TDN
THOROUGHBRED DAILY NEWS
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2020

AMERICANS DRAWN MID-FIELD IN SAUDI CUP

Maximum Security | *Saudi Cup*

by Jessica Martini

They traveled thousands of miles to get there, but the four main American contenders will all start within feet of each other in Saturday's inaugural $20-million Saudi Cup at King Abdulaziz Racetrack in Riyadh after post positions were drawn Wednesday evening in Saudi Arabia. Bloom Racing Stable, Madaket Stables and Allen Racing's champion filly **Midnight Bisou** (Midnight Lute) will break from post six, while 2019 champion 3-year-old **Maximum Security** (New Year's Day) will break from post seven and Bob Baffert stablemates **Mucho Gusto** (Much Macho Man) and **McKinzie** (Street Sense) drew posts eight and nine, respectively.

Maximum Security's trainer Jason Servis said, "I'm good with the post. I probably would have preferred a little more outside, but that's fine. We were drawn seven in the [GI] Florida Derby, the [GI] Kentucky Derby, the [GI] Haskell and now the Saudi Cup. We'll see what happens."

Baffert was reflecting on the irony of the American contenders drawing side-by-side.

"I find it interesting that all the Americans drew together six, seven, eight and nine," he said. "They're going to have to bring their A-games; you can't show up with your B-game."

Also representing the U.S., Juddmonte Farm's **Tacitus** (Tapit), who has impressed while training in the desert this week, drew post two. ***Cont. p3***

ZAYAT RECEIVER ARGUES POWERS NOT BROAD ENOUGH

By T.D. Thornton

A Friday hearing could bring much-needed clarity to the $23 million lawsuit against Ahmed Zayat and his financially troubled Zayat Stables, LLC, regarding whether or not the court-appointed receiver in the Kentucky case should be allowed to have broadly expanded legal powers over racing and breeding stock.

But instead of categorically fighting the receiver's Feb. 18 motion for more control over his horse business, lawyers for Zayat on Feb. 20 filed a response that asked a Fayette Circuit Court judge to grant that motion in part and to deny it in part.

"The requested changes in some instances go too far and in others not far enough," the defendants' court response states, citing "strict prohibition on payment of trainers and other accounts receivable" and "receiver immunity" as the two main objections. ***Cont. p5***

IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

CROSS COUNTER DRAWS RAIL IN SAUDI

The Melbourne Cup winner will break from gate one in a field of 14 in the $2.5-million Longines Turf Handicap on Saturday.

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TODAY in the TDN
THOROUGHBRED DAILY **NEWS**

Thursday, February 27, 2020

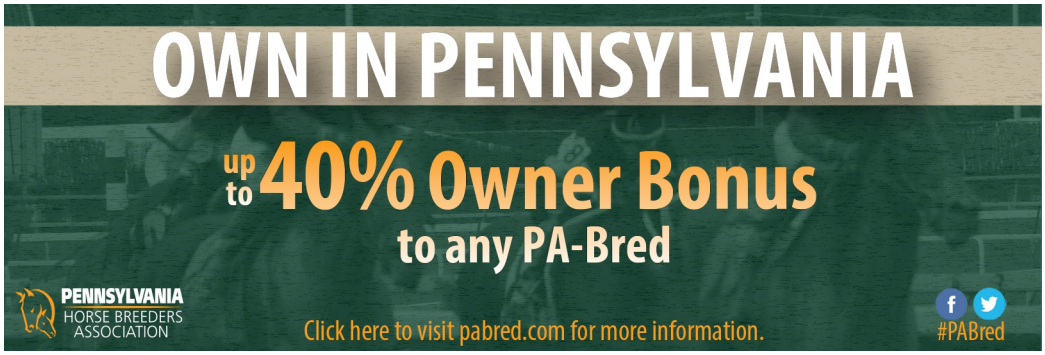
Scott Blasi feeds a peppermint to Midnight Bisou (Midnight Lute) on Wednesday morning at King Abdulaziz Racetrack in Riyadh. Bloom Racing Stable, Madaket Stables and Allen Racing's champion filly will break from post six in Saturday's inaugural $20-million Saudi Cup. | *Jockey Club of Royal Saudi Arabia/Doug De Felice*

MIKE LIGHTNER'S CHANCE OF A LIFTIME 7

Chris McGrath profiles horseman Mike Lightner, who purchased GII Fountain of Youth S. contender Chance It (Currency Swap).

TODAY'S GRADED STAKES

EST	Race	Click for	TV
11:50a	**Nad Al Sheba Trophy-G3**, MEY		



Americans Draw Mid-Field in Saudi Cup cont. from p1

Tacitus | *Saudi Cup*

"I think it's fine for our horse," said Riley Mott, who is deputizing for his father, trainer Bill Mott. "There are probably several others in the field that will show some early speed and he'll get outrun to the front anyway, but it's a long run into the turn and a long way for the jockeys to sort themselves out. I think It'll be alright.

"We blew him out Tuesday," Mott added. "He went in a pretty snappy time of :35 with a gallop-out of :48 3/5. He looked like he was galloping through the stretch. It didn't seem he was going that fast, but good horses will do that. He's generally not that aggressive of a work horse and he was by himself. Given those factors, it was very impressive."

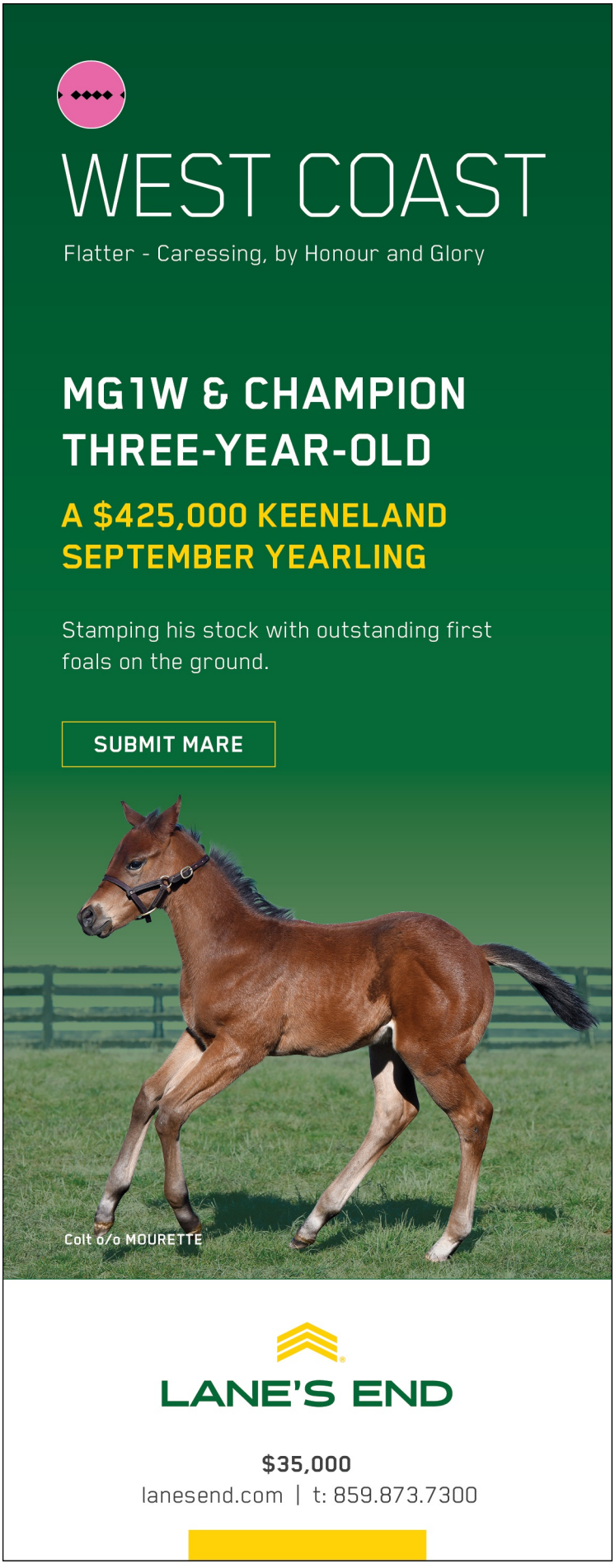
Tacitus, who made a habit of finding trouble for himself, while consistently hitting the board, in most of last year's major sophomore races, will be making his first start since finishing third in the GI Jockey Club Gold Cup last September at Belmont Park.

The gray colt, a son of Juddmonte's champion Close Hatches (First Defence), has acclimated well since shipping to Saudi Arabia last week, according to the 28-year-old Mott.

"He settled in immediately," Mott said. "He's very professional in that regard. His appetite has been good, his temperature has been good. Legs are clean. He's moving sound. He seems to get over the track very well. When the horse gets over it, he doesn't seem to be 'spinning his wheels' or struggling. It seems like a good surface as far as I can tell."

While Midnight Bisou, Maximum Security, and McKinzie will all be making their 2020 debuts in the 1800-meter Saudi Cup, Mucho Gusto is coming off an authoritative victory in the Jan. 25 GI Pegasus World Cup Invitational.

Baffert, who was on hand trackside in Riyadh for the first time Wednesday morning, said he has been impressed by the 4-year-old's recent progress which culminated with the break-out win at Gulfstream Park last month. ***Cont. p4***



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Americans Draw Mid-Field in Saudi Cup cont.

Mucho Gusto | *Saudi Cup*

"Mucho Gusto has really changed a lot," Baffert said. "These last three months I've seen a big change in him. He's filled out. He's just changed for the better. You could tell from that last work right before the Pegasus Cup Invitational a light went on in him. The way he ran. He's always shown up. He's always run hard. He'll be right there."

Mucho Gusto will be making his second start for Prince Faisal Bin Khaled after beginning his career for Michael Lund Petersen, for whom he won four Grade III races at two and three.

Another veteran of the Pegasus World Cup card going postward in the Saudi Cup is the globe-trotting Irish mare **Magic Wand (Ire)** (Galileo {Ire}), who drew post 12 in the 14-horse field. The 5-year-old, campaigned by Michael Tabor, Susan Magnier and Derrick Smith, has won or placed in Group 1 races in Australia, Hong Kong, the U.S., Ireland and France. She will be making her first start on dirt following a runner-up effort in the GI Pegasus World Cup Turf Invitational.

Reflecting on the draw, Aidan O'Brien representative Pat Keating said, "There's a big long straight and she's very versatile. We've got a great jockey and the surface is very good out there. Hopefully we get a bit of luck."

Godolphin's **Benbatl (GB)** (Dubawi {Ire}), a Group 1 winner on three continents, took to the dirt with aplomb in his most recent start, winning the G2 Al Maktoum Challenge Round 2 at Meydan Feb. 6. The 6-year-old will break from post three Saturday.

"It would mean a lot for us to win," trainer Saeed Bin Suroor said. "It is the first ever Saudi Cup and the first big international race in Saudi. It is a very important race and would be important for us to see him run well and win. He has been a very good Group 1 horse for us and very versatile. I'm very happy with him and I think he will give a good run."

The Saudi Cup will be televised live on FOX Sports 1 at Noon ET (DIRECTV ch. 219, Dish ch.150) with the undercard airing on TVG.The Saudi Cup will be televised live on FOX Sports 1 at Noon ET (DIRECTV ch. 219, Dish ch.150) with the undercard airing on TVG.

Share this story

Zayat Reciever Argues Powers Not Broad Enough cont. from p1

The Zayat legal team is arguing that the receiver's inability to negotiate and/or pay off comparatively small horse-expense bills is--in at least one case--causing a Grade I-placed colt to be "held hostage" over a boarding bill.

