



'MO' COLT TOPS OBS MARCH OPENER



Consignor Cary Frommer congratulates Mike Repole | Mathea Kelley

by Brian DiDonato and Steve Sherack

A colt from the second crop of Uncle Mo proved the standout during the first of two sessions of the Ocala Breeders' Sales Company's March 2-Year-Olds in Training Sale Tuesday, garnering a winning bid of \$1.3 million from Mike Repole and Coolmore.

A total of 160 juveniles changed hands for gross receipts of \$25,718,500. The average was \$160,741, down 11.5% from the corresponding figure from the first session of the 2015 March sale. The median also sunk slightly, from \$120,000 12 months ago to \$115,000--a 4.2% drop. The RNA rate for the session was 28.9%. Because OBS updates sales results after the auction date to include additional private transactions, year-to-year buy-back comparisons are difficult.

"It was a good, solid day--comparable to last year," offered OBS Director of Sales Tod Wojciechowski. "It's kind of hard to read too much and compare sessions year-to-year, but all-in-all, I thought it was a pretty solid day. There are still a lot of good horses left [Wednesday], and we're looking forward to that. There's still a lot of activity back at the barns."

The session-topping Uncle Mo colt was consigned to the sale by Cary Frommer, Agent II, as [hip 245](#).

Eddie Woods led all consignors, selling 15 horses for \$3,797,000. **Cont. p3**

TAMPA SEES STRENGTH IN KNOWING ITS NICHE

by T.D. Thornton

Tampa Bay Downs opted for stacking \$850,000 worth of stakes purses on last Saturday's 36th annual Festival Day, and the track was rewarded with a record all-sources mutuel handle of \$12,250,446. Betting business aside, Saturday's racing itself was eye-catching: Destin (Giant's Causeway) stamped himself as a legitimate Triple Crown contender with a sharp score in the \$350,000 GII Lambholm South Tampa Bay Derby, while Tepin (Bernstein), the champion turf female of 2015, proved she'll be a tough customer again this year with a smart win in the \$200,000 GII Hillsborough S.

Cont. p15

in **TDN Europe** today...

ANNIE POWERS TO CHELTENHAM SCORE

Annie Power (Ire) (Shirocco {Ger}) bested males in a record-breaking time in the G1 Stan James Champion Hurdle at Cheltenham Tuesday.

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in this issue...



Cupid (Tapit), scratched from Saturday's GII San Felipe S., arrived at Oaklawn Park Tuesday ahead of a tilt in Saturday's GII Rebel S. The Bob Baffert trainee was an impressive maiden winner at Santa Anita in February and makes his stakes debut at Oaklawn for owners Michael Tabor, Susan Magnier and Derrick Smith. Coady Photography

WAR FRONT COLT TO IRELAND

8

A colt by War Front will be heading overseas to join the barn of Irish trainer Jim Bolger after bloodstock agent Jason Litt signed the ticket at \$675,000 during Tuesday's opening session of the OBS March Sale.

DE REGULATOR OPPOSES USADA IN RACING

1RR

Delaware Thoroughbred Racing Commission Chairman W. Duncan Patterson voiced strong opposition to involvement by the federal government and USADA in horse racing during Tuesday's meeting of the Organization of Racing Investigators.

from thetdn.com

Uncle Mo's 2013 foal crop leads all other Northern Hemisphere sires by total progeny earnings thus far in 2016.

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'Mo' Colt Tops OBS March Opener *(cont. from p1)*

The recent trend of partnership groups joining forces at the top end of the market continued, with four of the top five lots selling to multiple entities.

"That was something that was a little different--we saw some of these larger buyers partnering on some horses," noted Wojciechowski. "It did seem a little more so than in the past."

OBS March concludes with its second session Wednesday, beginning at 11:00 a.m.

For complete results and more, visit obssales.com.

Repole, Coolmore Come Back for 'Mo'

Already partners on 2015's record-shattering freshman sire Uncle Mo, Mike Repole and Coolmore partnered to pick up Tuesday's session-topping son of the 'TDN Rising Star' and 2010 champion juvenile for \$1.3 million. The :10 1/5 breezer was offered by Cary Frommer, Agent II as [hip 245](#).

"They liked the horse, we liked the horse. We both own the sire together, so it just made a lot of sense for us to do it together," said Repole, whose lightly raced Outwork (Uncle Mo) finished a solid second in the GII Tampa Bay Derby over the weekend.

A May 17 foal, hip 245 is out of Setareh (Sky Classic), a two-time stakes winner at 8 1/2 panels who finished third in the 2001 GI Vanity H.

"He looks like Uncle Mo as a 2-year-old," Repole said when asked what it was about this particular Uncle Mo that stood out.

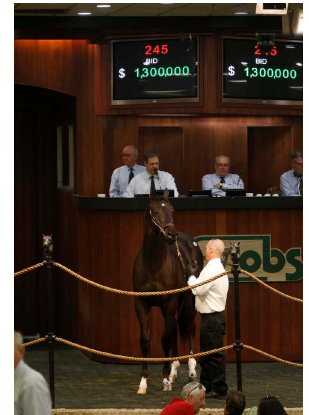
"Uncle Mo seems to be stamping a lot of his horses, and the horses that he stamps are usually the horses that can run. I haven't been in the sire business as long as Coolmore, but they've never had a sire like this, and it's easy for me to say I've never had a sire like this either."

Repole and Coolmore are also partners on Stay Thirsty, whose first progeny are juveniles this year.

Coolmore teamed up with Stonestreet Stables to secure a \$1-million Uncle Mo colt--also offered by Cary Frommer--at Fasig-Tipton Florida earlier this month.

Todd Pletcher, who was flanked front and center in the sales pavilion by Repole to his left and Coolmore's Charlie O'Connor to his right during the bidding process, will train the colt.

Cont. p4



Hip 245 | Mathea Kelley

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"He breezed phenomenally, and is a beautiful horse on the shank," Pletcher said of hip 245's appeal. "He showed himself really well. He has a tremendous disposition like most of the Uncle Mos. We're extremely, extremely, extremely high on Uncle Mo--like the rest of the world is."

Pletcher was at the helm for Uncle Mo's career on the track, which included victories in the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile and GI Champagne S. at two, and GII Kelso H. at three. In addition to Outwork, other Uncle Mo progeny he trains include Repole-owned stakes winners Clipthecouponannie and Lost Raven and Michael Tabor's MGSP Thrilled.

"In every Derby prep, there are two, three, four Uncle Mos--it's just phenomenal for a first-crop sire to be doing what he's doing," Pletcher added. "When they perform like this one did on the racetrack, and are conformed the way he is, it's just the whole package."

Pletcher did not yet know what would be next for Outwork, but said the homebred exited Saturday's effort in good order.

"I thought he ran super for only his second start of the year and first time around two turns--it was a huge effort," he offered. -@BDiDonatoTDN

Frommer Ready for Mo

After selling a \$1-million son of Uncle Mo ([Hip 5](#)) at the Fasig-Tipton Florida Sale earlier this month, it was deja vu all over again for consignor Cary Frommer in Ocala Tuesday afternoon.

Along with regular partner Barry Berkelhammer, as well as owner Rich Averill, the group acquired the \$1.3-million OBS March topper by last year's leading freshman sire for \$150,000 as a KEESEP yearling.

"It's just amazing," Frommer commented back at her barn. "It's been an amazing year so far and he's done nothing wrong from the minute we bought him. We're thrilled to have had him, and look at him, he's just gorgeous. Real placid, gentle and kind, too. He's a May [17] foal--he's going to develop into just a phenomenal athlete."

Did Frommer think that he could bring that kind of money?

"Yeah, we actually did," she replied. "You never think in terms of those prices, but we knew he was going to be sought after."

Along with Berkelhammer, Frommer typically buys about 20 yearlings each year to pinhook the following year as 2-year-olds. They both bring in other partners to join in later.

"I would like to think that I'm that smart, but he was already starting to do all the right things [by last fall], so I was determined to get some Uncle Mos," she said when asked about specifically shopping for Uncle Mo's progeny last fall. "Then, of course, he just kept going on to do great things and I really lucked out."

The topper, bred in Kentucky by Sierra Farm, is out of the MSW & GISP Sky Classic mare Setareh. -@SteveSherackTDN

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OBS UNDER TACK SHOW:

HIP 349	:10.2
HIP 351	:10.2
HIP 387	:21.2
HIP 396	:10.2
HIP 468	:10 FLAT
HIP 498	:10 FLAT
HIP 568	:10.1
HIP 586	:10.2



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OBS MARCH -- Tuesday's Top Colts

Hip	Sire	Dam	Price (\$)
<u>245</u>	<u>Uncle Mo</u>	Setareh	1,300,000

(\$150,000 yrl '15 KEESEP)

B-Sierra Farm (Ky)

Consigned by Cary Frommer, Agent II

Purchased by Repole Stable/M. V. Magnier

<u>222</u>	<u>Twirling Candy</u>	Sage Mist	850,000
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(\$70,000 yrl '15 KEESEP)

B-Ernest C. Frohboese (Ky)

Consigned by Eisaman Equine, agent

Purchased by Al Shaqab Racing/WinStar/China Horse Club

Raised at MILLENNIUM FARMS

<u>101</u>	<u>War Front</u>	Maryfield	675,000
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(\$150,000 yrl '15 FTKJUL)

B-Southern Equine Stables (Ky)

Consigned by Eddie Woods, Agent XX

Purchased by Solis/Litt

<u>182</u>	<u>Curlin</u>	Polly Alexander (Ire)	625,000
		(\$110,000 yrl '15 KEESEP)	

B-Nicholas J. Sibilio (Ky)

Consigned by Thoroughbred Champions Training Center, agent

Purchased by MMG Stables LLC

<u>155</u>	<u>Bernardini</u>	Onebadkitty	575,000
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(\$150,000 yrl '15 KEESEP)

B-Janet K. Lyons & James Dean Atwell (Ky)

Consigned by de Meric Sales, Agent XXXVIII

Purchased by Town & Country Racing LLC/Spendthrift Farm

<u>136</u>	<u>Lemon Drop Kid</u>	Motokiks	550,000
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(\$270,000 yrl '15 KEEJAN)

B-Elevage (Ky)

Consigned by Wavertree Stables (Ciaran Dunne), Agent XXIV

Purchased by L.E.B.

