until sale date

KEENELAND

APRIL

ENTER NOW

6) RED ROUTE ONE (c, **Gun Runner--Red House, by **Tapit**)**

O/B-Winchell Thoroughbreds, LLC (Ky); T-Steve Asmussen. Lifetime Record: GISP, 7-1-2-1, \$492,575. Last Start: 2nd in Feb. 25 GII Rebel S. Kentucky Derby Points: 33.

Although trainer Steve Asmussen said after Red Route One ran second in the GII Rebel S. that he was toying with the idea of stretching out his son of **Gun Runner** to 1 3/16 miles in the Mar. 25 GII Louisiana Derby, owner Ron Winchell confirmed to *TDN* via text message Saturday that the nine-furlong Apr. 2 GI Arkansas Derby is the more likely landing spot.

Red Route One, who just turned three Mar. 12, has twice run second in Oaklawn prep stakes this season, earning his two best lifetime Beyers in the slop (87 then 92). His lone victory came back on Sept. 5 over the Kentucky Downs turf course.

Can a Derby contender who's never won on dirt still be considered a realistic threat in mid-March? In 2023, the answer appears to be yes, because anything unconventional seems to be a "go" these days on the Derby trail, whether it's race spacing getting stretched beyond historic norms or horses with just a couple of starts being regarded as adequately seasoned.

So you can take your pick among horses who've won over dirt but have just had two, three or four lifetime starts. Or you can try your luck (at far higher odds) with a deep closer like Red Route One, who has never tasted victory on dirt but whose sturdy base includes seven lifetime starts, all at a mile or longer.

7) INSTANT COFFEE (c, Bolt d'Oro--Follow No One, by **Uncle Mo)**

O-Gold Square LLC; B-Sagamore Farm (Ky); T-Brad Cox. Sales history: \$200,000 yrl '21 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: MGSW, 4-3-0-0, \$442,815. Last Start: Won Jan. 21 GIII Lecomte S. at Fair Grounds. Kentucky Derby Points: 32.

Purchased by Joe Hardoon Bloodstock | 310-709-5218

Foaled, Raised and Sold by UPSON DOWNS

Instant Coffee, by Bolt d'Oro out of an **Uncle Mo** mare, will target the Mar. 25 GII Louisiana Derby off a 63-day layoff. According to *DRF's* Formulator, trainer Brad Cox over the last five years has won at a 23% clip (from 193 starts) with all layoff returnees between 60 and 70 days. His strike rate is also 23% (40 starts) when the filter is set to show the same layoff parameter for only his graded stakes starters.

For 3-year-olds coming back in the 60- to 70-day range at any class level, Cox's win rate is 20% (51 starts). The much narrower filter of 3-year-old 60- to 70-day layoff males in graded stakes dips to 1-for-9 (11%), and that lone winner was in a 2018 Grade III grass stakes at now-defunct Arlington.

This \$200,000 KEESEP colt is an overland closer with a 3-for-4 record, and Cox has described this Grade II and III winner as being a light-on-his-feet type whose body language and stride suggest he can get 10 furlongs.

Cont.

G1 Beholder Mile winner!

A MO REAY wins the G1 Beholder Mile at Santa Anita for Brad Cox and Hunter Valley Farm, bred by T & G Farm of Kentucky.



“He's among the top-tier stallions—he gets 2-year-old runners, turf runners, dirt runners, sprinters, and classic-type horses as well. He's just a fantastic sire and we've had good luck with him.”

David Shone, T & G Benson Farm Manager,
Bloodhorse Daily, 13th March

Uncle Mo

Now sire of 12 Grade 1 winners also including Classic winners **NYQUIST** and **MO DONEGAL**, the exceptionally fast **GOLDEN PAL** etc.

6 Stakes winners already in 2023, only Into Mischief has more!

COOLMORE®

A M E R I C A

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

Instant Coffee's Beyers are a touch unpredictable (85-81-82-92 pattern), with that curious dip after his seven-furlong debut win at Saratoga being followed by a 10-point jump in his first sophomore start in New Orleans.

Still, Instant Coffee manages to finish most of his races by posing for a picture in the winner's circle, so he must be doing something right. His only defeat was five months ago against the eventual divisional champ, Forte.

8) CONFIDENCE GAME (c, **Candy Ride {Arg}--Eblouissante, by Bernardini)** O-Don't Tell My Wife Stables; B-Summer Wind Equine, LLC (Ky); T-J K Desormeaux. Sales history: \$25,000 yrl '21 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: GSW, 7-3-1-2, \$785,525. Last Start: Won Feb. 25 GII Rebel S. at OP. Kentucky Derby Points: 57.



LANE'S END SALES GRADUATE



Trainer Keith Desormeaux told *DRF.com* last week that the upsetter of the Rebel S. is in "steady light training" at Fair Grounds while he mulls options for the colt's next start. The Arkansas Derby, Blue Grass S., and even just training straight up to the Derby are all under consideration for Confidence Game. That last option would mean a 10-week gulf between starts.

Desormeaux told *DRF* that it took Confidence Game "a little longer than usual to recover from that race," noting that having to ship from cool weather in Hot Springs back to 80-degree days in New Orleans didn't help the post-race recovery process.

Confidence Game, an efficient-striding son of **Candy Ride {Arg}**, sports a seven-race foundation that includes five routes.

The 94 Beyer he earned in the slop at Oaklawn was a 14-point leap off his previous effort, and Confidence Game capitalized by closing from mid-pack into a too-hot pace.



9) KINGSBARNs (c, **Uncle Mo--Lady Tapit, by Tapit)**

O-Spendthrift Farm; B-Parks Investment Group (Ky); T-Todd Pletcher. Sales history: \$250,000 yrl '21 FTSAR; \$800,000 2yo '22 FTMAR. Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, \$57,300. Last Start: 1st AOC at Tampa Bay Downs Feb. 12. Kentucky Derby Points: 0.



Congratulations to all the connections from Paramount Sales

Considering he's 2-for-2 and was well-regarded at the sales, Kingsbarns is an under-the-radar sort. Part of that perception has to do with his trainer, Todd Pletcher, having three other horses ranked within the current Top 12, including at the Nos. 1 and 4 spots with Forte and **Tapit** Trice.



Confidence Game | *Coady Photography*

This son of **Uncle Mo** (out of a **Tapit** mare) will attempt to parlay a Gulfstream MSW mile win and a Tampa allowance score over one mile and 40 yards into a points-garnering performance in the Louisiana Derby, which will likely be his only crack at a Derby qualifying stakes.

He's had the benefit of reeling in overly ambitious pacemakers in both his tries, but Kingsbarns looked very comfortable when covered up at the fence in his debut before slicing through with a capable late kick that belied his relative inexperience.

10) LITIGATE (c, **Blame--Salsa Diavola, by Mineshaft)**

O-Centennial Farms; B-Nursery Place, Donaldson & Broadbent (Ky); T-Todd Pletcher. Sales history: \$370,000 yrl '21 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: GSW, 3-2-1-0, \$182,590. Last Start: 1st in Feb. 11 GIII Sam F. Davis S. Kentucky Derby Points: 20.

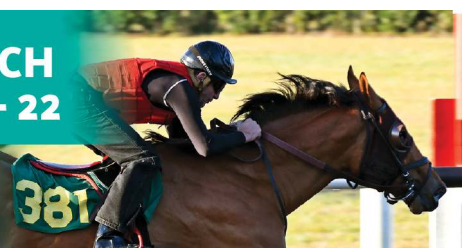
The thinking with Litigate is that the long Fair Grounds stretch in the Louisiana Derby is going to play to his stalking strengths and his **Blame** (over a **Mineshaft** mare) pedigree.

This \$370,000 KEESEP buy won at first asking sprinting 6 1/2 furlongs at Aqueduct Nov. 19, reeling in two horses inside the final furlong over what was arguably not his ideal distance. Additional real estate in the form of a Gulfstream one-turn mile Jan. 8 resulted in a second-place allowance try in which Litigate led between calls five-sixteenths out.

Start number three, the GIII Sam F. Davis S. at Tampa, was notable for Litigate being able to clear the field from post 10, responding to rating, then punching home with a far-turn bid during a driving rainstorm. **Cont.**

Watch Under Tack Live
March 14 - 17

OBS MARCH
March 20 - 22



The Massachusetts-based partnership Centennial Farms has a decades-long track record of not rushing young prospects. The syndicate's teaming with trainer Todd Pletcher is relatively new, starting with Litigate himself.

Litigate does need to improve his Beyers (76-80-77) to be considered a true Derby contender. His company lines also have looked soft over time, with the horses from all three of his races running an aggregate 1-for-18 in next-out races.

11) SLIP MAHONEY (c, Arrogate--Got Lucky, by A.P. Indy) O- Gold Square LLC; B-Hill 'n' Dale Equine Holdings & Philip Steinberg (Ky); T-Brad Cox. Sales history: \$150,000 yrl '21 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: GSP, 4-1-2-0, \$126,100. Last Start: 2nd in GIII Gotham S. at Aqueduct Mar 4. Kentucky Derby Points: 20.

Purchased by Joe Hardoon Bloodstock | 310-709-5218

Slip Mahoney required three tries to break his maiden, but he's been quietly rounding into form at Aqueduct this winter.

He won the "race within the race" when slow from the gate and second best with a big late burst behind a 7 1/2-length winner in the GIII Gotham S., and he lost two of his MSW starts despite decent efforts behind No. 3-ranked **Tapit** Trice and No. 10-ranked Litigate.

Trainer Brad Cox said after the Gotham that the GII Wood Memorial Apr. 8 would be next.

This \$150,000 KEESEP buy is one of four gray horses currently classified in the Top 12.

Since 2005, 36 consecutive grays/roans have gone to post and lost the Derby since the last gray, Giacomo, roared home at 50-1.

12) REINCARNATE (c, Good Magic--Allanah, by Scat Daddy) O-SF Racing LLC, Starlight Racing, Madaket Stables LLC, Robert Masterson, Stonestreet Stables LLC, Jay Schoenfarber, Waves Edge Capital LLC & Catherine Donovan; B-Woods Edge Farm (Ky); Tim Yakteen. Sales history: \$775,000 yrl '21 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: GSW, 6-2-3-1, \$231,900. Last Start: 3rd in the GII Rebel S. at Oaklawn Feb. 25. Kentucky Derby Points: 15.

Reincarnate has never been off the board from six starts, all at a mile or longer.

His GIII Sham S. win (95 Beyer) back on Jan. 8 was a good example of his evolving force-the-issue tactics on the front end. A large-framed colt with a long stride, Reincarnate waited on horses, but dug in and fought back once company came calling.



Reincarnate | Benoit

Last time out, in the Feb. 25 Rebel S., this \$775,000 KEESEP colt shipped to Oaklawn from his Southern California base and caught a sloppy, sealed track for the first time. Reincarnate got shuffled back at the break, advanced into contention mid-race, then lost momentum late when checking out of a tight spot. Still, he managed third (90 Beyer).

A return trip to Hot Springs for the Arkansas Derby looms as Reincarnate's likely next start.

