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WOODFORD TEAM VOTING FOR INDEPENDENCE



by Chris McGrath

Studying political science at college, the only Constitution she might have expected to see put to the test right now was the one that opens with the words, "We the people..." As it is, Shannon Castagnola just feels relief that fate diverted her from her original vocation, to chronicle impeachments or caucuses, and instead afforded her a professional stake in one of the frontrunners for the highest sophomore office of 2020.

Castagnola is the Director of Marketing and Client Relations at Woodford Thoroughbreds, the farm that bred and raised Independence Hall, the son of Constitution who undergoes his Classic primary in the GIII Sam F. Davis S. at Tampa Bay Downs Saturday. And while her employers sold Independence Hall as a yearling, they are still very much on the ticket in sending the colt's dam Kalahari Cat (Cape Town) back to Constitution this spring.

"It's amazing, the difference in awareness when you have a 3-year-old colt on the Derby trail," Castagnola says. "Midnight Bisou (Midnight Lute) had a big 2-year-old campaign, did even better at three, and was huge at four. But I think we've already gotten more recognition for breeding Independence Hall, after three races, than we did for everything she did. That's what the Derby does. Anytime you get a colt good enough that you can start talking Derby, people get excited, they start strategizing: a horse can do this, can't do that."

Kalahari Cat was an early recruit to the program then being developed by John and Susan Sykes, Woodford's owners, when acquired for \$600,000, carrying her first foal, at the Keeneland November Sale in 2006. **Cont. p3**

RECEIVER ALLEGES ZAYAT IS STONEWALLING HER EFFORTS by Bill Finley

Submitting an initial report to the Fayette County (Ky) Circuit Court, lawyers for Elizabeth Woodward, who was appointed the receiver for Zayat Stable, claimed that Zayat has not turned over financial information necessary for her to catalogue the assets of the stable.

"The Receiver has made considerable progress, but initial set-up of the receivership accounts and the collection and sales process was hampered by the Receiver's lack of accounting information," the filing read. "Despite the language of the Order granting the Receiver possession and control of the Property, her personal request to Mr. Zayat and her counsel's formal demand for the turnover of books and records have yet to result in her receiving basic financial information from Zayat Stables."

Cont. p9

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Godolphin's MG1SW **Benbatl (GB)** (Dubawi {Ire}), testing a dirt surface for the first time in his career, got the job done in the G2 Al Maktoum Challenge R2 at Meydan Thursday. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Europe.](#)

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Friday, February 7, 2020



Malibu Moon checks out his new neighbor, Omaha Beach, at Spendthrift. | Wayne Howard

OLD CHAPEL FARM IN MOTION

10

Mary Motion purchased two mares at Keeneland January on behalf of her father's new broodmare band at Old Chapel Farm. One of the mares is now the dam of a stakes-placed 3-year-old filly looking to make the jump to the graded ranks at Oaklawn Park.

CUMMINGS SAYS PA SITUATION A WAKE-UP CALL

11

Thoroughbred Idea Foundation Executive Director Pat Cummings joins the crew on this week's TDN Writers' Room Podcast.

IN SHARPER FOCUS

RR

Fearless (Ghostzapper) may have gotten a late start to his racing career, but the 4-year-old gelding is poised to make up for lost time following a blowout win at Gulfstream Saturday.

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Woodford Team Voting for Independence

(cont. from p1)

Out of a full-sister to GI Breeders' Cup Sprint winner Desert Stormer (Storm Cat), Kalahari Cat has since produced eight winners, including one other at the Grade III level.

"She's a big mare: 16.3 hands, kind of raw-boned," Castagnola says. "She's really good-minded, easy to get along with, and a good mom, too. And she's that dark brown color that she's passed to every single foal, except her yearling by Frosted."



Independence Hall winning the Jerome | Sarah Andrew

That gray filly was actually catalogued for the Keeneland November Sale, but then Independence Hall added that 12 1/4-length GIII Nashua S. explosion to her page on the eve of the auction. Suddenly the Frosted weanling had the potential to top the bill at a yearling sale after the next Triple Crown series.

"The Frosted is a beautiful filly," Castagnola enthuses. "Such a nice physical, we thought we'd just be taking a nice horse to the sale and be able to sell well. But when Independence Hall won, it wasn't hard to say now is not the time for her. She wasn't 100% anyway, with a little cold going on. So it was a very simple decision in the end. But gosh, she's pretty, I can't wait for everybody to see her."

Independence Hall himself made \$100,000 as a yearling, sold to Robert and Kathleen Verratti at the September Sale. He subsequently failed to meet his reserve at \$200,000 when offered by Wavertree Stables at Fasig-Tipton's Gulfstream Sale. But the Verrattis were able to welcome Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners and Twin Creeks Racing Stable as investors after he won on debut at Parx last September.

"I remember which barn he was in at Keeneland, which shed row, which stall," says Castagnola. "Yet it wasn't because he was necessarily a physical standout. And it's funny that he's kind of becoming known for these pre-race antics, because we never saw any of that either."

APPEAL TO THE WIN

HIP 390 **I/F TO FLATTER**

FAMILY UPDATES:



- Her short yearling by Connect sold for \$125,000 @ KeeJan.
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"He was just really easy to get along with, good-minded and easy to show," Castagnola continued. "But he has that interesting facial marking and, since we have a share in Constitution, we were definitely keeping tabs on him from the moment he was born."

One way or another, Woodford Thoroughbreds has certainly started the year--between Independence Hall winning the Jerome S. on its opening day, and Midnight Bisou an Eclipse Award as Older Dirt Female three weeks later--with an impressive magnification of both the quality and the breadth of their brand. For here is a farm with a very diverse portfolio: breeding and selling its own weanlings, yearlings, 2-year-olds and broodmares; breaking, training and consigning for external clients.

Hardly what its owners had in mind in 1997, when prospecting for a 10- or 15-acre hideaway, just a place for some downtime, away from the office in Tampa, maybe with some riding horses for the grandchildren. They'd never owned a single racehorse. Yet the moment they drove through the gates of this 750-acre Thoroughbred farm, something changed in their lives forever. And Castagnola herself can absolutely identify with the way her employers became so absorbed by a business that had previously meant nothing to them. She was raised in the hill country of Eastern Kentucky, where her dad flew helicopters for a coal company.

But soon after the family moved into Lexington, when she was eight, a pair of newlyweds moved onto the same street: Jan Taylor, and her husband Ben. Who turned out to be vice-president of Taylor Made Stallions.

"So that's how this whole thing really got into motion," Castagnola explains. "I loved horses, and they kind of took me in a little bit. Jan would take me out to the farm, she had an old riding horse and at the time didn't have children. They were just so good to somebody who was young and had no idea."

In adolescence Castagnola became a decent rider but still knew nothing about bloodstock by the time she completed a degree in broadcast journalism at the University of Kentucky, with that minor in politics. As she prepared her resume for Capitol Hill, however, the Taylors suggested that she work the September Sale with their team.



Shannon Castagnola | Woodford photo

"I just showed up," Castagnola recalls. "All I knew was I needed khakis and a blue shirt. But when it was over, I found myself with a new addiction. I couldn't stop thinking about it. Not just the horses, but the people you come across, the characters that come through."

She obviously made a reciprocal impression, promptly being offered a job at the farm office--and stayed for nearly nine years, until motherhood encouraged her to a more flexible position with West Point Thoroughbreds. Having been introduced to the supply element, in breeding and sales at Taylor Made, Castagnola was now introduced to the demand side of the equation. Here was an 80-horse stable to help manage, with all the associated demands in client relations, sales, hospitality.

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Mr. Monomoy (c. by Palace Malice). Winner in 4 starts at 2 to 3, 2019.
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After another six years spent completing her education, Castagnola felt able to identify her ultimate fulfillment. "The sales," she says. "In the end, I realized that it was the energy of the sales that I really loved. And that's what I wanted to get back to. And while I'd never run a consignment on my own, I was hired by Woodford and will have been there six years in March."

And she caught a rising tide. The previous year, Woodford had processed a first consignment through the 2-year-old sales. One of those initial pinhooks, a \$47,000 Keeneland September yearling, realized \$220,000 at OBS March. As Stopchargingmaria (Tale of the Cat), she would go on to win three Grade I prizes including the Breeders' Cup Distaff. Castagnola could then share the buzz when, in only Woodford's third OBS cycle, they set a sale record with a \$1.9-million Tapit filly.



The Woodford training track | Woodford photo

"So it had all started off very well, and obviously we were really excited," Castagnola says. "In order to establish Woodford Thoroughbreds in the industry, Mr. Sykes had known he was going to have to do a few different things. He'd bought mares, he'd bought stallions. Several trainers had rented stalls at our training center before it became private: Beholder and Cairo Prince had trained over that track. And it was decided that buying yearlings, to resell as 2-year-olds, was the best representation of what we could do. If the horses could come to the sales, train well, go on and run well, then that was the best way to get our name out into the market."

Midnight Bisou herself fell through the September cracks as Hip 4015, when bought back for \$19,000, and moved her value up only to \$80,000 at OBS April before embarking on her stellar track career.

"I vividly remember having her at Keeneland," Castagnola says. "I mean, she wasn't a big, imposing filly. The mare had been an excellent runner but the sire was cold at the time, she had a little writing on her X-ray report, and she was in that late book."

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She continued, "We knew, showing her, that she wasn't getting the love she should; put the reserve on her, and brought her home. Because she had that big, free-flow swing, that back-and-forth walk that says, 'I can be an athlete.'"



The Woodford-bred Midnight Bisou | Sarah Andrew

Having a training center of your own, of course, made it easier to give her a second chance.

"Though [farm trainer] John Gleason will tell you that she wasn't necessarily an easy filly to break," Castagnola says with a smile. "She's not silly, or mean. But she had a little bit of grit and determination about her."

Having come into the industry as an outsider, John Sykes could come fresh to its standard assumptions; could apply the kind of business principles that had first secured him the means of investing in it. And he set a radical challenge to his team.

Castagnola sums up his key message in three words.

"Have a plan," she says. "That's something he repeats to us. You might not always be able to follow the plan but you must have one. I can hear him telling me that in my head right now, because we get told quite often! So we're not just trying to get through the next breeding cycle. We are trying to project for the next five years."

She continued, "Obviously that's really difficult in the Thoroughbred industry, because markets change, what people are interested in changes and so many different things can happen with the horses themselves. But we're trying to figure out some longer-term goals." And that, dauntingly, extends to evaluating the odds in dollars and cents. "Once the foals are born, we'll start appraising them in October and then continue to do so about every six weeks until they go to the sale," Castagnola explains. "We're looking at them, physically, and then putting numbers on them. Because we have to show the accountant, for cashflow purposes, what's coming down the pike. And we're held accountable for those numbers."



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So while the goalposts are always liable to move with Thoroughbreds, Sykes wants his team at least to study their present position before running up to kick the ball.

"We have budgets for the weanlings, the mares, the 2-year-olds," Castagnola explains. "We have budgets for the farm itself, the training track, for how much we'll spend at the sales. Of course we know that anything can change at any moment. That Frosted filly's value went up significantly with Independence Hall winning a Grade III; but another horse might go down at the same time, because of vetting. But we have a budget and we have to stick to it."

At the same time, Sykes has not just marched in and pronounced that everyone in this strange business has been doing it all wrong.

"I think every bit of it is a learning lesson," Castagnola remarks. "We're trying to figure out what's working, and what's not; to replicate what is, let go of what isn't. To try and figure out where the market's going, and what does that mean for us?"

"At one point, for example, we had five stallions in Florida. In the past few years, the Florida market has decreased significantly. So we sold those stallions, and the mares bought to support them. Now our goal is to buy better-bred mares, and look towards a somewhat higher-end stallion-and-mare combo as we go into the sales."

A similar nettle was grasped in selling the operation's Kentucky branch. With an increased emphasis on quality, the quantity of mares halved from 80 to 40 and the Florida farm obviously had ample capacity. Now, while the weanlings may be Kentucky-bred, they winter in Florida--building bone on large, undulating fields, alongside the training facility. And one arm of the business serves the other.

"There's a very large group of buyers we get to interact with, just because we do so many different things," Castagnola says. "Making those contacts, having those relationships, only makes us stronger. And the more that people see these horses coming out of our program and doing well, the more the Woodford brand is reinforced--as a breeder that they want to buy from, a seller they want to return to."

And that's why Gleason's emphasis is not on revving up youngsters for bullet times but on miles of jogging, on months of patient groundwork.

"Eleven breezed at OBS last year," recounts Castagnola proudly. "Ten have run, and the other one is on the worktab right now. Six are winners, including one stakes winner. We know that there are some knocks, people who don't like the 2-year-old sales. But we take pride that our horses are showing that you can go on with them; that they're healthy, happy and sound; that the process hasn't blown their minds."

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"Of course we want them to do well through the sales ring, but they have to do it on the track. In the end, that's their job," she said.



Woodford photo

And that kind of longevity is exactly what Woodford overall is seeking for its own niche in the bloodstock business. Having Beth Bayer as head of sales can only help, as a known and trusted face around the community.

Equally a recent shopping trip to Tattersalls, made by John Sykes and Woodford bloodstock advisor Lincoln Collins, to find five weanlings with classy European bloodlines, confirmed a willingness to keep experimenting; to keep testing boundaries. "Because Mr. Sykes comes from a business background, he'll tell you there are only two ways to expand: product or geography," explains Castagnola. "We have one product, and that's the horse. We sell in Kentucky, we sell in Florida, we sell in New York. What else is out there? So we decided to go to Newmarket. As an absolutely new venture for us, I'm sure it will be a learning experience, but we bought some really well-bred horses and we think we've given ourselves a lot of options. "Maybe we're still considered a new kid on the block, even at this point; but less so, I think, with every passing year. We want to be here long term. That's the point. It's really an exciting project to be part of."

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Receiver Alleges Zayat is Stonewalling Her Efforts *(cont. from p1)*

Referring to language Zayat’s side used in a motion to dissolve the order that appointed the receiver, the filing states that “Zayat Stables continues to display unfounded paranoia regarding the Receiver’s reasonable requests for even basic business information from Zayat Stables.”

The receiver’s report was just one of several developments concerning Zayat’s case that have unfolded over the last few days.