<u>293</u>	<u>Curlin</u>	Stars Indy Skies	550,000
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(\$110,000 yrl '15 KEESEP)

B-Summer Wind Farm (Ky)

Consigned by Eisaman Equine, agent

Purchased by Casse & Casse, agent

TDN TODAY

Headline News..... 15 pages

#1 FRESHMAN SIRE

at OBS March

\$245,000 Avg.
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OBS MARCH -- Tuesday's Top Fillies

Hip	Sire	Dam	Price (\$)
145	Into Mischief	Narrate	500,000
(\$160,000 yrl '15 FTKOCT; \$200,000 RNA yrl '15 KEESEP)			
B-James & Janeane Everatt and J. Arika Evaratt-Meeuse (On)			
Consigned by Niall Brennan Stables, Agent IV Purchased by			
Spendthrift Farm LLC			
257	The Factor	Silver Cub	375,000
(\$100,000 i/u '13 KEENOV; \$160,000 yrl '15 OBSAUG)			
B-Gilbert Campbell (Fl)			
Consigned by Eddie Woods, Agent III			
Purchased by Speedway Stable			
013	Giant's Causeway	High on the Hill	360,000
(\$170,000 RNA yrl '15 KEESEP)			
B-Turner Breeders			
Consigned by Eddie Woods, Agent XXVI			
Purchased by Fiona Shaw, agent for Marc Keller			
040	Uncle Mo	Jessica's Halo	350,000
(\$130,000 yrl '15 FTSAUG)			
B-Joseph DiRico (NY)			
Consigned by Mayberry Farm, Agent VII			
Purchased by Dennis O'Neill			

[156](#) [Midnight Lute](#) One Foxy Grey 350,000
 (\$185,000 i/u '13 KEENOV; \$37,000 RNA '14 KEENOV; \$55,000
 RNA '15 KEESEP)
 B-Nancy Shuford (Ky)
 Consigned by Eisaman Equine, Agent
 Purchased by Triumphant Trio LLC



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OBS MARCH SALE

SESSION TOTALS	2016	2015
• Catalogued	306	304
• No. Offered	225	233
• No. Sold	160	169
• RNAs	65	64
• % RNAs	28.9%	27.5%
• No. \$500K+	8	15
• High Price	\$1,300,000	\$1,400,000
• Gross	\$25,718,500	\$30,704,000
• Average (% change)	\$160,741 (-11.5%)	\$181,680
• Median (% change)	\$115,000 (-4.2%)	\$120,000

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\$1,000,000
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Second Closing Wed., April 13
Fillies, Three years old
ONE MILE AND ONE-EIGHTH, Dirt

WILLIAM WALKER

\$100,000
Runs Sat., April 30
Three-year-olds
SIX FURLONGS, Dirt

NEW

KENTUCKY JUVENILE

\$100,000
Runs Thurs., May 5
Two-year-olds
FIVE FURLONGS, Dirt

KENTUCKY OAKS DAY

LA TROIENNE, GRADE I

\$300,000
Runs Fri., May 6
Fillies & Mares,
Four years old & Up
ONE MILE AND
ONE-SIXTEENTH, Dirt

ALYSHEBA, GRADE II

\$400,000
Runs Fri., May 6
Three-year-olds and Up
ONE MILE AND
ONE-SIXTEENTH, Dirt

EIGHT BELLES, GRADE II

\$200,000
Runs Fri., May 6
Fillies, Three years old
SEVEN FURLONGS, Dirt

EDGEWOOD, GRADE III *PRESENTED BY FORCHT BANK*

\$150,000
Runs Fri., May 6
Fillies, Three years old
ONE MILE AND
ONE-SIXTEENTH, Turf

TWIN SPIRES TURF SPRINT, GRADE III

\$150,000
Runs Fri., May 6
Three-year-olds and Up
FIVE FURLONGS, Turf

KENTUCKY DERBY DAY

WOODFORD RESERVE TURF CLASSIC, GRADE I

\$500,000
Runs Sat., May 7
Second Closing
Wed., April 13
Four-year-olds and Up
ONE MILE AND
ONE-EIGHTH, Turf

HUMANA DISTAFF, GRADE I

\$300,000
Runs Sat., May 7
Fillies & Mares,
Four years old & Up
SEVEN FURLONGS, Dirt

AMERICAN TURF, GRADE II

PRESENTED BY RAM TRUCKS

\$300,000
Runs Sat., May 7
Three-year-olds
ONE MILE AND
ONE-SIXTEENTH, Turf

CHURCHILL DISTAFF TURF MILE, GRADE II

PRESENTED BY LONGINES

\$300,000
Runs Sat., May 7
Fillies & Mares,
Four years old & Up
ONE MILE, Turf

CHURCHILL DOWNS, GRADE II

\$500,000
Runs Sat., May 7
Four-year-olds and Up
SEVEN FURLONGS, Dirt

PAT DAY MILE, GRADE III *PRESENTED BY LG&E AND KU*

\$250,000
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Three-year-olds
ONE MILE, Dirt

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Powerful Partners Team for 'Twirling' Colt

With a last-minute deal in place, Al Shaqab Racing, WinStar Farm and China Horse Club teamed up Tuesday to take home an \$850,000 Twirling Candy colt at OBS March. Consigned by Eisaman Equine as [hip 222](#), the bay covered a furlong in :10 1/5 last week.

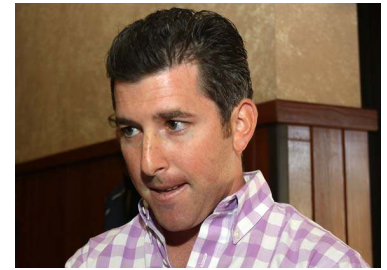
"It all came together in the back ring," explained Bradley Weisbord, U.S. advisor to Sheikh Joaan Al Thani's Al Shaqab Racing, which will be the majority partner on the colt. "He seemed like he was going to be an expensive horse, so I rang up Khalifa Alattiya, General Manager of Al Shaqab Racing, and suggested we take on partners for the horse."

The bay is a half-brother to stakes winner Highway Boss (Street Boss). His dam is a half to a pair of graded stakes-placed runners. This is the extended female family of GI Kentucky Oaks heroine Blushing K. D. and Hong Kong Horse of the Year Electronic Unicorn.



Hip 222 | Mathea Kelley

"He was the best horse for our team today," Weisbord, who noted that Todd Pletcher would train the colt, continued. "That was the one horse that I told the team we wanted to walk away with... He's got the credentials that we want to buy in America. He's got a two-turn pedigree, a breeze that was special. He's an athlete, and hopefully he's a Saturday afternoon horse between January and May of next year. He's also forward enough to go on to [Pletcher] very shortly, so there are a lot of angles to win here. There's the 2-year-old year and the 3-year-old year. We thought he was special and we were happy to get him."



Bradley Weisbord | Mathea Kelley

Al Shaqab will be represented in the G1 Dubai World Cup with the Pletcher-trained GI Donn H. hero Mshawish (Medaglia d'Oro) later this month.

WinStar and China Horse Club also purchased [hip 27](#), a \$435,000 Bodemeister colt from the Hoppel's Horse & Cattle Co. consignment; and [hip 210](#), a \$180,000 Crupi's New Castle Farm-consigned Into Mischief colt, earlier in Tuesday's session.

-@BDiDonatoTDN

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Sires of Experimental Free Handicap Horses (3 or more)

Sire	2YO's weighted
Uncle Mo	10
Scat Daddy	8
Tapit	8
Sky Mesa	7
Bernardini	6
City Zip	4
Giant's Causeway	4
Kitten's Joy	4
Curlin	3
Malibu Moon	3
Medaglia d'Oro	3
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Sweet Results for the Eisamans

Purchased by Eisaman Equine for just \$70,000 out of the Romans Racing and Sales consignment at last year's KEESEP Yearling Sale, [hip 222](#) was in much higher demand at the OBS March opener Tuesday, bringing \$850,000 from a group headed by Al Shaqab Racing.

"He turned out to be a wonderful young horse," consignor Dr. Barry Eisaman, sporting his regular University of Florida cap, said out back. "He's everything everyone looks for in young athletes. The sire is hot. The horse is sound, correct, had great veterinary work, and is a great mover with a lot of speed. It all just came together for him."

The son of Twirling Candy out of an unraced Henny Hughes mare was bred in Kentucky by Ernest C. Frohboese. The young Lane's End sire was recently flattered by 'TDN Rising Star's Danzing Candy's impressive win in Saturday's Gil San Felipe S. at Santa Anita.

"We thought he would sell well," Eisaman continued. "Everyone that's here liked him. He was looked at probably more than any horse we've ever brought to a 2-year-old sale. It's a pleasant surprise, but not a total surprise."

The Eisamans also sold a Curlin colt ([Hip 293](#)), a \$110,000 KEESEP yearling purchase, for \$550,000 to Casse & Casse, agent. "He's the standout colt of our group," Eisaman said of the bay earlier this week. -[@SteveSherackTDN](#)

War Front Colt Heading to Ireland

A well-bred son of War Front is headed to Ireland after being purchased for \$675,000 during Tuesday's OBS March session. No, he won't be stabled where you think. Agent Jason Litt came out on top for the Eddie Woods-consigned son of 2007 champion female sprinter Maryfield (Elusive Quality).

"We're going to take him over to Ireland, give him to [trainer] Jim Bolger and hope that we have a pretty special horse overseas," Litt said of [hip 101](#), who breezed a quarter mile in [:20 3/5](#) during the first of three under-tack previews last Wednesday.

When asked for more about the ownership group involved, Litt said, "It's a handful of good clients who race with us. Hey, a War Front, out of a champion that breezed beautifully; Eddie's loved him from the beginning. You can't do any better than that... Everyone's happy. It's one of those where you're pumped all the way around."

Litt and partner Alex Solis II also purchased a \$110,000 Into Mischief filly ([hip 43](#)) earlier in the session.

Maryfield, winner of the GI Ballerina S. and first running of the Breeders' Cup F/M Sprint in 2007, was purchased by Mike Moreno's Southern Equine Stables at that year's Fasig-Tipton November sale for \$1.25-million. Southern Equine bred hip 101 in Kentucky. *Cont. p9*

SKY MESA



Sky Treasure (\$514,792)

In both 2014 and 2015, **SKY MESA** sired more Stakes Performers than the following sires

Stallion	2015 SH	2014 SH	2016 Stud Fee
Sky Mesa	24	25	\$20,000
Pioneerof the Nile	12	12	\$125,000
Bernardini	23	18	\$100,000
Curlin	22	24	\$100,000
Malibu Moon	18	24	\$95,000
Ghostzapper	23	20	\$60,000
Tiznow	22	23	\$60,000
Hard Spun	23	18	\$45,000
Into Mischief	8	11	\$45,000

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His year-old half-sister Not Now Carolyn (Tapit) was a sharp maiden winner at Santa Anita Dec. 28 before competing in the GIII Santa Ysabel S. earlier this month.

A partnership group led by Eddie Woods picked up hip 101 for \$150,000 at last year's Fasig-Tipton July sale.

"He's a really nice horse and he deserved it," Woods said of the sale. "He's by one of the top sires in the world, so he's supposed to do well. He worked great, he looked fabulous. He's out of a really good mare and he's gone to a great spot. Hopefully he goes on from there."



Eddie Woods | OBS photo

Woods was the day's leading consignor, with 15 head selling for a combined \$3,797,000.

"Today's been a great day," Woods confirmed Tuesday afternoon. "For us, the market's been very good. I thought the market was good in Miami [at Fasig-Tipton Florida], and I think it transferred through to here for the nice horses. Fortunately, we had several nice horses. It's not going to happen for the cheaper horses here, unfortunately, that's just the way it is. But it's not just the top end anymore. There's money all over the place for the decent horses." - @BDiDonatoTDN

Big Day for Bradley...

Few people, if any, had a better day than Pete Bradley through the first hundred or so hips of Tuesday's OBS March session. With the help of consignor Eddie Woods, Bradley offered five juveniles as part of his well-established and highly profitable pinhook venture, and each realized a solid return on investment:

- [Hip 31](#), a son of Quality Road, was a \$140,000 Fasig-Tipton July yearling. He breezed a quarter in [:20 4/5](#), and went to trainer Bob Baffert for \$435,000.
- [Hip 92](#), a Super Saver colt, was an \$80,000 FTKJUL acquisition. He garnered a winning bid of \$300,000 from Ralph M. Evans after a [:20 3/5](#) move.
- [Hip 87](#), a son of Ghostzapper, also went to Baffert for \$285,000. He was an \$80,000 KEESEP yearling and worked in [:20 4/5](#).
- [Hip 63](#), a Mineshaft colt out of a half-sister to Quality Road himself, was scooped up by agent Barry Berkelhammer for \$280,000. The \$110,000 Keeneland September yearling stopped the clock in [:21 1/5](#).
- [Hip 97](#), a daughter of Pioneerof the Nile, went to Global Thoroughbred for \$270,000 after a [:20 4/5](#) breeze. He was a \$150,000 Keeneland September yearling.

Cont. p10

"I thought he was the best colt in the sale."

- Elliott Walden, WinStar Farm



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From an initial investment of \$560,000, Tuesday's sellers brought a combined \$1.57 million.

"It's as good a group as we've ever brought to auction, and we've brought some good horses," Bradley said. "They performed well, they were sound, they were the right body types--athletic horses. We'd hoped we'd be in the \$1-million to \$1.2-million range for the whole group, so that's exceptional. Nice horses make you look good."