[Share this story](#)

James, Longoria Cont. From Pg. 1

A native of Louisville, James's interests in racing are multi-faceted. He purchased Benny the Bull (Lucky Lionel) for \$38,000 at the 2004 Keeneland September sale. He sold a controlling interest in the future Eclipse Award winner to IEAH Stables and the speedy dark bay went on to win over \$2.3 million. James also campaigned multiple graded stakes winner Victor Avenue (Avenue of Flags).

"I was involved in many facets of the game back in the '90s," James said. "And I was attracted to some returns that I saw pinhookers getting. So I began to invest in different operations in Ocala. I have, off and on, been pinhooking probably about 25 years. My first venture, I think, with Jesse was all the way back in the late '90s. And we've been off and on doing business together since."

The partnership scored a pair of pinhooking home runs last year when a filly by Shackleford, purchased as a yearling for

PROVEN EQUIX PROSTRIDE DATA

Stride Length Data & Gallop-Outs (by Sale or Hip)
Complimentary Slow-Motion Breeze Videos

www.EquixProStride.com | **Call us for OBS March**



Suzanne Smallwood • 859-227-2854
ssmallwood@equixbio.com



Benny the Bull | Horsephotos

\$40,000, sold for \$300,000 at the OBS March sale and a colt by Race Day, purchased for \$42,000 as a yearling sold for \$475,000 at the OBS April sale.

"It was probably my best year," James said of the 2022 results. "My highest horse that I ever sold before was \$300,000, so the Shackleford replicated that and then the Race Day was certainly my biggest hit ever."

Asked if his success at the juvenile sales last year made him change his approach at the yearling auctions, James said, "Well, obviously it gives you optimism that success is out there if you partner with the right people and do the right thing. So for me, that's Jesse Longoria. Jesse has always been brutally honest and I think he has an impeccable eye for a horse. So I am quite comfortable letting him spend my money to fund this venture."

On behalf of James, Longoria purchased 10 yearlings last fall. Following the six scheduled to sell at OBS March, four will be catalogued at the company's April sale.

Working on a budget, the partners focus on the individual over pedigree.

"Jesse and I, we are looking for athletes," James said. "It's hard for us to buy the pedigreed horses that we want. But we buy

athletes and we have had success doing it."

The colt by Race Day who sold for \$475,000 last April is a case in point. Now named Tshiebwe, he was a close-up third in a Feb. 26 Gulfstream Park maiden special weight for trainer Todd Pletcher.

"He just ran third in a maiden special weight going long," James said of the colt. "So I think there is some future for that horse. He was a little slow getting started, but it looks like they've got him going now."

The Shackleford filly was purchased by Hideyuki Mori last March and, named Ecoro Ai, she is stakes-placed in Japan.

The highest-priced yearlings in James's March contingent were purchased for \$35,000; Hip 79 brought that price at the Fasig-Tipton October sale and at that same price from the same auction were a colt by Mor Spirit ([hip 252](#)) and a filly by [Take Charge Indy](#) ([hip 782](#)). The group also includes a colt by [World of Trouble](#) ([hip 617](#)) purchased for \$30,000 at Fasig-Tipton October; a colt by [Frosted](#) ([hip 569](#)) purchased for \$25,000 at October; and a colt by Anchor Down ([hip 608](#)) acquired for \$8,000 at Keeneland September.

"I think the most we paid for any yearling was \$50,000," James said. "We have a nice Bolt d'Oro that we were able to get for \$50,000 [who will sell at OBS April]. So we are looking for athletes, for racehorses, more than pedigree. If there is some pedigree there, that's great, but we are going to buy the horse first."

While he enjoyed top-level success in racing in the '90s, James currently has just one horse in training, but that could change soon.

"I only have one horse in training right now, but with the purse structure, racing is becoming more attractive again to me," James said. "I cut my teeth in this business with claiming horses. And I have been thinking about putting something together and maybe claiming a few more and going back into racing a little heavier because the purse structure allows it now. Racing is tough. We all know that. But if ever there were good opportunities, I think it's now."

DON'T LET THE BIG HORSE GET AWAY!

Now offering our expertise on the buying side!

Contact us today at
(859) 321-3414 | info@kirkwoodadvisory.com

KIP ELSE'S
KIRKWOOD Equine Advisory
Buying, Selling & Racing the World Over





JOB OPENINGS

A listing of career opportunities in the Thoroughbred industry




ECURIE DES
MONCEAUX

YEARLING MANAGER

Ecurie des Monceaux is looking for a yearling manager, to begin this summer with a view to taking over the reins in **September 2023**. The candidate will be in charge of **a team of 10 to 15 people**.

He/She will manage the weanlings at Monceaux through to the August and October yearling sales preparation. The opportunity to manage one of the leading European sales consignments comes with a **highly competitive salary, bonus and excellent accommodation**.

Application by email : clementine@ecurie-monceaux.com

[Share this job](#) 

Want to list your job?

Standard listing: **\$350**

- One printed ad on this page (date of your choice)
- 30 day listing on our careers page: thetdn.com/careers
- Job promoted through our social media channels



>75.1K



>57.7K



>46.6K

Multi listing: **\$300 each**

- **Two or more** printed ads on this page (dates of your choice)
- 30 day listing on our careers page: thetdn.com/careers
- Job promoted through our social media channels

Contact the TDN Ad Staff: advertising@thetdn.com
for details or to post a job



Hip 79 | High Def Equine

Looking long-term, he did admit to one concern about racing's future.

"My only worries are, are we cultivating new horse racing fans? Slots are great, they have added such great purse money, but I do worry if we are cultivating horse racing fans or just relying on purse money," James said. "So that's a decision I will have to make as I go forward."

For James, who owns Radisson Hotel Louisville North, racing and pinhooking provide a pleasing counterpoint to his day job.

"I am in the hotel and shopping center business," he said. "So this is quite apart for me from what I normally do, but I have always been able to mix the two together and enjoy them. I spend a lot of time at the sales. Jesse has taught me a lot. And I've learned a lot about what a good horse looks like through the years. Bernie Flint trained for me, and in my mind, there is no better judge of horse flesh than Bernie Flint was in his day. I love being around it. The pinhooking gives me a chance to be around it more."

After their standout 2022 results, can James and Longoria strike again in 2023?

"I don't know," James said. "You never know in this game what you can do. You have to be good and you have to be lucky. And anybody who says differently is wrong. Because that's what this game takes. It takes good fortune and good hard work."

The under-tack show for the OBS March sale begins Tuesday morning with hips 1-208 scheduled to breeze. Hips 209-416 will work Wednesday, followed by hips 417-624 Thursday and hips 625-833 Friday. Each session of the show begins at 8 a.m.

The March sale will be held next Monday through Wednesday, with bidding beginning each day at 11 a.m.

[Share this story](#) 

WARREN RIDING HIGH ON DERBY TRAIL

by Katie Petrunyak

Andrew Warren has been building his racing stable from the ground up for four years, but after an initial stretch of limited success, the pieces recently fell into place for him to have, as he puts it, "the best week I've ever had in racing."

Last week two of his horses ran in the money on Wednesday, then another made it to the winner's circle on Thursday, and on Saturday he and his wife Rania celebrated their first graded stakes win with Raise Cain (**Violence**) in the GIII Gotham S. The weekend wrapped up with a pair of runner-up efforts from Scoobie Quando (**Uncle Mo**) in the John Battaglia Memorial S. at Turfway and Wizard of Westwood (Tu Brutus {Chi}) in the Baffle S. on the turf at Santa Anita.

All this from someone who got into racing with the intention of owning just one horse.

Warren grew up attending the races with his parents William and Suzanne Warren, who have campaigned a number of graded stakes winners led by GI Breeders' Cup Classic victor and 2005 Horse of the Year Saint Liam and 2018 GI Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile winner **City of Light**.

When **City of Light** retired to stud, Warren started to think about getting involved in the sport himself.

"I was intrigued by the breeding aspect of the game and how horses could sell for astronomical prices at the sales," Warren said. "I wanted to buy one filly, race her, and then breed her to **City of Light** and get a really nice foal."

After enlisting the help of **City of Light**'s trainer Michael McCarthy, Warren attended the 2019 OBS March Sale wielding a list of sires that might nick well with the new stallion. But buying one filly quickly led to the purchase of another, and six months later he was at the Keeneland September Sale looking at colts.



Raise Cain makes his mark on the Kentucky Derby trail in the GIII Gotham S. | Sarah Andrew

"The plan changed a bit and I ended up buying a few more horses than I anticipated," he said with a laugh. "I became intrigued with the talent selection process and with trying to find that needle in the haystack."

Warren wasn't too far into his foray in the industry when he landed on what would eventually become that first graded stakes winner. He picked out a **Violence** colt from the Warrendale Sales consignment for \$180,000.

"I've had a handful of horses by **Violence** and they've shown good flashes of ability for me," Warren said. "On his female side, having Unrivaled Belle (Unbridled's Song) in there is pretty impressive. I have advisors helping me look at them and after you vet them if they still look good, you feel pretty good. All the stars have to align for you to want to be spending money on a horse because you're gambling at a high stakes."

As Raise Cain was training as a 2-year-old with Eisaman Equine, Warren was starting to feel disheartened when his first few purchases hadn't turned out to be as productive on the racetrack as hoped. He decided to send a few of his 2-year-olds through the ring at the OBS June Sale.

"I was weary about how maybe I needed to cut down on how much I was into this," Warren recalled. "I didn't go in with the mindset to pinhook, but when I've felt like my stable has gotten too big, I've tried to reduce at the 2-year-old sales to come back with the appropriate amount of risk that I want to be taking."

Despite improving steadily at a juvenile, Raise Cain went through the ring unsold for \$65,000. Warren decided to stick with his original plan and he sent the colt on to Ben Colebrook.

Raise Cain broke his maiden last fall at Keeneland and then placed in two stakes as a juvenile.

Warren was cheering from his home in Oklahoma as Raise Cain closed down the stretch in the Gotham to win by 7 ½ lengths at odds of 23-1, earning 50 points on the Kentucky Derby trail.

"I had kind of pushed for this race, for him to get into a stake, and when he was 30-1 morning line I knew we were in the deep end of the pool," he admitted. "I knew he had a lot of ability and I knew it was within him to perform like that, but I didn't want to get too high on him because you can get humbled pretty quickly in this game."

While Warren said he was disappointed that he couldn't make the race in person, he explained that it was just as meaningful to watch the victory at home with his father. The younger Warren works alongside his father in their family's Tulsa-based oil and gas exploration and production company.

Warren echoed what Colebrook has already indicated concerning Raise Cain's next start. The GI Blue Grass S. at his home track or the GII Wood Memorial S. back at Aqueduct are their top two considerations.



The Warren family | courtesy Andrew Warren

Meanwhile, Warren has another potential Kentucky Derby contender in Scoobie Quando. The son of **Uncle Mo** graduated on debut early this year in the Turfway Preview S. and made his third career start in the John Battaglia Memorial S. last Saturday. After getting stuck behind a wall of horses, Scoobie Quando was able to make a late run to finish second, earning eight points on the Derby trail.