Other lower-denomination disputes over things like unpaid veterinary bills could potentially cause a racing commission to suspend the Zayat Stables' racing license, which if enforced in reciprocity in other states, would prevent the outfit's racehorses from earning purses and boosting their value.

"Zayat Stables has never objected to a liquidation of assets, but believes it must be done in an orderly fashion that maximizes the value of the equine collateral," the response states.

The plaintiff in the loan-default suit, MGG Investment Group, LP, had requested and was granted court-appointed receivership Jan. 22 as part of its civil suit against Zayat and his family-involved business.

Lexington-based Elizabeth Woodward, the director of forensic accounting and litigation support for Dean Dorton, one of the largest certified public accounting firms in Kentucky, was appointed as the receiver.

Every court order appointing a receiver is different, and the one Woodward is working under directs her to take possession of the collateral and maximize its value. The receiver works for and reports to the court, not any of the parties in the case.

The Zayat legal team had attempted to get the court to dissolve the receivership order Feb. 6, but the judge would not allow it.

Woodward stated in court documents that as of Feb. 14, she "has transitioned from the asset location phase of her work to sales and racing of the horses under her control."

But now that Woodward is delving into the horse-management phase, she is finding that she needs broader powers to do her job, according to her Feb. 18 motion.

"Over the course of her work, the Receiver and her agents have been contacted by many parties informing her of their claims and asserting first rights to sale proceeds and receivables," her motion states. "Based on the frequency of demands and the heightened interest spurred by the Receiver's first sales at Fasig-Tipton Mixed Sale, the Receiver predicts these conflicting claim demands will only increase as more sales occur and proceeds are recovered.

"The Receiver submits that determining lien validity, priority and payment entitlement beyond payment of statutory liens for agisters and veterinary service is beyond the Receiver's duties set forth in the Order. Not only are questions and claims against the proceeds of sales increasing, the Receiver is in receipt of notice that some parties intend to keep possession of assets unless paid, seemingly in contradiction of the terms of this Court's Order," the motion states. ***Cont. p6***

2-YEAR-OLD IN TRAINING SALE SCHEDULE FOR NTRA ¼% CHECK-OFF CONTRIBUTIONS

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OBS – Spring Sale of Two-Year-Olds in Training; Ocala, FL – April 21-24

Fasig-Tipton – Midlantic Two-Year-Olds in Training; Timonium, MD – May 18-19

Fasig-Tipton – Santa Anita Two-Year-Olds in Training; Arcadia, CA – June 3

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Zayat Reciever Argues Powers Not Broad Enough cont.

The original motion that appointed Woodward states that "The Receiver and any party hereto may, at any time, on proper notice to the parties hereto, apply to this Court for further or other instructions and for further power necessary to enable the Receiver to properly fulfill the Receiver's duties."

So on Feb. 18, Woodward asked for that receivership order to be modified. Her nine-point plan includes the following key requests:

- The authorization to "administer, sell, preserve, make racingdecisions or otherwise maintain the Property."
- Relief from "any personal liability in connection with anyliabilities, obligations, liens, citations, code violations, or amounts owedto any of Zayat Stables' creditors…or other claimants."
- Not being liable for "the payment or nonpayment of goods orservices provided to Zayat Stables prior to the date of the original Order" and clarification that any "individual or entity receiving a copy of this Order is hereby enjoined and restrained from discontinuing service to the Receiver or the Property based upon non-payment of such goods…"
- In the event of a sale of any assets, being allowed to makepayments from net proceeds "from the specific asset to be sold, for servicesassociated with the care, feed, grazing, lodging, (Agister's Lien)," and that "to the extent related parties claim competing or conflicting liens, the Receiver is not charged with determining the validity, priority, or payment of and for these liens…"
- Clarification that "Along with her employer, employees, agentsand attorneys, the Receiver shall not have claims asserted against her relating to the Receiver's duties under this Order, except for claims due togross negligence, gross or willful misconduct, or failure to comply with this Court's orders."

The legal response from the Zayat attorneys two days later challenged the part of the modification that "would preclude the Receiver from making any payments on past accounts receivable under any circumstances while forcing trainers or other providers to continue to provide services."

Such a provision "is overly harsh and goes well beyond the restrictions typically placed on receivers or trustees," the Zayat response states. "As a result, it has the significant possibility of affecting the equine collateral adversely."

This "strict prohibition," the response states, "is likely the result of MGG's efforts to minimize its costs rather than maximize value. MGG made very clear at the hearing on the Motion to Dissolve that its funds should not be used to pay past receivables. The proposed language caters to that demand. But it goes too far and precludes the Receiver from effectively carrying out her duties in a way that maximizes recovery."

"By way of example, some of the most valuable horses owned by Zayat Stables are 3-year-old-colts, including several trained by Steve Asmussen," the response states. "One of those, Gozilla (Flatter) raced as a 2-year-old in Grade I races that typically include [GI] Kentucky Derby quality horses. Mr. Asmussen asked for Gozilla to be shipped to him in mid-January so he could return to training, but apparently has not received him.

Gozilla | *Sarah Andrew*

"This appears to be due to a position taken by WinStar Farm that it will not release any Zayat Stables horses boarded at WinStar because it is owed approximately $33,000," the response states. "Gozilla alone could be worth millions of dollars if allowed to race, but is effectively being held hostage because the Receiver does not have the flexibility to negotiate a relatively small past due bill in exchange for the possibility of increasing value by millions of dollars."

Gozilla RNA'd for $170,000 at KEESEP, was bought by Zayat Stables for $150,000 at FTKOCT, then RNA'd for $395,000 at OBSAPR. The colt broke his maiden at Saratoga, then ran third in the GI Hopeful S. and fourth in the GI Champagne S. Gozilla's ownership as of his last start, according to Equibase, is a partnership of Zayat Stables and Gary Barber.

"Another example perhaps even more egregious is the inability of the Receiver under the proposed Order to resolve minor disputes that could have catastrophic consequences to the recovery of proceeds," the response continues. "Following MGG's initiation of these proceedings and Amended Complaint, several trainers and veterinarians have filed complaints with the California Horse Racing Board [CHRB]. Some of these are for amounts less than $5,000. ***Cont. p7***

Zayat Reciever Argues Powers Not Broad Enough cont.

Ahmed Zayat with American Pharoah | *Christie DeBernardis*

"If the CHRB moves forward with a hearing, one of the possible penalties is suspension or revocation of Zayat Stables' racing license," the response states. "That racing license is a valuable asset in the possession of the Receiver that allows Zayat Stables horses to race and increase in value, yet under the proposed Order she would be precluded from making payments in the thousands of dollars in order to avoid potential suspension or revocation."

The Zayat response suggests a different modification: "Rather than the strict prohibition proposed by the Receiver and supported by MGG, Zayat Stables requests language that would give the Receiver discretion in those circumstances where she determines payment of past due amounts are in the best interest of maximizing the value of the assets…"

Regarding the receiver's request for "broad immunity" for her acts and for those working under her, the Zayat response instead asks the court to put "negligence" on the list of things the receiver could be liable for (as opposed to "gross negligence" that is written into the receiver's proposed modification).

"In the Motion and Proposed Amended Order, the Receiver asks for broad immunity for her acts and the acts of those working under her, which would presumably include [consultant Gatewood] Bell," the response states. "The Receiver and Mr. Bell are professionals being asked to perform services within their professional duties and are being compensated for doing so.

"Given the importance of the task at hand and the need to make critical decisions in order to maximize value, it is reasonable to expect the Receiver and those working for her to perform within the standard of care for their professions and as other reasonable prudent Receivers and consultants would perform," the response states. "As such, Zayat Stables requests that the broad immunity requested by the Receiver be narrowed so that the Receiver is not immune from claims based on negligent performance of her duties…"

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MIKE LIGHTNER'S CHANCE OF A LIFETIME

by Chris McGrath

No doubt about it: if he can keep going the way he has started, this horse has the potential to open plenty of doors onto our sport. Pending any such breakout, however, let's first acknowledge a man on the inside--one quite likely to be lost from growing attention should Chance It add another unfeasible chapter to his story in the GII Fasig-Tipton Fountain of Youth S. Saturday.

Chance It's journey, to this point, has the potential to engage a wider public precisely because it has been so divergent from the road typically taken by a champion Thoroughbred--such a forbidding one, to the layman, in terms of expense and expertise. He is owned by a syndicate of $2,500 shareholders, many of them complete novices. His dam was salvaged from an adoption program. And his sire, Currency Swap, disappeared a couple of years ago to South America.

If Chance It can propel himself from the periphery of the Kentucky Derby picture, even Mary Lightner might tire of telling the story. It is, admittedly, a remarkable one: the dart thrown by Fred Pace's stepson at Darby Dan, winning a free season to Jersey Town; Fred giving $250 to rehome a suitable mare; Mary sitting beside a lady in an empty diner, who proved willing to take on the mare as Fred quit breeding; who then sent her to Currency Swap; and the resulting colt being acquired for Mary's new power-to-the-people syndicate, Shooting Star Thoroughbreds.

But the one protagonist who links all the others, while keeping himself modestly in the background, could not be closer to the coalface of the business; to the unsung, arcane, day-to-day chiseling of a living from the discovery of talent in cheaper seams of pedigree.

Cont. p8

Chance It winning the Mucho Macho Man | *Lauren King*

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2	**CENTRAL BANKER** **$7,500**	**4**	**1**	**99**	**46** **[46.46]**	**$4,538,461**
3	Mucho Macho Man $10,000	3	1	72	38 [52.78]	$4,436,577
4	Cairo Prince $25,000	4	2	142	64 [45.07]	$4,414,077
5	Cross Traffic $15,000	7	2	98	47 [47.96]	$4,335,247
6	Flashback $3,500	1	2	96	40 [41.67]	$3,366,593
7	Will Take Charge $15,000	2	5	106	38 [35.85]	$2,975,756
8	Noble Mission (GB) $20,000	1	1	59	16 [27.12]	$2,967,326
9	Fed Biz $7,500	5	2	110	48 [43.64]	$2,889,854
10	Strong Mandate $5,000	2	1	82	45 [54.88]	$2,502,295

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Lightner cont.

As such, of course, Mary's father Mike Lightner understands the odds against Chance It even becoming the horse he is already--a nine-length maiden winner, a seven-length stakes winner--his comeback form already boosted by the third-place finisher Sole Volante (Karakontie {Jpn}), who won the GIII Sam F. Davis S. next out.

For here is a horseman who has paid his dues. Mike first took out a trainer's license back in 1969. In fact, he saddled the very first winner to graduate from the Kentucky Training Center, then still home to the Kensington Sales.

"I never trained a whole lot of horses," Mike recalls. "I started at the Training Center with three. I went to River Downs, Turfway, Woodbine. But I never had a chance because I was raising a family, and anytime a horse would show something, we'd sell it. That's the business I've always been in. Just to develop them and then sell them to other people. Sent a lot of them, over the years, to Vladimir Cerin out in California, Pete Miller, Mark Casse and I have been friends forever, since he was about 18. I predicted he would be in the Hall of Fame, and I'm going to be right. Hopefully, this year."

Mike Lightner and Fred Pace | *Courtesy Lightner Family*

One day, an elderly man drove up to the training center and started talking to his father. Mike was busy: galloping, mucking out. His father came over and explained that Mr. Eachus was from Las Vegas, and wanted him to look over some horses at the sale. Mike rolled his eyes, but had a scout around. Nothing. But Eachus came back for the Keeneland summer sale, asking for two colts at $20,000 apiece.