In response to Zayat’s motion to dissolve the receivership, MGG Investment Group, which is seeking \$23 million in unpaid loans from Zayat, called his motion a “long-winded conglomeration of misstatements, irrelevant details, and unsupported arguments.”

In a “Reply Memorandum in Support of Motion to Dissolve Order Appointing Receiver,” Zayat’s team countered, arguing that MGG and the receiver have been granted too much power.

“The Order tendered by MGG and entered by this Court, however, goes well beyond maintenance and sale of collateral. It allows for a full takeover of a company and all of its operations,” Zayat’s reply reads. “In doing so, it provides MGG and the Receiver unfettered access and unchecked discovery that MGG seeks in an order to pursue its fraud claims. MGG’s actions make it clear that it intends to go well beyond its contractual rights and do so in a way that infringes on due process protections afforded to the Defendants in this manner.”

The two sides have been battling it out in court after MGG came forward and claimed that Zayat had defaulted on loans made to him. The court made a ruling favorable to MGG in ordering a receiver to take over his assets and begin the process of dispersing them so that Zayat’s bills could be paid. Zayat has asked the court to allow him to sell off his assets as he sees fit, arguing that turning over control to a Receiver was unnecessary.

The Receiver’s report shed more light on the state of Zayat Stable, which campaigned 2015 Triple Crown winner American Pharoah (Pioneerof the Nile). Woodward tells the court that the Zayat-owned horses she has located are “all under the care of farm owners or trainers who have not been paid in some time” and that those who are owed money “are demanding payment in order to continue to provide services to Zayat Stables’ horses.” That has created a situation, she reports, where the well-being of the horses could be in jeopardy.

“In the Receiver’s view, while it is true that horses were and are being cared for, that is due to the goodwill of farm owners, who could not in good conscience allow any animal to bear the brunt of its owner’s inability to pay bills when they came due,” the report read. “Their care for the horses was not due to Zayat Stables having the means to afford that care.

The Receiver submits to the Court that despite their willingness to extend credit beyond their comfort level for the sake of the horses, most service providers’ patience had worn thin--and many were at their breaking point.”

Woodward reported that she was able to track down just one active bank account for Zayat Stables and that it held less than \$2,000.

Woodward, who has been assisted by bloodstock consultant Gatewood Bell, said that she, despite not receiving requested information from Zayat, is close to putting together a “go-forward operations budget through which she plans to pay for vital services.” Some Zayat horses have been entered in the Fasig-Tipton February Sale and others will be sold at other auctions.

“In sum, there is certainly work still to be done, but the Receiver is pleased with the progress made, despite the continuing difficulties in gathering information. It is the Receiver’s intention to continue on this path of liquidation, or in any manner the Court directs, as transparently as possible,” the report concludes.

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OLD CHAPEL FARM IN MOTION

by Jessica Martini

Old Chapel Farm has built a reputation over the last few years as a boutique weanling-to-yearling pinhooking operation, but owner Andrew Motion decided to look for a more diversified investment and took advantage of the opportunity of his daughter Mary's trip to last month's Keeneland January Horses of All Ages Sale.

"My dad has been pinhooking, but now it's just crazy money," Mary Motion explained. "He has a broodmare background, so we thought we would get more of a long-term investment out of the mares. I originally went down to the [January] sale to shadow [bloodstock agent] Liz Crow for a few days and my dad said he might send me a list of mares to go have a look at. The plan was just to see what I could see and if there was something that we could afford, then great, but we weren't setting our hearts on it or anything."

After watching the prices during the first day of the auction, father and daughter reassessed their options.

"He sent me a short list at first, but after Monday it became quite apparent that there would be some horses that we could afford, so then he sent me a very big list. I sort of just paid attention to his list from then on out."

Motion signed for two mares at the January sale, first going to \$30,000 to acquire the 12-year-old **Need an Angel** (Pulpit) ([hip 782](#)) and then paying \$20,000 for 11-year-old **Deherewego** (Dehere) ([hip 1016](#)). Despite a family history steeped in horses and industry experience on three continents, it was the first time the 24-year-old had signed for a horse in her own name.

"Oh my gosh, it was nerve-wracking," she admitted with a laugh. "For the first horse I bought, I couldn't spell my name. It was so embarrassing. I didn't realize that I did, but I guess I scribbled it so quickly, they couldn't make out what it actually said."



Mary Motion and Deherewego | Maggie Kimmitt

Deherewego, due to foal a Cross Traffic baby any day now, is already proving the investment was worthwhile. The mare's 3-year-old daughter O Seraphina (Congrats) finished second behind the highly touted Taraz (Into Mischief) in last Saturday's Martha Washington S. and is expected to make her next start in the Gill Honeybee S. at Oaklawn.

"We were so excited," Motion said of the stakes-placing. "I couldn't believe it. I have a lot of respect for [trainer] Joe and Rosie Sharp, as well. I was excited for them as well to have a nice up-and-coming filly."

Of a possible graded stakes win, she added, "Fingers crossed. That would be amazing."

Growing up in Virginia horse country as a third-generation horsewoman, it seemed inevitable Mary Motion would follow her father or uncle, trainer Graham Motion, into the racing industry. But Motion said her family let her find her own way into the game.

"All of my family is in racing," she said. "Even my mom, she was more in the steeplechase side. So I grew up foxhunting with Piedmont Hunt and doing hunter shows. It wasn't really until I was introduced to what they used to call the Junior Field Master Chases in Virginia at the point-to-points that I started getting interested in the jump racing."

Motion spent summer vacations from high school galloping for her uncle at Fair Hill Training Center in Maryland and worked for him full-time while attending college. In between high school and college, she spent a year in England working for trainers like Oliver Sherwood and George Baker. After college, she spent a year in Australia, working for Gai Waterhouse and Adrian Bott, and then Ciaran Maher and David Eustace.

"For Gai and Adrian, I was riding and I was helping with marketing projects and communications," Motion said. "Just sort of doing bits and pieces of everything with them. Which was a once-in-a-lifetime experience. And then I worked for Ciaran Maher and David Eustace in Melbourne and I mostly rode out for him and did some assistant formwork for him, so I could see some of the management and ground work side of things as well."

Motion has also been sharpening her skills in the bloodstock market.

"My first introduction to the bloodstock industry was at Tattersalls in 2014, I had the opportunity to shadow Matt Coleman," Motion said. "And last year, at the January sale, I worked for Jim FitzGerald and shadowed Murette Farrell."

She continued, "My family didn't push me at all, but they've always been extremely supportive of whether I wanted to be in jump racing or flat racing, bloodstock, training, whichever part of the business I wanted to be in, they've been very supportive."

The Old Chapel broodmare band is currently made up of just the two January acquisitions and the plan is to sell the foals as weanlings.

“Possibly next year we’ll get some more mares,” Motion said. “But right now it’s my dad by himself, so it’s just a question of not having too many. If O Seraphina jumps up and becomes a Grade 1 winner or something, we’ll probably put Deherewego back in the sale. I’m not saying that’s definitely going to happen, but if that’s the case, we’ll probably get another mare.”

She continued, “I think right now two is plenty while we are just introducing the farm to the broodmare industry and this is very new at the moment. We just want to get going with it and then maybe next year buy a couple more. It’s a very gradual process. We’re not rushing.”



Mary Motion aboard Erupt at Woodbine | Michael Burns

While she gains experience across both the globe and the industry, Motion admitted training just might be her future.

“I’ve always debated whether I prefer bloodstock or training,” she said. “But at the end of the day, there is nothing that I love more than the training side. Graham would give me a couple projects here and there that I would spend all my time working on. Then just making it to the race, let alone winning a race, meant so much to me. So I really enjoy that part of it. I’m still pretty new to the bloodstock and I am definitely getting more interested in that. But I think, as a trainer, you need to have bloodstock experience anyway. So I definitely think I’d be mixing the two, but I think training will probably be my future.”

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TIF’S CUMMINGS: PENNSYLVANIA SITUATION MUST BE A WAKE-UP CALL



Bill Finley, Joe Bianca, Alan Carasso and Jon Green (l to r)

This week’s Green Group Guest of the Week on the *TDN’s Writers’ Room Podcast*, Thoroughbred Idea Foundation Executive Director Pat Cummings, implored the racing industry to learn from what has happened in Pennsylvania and to end what he sees as decades of complacency.

Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf has submitted a budget that calls for \$204 million to be diverted from the state’s Race Horse Development Fund and used for a program that would provide college scholarships for Pennsylvania residents. Should the money, which comes from slot machines proceeds, be taken away, the end result would be devastating for those racing and breeding in the state.

Cummings said the industry has become too reliant on casino subsidies, which can be taken away at any time, and should instead be making efforts to make horse racing a more attractive gambling proposition.

“The Pennsylvania situation must be a wake-up call,” he said. “It’s a wake-up call for those in other states and a wake-up call for Pennsylvania horsemen. They have given out over \$2 billion in purses earned from slot machines over 13 years. That’s a heck of a lot of money that has gone out of the system. They need to do without a little bit of that and they need to invest in the future of the sport. They need to make it more competitive. You have to have a competitive wagering product.”

Cummings said that the racetracks owned by casino companies have no incentive to try to grow handle on their racing products. He believes owners and breeders are the ones who must take charge and work for changes that would improve the sport and make it a better bet. He says the takeout must come down, breakage must be returned to the bettors and the sport must do more to modernize and keep up with the times.

He applauded Monmouth Park, which is run by the horsemen, for committing to fixed-odds wagering and Maryland racing interests and politicians for investing in renovation projects at Laurel and Pimlico

“Try something,” he said. “Let’s get out of this multi-decade funk this industry has been in. The horsemen need to demand it from the racetracks because the racetracks are oftentimes the ones setting and defending the takeout rates. There are things that can be done to make betting on racing more attractive.”

He said that if owners and breeders don’t take greater control of the sports and the decision-making processes, that will “hasten the demise of racing in many places.”

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NEARLY \$3M UP FOR GRABS IN NHC2020



2019 NHC champ Scott Coles | NTRA photo

Close to 700 handicappers will compete for a record prize pool of \$2.95 million when the 21st annual National Horseplayers’ Championship (NHC) gets underway Friday at Bally’s Las Vegas casino, having previously been held at the Treasure Island. The three-day event, which brings together qualifiers from a variety of tournaments from coast-to-coast, offers a top prize of \$800,000 and the title of Horseplayer of the Year. Including complimentary travel and hotel accommodations, cash and awards total \$3.8 million.

“The NHC is a true celebration of the horseplayer--the individuals who fuel every aspect of the sport and business of Thoroughbred racing,” said NTRA Chief Operating Officer and NHC Tournament Director, Keith Chamblin. “We thank the many organizations who hosted NHC qualifiers throughout 2019 as well as our presenting sponsors and partners.”

The field, which has an estimated 556 players (there are 119 dual-qualifiers), includes 148 first-time contestants, or nearly a quarter of the field. The NHC field will be cut to the top 10% of

the players following Saturday’s second day of the competition and the highest 10 scores after the semi-final round will move on to the Draft Kings final table. All winnings from the first two days will roll over into the final round, with a set of seven mandatory races Sunday to determine the champion. Those who do not make the semi-finals will compete for \$50,000 in a consolation tournament Sunday morning and afternoon.

The NHC format requires handicappers to place mythical \$2 win/place bets to amass the highest possible bankroll across eight mandatory races on days one and two and on seven races at the final table. The remaining 10 races on the first two days of the competition and all 10 races in the semi-final round are optional races at one of eight designated tracks, including Aqueduct, Fair Grounds, Golden Gate, Gulfstream, Laurel, Oaklawn, Santa Anita and Tampa.

Scott Coles, who became the youngest winner of the NHC at age 34 in 2019 with a bankroll of \$367, is back to defend his title. Some 10 previous winners are also in the field. As the winner of the 2019 NHC Tour, David Snyder won \$110,000 and an NHC berth. He also is eligible for a \$5-million bonus if he goes on to win at the 2020 NHC finals. Brad Anderson, the winner of the Breeders’ Cup Betting Challenge (BCBC), is eligible for a \$3 million BCBC/NHC Bonus if he takes down the NHC title.

Former TDN staffer Steve DeCaspers is set to compete in his fifth NHC, having finished 'in the money' (36th--[read more here](#)--and 46th) in two of his four previous tries.

“The NHC is three days of horseplayer heaven,” DeCaspers said. “Good friends, great competition and, of course, the chance at a life-altering score. The sentiment around my tables is that the NTRA made the right move with the switch to Bally’s. The ballroom is a big step up from previous years.”

A real-time scoreboard can be viewed [here](#).

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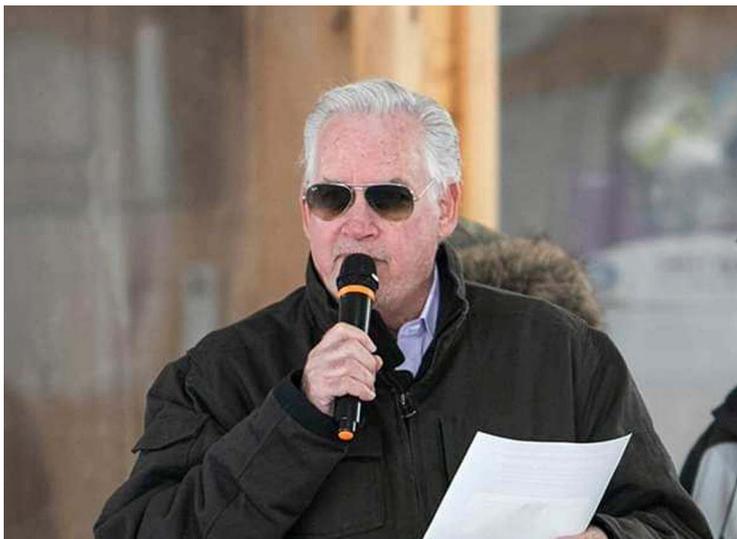
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

BOB HUTT

Thank you for your article keeping the pressure up on Governor Wolf, as his timing could not be any worse. Who is going to breed to Pennsylvania stallions this season with this sword hanging over our heads? You would think as governor he would have at least taken into consideration that breeding season is only from February 15 to May 31. By acting irresponsibly, Governor Wolf has absolutely destroyed the 2020 Pennsylvania breeding season, regardless of whether his proposal is defeated, which it most certainly should be.

I would hope that our lobbying groups would act immediately to get an injunction to save 2020.