Purchased by Warren for \$160,000 as a yearling, Scoobie Quando was yet another OBS June pinhook attempt, but the colt failed to reach his reserve at \$125,000.

"He had value and was a nice horse, but had some chips that needed to be removed," Warren recalled. "People at the 2-year-old sales weren't giving money for horses that would probably need surgery, so we thought we would do the surgery and see how it works out."

Now with two good shots at making it to the Kentucky Derby with horses that went through the ring unsold as juveniles, Warren said the colts' achievements this year have been reassurance that he is taking the right steps in the game.

"I was pretty excited just to have the two horses in those races last weekend," he noted. "It's definitely incredibly fortunate that they have both developed this way and have come along like they have because I've had quite a few over the past couple of years that didn't develop and go the way I wanted them to go. To be able to finally have a little fruit from the labor is pretty unbelievable."

While the majority of the horses in Warren's 30-some strong stable are with Ben Colebrook, he also has horses in California with Michael McCarthy and several others with Bret Calhoun, Anthony Farrior and Barbara Minshall.

Cont.

Warren said the most exciting part of his journey in racing so far has been enjoying the ride with his family. He shared that his wife, Rania, follows their stable as much as he does, and now that their daughter has turned three, they hope to be able to travel and attend more races in person.

Warren has been to the Kentucky Derby twice to cheer on his parents' horses. In 2008 their colt Denis of Cork (Harlan's Holiday) finished third.

"I remember going both times that they had a horse running and it was an unbelievable experience," Warren said. "To be able to go to the Derby would be beyond exciting, very emotional, and a thrill for everyone. It would be incredible to share the experience with my friends and family, but to be able to share it with my dad would be very special."

[Share this story](#) 

FORTE MADE 3-1 FAVORITE IN KDFW POOL FIVE

Eclipse Award winner **Forte** (**Violence**), impressive 4 1/2-length winner of the GII Fountain of Youth S. in his 3-year-old debut Mar. 4, closed as the 3-1 favorite (\$8.76 will pay) in the fifth pool of the Kentucky Derby Future Wager, with Saturday's GIII Lambholm South Tampa Bay Derby hero and 'TDN Rising Star' **Tapit Trice** (**Tapit**) the distance second choice at 8-1 (\$18.32).

The 'All Other 3-Year-Olds', encompassing any horse not listed among the individual betting interests, closed as the 10-1 (\$22.08) third pick, while others to close at 30-1 or lower included GII San Felipe S. hero **Practical Move** (**Practical Joke**, 12-1, \$27.04); **Instant Coffee** (Bolt d'Oro, 19-1, \$40.04); **Red Route One** (**Gun Runner**, 24-1, \$50.46); **Reincarnate** (**Good Magic**, 24-1, \$51.18); GIII Withers S. winner **Hit Show** (**Candy Ride {Arg}**, 28-1, \$59.22); **Geaux Rocket Ride** (**Candy Ride {Arg}**, 30-1, \$62.92); and GII Rebel S. upsetter **Confidence Game** (**Candy Ride {Arg}**, 30-1, \$63.98).

In the lone Kentucky Oaks Future Wager, which was conducted concurrently with the KDFW, GIII Honeybee S. winner **Wet Paint** (**Blame**) closed as the 4-1 (\$10.66) favorite over champion filly **Wonder Wheel** (Into Mischief), who was 6-1 (\$15.70). **Hoosier Philly** (Into Mischief) was the 7-1 (\$16.92) third choice.

Betting on all future wagers over the three-day period was \$479,559. Total handle for the March 10-12 KDFW pool--the fifth of six wagering pools in advance of the 1 1/4-mile GI Kentucky Derby--was \$341,638 (\$250,906 in the win pool and \$90,732 in exactas). Betting on the Oaks Future Wager totaled \$70,209 (\$53,340 in the win pool and \$70,209 in exactas). The Oaks/Derby Future Double, which requires fans to correctly select the winners of both the \$1.25-million GI Longines Kentucky Oaks May 5 and the next day's Kentucky Derby, handled \$67,712.

The year's sixth and final Kentucky Derby Future Wager pool is set for Thursday, Mar. 30 through Saturday, Apr. 1. Different from the first five pools of the KDFW, the sixth and final pool will close prior to the first Road to the Kentucky Derby Championship Series race on Apr. 1.

[Share this story](#) 

NATIONAL HORSEPLAYERS' CHAMPIONSHIP CROWNS A WINNER *Edited Press Release*



Paul Calia (right) | NTRA

Paul Calia, a retired disability advisor for Social Security from Kansas City, Missouri, toppled a field of 779 entries to take home the grand prize of \$800,000, in addition to finishing in fourth place with his second entry--good for another \$150,000--to earn an Eclipse Award and Horseplayer of the Year honors during the NTRA National Horseplayers' Championship which concluded Sunday in Las Vegas. This is the first contest that Calia has ever won.

Calia amassed winnings of \$362.50 on his first entry, and \$305.50 on his second entry, over the three-day tournament from 53 mythical \$2 win and place bets--18 each on Friday and Saturday, 10 in Sunday morning's semifinal round, and seven at the exciting Final Table which ultimately yielded his victory. He is the first winner to also finish in the top 10 with a second entry.

"I started a little slow on Friday, thought I handicapped okay with some seconds and thirds," said Calia. "But Saturday I was pretty hot, and pretty much hit every longshot. It's hard to put into words how many winners I picked on Saturday."

When asked his approach to playing two cards in the final table he said, "I don't know how to describe it. I didn't switch a lot of picks, I don't let the odds affect me. I only switched about 10-15% of my picks between cards, one or two a day that's it."

With this victory, Calia also earns an exemption into next year's NHC and a berth to the 2023 Breeders' Cup Betting

Challenge worth \$10,000. In lieu of winning a second BCBC entry, which he won from finishing first on day two (Saturday), he will instead take home \$10,000 cash. That makes his full earnings from the weekend a whopping \$960,000 and a 2024 BCBC seat valued at \$10,000.

"There are three pillars to the sport of Thoroughbred racing--you have the horse and its connections, the racetracks and the horseplayer," said NTRA President and CEO Tom Rooney. "So, if horse racing is a three-legged stool, we aren't anything without the horseplayer. My family's relationship with this sport and with football all traces back to playing horses. The excitement at the NHC is vital to everything we do as an industry. This year's NHC is bigger than ever before and I'm proud that the NTRA has this unique opportunity to showcase the best of the best in handicapping and celebrate what it means to be a horseplayer."

[Share this story](#) 

OVER 100 NEW YORKERS RALLY IN SUPPORT OF BELMONT MODERNIZATION

Over 100 people, including union members, backstretch workers, trainers, veterinarians and farmers gathered Monday in Albany, New York, in support of a plan to modernize Belmont Park, which, according to a release, promises significant new job creation and as much as \$1 billion in one-time economic impacts while freeing up 110 acres of state-owned land at Aqueduct Racetrack for future development. The project was included in Governor Kathy Hochul's Executive Budget Proposal.

According to a release, Belmont Park's 117-year-old facilities have not been upgraded since 1968 and its modernization will provide a 'critical boost to New York's economy' while creating a world-class sports and hospitality destination when paired with the New York Islanders' UBS Arena adjacent to the track.

An **independent economic analysis** conducted earlier this year by the We Are NY Horse Racing coalition found that \$1 billion would be generated by renovating Belmont Park and create 3,700 construction-related jobs. At least a third of that spending, \$136 million, would be spent with Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBES). Upon completion, the release says Belmont Park would support \$155 million in annual economic output and 740 new jobs. It is also expected that the modernization will pave the way for the New York Racing Association to bid to host the Breeders' Cup. Belmont last hosted a Breeders' Cup in 2005.

The release indicates that horse racing in the state of New York supports a total of 19,000 and generates \$3 billion in economic activity. The project is to be funded through a construction loan from the state--paid back in full with interest--and therefore there is no cost to the state's taxpayers.



New York Governor Kathy Hochul at Saratoga | *Coglianesse*

"Horse racing is an economic engine for our state, sustaining 19,000 hardworking New Yorkers' jobs and generating billions in economic activity. If we want these benefits to continue, it's critical that we modernize Belmont Park," said State Senator Joe Addabbo, Chair of the Senate Racing, Gaming, and Wagering Committee. "As we enter the final stretch of budget season, I will continue to work with my colleagues to move this project forward and secure a strong future for horse racing across the state."

"From Saratoga to Belmont, the immense positive impact horse racing has on New York is obvious--and we owe it to the thousands of families that depend on this sport for their livelihoods to ensure horse racing has a strong future in the Empire State," said Assembly member Gary Pretlow, Chair of the NYS Assembly Committee on Racing and Wagering. "Building a new Belmont Park will safeguard horse racing for generations to come, drive economic activity, boost the state's tourism and hospitality sectors, and create good jobs for New Yorkers."

"The vast majority of New Yorkers support modernizing Belmont Park, which is why over a hundred people came to the Capitol today to urge lawmakers to build a new Belmont," said Jack Sterne, We Are NY Horse Racing spokesman. "This project will create jobs and boost New York's economy--and as legislators head into the final stretch of budget negotiations, we're going to continue making our voices heard so this transformative project is included in the final state budget agreement."

[Share this story](#) 



Listen to this week's podcast

March 9, 2023

Mike Repole Effusive In Praise for Leading Derby Contender Forte



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

As a young boy, I spent summers mucking out stalls, painting fences, and helping out on my great-uncle's farm. Early in the mornings, his grandson and I could hear him tapping on the door, telling us to wake up and get moving in Cajun French. "Levez, levez!" We'd jump out of bed and ride down to the track to watch the jockeys breeze the horses as the sun was coming up.

Those are memories I fear the next generation might never experience as we battle the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act (HISA)--legislation slipped into the COVID relief package and passed by Congress in the dark of night to federalize the horseracing industry and give complete regulatory power to a private corporation without consent of the individual states or even input from the horsemen themselves.

Horse racing in Louisiana has its roots in Cajun and Creole culture, where the infamous bush tracks of the 1950s produced some of the finest jockeys in the world. Soon, Acadiana became known as a place where you could start out riding barefoot and work your way up to winning the Kentucky Derby with an entire community to not only cheer you on but also finance the first major racetrack in the region--Evangeline Downs (where the announcer Gene Griffin would say "Ils Sont Partis!", which means "And they're off!").

Fueled by this rough and tumble past, Louisiana horse racing has effectively policed itself for over 200 years, evolving over time to meet modern challenges while maintaining its unique identity. It's an industry built with our own sweat and blood, supported by a tight-knit group of horsemen, racing fans, and family businesses. As in other states, we know how our horses handle our unique climate, our tracks, and our footing. We know the history of our bloodlines, the traditions of our sport, and the nature of this industry far better than anyone else.

That hard-won knowledge has created an entire culture within Louisiana, one that has grown from an economic impact of \$460 million in 1979 to \$1.5 billion today. As Attorney General, it's my job to protect this industry, its culture, and its people. That's why I have been fighting against HISA from the very beginning, even as political players pressured my office to not get involved. But like most Cajuns, when I stand for what's right, I don't back down.