"Well, Mr. Eachus, I don't know if we can do that. We might get one filly for 40."

And that's just what Mike did: a filly by Silent Screen, a grandson of Princequillo and champion juvenile in '69. Eachus named her Taisez Vous, and she won 11 of 17 starts for Robert Wheeler, six of them graded stakes, including the GI La Canada S. Not bad, for Mike's first ever buy.

He wasn't even from a horse family: his father was a tool and die maker. But they lived on a small farm, at Becknerville in Clark County, and Mike loved riding. Quarter Horses, barrel racers, jumpers. Already as a schoolboy he would ride work at Keeneland.

"I loved horses my whole life," Mike says. "They were the only toy I ever wanted to play with, as a kid. I bought my first broodmare in 1966 from a guy named Henry Alexander, who stood Our Michael and kind of took me under his wing. Once she foaled, he guided me through the whole thing. He was a big help because I didn't have anybody in front of me. But I wasn't going to take no for an answer. I'd pick anybody's brain. I'd sit on a feed tub or a water bucket in a shedrow and just talk to every old groom I could."

And always a trader. He'd go through advertisements in the bloodstock publications, looking for one guy wanting to sell and another wanting to buy, hoping he could be the middle man. T.A. Grissom, leading owner at 14 Keeneland meets, always called him Lightning. "Lightning," he would say. "Just find one thing in this business that you're good at-and stick with that."

"And I didn't," recalls Mike with a grin. "I stood stallions, I had broodmares, I've tried every phase of it. But my knack, I think, was picking. I don't know if I'm going to like how this will sound, but I picked out a bunch of good horses over the years. I bought Northern Afleet as a baby, and broke him. Treekster, won the California Derby. Of course, my name's not on all of them. Some I bought as agent for other people. I don't know, I counted one time, there was 50 or 60 [stakes winners]. But really that's what I should have done the whole time."

Those he did sign for included Captain Squire (Flying Chevron) and Bluesthestandard (American Standard), for $13,500 and $20,000, respectively. Both became millionaires; once they finished second and third in the same Grade I race. But Mike married young, started a family and always had bills to pay; always had to sell.

Eventually, in 1992, they moved to Florida; started pinhooking, prepping. He quit training: there was "a bad test," one time, but he didn't want to raise his daughters on the backstretch anyway, not with all that rough language. In the event, even so, both Mary and Molly ended up in the horse business; and likewise his son, Raymie, who is also a bloodstock agent. Molly worked for West Point Thoroughbreds and now assists Becky Thomas at Sequel New York; while Mary trained a small string between 2014 and last year.

One of Mary's best moments as a trainer was the debut success at Churchill Downs of Trenton Traveler--the son of Jersey Town delivered by Vagabon Diva (Pleasantly Perfect), the mare Fred Pace had adopted to exploit that dart at Darby Dan. Pace had kept a small band of broodmares for years. ***Cont. p9***

Lightner cont.

Mary Lightner, Saffie Joseph Sr., Saffie Joseph Jr. & Tyler Gaffalione
Ryan Thompson

"Though he was actually trying to get out of the business when all that happened," Mike says. "Fred's the best. We've been friends our whole lives. We rode ponies together. I was very close with his father Leon."

When Trenton Traveler won, Mary was straight onto the phone to her father: "You need to find that mare and take a look at her weanling."

By this time Vagabon Diva had been passed along to Bett Usher, the lady with whom Mary had got chatting in the diner that time. It had turned out that Bett had just been on foal watch at a local farm; and that she knew Mike from O.B.S. After being given the mare, Bett and her sister had her covered by Currency Swap; and, after delivering a colt, she was now in foal to Prospective.

Mike and Raymie went along to the small paddock Bett rented for Vagabon Diva and her weanling, along with one other mare and a donkey. And they couldn't believe what they found. They had to chance it.

"Oh, he was awesome," remembers Mike, shaking his head. "I've bought a lot of horses, and he was really a good one from the beginning. When we were breaking him, I had like 20 babies there, and I'd tell people: 'I'll bring Chance out there, and if I tell you I paid $200,000 for him, you wouldn't doubt it a minute.' He is so beautiful. And I think he's 17 hands now."

While they were about it, they also bought the Prospective foal in utero. Both would go into Mary's new syndicate venture. (Unfortunately, Vagabon Diva has lost consecutive foals since, but she is still only 12 and booked to Bucchero this spring.) While Shooting Star Thoroughbreds was not looking to compete at the same level as West Point, the idea was to generate a similar buzz from an affordable piece of the action.

"Not long ago I told Terry Finley that when he started West Point, I thought it was the stupidest idea I'd ever heard," Mike admits. "Who in the world would want to own 1% of a horse? But the answer is: a lot of people. Terry just laughed and said, 'Well, I'm glad I didn't listen to you!'"

The blue-collar complexion of Chance It's ownership--he was one of three horses divided into 100 shares, held by people from all walks of life--would invite obvious media traction should he put himself on the Derby trail.

"The whole premise is to try and bring more people in the game," explains Mary. "There's a lot of people that are intimidated, for whatever reason. Financially, or just not having the connections, or the knowledge how to go about it. A lot of the people in our syndicate, they aren't real versed in it. But, we tell them there's no such thing as a stupid question, and they feel comfortable with that.

"Of course, we've been lucky to get a bit of recognition because of Chance. People have been reaching out to get involved. Some people do call and their first question is: 'What kind of return can I expect on my investment?' You pretty much know right away that it's not really the thing for them. Hopefully, they might make some money, but they've got to know it's really about enjoying themselves."

Mike emphasizes how the shareholders love the certainty of a one-off, up-front payment. Nowadays, moreover, they can watch their horses from anywhere; can ask their pals over for a beer round the television. True, when they fly in for the big races, they are liable to crowd out the winner's circle; but Mary commends Gulfstream for making everybody welcome.

Astonishingly, the debut syndicate's three horses also included Island Commish (Commissioner), a $32,000 yearling--trained, like Chance It, by Saffie Joseph, Jr.--who was cashed in after winning a second time for Shooting Star and has since won a Grade III. And the other one, who cost even less, was placed in all three starts for Peter Miller. Mike, plainly, retains an undimmed eye for a young horse. ***Cont. p10***

Mike and Mary Lightner | *Courtesy Lightner Family*

Lightner cont.

Emma, Mary & Joe Lightner with Chance It | *Lightner family photo*

The one unexpected challenge was that everyone would want to retain Chance It, who duly required a small supplementary costing to cover his sophomore fees.

"The original shares were $2,500, and they can sell the horse for a million," says Mike. "But while people accept that $10,000 would be a good return, they want to go through and see what happens."

So far, after his return in the Mucho Macho Man S., so good. Mike never thought of Chance It as a mere sprinter, and loves the way he galloped out; and the way he has trained since.

"I think Mary has managed the horse really well," he says. "She made great decisions in hiring Saffie, and getting Tyler [Gaffalione] to ride, and skipping the Breeders' Cup. You can get pressure from everybody that's got one share. Mary loves them, she's so kind and considerate to them. But she will always tell them that we're only going to do what's best for the horse."

Shooting Star is now filling new syndicates of three and two juveniles respectively--the first comprising colts by First Dude and Brethren and a Constitution filly, again at $2,500 for 1%; the second, an Uncaptured filly and Chance It's brother by Prospective, trading 2.5% shares at $9,000--as well as a pinhooking partnership, with four short-yearling fillies by Runhappy, Upstart, Noble Bird and Shakin It Up.

Last year's debut pinhooking package made 42% in eight months. But even that financial dividend pales next to the deeper rewards of Chance It. Privately, Mike has seen too much of a hard business to resist a spiritual view of the advent of this horse. A fateful signpost was even legible in the pedigree of Vagabon Diva, who herself came into their lives so adventitiously: her fourth dam happens to be grand-dam of one of his best finds, Northern Afleet.

"Though probably the closest to a champion I bought was the first one ever, Taisez Vous," he says. "But yeah, Chance could be the best. The thing is that if I owned all of him, I would have sold him for $100,000 when he broke his maiden. Because that's what I've done my whole life.

"You know, I've owned a lot of good horses. But I did sell them. They're perishable, so that's what I do. But this partnership Mary's put together, they didn't want to sell. The thrill--that's what they signed up for. If they want to make some money, they go sell another car or whatever else they do to make a living.

And some of them are our lifelong friends. So that joy of victory, hugging each other and stuff, really makes it even more exciting. Fred came into it. Billy Ballard, he's a dentist, we went through high school together; raised our kids together. Over the last 50 years we've all been through our ups and downs. So that's why I don't think this is just coincidence, or luck. I know this isn't always a popular belief, in horse circles, but for me it's a blessing from God. And it's no telling, what the horse might do."

Share this story

THE NOMINATION STRUGGLE

All week in this ongoing series, we have been talking to stallion managers and others about the difficulties in filling books for stallions other than first-year and premier stallions.

BERNIE SAMS, CLAIBORNE FARM

Bernie Sams | *Keeneland photo*

Cont. p11

The Nomination Sturggle - Bernie Sams cont.

In terms of the difficulties of filling books for third- and fourth-year stallions, I would say that we have been lucky this hasn't really been a problem at Claiborne. However, I have seen it be tricky for some of our less-expensive stallions. The different incentive programs that other farms offer have probably hurt us because breeders can breed elsewhere for deep discounts and that's something we have tried to avoid. I think we do two things that help us fill these books.

First, we try to price them with the third and fourth year in mind when they first begin at stud. When we start the horse off, we don't set the fee to get as much as we can get the first year, just to lower it the third and fourth year. For example, Mastery and Runhappy have both been set at $25,000 all along. Many stallions have gone through our program and have had the same fee for their first four years.

My point is, when we set the fee the first year, we set it at a number that will create demand and still be able to maintain a steady book of mares for the next few years. People hate it when a horse is set for one price the first two years and then that fee is cut in half for the third and fourth year. I get that frustration and it's not fair to our loyal customers.

Runhappy | *Sarah Andrew*

Secondly, our book size is smaller than what you may see elsewhere. A big book at Claiborne would be 143 mares, which is how many Mastery had last year. Runhappy had 127. I think this also helps create demand in the first few years.

We've been lucky that the weanlings from these stallions have sold well. They've been in demand and have had good averages, which may be because there hasn't been an overabundance of them. The fact that we set the fees at reasonable prices allows us to pick and choose through the mares the first couple years. This creates a buzz so that people will breed to them in the third and fourth year.

Mastery is in his third year and he's full. Runhappy is in his fourth year, and he's also full. He may be a bit of a different beast in that Mr. Mclngvale has marketed this horse like no other stallion has been marketed before. I think another thing that helped Runhappy at the yearling sales was the $100,000 bonus for winning an open maiden race at Saratoga, Del Mar, or Kentucky Downs.

When you consider filling books for our older proven stallions, I would say it's been difficult not just this year, but that it has been this way for a few years. For the middle-range proven horses, I think that limiting book size will push breeders back into the more proven horses. The change in the book size is much needed.

If you look at the expensive stallions for this year, it's different in that we have 10 stallions in Kentucky that stand for over $100,000, and right now they're probably not all full for what their farms would like them to be. Five years ago, there were four stallions that stood for over $100,000. These 10 stallions will probably breed 1,500 mares of those stallions several will breed well in excess of 150 mares. Therefore, in a couple years several of these stallions are going to have a lot of high-dollar stud fee yearlings going through the ring that the breeders won't make money on. I just wonder if spreading those mares out would help everyone in the long run.