Of hip 31, Bradley offered, "He was a man amongst boys. He started out a little immature, but he just kept getting better. Every time Eddie asked him to do a little something more, he did it and kept moving forward. It's the kind of progression you like to see with any horse--whether it's a weanling to a yearling, yearling to 2-year-old, or a racehorse. Those horses that give you what you ask for every time are special types."

A total of 26 entities are involved in this year's Bradley Thoroughbreds pinhook venture. The group will offer 12 juveniles this year--[hip 428](#), a son of Astrology who cost \$140,000 at Fasig-Tipton Saratoga and breezed in [:10 1/5](#), sells Wednesday. The remaining horses will be offered at OBS April and the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic sale in May.

Past graduates of the venture include last year's GIII Sunland Derby winner and GI Kentucky Derby runner-up Firing Line (Line of David); unbeaten turf superstar filly Lady Eli (Divine Park);

2014 GI Travers S. upsetter V. E. Day (English Channel); Japanese Group 1 winner Moanin (Henny Hughes), etc.

Bradley also played the role of buyer Tuesday, scooping up a \$100,000 Lookin at Lucky filly ([hip 38](#)) offered by Justin Casse's Casse Sales, agent for Kinsman Farm.

"I think it's very good--obviously we had the right kind of horses, and you're never going to think it's bad when you have very good horses," Bradley said when asked about the market Tuesday. "I haven't really studied it closely, but it has been a little softer in spots than I thought it would be. That's the nature of the 2-year-old game--it's a chicken and feathers game and it's always polarized. Last year, I had my hat handed to me--the horses just didn't end up being what they needed to be. This year, we had horses that people want. It feels good."

-@BDiDonatoTDN

Brok Steps Up Big for Son of Curlin...

Acting on behalf of MMG Stables LLC, Glenn Brok of Pennsylvania's Diamond B Farm went all the way to \$625,000 to acquire [hip 182](#), a Curlin colt consigned by Thoroughbred Champions Training Center LLC.

"He's a nice horse. We looked at a couple, but he was our favorite, so we decided to go," said Brok, who admitted that that was the biggest ticket he had ever signed. **Cont. p10**

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Brok declined to reveal the principles of MMG Stables, but noted that the group owns the solid Midlantic-based sophomore Never Gone South (Munnings). A \$90,000 pick-up at OBS April last year, the Cathal Lynch trainee annexed Delaware's Strike Your Colors S. last August, and romped in Laurel's Frank Whiteley Jr. S. Jan. 16. He most recently finished third in Laurel's Miracle Wood S. Feb. 15.

"They were looking for a nice colt who could maybe go on and be a stallion, and we bought him," Brok added of hip 182. "He's a very sound horse, very well-balanced, had a good breeze, good pedigree--all the right things. All the things we were looking for."

A \$110,000 KEESEP yearling, hip 182 leveled off nicely in a [:21](#) flat breeze. His dam Polly Alexander (Ire) (Foxhound) was stakes-placed in Italy, and is a half to GII Del Mar Derby winner and MGISP Medici Code (GB) (Medicean {GB}).

"He's an excellent horse," consignor Jaime De Jesus Mejia Espinosa said. "Over more distance, he'll be even better."

-@BDiDonatoTDN

'Wheeling' and Dealing

Longtime former Hobeau Farm manager Craig L. Wheeler had a pretty good reason to still be smiling back at Barn 3 shortly into Tuesday's first day of trade at the OBS March Sale.



Craig Wheeler | Sherack

Consigned by himself as [Hip 20](#), his homebred Gone Astray--Honour Isabel (Honour and Glory) colt brought \$375,000 from Mersad Metanovic Bloodstock.

The bay glided through a [:9 4/5](#) bullet during the under-tack show.

"It's nice when it all comes together," Wheeler commented. "We loved him as a foal, and from the day he was born, he was gorgeous. Then when we put him into training, he lived up to

expectations. He just kept moving forward and everything kept coming together at the right time. All my crew works so hard. They really put their heart and soul into it. This really means a lot."

Hip 20 was one of just three juveniles consigned by Wheeler at the OBS March Sale.

He continued, "During the peak season, we'll have about 100 horses--50 of my own and 50 for clients. We're a small, hands-on operation and have 20 mares of our own. We mostly hold on to the 2-year-olds just for this reason. There could be such an upswing if they show their talent on the racetrack. And, of course, we live right in the mecca of 2-year-old training."

Wheeler's involvement with the Gone Astray colt's family traces back to his second dam Port Isabel (Time to Explode), a maiden of seven career starts. She is a half-sister to GISW Cara Rafaela (Quiet American), who, of course, went on to produce 2006 champion 3-year-old colt Bernardini (A.P. Indy).

"The funny part about it is, I was sitting at the [2005] Keeneland [November Sale] and Port Isabel was going through the ring, carrying Honour Isabel," he explained. "For Hobeau, I bred Put It Back and had a lot of luck with Honour and Glory. At the time, she was just a half-sister to Cara Rafaela--she hadn't produced Bernardini yet. I threw in one bid at \$12,000 and I got her, and lo and behold, she produces Bernardini. It has just been a good-luck story all along."

Honour Isabel won four races for Wheeler, mostly in Maryland, after RNA'ing for \$45,000 as an OBSAUG yearling in 2007. She is heading back for another date with second-crop sire Gone Astray this spring.

Wheeler began working at Hobeau at the age of 24 after graduating from the Irish National Stud program. He served as Hobeau's manager for approximately 30 years. Grade I stakes winners Miss Shop (Deputy Minister) and Swap Fliparoo (Exchange Rate), as well as graded stakes winners Delightful Kiss (Kissin Kris), Delightful Mary (Limehouse), Kelly Kip (Kipper Kelly), Put It Back (Honour and Glory) and Trappe Shot (Tapit) were all bred by the legendary outfit during Wheeler's tenure there.

"Hobeau was my home and [the late] Jack Dreyfus was the best owner you could ever work for," Wheeler said. "And, of course, Allen Jerkens, too. I was surrounded by these icons. I managed Hobeau Farm for a lot of years and went out on my own after they dispersed."

Wheeler's well-rounded operation has enjoyed some nice pinhooks through the years as well, including a pair of weanling-to-yearling scores.

"I had a Storm Cat years ago that I bought for \$250,000 and sold for \$625,000," he said. "And a Pleasant Colony for \$110,000 that I got \$550,000 for."

Wheeler concluded, "We play all ends of the market, which you kind of have to. You don't know when there's going to be a soft spot in the market." -@SteveSherackTDN



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pinhook at the OBS March sale, realizing \$300,000 for a son of Gemologist. Lane's End Bloodstock made the purchase.

Consigned as [Hip 171](#) by Julie Davies, Agent II, the gray breezed a bullet eighth in :9 4/5. Out of Penny Marie (Sky Classic), MSW & MGSP, \$351,830, he was bred in Virginia by Lazy Lane Farms.

(Click [here](#) for a ThoroStride video).

"I'm originally from Scotland--I probably bet my first horse when I was seven," Hendry, the co-head of the Americas Employee of Aberdeen Asset Management Inc., commented. "My father was very much into horse racing and I've always been a big handicapper. I came over to the States 20 years ago. In 2007, a friend of mine took me to Gulfstream. He [Jack Lally of Summerplace Farm] owned a horse called Kelly's Landing, who won the [2007 G1] Golden Shaheen. That really got me into horses and I started buying them after that."

He continued, "We've had several winners at Tampa Bay and now we're building up into classier horses to race, I suppose, but this is our first venture into pinhooking."

Hosier, meanwhile, has held various roles in the industry, including director of sales at Denali and as a stallion administrator at Claiborne Farm. She has also worked for The Jockey Club and Martin Collins' Polytrack.

Hot Scot went to \$80,000 to acquire the aforementioned colt from the first crop of 2012

GI Wood Memorial winner at last year's FTSAUG sale. They also bought a \$75,000 Big Brown colt [[Hip 72](#)], a half-brother to MGSW D' Funnybone (D'wildcat), at the same auction. The duo were acquired specifically with the purpose of re-selling as juveniles.

"This is the first year that we have brought yearlings to the 2-year-old sales [to pinhook]," Hosier said. "We normally just race, but having worked at Denali, I've always wanted to [pinhook at] the 2-year-olds sales. We saw the Gemologist at Saratoga--he was a really nice horse--and we just loved the sire."



Hip 171 | Thorostride

Hosier continued, "Julie breaks all of our babies. Our exercise rider Luis could tell right away just by looking at him as yearling that he was really fast. He was always under a tight hold while training on the farm. Luis was a big part in us picking this horse out."

Hip 171's older half-brother by Birdstone brought \$275,000 from bloodstock agent Steve Young at last year's OBSMAR sale. He is also a half-brother to Centrique (Malibu Moon), GSP, \$461,995.

"We're really excited, I've been doing this for a long time and have worked for a lot of different people," Hosier concluded. "I think he's a really good one." -[@SteveSherackTDN](#)

Partnership Forms for Bernardini Colt...

Town and Country Racing and Spendthrift Farm joined forces for the first time to land a son of Bernardini for \$575,000 at the OBS March Sale Tuesday.

Consigned by de Meric Sales, Agent XXXVIII, as [Hip 155](#), he covered a quarter mile in :21 at the breeze show. Europa Mundo Stable acquired the dark bay for \$150,000 as a KESEEP yearling.

"He basically checked all the boxes for us--really good breeze, really good gallop out--everything we wanted--and he kept on going," said Town and Country advisor Shannon Potter after signing the ticket while seated alongside Spendthrift's Ned Toffey and B. Wayne Hughes. "He did it really easy. He's what we were looking for as far as a stallion prospect goes. Hopefully, one day, if we're lucky, he'll get there."

Louise and Kiki Courtelis's outfit, of course, campaign last year's GI Breeders' Cup Distaff heroine Stopchargingmaria (Tale of the Cat). She continues to gear up for her 5-year-old debut at Todd Pletcher's Palm Beach Downs base.

"We both landed on the same horse, so it was pretty easy," Potter explained of the decision to partner up with Spendthrift. "It was a really good match."

Hip 155 was produced by the stakes-winning Street Cry (Ire) mare Onebadkitty. A trainer will be decided at a later date, per Potter.

"We stretched a little bit, but we liked the horse well enough to be able to stretch," Potter, also sales account manager at Taylor Made Sales, revealed. "It looks like if they're a good horse, they're bringing good money."

Spendthrift, meanwhile, struck earlier in the sale for [Hip 145](#), a daughter of Into Mischief, for \$500,000 from the Niall Brennan consignment. She was the top-priced filly of the session.

-[@SteveSherackTDN](#)

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OBS MARCH -- TUESDAY

Hip	Sex	Sire	Dam	Price (\$)
<u>011</u>	filly	<u>Malibu Moon</u>	Hi Beautiful	300,000

Consigned by Halcyon Hammock Farm, Agent III

Purchased by L.E.B./WSF

The always prescient pinhooker Hal Hatch found this filly for \$125,000 at last year's Keeneland September sale. Sent through the ring through Hatch's Halcyon Hammock Farm, the youngster proved worth the investment.

<u>086</u>	filly	<u>Super Saver</u>	Listowel	285,000
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Consigned by McKathan Bros., Agent I

Purchased by Martin S. Schwartz

The McKathan brothers were able to scoop this filly out of the Keeneland September sale for just \$35,000 last fall. She validated their faith in her Tuesday.

<u>118</u>	colt	<u>Bernardini</u>	Miss Kate	275,000
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Consigned by Crupi's New Castle Farm, agent

Purchased by Repole Stable

This youngster was a \$70,000 Keeneland September purchase by B.L.B. and clearly blossomed over the winter.

<u>145</u>	filly	<u>Into Mischief</u>	Narrate	500,000
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Consigned by Niall Brennan Stables, Agent IV

Purchased by Spendthrift Farm

Everest Bloodstock went to \$160,000 to purchase this filly at last year's Fasig-Tipton Kentucky October sale and she repaid the investment handsomely.