At the core of HISA is this: a handful of wealthy players wish to control the sport through a one-size-fits-all, pay-to-play scheme that will decimate the inclusive culture of horse racing. And while we can all agree that we want integrity and safety in the sport, perhaps it must also be stated that we should never let a few bad actors define the whole.



Photo Courtesy of Evangeline Downs

Yet under the guise of "integrity," the federal government is using the excuse of bad actors to take away the freedoms and liberties of all horsemen while completely ignoring the unique cultures of each individual state and the people who have created it.

As a result, if HISA is successfully enacted, many of those who have been racing horses in their states for generations will be run out of business by ridiculously expensive fees, fines, and other barriers to entry. This will affect breeders, jockeys, farriers, veterinarians, tracks, and supply shops. Entire cultures will be decimated in support of unclear, inconsistent, and oftentimes dangerous new rules designed by political and corporate elites who can't even decide what kind of shoes a horse should wear.

For Louisiana and her people, my Solicitor General Liz Murrill and I took on this battle. We stood up for horsemen when it was neither popular nor politically convenient because we knew that it was the right thing to do. We believe that horse racing should be enjoyed by all--not just an exclusive elite. And our fight is now leading to the U.S. Supreme Court. That is why it is absolutely vital everyone stand up now for true integrity in horse racing, for state sovereignty, and for the culture of this sport.

I almost feel like my great-uncle is knocking on your door, asking you all to wake up and fight with us. Place the power back into the hands of the people, where it belongs. I cannot guarantee you a win; but I do believe that the greatest advantage we have are our numbers. So, if the attorney general of your state has joined our coalition in the fight against HISA, please thank them; but if your attorney general is not yet involved, please encourage them to file an amicus brief in support of our cause. And if you run an organization affected by HISA, please join us at the U.S. Supreme Court to voice your opposition to this gross federal overreach. **Cont.**

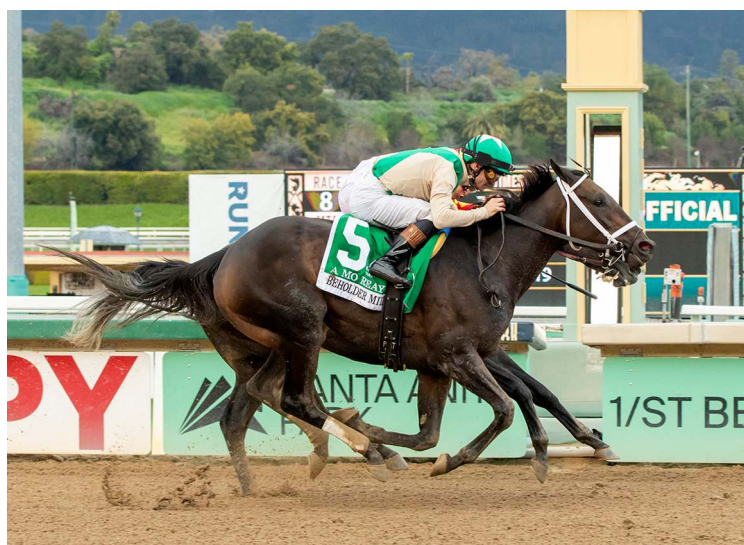
Now more than ever, your voices must be heard. If we are to protect horse racing, we must take action. And so I say, "leveez, leveez!" Let's go.

--Jeff Landry, Louisiana Attorney General

[Share this story](#) 



FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 12, 2023
NORTH AMERICAN-BASED STALLIONS



Coolmore's **Uncle Mo** is now the sire of a dozen Grade I winners after A Mo Reay's victory in the Beholder Mile | Benoit

Sire (Sire's Sire)	#SWs	#GSW (GISWs)
Ghostzapper (Awesome Again)	94	49
<i>(Spirit of Makena--San Carlos S. presented by FanDuel-GIII)</i>		
Into Mischief (Harlan's Holiday)	128	62
<i>(No Confession--Rittenhouse Square S.; Truth Seeker--Phoenix Gold Cup H.)</i>		
Liam's Map (Unbridled's Song)	17	8
<i>(Little Jewel--Captiva Island S.)</i>		

**STANDING AT LANE'S END • CLICK HERE FOR MORE
NOMINATE A MARE • EMAIL CHRIS KNEHR**

Maclean's Music (Distorted Humor)	28	6
<i>(Girl Named Charlie--Allen 'Black Cat' LaCombe Memorial S.)</i>		
Medaglia d'Oro (El Prado {Ire})	142	74
<i>(Ballet Dancing--Santa Ana S.-GIII)</i>		
Quality Road (Elusive Quality)	69	33
<i>(Talk of the Nation--Columbia S.)</i>		

**STANDING AT LANE'S END • CLICK HERE FOR MORE
NOMINATE A MARE • EMAIL CHRIS KNEHR**

Street Sense (Street Cry {Ire})	78	31
<i>(Road Bloc--Jebel Ali Sprint-L)</i>		
Tapit (Pulpit)	157	99
<i>(Tapit Trice--Lambholm South Tampa Bay Derby-GIII)</i>		
Uncle Mo (Indian Charlie)	90	47 (12)
<i>(A Mo Reay--Beholder Mile S.-GI)</i>		

**STANDING AT ASHFORD STUD • CLICK HERE FOR MORE
NOMINATE A MARE • EMAIL CHARLIE O'CONNOR**

Italics indicate new activity, statistics include Northern Hemisphere results only. Want to promote your stallion? Email suefinley@thoroughbreddailynews.com.



T.C. STEVENS, SON OF JOCKEY GARY STEVENS, TO RIDE FIRST RACE

T.C. Stevens, son of Hall of Fame Jockey Gary Stevens, will ride his first race as a professional jockey at Fair Grounds March 19 for trainer Steve Asmussen. T.C. has been named on Motown Missile (**Mo Town**) in the race six. A regular exercise rider for trainer Brad Cox, T.C. has morning rides on Instant Coffee (Bolt d'Oro), Hit Show (**Candy Ride {Arg}**), Zozos (**Munnings**), Strobe (Into Mischief), and **Tapit's** Conquest (**Tapit**).

"I am very grateful to Mr. Asmussen and his staff for giving me this opportunity," stated Stevens. "I've had this dream of being a jockey for a very long time. While I realize I am further along in life than is the norm to start this career path, I know that I am prepared and will go out there on Sunday and do the absolute best that I can."

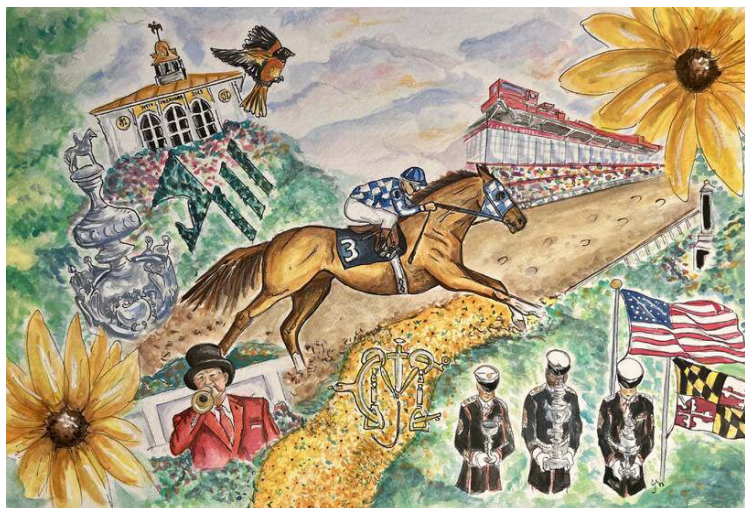
[Share this story](#) 

PUBLIC TO VOTE ON WORKS OF ART CELEBRATING PREAKNESS

Edited Press Release

More than 200 works of original art, created by artists throughout the country, will be on display at www.preakness.com/the-art-of-racing for two weeks beginning Monday, Mar. 13, after which the top 10 vote-earners will advance to the finalist category. The winning piece will then be selected by a panel of judges representing the artistic, business, philanthropic and political communities that support Park Heights's indispensable role as the home of Preakness 148. This year's 204 entries surpass the 2022 inaugural year by nearly 40%.

Cont.



One of the 204 entries at the Art of Racing website

The gallery of art at the Art of Racing website represents the work of artists--from Maryland as well as from 18 other states including Arizona, California, Connecticut, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia and Wisconsin--who have been inspired by the beauty of Thoroughbred horse racing on and off the track. Descriptions and inspirations in the words of the artists are also available for public view at the website.

The winning artwork of The Art of Racing will be reproduced on a curated collection of Preakness merchandise, the proceeds of which will be used to support the activities of Park Heights Renaissance, a non-profit organization that provides employment opportunities and pursues affordable housing for members of the Park Heights community.

The second annual The Art of Racing represents 1/ST and the Maryland Jockey Club's partnership with the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA). Many of the submissions were produced by students in four of MICA's art and design classes.

[Share this story](#) 



**THE TRUSTED EXPERT
FOR QUALITY
KENTUCKY REAL ESTATE
SINCE 1994**

Tom Biederman
biedermanrealestate.com
Call 859.277.2030





Celebrating

30

Years

of Serving Retired Racehorses



NEW VOCATIONS

Rehab. Retrain. Rehome.®

To donate a horse, adopt or make a contribution, visit newvocations.org or contact (859) 252-9574.

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

ESSEX H.-GIII, \$500,000, 4yo/up, 1 1/16m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Silver Prospector 🍀	Declaration of War	Ed and Susie Orr	Asmussen	Santana, Jr.	118
2	Vittorio 🍀	Ghostzapper	Kaleem Shah, Inc.	Mott	Garcia	116
3	Rated R Superstar	Kodiak Kowboy	Danny R. Caldwell	Villafranco	Cabrera	118
4	Call Me Fast	Dialed In	Giddyup Stables, LLC and Tom Lambro	Puhich	Arrieta	116
5	Classic Causeway	Giant's Causeway	Kentucky West Racing LLC & Clarke M. Cooper Family Living Trust	McPeck	Prat	119
6	Necker Island 🍀	Hard Spun	The Scherr Boys	Hartman	Juarez	118
7	Forza Di Oro	Speightstown	Don Alberto Stable	Cox	Geroux	117
8	Tawny Port 🍀	Pioneer of the Nile	Peachtree Stable	Cox	Bejarano	117
9	Keystone Field 🍀	Candy Ride (Arg)	Three Diamonds Farm	Maker	Castillo	116
10	Last Samurai 🍀	Malibu Moon	Willis Horton Racing LLC	Lukas	Torres	121

Breeders: 1-Hargus & Sandra Sexton & Silver Fern Farm, LLC, 2-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC, 3-Thorndale Stable LLC., 4-Glen Todd, 5-Kentucky West Racing LLC & Clarke M. Cooper Family Living Trust, 6-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC, 7-Don Alberto Corporation, 8-WinStar Farm, LLC, 9-CRK Stables, LLC, 10-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC

Saturday, Oaklawn #8, post time: 5:22 p.m. EDT

WHITMORE S.-GIII, \$200,000, 4yo/up, 6f

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Spankster 🍀	Mastery	Willis Horton Racing LLC	Lukas	Cabrera	124
2	Tejano Twist	Practical Joke	JD Thoroughbreds LLC and Joey Keith Davis	Hartman	Arrieta	124
3	Miles Ahead 🍀	Competitive Edge	Jay Em Ess Stable	McGee	Garcia	117
4	Edge to Edge 🍀	Competitive Edge	Peggy Thompson	Hartman	Juarez	124
5	Empire of Gold	Goldencents	Johnny B. Evans and Terry Eoff	Eoff	Luzzi	119
6	Baytown Bear 🍀	Upstart	McEntee Racing, Inc.	McEntee	Enriquez Jr.	117
7	Flash of Mischief	Into Mischief	Jerry Namy	Broberg	Torres	124
8	Pirate Rick 🍀	Liam's Map	Built Wright Stables, LLC.	Cash	Bejarano	119
9	Cogburn 🍀	Not This Time	Clark O. Brewster, L. William & Corinne Heiligbrodt	Asmussen	Santana, Jr.	124
10	Morello 🍀	Classic Empire	Blue Lion Thoroughbreds, Iapetus Racing and Diamond T Racing	Asmussen	Prat	117

Breeders: 1-Wedgewood Farm, 2-Tom Durant, 3-Nicholas M. Lotz & Betsy Kelley, 4-Yeamans Racing Stable, LLC, 5-W C Racing, 6-Brereton C. Jones, 7-Jerry Namy, 8-Woods Edge Farm, LLC, 9-Bellary Bloodstock, 10-Robert B. Tillyer & Dr. Chet Blackey



THE SIGN OF SUCCESS

Look for the  throughout the TDN graded stakes entries denoting Keeneland Sales Graduates.