When you get to the sales and see an overabundance of offspring from certain expensive stallions, it certainly can't help their averages and it doesn't help whoever is trying to sell offspring by that stallion. It seems like the bottom 25% of the yearlings by those stallions sell at a loss.

Everybody in this business likes to breed to the fashionable horses, the ones that will sell well. They're looking for the stallion that they can make the biggest score with. I think some of these "middle of the road" proven horses are hurt because they're considered to be to vanilla. You can try to sell them, but you won't get people going crazy over them like you will for something by a freshman sire. You end up taking mares for these workmanlike stallions that you wouldn't normally take, and this really doesn't do anyone any good.

The book size change is a long time coming. Years ago, people would get upset when a farm would syndicate a stallion and there would be 75 to 80 mares in a book. Then when Alydar started breeding over 100 mares, people just couldn't believe it. When you think about it, even a horse like Danzig wouldn't be able to make it in today's breeding world. By not giving some of these sound, well-bred Grade III or Grade II winners a chance eliminates a horse like Danzig or others to make an impression on the breed because you can't get enough mares.

So the book size change would help certain stallions get opportunities they wouldn't get otherwise by spreading mares around. Is it going to help drastically the first year? Maybe not right at first, but it will certainly help down the road.

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RESTLESS RIDER RETIRED

Restless Rider | *Sarah Andrew*

Grade I winner **Restless Rider** (Distorted Humor--Silky Serenade, by Unbridled's Song) has been retired from racing and will be bred to Quality Road, owners Fern Circle Stables and Three Chimneys Farm announced Wednesday.

"Restless Rider is representative of what we are looking to do at Three Chimneys--to race top quality horses with like-minded partners, and to share the ups and downs together," said Three Chimneys chairman Goncalo Torrealba. "We are honored to be partners with Paul Fireman's Fern Circle Stables, and to have won a Grade I race like the Alcibiades together. She was a top-class filly and an extremely talented 2-year-old. That coupled with the success Distorted Humor has had as a broodmare sire makes her a very exciting prospect. We hope the best is yet to come."

A debut winner at Churchill Downs in June of 2018, Restless Rider was tabbed a '**TDN Rising Star**' next out when romping in that venue's Debutante S. three weeks later. Runner-up in that term's GI Spinaway S., the $150,000 KEESEP buy captured the GI Darley Alcibiades S. and was second to subsequent champion Jaywalk (Cross Traffic) in the 2019 GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies S.

Closing out her juvenile campaign with a second in the GII Golden Rod S., Restless Rider completed the exacta in the GI Central Bank Ashland S. last spring and was shelved for the season following an off-the-board finish in the GI Kentucky Oaks. The Ken McPeek trainee was unplaced in her lone start this term in the GIII Royal Delta S., but retires with a record of 9-3-4-0 and earnings of $894,160.

"She's a really special filly and we're proud of what she accomplished," said McPeek. "Fern Circle winning their first Grade I while partnering with Three Chimneys team was great. I'm sure she will be a great broodmare as well. Her kind of talent is hard to find."

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DERBY-WINNING JOCKEY RAY YORK DIES

Ray York (Right) & Johnny Longden | *Benoit*

Raymond York, who rode Determine to victory in the 1954 Kentucky Derby at the age of 20, has died following a one-year battle with pneumonia at an extended care facility near Bakersfield, CA. He was 86.

"Ray passed away peacefully this past Sunday," said Michael McKay, York's longtime girlfriend. "He loved racing so much and all the people he had known over the years, but we haven't been able to visit Santa Anita for several years due to his health," she added. "We had a great time together and we traveled quite a bit. We went to China, Ireland, Italy, Nova Scotia, Alaska and we visited England three times. Ray was so much fun, always laughing and always talking."

Born Nov. 23, 1933 in Gloucaster, Massachusetts, won major stakes on both coasts and was considered among the leading riders of his era, which included Bill Shoemaker, Johnny Longden, Eddie Arcaro, Donald Pierce, Bill Hartack, Milo Valenzuela and others.

"In his day, Ray could ride with anybody," said trainer Clay Brinson from his Turf Paradise. "Ray had great instincts and he was a big-money jock, no question. As a kid, he was one of the guys I looked up to and learned from. I rode with him in California and Chicago and he won a lot of races for my dad [trainer Ross Brinson]. Ray had a great personality and he gave everybody their money's worth, owners, trainers and the people betting on the horses."

York recorded his first major Santa Anita stakes win with Phil D. in the 1952 San Antonio H. Also winning the 1954 Santa Anita Derby with Determine, he won his renewal of the race in 1959, aboard the Hall of Fame filly Silver Spoon, with whom he partnered to victory in that season's Santa Anita Oaks. A winner of the 1964 Hollywood Gold Cup aboard Colorado King, York was a three-time leading rider at Del Mar (1957, 62 & 64) and would shift his tack to Turf Paradise in the late '60s, where he won seven races in one day in 1970. ***Cont. p13***

Ray York cont.

Throughout a career which spanned seven decades, York won 26 added money events at Santa Anita, placing him 34th on the track's all-time list. He also was voted the winner of Santa Anita's George Woolf Memorial Jockey Award in 1955.

Riding for close friend and trainer Henry Moreno--who also passed away Sunday--York finished 10th aboard 4-year-old gelding Culebra at Santa Anita Jan. 13, 2000.

A longtime resident of Kern County, CA, York is survived by his girlfriend Michael McKay, and three children from his first marriage--daughter, Bonnie (Wunner) and two sons, Ray Jr. and Jeff York. Funeral services for York will be held at Erickson and Brown Funeral Home in Taft, CA, Saturday, Mar. 7 at 1 p.m.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

PETER BLUM

I learned the sad news about Tommy Trotter's death in the TDN and wanted to pass along a few comments. At 93, his death shouldn't have come as a surprise, but it did. Tommy Trotter was timeless! Tom Robbins was spot on in remembering Jimmy Kilroe when talking about Tommy. Trotter was the greatest racing secretary and one of the finest gentlemen I have ever known. Kilroe, who worked closely in New York with Trotter before moving to California, was the consummate professional. I was just a kid when I got to know both Jimmy Kilroe and Tommy Trotter, but it was obvious to me then both men were very special. I knew how much Allen Jerkens admired Tommy and the respect he also had for Jimmy. Nick Zito's description of Trotter walking was perfect: "There goes Tommy Trotter."

Tommy Trotter was an exceptional man. He was always well-dressed in a suit and tie with a smile for everyone. I don't recall anyone who didn't admire and respect him. Keep in mind, stakes races were different then. Good horses were expected to carry weight and it was Trotter's job to assign the weights to horses in handicaps, stakes and starter handicaps in New York. I believe Hirsch Jacobs won three stakes in a week with the great mare Affectionately. Jacobs and other trainers had great respect for Trotter even if he made a horse carry more weight than they felt was deserved. Trotter knew what he was doing, a straight shooter who wanted fans to enjoy racehorses competing to win. All of this is to say, the sport was appreciated more then. Attendance was equal to or better than other professional sports of that era and there was racing five or six days a week with big fields in every race.

Perhaps it would be helpful to many of the people in the horse business today if they could get to know more about Trotter and Kilroe. Our industry is faced with many problems and no simple answers, especially because a consensus is lacking in almost every area. If it were possible to clone these two gentlemen for the purpose of establishing a national body with a commissioner, we would have our answer. Tom Robbins is cut from the same cloth as Trotter and Kilroe, so perhaps there is hope.

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Thoroughbred Horses are Increasingly Inbred

"Every Thoroughbred horse alive today is descended from three stallions and a larger selection of mares in 17th and 18th century England. Since then, no horses outside this lineage have been permitted to enter the bloodline. That's a problem." **Eileen Augenbraun, *Scientific American***

As Track Makes Headlines For Horse Deaths, City Eyes Santa Anita Potential

"As horse racing at the iconic Santa Anita Park faces new scrutiny, the city of Arcadia is pushing to come up with a master plan for the 300-acre site, a city official told Bisnow." **Joseph Pimentel, *Bisnow Los Angeles***

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SETON TO HOST GAMING LAW BOOTCAMP

In an effort to promote integrity and legal compliance in the gaming industry, Seton Hall Law School will host a Gaming Law, Compliance and Integrity Bootcamp Mar. 9-11.

The bootcamp will provide legal, compliance and ethics education to professionals working or seeking to work in the gaming space, along with law students aspiring to practice in the field. Funding for the program has been provided by GVC Foundation US, a nonprofit dedicated to promoting responsible gambling, sports integrity and corporate compliance in the U.S.

"Seton Hall Law School, a leading law school and recognized global leader in compliance education, is excited to partner with GVC Foundation US to launch the Bootcamp," said Kathleen M. Boozang, Dean of Seton Hall Law School. "The intensive and interactive Bootcamp, resulting in a certificate, will ensure that gaming compliance professionals have a strong understanding of regulatory frameworks and the ability to identify, scrutinize, prevent and address unlawful or unethical behaviors."

The faculty and speaker list includes:

- Marc Edelman, Professor of Law, Zicklin School of Business, Baruch College, City University of New York
- Jacob Elberg, Associate Professor of Law, Seton Hall Law School
- Sarah Devlin, Assistant US Attorney, USAO - New Jersey
- Dennis Drazin, Partner, Drazin & Warsaw and Operator of Monmouth Park Racetrack
- Michael Fries, Vice President, Regulatory Affairs & Deputy Chief Compliance Officer, Scientific Games Corporation.
- Timothy Goldsmith, Partner, Assurance, Ernst & Young, LLP
- Jeremy Kleiman, Member, Saiber
- Kate Lowenhar-Fisher, Member and Gaming & Hospitality Practice Group Chair, Dickinson Wright
- Martin Lycka, Director of Regulatory Affairs, GVC Holdings and Trustee of GVC Foundation US
- David Opderbeck, Professor of Law, Co-Director, Gibbons Institute of Law, Science & Technology, Seton Hall Law
- William J. Pascrell, III, Partner, Princeton Public Affairs Group and Trustee of GVC Foundation US
- Louis Rogacki, Deputy Director, New Jersey Division of Gaming Enforcement
- Jake Williams, Vice President, Legal & Regulatory Affairs, Sportradar

"The bootcamp provides an opportunity for seasoned professionals and industry newcomers to become fully integrated in the regulations and nuances of the overall gaming sector," said Dennis Drazin, Monmouth Park CEO and a member of Seton Hall Law's Sports, Gaming & Hospitality Law Advisory Board. For more info., visit: https://law.shu.edu/compliance/bootcamp/index.cfm

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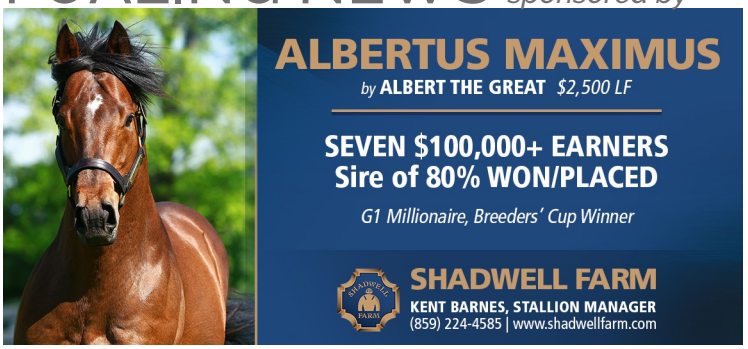

CABANA, 9, Flatter--Sobresaliente, by El Prado (Ire)
Foal born, Jan. 31, a filly by City of Light.
Will be bred back to More Than Ready.
Owned by/boarded at McCann Bloodstock, KY.
Accomplishments: MSW, $254,769.