<u>182</u>	colt	<u>Curlin</u>	Polly Alexander (Ire)	625,000
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Consigned by Thoroughbred Champions Training Center, agent

Purchased by MMG Stables LLC

Jaime Mejia's Thoroughbred Champions Training Center purchased this colt for \$110,000 at last year's Keeneland September sale. The Colombian horseman must have liked the way this colt was developing; he purchased the juvenile's yearling full-brother for \$80,000 at this year's Keeneland January sale. Mejia pinhooked an Into Mischief colt, purchased for \$11,000 at Keeneland September, for \$575,000 at last year's OBS June sale.

<u>267</u>	colt	<u>Bodemeister</u>	Smarty Deb	350,000
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Consigned by Harley/DeRenzo Thoroughbreds, agent

Purchased by West Point Thoroughbreds & Robert Masiello

Dean De Renzo and Randy Hartley purchased this colt out of the Northwest Farms dispersal for \$155,000 at last year's Keeneland September sale. The youngster was sought after Tuesday.

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OBS MARCH--WEDNESDAY

[Hip 321](#), c, [Malibu Moon](#)--The Best Day Ever, by Brahms

Consigned by Niall Brennan Stables, Agent II

Hip 321's dam was twice graded stakes-placed, and his next two dams were graded winners. A \$150,000 KEESEP pick-up by Queensway Stable, he breezed in :10 flat.

[322](#), c, [Adios Charlie](#)--The Church Lady, by Valid Wager

Consigned by Wavertree Stables, Inc. (Ciaran Dunne), agent

"I think he was the total standout of the whole breeze show," said Ciaran Dunne, who bred the :9 3/5 co-bullet breezer with his wife Amy.

[332](#), f, [Congrats](#)--Tocet Over, by Tocet

Consigned by Wavertree Stables, Inc. (Ciaran Dunne), Agent XII

"She'll probably be one of our high sellers," consignor Ciaran Dunne revealed. "[Half-brother] Mexikoma (Birdstone) obviously gave us a big update [winning the Sunshine Millions Classic S. Jan. 16 and finishing third in the GI Donn H. Feb. 6]. Congrats is flying at the moment, and she's stunning--her (:9 4/5) breeze was phenomenal."

[Hip 359](#), c, [More Than Ready](#)--Villa d'Este, by Street Sense

Consigned by Niall Brennan Stables, Agent II

"He's a gorgeous horse by a great international sire, so he's really appealing to anybody who's here," said consignor Niall Brennan of this \$155,000 KEESEP acquisition by Waterside Bloodstock who went in :10 1/5.

[382](#), c, [Stay Thirsty](#)--Actslikealady, by Lord Carson

Consigned by de Meric Sales, Agent V

This Feb. 24 foal hails from the first crop of freshman sire Stay Thirsty. Hubert Guy Bloodstock bought him for \$50,000 at Fasig-Tipton Saratoga. **Cont. p14**

Caleb's Posse

Hip# 200

from the first crop
of Caleb's Posse,
who breezed in

20 4/5,

sold for

\$110,000

at OBS March.

The colt was
purchased by Harlow Stables, LLC

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"We've got a couple of Stay Thirstys and we've been very positive on them throughout the winter," offered Nick de Meric. "They've been problem-free and look like real athletes. This is a lovely animal, had a very good breeze (:21 flat), and we have high hopes for him."

Hip 455, c, The Factor--Cat Dance, by Forest Wildcat

Consigned by Randy Bradshaw, Agent II

Produced by an unraced full-sister to GISW Forest Secrets, this bay from the first crop of speedy MGISW The Factor caught the eye with a :10 breeze at the under-tack show. He brought \$130,000 from Gatewood Bell's Cromwell Bloodstock at last year's KEESEP sale.

460, c, Kitten's Joy--Celestial Woods, by Forestry

Consigned by Eddie Woods, Agent XXVII

A full-brother to impressive GI Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint hero Bobby's Kitten, as well as SW Major Magic and GSP juvenile Camelot Kitten, this May 1 foal breezed two furlongs in :20 3/5.

Hip 461, f, Dialed In--Champagne Sparkle, by Street Boss

Consigned by Imagine...

This filly from the first crop of GI Florida Derby winner Dialed In (Mineshaft) zipped through an eighth in :10. Bred in Kentucky by Brandywine Farm, she RNA'd for \$95,000 as a KEESEP yearling. She is the first foal from an unraced sibling to GISWs Majestic Harbor (Rockport Harbor) and Danza (Street Boss).

Hip 473, c, Mineshaft--Clear Pond, by Dynaformer

Consigned by Wavertree Stables, Inc. (Ciaran Dunne), Agent XXVI

Out of GSP Clear Pond, this \$100,000 Fasig-Tipton October RNA covered an eighth in :9 4/5. "He's a big, strong horse, but very immature," noted Ciaran Dunne. "To imagine that he could go :9 4/5 and gallop out the way he did is just mind-boggling. You sit and wonder, 'Just how good can he be when he gets around to doing what he's meant to do?'"

Hip 478, c, Harlan's Holiday--Cool Spell, by Grand Slam

Consigned by Niall Brennan Stables, Agent III

This \$70,000 KEENOV RNA was a \$185,000 KEESEP purchase by Good Omen stable. From the final crop of popular sire Harlan's Holiday, he breezed in :9 4/5. "He's very popular--they've really landed on him," Niall Brennan said.

Hip 519, f, Uncle Mo--Dixie Talent, by Dixie Union

Consigned by Crupi's New Castle Farm, agent

Out of an unraced half-sister to GIII Longacres Mile H. hero No Giveaway (He's Tops), this New York-bred, already named Southern Mojito, breezed in :9 4/5 at the under-tack show. Her half-brother by Read the Footnotes brought \$475,000 from Japanese interests at this same sale in 2012.

Hip 543, f, Giant's Causeway--Empire West, by Empire Maker

Consigned by Crupi's New Castle Farm, agent

Purchased for \$375,000 as a KEESEP yearling, the bay was clocked in :9 4/5 at the under-tack show. She is out of a half-sister to the talented Forest Music (Unbridled's Song), who has gone on to produce 'TDN Rising Stars' Kentuckian (Tiznow) and Maclean's Music (Distorted Humor).

558, f, Twirling Candy--Felicitee, by Meniffee

Consigned by de Meric Sales, Agent XIX

Purchased by Machmer Hall as a \$50,000 Fasig-Tipton Saratoga Fall weanling, this dark bay burned up the track with a :20 2/5 move. "She's been in my son Tristan's division, and has been just wicked fast every time she ever breezed." Nick de Meric revealed. "She's an outstanding mover, very athletic and, as fast as she is, looks like she'll stretch out and go two turns when the time comes."

562, c, Tapit--Filare L'Oro, by Hard Spun

Consigned by de Meric Sales, Agent XXI

A \$270,000 KEESEP buy, this grey colt is the first foal out of SW and GSP Filare L'Oro. He hails from the extended female family of talented 'TDN Rising Star' and Grade I winner Cross Traffic (Unbridled's Song). "He's not got the kind of sizzle as some of the others, but he's a horse who's getting better and stronger by the week," said Nick de Meric of the :21 2/5 breezer.

Hip 578, c, Arch--Frisk Her, by Officer

Consigned by King's Equine, Agent IX

Purchased for \$150,000 as a KEESEP yearling by Scott and Evan Dilworth, this blaze-faced dark bay covered an eighth in :9 4/5. "He had a fantastic breeze--he did all the talking himself," consignor Raul Reyes commented. Hip 578 was produced by a multiple stakes-winning dam.

Hip 580, f, Bodemeister--Frolic's Dream, by Smoke Glacken

Consigned by Crupi's New Castle Farm, agent

Hailing from the first crop of Bodemeister, Hip 580 stopped the timer in :9 4/5. The \$300,000 KEESEP graduate is out of 2009 GII Forward Gal S. heroine Frolic's Dream.

591, c, Smart Strike--Glamorista, by Unbridled's Song

Consigned by Eddie Woods, Agent XV

This Illinois-bred was clocked in :9 4/5 for a furlong Friday. His GSP dam is a half to MGISW Critical Eye (Dynaformer) and to the dam of recent MGSW Takeover Target (Harlan's Holiday).

606, c, Kantharos--Gracious Assault, by Glitterman

Consigned by de Meric Sales, Agent I

Consignor Nick de Meric grabbed this co-bullet breezer (:9 3/5) for \$30,000 at OBS August. "This colt made our eyes pop out from the first time he worked by himself--without being asked, he worked a second and a half faster than anything that worked that day," de Meric said. "He's the kind of colt that you never really turn loose because you're afraid of what he might do. [Friday] was the first time we really had, and we felt he was capable of that kind of breeze."

Tampa Strength in Knowing its Niche

(cont. from p1)

In the immediate aftermath of a successful day, track managements are allowed to bask in the afterglow for a little bit. Sometimes the robust crowds and big betting numbers get racetrack executives leaning toward a “more is better” mentality when planning for the future. But Tampa’s vice president and general manager, Peter Berube, is more inclined to recognize that his track has carved out a fairly solid seasonal niche. Two showcase “festival” days anchored by five-plus months of competitive daily programs seems to be just the right mix for the Oldsmar oval, and Berube indicated in a Tuesday phone interview that Tampa will continue to hammer away at pretty much that same sweet spot for the foreseeable future.

“This year we went into the season grouping our stakes racing on two big weekends, trying to look for some holes on the [national] schedule, and it worked out very well,” Berube said. “Our Preview Day [Feb. 13] was our highest [handle] Preview Day ever. We did \$10.7 million, and of course, this past Saturday’s Festival Day was just outstanding. I think it was, by far, the best card we’ve ever put on, at least in the 22 years I’ve been here. It all played out perfectly.”

Two other stakes, the \$200,000 GIII Florida Oaks and the \$100,000 Challenger S., rounded out the 12-race card. Lambholm South was the first-time title sponsor for the Tampa Bay Derby, and a commemorative cooler bag giveaway helped lure a live crowd of 10,206. **Cont. p15**

“It’s all about trying to put the best card forward. It wouldn’t be out of the question to add another stakes race on those days [next season],” Berube said. “We’re going to take a look at it and see if it fits into the schedule. Certainly, when you put on three graded stakes and another overnight stakes on one card, you’re going to get the attention of people.”

Berube said business is up overall this year at Tampa: “Our average daily handle is just under \$4.4 million, which is fourth-best in the country. Even with two fewer race days [than last season], we’re up about \$200,000, or 4.63 percent.”

Florida racing’s politically polarizing topic of decoupling—which is essentially a clause to allow some pari-mutuel licensees to drop live racing while still remaining open as casinos—did not pass at the just-concluded legislative session as part of a proposed rewrite of state gaming laws. But Berube said even if decoupling goes get legalized in the near future, it is unlikely to affect Tampa’s current scheduling of race dates.

“I don’t see that happening. We have a niche that’s basically in November through the first week in May,” Berube said. “A lot of our horses come from up north, and they’re leaving towards the end of May, so I really don’t see our schedule changing appreciably in the near future.”

Berube continued: “It’s a complicated subject, especially if the decoupled tracks are in your market area. Moving forward, as that discussion continues, there’s got to be something coming back from those that decouple to the ones that don’t decouple and continue to race live. And there were some iterations on that concept in the proposed bills this year that just didn’t make it out of the [legislature].”

Tampa’s contiguous meet runs through May 8, although the schedule contains one quirk—a standalone single-day program on June 30—that is related to a fiscal technicality in the state calendar.

“It’s a simulcasting issue,” Berube explained. “It allows us to be classified as a live facility for the entire year, and therefore we’re allowed to bring in simulcasts throughout the year and not have to take them through another permit-holder in the state of Florida.”

In addition, Berube said Tampa is unlikely to tinker with the days of the week that it runs live—generally Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturday and Sundays.