KEENELAND.

NORTH AMERICAN RACING



IN ORDER OF PURSE:

9th-Hawthorne, \$30,000, (S), Msw, 3-12, 3yo/up, f/m, 5f,
:59.91, sy, 1 3/4 lengths.

FROSTED ECLAIR (f, 4, Frosted--Eclair de Lune {Ger} {GISW-USA, GSP-Fr, \$576,842}, by Marchand de Sable) ran out of gas in her debut at this venue Sept. 30 after being sent to stalk from second to try and mitigate the damage of an awkward break. Sixth there and fourth last out Oct. 21 with first-time Lasix when pushed to the lead, she was given a freshening before being brought back here for her seasonal bow on a sloppy track. Rated in sixth, then seventh, early in this five-panel dash, she was shifted to the outside and made a five-wide sweeping move on the turn to bid for the lead. Momentum carrying her to the head of the field, she drew clear and held her margin to 1 3/4 lengths as Be My Bestie (Long Island Sound) fought gamely to hold her runner-up spot. Out of an accomplished racemare, **Frosted Eclair** is the most recent to visit the winner's enclosure. Her 3-year-old unraced half-brother Street Fest (**Street Sense**) is thus far the last registered foal for their dam, who hails from the female line of Egina (Alycidon {GB})--herself unraced, but responsible for no less than nine listed and group European black-type earners or producers immediately beneath her. Sales history: \$22,000 3yo '22 KEEJAN. Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-0, \$19,920. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.**

O-Lawrence J. Gavilsky II, Dennis Pohl, Keith H. and Collin Throm; B-Hill 'N' Dale Farm (IL); T-James M. Watkins.



IN JAPAN:

Great Sand Sea, c, 3, Into Mischief. See '*US-Bred & -Sired Winners in Japan*'

IN SOUTH KOREA:

Bolt Man, g, 5, Midshipman--Just a Flash, by Henny Hughes. Seoul, 3-11, Hcp. (C2), 1800m. B-Foundations Farm (KY). *\$63,000 Ylg '19 FTKJUL; \$67,000 RNA Ylg '19 FTSEP; \$30,000 2yo '20 OBSJUN. **VIDEO (SC 5)**

IN SINGAPORE:

Pacific Angel, m, 5, Noble Mission (GB)--Destiny Calls (MSW, \$644,220), by With Approval. Kranji, 3-12, Hcp. (C4), 1100m (AWT), 1:05.71. B-Green Lantern Stables LLC (KY). *Formerly Qaidoom. **\$15,000 Ylg '19 FTKJUL. **VIDEO**

Bred by

Patrick Masson Bloodstock

IN PERU:

Faenon, h, 6, English Channel--Little Journey (Fr) (GISP-US, SP-Fr, \$121,911), by Great Journey (Jpn). Monterrico, 3-12, Clasico Premio Baldomero Aspillaga-G3, 2000mT. B-Calumet Farm (KY). *Ch. Grass Horse & G1SW-Per. **\$2,000 Wlg '17 KEENOV. **VIDEO (SC 8)**

EATON SALES

SOLD



IN JAPAN:

Ange Field (Jpn), f, 3, Justify. See '*US-Bred & -Sired Winners in Japan*'



Sunday's Results:

10th-Chukyo, ¥34,770,000 (\$261,088), Allowance, 3yo, 1400m, 1:24, ft.

GREAT SAND SEA (c, 3, Into Mischief--Game for More {MSP, \$153,330}, by More Than Ready), a debut winner going seven furlongs at Tokyo last November, picked a salty comeback spot in the Listed Hyacinth S. over a mile Feb. 19 and ran on late to be fourth, five lengths behind the G2 UAE Derby-bound Perriere (Jpn) (Henny Hughes). Slowly away from gate eight, the \$385,000 KEESEP yearling turned \$825,000 OBS April breezer commenced a wide rally 600 meters from home, but had the better part of 10 lengths to make up turning into the straight. Shaken up on the grandstand side by Yuga Kawada, Great Sand Sea produced an eye-catching rally that carried him to a 3 1/2-length victory as the even-money favorite. He covered his final three furlongs in a slick :36.2.

10th-Chukyo, Cont.

Great Sand Sea is a half-brother to Isotherm (Lonhro {Aus}), MGSW & GISP, \$527,394; Gio Game (Gio Ponti), GISP, \$292,190; and Giant Game (Giant's Causeway), GISP, \$262,900. Game for More missed to **Uncle Mo** and **Justify** for her 2022 foal and was most recently covered by **Not This Time**. Sales history: \$385,000 Ylg '21 KEESEP; \$825,000 2yo '22 OBSAPR. Lifetime Record: 3-2-0-0, \$207,727.

O-Sanshisuimei Inc; B-H Allen Poindexter (KY); T-Mitsumasa Nakauchida.



de Meric Sales Graduate



WYNNSTAY way



Great Sand Sea at OBS last April | Sandra Madison

2nd-Hanshin, ¥10,480,000 (\$78,715), Maiden, 3yo, 1200m, 1:14.1, ft.

ANGE FIELD (JPN) (f, 3, Justify--Not Now Carolyn, by Tapit)

became the sixth Japanese winner for her stallion with a furious final-furlong flourish. Drawn inside as the 23-10 favorite on debut, the blaze-faced chestnut broke in stride and traveled in behind the early pacesetter, but appeared to be backing out of it as they raced into the final three furlongs. Resenting the kickback as they neared the quarter pole, she was steered to the outside and looked to have it all to do when still several lengths behind at the furlong marker, but surged home to score by a neck (**video**, SC 1, race at 10:41). On behalf of Shimokobe Farm, Polo Green Stables acquired this filly's dam, a daughter of inaugural Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Sprint heroine Maryfield (Elusive Quality), for \$140,000 at the 2018 Keeneland November Sale. Bred to **Justify** in the spring of 2019, she was exported to Japan and produced her filly Apr. 16, 2020. Not Now Carolyn, a half-sister to Irish Group 2-placed Radio Silence (**War Front**), is

the dam of a 2-year-old filly by Lord Kanaloa (Jpn), was barren to Kizuna (Jpn) for 2022 and was bred to Maurice (Jpn) for her 2023 foal. Sales history: \$745,639 FI '20 JRHAJUL. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$40,727.

O-Koichi Takeshita; B-Shimokobe Farm; T-Yoshito Yahagi.

**SECOND-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: TUESDAY, MARCH 14****2023 Stud Fees Listed**

Collected (City Zip), Airdrie Stud, \$10,000

234 foals of racing age/22 winners/1 black-type winner

7-Will Rogers Downs, 5:05 p.m. EDT, Msw 5 1/2f, Saenger Star, 5-1

\$19,000 RNA KEE JAN wnl; \$9,000 FTK OCT yrl; \$15,000 FTD OCT 2yo

Eastwood (Speightstown), Blackstone Farm

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

8-Parx Racing, 3:49 p.m. EDT, Msw 5 1/2f, Go East, 2-1

G G Flag (Flagship)

5 foals of racing age/1 winner/0 black-type winners

8-Sunland, 5:32 p.m. EDT, Alw 6 1/2f, Flags Finale, 10-1

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

200 foals of racing age/46 winners/4 black-type winners

4-Turf Paradise, 5:50 p.m. EDT, Aoc 6f, Justin Azteca, 3-1

\$50,000 KEE SEP yrl; RNA ARZ NOV yrl



JUSTICE
REAL ESTATE

CLICK HERE

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

www.kyhorsefarms.com | 859.255.3657 | LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY



FIND US ON FACEBOOK

www.facebook.com/thoroughbredailynews

**ALLOWANCE RESULTS:**

6th-Golden Gate Fields, \$42,756, 3-12, 3yo/up, f/m, 5 1/2f (AWT), 1:04.01, ft, 1 1/4 lengths.

ALWAYS SEEKING (f, 4, Rousing Sermon--Heat Striker, by Unusual Heat) Lifetime Record: 12-6-1-2, \$166,608. O-Larry D. and Marianne Williams; B-Larry D. Williams (CA); T-Jack Steiner.

7th-Mahoning Valley, \$36,900, 3-13, (NW1X), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:12.28, gd, 1 1/4 lengths.

HIP HIP HOORAY (g, 4, Congrats--Nocturne, by Giant's Causeway) Lifetime Record: 15-5-4-4, \$165,680. O-Mast Thoroughbreds LLC; B-Eric Heyman (OH); T-Robert M. Gorham.

4th-Mahoning Valley, \$30,300, (NW36MX)/Opt. Clm (\$40,000), 3-13, 3yo/up, 1m, 1:40.47, gd, 3 lengths.

FIRST CITIZEN (g, 6, Proud Citizen--First Circle {MSP, \$192,983}, by Langfuhr) Lifetime Record: 36-9-5-5, \$207,168. O-Jorge Calixtro-Villanueva; B-Brereton C. Jones (KY); T-Caryn Vecchio. *\$17,000 RNA Ylg '18 KEESEP.

2nd-Mahoning Valley, \$27,500, (NW3X)/Opt. Clm (\$25,000), 3-13, 3yo/up, 6f, 1:11.20, gd, 3 lengths.

GRAYWING (g, 5, Graydar--Fighter Wing {MSP, \$153,307}, by Empire Maker) Lifetime Record: 11-4-2-0, \$82,353. O-Imaginary Stables; B-Twin Creeks Farm (NY); T-Jeffrey A. Radosevich. *\$9,000 Wlg '18 FTNMIX; \$10,000 Ylg '19 EASOCT. **1/2 to Glass Ceiling (**Constitution**), MGSW, \$675,412.