MADAME X SKI, 21, Polish Numbers--Miss Rudy T, by Lord Gaylord
Foal born Feb. 9, a colt by Goldencents
Owned by M&M Thoroughbreds
Accomplishments: MSP, $165,410

LOVE CO, 15, Not For Love--Cozzekiki, by Cozzene
Foal born Feb. 14, a colt by Speightster.
Will be bred back to Catalina Cruiser.
Owned by Vossfeld Bloodstock LLC.
Boarded at Sheltowee Farm, KY.
Accomplishments: SW, $121,881; dam of Veaisha (Wando), SW, $290,078.

Saturday, Gulfstream, post time: 6:04 p.m. EST

FASIG-TIPTON FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH S.-GII, $400,000, 3yo, 1 1/16m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Candy Tycoon	Twirling Candy	Mathis Stable LLC	Pletcher	Franco	118
2	Makabim	Tapizar	Daniel C. Hurtak	Hurtak	Vasquez	118
3	Masterday	New Year's Day	Gelfenstein Farm	Zerpa	Torres	118
4	The Falcon	Union Rags	Ron Paolucci Racing, LLC and Quartarolo, Ashley	Quartarolo	Meneses	118
5	Dennis' Moment	Tiznow	Albaugh Family Stables LLC	Romans	Prat	124
6	As Seen On Tv	Lookin At Lucky	Screen Door Stables, LLC	Breen	Lopez	122
7	Country Grammer	Tonalist	Paul P. Pompa, Jr.	Brown	Castellano	118
8	Gear Jockey	Twirling Candy	Calumet Farm	Arnold, II	Leparoux	118
9	Liam's Lucky Charm	Khozan	Stonehedge LLC	Nicks	Zayas	122
10	Shotski	Blame	Barber, Gary, Wachtel Stable, Pantofel Stable and Howling Pigeon Farms, LLC	O'Dwyer	Velazquez	124
11	Ete Indien	Summer Front	L. Shanahan, S. Bacon, Dream With Me Stable., Horse France America, D P Racing & P. Biancone Racing	Biancone	Geroux	120
12	Chance It	Currency Swap	Shooting Star Thoroughbreds, LLC	Joseph, Jr.	Gaffalione	122

Breeders: 1-Jerry Romans Jr., 2-Venneri Racing, Inc., 3-Hurstland Farm, Inc. & Tom Bozarth, 4-Phillips Racing Partnership, AlanQuartucci & Christophe Clement, 5-Tolo Thoroughbreds, 6-Craig L. Wheeler, 7-Scott Pierce & Debbie Pierce, 8-Calumet Farm, 9-Stonehedge LLC, 10-Springland Farm & Prime Bloodstock LLC, 11-Robert B. Tillyer & Eric Buckley, 12-Bett Usher

Saturday, Gulfstream, post time: 5:01 p.m. EST

GULFSTREAM PARK MILE S.-GII, $300,000, 4yo/up, 1m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Bodexpress	Bodemeister	Top Racing, Global Thoroughbred & GDS Racing Stable	Delgado	Jaramillo	118
2	Haikal	Daaher	Shadwell Stable	McLaughlin	Maragh	118
3	Phat Man	Munnings	M. Stribling, Force Five Racing & Two Rivers Racing Stable	Sweezey	Castellano	124
4	Forever Mo	Uncle Mo	Partner Stable LLC	Delgado	Meneses	118
5	Zenden	Fed Biz	LLP Performance Horse, LLC	Pletcher	Velazquez	118
6	Expert	Point Given	All In The Family Racing	Schettino	Alvarado	118
7	True Timber	Mineshaft	Calumet Farm	McLaughlin	Bravo	120
8	Rare Form	The Factor	Jones, Sr., Frank L. and Churchill Downs Racing Club	Romans	Prat	118
9	Mr Freeze	To Honor and Serve	Bakke, Jim and Isbister, Gerald	Romans	Franco	124
10	Do Share	Candy Ride (Arg)	AJ Suited Racing Stable, LLC	Casse	Leparoux	120
11	Hog Creek Hustle	Overanalyze	Something Special Racing, LLC	Foley	Gaffalione	122

Breeders: 1-Martha Jane Mulholland, 2-Shadwell Farm, LLC, 3-Kim Nardelli & Rodney Nardelli, 4-Farfellow Farms Ltd., 5-Brent Harris & Beth Harris, 6-Stone Farm, 7-Mr. & Mrs. Marc C. Ferrell, 8-McCann Bloodstock, Mark Kelder & DougRichards, 9-Siena Farms LLC, 10-Colts Neck Stables, LLC., 11-Hargus Sexton, Sandra Sexton & SilverFern Farm, LLC

THE SIGN OF SUCCESS

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

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Saturday, Gulfstream, post time: 3:59 p.m. EST

DAVONA DALE S.-GII, $200,000, 3yo, f, 1m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Chart	Lea	Leonard & Jonathan Green	Contessa	Bravo	118
2	Dream Marie	Graydar	Miracle's International Trading, Inc.	Williams	Mitchell	120
3	Emily's Oasis	American Pharoah	Lothenbach Stables, Inc.	Wilkes	Landeros	118
4	Nikki and Papa	Mineshaft	L. Anderson-Butler, T. Cady, V. Smith, Ron Paolucci Racing, A. Quartarolo, J. Lambert, S. Melen & N. Sigband	Hess, Jr.	Olsson	118
5	Reluctant Bride	Speightstown	D P Racing LLC and Patrick L. Biancone Racing LLC	Biancone	Prat	118
6	Spice Is Nice	Curlin	Lawana L. and Robert E. Low	Pletcher	Velazquez	118
7	Bayerness	Bayern	Belladonna Racing, LLC	DeVaux	Geroux	120
8	Addilyn	Palace Malice	Briannjenn Racing LLC	Sano	Zayas	118
9	Tonalist's Shape	Tonalist	Slam Dunk Racing, Branham, Doug and Legacy Ranch, Inc.	Joseph, Jr.	Gaffalione	122

Breeders: 1-Claiborne Farm & Adele B. Dilschneider, 2-Wynnstay LLC & GWR LLC, 3-Peter J. Callahan & Runnymede Farm, Inc, 4-Susan King, 5-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC, 6-B. Flay Thoroughbreds LLC, 7-Machmer Hall, 8-Dixiana Farms LLC, 9-Sabana Farm

Saturday, Gulfstream, post time: 5:32 p.m. EST

MAC DIARMIDA S.-GII, $200,000, 4yo/up, 1 3/8mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Morocco	Pioneerof the Nile	Paradise Farms Corp. and Staudacher, David	Maker	Sanchez	118
2	Nessy	Flower Alley	Sierra Farm	Wilkes	Landeros	120
3	A Thread of Blue	Hard Spun	Leonard C. Green	McLaughlin	Bravo	122
4	Sadler's Joy	Kitten's Joy	Woodslane Farm	Albertrani	Castellano	124
5	Channel Maker	English Channel	G. Barber, Wachtel Stable, R A Hill Stable & D. Reeves	Mott	Alvarado	122
6	Zulu Alpha	Street Cry (Ire)	Michael M. Hui	Maker	Gaffalione	124
7	Admission Office	Point of Entry	Amerman Racing LLC	Lynch	Franco	118
8	Spooky Channel	English Channel	Terry Hamilton	Lynch	Leparoux	124
9	Marzo	Medaglia d'Oro	Three Diamonds Farm	Maker	Prat	124
10	Armistice Day	Declaration of War	Lunsford, Bruce and Robbins, Lansdon B.	Minshall	Zayas	122

Breeders: 1-Oakbrook Farm, 2-Sierra Farm, 3-Flaxman Holdings Limited, 4-Woodslane Farm, LLC., 5-Tall Oaks Farm, 6-Calumet Farm, 7-Mrs. Jerry Amerman, 8-Calumet Farm, 9-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC, 10-Glenvale Stud

Saturday, Gulfstream, post time: 12:57 p.m. EST

PALM BEACH S.-GIII, $150,000, 3yo, 1 1/16mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Tiesto	Tiznow	LNJ Foxwoods and NK Racing	Mott	Alvarado	118
2	Bee Catcher	English Channel	Calumet Farm	Motion	Prado	118
3	Street Ready	More Than Ready	Lucky Seven Stable	Wilkes	Landeros	118
4	Sassy But Smart	Overdriven	Martha, Scott & Mike Borchetta and Martin Silver	Condie	Bravo	118
5	Fancy Liquor	Lookin At Lucky	Skychai Racing LLC and Sand Dollar Stable LLC	Maker	Geroux	120
6	Allgorilla	Algorithms	Thoroughbred Champions Training Center LLC	Mejia	Zapico	118
7	South Bend	Algorithms	Sagamore Farm LLC	Hough	Leparoux	122
8	Life On Top	Carpe Diem	Centennial Farms	Jerkens	Maragh	118
9	Turn of Events	Hard Spun	Three Diamonds Farm	Maker	Lopez	118
10	Famished K	Uncle Mo	Tobey L. Morton	Kimmel	Franco	118
11	Fenwick Station	Magician (Ire)	Summerplace Farm	Kenneally	Gaffalione	120
12	Vitalogy (GB)	No Nay Never	Qatar Racing Limited, Marc Detampel & Bottle Rocket Stable	Walsh	Castellano	118

Breeders: 1-David Jacobs & Tiznow Syndicate, 2-Calumet Farm, 3-Earle I. Mack, LLC, 4-Mike Borchetta, Martha Borchetta &Martin Silver, 5-Hot Pink Stable & Skychai Racing LLC, 6-Adele B. Dilschneider, 7-Highclere, Inc., 8-Gabriel Duignan, Crosshaven Bldsk,Hazelmere Bldsk & Petaluma Bldsk, 9-Bryant H. Prentice, III, 10-Michael C. Byrne, 11-Lantern Hill Farm, 12-Mr W. A. Tinkler

Saturday, Gulfstream, post time: 1:27 p.m. EST

HONEY FOX S.-GIII, $150,000, 4yo/up, f/m, 1mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Silver Kitten	Kitten's Joy	D. Feiss, B. Terner, S. Kennedy, Corms Racing Stable & H. Lynch	Gargan	Prat	118
2	Atomic Blonde	Scat Daddy	Gunther, John D. and Eurowest Bloodstock Services	Pletcher	Castellano	122
3	Sweet Hitch Hiker	Take Charge Indy	Mawhinney, Tim and Karen	Kurtinecz	Rendon	118
4	La Feve (Fr)	George Vancouver	Madaket Stables, R. LaPenta, Lindy Farms & Team Hanley	Joseph, Jr.	Geroux	118
5	Steelin Magnolias	City Place	Mike Trent	Hendry	Prado	118
6	Conquest Hardcandy	Candy Ride (Arg)	Alfonso Cammarota	Sano	Zayas	120
7	Getmotherarose	Get Stormy	Mary Abeel Sullivan Revocable Trust	Bush	Alvarado	118
8	Miss Munnings	Munnings	Tobey L. Morton	Kimmel	Franco	118
9	Sister Hanan	Orb Sumaya U.S. Stable	Colebrook	Lanerie	118	
10	Munchkin Money	Freud	Sweet Home Stables, M. Parkinson, B. Martin, S. Bouchey & T. Weintraub	Clement	Gaffalione	120
11	Valedictorian	Temple City	Epic Racing	Breen	Lopez	122

Breeders: 1-Kenneth L. Ramsey & Sarah K. Ramsey, 2-John D. Gunther, Eurowest BloodstockServices & Nicole Gunther, 3-Tim James Mawhinney & Karen FayeMawhinney, 4-Bernard Leclere & Mme Raymonde Leclere, 5-Mike Trent & Ruth Trent, 6-The New Hill Farm LLC, 7-Mary A. Sullivan, 8-Ashleigh Stud Farm, Frank Ramos &Jackie Ramos, 9-Int'l Equities Holdings, Inc., 10-Dr. Thomas M. Murray, 11-John Bowers, Jr.