Tampa once had quite a profitable run with simulcasting on Tuesdays in the late 1990s and early 2000s. But Berube said national scheduling shifts caused that day of the week to fall out of Tampa’s favor, even though it seems as if Tuesdays in the winter would still be ripe for a track with robust field sizes and decent turf racing to step up and fill the current void.

“It was successful. When I first came here, Tuesdays were the best day of the week,” Berube said. “But over time, less and less tracks were running on Tuesdays. Less [signal-importing] facilities were open. You didn’t have the California market open. So by the time we made the switch from Tuesdays to Wednesdays [in 2010], Tuesdays were actually the lowest-handle day of the week for us. We saw an opening on Wednesdays, and it’s worked out well for us, particularly now that you don’t have NYRA running for three months on Wednesdays.”

Berube said track management will plan some structural upgrades to the facility during the offseason, but the exact capital expenditures and projects aren’t yet set.

“There’s nothing definitive at this point in time. I can tell you we’ve averaged about a million dollars [in capital improvements] a year, so we’ll go through our list and see where it’s needed, where we can deploy that capital most efficiently,” Berube said. “There have been a lot of improvements on the backside the past couple of years, and I would anticipate that continuing.” ---@thorntond

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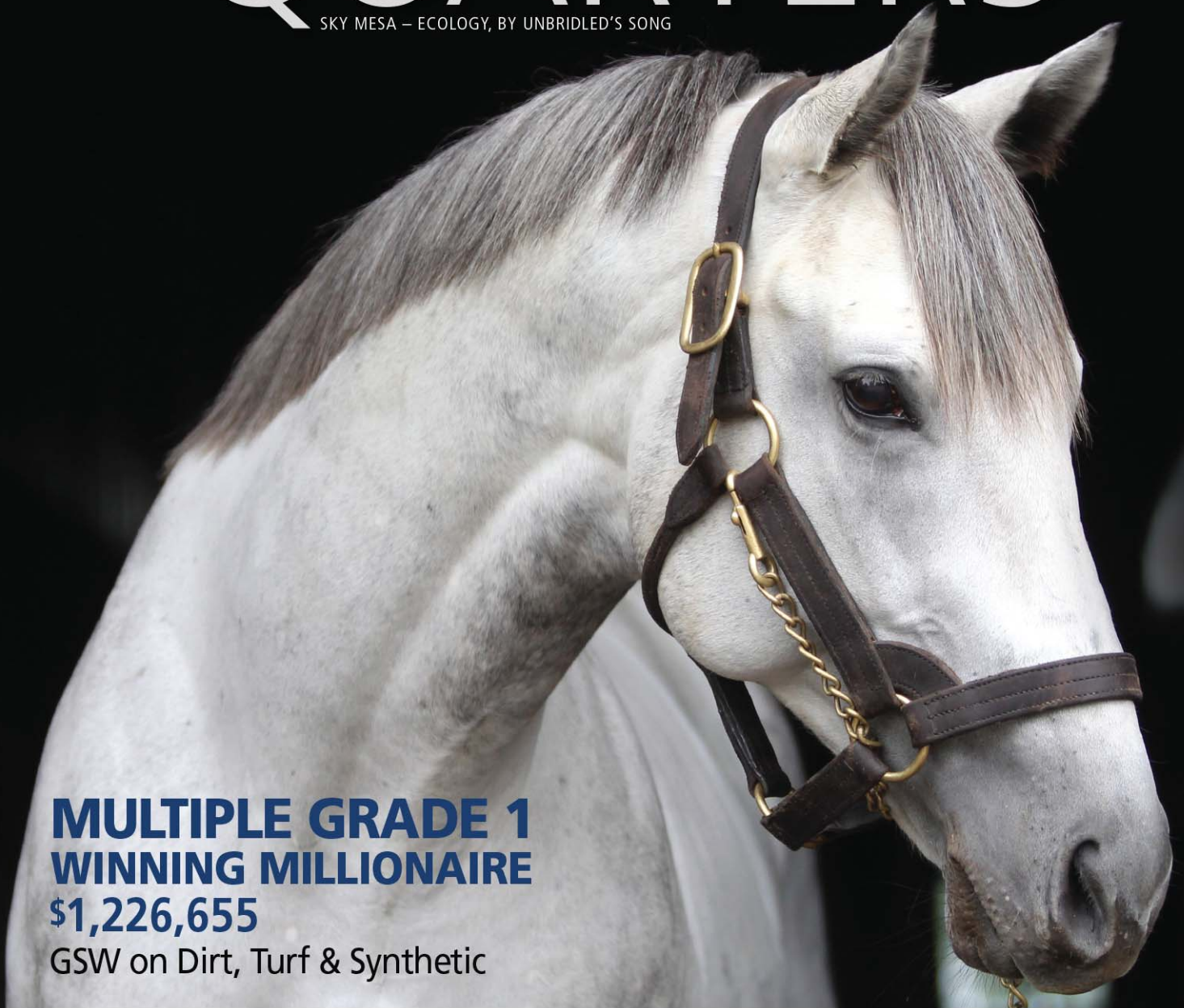
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Delaware Regulator Argues That USADA Involvement in Racing Would be a Mistake

by Bill Finley

STANTON, DE--The Jockey Club and many politicians are pushing for the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) to become the sport's police force when it comes to drugs and medications, but at least one racing regulator believes that involving that organization would lead to nothing but problems.



Dionne Benson | B Finley

Those remarks were made by Delaware Thoroughbred Racing Commission Chairman W. Duncan Patterson at yesterday's meeting of the Organization of Racing Investigators held on the grounds of Delaware Park.

Patterson was one of many speakers brought in to give views on how the industry can best deal with integrity and safety issues and protect itself and the wagering public from would-be cheats. Many opinions were offered, but none quite as strong as Patterson's, who spoke passionately as he argued against involvement from the federal government and USADA.

"Currently, you have the Thoroughbred Horseracing Integrity Act of 2015 and basically this enables USADA to be in charge of all medication, drug testing and penalties in racing. I'm absolutely amazed at the number of entities that are supporting this bill," he said. "I am sure the supporters are looking at the issue on the surface because if you dig down deep there are so many fallacies to this. USADA, which comes under the World Anti-Doping Agency, strictly does human testing. Even in the Olympics, WADA does not do the equine testing.

"The medications that are approved by USADA are some medications which we do not allow in racing at any threshold level. By the same token, there are other medications we allow that they don't allow. So our whole medication schedule would have to be revamped under this. Currently USADA does 8,400 tests a year. Nationwide, we do 300,000 tests. Travis Tygart, the head of USADA, is obviously very knowledgeable, but when asked what plan he had to ramp up his testing by almost 40 times, he had no plan. When asked about the costs of their tests we were told about \$1,000 a test. Currently, we spend, nationally, \$30 million on testing. Simple math will tell you we will go from \$30 million to \$300 million. Who in the hell is going to pay for that?"

Patterson also argued that hay, oats and water advocates, those who believe racing would be better off without so many legal medications, including Lasix, are being unrealistic.

"It has been proven that Lasix is really necessary," he said. "Some may disagree, but it's really necessary to keep the horses running. And there are other medications used on regular basis that are needed. Unfortunately there is abuse, but saying that the horse can perform on hay, oats and water is totally unrealistic. Human athletes do not perform on water, greens and meat. They need something."

Dr. Dionne Benson, the executive director and CEO of the Racing Medication and Testing Consortium, assumed the role of teacher in her presentation, a tutorial on how best to inspect a veterinarian's truck to find banned substances. She brought in an actual truck and included among the many medications a handful that were illegal. Three investigators were chosen to search the truck in an attempt to find anything that should not be included among the supplies of a reputable vet. Benson gave the investigators good marks after their search uncovered the illicit substances.

Benson's presentation led to a discussion as to what penalties should be levied against vets who are caught with banned substances and whether or not they, along with the trainer, should be suspended when a horse tests positive. Benson said suspending vets for a drug positive would be impractical, but said the typical fine they are handed when caught with banned drugs is usually far too small.

"You might see a vet get a \$5,000 fine when they are caught," she said. "If I were meting out the punishments it wouldn't be \$5,000, but \$5,000 for every bottle of something illegal they were caught with. If you did that, you would never again have a problem. No vet would take that risk. It just wouldn't be worth it."

Curtis Linnell and Laura Horah, wagering experts employed by the TRPB, gave a presentation on the last-second fluctuation in odds, a source of frustration for many horseplayers who feel cheated on the occasions when their horse goes into the gate at one price only to have the price drop dramatically during the middle of the race.

Horah said some tracks have gone to updating the odds every 30 seconds inside three minutes to post instead of every 60 seconds. She said that simple change dramatically cut down on the odds fluctuations from the penultimate set of odds shown to the public to the final odds.

The problem of dramatic late odds changes has become a bigger issue than ever due to the large amounts bet at the very last moment by computer players.

"We're moving to shorter update times all the time," Horah said. "Ideally, we'd like to see the odds displayed to the public in as close to real time as possible."

Eastern U.S.

Tuesday's Results:

7th-PRX, \$55,580, Alw, 3-15, (NW2L), 4yo/up, 1m, 1:39.10, sy.
KICK OFF (r, 4, [Bernardini](#)--Game Face {GISW, \$799,348}, by Menifee) finished unplaced behind future 'TDN Rising Star', MGSW and GISP El Kabeir (Scat Daddy) in his Saratoga unveiling in August of 2014 and in the wake of subsequent GI Swale S. hero Ready for Rye (City Zip) transferred downstate that fall. Runner-up to eventual GSW Eh Cumpari (Elusive Quality) in November of that year, the Godolphin representative resurfaced after nine months on the bench with four consecutive third-place finishes--all on the New York circuit--including going a mile at Aqueduct Nov. 26. Off the mark by a neck in his 4-year-old bow at the Big A Feb. 7, the ridgling was tabbed the 3-5 favorite and stalked in the two path through the sloppy going. The chalk was scrubbed on by Jose Ortiz after a half in :47 2/5, inhaled the pacesetter midway on the turn and drew off at will. It was 5 1/4 lengths back to Timmy T (Two Punch) in second, who was 4 3/4 lengths ahead of the remainder. Game Face, a winner of the GI Princess Rooney H., foaled a 2014 filly by Bernardini, a 2015 filly by Medaglia d'Oro and was covered by Tapit later that term. Lifetime Record: 9-2-1-4, \$115,040. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#), sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**
 O-Godolphin Racing LLC; B-Darley (KY); T-Kieran P. McLaughlin.

TODAY'S INSIGHTS

8th-GP, \$50K, Msw, 3yo, 5fT, 4:05 p.m. EST

Shortleaf Stable's **SAUCEDO (Harlan's Holiday)** makes his career bow from the Larry Bates barn Wednesday. He is a half-brother to GI Dixiana Breeders' Futurity hero We Miss Artie (Artie Schiller) and is from the same family as German highweight Risen Raven (Risen Star). Fellow firster and Live Oak homebred **Saratoga Prime ([Exchange Rate](#))** represents trainer Eddie Plesa, Jr. The grey is out of a full-sister to champion sprinter and GI Breeders' Cup Sprint hero Speightstown (Gone West). **Click for the [TJCS PPs](#).** --Heather Anderson

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Tuesday Cancellations LOUISIANA DOWNS (Weather)

INDUSTRY INFO

Foundation Pledges \$1.16M to Equine Research:

The board of directors of the Grayson-Jockey Club Research Foundation has approved a \$1,160,556 to fund 11 new projects, eight second-year projects, and two Career Development Awards in the field of equine research. The 2016 funding brings the foundation's totals since 1983 to 335 projects at 42 universities for an aggregate of \$23.3 million.

"Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we again are able to provide well over \$1 million to fund the top projects among those that our Research Advisory Committee recommended to the board," said Edward L. Bowen, president of Grayson-Jockey Club Research Foundation.

Among the issues being studied are: dorsal displacement of the soft palate, the importance of latency in outbreaks of Equine Herpes Virus-1, foal pneumonia, prevention of strangles, training and surface factors in preventing injury, and underlying mechanisms of disease, as well as other aspects of pneumonia and EHV-1, plus laminitis, colic, and placentitis.