1st-Mahoning Valley, \$25,900, 3-13, (NW2L), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:13.44, gd, 1/2 length.

KARMA GHIA (f, 3, Cross Traffic--Karma Police {SW, \$174,557}, by Consolidator) Lifetime Record: 9-2-1-2, \$38,783. O-Marble Hill Farms, LLC; B-Bedouin Bloodstock LLC (KY); T-Ted W. Lucas. *\$4,700 Ylg '21 KEEJAN.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Grande Red, g, 4, **Animo de Valeroso**--Precocious (SP), by Exploit. Mahoning Valley, 3-13, (S), 6f, 1:15.46. Lifetime Record: 6-1-1-1, \$29,750. B-Duncan Farms Racing, LLC (OH). *\$7,500 Ylg '20 OTBOMX.

Mitropanos, g, 4, **Uptowncharlybrown**--Cimarron Rain, by Indian Charlie. Parx Racing, 3-13, (S), 6f, 1:13.83. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-1, \$32,588. B-Angelo Zalalas (PA). *1/2 to Prince of Rain (El Padrino), MSP, \$236,689.

ALL TDN WINNERS BY SIRE

sponsored by

IRT  **Your Horse. Our Passion.**

IRT USA: Tel +1 630 377 2300

Tel +44 1638 668 003

www.irt.com  

Animo de Valeroso, Grande Red, g, 4, o/o Precocious, by Exploit. MSW, 3-13, Mahoning Valley

Congrats, Hip Hip Hooray, g, 4, o/o Nocturne, by Giant's Causeway. ALW, 3-13, Mahoning Valley

Cross Traffic, Karma Ghia, f, 3, o/o Karma Police, by Consolidator. ALW, 3-13, Mahoning Valley

Frosted, **Frosted** Eclair, f, 4, o/o Eclair de Lune (Ger), by Marchand de Sable. MSW, 3-12, Hawthorne

Graydar, Graywing, g, 5, o/o Fighter Wing, by Empire Maker. AOC, 3-13, Mahoning Valley

Proud Citizen, First Citizen, g, 6, o/o First Circle, by Langfuhr. AOC, 3-13, Mahoning Valley

Rousing Sermon, Always Seeking, f, 4, o/o Heat Striker, by Unusual Heat. ALW, 3-12, Golden Gate

Uptowncharlybrown, Mitropanos, g, 4, o/o Cimarron Rain, by Indian Charlie. MSW, 3-13, Parx Racing

TODAY'S FEATURED REPLAYSponsored by **Get a 50% Bonus**

On your first deposit up to \$250

[JOIN NOW](#)

Frosted Eclair (Frosted) breaks her maiden at Hawthorne
(click to watch)

**CAN'T WAIT TO GET YOUR
TDN BREAKING NEWS AND
RACE RESULTS?**

[Click Here](#) to sign up for TDN Alerts

Seeing
RED?

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



VARIAN BUILDING ON BEST SEASON AS THE PLATINUM QUEEN JOINS TEAM



Roger Varian with Nurlan Bizakov, owner-breeder of Charyn
racingfotos.com

By Emma Berry

Twelve years have passed since Roger Varian became a licensed trainer as the health of his much-loved former boss and mentor, Michael Jarvis, declined. One softly-spoken but calmly assured man took over from another after Varian had served a decade as Jarvis's assistant. By that stage he had clearly proved himself a worthy successor, and the rise of the Varian stable in the intervening years has only served to underline Jarvis's judgement in this regard. Last year was Varian's best to date. There haven't been many seasons during his term as a trainer that he hasn't secured a top-ten finish in the championship. In 2022, he was fifth overall, his highest place yet, with a domestic prize-money haul well beyond the £3 million mark for the first time. A British Classic winner, Eldar Eldarov (GB), who also won the G2 Queen's Vase at Royal Ascot ahead of the St Leger, was one of the headline acts, along with the smart juvenile Sakheer (Ire) (Zoffany {Ire}), winner of the G2 Mill Reef S. and now a leading Guineas contender. Another exciting 2-year-old, Charyn (Ire) (Dark Angel {Ire}), won the G2 Criterium de Maisons-Laffitte and, to cap off a great turf season, Bayside Boy (Ire) landed the G1 Queen Elizabeth S. on QIPCO British Champions Day before joining his sire New Bay (GB) at Ballylinch Stud. **Cont.p3**

ONE SAFE BET FOR JUMP RACING'S SPECTACULAR

By Emma Berry

Venturing fearlessly into jumps territory this week, this correspondent would never be so bold as to offer tips or predictions for the Cheltenham Festival. There is only one safe bet to be had, and that is that Keeneland's indefatigable European representative Ed Prosser will be up with the larks to cook the finest Full English for his housemates, and at some stage over the next four days will serenade us with his inimitable version of Rhinestone Cowboy.

The Prosser baritone is certainly much easier on the ears than the newly released 'Roar-Remix'. In a rather unlikely development, the Jockey Club has gone clubbing in collaboration with someone known as DJ Cuddles. A less cool name for a DJ it is hard to imagine, but this pairing of the tweed brigade with the TikTok generation has, we are told, led to "a dance anthem like no other".

Cont. p6

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

DERBY TOP 12: FORTE VS. EVERYONE ELSE

Recent GII Fountain of Youth S. winner Forte (**Violence**) stands out in T.D. Thornton's latest rundown of Kentucky Derby contenders.



Facile Vega being led in after winning last year's Champion Bumper | *racingfotos.com*

PUBLISHER & CEO

Sue Morris Finley @suefinley
suefinley@thetdn.com

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

Gary King @garykingTDN
garyking@thetdn.com

European Editor

Emma Berry @collingsberry
emmaberry@thetdn.com

Associate International Editor

Heather Anderson @HLAndersonTDN

Marketing Manager

Alayna Cullen Birkett @AlaynaCullen
alaynacullen@thetdn.com

Associate European Editor

Brian Sheerin @BrianSheerin91

Cafe Racing

Sean Cronin & Tom Frary
caferacing@thetdn.com

Contributing Editors

Alan Carasso
Christina Bossinakis

Regular Columnists

Chris McGrath | John Berry

ADVERTISING

advertising@thetdn.com

Director of Advertising

Alycia Borer

Advertising Manager

Lia Best

Advertising Designers

Amanda Crelin
Amie Newcomb

Advertising Assistant/Dir. of Distribution

Kristen Zaidi

Advertising Assistant

Liz Fronczek

60 Broad Street, Suite 100

Red Bank, NJ 07701

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

TODAY in TDN EUROPE

Tuesday, March 14, 2023



The Platinum Queen will be trained by Roger Varian this season. The daughter of Cotai Glory was purchased by Katsumi Yoshida for 1,200,000gns at Tattersalls December last year. | racingfotos.com

CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL SALE SET FOR THURSDAY 7

Thirty top point-to-pointers are set to sell Mar. 16 through the Tattersalls Cheltenham Festival Sale at the conclusion of the historic Cheltenham meeting.

ARQANA BREEZE UP SALE CATALOGUE ONLINE 7

The catalogue for Arqana's annual Breeze Up Sale will be available online starting on Tuesday, Mar. 14.

JUSTIFY FILLY REMAINS UNDEFEATED IN FRANCE 8

The Yann Barberot-trained Secretive (Fr) stormed to an impressive three-length win at Chantilly and remains on track for the G1 Poule d'Essai des Poulaches.

Don't Miss!

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

thetdn.com/europe

Cont. from p1

Now, along with a raft of well-bred two-year-olds to have boosted the string for 2023, Varian has taken charge of the G1 Prix de l'Abbaye winner The Platinum Queen (Ire) (Cotai Glory {GB}) following her purchase at the Tattersalls December Sales by Katsumi Yoshida of Northern Farm for 1.2 million gns. The high-class sprinter has also been joined at Varian's Carlborg Stables by last year's G1 Preis der Diana (German Oaks) winner Toskana Belle (Fr) (Shamalgan {Fr}). Again, highlighting the value placed on European race form by Japanese breeders, Toskana Belle was bought by Katsumi's brother Teruya Yoshida of Japan's other major powerhouse operation, Shadai Farm.

"It's great to have the support of both Shadai Farm and Northern Farm," Varian acknowledges, while also crediting his Japanese wife Hanako, who is a key component in his stable's set-up and has a good relationship with both operations from her time spent working in racing and breeding in her home country.

He is also quick to credit The Platinum Queen's former trainer, Richard Fahey, for whom she won four of eight races, including her big strike on Arc day, and was runner-up in both the G1 Nunthorpe S. and G2 Flying Childers S.

"He was very much a gentleman, as you would expect from Richard," says Varian. "He was very helpful with telling us all about her. She looks very well and she's obviously a Group 1 winner, so I hope I can add to her CV, but in a way her CV is already there. The programme can be tough for the sprinting fillies at three, but hopefully she trains forward nicely. She looks a real speedball. Five [furlongs] looks her trip; maybe she's good enough to run in a King's Stand. She's quite a spicy character, but she's very talented and it's nice to be training these good animals."

He continues, "The programme's quite sparse early season, so she might not run before Royal Ascot. She could run in something like a Temple Stakes, but she's not doing anything fast yet."

One three-year-old who does have an early season target is Sakheer, who has done little wrong in his three runs to date in the colours of KHK Racing, representing Bahrain's Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa. Whether we see him on the racecourse

before the 2,000 Guineas on May 6 remains to be seen, but the Arqana breeze-up graduate is continuing to put a smile on his trainer's face, even after a week of bleak March weather in Newmarket.

"We'd be very pleased with his condition, very pleased with his action, and his attitude as well," says Varian. "He's always looked the part. He was an exceptional workhorse going into his two-year-old races, and sometimes the performance on a

racecourse doesn't always match their home life. Some of those really flashy workers can never quite live up to that when they run but, with him, what we saw at home was what we were seeing on the track. He looks like he's training on nicely. He's not a huge horse, but he's big enough and he's very well-made. Touch wood he's in a good place."

He adds, "I'm not sure if he'll trial or not. I think our trials, the Craven and the Greenham in particular, come so close to a Guineas.

This horse is very natural and he didn't have a huge amount of racing last year, but he knows his job and I would have no qualms about going straight into a Guineas without a trial.

"What's key is the impression and the look he gives us over the next three or four weeks. As we sit here today in a snowstorm, I don't think we're committed one way or the other to a trial. He's training nicely and is on the point of where I think he needs to be, and he still looks the part, as he did last year."

As members of Bahrain's royal family continue to increase their investment in British racing as well as their domestic programme, Sakheer and his fellow colour-bearer Eldar Eldarov, who, similarly, had been bought by Oliver St Lawrence at the previous year's breeze-up in Deauville, were both significant winners for KHK Racing in 2022, and each has a good chance of enhancing their record.

"The team behind KHK have been big supporters over the last couple of years," Varian notes. "Shaikh Khalid is relatively new to the international scene of racing, so it's great that he had some nice horses to have enjoyed last year and hopefully to look forward to this year. [The Bahrainis] are very good sportsmen in their own right and have really got behind their own racing scene in Bahrain, but they are also spreading that interest into Europe and America, and I think that can only be good for the sport."