Governor Wolf has demonstrated a reckless abandonment toward his loyal constituents. No responsible leader, let alone a governor, would ever hurt those that elected him without first ascertaining the ramifications of his actions. If passed, it would totally destroy an agricultural industry that contributes \$1.6 billion dollars to the Pennsylvania economy. And it extends far beyond just Pennsylvania. How about the magazine and advertising industry? Tell me who's going to be able to afford to advertise without results? People in the magazine and advertising industry will lose their jobs as well. How about manufacturers of farm and equine equipment, feed companies, veterinarians, transportation, insurance companies, etc. Yes, this extends far beyond just the Pennsylvania agricultural community. I can't believe the outcry isn't louder, as business and jobs throughout the entire United States are threatened by Governor Wolf's actions.



Bob Hutt | *Nikki Sherman*

Furthermore, the public must be made aware that without the breeding and horse racing industry making concessions to allow casino gaming, there wouldn't even be any casinos. The horsemen knew they would suffer when agreeing to have licenses granted to casinos, as both groups compete for the same customer. We were assured by our legislators that we would always be protected. I guess the word "always" has a different connotation for Governor Wolf?

Now here we go again after living this nightmare as recently as 2017. Just when Pennsylvania was making great strides in expanding breeding to our great state, without warning, he pulls the rug out from under us. Jesse James had nothing up on Governor Wolf. If he can "steal/rob" from our "protected fund" because that's exactly what it is; highway robbery in broad daylight, ask yourself this?

What's to prevent Governor Wolf from doing the same or worse to any other industry/small business? Because that's what most horsemen are--small businessmen. Most struggle to eke out a living, but we do it because of our love for the game. No promise, no agreement this Governor makes ever again can be trusted.

Basically Governor Wolf can't balance his own checkbook so he must steal from hard-working people to cover up for his own incompetency. Is this how he balances his budget? We, as horsemen, act responsibly and don't overextend ourselves. But through the governor's action, he doesn't have to answer to anybody for his overspending. So his reply is to kill an industry we've spent a lifetime to build. Without the horsemen there wouldn't be any casinos or our fund to raid.

The governor has misrepresented to the good citizens of Pennsylvania that horsemen are wealthy in order to further his cause using "class warfare" to alienate the public against us. The public must be made aware that this is patently false! Perhaps in Kentucky where top stallions command hundreds of thousands of dollars. However, here in Pennsylvania, our top stallions stand for \$5,000. Most stallion owners are lucky if they get 15 to 20 broodmares to breed to their stallion at a stud fee of \$2,500 or less. Does that sound like wealthy owners? I think not.

Tens of thousands of hard-working men and women with average to below-average median income will lose their jobs. Some that grow hay, alfalfa and feed will lose their farms overnight. Stallion farms will go the way of the dinosaurs. Most of these agricultural people are middle aged or older and do not have other necessary skills to be absorbed into the workforce. Agriculture and horses are all they know. What happens to them? The hit to the agricultural community would be devastating. I find it difficult to believe that the governor and his staff did not do their due diligence and research this before making this ill-advised proposal. All of us in every industry must speak out in one voice to let Governor Wolf know we will not go quietly into that good night. This is a fight we must win! We must all stand together! Thank you.

Regards, Bob Hutt

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Saturday, Santa Anita, post time: 5:30 p.m. EST

LAS VIRGENES S.-GII, \$200,000, 3yo, f, 1m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Go Big Blue Nation 🌿	Animal Kingdom	Cannon Thoroughbreds, LLC	McCarthy	Bejarano	120
2	Gingham 🌿	Quality Road	Kelly, Sarah and Wiltz, Jane	Baffert	Van Dyke	120
3	Cholula Lips	Empire Way	Lovingier, Terry C. and Navarro, Amanda	Harrington	Cedillo	120
4	Venetian Harbor 🌿	Munnings	Ciaglia Racing LLC, River Oak Farm and Savides, Dominic	Baltas	Prat	120
5	Stellar Sound	Tapit	Don Alberto Stable	Baffert	Smith	120

Breeders: 1-Millennium Farms & Godolphin, 2-Stone Farm, 3-Terry C. Lovingier, 4-Colts Neck Stables LLC, 5-Don Alberto Corporation

Saturday, Tampa Bay Downs, post time: 5:29 p.m. EST

SAM F. DAVIS S.-GIII, \$250,000, 3yo, 1 1/16m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Ajaaweed	Curlin	Shadwell Stable	McLaughlin	Rosario	118
2	Sole Volante 🌿	Karakontje (Jpn)	Reeves Thoroughbred Racing, Biancone, Andie and Limelight Stables Corp.	Biancone	Panici	118
3	Albert Park	Street Sense	Godolphin, LLC	Stidham	Morales	118
4	Independence Hall 🌿	Constitution	Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners, Twin Creeks Racing Stables, LLC, Verratti, Kathleen and Verratti, Robert N.	Trombetta	Ortiz	122
5	No Getting Over Me	He's Had Enough	Abdullah Saeed Almaddah	Bennett	Camacho	118
6	Premier Star 🌿	Tapiture	Sonata Stable	Navarro	Velazquez	118
7	Tiz Rye Time	Tiznow	Bourbon Lane Stable, Massey, Cleber J. and Gladden, Jim	Wilkes	Leparoux	118
8	Chapalu	Flatter	Seltzer, Edward A. and Anderson, Beverly S.	Delacour	Centeno	122

Breeders: 1-Shadwell Farm, LLC., 2-Flaxman Holdings Limited, 3-Godolphin, 4-Woodford Thoroughbreds, 5-Richard E. Wilson, 6-Charles H. Deters, 7-Sierra Farm, 8-Edward A. Seltzer & Beverly Anderson

Saturday, Tampa Bay Downs, post time: 3:59 p.m. EST

LAMBHOLM SOUTH ENDEAVOUR S.-GIII, \$175,000, 4yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	A. A. Azula's Arch 🌿	Arch	A & A Farms	Casse	Leparoux	117
2	Altea (Fr)	Siyouni (Fr)	Swift Thoroughbreds, Inc., Madaket Stables LLC and Doheny Racing Stable	Brown	Rosario	117
3	Jehozacat	Tapit	Lael Stables	Delacour	Centeno	117
4	Andina Del Sur	Giant's Causeway	Don Alberto Stable	Albertrani	Ortiz	119
5	Dynatail 🌿	Hightail	Ballybrit Stable, LLC	Dini	Velazquez	119
6	Kelsey's Cross	Anthony's Cross	Bacon, Sanford & Patrick L. Biancone Racing LLC	Biancone	Panici	117
7	Got Stormy 🌿	Get Stormy	Gary Barber	Casse	Gaffalione	123
8	Phantom Opening 🌿	Arch	Surfside Stables, LLC	Blair	Gallardo	117

Breeders: 1-Fox Hill Farms, 2-Carlos Vazquez Gonzalez, 3-Mr. & Mrs. M. Roy Jackson, 4-Don Alberto Corporation, 5-Calumet Farm, 6-T. Wynn Jolley & Mary Jolley, 7-Mt. Joy Stables, Pope McLean, MarcMcLean & Pope McLean Jr., 8-Warrender Associates & Diane Curry

Saturday, Tampa Bay Downs, post time: 4:59 p.m. EST

TAMPA BAY S.-GIII, \$175,000, 4yo/up, 1 1/16mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	March to the Arch	Arch	Live Oak Plantation	Casse	Gaffalione	121
2	Devamani (Fr)	Dubawi (Ire)	Goldfarb, Sanford J. and Abraham, Samuel	Brown	Rosario	117
3	Admiralty Pier	English Channel	Hoolie Racing Stable, LLC and Lunsford, Bruce	Minshall	Camacho	117
4	Caribou Club	City Zip	Glen Hill Farm	Proctor	Ortiz	119
5	Renaissance Frolic 🌿	Paynter	Sir David Seale	Joseph, Jr.	Gallardo	119
6	Halladay 🌿	War Front	Harrell Ventures, LLC	Pletcher	Velazquez	117
7	Hembree 🌿	Proud Citizen	Three Diamonds Farm	Maker	Morales	117
8	Real Story	Fast Bullet	Amling, Jeffrey S. and Merriebelle Stable LLC	Correas, IV	Castanon	117
9	My Bariley	Mizzen Mast	Captain Jack Racing Stable LLC	Granitz	-	117

Breeders: 1-Live Oak Stud, 2-S. C. H. H. The Aga Khan Studs, 3-Calumet Farm, 4-Glen Hill Farm, 5-Stride Rite Racing Stable, Inc., 6-Gainesway Thoroughbreds Ltd. & Winchell Thoroughbreds, LLC, 7-Derby Lane Farm, LLC, 8-J. Amling & Merrieffield Farm, 9-Captain Jack Racing Stable LLC

Saturday, Gulfstream, post time: 5:04 p.m. EST

SUWANNEE RIVER S.-GIII, \$150,000, 4yo/up, f/m, 1 1/8mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Kelsey's Cross	Anthony's Cross	Bacon, Sanford & Patrick L Biancone Racing LLC	Biancone	Maragh	118
2	Smart Shot	Skipshot	Calumet Farm	Arnold, II	Landeros	118
3	Magic Star 🌿	Scat Daddy	Don Alberto Stable	Brown	Ortiz, Jr.	124
4	Vow to Recover 🌿	Broken Vow	Imaginary Stables and Braverman, Paul	Dobles	Zayas	122
5	Great Sister Diane 🌿	Will Take Charge	Robert J. Slack	Crichton	Vasquez	122
6	Starship Jubilee 🌿	Indy Wind	Blue Heaven Farm	Attard	Saez	124
7	Tapit Today	Tapit	Lawrence, William H. and Bradley Thoroughbreds	Brown	Castellano	118

Breeders: 1-T. Wynn Jolley & Mary Jolley, 2-Calumet Farm, 3-Betz, D. J. Stables, CoCo, Burns & Magers, 4-Rustlewood Farm, Inc., 5-Siena Farms LLC, 6-William P. Sorren, 7-Gainesway Thoroughbreds LTD.

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Saturday, Santa Anita, post time: 6:30 p.m. EST

THUNDER ROAD S.-GIII, \$100,000, 4yo/up, 1mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Ronald R (Ire)	Nathaniel (Ire)	Hotter Than H Racing LLC	Ellis	Van Dyke	124
2	The Hunted 🌿	Unusual Heat	M. Auerbach LLC, Ciaglia Racing LLC and Little Red Feather Racing	Baltas	Franco	122
3	Majestic Eagle 🌿	Medaglia d'Oro	Lindley, John and Morton, Ray	Drysdale	Rispoli	122
4	True Valour (Ire)	Kodiac (GB)	Simon Callaghan	Callaghan	Atzeni	124
5	Mugaritz	Dialed In	Alejandro G. Mercado	Wong	Smith	124
6	River Boyne (Ire)	Dandy Man (Ire)	Red Baron's Barn LLC and Rancho Temescal LLC	Mullins	Cedillo	122
7	Frontier Market 🌿	Lemon Drop Kid	Hronis Racing LLC	Sadler	Prat	122
8	Camino Del Paraiso	Suances (GB)	Glen Road Racing LLC & Paradise Road Ranch	Jauregui	Pereira	122
9	Take the One O One	Acclamation	Jay Em Ess Stable	Koriner	Blanc	120
10	Kingly	Tapit	Clearview Stables, LLC, RAC 04 Racing, LLC and Meegan, Michael	Baffert	Gutierrez	122

Breeders: 1-M. Morrissey, 2-M. Auerbach, L.L.C., 3-B. Flay Thoroughbreds, 4-Mr P. O'Rourke, 5-Sean Speck & Barbara Speck, 6-Limestone & Tara Studs, 7-Scott Pierce & Debbie Pierce, 8-Red Baron's Barn LLC, 9-Thomas W. Bachman, 10-Clearsky Farms

Sunday, Santa Anita, post time: 6:30 p.m. EST

SAN VICENTE S.-GII, \$200,000, 3yo, 7f

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Fast Enough	Eddington	Craig Martin	Becerra	Pereira	124
2	Ra'ad	Twirling Candy	RRR Racing, Inc.	Baffert	Van Dyke	120
3	Party Town	Shackleford	Bob Grayson, Jr.	Brinkerhoff	Velez	120
4	Nadal 🌿	Blame	Bolton, G, Hoyeau, A, Lipman, B & Mathiesen, M	Baffert	Rosario	120
5	Storm the Court	Court Vision	David A Bernsen LLC, Exline-Border Racing LLC, Hudock, Dan and Wilson, Susanna	Eurton	Prat	124
6	Ginobili 🌿	Munnings	Slam Dunk Racing, Baltas, R, McClanahan, Jerry & Nentwig, Michael	Baltas	Cedillo	120

Breeders: 1-Craig Martin, 2-Machmer Hall, 3-Westwind Farms, 4-Sierra Farm, 5-Stepping Stone Farm, 6-Hinkle Farms



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“Sheikh Hamdan... I wish people could get to know him the way I know him. To me, he's been a father figure.”