Details on the new projects are available on the following link: <http://www.grayson-jockeyclub.org/resources/newprojects.pdf>.

FLORIDA TBOA 2015 Champions

Florida Horse of the Year/Ch. Older Female: Sheer Drama (Burning Roma)
 Ch. 2yo Colt: Uncle Vinny (Uncle Mo)
 Ch. 2yo Filly: Ballet Diva (Hear No Evil)
 Ch. 3yo Colt: El Kabier (Scat Daddy)
 Ch. 3yo Filly: Dogwood Trail (Awesome of Course)
 Ch. Older Male/Sprinter: Wild Dude (Wildcat Heir)
 Ch. Female Sprinter: Flutterby (Congrats)
 Ch. Turf Horse: World Approval (Northern Afleet)
 Ch. Turf Female: Strict Compliance (Into Mischief)
 Stallion of the Year: With Distinction
 Leading Juvenile Sire: High Cotton
 Leading Freshman Sire: First Dude
 Broodmare of the Year: Riveting Drama

ROOKIES

First/second-crop starters to watch: Wednesday, March 16

Sire (Sire's Sire), current farm, 2012 Fee, #foals of racing age/Winners/
 BlackTypeWnrs * Race #-track, race type, distance, runner, odds (if available)
[DROSSELMAYER](#) (Distorted Humor), WinStar Farm, \$17.5K, 175/13/0
 5-PEN, Msw 1m, Sweetest Yet, \$60K EAS SEP yrl, 7-2
[EUROEARS](#) (Langfuhr), JEH Stallion Station-Oklahoma Division, \$3K, 58/5/0
 10-WRD, Alw 6f, Eurofast Boy, 15-1
[HAYNESFIELD](#) (Speightstown), Airdrie Stud, \$10K, 138/20/1
 8-GP, Msw 5fT, Dawn of Time, \$35K KEE SEP yrl, 20-1

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Rookies Cont.

MISREMEMBERED (Candy Ride {Arg}), Hill 'N' Dale Farms, \$7.5K, 57/8/1 3-CT, Msw 4 1/2f, +Color Me Sexy, \$13K EAS SEP yrl, 5-2

PADDY O'PRADO (El Prado {Ire}), Spendthrift Farm, \$15K, 229/21/1 5-PEN, Msw 1m, Paddy O'Kay, \$10K KEE SEP yrl, 10-1

TIZWAY (Tiznow), Spendthrift Farm, \$25K, 183/13/2

3-CT, Msw 4 1/2f, +Volume Discount, \$11K OBS OCT 2yo, 2-1

TWIRLING CANDY (Candy Ride {Arg}), Lane's End Farm, \$15K, 145/32/3 8-GP, Msw 5fT, +Roosevelt Lane, 10-1

UNCLE MO (Indian Charlie), Ashford Stud, \$35K, 261/40/10 8-GP, Msw 5fT, Motown Rhythm, \$60K OBS OPN 2yo, 10-1

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ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

6th-SUN, \$30,555, 3-15, (NW2X), 3yo/up, 1m, 1:35.72, ft.

BIG TALL PAUL (g, 9, **Big Country--Abolinn**, by **King of Kings** {Ire}) Lifetime Record: SP, 59-10-7-11, \$221,813. O-Jackie & Sylvia Herron; B-Emilie Gerlinde Fojan & Bona Terra Stud LLC (KY); T-Justin R. Evans. *\$5,500 Wlg '07 KEENOV.

5th-MVR, \$25,300, (S), 3-15, (NW1X), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:13.82, my.

ASTRO J (g, 4, **Pure Prize--Judy Jetson**, by **Canaveeral**) Lifetime Record: 5-2-0-1, \$39,425. O/B-Rolf Obrecht (OH); T-Joseph M. Poole. *Won by 7 1/2 lengths.

9th-WRD, \$25,080, (S), 3-15, (NW1X), 3yo/up, f/m, 1m, 1:40.03, ft.

VIVID (f, 4, **Save Big Money--Vivid Impression**, by **Risen Star**) Lifetime Record: SP, 17-3-6-3, \$103,459. O/B-Center Hills Farm (OK); T-Scott E. Young. *1/2 to Fuzzy Star (Langfuhr), SP, \$318,999.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Mister Keith, g, 3, **Mr. Nightlinger**--Timely Reflection (MSW, \$150,224), by Yankee Victor. WRD, 3-15, (S), 6f, 1:12.48. B-Wilson Brown (OK).

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Fasig-Tipton

Kick Off (Bernardini) made it two straight wins,
landing an allowance at Parx Tuesday.

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THE POWER AND THE GLORY



Annie Power clears the final fence of the
Champion Hurdle | *Racing Post*

By Emma Berry

Annie Power (Ire) (Shirocco {Ire}) laid ghosts of Cheltenham Festivals past firmly to rest with an emphatic pillar-to-post rout of her male rivals in record-breaking time in the G1 Stan James Champion Hurdle.

Becoming only the fourth mare to be crowned champion hurdler in the 90-year history of the race, the Willie Mullins-trained 8-year-old has only twice failed to return triumphant in her 16 starts, when second to More Of That (Ire) in the G1 World Hurdle at the Festival two years ago and, far more dramatically, when somersaulting at the final flight in last year's G1 OLBG Mares' Hurdle with the race apparently at her mercy.

Memories of that terrifying fall still haunt the minds of the army of Annie Power fans, and the 68,000 racegoers at Prestbury Park for the opening day of the Festival seemed to hold their breath as one as the strapping chestnut approached the last still full of running under Ruby Walsh. Once safely over and with just the famous hill standing between her and a collectively yearned-for victory, screams of 'Come on Annie' carried the mare home to a spine-tingling, rousing reception even by Cheltenham's famously emotional standards.

[Cont.p2](#)

PRICE PAIR FARE WELL AT SLIPPER DRAW

Trainer Mick Price enjoyed vastly reversed fortunes at Tuesday's barrier draw for the A\$3.5 million G1 Golden Slipper from what he had experienced two weeks ago prior to the G1 Blue Diamond S., when his star juveniles **Extreme Choice (Aus)** (Not A Single Doubt {Aus}) and **Flying Artie (Aus)** (Artie Schiller) landed gates 13 and 17, respectively. Not that that stopped them from posting the quinella in the million-dollar contest. Price, however, can sleep much easier in the final days leading up to Saturday's Golden Slipper after the colts drew barriers seven and five, respectively.

Flying Artie shortened into a firm 5-1 second choice behind the 2-1 Extreme Choice after the draw, and Price told *Racing.com* Flying Artie's favourable position could allow for a positive change in tactics following wide barriers his last two starts.

"The only reason we have had to half strangle him [back] was because of bad gates--16 out of 16 and 15 out of 15 at Caulfield," Price told the site. [Cont. in Worldwide News p5](#)

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The Power And The Glory cont. from p1

As the roar subsided, a lone voice in the crowd shouted 'three cheers for Annie' and the heroine of the hour stood stock still, flanked by her entourage, her ears pricked towards the crowd as she accepted their adulation with the composure of a movie star.

"She bossed the race," was Mullins's assessment of her record-breaking performance, with Walsh adding, "I said to Willie I was going to ride her like Dawn Run--buck out and go. She traveled super, she jumped probably better than she's ever



Annie Power and Ruby Walsh return victorious | *Racing Post*

jumped. She's put in one hell of a performance. Not many horses as good as her have come here and not won, so she deserved it."

Flakey Dove (GB) may have been the last mare before Annie Power to win the Champion

Hurdle, but comparisons were instantly drawn with the most famous jumping mare of all time, Dawn Run (Ire). The name Mullins connects the two, Willie's father Paddy having trained the 1984 Champion Hurdle winner who became the only horse ever to have gone on to glory in steeplechasing's blue riband, the Cheltenham Gold Cup.

"When I bought Annie Power, I thought she was the closest mare I had seen to Dawn Run," said Mullins, who confessed that he would love to attempt to emulate his father's achievements. "She is a different colour, but physically she is a big strong mare with speed and stamina. We bought her to go over fences like Dawn Run, but that will be discussed--the same owner has Faugheen (Ire), Douvan (Fr) and some nice young novice chasers, but the way she jumps with her size and scope, if he wants to try to emulate Dawn Run, so be it."

Mullins also confirmed that thoughts of retirement for Annie Power are far from his mind. "She's a racehorse to me--a lot of other guys would say she should now be a broodmare, but that's not on my agenda. We're going to



Annie Power and breeder Eamon Cleary | *Emma Berry*

treat her as a racehorse, but when the effects of the champagne wear off different ideas may come up," he said.

One man who doubtless wishes he had relations to Annie Power among his broodmare band is her Wexford-born breeder Eamon Cleary, who named her after his fiery grandmother and watched her win two bumpers in his colours under the tutelage of her former trainer, Jim Bolger, before her sale to Rich and Susannah Ricci.

"Last year was heartbreaking, I couldn't even watch another race for the whole of Cheltenham after that," he recalled as his star graduate completed a lap of honour of the parade ring. "This makes up for it, it's unreal. She deserves it and Willie has done a fantastic job with her, it's quite something bringing her back to two miles and winning like that."

An Embarrassment Of Riches...

Annie Power is not the only jumper with which Mullins does a fantastic job, as evidenced by his opening-day haul of three of the four Grade 1 races on the card. **Douvan (Fr)** (Walk In The Park {Ire}) became the shortest-priced winner in the history of the Racing Post Arkle Challenge Trophy, loping away from Sizing John (GB) (Midnight Legend {GB}) to score by seven lengths at odds of 1-4. With

Annie Power fever still raging, **Vroum Vroum Mag (Fr)** (Voix Du Nord {Fr}) set down a marker as her potential successor when becoming another odds-on winner for team Mullins in the OLBG Mares' Hurdle--a race only once won by any other stable in its nine years of existence.



Richi Ricci (left), owner of Annie Power, and JP McManus | *Racing Post*

All three are owned by American-born Rich Ricci, the London banker who has amassed a mouth-watering array of equine jumping talent at Mullins's Co Carlow base, including two more odds-on favourites for Thursday in **Vautour (Fr)** (Robin Des Champs {Fr}) and **Limini (Ire)** (Peintre Celebre), as well as **Djakadam (Fr)** (Saint Des Saints {Fr}) for Friday's Gold Cup, in which he will attempt to go one better than his runner-up finish to Coneygree (GB) last year.

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Shirocco Blows Hot...

It was a memorable day for **Shirocco (Ger)** (Monsun {Ger}) who, as well as being represented by the outstanding Annie Power, is also the sire of Minella Rocco (Ire), winner of the Listed National Hunt Chase for JP McManus and Jonjo O'Neill. The former G1 German Derby and GI Breeders' Cup Turf winner's increasing influence in the jumps sphere prompted his switch from Darley's flat ranks to Rathbarry's National Hunt wing at Glenview Stud in 2014, where he has been kept very busy.

Another name mentioned with increasing frequency in jumping circles is **Walk In The Park (Ire)**, who played his part in a Derby one-two for first-crop sons of Montjeu (Ire) when chasing home Motivator (GB) along the Epsom straight in 2005. Retired to the relatively obscure French stud Haras du Val Requet in 2008 for a fee of €2,500, his success is all the more noteworthy for his having covered small books of mares in comparison to his Irish rivals, with his last three crops each containing fewer than 15 foals.

He has now joined those rivals back in the country of his birth, recruited to Coolmore's Grange Stud for this season with his fee listed as private. Having the favourites for the first two Grade 1 races of the Cheltenham Festival was a strong indication of just what all the fuss is about.

His 5-year-old son Min (Fr) may have been unable to repel the late charge of Altior (Ire) (High Chaparral {Ire}) in the roar-inducing curtain-raiser that is the Sky Bet Supreme Novices' Hurdle, but his paternal half-brother Douvan (Fr) stuck firmly to the script when coasting home in the Arkle.