The 'street fighter' Eldar Eldarov | [racingfotos.com](https://www.racingfotos.com)

A **BIG** year ahead!

3 unbeaten TDN Rising Stars

PENSEE DU JOUR retained her unbeaten record with a 7-length win in the Listed Prix Rose de Mai at Saint-Cloud last week for Andre Fabre and owner/breeders Ballymore Thoroughbred Ltd

Pensee Du Jour... remember the name! 🐾

Andre Fabre's filly holds Classic entries and absolutely destroys her rivals in the Listed Prix Rose De Mai at Saint-Cloud! Attheraces via Twitter

BLUESTOCKING impressed against the colts at Salisbury for Ralph Beckett and owner/breeder Juddmonte Farms

"Ralph Beckett now intends to put her away until an Oaks trial next spring... she rates a classy prospect." RACING POST

ALEXANDROUPOLIS was a decisive winner at Galway for Aidan O'Brien and the Coolmore partners

"displayed a rare turn of foot in the closing stages to outclass overmatched opposition for a 'TDN Rising Star' badge" TDN

Camelot's only three previous TDN Rising Stars included subsequent multiple Gr.1 winners **Santa Barbara** and **Sir Dragonet**

2 multiple Gr.1 winners remain in training

LUXEMBOURG, bred by Ben Sangster, unbeaten Group 1 winner at 2 and winner of the Irish Champion Stakes-Gr.1 for Aidan O'Brien and the Coolmore partners

"The winner was very good here... confirmed the rich promise of his juvenile career" RACING POST on the Irish Champion Stakes-Gr.1

SAMMARCO, winner of the German Derby-Gr.1 and Grosser Dallmayr-Preis-Gr.1 for Peter Schiergen and owner/breeder Gestut Park Wiedingen

"annexed the latest elite-level clash of the generations, doing so with aplomb" TDN on the Grosser Dallmayr-Preis-Gr.1

CAMELOT

Yearlings in 2022 sold for €545,000, €515,000, €485,000 etc.

And remember... his best-bred crops have yet to run!



COOLMORE

Eldar Eldarov, whose dam All At Sea (GB) (**Sea The Stars {Ire}**) is a half-sister to Alwilda (GB) (Hernando {Fr}), dam of the celebrated Alpinista (GB) (**Frankel {GB}**), owns a pedigree which gives those around him every right to dream of him progressing with age and, potentially, a step up in trip. The four-year-old, who last year became Varian's second St Leger winner after Kingston Hill (GB), is described by Varian as "a bit of a street fighter" and he is clearly a horse held in much fondness within the stable.

"He's not a big robust horse and I think he'll always look a bit like a long-distance runner," the trainer says. "Last year he took an age to come to himself out of the winter. In fact, we had aspirations of Derby trials having seen him win his maiden as a

two-year-old so impressively, but he just didn't really come to hand. I'm not quite sure why, but the earliest we could have run him was when we did run him, which in the end was in a novice at Newcastle, which was probably about three weeks before Royal Ascot. He won there and suddenly started to blossom, just in time for Ascot. I don't think that he's ready to do anything too early this season. I don't know if that's just his make-up, but I wouldn't think we'll be racing him before May."

He continues, "We'd dearly love to see him back at Royal Ascot, hopefully in the Gold Cup, I would think, over the Hardwicke. Royal Ascot for us as a training establishment, and for the owners as well, is very important. If we can set up a first half of the season target at Ascot and work back from there, I think it'll only be one run before, so it could be a Yorkshire Cup or a Sagaro.

"We're hopeful that he's of a calibre to establish himself as a Cup horse, though of course Kyprios looks the standout in that division at the moment. But Eldar Eldarov had to dig deep to win the Queen's Vase. He came from a long way back that day and he's got this lovely head carriage. He pins his ears back and he really seems to relish the fights, and I think that's very important

in all horses, but particularly in staying horses because they have to dig deep. You do need that attitude."

Varian also highlights Charyn among the colts he is looking forward to seeing back on the track this season. Nurlan Bizakov's

homebred was third to Sakheer in the Mill Reef before claiming his own Group 2 triumph across the Channel.

"I thought his run in the Mill Reef was good because he was still learning, and was probably on the wrong side of the track, and I actually felt he was second best to Sakheer that day," he says. "He's a horse with a very laidback demeanour, which I like, and he's another one who hasn't raced beyond six [furlongs], but looks like he's crying out for a little bit further. He might be a horse



Varian with Classic prospect Sakheer after winning the Mill Reef
racingfotos.com

to look at the Greenham with. He's got a Guineas entry at Newmarket and in Ireland. He's not flashy but he's really a very professional horse who should improve as the year goes on." Sheikh Mohammed Obaid's Resolute Man (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}), won a Yarmouth novice last October, and Dragon Icon (Ire) (Lope De Vega {Ire}), the Yoshiro Kubota-owned full-brother to Breeders' Cup winner Aunt Pearl (Ire) are also singled out as three-year-olds to note for the coming campaign.

"We had some nice horses win novices last year and they need testing in deeper water, but they look quite nice horses," Varian notes.

As the trainer sits in his office still drying out from a morning of squally snow showers in subzero temperatures, it is easy to imagine that, for him, spring can't come soon enough, but he says, "I actually love January, February and March, because

you start counting back from the season. Of course we run horses all year round now, we have winter runners, but the majority of our horses are on that spring programme. You've got targets starting to be set and plans starting to formalise and you really see a change in the horses on a week-to-week basis at this time of year.

SAKHEER IS VERY NATURAL...HE KNOWS HIS JOB AND I WOULD HAVE NO QUALMS ABOUT GOING STRAIGHT INTO A GUINEAS WITHOUT A TRIAL

Roger Varian

"As the better weather starts to come, you can really see them change and develop in a positive way in front of your eyes, and spot the ones that are really starting to shine through early and the ones which have not come to themselves. It's an enjoyable time to be able to start recognising the difference without all the helter-skelter of the season being upon you. I think it's a lovely time of year to be a racehorse trainer because you really can be with the horses every day and see them develop from their winter programme into where they need to be for the start of the season."

There have been plenty of changes in the 12 years since Varian joined the training ranks. In 2017, he migrated from the Jarvis family's Kremlin House Stables to purchase Carlborg Stables from Clive Brittain, who still lives alongside the yard. Sir Michael Stoute is his next-door neighbour in Freemason Lodge, and from last year the Varian string started occupying Beech Hurst just across the Bury Road, which had been Stoute's original base and had for many years acted as his second yard. The additions of senior staff such as Kate Grimwade as general manager overseeing all aspects of the business speaks to the demands of running a modern-day international racing stable, backed up by the appointments of form expert David Baxter as racing manager and Eleanor Rance as communications manager.

There are, however, some familiar faces from the days of Michael Jarvis, notably long-term racing secretary Jim Hiner and Jo Fowles, the accomplished horsewoman who oversees Beech Hurst and is one of three assistant trainers, along with Oliver Rix and George Hill.

"It's a really good team, and the results of last season show that everyone's pulling in the same direction," says Varian. "And we've got a good team of jockeys, headed by David Egan. There's no official order of hierarchy amongst the jockeys, but David's at a point of his career where he's been progressive. He's still a young man and he's ready to build on what he achieved last year. Jack Mitchell is a brilliant team player, of course, and Ray Dawson's been in Dubai but will be coming back. Although Andrea [Atzeni] is not employed by Sheikh Mohammed Obaid any more, he will no doubt still ride at times for us. We also train for owners who have their own jockeys." Egan, who set another benchmark with his first British Classic victory last year on Eldar Eldarov, has recently enjoyed a fruitful first spell riding in Japan over the winter. A stint perhaps inspired by his unofficial guv'nor's close ties to the country, it has done his international profile no harm, especially when

considering the high-class horses with Japanese links in Varian's stable. Mind you, there is also now no shortage of horses from that country competing at the major meetings around the world.

"I don't think they're about to slow down," says Varian of the competition from Japanese trainers. "I think they've got 25 horses in Dubai for World Cup night. They had 14 or 15 in Saudi.

They're all invited, so they're all good enough to be invited. I think they are really becoming a superpower. They haven't quite had the consistency of winners in Europe like they have done in Dubai, America and Australia, and Europe is probably another challenge for them. We actually hosted some of their horses for Royal Ascot here, and of course the holy grail for them is the

Arc, isn't it? It's probably only a matter of time before they win it."

He adds, "I feel a little bit close to them through Hanako and I think once you delve into Japanese culture you understand why they do very well in racing. They don't really set their sights on just doing something, they set their sights on mastering something, and I think that's very much embedded in the culture of Japan in any form of industry.

"Obviously they've got quite a lengthy history of racing, but it's nowhere near what we can delve into. But they've been buying some amazing bloodlines over the last 20, 25 years, and they've also created their own. They are no doubt breeding exceptionally talented horses, as they are proving on the international stage."

Varian, whose brother-in-law is the Japanese champion trainer Mitsu Nakauchida, admits to being able to "fool my way through a few pleasantries" when it comes to speaking the language. He adds, "If someone thought, 'Oh he speaks Japanese, we'll carry on and have a conversation', I'd get found out very quickly. But they're great people, it's a lovely culture, and it's nice to be connected to that side of the world.

"I think what's very nice about the racing industry is that it's quite a niche industry, but it is a global industry, and I love it. We live and train horses in Newmarket, but that opens up a world in itself."

There has perhaps been no more better time in racing's history to grasp the global opportunities available and, with a client base incorporating owners from a diverse group of nations, it would seem that the Varian stable is already a frontrunner in this regard.

[THE JAPANESE] DON'T REALLY SET THEIR SIGHTS ON JUST DOING SOMETHING, THEY SET THEIR SIGHTS ON MASTERING SOMETHING

Cont. from p1

The actual roar, which will be let out around at around 1.30pm on Tuesday as the tape pings back for the Sky Bet Supreme Novices' Hurdle, will be followed, in all probability, by victory for the first favourite of the week, who has a stronger claim to the Cheltenham winner's enclosure than most other horses. In fact, Facile Vega (Ire) (Walk In The Park {Ire}) already has one Cheltenham crown to his name thanks to his victory in last year's Weatherbys Champion Bumper. But he still has a long way to go if he is to emulate his celebrated mother, Quevega (Fr), Queen of the Mares' Hurdle. The tiny daughter of Robin Des Champs (Fr) scampered up that hill to glory six years in a row. Yes, she was sparsely campaigned in between, but boy did she come alive at Prestbury Park. It is hard to believe that Quevega is already 19, but in Facile Vega, her second foal, she has written yet another chapter to her captivating story.

There are still a lot of boring old Doubting Thomases out there when it comes to the Mares' Hurdle but one really couldn't ask for more than what is on offer in this year's race. Honeysuckle (GB) vs. Epatante (Fr). There's a corker of a prize fight if ever there was one. The two mares have won the last three Champion Hurdles and, both now nine, are appearing at what may well be their final Festival before perusing the stallion books in a kind of equine Tinder-fest. Swipe right for Blue Bresil (Fr) or Getaway (Ger). Before that they will of course have to do battle with last year's Close Brothers Mares' Hurdle winner Marie's Rock (Ire) (Milan {GB}). The eight-year-old is another wonder for the successful cross-code Middleham Park Racing syndicate. She went on to score at the Punchestown Festival and her only outing so far this season ended in triumph at Cheltenham on New Year's Day.