Saturday, Gulfstream, post time: 2:27 p.m. EST

THE VERY ONE S.-GIII, $150,000, 4yo/up, f/m, 1 3/16mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Layla Noor	Midnight Lute	Lael Stables	Delacour	Zayas	118
2	Touriga (Brz)	Put It Back	Kiyoshi Maekawa	Motion	Velazquez	122
3	Queen of Time (GB)	Harbour Watch (Ire)	Alex Frost	Motion	Alvarado	118
4	Ferdinanda	Giant's Causeway	Ann M. Backer	Tagg	Franco	122
5	Cap de Creus	Tapit Gainesway Stable	Pletcher	Prat	118	
6	Lemon Zip	Ghostzapper	High Kings Racing LLC	Saville	Conner	118
7	Romantic Pursuit	Medaglia d'Oro	Godolphin, LLC	McLaughlin	Bravo	118
8	La Signare (Fr)	Siyouni (Fr)	Madaket Stables, Tim & Anna Cambron & Bradley Thoroughbreds	Walsh	Gaffalione	118
9	Elizabeth Way (Ire)	Frankel (GB)	John J. McCormack	Attfield	Lopez	118
10	Empressof the Nile	Pioneerof the Nile	Madaket Stables, Manganaro Bloodstock & R. Masiello	Motion	Castellano	122
11	Raining Lemons	Lemon Drop Kid	Edith R. Dixon	Matz	Geroux	118
12	English Affair	English Channel	Calumet Farm	Arnold, II	Leparoux	118

Breeders: 1-Lael Stable, 2-Fazenda Mondesir, 3-Shortgrove Manor Stud, 4-William M. Backer Revocable Trust, 5-Juddmonte Farms Inc, 6-Chiefswood Stables Limited, 7-Godolphin, 8-Moussa Mbacke, 9-Godolphin, 10-Pam Doddridge, 11-Edith R. Dixon, 12-Calumet Farm

Saturday, Gulfstream, post time: 3:28 p.m. EST

HERECOMESTHEBRIDE S.-GIII, $150,000, 3yo, f, 1 1/16mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Hey Kitten	Haynesfield	R. Brisset, Rags Racing Stable & R. Wood	Brisset	Prat	118
2	Veruca	Twirling Candy	Belladonna Racing, LLC	DeVaux	Geroux	118
3	Declarationwarrior	Declaration of War	Gary Barber	Casse	Zayas	118
4	Ginger Kitty	Red Rocks (Ire)	Calumet Farm	Arnold, II	Rendon	118
5	Cheermeister	Bodemeister	Palmer, Teresa and Palmer, David J.	De La Cerda	Jaramillo	124
6	In a Hurry	Blame	Stuart S. Janney, III	McGaughey III	Leparoux	120
7	Abscond	Blame	Apogee Bloodstock	Kenneally	Gaffalione	124
8	Stunning Sky	Declaration of War	Paradise Farms Corp. and Parkland Thoroughbreds	Maker	Lopez	120

Cont.

GIII Herecomesthebride S. cont.

9	Witez	More Than Ready	Mary Ann Charlston	Wilkes	Landeros	118
10	Lucky Polly	Lookin At Lucky	Gary Barber	Casse	Velazquez	118
11	Sunset Promise	Broken Vow	David Staudacher	Maker	Franco	118
12	Lost Ticket	More Than Ready	Staghawk Stables	Mott	Alvarado	118

Breeders: 1-Richard Perkins, 2-Machmer Hall & D + J Racing Stable LLC, 3-Camas Park Stud, 4-Calumet Farm, 5-Mike Abraham, 6-Stuart S. Janney, III LLC., 7-Michael Niall, 8-Stephen J. McDonald, 9-Mary Ann Charlston, 10-Nicholas J. Sibilio, 11-Rosedown Racing Stables, LLC, 12-Gryphon Investments

Saturday, Gulfstream, post time: 4:30 p.m. EST

CANADIAN TURF S.-GIII, $150,000, 4yo/up, 1mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Hay Dakota	Haynesfield	Mr. Amore Stable	Servis	Lopez	120
2	Caribou Club	City Zip	Glen Hill Farm	Proctor	Lynch	124
3	Krampus	Shakespeare	Hatfield Stables and Hatfield, Rod	Tomlinson	Leparoux	120
4	Hembree	Proud Citizen	Three Diamonds Farm	Maker	Gaffalione	122
5	Sombeyay	Into Mischief	Starlight Racing	Pletcher	Prat	118
6	Gemonteer	Distorted Humor	Fred Rosen	Antonucci	Vasquez	120
7	Mr Dumas	Majesticperfection	WSS Racing LLC and Hooties Racing LLC	Maker	Franco	124
8	English Bee	English Channel	Calumet Farm	Motion	Castellano	124
9	Gidu (Ire)	Frankel (GB)	Zayat Stables, LLC	Pletcher	Velazquez	120
10	Louder Than Bombs	Violence	Sandra New	Fawkes	Bravo	118
11	Musical Heart	Maclean's Music	Joseph Bucci	Miller	Maragh	120
12	Flying Scotsman	English Channel	Calumet Farm	Sisterson	Geroux	122
13	Thunder Ride	Pioneerof the Nile	My Purple Haze Stables	Pompay	Maragh	118
14	Joyful Heart	Kitten's Joy	Borchetta, Mike, Borchetta, Martha and Borchetta, Scott	Condie	Torres	118

Breeders: 1-Brereton C. Jones, 2-Glen Hill Farm, 3-William C. Schettine, 4-Derby Lane Farm, LLC, 5-J. D. Stuart & Mueller Farms, Inc., 6-Millennium Farms &Distorted Humor Syndicate, 7-Ramspring Farm, 8-Calumet Farm, 9-Ecurie Des Monceaux, 10-Hidden Brook Farm & Spruce Lane Farm, 11-Sovereign Farm & Hill 'N' Dale Farm, 12-Calumet Farm, 13-Gainesway Tbreds LTD, J & B Passerello,Graves, Howard & Ivanovich, 14-Mrs. Jerry Amerman

Leading YTD Fourth-Crop Sires

for stallions standing in North America through Tuesday, Feb. 25

Earnings represent worldwide figures, stud fees listed are 2020 fees.

Rank	Stallion	BTW	BTH	GSW	GSH	G1SW	G1SH	Starters	Wnrs	Highest Earner	Earnings
1	**Paynter**	3	6	1	1	--	--	110	30	126,600	1,236,131
	(2009) by Awesome Again FYR: 2015			*Stands: WinStar Farm KY Fee: $10,000*						*Ring Leader*	
2	**Violence**	1	1	--	--	--	--	100	30	87,600	1,008,195
	(2010) by Medaglia d'Oro FYR: 2015			*Stands: Hill 'n' Dale Farms KY Fee: $25,000*						*No Parole*	
3	**Flat Out**	--	2	--	1	--	--	92	24	79,870	760,033
	(2006) by Flatter FYR: 2015			*Stands: Mighty Acres OK Fee: $3,000*						*Threes Over Deuces*	
4	**Take Charge Indy**	--	--	--	--	--	--	82	22	65,869	654,177
	(2009) by A.P. Indy FYR: 2015			*Stands: WinStar Farm KY Fee: $17,500*						*Bronx Bomber*	
5	**Orb**	1	3	--	3	--	--	59	14	100,000	601,390
	(2010) by Malibu Moon FYR: 2015			*Stands: Claiborne Farm KY Fee: $10,000*						*Whoa Nellie*	
6	**Point of Entry**	--	--	--	--	--	--	55	14	43,400	421,484
	(2008) by Dynaformer FYR: 2015			*Stands: Adena Springs KY Fee: $15,000*						*Mystery Messenger*	
7	**Alternation**	1	3	--	1	--	--	63	11	59,400	419,552
	(2008) by Distorted Humor FYR: 2015			*Stands: Pin Oak Stud KY Fee: $10,000*						*Serengeti Empress*	
8	**Graydar**	--	1	--	1	--	--	69	13	36,911	412,754
	(2009) by Unbridled's Song FYR: 2015			*Stands: Milky Way Farm CA Fee: $4,000*						*Erzulie*	
9	**Justin Phillip**	1	2	--	--	--	--	48	13	92,800	407,328
	(2008) by First Samurai FYR: 2015			*Stands: The Quarter Company NM Fee: $3,000*						*Just Might*	
10	**El Padrino**	--	--	--	--	--	--	37	11	55,880	388,252
	(2009) by Pulpit FYR: 2015			*Stands: Northview PA USA (Dead/Ret/Exp)*						*Promised Storm*	
11	**Oxbow**	--	--	--	--	--	--	66	17	38,500	374,675
	(2010) by Awesome Again FYR: 2015			*Stands: Calumet Farm KY Fee: $10,000*						*Hopeful Treasure*	
12	**Overanalyze**	--	1	--	--	--	--	72	15	41,250	367,969
	(2010) by Dixie Union FYR: 2015			*Stands: WinStar Farm KY Fee: $7,500*						*Piedi Bianchi*	
13	**Smiling Tiger**	--	--	--	--	--	--	35	11	59,280	337,367
	(2007) by Hold That Tiger FYR: 2015			*Stands: Harris Farms CA Fee: $7,500*						*Tiger Dad*	
14	**Poseidon's Warrior**	1	1	1	1	--	--	60	12	150,000	332,919
	(2008) by Speightstown FYR: 2015			*Stands: Equistar PA Fee: $5,000*						*Firenze Fire*	
15	**Brethren**	1	1	1	1	--	--	56	8	92,070	324,836
	(2008) by Distorted Humor FYR: 2015			*Stands: Arindel Farm FL Fee: $7,500*						*Cookie Dough*	

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NORTH AMERICAN RACING
Thursday, February 27, 2020

INSIGHTS
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THURSDAY INSIGHTS: PRICEY CURLIN HALF TO HAWKBILL DEBUTS AT GULFSTREAM

Coastal Defense in the ring at Keeneland September | *Keeneland*

4th-GP, $50K, Msw, 4yo/up, 6 1/2f, 2:31 p.m. ET

Albaugh Family Stables, which will start likely GII Fasig-Tipton Fountain of Youth S. favorite Dennis' Moment (Tiznow) this Saturday at Gulfstream, also has action Thursday in Hallandale Beach, as they debut the expensive and well-related **COASTAL DEFENSE (Curlin)** in the day's fourth event. Owned in partnership with Helen K. Groves Revocable Trust, the chestnut hammered for $800,000 at Keeneland September in 2017 and is a half-brother to MG1SW Hawkbill (Kitten's Joy), as well as the Albaughs' GISW Free Drop Billy (Union Rags). Out of GSP Trensa (Giant's Causeway), Coastal Defense's second dam is GISW Serape (Fappiano), while third dam Mochila (In Reality) was a SW who placed in three Grade Is herself. Trained--like Dennis' Moment and Free Drop Billy--by Dale Romans, he shows a light but quick worktab, recording three local bullet breezes, including a half-mile in :47 4/5 (1/13) Jan. 22 (XBTV video).