It wasn't long before Grange Stud's Catherine Magnier took to Twitter to announce that Altior's dam, Paddy and Rose Behan's Key Of Luck mare Monte Solaro (Ire), has been covered by Walk In The Park at Grange Stud this season. Win-win.

JACQUELINE O'BRIEN DIES

Jacqueline O'Brien, the widow of legendary trainer Vincent O'Brien, died Tuesday in her 90th year. The O'Brien family released the following statement Tuesday:

"Mrs Jacqueline O'Brien, wife of legendary trainer, the late Dr. Vincent O'Brien, died peacefully this morning in her 90th year surrounded by all her family. Born in Perth, Jacqueline graduated from the University of Western Australia before marrying Vincent in 1951, with whom she had five children. Despite no previous knowledge of racing, Jacqueline quickly became fully immersed in the business and was a tremendous



Jacqueline O'Brien and Sir Peter O'Sullivan at Cheltenham in 2012 | *Racing Post*

support to Vincent throughout his training career. She was particularly good at entertaining owners, allowing her husband to concentrate fully on his horses. It was fitting that Vincent's final Group 1 winner, Fatherland--winner

of the 1992 National Stakes--ran in Jacqueline's colours. Remarkably it was Vincent's 15th winner of the race, which was subsequently named in his honour."

"In addition to raising her family and her pivotal role in the business, Jacqueline was herself a distinguished author and photographer. She is responsible for a number of best sellers--on Irish Heritage, her Australian background and of course on her celebrated husband. She also lectured internationally on historical subjects and held photographic exhibitions in America and Europe. A devoted mother, grandmother and great grandmother, she will be sadly missed."

Horse Racing Ireland Chief Executive Officer Brian Kavanagh paid tribute to Jacqueline O'Brien Tuesday, saying, "It's very poignant on the opening day of Cheltenham, a place where Jacqueline and Vincent were so closely associated for many years."

"She was an institution in Irish racing for decades," he continued. "She was an absolute joy to have anything to do with, a wonderful fundraiser behind the scenes for worthy causes and very passionate about her husband and the family and all the successes they had. Much more than just the wife of Vincent O'Brien, in her own right she was a fantastic lady; a very talented photographer and fundraiser, a philanthropist and a key member of the Ballydoyle team through the golden years."

[Click here](#) for the interview in its entirety.



Champion Hurdlers Hurricane Fly and Hardy Eustace at the Irish National Stud | *Fiona Doggett*

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Tuesday's Results:

4th-WOL, £5,000, Mdn, 3-15, 3yo/up, 8f 141y (AWT), 1:47.18, ft.

VIVRE POUR VIVRE (IRE) (c, 3, [Pour Moi {Ire}](#)--Miss Quality, by Elusive Quality), off the board in starts at Sandown Sept. 16 and at Newbury last time Oct. 23, was hustled along from the gate to race fifth along the rail for most of this sophomore bow. Taking closer order in the straight, the 4-1 third choice angled off the fence for his bid at the furlong marker and quickened smartly under urging thereafter to assert by a length from New Agenda (GB) (New Approach {Ire}). The 75,000gns TATFOA weanling's family includes G1 Fillies' Mile victress White Moonstone (Dynaformer) and the dual Grade I-winning distaffer Better Lucky (Ghostzapper). Vivre Pour Vivre is kin to a 2-year-old colt by Dutch Art (GB) and a yearling colt by Arcano (Ire). Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-0, \$4,577. [Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton](#). O-Mrs Susan Roy; B-J Kenny (IRE); T-Ed Dunlop.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

September Issue (GB), g, 3, Dutch Art (GB)--Alexander Ballet (GB), by Mind Games (GB). SOU, 3-15, 5f (AWT), :59.92.
B-Bearstone Stud Ltd (GB). *30,000gns Ylg '14 TAOCT; £65,000 2yo '15 GOFLO. **1/2 to Hearts of Fire (GB) (Firebreak {GB}), Hwt. 2yo Colt-Ity & Ger, G1SW-Ity, GSW-Ger, SW-Fr & G1SP-Eng, \$418,910.

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Tuesday's Results:

1st-CHY, €28,000, Alw, 3-15, 4yo, 10 1/2f (AWT), 2:12.64, ft.

MEDLEY CHIC (IRE) (g, 4, Medicean {GB}--Sorciere {Ire} {GSW-Fr, \$120,169}, by Orpen), who annexed the 2014 Listed Criterium du Fonds Europeen de l'Elevage at Deauville when last seen, broke well to seize an immediate lead in this belated return. Holding sway throughout, the 6-4 joint-favourite was shaken up with 350 metres remaining and maintained a relentless gallop under whipless coaxing in the latter stages to comfortably best market rival Lumberjack (Ger) (Kamsin {Ger}) by 1 1/4 lengths. The lightly raced 4-year-old, who was a €130,000 ARAUG yearling, hails from the family of top-level winners Shaka (GB) (Exit to Nowhere) and Contributor (Ire) (High Chaparral {Ire}). He is kin to a 2-year-old colt by Dutch Art (GB) and a yearling colt by Dark Angel (Ire). Lifetime Record: SW-Fr, 4-3-0-0, €94,500. [Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton](#). O-Olivier Thomas; B-Petra Bloodstock Agency Ltd (IRE); T-Freddy Head.

3rd-CHY, €25,000, Mdn, 3-15, unraced 3yo, 6 1/2f (AWT), 1:18.50, ft.

+HOUSE OF DIXIE (f, 3, [War Front](#)--Homebound {GSW-Fr, \$190,258}, by Dixie Union) raced in a midfield fifth after the initial strides of this unveiling. Cruising into contention at the quarter-mile marker, the crowd's 13-5 selection swooped for control approaching the final furlong and was pushed out in the closing stages to safely account for Elounda Love (Fr) (Canford Cliffs {Ire}) by a length. Joseph Allen's homebred is out of the G2 Prix de Sandringham victress Homebound, herself a half-sister to the G1SW Lines of Battle (War Front). From the family of G1 Prix du Jockey Club third War Dispatch (War Front), Dynaformer (Roberto) and Offlee Wild (Wild Again), the winner is a half-sister to a yearling by Street Cry (Ire) and her dam was bred back to War Front last year. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, €12,500. [Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton](#).

O/B-Joseph Allen (KY); T-Jean-Claude Rouget.

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This colt, born Mar. 5 at Haras d'Ombreville in France, is from the first crop of Group 1 winner Olympic Glory. He is out of Miss Highgrove (Exceed and Excel) and was bred by Francis Huw | Solenn Gouesnard

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Frankel (Racing Post)



Price Pair Fare Well At Slipper Draw cont. from p1

Price continued, "I don't think there is a lot between him and Extreme Choice; probably don't think there is as much as what the market would suggest. Extreme Choice is a great colt, they both have good gates, hopefully they can hit the line properly and we will see what happens."

Extreme Choice and Flying Artie had their final pre-Slipper work over the Rosehill course Tuesday under their respective race-day riders Craig Newitt and Damien Oliver.



Flying Artie | *Racing and Sports*

"We were out a little wide on the track and [Flying Artie] got a little lost coming around the bend," Oliver told *Racing.com*. "It was good work but Extreme Choice was a little sharper; that is just the type of horse he is."

Trainer Gai Waterhouse's 9-1 third choice, the Mar. 5 G2 Todman S. winner **Kiss and Make Up (Aus)** (More Than Ready), enjoyed good fortune at the draw as well, landing in gate nine. Waterhouse will also send out **Scarlet Rain (Aus)** (Manhattan Rain {Aus}) from barrier 16, the same gate that produced her 2015 Slipper winner Vancouver (Aus) (Medaglia d'Oro). That one will be partnered by Vancouver's regular rider Tommy Berry.

Former Slipper favourite and 'TDN Rising Star' **Capitalist (Aus)** (Written Tycoon {Aus}) will benefit from a low draw in gate two, while his stablemate **Defcon (Aus)** (Choisir {Aus}) was less lucky landing in barrier 14. Godolphin, which sends out three with trainer John O'Shea, did not get the luck of the draw, landing in gate 12 with **Telperion (Aus)** (Street Cry {Ire}); 15 with **Caliope (Aus)** (Exceed and Excel {Aus}) and the extreme outside 17 with co-fourth choice **Astern (Aus)** (Medaglia d'Oro).

Saturday, Rosehill, Australia, post time: 4:30 p.m. (1:30 a.m. EST)

LONGINES GOLDEN SLIPPER-G1, A\$3,500,000

(£1,841,739/€2,351,089), 2yo, 1200mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	WT
1	Quick Feet (Aus)	Northern Meteor (Aus)	No rider	Snowdens	120
2	Capitalist (Aus)	Written Tycoon (Aus)	Shinn	Snowdens	124
3	Yankee Rose (Aus)	All American (Aus)	Purton	Vandyke	120
5	Flying Artie (Aus)	Artie Schiller	Oliver	Price	124
6	Honesty Prevails (Aus)	Redoute's Choice (Aus)	Collett	Worthington	120
7	Extreme Choice (Aus)	Not A Single Dbt (Aus)	Newitt	Price	124
8	Sweet Sherry (Aus)	Bel Esprit (Aus)	Huet	Stanley	120
9	Kiss And Make Up (Aus)	More Than Ready	McEvoy	Waterhouse	124
10	Good Standing (Aus)	Artie Schiller	Bowman	Cummings	124
11	Star Turn (Aus)	Star Witness (Aus)	No rider	Hawkeses	124
12	Telperion (Aus)	Street Cry (Ire)	Doyle	O'Shea	124
13	French Fern (Aus)	Lope De Vega (Ire)	Bosson	Payne	120
14	Defcon (Aus)	Choisir (Aus)	Prebble	Snowdens	124
15	Caliope (Aus)	Exceed and Excel (Aus)	Clipperton	O'Shea	120
16	Scarlet Rain (Aus)	Manhattan Rain (Aus)	Berry	Waterhouse	120
17	Astern (Aus)	Medaglia d'Oro	McDonald	O'Shea	124
Also Eligible:					
4	Moqueen (Aus)	Uncle Mo	No rider	A Cummings	120

AUSHORSE COMP TO STIMULATE OWNERSHIP

By Kelsey Riley

Aushorse, in partnership with Fairfax Media, is staging for the second time its Own A Champion competition, which will allow its winner the ultimate raceday experience as an owner for the day of Criterion (NZ) (Sebring {Aus}) when he attempts a title defense of the G1 Queen Elizabeth S. at The Championships Apr. 9. Entrants will submit a name suggestion for a Criterion foal out of the mare Ruud Awakening. The winner, selected by Criterion's owner/breeder Sir Owen Glenn, will receive flights



Criterion | *Racing and Sports*

for two to Sydney from an Australian capital city; accommodation and transportation to and from the track and hospitality at the races for five friends. What's more, the winner will have the chance to join Criterion's connections in the parade ring and will take

home 10% of the 5-year-old's earnings in the A\$4 million race—A\$200,000 if he wins.

Aushorse first staged the Own A Champion competition last year with Gerry Harvey's Royal Descent (Aus) (Redoute's Choice {Aus})—who awarded contest winner Jonathan Wood to the tune of A\$20,000 when finishing third in the G1 Doncaster H.—but for Aushorse the initiative is about much more than providing a great day out for one lucky winner; it is about stimulating racehorse ownership and improving owner experience. *Cont. p6*

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@GaiWaterhouse1



Following

My Golden Slipper winning barriers: Ha Ha 11,Dance Hero 2,Sebring 5, Pierro 1, Overreach 1, Vancouver 16. Quite a spread inside to outside 😊

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Aushorse Comp to Stimulate Ownership cont.

The Own A Champion competition was started last year as a means to build a database of people interested in racehorse ownership but not already involved in the sport. Aushorse sought to identify the key drivers that develop interest in horse ownership, and also to understand how to increase ownership rates through building awareness and knowledge of the ownership experience. Contest entrants—there were about 10,000 of them—were sent a survey, with about 1,800 responding to questions about why they follow racing and, if applicable, why they own racehorses. Aushorse Chief Executive Officer Tom Reilly said some clear trends emerged from the survey.