WATCH



Cumulative Leading Fourth-Crop Sires By GSWs

for stallions standing in North America through Wednesday, February 5

Earnings and Black-type represents Worldwide figures & stud fees are for 2020

Rank	Stallion	BTW	BTH	GSW	GSH	G1SW	G1SH	Starters	Wnrs	Highest Earner	Earnings
1	Jimmy Creed <i>(2009) by Distorted Humor FYR: 2015</i>	11	28	4	9	--	2	162	119	364,508	9,080,331
				<i>Stands: Spendthrift Farm KY Fee: \$15,000</i>						<i>Casa Creed</i>	
2	Violence <i>(2010) by Medaglia d'Oro FYR: 2015</i>	13	28	3	12	--	2	244	164	553,773	13,343,255
				<i>Stands: Hill 'n' Dale Farms KY Fee: \$25,000</i>						<i>Cosmic Burst</i>	
3	Take Charge Indy <i>(2009) by A.P. Indy FYR: 2015</i>	12	25	3	6	--	1	213	150	918,709	12,490,132
				<i>Stands: WinStar Farm KY Fee: \$17,500</i>						<i>Long Range Toddy</i>	
4	Paynter <i>(2009) by Awesome Again FYR: 2015</i>	9	24	3	6	1	1	227	150	740,555	11,109,297
				<i>Stands: WinStar Farm KY Fee: \$10,000</i>						<i>Knicks Go</i>	
5	Point of Entry <i>(2008) by Dynaformer FYR: 2015</i>	6	15	2	7	--	3	155	96	1,670,400	9,155,213
				<i>Stands: Adena Springs KY Fee: \$15,000</i>						<i>Plus Que Parfait</i>	
6	Alternation <i>(2008) by Distorted Humor FYR: 2015</i>	8	13	2	2	1	1	136	91	1,521,520	6,946,033
				<i>Stands: Pin Oak Stud KY Fee: \$10,000</i>						<i>Serengeti Empress</i>	
7	Oxbow <i>(2010) by Awesome Again FYR: 2015</i>	3	7	2	2	--	--	156	93	550,017	4,710,528
				<i>Stands: Calumet Farm KY Fee: \$10,000</i>						<i>Coach Rocks</i>	
8	Overanalyze <i>(2010) by Dixie Union FYR: 2015</i>	8	20	1	5	1	2	202	126	587,600	8,537,379
				<i>Stands: WinStar Farm KY Fee: \$7,500</i>						<i>Hog Creek Hustle</i>	
9	Graydar <i>(2009) by Unbridled's Song FYR: 2015</i>	5	13	1	2	--	--	185	118	852,105	7,496,580
				<i>Stands: Milky Way Farm CA Fee: \$4,000</i>						<i>Gray Magician</i>	
10	Orb <i>(2010) by Malibu Moon FYR: 2015</i>	6	15	1	4	1	1	192	105	266,020	6,999,963
				<i>Stands: Claiborne Farm KY Fee: \$10,000</i>						<i>Mrs. Orb</i>	
11	Smiling Tiger <i>(2007) by Hold That Tiger FYR: 2015</i>	6	13	1	1	1	1	105	68	1,223,705	5,523,818
				<i>Stands: Harris Farms CA Fee: \$7,500</i>						<i>Spiced Perfection</i>	
12	Justin Phillip <i>(2008) by First Samurai FYR: 2015</i>	5	10	1	3	--	--	117	74	422,781	5,100,824
				<i>Stands: The Quarter Company NM Fee: \$3,000</i>						<i>Ryono Tesoro</i>	
13	Morning Line <i>(2007) by Tiznow FYR: 2015</i>	5	11	1	3	--	1	105	69	514,173	5,049,803
				<i>Stands: A&A Ranch USA (Dead/Ret/Exp)</i>						<i>Seven Trumpets</i>	
14	Poseidon's Warrior <i>(2008) by Speightstown FYR: 2015</i>	2	4	1	1	1	1	107	63	1,691,750	4,280,729
				<i>Stands: Equistar PA Fee: \$5,000</i>						<i>Firenze Fire</i>	
15	Fast Bullet <i>(2008) by Speightstown FYR: 2015</i>	1	2	1	1	--	--	27	18	346,724	1,148,619
				<i>Stands: WinStar Farm USA (Dead/Ret/Exp)</i>						<i>Real Story</i>	

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IN SHARPER FOCUS: FEARLESS

by Steve Sherack



Fearless | Lauren King

A late-blooming gelding kicks off his career with two straight impressive victories carrying the white silks of WinStar Farm. Sound familiar?

While the talented 'TDN Rising Star' Diversify (Bellamy Road) eventually changed hands as a racing prospect at the 2016 Keeneland November Sale prior to posting a pair of Grade I victories for Ralph and Lauren Evans, Kenny Troutt's operation was represented by the promising blowout allowance optional claiming winner **Fearless** (Ghostzapper) at Gulfstream Saturday.

The unbeaten 4-year-old gelding, campaigned in partnership with China Horse Club International, earned an eye-catching 99 Beyer Speed Figure while making his two-turn debut for trainer Todd Pletcher on the GIII Holy Bull S. undercard. He was previously a hard-fought maiden winner while making his belated debut sprinting in Hallandale Dec. 22.

"We were very pleased with his race--it's nice to see a horse run well that you've given a lot of time to and shown some patience with," WinStar Farm's President/CEO & Racing Manager Elliott Walden said. "We're excited about his future."

Fearless, a \$725,000 KEESEP yearling graduate boasting a stallion's pedigree out of the multiple Grade I-placed Street Cry (Ire) mare And Why Not, was stopped and started on no fewer than four times, including three trips to the Pletcher barn before the decision was made to geld him.

"I don't have any regrets about gelding him now, even though it hurts a little bit, but we did it for the right reason," Walden said.

"He wasn't impossible to train. It was a combination of him not really wanting to train and him being such a big, heavy kind of

horse that it kept causing him problems that he just never was moving great. We just felt like he needed to be a gelding. We give our horses every chance to be colts."

Walden didn't have any particular future targets in mind yet for Fearless, but the hopes are certainly high.

"He came out of the race good," Walden concluded. "We'll pencil something in. It sure is exciting. Hopefully, it's a great story. We gelded Diversify and he went on to become a two-time Grade I winner. Hopefully, this horse will do the same."

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4th-Gulfstream, \$45,400, Alw (NW1\$X)/Opt. Clm (\$25,000), 2-1, 4yo/up, 1 1/16m, 1:42.13, ft.

FEARLESS (g, 4, Ghostzapper--And Why Not {MGISP, \$262,965}, by Street Cry {Ire}) won on debut going six panels over this strip

Dec. 22 and was given a 3-1 chance for this stretch out in distance. Away alertly from the outside post in this eight-horse affair, the \$725,000 KEESEP buy showed good early initiative, pressing from a head second through opening splits of :23.65 and :46.48. Still just loping along as he took control on the backstretch, the dark bay effortlessly sailed clear under a hand ride from Irad Ortiz and crossed the line with his ears pricked, finishing 8 1/2 lengths clear of Winking At Thedude (First Dude). His MGISP dam And Why Not, herself a \$775,000 FTSAUG purchase, is also responsible for the GSP 5-year-old Just Whistle; an unraced sophomore filly named Choosy (Super Saver), who was purchased by Sallusto and Albina for \$25,000 at the recent KEEJAN sale; a juvenile filly named Potion (Ghostzapper); and a yearling filly by Candy Ride (Arg). The half-sister to GSW Far From Over (Blame) was bred back to Blame. This is also the family of MGISW Aldiza (Storm Cat); MGSWs Timeline (Hard Spun) and Aurelia's Belle (Lemon Drop Kid); and GSWs Altesse (A.P. Indy) and Lone Sailor (Majestic Warrior). Sales history: \$725,000 Ylg '17 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, \$50,400. [Click for the Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.](#)

O-China Horse Club International Ltd. & WinStar Farm LLC; B-Helen K. Groves Revocable Trust (KY); T-Todd A. Pletcher.

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*EASMAY grad **Soldado** (Verrazano) wins his first start off the layoff at Gulfstream.*

FRIDAY'S RACING INSIGHTS:

By *Christie DeBernardis*

Sponsored by *Alex Nichols Agency*

WELL-BRED TAPIT FILLY DEBUTS AT GP

4th-GP, \$50K, Msw, 3yo, f, 5fT, 2:31 p.m.

Gary Barber's **TAPITLIKEITSHOT (Tapit)** makes her career bow in this spot for trainer Mark Casse. Out of MGSW millionaire Gold Mover (Gold Fever), the \$400,000 KEESEP buy is a half to stakes winners Maleeh (Indian Charlie) and Giant Mover (Giant's Causeway), who is the dam of MGSW Family Tree (Smart Strike) and GSW & GISP Liora (Candy Ride {Arg}). She is also a half to the dam of SW & GSP 'TDN Rising Star' Telekinesis (Ghostzapper). The gray hails from the family of Grade I winners Roadster (Quality Road), Ascend (Candy Ride {Arg}), Cat Moves (Tale of the Cat), Hootenanny (Quality Road) and Dance Teacher (Smarten). **TJCIS PPs**

PHAROAH COLT MAKES CAREER BOW IN HOT SPRINGS

6th-OP, \$85K, Msw, 3yo, 6f, 4:46 p.m. ET

Steve Asmussen unveils Alex and JoAnn Lieblong's \$400,000 KEEJAN purchase **CHAIN MOVER (American Pharoah)** in this test. The bay is a half to MGSW & MGISP Smooth Air (Smooth Jazz), GSW Overdriven (Tale of the Cat) and the dam of MGISW Got Stormy (Get Stormy). This is also the family of MGSW & GISP Justwhistledixie (Dixie Union), who is the dam of GISW New Year's Day (Street Cry {Ire}), MGSW Mohaymen (Tapit), GSW & GISP Enforceable (Tapit) and GSW Kingly (Tapit). **TJCIS PPs**

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IN ORDER OF PURSE:

Friday, Santa Anita, post time: 5:59 p.m. EDT

BAFFLE S., \$75,000, 3yo, 5 1/2fT

PP HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	ML
1 Rager	Into Mischief	Van Dyke	Lerner	5-1
2 Rookie Mistake	Square Eddie	Gutierrez	O'Neill	4-1
3 Bulletproof One	Idiot Proof	Cedillo	Miller	2-1
4 Billy Batts	City Zip	Rispoli	Miller	8-5
5 Phast Pharoah	American Pharoah	Prat	Bonde	5-2
6 Big Returns	Mr. Big	Fuentes	O'Neill	12-1
7 Air Force Jet (GB)	Charm Spirit (Ire)	Bejarano	O'Neill	6-1



IN ORDER OF PURSE:

7th-Aqueduct, \$74,494, Alw/Opt. Clm (\$62,500), 2-6, 4yo/up, 1m, 1:38.25, sy.

GRUMPS LITTLE TOTS (g, 4, Sky Mesa--W W American, by Quiet American) won a nine-panel allowance at Saratoga Aug. 3 and was second to Performer (Speightstown) in a Belmont optional claimer Sept. 29. He finished third behind that rival and MGSW Tax (Arch) in the GIII Discovery H. Nov. 30 and was second last time over this track and trip Jan. 9. Hammered down to 3-5 favoritism to go one better in this scratched-down field of four, the dark bay saved ground in a joint second early and drew even with the pacesetter as the first quarter went up in :24.15. Gaining a narrow advantage, he opened up a bit on the backstretch and shook clear of all but Prioritize (Tizway) in the lane, finishing a neck clear of that foe. It was 14 lengths back to the third-place finisher. The winner has a 3-year-old half-brother named Mischief Afoot (Into Mischief) and a yearling half-sister by Lord Nelson. W W American was bred back to Runhappy. Sales history: \$37,000 Ylg '17 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: GSP, 11-3-5-2, \$260,494. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#), sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-Michael Dubb, Coyle Boys Stable and Bethlehem Stables LLC; B-Clearsky Farms (KY); T-Jason Servis.

 **Valerio Bloodstock Yearling Selection** 
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9th-Gulfstream, \$44,000, Alw (NW1\$X)/Opt. Clm (\$25,000), 2-6, 4yo/up, 6f, 1:09.08, ft.

SOLDADO (c, 4, Verrazano--Trishas Even {SP}, by Even the Score) was purchased for \$80,000 at the Fasig-Tipton Turf Showcase Sale as a yearling and was picked up by Steve Young for just \$8,000 at the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic 2-Year-Old Sale. The bay won smartly on debut over this track and trip 369 days ago, defeating subsequent **'TDN Rising Star'** and stakes winner Honest Mischief (Into Mischief). Let's Go Stables bought in as Young's partner following that effort and Soldado finished third in his first try against winners for his new connections going a mile here Mar. 3. Last seen finishing fourth in a two-turn test at Oaklawn Apr. 12, he displays a steady series of drills at Palm Beach Downs in the interim, most recently breezing a bullet five panels in 1:01 flat (1/6) Jane. 31, and was bet down to even-money to make a winning return here. Away well from his rail draw, the bay was sent up to take control from the longshot pacesetter and clicked off an opening quarter in :22.76. Cruising through a half in :45.30, Soldado was challenged by Travelling Midas (Quality Road) turning for home, but he shrugged off that foe under a hand ride from Luis Saez and sailed clear to win by 2 1/2 lengths. It was the fourth win on the card for Saez. The winner's dam produced a Quality Road colt in 2018 and a Street Sense colt in 2019. She was bred back to City of Light. Sales history: \$80,000 Ylg '17 FTKTUR; \$8,000 2yo '18 EASMAY. Lifetime Record: 4-2-0-1, \$61,590. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#), sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-A 1 A Racing and Let's Go Stables; B-Jim FitzGerald & Katie FitzGerald (VA); T-Todd A. Pletcher.



IN ORDER OF PURSE:

9th-Oaklawn, \$85,000, Msw, 2-6, 3yo/up, 1m, 1:40.24, gd.
HIDDEN TALENT (c, 4, Giant's Causeway--Chase the Punch, by Two Punch) finished fifth in his Nov. 24 unveiling at Churchill Downs and was given an 9-1 chance here. Seizing the early advantage, the homebred was pressed through a first half-mile in :47.86. Shaking free of that foe entering the stretch, the chestnut was confronted by firster Santos Dumont (Street Sense) and those two battled to the wire with Hidden Talent eeking out a nose success. The winner's dam Chase the Punch is a half-sister to the dam of two-time Horse of the Year California Chrome (Lucky Pulpit). The 13-year-old mare produced a Hard Spun colt in 2017 and an Into Mischief filly in 2019. She was

bred to American Freedom last spring. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, \$53,850. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#), sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O/B-Gary & Mary West Stables Inc. (KY); T-Wayne M. Catalano.