Drawn the rail, his two most intriguing rivals are parked next door, with Godolphin's **Unshaken (Tapit)** occupying the two post and Christine and Phil Hatfield's **Groundbreaking (Tapit)** in the three hole. The former, who was a debut fourth as the favorite last April at Keeneland, is a half to GSW/MGISP Penwith (Bernardini), MGISP Centring (A.P. Indy) and GISP Tranquil Manner (A.P. Indy) out of MGISW Composure (Touch Gold). Returning as a new gelding, the bay has been working swiftly for Kiaran McLaughlin at Palm Meadows, most recently going a half-mile in :48 1/5 (8/32) Feb. 18. The latter, who opens his account here for the Ian Wilkes barn, is a half to MGISW Palace (City Zip) and drilled a five-furlong bullet in 1:01 2/5 (1/10) from the gate Feb. 11 at Palm Meadows. **TJCIS PPs --*@JBiancaTDN***

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ALLOWANCES

5th-Sam Houston Race Park, $37,000, Alw (NW2L)/Opt. Clm ($50,000), 2-26, 3yo, f, 5 1/2f, 1:05.41, ft.

LADY SHAMAN (f, 3, Proud Citizen--Love Torch, by El Prado {Ire}) survived a torrid speed duel to score by 2 1/4 lengths first out here Jan. 10 and was hammered down to 2-5 to repeat in this spot. Off a half-step slowly, the gray settled in a three-wide fifth behind a :22.52 quarter, crept up toward the leaders nearing the lane and kicked clear entering the furlong grounds before holding sway from longshot Always Inthe Munny (Munnings) to prevail by a half-length. The victress shares a second dam, MSW Hot Lear (Lear Fan), with MGSW/GISP second-crop sire Commissioner (A.P. Indy). Her dam is responsible for a juvenile filly by Flat Out. Sales History: $27,000 Ylg '18 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, $43,020. **Click for the Equibase.com chart.**

O-Bob Gorsky; B-J.W. Lockhart Jr. & Sally Lockhart (KY); T-W. Bret Calhoun.

HAVE A NEW FOAL?
Click here to submit your Foaling News for Stakes Winning and/or Stakes Producing Mares for publication in the TDN.

MAIDENS

4th-Gulfstream, $43,000, Msw, 2-26, 4yo/up, 1m, 1:34.93, ft. **BEAU LUMINARIE (g, 4, I Want Revenge--Belle Noelle, by Scrimshaw)**, seventh debuting at six furlongs here last February, headed to the bench for an extended layoff after that and returned with a good second behind impressive next-out allowance winner Fearless (Ghostzapper) Dec. 22. Given a 31-10 chance in this initial route attempt, the homebred led early before taking an awkward stride leaving the chute. Recovering to dictate terms through a :23.73 quarter and salty :45.52 half, the dark bay edged clear midway around the turn and poured it on in the stretch for a seven-length graduation. Felix the Fox (Tapit) completed the exacta. Lifetime Record: 3-1-1-0, $35,100. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**
O/B-Linda S. Pavey (KY); T-Rodolphe Brisset.

AMERICAN-BRED WINNERS ABROAD

IN AUSTRALIA:
Kentucky Tornado, m, 5, **Mizzen Mast**--Somerset West, by Gone West. Sandown (Hillside), 2400mT, 2:34.59. B-Dr John A Chandler (KY). *Formerly Bluegrass Blizzard. **Full to Seaspeak, GSW, $270,262; half to Innovation Economy (Dynaformer), SW, $272,503. ***$27,000 Ylg '16 KEESEP; €45,000 RNA 2yo '17 ARQMAY.

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FIRST & SECOND-CROP RUNNERS

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SECOND-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: THURSDAY, FEB. 27
Competitive Edge (Super Saver), Ashford Stud, $12,500
155 foals of racing age/34 winners/4 black-type winners
6-Aqueduct, Msw 1m, BEAUTIFUL KAREN, 8-5
$20,000 RNA SAR AUG yrl; $20,000 EAS OCT yrl; $13,000 OBS MAR 2yo

Fast Anna (Medaglia d'Oro), Three Chimneys Farm, $10,000
142 foals of racing age/16 winners/3 black-type winners
8-Delta Downs, Alw 5f, SCOTTY BOY, 2-1

Hampton Court (Aus) (Redoute's Choice {Aus}), Spendthrift Farm
44 foals of racing age/12 winners/0 black-type winners
9-Fair Grounds, Alw 6f, FAST VERDICT, 10-1

Khozan (Distorted Humor), Journeyman Stud, $8,500
130 foals of racing age/24 winners/2 black-type winners
4-Fair Grounds, Alw 1m, SEBS PRINCESS, 5-1
$5,500 ESL YRL yrl

Normandy Invasion (Tapit), Pin Oak Lane Farm, $2,500
79 foals of racing age/4 winners/0 black-type winners
6-Aqueduct, Msw 1m, ROSEY'S INVASION, 12-1

Palace (City Zip), Spendthrift Farm, $5,000
152 foals of racing age/24 winners/1 black-type winner
6-Fair Grounds, Alw 6f, TENSAS WEEZY, 8-1
$7,000 ESL YRL yrl; $10,000 TTA APR 2yo

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ADDITIONAL RACING

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

6th-Delta Downs, $40,000, (S), 2-25, (NW1X), 4yo/up, 6 1/2f, 1:20.54, ft.

FLASHING ANGELBABY (g, 4, Flashpoint--Angel Baby, by Jade Hunter) Lifetime Record: 15-4-1-3, $65,535. O/B-James R. Dimel (LA); T-Brett A. Brinkman.

8th-Delta Downs, $40,000, (S), 2-25, (NW2L), 3yo, f, 6 1/2f, 1:21.71, ft.

SABER CUT (f, 3, Sabercat--Shes Dixies Eskimo {SW, $188,192}, by Eskimo) Lifetime Record: SP, 5-2-1-1, $65,540. O/B-John Luck (LA); T-Samuel Breaux. *1/2 to Dixie Brees (Good and Tough), SP, $275,460.

7th-Delta Downs, $34,480, 2-25, (NW2L), 3yo/up, f/m, 7f, 1:27.40, ft.

BLUNT FORCE (f, 4, Mucho Macho Man--Little Emily {SW, $132,572}, by Castledale {Ire}) Lifetime Record: 13-2-2-2, $60,456. O-TEC Racing (Elliott S. Logan); B-Kehner Thoroughbreds, LLC (KY); T-Thomas M. Amoss. *$25,000 Wlg '16 KEENOV; $115,000 Ylg '17 FTKOCT.

Raised & Sold by Mulholland Springs

6th-Sam Houston Race Park, $38,000, 2-26, (NW3L), 4yo/up, 1mT, 1:38.17, fm.

DESTINY AWAITS (h, 5, Curlin--Our Love Tap, by Tapit) Lifetime Record: 21-3-6-2, $91,258. O-Joe Alfredo Castillo; B-Gary & Mary West Stables Inc. (KY); T-Jerenesto Torrez.

2nd-Mahoning Valley, $23,500, 2-26, (NW1X), 3yo/up, f/m, 5 1/2f, 1:06.25, gd.

RUN MICKEY RUN (m, 7, Onthedeanslist--Rodeo Jill, by Woodman) Lifetime Record: 42-12-7-2, $109,936. O/T-Ivan Calderon; B-Nick Simov (IL).

7th-Mahoning Valley, $23,500, 2-26, (NW2L), 3yo/up, 5 1/2f, 1:06.12, my.

ZAYA (g, 4, Cairo Prince--Praising, by Pulpit) Lifetime Record: 15-2-4-3, $59,370. O-Reeves Thoroughbred Racing & R. A. Hill Stable; B-Bret Jones (KY); T-Amber Cobb. *$110,000 Ylg '17 KEESEP.

5th-Tampa Bay Downs, $21,000, (NW2X)/Opt. Clm ($32,000), 2-26, 4yo/up, 1m 40y, 1:40.34, wf.

NAVY ARMED GUARD (g, 5, Midshipman--Black Java {SP, $117,145}, by Pine Bluff) Lifetime Record: 23-5-3-5, $141,179. O-Harriette Waldron, Roger McDaniel, Robert K. Johnson, Frank Coniglio & Richard Rendina; B-George Pruette & Philip Coomer (KY); T-Joan Scott. *$47,000 2yo '17 OBSAPR. **1/2 to Discreet Angel (Discreet Cat), Ch. Imp. 2yo & 3yo Colt & MSW-PR, $208,200.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Elliot, g, 3, **Abstraction**--Lisa's Pride, by Desert God. Sunland, 2-25, (S), 1m, 1:39.68. B-Michael C. Stinson (NM). *1/2 to Hute (Western Gambler), SP, $267,910.

Grins n' Wins, f, 3, **Congrats**--Sara's Smile, by Tale of the Cat. Mahoning Valley, 2-26, (S), 6f, 1:15.80. B-R Gorham & Mast Thoroughbreds LLC (OH).

Broad Decision, g, 3, **Interactif**--Rash Decision, by Mt. Livermore. Delta Downs, 2-25, 7f, 1:28.56. B-Barry C Thomas (LA).

Memphis Showboat, f, 3, **The Factor**--Belle Vlada (Ire), by Kheleyf. Gulfstream, 2-26, (C), 1mT, 1:36.95. B-M. Kisber, S. Laymon, M. Gramm, M. Pietrangelo & C. Sanders (KY).

Mr. Production, c, 4, **Run Production**--Broken Link, by Time Bandit. Delta Downs, 2-25, (S), 5f, :59.82. B-Israel Flores Horse LLC (LA).

TODAY'S FEATURED VIDEO REPLAYS

CLICK HERE to watch all of our featured video replays.

sponsored by Fasig-Tipton

***Beau Luminarie** (I Want Revenge) scores a front-running romp to break his maiden at Gulfstream*

ALL TDN WINNERS BY SIRE

ABSTRACTION, Elliot, g, 3, o/o Lisa's Pride, by Desert God. MSW, 2-25, Sunland

CAIRO PRINCE, Zaya, g, 4, o/o Praising, by Pulpit. ALW, 2-26, Mahoning Valley

CONGRATS, Grins n' Wins, f, 3, o/o Sara's Smile, by Tale of the Cat. MSW, 2-26, Mahoning Valley

Cont. p4

CURLIN, Destiny Awaits, h, 5, o/o Our Love Tap, by Tapit. ALW, 2-26, Sam Houston
FLASHPOINT, Flashing Angelbaby, g, 4, o/o Angel Baby, by Jade Hunter. ALW, 2-25, Delta Downs
I WANT REVENGE, Beau Luminarie, g, 4, o/o Belle Noelle, by Scrimshaw. MSW, 2-26, Gulfstream
INTERACTIF, Broad Decision, g, 3, o/o Rash Decision, by Mt. Livermore. MSW, 2-25, Delta Downs
MIDSHIPMAN, Navy Armed Guard, g, 5, o/o Black Java, by Pine Bluff. AOC, 2-26, Tampa Bay
MUCHO MACHO MAN, Blunt Force, f, 4, o/o Little Emily, by Castledale (Ire). ALW, 2-25, Delta Downs
ONTHEDEANSLIST, Run Mickey Run, m, 7, o/o Rodeo Jill, by Woodman. ALW, 2-26, Mahoning Valley
PROUD CITIZEN, Lady Shaman, f, 3, o/o Love Torch, by El Prado (Ire). AOC, 2-26, Sam Houston
RUN PRODUCTION, Mr. Production, c, 4, o/o Broken Link, by Time Bandit. MSW, 2-25, Delta Downs
SABERCAT, Saber Cut, f, 3, o/o Shes Dixies Eskimo, by Eskimo. ALW, 2-25, Delta Downs
THE FACTOR, Memphis Showboat, f, 3, o/o Belle Vlada (Ire), by Kheleyf. MCL, 2-26, Gulfstream

DID YOU KNOW?