Those cribbing the expansion of the mares' National Hunt programme in Britain and Ireland have clearly never stood outside a box on a sales ground on a cold winter's day and tried to sell a filly foal. It matters that jumping fillies and mares have just as much of a clear pathway to the top as their Flat counterparts, and great work has been done on both sides of the Irish Sea in improving this situation. Yes, once they get near the top we want to see the mares mix it in open company, and the best of them have done so. Witness the fact that four of the last seven Champion Hurdles have been won by a mare, a run started by Annie Power (Ire) in 2015. But you have to scroll back to Flakey Dove (GB) in 1994 to find the last female winner

before this mighty trio. Alas, we have no mare in the seven-strong Champion Hurdle this year, which surely is a coronation for the mighty **Constitution Hill** (GB) (Blue Bresil {Fr}). It is an increasingly rare thing these days to see homebred runners in the major National Hunt races, which is what makes Edwardstone (GB) (Kayf Tara {GB}) a little extra special, aside from his extraordinary talent. In last year's Arkle Trophy, he provided one of the feel-good stories of the week, and was a much needed early home winner in the auld battle of England vs. Ireland, which has been so lopsided in the favour of the

raiders of late. Edwardstone is currently favourite to add Wednesday's Queen Mother Champion Chase to his record and to give his small breeders, the Abrey and Thurtle families, another big day in the spotlight. Similarly, there would be much joy attached to a win for Queens Gamble (Ire) (Getaway {Ger}) in the Weatherbys Champion Bumper, which rounds off Wednesday's card. The part the five-year-old mare has played in helping her trainer Oliver Sherwood through his tortuous battle with cancer has



Honeysuckle at Cheltenham | [racingfotos.com](https://www.racingfotos.com)

been well documented and she represents the brothers-in-law Alex Frost and Ed Galvin, who bred her at Galvin's Ardmulchan Stud in Ireland. Frost has of course been busying himself in recent years with rebooting and revitalising the Tote. He deserves a day off from those endeavours, and hopefully it will be one spent celebrating a special homebred winner at the track not far from his Wiltshire-based Ladyswood Stud.

It now appears to be the law of the bloodstock sales calendar that no week can pass without an auction taking place, whether online or IRL (I'm told that's what the kids say). Those still standing by the end of Thursday's action who have no wish to spend an hour trying to exit the car park may as well stick around for what has now become a regular fixture on the boutique jumps sales calendar.

There can be no more aspirational venue for those in love with jump racing than to stage a sale in the winner's enclosure at Cheltenham. Brian Sheerin spoke to Jamie Codd last week about his twin role during the Festival as both crack amateur rider and a driving force behind the Tattersalls Ireland Cheltenham Festival Sale. If you missed that interview, you can [read it here](#), and in the meantime, please forgive us while our attention is temporarily diverted from all things Flat to quite a few things National Hunt over the next four days.

EUROPEAN NEWS

ARQANA BREEZE UP SALE CATALOGUE AVAILABLE TUESDAY



Arqana Breeze-Up Sale | Zuzanna Lupa

The catalogue for Arqana's annual Breeze Up Sale, set to be held May 11-13 at Deauville, will be available online starting on Tuesday, Mar. 14.

This year 185 2-year-olds are on offer, including 38 out of group winning/producing mares, plus a number of full or half-siblings to Group 1 winners. Additionally more than 80 stallions are represented. The breezes will take place on the grass at Deauville-La Touques Racecourse Thursday, May 11, followed by a day of inspections Friday, May 12, with the sale taking place Saturday, May 13 beginning at 11:00 a.m.

All horses offered at the Breeze Up Sale are eligible for the Arqana Series with a guaranteed minimum prize money of €1.2 million. The five races will take place on the Thursday before the August Sale starts and is for both 2- and 3-year-olds.

For more information or to view the catalogue, go to the [Arqana](#) website.

[Share this story](#)

© Copyright Thoroughbred Daily News.

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

TATTERSALLS TO OFFER 30 AT CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL SALE, MOVES MAY DATE



Tattersalls Cheltenham Festival Sale | Tattersalls

Thirty top class point-to-pointers will sell during this year's Tattersalls Cheltenham Festival Sale, which will take place immediately following the conclusion of racing in the winner's enclosure on Thursday Mar. 16. The catalogue and race replays can be viewed [online](#).

Graduates of the Cheltenham Festival sale include Grade 1 winning chasers **Bravemansgame (Fr)** (Brave Mansonnien ([Fr]) and **Gerri Colombe (Fr)** (Saddler Maker {Ire}). This year's list of lots features siblings to a number of black-type horses.

Printed catalogues will be available on Tuesday Mar. 14 at the RDA stable yard, the weighing room and the Tattersalls Owners & Trainers marquee at Cheltenham Racecourse. All Lots will be stabled at the RDA stable yard and available for inspection from Wednesday, with courtesy transport available from the racecourse to the RDA stables.

Also, Tattersalls Cheltenham has moved its May Sale to Friday May 19 to coincide with the jumps season finale. The catalogue for the Tattersalls Cheltenham May sale will be made available on May 9, with supplementary entries accepted until May 15.

[Share this story](#)

BRITAIN

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Painters Palette (Ire), g, 4, **Lope De Vega (Ire)**--Maimara (Fr) (MGSW-Fr, \$204,024), by Makfi (GB). Wolverhampton, 3-13, 8f 142y (AWT), 1:48.03. Lifetime Record: 7-1-1-1, \$16,631. B-Ballylinch Stud (IRE). *€60,000 3yo '22 GOFHIT.

FRANCE

Monday's Results:

2nd-Chantilly, €28,000, Cond, 3-13, 3yo, f, 8f (AWT), 1:41.67, st SECRETIVE (FR) (f, 3, **Justify--Media Mischief, by Into Mischief),** a €150,000 Arqana August yearling who accounted for a trio of subsequent winners when annexing her Nov. 29 unveiling over 7 1/2 furlongs at Deauville in her only prior start, was swiftly into stride and accepted a tow in a comfortable second for most of this sophomore bow. Inching ahead at the quarter-mile pole, the 1-2 favourite was shaken up passing the furlong marker and kept on impressively under mild coaxing in the closing stages to easily defeat Dark Zel (Fr) (Zelzal {Fr}) by three lengths. "I am delighted to see her win so nicely as she is one of my best fillies at home," reflected trainer Yann Barberot. "The form of her first race is very strong and she had come to hand nicely this last week, but she is not yet at her peak and will come on for that.

The plan is one more start in April before going for the [May 14 G1] Poule d'Essai des Poulisches [at ParisLongchamp]." Secretive, who also boasts an engagement in this track's June 18 G1 Prix de Diane, is the second foal and scorer produced by a daughter of GII Buena Vista H. and G3 Prix du Bois winner Media Nox (GB) (Lycius), herself kin to three stakes performers headed by MGSW G2 Prix de Malleret victrix Bonash (GB) (Rainbow Quest). Media Nox also threw three pattern-race winners, headed by G1 Prix de Diane and G1 Prix du Moulin heroine Nebraska Tornado (Storm Cat), and her descendants feature last term's G1 Irish Derby victor Westover (GB) (**Frankel {GB}**). The February-foaled bay's dam Media Mischief was a lucrative proposition in the sales ring and changed hands for 250,000gns at Tattersalls' 2017 December Mares and \$450,000 at Keeneland's 2019 January Mixed sale. She was also a \$475,000 RNA at the 2018 Keeneland November Foals and Mares sale.

Cont. p9



Justify's Secretive Winning at Chantilly Monday
ScoopDyga

Chantilly 2 cont.

China Horse Club International forked out \$550,000 for her, carrying Secretive, at the following year's fixture while her 2019 filly Vaccine Of Hope (Pioneerof the Nile), herself a \$260,000 Keeneland September graduate, notched two wins in 2022. Unfortunately, her 2021 colt by **Siyouni (Fr)** died last year. Sales history: €150,000 Ylg '21 ARQAUG. Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, €27,500. **Video, sponsored by TVG.** O-Prime Equestrian SARL; B-China Horse Club International (FR); T-Yann Barberot.

3rd-Chantilly, €28,000, Cond, 3-13, 3yo, c/g, 8f (AWT), 1:40.01, st.

MARHABA YA SANAFI (IRE) (c, 3, Muhaarar {GB}--Danega {GB}, by Galileo {Ire}), who broke through over course and distance in November when last seen, was sharply away from an inner stall and led throughout this return. Untroubled on the front end for the most part, the 2-1 chalk came under stern pressure when threatened soon after passing the two pole and was driven out inside the final furlong to just hold the late thrust of Bless (Fr) (Toronado {Ire}) by a nose. Marhaba Ya Sanafi, kin to a 2-year-old filly by Acclamation (GB), is the fourth of five foals and one of two scorers produced by an unraced half to G2 Derrinstown Stud Derby Trial and G3 Ballysax S. placegetter Fergus McIver (Ire) (Sadler's Wells). The March-foaled bay's G3 Noblesse S.-winning second dam Danelissima (Ire) (Danehill) is out of a dual stakes-winning daughter of stakes-winning matriarch La Meilleure (Ire) (Lord Gayle). Lifetime Record: 3-2-0-0, €30,200.

Video, sponsored by TVG.

O-Jaber Abdullah; B-Rabbah Bloodstock Ltd (IRE); T-Andreas Schutz.

CONDITIONS RESULTS:

4th-Chantilly, €18,000, Cond, 3-13, 4yo, 10 1/2f (AWT), 2:14.80, st.

MY LYKA (GB) (c, 4, Intello {Ger}--Nessita {GB}, by Shamardal)

Lifetime Record: 4-2-1-1, €29,370. O-3S Racehorse Management; B-Boho Bloodstock (GB); T-Hiroo Shimizu. *50,000gns Wlg '19 TATFOA; €100,000 Ylg '20 ARQSEP.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Dakarov (Fr), c, 3, Olympic Glory (Ire)--Phoebe Buffay (Fr), by Motivator (GB). Agen-La Garenne, 3-13, 9 1/4f (AWT), 1:57.40. B-EARL Haras de l'Hotellerie (FR).

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

Sponsored by  **WJB** **PLUNDER DOWN UNDER**
WILLIAM JOHNSON BLOODSTOCK WILL@WJBLOODSTOCK.COM +61 0481 291 008

First Stakes Winner For Showtime

Profondo To Stand At Windsor Park Stud

Kah 'Awake And Communicating'

Earl Of Tyrone Out Of Sydney Autumn

James McDonald To Slipper, Ban Reduced

Progeny PPs is now

Stallions' Top Runners

Type Sire Name: [Go](#)

[Click here](#)

to view a detailed report of all the races contained in the TDN, plus selected additional maiden winners from around the U.S. and Europe from the previous 13 months sorted by stallion.