U.S.-BRED/SIRED RUNNERS IN JAPAN



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

Saturday, February 8, 2020

2nd-KYO, ¥9,680,000 (\$88k), Maiden, 3yo, 1800m

QUALITY TIME (JPN) (f, 3, Quality Road--Gypsy {GB}, by Distorted Humor) is out of a winning daughter of Glia (A.P. Indy), a stakes winner and GSP in both France and America, and was acquired in utero for \$35K at Keeneland November in 2016. From the family of MGISW Emollient (Empire Maker), SW & MGISP Hofburg (Tapit) and Machiavellian, Quality Time was a respectable third on course-and-distance unveiling last month and gets a positive rider switch to Yutaka Take. *B-Tomita Bokujo*

2nd-TOK, ¥11,400,000 (\$104k), Newcomers, 3yo, 1400m

LECCE BAROQUE (f, 3, Uncle Mo--My Fast One, by Elusive Quality) is out of a half-sister to SW No Mo Dough (Uncle Mo) and cost Carlo Vaccarezza \$410K as a KEESEP yearling before fetching \$525K as an OBS March breeder (co-bullet :9 4/5). Bred on the same cross responsible for GISW Gomo and Grade III winner Lost Raven, the January foal gets the endorsement of top rider Christophe Lemaire. *B-MMM Stables (KY)*

PRECIOUS GIRL (f, 3, Speightstown--Pressurizing, by Henrythenavigator), a \$375K Fasig-Tipton November weanling acquisition by Hugo Merry Bloodstock in 2017, is out of an unraced daughter of Vertigineux (Kris S.), whose daughter Zenyatta (Street Cry {Ire}) was the 2010 U.S. Horse of the Year and three-time Eclipse Award-winning older mare who retired with 19 victories from her 20 career starts and over \$7.3 million in earnings. Zenyatta's older half-sister Balance (Thunder Gulch) was herself a treble Grade I winner, while the stakes-winning Where's Bailey (Aljabr) went on to become the dam of GSW She's Not Here (Street Cry {Ire}). *B-Gilgai Farm (KY)*

Sunday, February 9, 2020

3rd-KYO, ¥13,830,000 (\$126k), Allowance, 3yo, 1200m

PINGXIANG (c, 3, **Speightstown**–Beauty and Light, by **Unbridled's Song**) hit the board in three of his first four career starts, all on the turf, but most recently switched to the dirt to best fellow US-bred Primo d'Arc (Bernardini) by two lengths over track and trip Jan. 18 ([video](#), gate 12). A \$100K KEESEP yearling after his dam was sold for \$260K at KEENOV with the colt in utero in 2016, the chestnut descends from the same female family as MGSW/MGISP Munnings (Speightstown) and MSW & MGSP Munnings Sister (Speightstown). *B-Dream With Me Stables Inc (KY)*

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Special Lady, f, 3, **Pioneerof the Nile**. See "Britain".

Fore Left, c, 3, **Twirling Candy**. See "TDN Europe Worldwide".

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SECOND-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7

American Pharoah (Pioneerof the Nile), Ashford Stud, private
 318 foals of racing age/29 winners/5 black-type winners
 6-Oaklawn, Msw 6f, CHAIN MOVER, 3-1
 \$400,000 KEE JAN wnl
 5-Santa Anita, \$75K Baffle S., 5 1/2ft, PHAST PHAROAH, 5-2
 \$120,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$120,000 RNA OBS MAR 2yo; \$175,000
 FTS ANA 2yo

Bayern (Offlee Wild), Hill 'n' Dale Farms, \$15,000
 157 foals of racing age/24 winners/0 black-type winners
 8-Laurel, Wmc 6f, GOLAZO, 7-2

8-Laurel, Wmc 6f, SELF AWARENESS, 8-1

Bourbon Courage (Lion Heart), Anchor & Hope Farm, \$5,000
 93 foals of racing age/10 winners/1 black-type winner
 8-Laurel, Wmc 6f, METAL MAGICIAN, 10-1
 \$22,000 EAS OCT yrl; \$37,000 EAS MAY 2yo

Chitu (Henny Hughes), Bridlewood Farm, \$4,500
 88 foals of racing age/6 winners/0 black-type winners
 7-Tampa Bay Downs, Aoc 1mT, SILVER TUNES, 20-1

Commissioner (A.P. Indy), WinStar Farm, \$7,500
 162 foals of racing age/19 winners/3 black-type winners
 8-Laurel, Wmc 6f, COMMISSIONER BIGGS, 4-1
 \$60,000 KEE NOV wnl; \$60,000 FTK JUL yrl; \$50,000 OBS APR
 2yo

Competitive Edge (Super Saver), Ashford Stud, \$12,500
 155 foals of racing age/32 winners/4 black-type winners
 1-Aqueduct, Msw 7f, DANGEROUS EDGE, 9-2
 \$45,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$150,000 FTF MAR 2yo
 6-Aqueduct, Aoc 6f, FIERCE LADY, 7-5
 \$52,000 KEE JAN wnl; \$75,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$170,000 RNA OBS
 MAR 2yo; \$725,000 RNA FTK HRA 2yo

Constitution (Tapit), WinStar Farm, \$40,000
 233 foals of racing age/30 winners/5 black-type winners
 4-Tampa Bay Downs, Msw 1m, FASHION RULES, 5-2
 \$185,000 KEE NOV wnl; \$175,000 RNA KEE SEP yrl; \$145,000
 RNA OBS APR 2yo
 2-Kentucky Derby Future Wager, \$3000K GI Kentucky Derby
 Future Wager Pool 2, 1 1/4m, GOUVERNEUR MORRIS, 30-1
 \$200,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$600,000 FTF MAR 2yo
 2-Kentucky Derby Future Wager, \$3000K GI Kentucky Derby
 Future Wager Pool 2, 1 1/4m, INDEPENDENCE HALL, 10-1
 \$100,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$200,000 RNA FTF MAR 2yo
 2-Kentucky Derby Future Wager, \$3000K GI Kentucky Derby
 Future Wager Pool 2, 1 1/4m, TIZ THE LAW, 8-1
 \$110,000 SAR AUG yrl

Conveyance (Indian Charlie), Buck Pond Farm, \$3,500
 69 foals of racing age/5 winners/0 black-type winners
 6-Aqueduct, Aoc 6f, LEAVEUWITHASMILE, 4-1
 \$8,000 KEE JAN wnl; \$52,000 KEE SEP yrl

Danza (Street Boss), Fair Winds Farm, \$2,500
 140 foals of racing age/14 winners/2 black-type winners
 7-Turfway, Aoc 1m, MY GOOD GIRL, 8-1
 \$32,000 FTK HRA 2yo



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Honor Code (A.P. Indy), Lane's End Farm, \$30,000
 213 foals of racing age/16 winners/1 black-type winner
 2-Kentucky Derby Future Wager, \$3000K GI Kentucky Derby
 Future Wager Pool 2, 1 1/4m, HONOR A. P., 30-1
 \$850,000 FTS AUG yrl
 2-Kentucky Derby Future Wager, \$3000K GI Kentucky Derby
 Future Wager Pool 2, 1 1/4m, MAX PLAYER, 20-1
 \$150,000 RNA KEE SEP yrl
 4-Gulfstream, Msw 5fT, POWER OF MAGIC, 10-1

Imagining (Giant's Causeway), Anchor & Hope Farm, \$7,500
 98 foals of racing age/6 winners/1 black-type winner
 8-Laurel, Wmc 6f, HINTING, 12-1

Karakontie (Jpn) (Bernstein), Gainesway Farm, \$10,000
 130 foals of racing age/13 winners/3 black-type winners
 7-Turfway, Aoc 1m, LAS RAMBLAS, 3-1
 \$5,000 KEE JAN wnl; \$16,000 OBS OCT yrl; \$40,000 OBS APR 2yo

Liam's Map (Unbridled's Song), Lane's End Farm, \$35,000
 232 foals of racing age/20 winners/2 black-type winners
 2-Kentucky Derby Future Wager, \$3000K GI Kentucky Derby
 Future Wager Pool 2, 1 1/4m, BASIN, 30-1
 \$150,000 KEE SEP yrl

Mr Speaker (Pulpit), Lane's End Farm, \$10,000
 79 foals of racing age/12 winners/0 black-type winners
 2-Kentucky Derby Future Wager, \$3000K GI Kentucky Derby
 Future Wager Pool 2, 1 1/4m, THREE TECHNIQUE, 50-1
 \$50,000 KEE NOV wnl; \$180,000 FTK JUL yrl

Moonshine Mullin (Albert the Great), Lake Hamilton Equine
 Center, \$1,000
 30 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners
 2-Oaklawn, Msw 6f, SHOOT ME STRAIGHT, 12-1

Night of Thunder (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}), Kildangan Stud, \$25,000
 180 foals of racing age/29 winners/8 black-type winners
 7-Tampa Bay Downs, Aoc 1mT, BREDENBURY (Ire), 3-1
 11,000gns TAO CT yrl

Normandy Invasion (Tapit), Pin Oak Lane Farm, \$2,500
 79 foals of racing age/4 winners/0 black-type winners
 2-Oaklawn, Msw 6f, ARKANSAS INVASION, 20-1
 6-Aqueduct, Aoc 6f, BELLA INVASION, 30-1
 \$4,700 KEE JAN wnl; \$15,000 RNA FTK OCT yrl; \$9,000 EAS MAY
 2yo

Outstrip (GB) (Exceed And Excel {Aus}), Dalham Hall Stud,
 \$5,000
 197 foals of racing age/23 winners/1 black-type winner
 7-Tampa Bay Downs, Aoc 1mT, OUTBURST (GB), 6-1
 €25,000 ARA V2 yrl

Palace (City Zip), Spendthrift Farm, \$5,000
 152 foals of racing age/22 winners/1 black-type winner
 3-Delta Downs, Msw 6 1/2f, DIAMOND PALACE, 9-2
 \$105,000 FTK JUL yrl

Palace Malice (Curlin), Three Chimneys Farm, \$25,000
 211 foals of racing age/21 winners/2 black-type winners
 2-Kentucky Derby Future Wager, \$3000K GI Kentucky Derby
 Future Wager Pool 2, 1 1/4m, STRUCTOR, 30-1
 \$160,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$850,000 OBS MAR 2yo

Race Day (Tapit), Spendthrift Farm, \$7,500
 145 foals of racing age/20 winners/4 black-type winners
 3-Delta Downs, Msw 6 1/2f, TAPIT ON RACE DAY, 12-1
 \$5,500 RNA ESL YRL yrl

Seek Again (Speightstown), Stroud's Lane Farm
 17 foals of racing age/3 winners/0 black-type winners
 7-Tampa Bay Downs, Aoc 1mT, CHICK'S SHADOW, 8-1
 \$34,000 RNA OBS OPN 2yo

Sky Kingdom (Empire Maker), Darby Dan Farm, \$5,000
 79 foals of racing age/5 winners/0 black-type winners
 4-Gulfstream, Msw 5fT, CHEZ PAREE, 15-1
 \$26,000 FTK JUL yrl; \$22,000 OBS MAR 2yo

Summer Front (War Front), Airdrie Stud, \$10,000
 181 foals of racing age/21 winners/2 black-type winners
 7-Tampa Bay Downs, Aoc 1mT, SUMMER CLOTHES, 9-2
 4-Gulfstream, Msw 5fT, SUMMER IN THE CITY, 4-1

Tapiture (Tapit), Darby Dan Farm, \$7,500
 246 foals of racing age/30 winners/2 black-type winners
 2-Kentucky Derby Future Wager, \$3000K GI Kentucky Derby
 Future Wager Pool 2, 1 1/4m, PREMIER STAR, 50-1
 \$105,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$100,000 OBS OPN 2yo

Tonalist (Tapit), Lane's End Farm, \$15,000
 179 foals of racing age/20 winners/1 black-type winner
 7-Turfway, Aoc 1m, MAGGIE'S MONARCH, 15-1

Wicked Strong (Hard Spun), Spendthrift Farm, \$6,000
 232 foals of racing age/30 winners/1 black-type winner
 4-Gulfstream, Msw 5ft, MUDSLIDE WICKED, 3-1
 \$3,000 KEE SEP yrl



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ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

7th-Oaklawn, \$86,000, (S), 2-6, (NW1\$X), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:11.65, gd.

WHENTHEDOVESCRY (g, 5, Got the Goods--Dove Shot, by Graeme Hall) Lifetime Record: 19-5-3-5, \$143,330.
 O-Ten Strike Racing; B-Richard P Hesse (AR); T-Shea Stuart.

5th-Fair Grounds, \$46,000, (NW1X)/Opt. Clm (\$17,500), 2-6, 3yo/up, f/m, 1m 70y, 1:44.41, my.

RAZEENA (f, 4, Malibu Moon--Pink Palace, by Empire Maker)
 Lifetime Record: SP-UAE, 11-2-2-2, \$118,973. O-Stonestreet Stables LLC; B-Anderson Farms Ont. Inc. (ON); T-Brad H. Cox.
 *\$27,000 RNA Ylg '17 KEESEP; \$185,000 2yo '18 OBSAPR;
 \$225,000 3yo '19 KEENOV.

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4th-Fair Grounds, \$43,000, (S), 2-6, (C), 4yo/up, f/m, 1m (off turf), 1:39.91, my.

MR. AL'S GAL (m, 6, Salute the Sarge--Spanish Ice {MSP, \$133,920}, by Spanish Steps) Lifetime Record: MSW, 27-12-4-4, \$566,900. O-Brittlyn Stable, Inc.; B-J. Adcock & Neal McFadden (LA); T-Jose M. Camejo. *\$1,000 Ylg '15 ESLMIX.

4th-Delta Downs, \$40,000, (S), 2-5, (NW2L), 4yo/up, f/m, 5f, :59.94, ft.

SILVER SQUALL (f, 4, Apriority--Dickson Street, by Storm Boot)
 Lifetime Record: 5-2-1-0, \$52,280. O-Robin Lane

Thoroughbreds, LLC; B-Channon Farm, LLC (LA); T-Lee Thomas.
 *\$6,200 Ylg '17 ESLYRL.

3rd-Charles Town, \$32,000, (S), 2-5, (C), 4yo/up, 1 1/16m, 1:47.61, ft.

NORTH ATLANTIC (g, 7, Ghostzapper--Capricha, by Pleasant Colony) Lifetime Record: 42-16-13-9, \$555,652. O/B-Coleswood Farm, Inc. (WV); T-Jeff C. Runco. *Full to North Atlantic, SW, \$555,652; and Navigate, SP, \$193,977.

5th-Oaklawn, \$24,000, Wcl (NW13M)/Opt. Clm (\$8,000), 2-6, 4yo/up, 1 1/16m, 1:46.26, gd.

MUCHO MACHO DAN (g, 8, Macho Uno--Rizzi Rose, by El Prado {Ire}) Lifetime Record: 70-11-12-13, \$192,637. O-Charles Garvey; B-Empire Equines, LLC (KY); T-Robertino Diodoro.
 *\$4,000 Ylg '13 KEESEP.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Muad'dib, g, 3, **Fiber Sonde**--Holy Pow Wow, by Indian Charlie. Charles Town, 2-5, (S), 7f, 1:27.81. B-John McKee (WV).
 *1ST-TIME STARTER. **Full to Late Night Pow Wow, MGSW, \$700,400.