“Just under half of the respondents had never been owners, and the other just over 50% was split almost exactly between people who were currently owners and people who were lapsed owners,” Reilly explained. “We were able to really drill down into why people are interested in ownership, and then also where the knowledge gaps are.”

Reilly said one of the greatest trends arising from the survey was the need for education. “For people who hadn’t been owners, 95% of them didn’t know where to start,” he said. “So it really highlighted the need for Aushorse, and also the principal racing authorities, the state-based bodies, and the racetracks themselves—we have to figure out new ways, big strategies, to enable people to feel comfortable to know what sort of ownership they want to get involved in and where to get trusted information from.”

As a result of last year’s survey, Aushorse hosted an event at Royal Randwick last April where trainers Gai Waterhouse and Bjorn Baker, among others, spoke to about 400 guests—invited survey participants. Reilly said some of those guests had subsequently contacted Aushorse to say they’d become owners.

The project has been given a significant leg-up by its partnership with Fairfax Media. One of Australia’s largest media outlets, Fairfax gave last year’s competition more than A\$270,000 in free advertising in various media like the Sydney Morning Herald, Australian Financial Review and The Age, among others. This year’s competition will see over A\$300,000 in free advertising display in Fairfax media, including a prominent position on the homepage of the Sydney Morning Herald (shm.com.au), the busiest news site in Australia.



Tom Reilly | Aushorse

“It’s not an original, out-of-the-box idea, but the platform we have for it, tying it in with our big media company, gives it a huge reach,” Reilly explained.

Propelled by the popularity of A\$7 million earner Criterion, this year’s competition is set to be bigger and better. Reilly explained this year’s entrants—there have been 2,500 in the first 48 hours—have to answer a series of questions in order to enter, including how interested they are in becoming an owner; what would encourage them to become an owner; and also questions design to test the level of education required, such as if they know what a bloodstock agent or syndicator is.

“Hopefully we can work out who the ones are that we can come back to and try to keep them informed and get them to ownership events and things like that,” Reilly said.

Criterion is set to contest Saturday’s G1 Ranvet S., and Reilly said, “he’s stepping up to 2000 metres so hopefully he’ll run well and that’ll build the excitement.”

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WATERHOUSE TO TRAIN JOYOUS FILLY

The first foal out of John Singleton’s eight-time Group 1-winning mare **More Joyous (NZ)** (More Than Ready), a yearling filly by Frankel (GB), is likely to go into training with More Joyous’s former trainer Gai Waterhouse, Singleton told the *Sydney Morning Herald*.

Singleton and Waterhouse had parted ways in a high-profile public disagreement surrounding More Joyous’s final start, the



More Joyous | Racing and Sports

2013 G1 All Aged S., but the pair have since reunited and team up for Saturday’s G1 Golden Slipper with the appropriately named Kiss And Make Up (More Than Ready), winner of the G2 Todman S. two weeks ago.

“It’s just wonderful to be back with her,” Singleton told the *SMH*. “The trial separation didn’t work out. I love being back. Win, lose or draw on Saturday, it just feels right.”

Singleton told the *SMH* Waterhouse would likely train his Frankel filly, “if she’ll accept it. More Joyous was such an outstanding filly and it will be like staying in the family.”

Singleton is slated to sell a Frankel colt out of More Strawberries (Aus) (More Than Ready) at the Inglis Easter yearling sale next month.

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HARD SPUN COLT ON TOP IN ADELAIDE

The Magic Millions Adelaide Yearling Sale's second session Tuesday kept apace with Monday's strong opening session, once again posting increases across the board. The cumulative statistics for Book 1 of the sale—the first two days—showed 237 yearlings sold for A\$10,279,500, up from the A\$6,645,500 paid for 205 youngsters a year ago. The buyback rate dropped to 15.7% from 20.2%, while the average was up 34.2% to A\$43,737 and the median climbed 36% to A\$34,000. A total of 20 lots made six figures over the first two days—a record for the sale.



Session-topping Hard Spun colt
Magic Millions

"It's just been a really good result for a lot of people," Magic Millions Managing Director Vin Cox said. "The average is up 33% and the turnover is up 54%. The thing that was so positive was the depth of the market and the consistency of the market. A lot of people had some very, very exciting results and it's tremendously rewarding

from a Magic Millions point of view to see such emotion running around the sale ring."

"It's not about now and today and how well we've done," Cox continued. "It's about what we can do with this sale and where we can take it and I think that is the exciting thing. It's probably the best venue in Australia to sell horses—it's nice and tight—it's a great complex and Adelaide is a great place to have a sale. Everyone has a lot of fun over here. We can really build on this and take it somewhere."

The session's top-priced lot was [lot 216](#), a Hard Spun colt from Glenelg Park hammered down to John McArdle's Redgum Racing Stable for A\$160,000. The bay is out of Miss Chard (Aus) (Al Samer {Aus}), an unraced full-sister to Group 3 winner Mr Chard (Aus). McArdle likened the colt to a pair of others in his stable by the same sire.

"He's a good athletic, strong, running-style colt, and having Beau Rada and Power Trip by the same sire at home, this bloke was another nice horse to take home," the trainer said. "There's his good female family as well. His half-brother has done the job as a 2-year-old so we'll take this bloke home, break him in and see how we go."

South Australia's Mill Park Stud enjoyed a strong start to the sale when selling three six-figure yearlings on day one, and that operation produced [lot 207](#), an All Too Hard (Aus) half-brother to its flagbearer Happy Trails (Aus) (Good Journey). That colt sold to Rosehill-based trainer Gary Moore for Asian clients for A\$150,000.

"I thought he was a beautifully balanced colt and I'm sure he's going to do very well for the stable back in Sydney," Moore said.

The sale's one-day Session 2 takes place Wednesday.

SESSION TOPPERS

MAGIC MILLIONS ADELAIDE YEARLING SALE

Lot	Sex	Sire	Dam	Price (A\$)
216	c	Hard Spun	Miss Chard (Aus)	160,000
			B-Mr. W Harrison	
			Consigned by Glenelg Park	
			Purchased by Redgum Racing	
207	c	All Too Hard (Aus)	Madame Flurry (Aus)	150,000
			B-Mr. BK Parker	
			Consigned by Mill Park	
			Purchased by Gary Moore Racing	
293	c	Written Tycoon (Aus)	Southern Smile (Aus)	130,000
			B-Mr. M Cesnik	
			Consigned by Riverina Downs	
			Purchased by Ellerton/Zahra Racing	



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Magic Millions Adelaide Yearling Sale

CUMULATIVE	2016	2015
• Catalogued	314	290
• No. Offered	281	257
• No. Sold	237	205
• RNAs	44	52
• % RNAs	15.7%	20.2%
• High Price	A\$230,000	A\$220,000
• Gross	A\$10,279,500	A\$6,645,500
• Average (% change)	A\$43,737 (+34.2%)	A\$32,588
• Median (% change)	A\$34,000 (+36%)	A\$25,000

VILANOVA ADDED TO MARCH SALE

Group 2 winner **Vilanova (NZ)** (Commands {Aus}) is among the 70 supplementary entries for Inglis's March Thoroughbred Sale Mar. 18. Five other supplementary entries are stakes horses—**Upbeat (Aus)** (Strategic {Aus}), **Hard Stride (Aus)** (Street Sense), **Alkaashef (Aus)** (Stratum {Aus}), **Ducal Castle (Aus)** (Domesday {Aus}) and **Swooper (Aus)** (Black Hawk {GB})—and a total of 223 lots will be offered. Those include racing stock, broodmares, foals and yearlings.

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DUBAI-BOUND TRIO TRIAL AT SHA TIN

by Alan Carasso

Three of the eight Hong Kong-based horses who are set to represent the jurisdiction at the Dubai World Cup meeting Mar. 26 turned in final trials for their respective races Tuesday morning at Sha Tin Racecourse.

After some hemming and hawing from his connections, reigning G1 Longines Hong Kong Sprint winner **Peniaphobia (Ire)** (Dandy Man {Ire}) was recently confirmed as a starter in the G1 Al Quoz Sprint, a race in which he finished narrowly runner-



Peniaphobia (near) winning the Hong Kong Sprint | HKJC photo

up to Sole Power (GB) (Kyllachy {GB}) in 2015. In advance of a rematch with that veteran runner over the straight 1000 metres on World Cup night, the Tony Cruz-trainee took part in the day's first trial over five furlongs.

Peniaphobia veered to his right out of the stalls, but was easily quickest and led traveling sweetly into the final quarter-mile. Given a bit of rein by Joao Moreira, the 5-year-old kicked on generously, finishing up in :22.50 to account for the classy miler Packing Pins (NZ) (Pins {Aus}) by 1 1/4 lengths ([video](#)).

The morning's seventh trial featured half of the four-strong Hong Kong challenge for the G1 Dubai Golden Shaheen. Drawn gate two was **Master Kochanwong (Aus)** (Commands {Aus}), whose five wins in Hong Kong have all come over the Sha Tin 'all-weather' track, including a front-running two-length victory in a Class 1 over a rain-affected track Jan. 17. The 6-year-old, out of a mare by American Classic winner and recently deceased Timber Country, jumped well in Tuesday's trial, but was soon headed by fellow Shaheen candidate **Domineer (GB)** (Shamardal). The latter, a two-time winner over the all-weather, but no better than a wide-trip and no-cover fifth to Master Kochanwong in the Class 1, led into the final furlong, but came under urging and could not resist the late bid of Master Kochanwong ([video](#)). Domineer is the mount of Frankie Dettori on World Cup night.

Super Jockey (NZ) (Sandtrap) and **Rich Tapestry (Ire)** (Holy Roman Emperor {Ire}), second and third, respectively, in the 2015 Golden Shaheen, are the other Hong Kong representatives in the six-furlong dirt test.

Asia

Tuesday's Result:

KUROFUNE SHO-Listed, ¥31,500,000, Kochi, 3-15, 4yo/up, 1400m, 1:27.00, sy.

1--**DANON LEGEND, 128, h, 6, by [Macho Uno](#)**

1st Dam: My Goodness, by Storm Cat

2nd Dam: Caressing, by Honour and Glory

3rd Dam: Lovin Touch, by Majestic Prince

(\$90,000 yrl '11 KEESEP; \$385,000 2yo '12 BARMAR) O-Danox Inc; B-Colts Neck Stables LLC; T-Akira Murayama; J-Mirco Demuro; ¥21,000,000. Lifetime Record: GSW-Jpn, 25-11-4-2.

2--**Nishiken Mononofu (Jpn)**, 123, h, 5, Meisho Bowler (Jpn)--Green Hill Komachi (Jpn), by Afleet. O-Tsuru Nishimori; B-Tsuneo Yagi; ¥4,850,000.

3--**Tahltan**, 123, h, 8, Tapit--Indian Town, by Glitterman.

O-Green Fields Inc; B-George Waggoner Stables Inc;

¥2,700,000. (\$65,000 yrl '09 FTKJUL; €85,000 2yo '10 ARQMAY)

Consigned by  **GAINESWAY**

Margins: 1, 2HF, 3. Odds: 0.80, 1.50, 4.20.

APPOINTMENTS

Brian Gorman, Tim Jones and Rachel Spriggins: Swettenham Stud

- Brian Gorman has been appointed general manager of Swettenham Stud. He has been with Swettenham three years and his key responsibilities will be in sales and marketing and leading the bloodstock division, which will include nomination sales.
- Tim Jones, who has been with Swettenham since 2005, has been promoted to operations manager.
- "I feel very fortunate to have found two such trusted individuals within my own organization," said Swettenham's Adam Sangster. "I believe in them both. I know they understand me and share my vision for the future of Swettenham."
- Rachel Spriggins has been appointed to a supporting role to the general manager. Originally from New Zealand, Rachel has worked in both New Zealand and Kentucky.

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