First Rate, c, 3, **Honor Code**--Lemon Liqueur (SP), by Exchange Rate. Gulfstream, 2-6, (C), 1m, 1:37.66. B-Branch Equine, LLC (KY). *\$125,000 Ylg '18 KEESEP; \$160,000 2yo '19 OBSAPR.

Win Ya Win, g, 3, **Star Guitar**--Wild About Marie (MSW, \$328,629), by Wildcat Heir. Delta Downs, 2-5, 5f, :59.85. B-Brittlyn, Inc. (LA). *\$75,000 RNA Ylg '18 OBSOCT; \$77,000 RNA 2yo '19 OBSAPR. **1ST-TIME STARTER. ***Full to Wild About Star, SW, \$190,200; and Minit to Stardom, GSW, \$476,180.

Alphadora, f, 4, **Alpha**--Hidden Queens, by Northern Spur (Ire). Aqueduct, 2-6, (S), 1m, 1:39.27. B-Coffee Pot Stable (NY).
 *\$20,000 RNA Ylg '17 OBSOCT.

Consigned by **McMAHON of Saratoga** THOROUGHBREDS

U S Funds, f, 4, **Central Banker**--Color Vision, by Noonmark. Charles Town, 2-5, (S), 4 1/2f, :54.76. B-Ronney W. Brown (WV).

Eleventeetime, f, 4, **Uncle Mo**--Crozet (SW, \$113,175), by Charismatic. Oaklawn, 2-6, (WC), 1 1/16m, 1:48.62. B-Dennis O'Neill (KY). *\$80,000 Wlg '16 KEENOV; \$22,000 RNA Ylg '17 KEESEP.



DID YOU KNOW?

Mucho Gusto (Mucho Macho Man) was tabbed as a "TDN Rising Star"

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Travis T. Tygart
Chief Executive Officer
USADA

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“The road to reform starts with independence. Since our founding in late 2000, we at USADA have advocated for a clear separation between those who promote sport and those who police it.

To do so otherwise, we believe, is to encourage the fox to guard the henhouse.”

- **Travis Tygart**



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ALL **TDN** WINNERS
BY SIRE

ALPHA, Alphadora, f, 4, o/o Hidden Queens, by Northern Spur (Ire). MSW, 2-6, Aqueduct
APRIORITY, Silver Squall, f, 4, o/o Dickson Street, by Storm Boot. ALW, 2-5, Delta Downs
CENTRAL BANKER, U S Funds, f, 4, o/o Color Vision, by Noonmark. MSW, 2-5, Charles Town
FIBER SONDE, Muad'dib, g, 3, o/o Holy Pow Wow, by Indian Charlie. MSW, 2-5, Charles Town
GIANT'S CAUSEWAY, Hidden Talent, c, 4, o/o Chase the Punch, by Two Punch. MSW, 2-6, Oaklawn
GHOSTZAPPER, North Atlantic, g, 7, o/o Capricha, by Pleasant Colony. ALW, 2-5, Charles Town
GOT THE GOODS, Whenthe dovescry, g, 5, o/o Dove Shot, by Graeme Hall. ALW, 2-6, Oaklawn
HONOR CODE, First Rate, c, 3, o/o Lemon Liqueur, by Exchange Rate. MCL, 2-6, Gulfstream
MACHO UNO, Mucho Macho Dan, g, 8, o/o Rizzi Rose, by El

Prado (Ire). WCL, 2-6, Oaklawn
MALIBU MOON, Razeena, f, 4, o/o Pink Palace, by Empire Maker. AOC, 2-6, Fair Grounds
SALUTE THE SARGE, Mr. Al's Gal, m, 6, o/o Spanish Ice, by Spanish Steps. ALW, 2-6, Fair Grounds
SKY MESA, Grumps Little Tots, g, 4, o/o W W American, by Quiet American. AOC, 2-6, Aqueduct
STAR GUITAR, Win Ya Win, g, 3, o/o Wild About Marie, by Wildcat Heir. MSW, 2-5, Delta Downs
UNCLE MO, Elevententeetime, f, 4, o/o Crozet, by Charismatic. WMC, 2-6, Oaklawn
VERRAZANO, Soldado, c, 4, o/o Trishas Even, by Even the Score. AOC, 2-6, Gulfstream



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Soldado scores off the layoff at Gulfstream Thursday | Ryan Thompson

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DIRT NO PROBLEM FOR MG1SW BENBATL



Benbatl | DRC/Erika Rasmussen

Godolphin's MG1SW **Benbatl (GB)** (Dubawi {Ire}), trying dirt for the first time in the 1900-metre G2 Al Maktoum Challenge R2, answered that surface question emphatically, drawing off to win by two lengths over **Military Law (GB)** (Dubawi {Ire}) at Meydan on Thursday. 2018 GI Belmont S. runner-up **Gronkowski** (Lonhro {Aus}) ran third, 6 3/4 lengths behind after a wide trip.

Part of the early pace discussion from the bell, Christophe Soumillon settled his mount in a perfect position in third just off the tempo set by dueling leaders **Chiefdom** (The Factor) and **Roman Rosso (Arg)** (Roman Ruler). Roman Rosso gained a narrow advantage midway on the backstretch and clung on grimly as the field hit the half-mile pole and began to turn toward home. Chiefdom continued to press Roman Rosso, but Benbatl under Christophe Soumillon loomed up ominously three deep and stuck his head in front with just under 500 metres to go. Given a couple of left-handers, Benbatl surged away, with only Military Law cutting into the margin late. Gronkowski was best of the rest, covering 10 metres more than the winner on Trakus. It was revealed on Wednesday that the 6-year-old and Gronkowski both had entries in the \$20-million Saudi Cup on Feb. 29.

"He was the best horse in the field by far," said Soumillon. "For sure, it was the first time on the dirt, but when the horses are really good, they can handle both surfaces." [Cont. p2](#)

LOGICIAN RETURNS TO GOSDEN AFTER RECOVERING FROM PERITONITIS

Undefeated 2019 G1 St Leger hero **Logician (GB)** (Frankel {GB}), who races in the Juddmonte colours of Prince Khalid Abdullah, has returned to the John Gosden yard after being treated for peritonitis, *Racing Post* reported on Thursday. Also a winner of the G2 Great Voltigeur S. in August, the grey 4-year-old's return to the races will be a bit delayed, but he is likely to appear by early summer.

"Logician was successfully treated for peritonitis which can be a serious condition," said Prince Khalid Abdullah's racing manager Lord Teddy Grimthorpe. "I'm pleased to say he's been cleared by the vets and is now back with John Gosden. There's nothing to suggest that this is ongoing and basically you're either clear of it or you're not." [Cont. p3](#)

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

WOODFORD TEAM VOTING FOR INDEPENDENCE

Chris McGrath speaks with Shannon Castagnola, Director of Marketing and Client Relations for Woodford Thoroughbreds, on GIII Sam F. Davis S. contender **Independence Hall** (Constitution).

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(KSA)

G2 Al Maktoum Challenge R2 Cont. from p1

Added the Belgian reinsman, “He has good gate speed, which is important for dirt racing. He was cruising the whole way. I was worried on the back straight, because he didn’t change legs properly—I had to force him twice to stay on his right leg. On the last turn, he stayed on his right leg for 200m, so I was little disappointed. Finally, he changed and when I came into the straight, I could feel straight away that he was able to run away and he did quite impressively.”

Added bin Suroor, who was winning his 12th Al Maktoum Challenge R2, “It’s good to see him really travel well and win that easily. To see the jockey, who rode Thunder Snow (Ire) (Helmet {Aus}) to win the last two Dubai World Cups, ride him with confidence and in the last three furlongs he’s still on the bridle shows his class. We have always known he’s a special horse on the turf, but Sheikh Mohammed wanted to run him on the dirt to see how he would run and it was a good decision from the boss. He handled it well and Christophe kept him handy in the race, which was the plan for him. He won it well, thank God. It was a good decision.”

The Saeed bin Suroor trainee, victorious in the 2018 G1 Preis Bayerisches Zuchtrennen in Munich, and the G1 Ladbrokes S. Down Under that October, filled the bridesmaid role in the G1 Cox Plate in the wake of Winx (Aus) (Street Cry {Ire}) that year. Returned to the Northern Hemisphere and given 11 months off, the bay saluted in the Sept. 27 G2 Joel S. at HQ, before being unable to cope with the heavy going in Ascot’s G1 Queen Elizabeth II S. on Oct. 19 and finishing last of 16. He had opened his season with a 4 3/4-length victory in the local G2 Singspiel S. over 1800metres on grass on Jan. 9.

Pedigree Notes

One of 41 top-level winners for his Dalham Hall-based sire, Benbatl appears poised to be the first to add a Group 1 dirt crown to his turf haul. Dubawi’s Hunter’s Light (Ire) captured both the G1 Jebel Hatta on turf and the G1 Al Maktoum Challenge R3 during his racing days, but the latter was contested over a Tapeta synthetic surface. The first foal out of English highweight, G1 Flower Bowl Invitational S. and G1 Prix de l’Opera heroine Nahrain (GB) (Selkirk), Benbatl is one of two winners from three foals to race. Nahrain has a juvenile filly by Sea The Stars (Ire) and a yearling filly by Dubawi (Ire). His second dam, Bahr (GB) (Generous {Ire}) a two-time group winner, ran second in the G1 Epsom Oaks and third in the Irish equivalent in 1998.

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A **Group 1** Classic winning miler
By the sire of **SEA THE STARS**

Awtaad

First crop yearlings in 2019 made up to **350,000gns, €400,000** and at the major sales averaged **€93,000** (44 sold)

THE PLAUDITS CONTINUE...



Martin Stevens picks out some temptingly priced sires...

FIRST TWO-YEAR-OLDS IN 2020

The vote among the more expensive members of this category goes to **AWTAAD**, who achieved the **highest debut yearling average price** in Britain and Ireland this year ... and the **best profitability** index, with that figure more than **six times** his introductory fee of €15,000.

The Classic-winning son of Cape Cross has good ammunition to go to war with in 2020, with 120 mares covered in his first season including **29 black-type performers**. He stands at Derrinstown Stud at an unchanged price of €15,000.

RACING POST EXTRACT – 16/12/2019



He's value for 2020 at €15,000 (1st Jan. SLF)



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IN TDN AUS/NZ TODAY

REDZEL ON TRACK FOR RETURN

Redzel (Aus) (Snitzel {Aus}) is training well in advance of his return to the races. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Aus/NZ.](#)

Thursday, Meydan, Dubai

AL MAKTOUM CHALLENGE R2 SPONSORED BY MUBADALA-G2, \$450,000, Meydan, 2-6, NH4yo/up & SH 3yo/up, 9 1/2f, 1:56.80, ft.

1--**BENBATL (GB)**, 126, h, 6, by **Dubawi (Ire)**

1st Dam: Nahrain (GB) (Hwt. Filly-Eng at 9 1/2-11f, GISW-US, SW-Eng, G1SW-Fr, GSP-Ire, \$1,041,961), by Selkirk

2nd Dam: Bahr (GB), by Generous (Ire)

3rd Dam: Lady of the Sea, by Mill Reef

O-Godolphin; B-Darley (GB); T-Saeed bin Suroor; J-Christophe Soumillon. \$270,000. Lifetime Record: Hwt. Older Horse-Eur & UAE at 7-9 1/2f, 2x Hwt. Older Horse-Eng at 7-9 1/2f, Hwt. Older Horse-Ger at 9 1/2-11f, MGSW-Eng, G1SW-UAE, Aus & Ger, 20-10-3-1, \$5,715,821. **Werk Nick Rating: A. Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree.**

IRT Thanks for flying IRT. Phone +1 630 377 2300

2--**Military Law (GB)**, 126, g, 5, **Dubawi (Ire)**--Marine Bleue (Ire), by Desert Prince (Ire). (900,000gns RNA Ylg '16 TAOCT; 110,000gns HRA '19 TATJUL). O-Nasir Askar; B-Qatar Bloodstock Ltd (GB); T-Musabbeh Al Mheiri. \$90,000.

3--**Gronkowski**, 126, c, 3, Lonhro (Aus)--Four Sugars, by Lookin At Lucky. (\$75,000 Wlg '15 KEENOV; 50,000gns Ylg '16 TATOCT; 300,000gns 2yo '17 TATBRE). O-Phoenix Thoroughbred III & Khalid bin Mishref; B-Epic Thoroughbreds LLC (KY); T-Salem bin Ghadayer. \$45,000.

Margins: 2, 6 3/4, 3HF.

Also Ran: Roman Rosso (Arg), Montsarrat (Ire), For the Top (Arg), Chiefdom, Kimbear, Saltarin Dubai (Arg), New Trails.

Click for the Racing Post chart or the free Equineline.com catalogue-style pedigree. Video.

EUROPEAN NEWS

Logician Cont. from p1

He added, "There seemed to be no obvious reason for it and he seems fine now. Obviously, he'll be a little behind schedule, but he was unraced as a 2-year-old and in normal circumstances I doubt John would've been in a great hurry with him anyway. We'll play it by ear but going forward I don't have anything but normal concerns about him. I suppose if he was ever going to get these things, winter is the ideal time."

When asked about the colt's return, Grimthorpe said, "I hate putting dates on these things as it's early days, but I doubt he'd be out until June or July." [Cont. p4](#)

Logician Cont.

The intestinal disease, which results from a puncture to the protective membrane surrounding the intestines or abdominal cavity, can be fatal if not treated rapidly.

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Whilst there are many possible routes that horses may take on leaving training, the first step is to identify those that have been retired from the sport. Today’s announcement represents an important and significant improvement in this area and will mean we can ensure our record keeping is as accurate and up-to-date as possible.”

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BHA EXPANDS RETIRED RACEHORSE REGISTRATION

The British Horseracing Authority has expanded its online system of registering retired racehorses to allow trainers, in addition to owners, to lodge information on where their charges are headed for their second careers. Under the previous system, only owners had been able to register this information. The new system, which debuts on Feb. 13, is designed to improve the traceability of horses permanently retired from racing. A [dedicated page](#) on the BHA’s website, which will go live in March, will allow participants to check the retirement status of any horse.

David Sykes, director of equine health and welfare at the BHA, said, “At all stages of a racehorse’s life, being able to trace a horse’s whereabouts is vital in demonstrating responsibility and commitment to the long-term welfare of our equine athletes.

TARAGH BRADY NEW SALES AND MARKETING EXECUTIVE FOR TATTS IRELAND

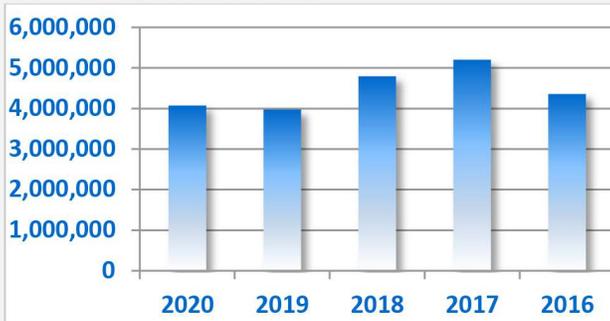
Taragh Brady has been appointed the Sales and Marketing Executive for Tattersalls Ireland, the sales company announced on Thursday. Brady, who will assist in growing the Tattersalls Ireland brand across all digital platforms besides client requirements, began her new role on Feb. 3. A Marketing & Event Management graduate of the Dublin Business School, the Meath native previously held the position of marketing manager for a Dublin-based company. Brady has also been part of the Tattersalls Ireland sales day rostrum and bloodstock team for the past six years.

“Taragh was the outstanding candidate for the role and brings a wealth of bloodstock knowledge and social media expertise,” said Tattersalls Ireland CEO Matt Mitchell. [Cont. p5](#)



WEEKLY SALES INDEX

GOFFS FEBRUARY SALE



“Trade at the two-day Goffs February Sale mirrored the prevailing trend of polarity in the bloodstock market. Pinhookers dominated the top-end of the yearling trade, with first-season sires—Churchill, Profitable and Ribchester--responsible for three of the top four prices. Castoffs from storied breeders the Aga Khan and Wertheimer et Frere topped the broodmare offerings.”

-Kelsey Riley

YEAR	CAT	RING	SOLD	% W/D	% S/R	% S/C	GROSS	AVE
2020	549	450	293	18%	65.1%	53.4%	€ 4,078,700	€ 13,920
2019	483	386	264	20%	68.4%	54.7%	€ 3,976,150	€ 15,061
2018	633	508	333	19.8%	65.6%	52.6%	€ 4,800,000	€ 14,414
2017	750	619	397	17.5%	64.1%	52.9%	€ 5,208,100	€ 13,119
2016	540	440	291	18.5%	66.1%	53.9%	€ 4,361,750	€ 14,989



Taragh Brady | Tattersalls Ireland

Taragh Brady Cont.

He added, “I firmly believe Taragh will be a tremendous asset to the Tattersalls Ireland marketing team and I look forward to her implementing her ideas.”

“I am delighted to be joining the Tattersalls Ireland team as Sales & Marketing Executive,” added Brady. “I look forward to making a positive contribution to the growth objective of Tattersalls Ireland.”

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SHIUX NATION SIRE COLT

G1SW **Sioux Nation** (Scat Daddy) welcomed a colt out of Thiel (GB) (Teofilo {Ire}) on Jan. 26. Bred and owned by B & B Equine Ltd., the dark bay was foaled at Northmore Stud in Newmarket. His second dam is SW and G1 English 1000 Guineas third Vista Bella (GB) (Diktat {GB}).

“He’s an absolute smashing colt and resembles his sire a lot,” said Northmore’s Sue Elsdon. “If Sioux Nation continues to get foals like him, he’ll be very good sire.”

A winner of the G1 Phoenix S. and G2 Norfolk S., Sioux Nation stands for €12,500 at Coolmore’s Castlehyde Stud in Ireland this year. He was **represented by a filly foal** on Jan. 4.

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COLT FOR JIMMY TWO TIMES

MGSW & G1SP **Jimmy Two Times (Fr)** (Kendargent {Fr}--Steel Woman {Ire}, by Anabaa) sired his first reported foal, a colt, at Gestut Karlshof, *Galopp Online* reported on Thursday. The bay is out of G1SW Baila Me (Ger) (Samum {Ger}), the full-sister to fellow Group 1 winner Be Fabulous (Ger).

Jimmy Two Times stands at Gestut Hofgut Heymann for €5,000 in 2020.

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The Jan. 26 Sioux Nation colt out of Thiel. | Coolmore

BRITAIN

Thursday's Result:

3rd-Newcastle, £5,300, Alw, 2-6, 3yo, 7f 14y (AWT), 1:30.08.

SPECIAL LADY (f, 3, Pioneer of the Nile--Miner's Secret, by Mineshaft), a 50-1 shot on this debut, travelled easily behind the leading duo throughout the early stages. Swooping on Union (Ire) (New Approach {Ire}) approaching the furlong pole, the bay asserted to score by 2 1/4 lengths. The winner is a half-sister to the stakes winner and GII Holy Bull S. runner-up Conquest Titan (Birdstone), SW & GSP-US, \$241,344, and to the GII Amsterdam S. and G2 Godolphin Mile winner Coal Front (Stay Thirsty), MGSW-US, GSW-UAE, \$1,825,280. The dam, who is also a half to the dual graded-stakes scorer Woodlander (Forestry) from the family of the sire Twilight Agenda, also has a 2-year-old colt by American Pharoah named Ram. He fetched \$375,000 when selling to Robert C. Baker & William Mack at the recent Keeneland September Sale. Sales history: \$335,000 RNA Wlg '17 KEENOV; \$390,000 RNA 2yo '19 EASMAY. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$4,458. **Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.** O-Mrs Anita Nicol; B-Michael Edward Connelly (KY); T-John Butler.

Kip Elser's KIRKWOOD STABLES

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Mount Mogan (GB), g, 3, **Helmet (Aus)**--Super Midge (GB), by Royal Applause (GB). Wolverhampton, 2-5, 6f 20y (AWT), 1:13.71. B-Kirtlington Stud & Mrs Mary Taylor (GB). *1/2 to Squash (GB) (Pastoral Pursuits {GB}), MGSP-Eng.

Say it Simple (GB), f, 3, **Iffraaj {GB}**--Nashama (Ire), by Pivotal (GB). Newcastle, 2-6, 6f (AWT), 1:16.89. B-Stetchworth & Middle Park Studs Ltd (GB).

Autumn Trail (GB), f, 3, **Sixties Icon (GB)**--Boleyna, by Officer. Chelmsford City, 2-6, 5f (AWT), 1:00.59. B-Mrs. P Smith (GB).

FRANCE

Thursday's Result:

1st-Mont-de-Marsan, €16,000, **Debutantes**, 2-6, 3yo, 8fT, 1:38.40, sf.

USAk (FR) (g, 3, Al Kazeem {GB})--Qatari Elegance, by Giant's Causeway), sent off at 8-1, broke smartly from his wide stall to gain a prominent position. Committed on the front end at the top of the straight, the 8-1 shot drew away to score by eight lengths from Ippling (GB) (Penny's Picnic {GB}). The winner is the first foal out of a granddaughter of the stellar broodmare Better than Honour (Deputy Minister), dam of Rags to Riches (A.P.

Indy), Casino Drive (Mineshaft) and Jazil (Seeking the Gold). Her yearling filly is by Le Havre (Ire). Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, €8,000. **VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-H H Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani; B-Al Shahania Stud (FR); T-Philippe Sogorb.

CONDITIONS RESULTS:

8th-Mont-de-Marsan, €19,000, 2-6, 4yo/up, 12fT, 2:41.50, sf. **PAPPALINO (FR) (c, 4, Makfi {GB})--Bartira {GB}, by Cape Cross {Ire})** Lifetime Record: SW & GSP-Fr, 10-3-2-2, €105,470.

O-Gerald Laroche & Jean-Louis Quiniou; B-Stud RDI (FR); T-Jerome Reynier. *€18,000 Ylg '17 AROCT.

7th-Mont-de-Marsan, €15,000, 2-6, 4yo, 10fT, 2:14.70, sf.

YMOHTEP (FR) (g, 4, Whipper--Elsa d'Orient {Ire}, by Singspiel {Ire}) Lifetime Record: 4-2-0-0, €13,000. O/B-Patrice Gaillard & Philippe Sogorb; T-Philippe Sogorb.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNER:

Again Music (Fr), f, 3, **Palace Episode--Lucky Game (Fr)**, by Montjeu (Ire). Mont-de-Marsan, 2-6, 10fT, 2:16.80. B-Haras du Logis Saint Germain (FR). *€60,000 Ylg '18 ARAUG. **Full to Music Lover (Fr), SW-Fr, \$118,033.

WORLDWIDE NEWS

TWIRLING CANDY COLT TO THE FORE AT MEYDAN

Two-time GI Kentucky Derby-winning trainer Doug O'Neill made the **ground-breaking move** of sending a string of around a dozen horses to train at Meydan and tackle the three-month Dubai World Cup Carnival this season, and the Southern California-based conditioner got off the mark in the desert on Thursday when **Fore Left** (Twirling Candy) went gate to wire in the one-mile G3 UAE 2000 Guineas. Fore Left carries the colours of Paul Reddam, who also owned both of O'Neill's Derby winners, I'll Have Another (Flower Alley) and Nyquist (Uncle Mo).

Fastest of the 16 away from the 14 gate, Fore Left was eventually able to slip over to the rail under William Buick and held an advantage of a length rounding the turn. Stealing away at the quarter pole, the bay opened up by as much as eight lengths before labouring a bit late, allowing Zabardast (Carpe Diem) to get within 1 1/2 lengths.

A \$97,000 yearling and a \$145,000 2-year-old, Fore Left won his first two starts last year, including the Listed Tremont S. over 5 1/2 furlongs, by 4 1/2 lengths. **Cont. p7**

G3 UAE Derby Cont.

He picked up pattern black-type when third in the GII Best Pal S., but lost some lustre when beaten by open lengths in the GI Del Mar Futurity and GI American Pharoah S. The bay rewarded his connections for lowering their sights a bit when taking Santa Anita’s 6 1/2-furlong Sunny Slope S. on Oct. 20, and after finishing third in the Listed Golden Nugget S. on Nov. 9 he wrapped up a busy juvenile campaign when beaten six lengths in 10th in the GIII Cecil B Demille S.

While O’Neill had to wait until the sixth night of the carnival to visit the winner’s enclosure, his prior runners had made a good account of themselves. His eight runners thus far have accounted for one win, three placings and two fourths. Just 30 minutes after Fore Left’s victory, O’Neill was narrowly denied a double when Blitzkrieg (War Front) was second in the Listed Dubai Sprint.

“That was so cool,” said O’Neill, who was watching back home in the U.S. “I was absolutely going nuts and I’m so happy for Mr. Reddam and for my whole team. I am so proud to be part of a great team with Leandro [Mora, assistant] and Tony Romero and the entire team there and back home in California. What an awesome experience.

“With the post and the way the race was run with a little bend before the backstretch, he had to work a little extra-hard to get into position, so that was very impressive—but that’s why William is a top jockey. He did exactly what he had to do and didn’t overdo it. He got a little tired late, but that probably had a lot to do with what I just mentioned and that he had two months off. This race will do him a world of good. After this, we will see how he comes out. If he’s diving into his feed tub, we may run him one more time [in the \$350,000 Al Bastakiya on Mar. 7], but if for any reason he shows fatigue, we’ll wait for the [G2 UAE] Derby. Dubai has made it so easy for us to relax and enjoy this and I’m a big believer that horses are a reflection of the people around them and this has been a great experience.”



Fore Left as a 2-year-old | *Thorostride*

Pedigree Notes

Fore Left became the second winner on the card, following Bella Fever, out of a daughter of Unbridled’s Song. Fore Left is the first foal for his dam Simply Sunny and is the eighth group/graded stakes winner for Candy Ride (Arg)’s Grade I-winning son Twirling Candy, who stands at Lane’s End Farm for \$40,000. Simply Sunny has a 2-year-old filly by Flatter who was a \$375,000 Keeneland September yearling last year; a yearling colt by Tiznow and was bred to Street Sense for 2020. Simply Sunny is a three-quarter sister to the stakes-winning and GI Florida Derby second Reveron (Songandaprayer). Fore Left’s third dam is the dual Grade III winner Stylish Star (Our Native), who produced the track record-setting stakes winner Stately Star (Deputy Minister) and the GI Oak Leaf S. third Stylish Talent (Forty Niner).

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Fore Left | DRC/Erika Rasmussen

Thursday, Meydan, Dubai

UAE 2000 GUINEAS SPONSORED BY MASDAR-G3, \$250,000,
Meydan, 2-6, 3yo, 8f, 1:38.43, fs.

1--FORE LEFT, 126, c, 3, by **Twirling Candy**

1st Dam: Simply Sunny, by Unbridled’s Song

2nd Dam: Carolina Sunrise, by Awesome Again

3rd Dam: Stylish Star, by Our Native

1ST GROUP WIN (\$97,000 Ylg ‘18 KEESEP; \$145,000 RNA 2yo ‘19 OBSMAR). O-Reddam Racing LLC; B-Machmer Hall (KY); T-Doug O’Neill; J-William Buick. \$150,000. Lifetime Record: 9-4-0-2, \$355,902. **Werk Nick Rating: A+++.** *Triple Plus*. **Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree.**

BRED BY, FOALED AND RAISED AT MACHMER HALL

THOROSTRIDE –featured horse

2--**Zabardast**, 126, c, 3, **Carpe Diem**--Sweet Maya, by Malibu Moon. (\$35,000 Ylg '18 KEESEP; 90,000gns 2yo '19 TATBRE). O-Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed Al Maktoum; B-Popatop, LLC (KY); T-Salem bin Ghadayer. \$50,000.



Elm Tree Farm Sales Graduate

3--**Emblem Storm**, 126, c, 3, **English Channel**--American Girl (Ire), by High Chaparral (Ire). (\$45,000 Ylg '18 KEESEP; \$95,000 2yo '19 OBSAPR). O-Al Bayraq Stable; B-Colts Neck Stables LLC (KY); T-Satish Seemar. \$25,000.



Margins: 1 3/4, 1, SHD.

Also Ran: Lake Causeway, Spirit of Light (Ire), Dark of Night (Ire), Al Modayar, Commanding (Ire), Nocentsinkentucky, Laser Show (Ire), Liam's Legend, Emirates Currency (GB), Good Fighter, Jukebox King, Bullof Wall Street, Colour Image (Ire). Scratched: Far Sky, Grey Flash. **Click for the Racing Post result. Click for the free Equineline.com catalogue-style pedigree. VIDEO.**

DUBAI

Thursday's Results:

DUBAI SPRINT SPONSORED BY CLEVELAND CLINIC ABU DHABI

TROPHY-Listed, \$175,000, Meydan, 2-6, NH4yo/up & SH 3yo/up, 6fT, 1:09.81, gd.

1--**RUSUMAAT (IRE)**, 125, g, 6, **Arcano (Ire)**--**Queen Wasp (Ire)**, by **Shamardal**. **1ST BLACK-TYPE WIN**. (€5,000 wnl '14 GOFNOV; £45,000 Ylg '15 DBSPRM). O-Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum; B-J C Bloodstock (IRE); T-Musabbeh Al Mheiri; J-Dane O'Neill. \$105,000. Lifetime Record: 21-5-6-1, \$305,757.

2--**Blitzkrieg**, 129, g, 5, War Front--Bauble Queen, by Arch. O-R3 Racing LLC & Calara Farms; B-Ramona S Bass, LLC (KY); T-Doug O'Neill. \$35,000.

3--**Roulston Scar (Ire)**, 123, g, 4, Lope de Vega (Ire)--Pussycat Lips (Ire), by Holy Roman Emperor (Ire). (€130,000 Ylg '17 GOFSEP; 78,000gns 2yo '18 TATBRE; 110,000gns HRA '19 TATAUT). O-Abdullah Menahi; B-Epona Bloodstock Ltd (IRE); T-Simon Crisford. \$17,500.

Margins: 1, 1 1/4, 3/4.

Also Ran: Ekhtihaar (GB), Angel Alexander (Ire), Dream Today (Ire), Eqtiraan (Ire), Tour To Paris (Fr), Ambiance (Ire).

Rusumaat sprang an upset in Thursday's Listed Dubai Sprint going 1200 metres at Meydan to register his first victory since July of 2017. Gelded upon completion of that 3-year-old campaign, Rusumaat was on the sidelines for much of 2018 before resurfacing with a second-place finish at Jebel Ali in November with local trainer Musabbeh al Mheiri. Rusumaat ran

just once last year as well, when prepping for the carnival in the Listed Garhoud Sprint on Dec. 5, and he came into this off a well-beaten sixth there and a third, beaten 4 1/4 lengths, in the Listed Dubai Dash on Jan. 23. Breaking with a bang from the far side gate nine, Rusumaat raced prominently under Dane O'Neill tracking the pacesetting Roulston Scar. Swarming that rival at the furlong pole, Rusumaat still had Blitzkrieg to see off on his outside and he toughed out a three-quarters of a length victory over that Doug O'Neill charge on the line.

Rusumaat is the lone stakes horse out of the unraced Queen Wasp, a half-sister to Naheef (Ire) (Marju {Ire}), the winner of three Group 3s in Britain and Dubai's Listed Al Rashidiya S. The third dam, Carduel (Buckpasser), left the G2 Prince of Wales's S. winner Faithful Son (Zilzal) and the G3 Coventry S. and G3 Prix Quincey S. victor Always Fair (Danzig). Her dynasty also includes the G1 Irish Oaks, G1 Nassua S. and GI Flower Bowl Invitational S. winner Lailani (GB) (Unfuwain). Queen Wasp has a 2-year-old colt by Sepoy (Aus) and was barren last year. **Click for the Racing Post result. VIDEO.**



Rusumaat | DRC/Erika Rasmussen

7th-Meydan, Hcp, \$135,000, NH4yo/up & SH 3yo/up, 7fT, 1:23.57, gd.

BEYOND REASON (IRE) (f, 4, **Australia (GB)**--**No Explaining {Ire}** {GSW-US, \$319,850}, by **Azamour {Ire}**), facing males in this class drop, rated in between horses in the tightly bunched field. Gradually taking closer order on the bend, she fanned six wide up the center of the course to deliver her bid, but initially appeared a bit flat. Beginning to make inroads toward the head of affairs as five other rivals looked to have live chances, William Buick timed her run to perfection, as she seized command close home and ultimately a neck to the good of the rapidly closing Laieth (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}), who was a similar margin in advance of Tashweeq (Ire) (Big Bad Bob {Ire}). **Cont. p9**

7th-Meydan Cont.

“She ran very well last time in the [G2] Cape Verdi and didn’t quite get on,” said William Buick. “Tonight she travelled extremely well. She’s a filly with a lot of speed and could possibly drop back to six furlongs if she wanted to. She’s a good filly who’s very game.”

A winner of the G2 Prix du Calvados and G3 Prix Six Perfections as a juvenile, the bay failed to place in her next four starts, all at stakes level including when 12th in the G3 Oak Tree S. at Goodwood last August. Returning off a 167-day break, she ran third after lacking a closing kick in the G2 Cape Verdi here on Jan. 16.

Out of GIII Gallorette H. heroine No Explaining (Ire) (Azamour {Ire}), Beyond Reason is from the extended family of German highweight Wessam Prince (GB) (Soviet Star), third in the G1 Prix de Maurice de Gheest and GI Eddie Read H. second Bayamo (Ire) (Valanour {Ire}). Sales history: 370,000gns Ylg ‘17 TAOCT. Lifetime Record: MGSW-Fr, GSP-UAE, 11-4-0-1, \$257,805. **Click for the Racing Post result. VIDEO.** O-Godolphin; B-Paget Bloodstock (IRE); T-Charlie Appleby.

1st-Meydan, Cond, \$100,000, 3yo, 7fT, 1:23.81, gd.

BELLA FEVER (URU) (f, 3, Texas Fever--Passionbabypassion, by Unbridled’s Song) caused all kinds of trouble behind the starting gate and had to defy a 4 1/2 pound weight penalty as a Southern Hemisphere-bred, but the Uruguayan-born 3-year-old filly remained unbeaten on her local debut with an eye-catching score in this Meydan Classic Trial. Dropping back on the rail after breaking from the inside barrier under Dane O’Neill, Bella Fever traveled keenly five lengths off the lead heading into the turn. Switched out into the three path upon straightening, she employed a sustained drive down the middle of the track and collared Godolphin’s Story of Light (Ire) (Dark Angel {Ire}) inside the final half-furlong before holding off a late rally from Final Song (Ire) (Dark Angel {Ire}) to score by a neck.

Debuting in Uruguay in December of 2018 dashing 650 metres on the dirt, Bella Fever was a remarkable 6 1/4-length winner. She built on that effort six days later with a 3 1/2-length allowance score at Maronas going 1000 metres before picking up a local stake by 12 1/4 lengths the following February. Testing the turf for the first time last March, she picked up another local stake by 4 1/2 lengths before entering quarantine for the trip to Dubai. **Cont. p10**



William Buick celebrates aboard Beyond Reason, his third winner of the night. He was at the controls earlier in the evening of Twirling Candy colt Fore Left in the G3 UAE 2000 Guineas and of Art Du Val (GB) (No Nay Never) in the sixth race. | DRC/Erika Rasmussen



Bella Fever | DRC/Erika Rasmussen

1st-Meydan Cont.

Bella Fever is campaigned by Jorge Wagner’s J Stables, whose colours were also carried to victory at Meydan by Mind Your Biscuits (Posse) in the 2017 and 2018 renewals of the G1 Dubai Golden Shaheen. The bay was making her first start for trainer Mike de Kock, who was for many years a leading light at this meeting but who has scaled his numbers back to just a handful of horses in recent years.

Bella Fever is out of Passionbabypassion, an unplaced daughter of Unbridled’s Song whose second dam, Simply Brilliant (Pulpit), is a winning half-sister to the Grade II-winning and multiple Grade I and Classic-placed Santa Catarina (Unbridled). Under the fourth dam is the European champion 2-year-old filly and triple Group 1 winner Culture Vulture (Timeless Moment). Lifetime Record: 5-5-0-0, \$86,730. **Click for the Racing Post result. VIDEO.**

O-J Stables LLC (Jorge Wagner) & Victor Azambullo; B-El Santo (URU); T-Mike de Kock.

HANDICAP RESULTS:

2nd-Meydan, Hcp, \$135,000, NH4yo/up & SH 3yo/up, 7fT, 1:23.52, gd.

WOVEN (GB) (g, 4, Dutch Art {GB}--Regal Silk {GB} by Pivotal {GB}) Sales history: 24,000gns Wlg ‘16 TATFOA; £22,000 Ylg ‘17 DBSPRM; £48,000 2yo ‘18 GOFAPR. Lifetime Record: 13-2-2-3, \$136,493. **Click for the Racing Post result. VIDEO.**

O-Never Say Die Partnership; B-Cheveley Park Stud Ltd (GB); T-David Simcock.

6th-Meydan, Hcp, \$135,000, NH4yo/up & SH 3yo/up, 9fT, 1:48.77, gd.

ART DU VAL (GB) (g, 4, No Nay Never--Aquarelle Rare {GB}, by Rainbow Quest) Sales history: 120,000gns Ylg ‘17 TAOCT. Lifetime Record: SW-Fr, 7-4-1-0, \$197,572. O-Godolphin; B-D J and Mrs Deer (GB); T-Charlie Appleby.

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REDZEL ON TRACK FOR RETURN



Redzel | Bronwen Healy

By Bren O'Brien

Star sprinter **Redzel** (Snitzel) rounded off his preparations for his racetrack return in Saturday week's G1 Black Caviar Lightning S. with an easy trial win at Randwick on Thursday.

Redzel, a dual winner of Australia's richest race The Everest, will tackle a top-quality field in the Lightning, including G1 VRC Sprint Classic winner Nature Strip (Nicconi) and G1 Manikato S. winner Loving Gaby (I Am Invincible).

He may be seven, but he looks to have lost none of his speed, leading all the way with the blinkers on in his second trial of the campaign to win by 1.5l in a time of :52.52s over the 900 metres, covering the final 600 metres in a slick :33.70s on the soft track.

Quackerjack (Not A Single Doubt), the last start winner of the G2 Villers S. was second, having sat on the pace with Redzel, while the winner's stablemate, the highly rated filly **California Zimbol** (I Am Invincible) was third, another 0.5l adrift. Two other top-quality fillies, **Libertini** (I Am Invincible) and **Funstar** (Adelaide {Ire}), finished fifth and seventh respectively, having sat off the pace and worked home late.

Redzel's co-trainer Peter Snowden was very pleased with how the veteran finished off the trial and he is now set on a path to Melbourne to a race in which he was beaten into second two years ago.

"Everything has been the same as normal with him. He is just a professional horse that enjoys his work and is a great doer," Snowden said. "He still has that zest for racing at the moment so we will keep going one race at a time."

The opening group and listed trial was over 1000 metres and was won by Group 1 placegetter **Greysful Glamour** (Stratum) narrowly from **Sweet Deal** (Casino Prince). Group 1 winning colt **Prince Fawaz** (Fastnet Rock) put in another good trial, finishing third, while 9-year-old **Happy Clapper** (Teofilo {Ire}) came home well out deep as he closes in on another campaign. G1 Australian Oaks winner **Verry Ellelegant** (NZ) (Zed {NZ}) and G1 Australian Derby winner **Angel Of Truth** (Animal Kingdom {USA}) were further back in that trial.

Multiple Group 1 placegetter **Dreamforce** (Fastnet Rock) made it back-to-back impressive trial successes in the 1200 metre Heat 3 and is now destined to resume in the G2 Apollo S. on Saturday week.

Later in the session, Gai Waterhouse and Adrian Bott's promising 3-year-old **Yao Dash** (Smart Missile) returned with a strong trial win over 742 metres. Yao Dash had three starts in his first campaign, winning his first two impressively before finishing fourth in the G1 Golden Rose S.

The Snowden-trained **Sahra** (Hinchinbrook) won the faster of the two 2-year-old open trials over the 1030 metres. As yet unraced, she stopped the clock at 1:02.71, edging out stablemate **Falcon** (Not A Single Doubt).



Kerrin McEvoy, Peter Snowden & Triple Crown's Chris & Michael Ward
Bronwen Healy

The Peter Robl-trained **Shimbashi** (Better Than Ready) withstood the Snowden army to win the other 1030-metre heat in 1:03.68. The Snowdens' **Stunning To Win** (Outreach) ran the fastest of the three 2-year-old trials over the 742 metres, with the filly leading all the way in a time of :43.79s.

The two colts' trials were completed in 44.46s, with the Aquis-owned and Gerald Ryan-prepared **Kumasi** (Snitzel) winning one and the John Thompson-trained **Mamaragan** (Wandjina) the other.

Mamaragan's trial featured a strong return from G3 Breeders' Plate runner up **Postcode** (Vancouver), who led most of the way, as well as a good finish from the \$2.8-million colt **Mount Fuji** (Snitzel), who put his recent difficult racetrack debut behind him.

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AUSTRALIAN GROUP 1 RACES – 2020		
Date	Race	Track
Feb. 8	G1 C. F. Orr S.	Caulfield
Feb. 15	G1 Black Caviar Lightning S.	Flemington
Feb. 22	G1 Ladbrokes Blue Diamond S.	Caulfield
	G1 Ladbrokes Oakleigh Plate	Caulfield
	G1 Futurity S.	Caulfield
Feb. 29	G1 Australian Guineas	Flemington
	G1 TAB Chipping Norton S.	Randwick
	G1 Surround S.	Randwick
Mar. 7	G1 Newmarket H.	Flemington
	G1 Australian Cup	Flemington
	G1 Mostyn Copper Randwick Guineas	Randwick
	G1 Canterbury S.	Randwick
Mar. 14	G1 Coolmore Classic S.	Rosehill
Mar. 20	G1 William Reid S.	The Valley
Mar. 21	G1 Longines Golden Slipper S.	Rosehill
	G1 The Agency George Ryder S	Rosehill
	G1 Ranvet S.	Rosehill
	G1 The Galaxy S.	Rosehill
	G1 Sky Racing Rosehill Guineas	Rosehill
Mar. 28	G1 Tancred S.	Rosehill
	G1 Vinery Stud S.	Rosehill





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