Undefeated GSW **Amalfi Sunrise** (Constitution) was tabbed as a "TDN Rising Star"

Visit the **TDN Rising Stars** section on our website!

Beau Luminarie scores by seven lengths to graduate at Gulfstream | *Ryan Thompson*

TDN EUROPE

THURSDAY, 27 FEBRUARY 2020

CROSS COUNTER DRAWS RAIL IN SAUDI

George Strawbridge's Group 1-winning Call The Wind training at Riyadh | *Saudi Cup*

Godolphin's **Cross Counter (GB)** (Teofilo {Ire}) will break from the rail in his attempt to add yet another rich international prize to his roll of honor in Saturday's $2.5-million Longines Turf H. at Saudi Arabia's King Abdulaziz Racetrack in Riyadh. The 3000-metre event is the richest of the three turf contests on the Saudi Cup card.

Cross Counter has over £3.5 million in the bank and looks to build on his victories in the 2018 G1 Melbourne Cup and 2019 G2 Dubai Gold Cup while making his first start since a credible eighth in the latest renewal of Australia's 'Race That Stops a Nation' in November.

Another who is no stranger to success at international meetings is Freddy Head, and he saddles George Strawbridge's **Call The Wind (GB)** (Frankel {GB}) off a trio of runner-up efforts in group company last fall. Call The Wind will break from gate four.

"I'm very happy with the horse and very happy to be here," Head said after watching his Group 1 winner train at Riyadh on Wednesday. "He did a seven-furlong canter this morning. He is fit and all the work has been done at home."

Cont. p2

SPANISH MISSION MAKES DESERT DEBUT IN NAD AL SHEBA TROPHY

Team Valor International's English GSW **Spanish Mission** (Noble Mission {GB}), the highest rated horse on Thursday's Meydan card at 110, makes his first start since a narrow win in Belmont's Sept. 7 Jockey Club Derby Invitational S. in the G3 Nad Al Sheba Trophy. The 2810-metre turf event drew a field of nine, and the David Simcock trainee, successful in the July 11 G3 Bahrain Trophy S. and third in Goodwood's G3 Gordon S. on Aug. 1, leaves from gate six. If he performs with credit today, the Nad Al Sheba could lead to an appearance in the $6-million G1 Longines Dubai Sheema Classic or the $1.5-million G2 Dubai Gold Cup on Dubai World Cup night Mar. 28.

As always during the Dubai World Cup Carnival, Godolphin musters a strong presence and leading their quintet in the Nad Al Sheba Trophy is the Jan. 30 Listed Meydan Cup victor **Secret Advisor (Fr)** (Dubawi {Ire}), who defeated fellow Godolphin runners and second/third **Dubai Horizon (Ire)** (Poet's Voice {GB}) and **Dubhe (GB)** (Dubawi {Ire}) that day over this course-and-distance. Earlier in Secret Advisor's career, he ran third to Stradivarius (Ire) (Sea The Stars {Ire}) in the G2 Queen's Vase at Ascot in 2017. Cont. p2

Spanish Mission | *Dubai Racing Club*

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

INAUGURAL SAUDI CUP DRAWN

A full field of 14 and one reserve have stood their ground for the $20-million Saudi Cup. **Click or tap here to go straight to TDN America.**

Cross Counter Draws Rail In Saudi Cont. from p1

One slot to Call The Wind's inside will be the fellow French-trained **Called To The Bar (Ire)** (Henrythenavigator), who was put through his paces on Wednesday by Joakim Brandt, husband of trainer Pia Brandt.

"He is in great form," Joakim Brandt said. "He came here on Sunday and everything is going alright. He ran a good race in Hong Kong and seeing that he likes good ground it made sense to bring him here."

Prince of Arran | *Saudi Cup*

Joseph O'Brien joined Freddy Head in the elite ranks of having both ridden and trained winners at the Breeders' Cup last November when Iridessa (Ire) (Ruler of the World {Ire}) took the GI Filly & Mare Turf, and O'Brien sends out a pair here in **Downdraft (Ire)** (Camelot {GB}) and **Twilight Payment (Ire)** (Teofilo {Ire}), who are drawn alongside one another in gates eight and nine.

Brendan Powell, assistant trainer to Joseph O'Brien, said, "The horses arrived on Tuesday morning and just had a trot around. We just did a four and a half furlong canter on the training track [on Wednesday]. I will speak to Joseph later today and discuss with him if we'll bring them to the turf track tomorrow morning. Both of these horses had their last run in the Melbourne Cup and they have travelled over here well from Ireland."

Prince of Arran (GB) (Shirocco {Ger}) likewise looks for another international win, having taken a Group 3 in Australia each of the past two seasons, and Charlie Fellowes's 7-year-old landed in gate two.

Fellowes reported from Newmarket, "He has travelled as well as expected for an old pro like him. He has taken well to his new surroundings and his temperature is good. He has done a couple of canters and the team there have been pleased with him. I am flying out later today and look forward to seeing him on the track tomorrow."

The Saudi Cup will be televised in the U.S. live on FOX Sports 1 at Noon ET (DIRECTV ch. 219, Dish ch.150) with the undercard airing on TVG.

Share this story

Dubai Preview Cont. from p1

Speaking on Secret Advisor and Dubhe, trainer Charlie Appleby said, "Secret Advisor had been off a while before the Meydan Trophy, so we were delighted with his win. He must have a big chance, while Dubhe will appreciate a good gallop, as he is just a dour stayer."

Added fellow Godolphin trainer Saeed bin Suroor on his trio of Dubai Horizon, the SP **Gifts of Gold (Ire)** (Invincible Spirit {Ire}) and winning **Dubai Future (GB)** (Dubawi {Ire}), "Dubai Horizon ran very well in the Meydan Trophy, but not so well on his second start, so we are hoping the step back up in trip is in his favour. We are looking forward to running Gifts of Gold over this longer trip as it should suit him. After winning well, Dubai Future was then a bit disappointing."

In Thursday's Listed Curlin S., a prep over the same track-and-trip as the G1 Dubai World Cup at the end of March, an even dozen line up headed by owner/trainer Jane Chapple-Hyam's **Ambassadorial** (Elusive Quality). The 108-rated 6-year-old gelding was runner-up in a local handicap going a mile on Jan. 16 and returned on Feb. 13 to take fourth in the G3 Firebreak S. A winner of the Listed Star Appeal S. in Ireland back in 2016, he carries the heaviest impost at 132, with Swedish Derby winner **Red Cactus** (Hard Spun) next at 123 for trainer Bent Olsen and owner Lone Kaj-Nielsen.

Reddam Racing's GSP **Parsimony** (Dominus), who set the pace in his unveiling here before tiring to fourth in the wake of **George Villiers (Ire)** (Dubawi {Ire}) and third **Great King** (Majestic Warrior) on Jan. 23, resumes on Thursday for Doug O'Neill. The grey colt has William Buick at the controls and breaks from gate five.

Rounding out the stakes action on Thursday is the 1600-metre Listed Meydan Classic over the grass. Cont. p3

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IN TDN AUS/NZ TODAY

YULONG SECURES ALABAMA EXPRESS

Yulong has purchased a significant share in Alabama Express (Aus) (Redoute's Choice {Aus}). **Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Aus/NZ.**

Well of Wisdom | *Scoop Dyga*

Dubai Preview Cont.

Godolphin's **Well of Wisdom (GB)** (Oasis Dream {GB}), one of two from the Charlie Appleby barn, lines up after a last out eighth in a grassy 1400-metre conditions race on Feb. 6. First past the post in the Listed Prix Roland de Chambure at ParisLongchamp on Bastille Day, the bay rolled a pair of twos in both the G3 Prix de Cabourg at Deauville on July 28 and in the Aug. 31 G3 Preis Zukunftsrennen at Baden-Baden. Appleby's Kodiac (GB) filly **Light Blush (Ire)**, second in the Listed Star S. at Sandown last July is hoping to rebound from a ninth in a 1400-metre conditions race over this course on Feb. 6.

Reddam Racing homebred **I Will Not** (Square Eddie) tries stakes company for the first time in the Meydan Classic. A winner at third asking at Del Mar in early November, the son of Square Eddie has been winless in two starts at the conditions level at Meydan, running fourth and seventh, respectively, in a Feb. 6 1400-metre affair and upped to 1900 metres Feb. 13.

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EUROPEAN NEWS

VETERINARY PANEL TO CONVENE FOR FRACTURE RISK ASSESSMENT

A two-day veterinary conference on fracture risk assessment of the Thoroughbred fetlock will bring together veterinarians from around the world in a bid to reach consensus on guidance for the racing industry.

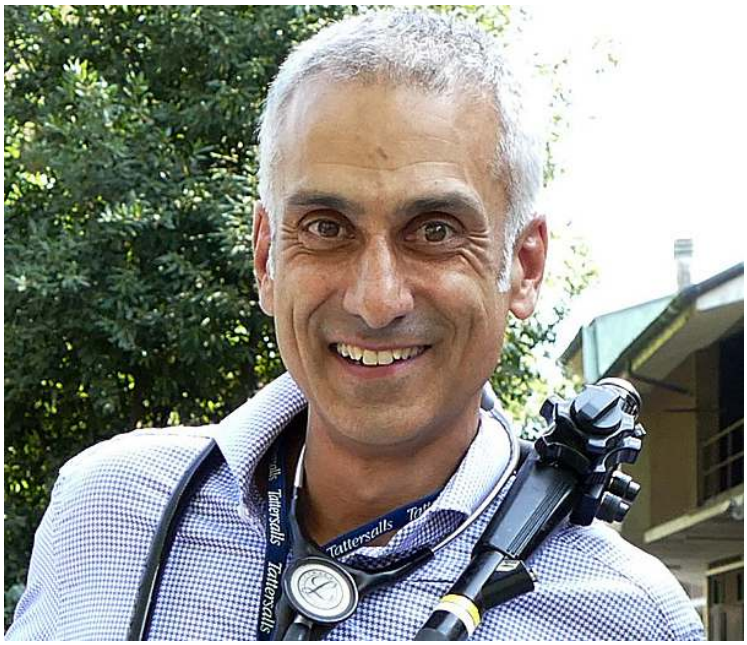
With its focus being particularly in relation to pre-race risk assessment, the international panel will review the current level of knowledge in this area in a closed session on Wednesday, Mar. 4. Cont. p4

Fracture Risk Assessment Cont.

The following day it will deliver its findings and recommendations to an invited audience which will include David Sykes and Lynn Hillyer, chief veterinary advisors to the BHA and HRI respectively, members of the racing and breeding community including Mark Johnston, Luca Cumani and Chris Richardson, as well as a number of vets from Britain, France and Ireland.

The 12-strong panel convening in Newmarket for the two days features representatives from America, Australia, Hong Kong and Britain, and will be chaired by Celia Marr of Rossdales veterinary practice and also editor of the Equine Veterinary Journal.

"The meeting is not going to dictate what a regulatory body should do but it will summarise and interpret the science and experience as we know it," said Piet Ramzan, a partner at Rossdales and one of the organisers of the event.



Piet Ramzan | *Emma Berry*

"Addressing the concerns of the public in respect of mitigation of race day fracture risk is one of the key issues facing the industry worldwide. New technologies are rapidly opening up opportunities for early detection of injury, however, at present there is no consensus on how these imaging technologies should best be applied or interpreted, particularly given the complexities of the Thoroughbred fetlock."

He continued, "Which horses should be selected for scans, and what imaging features represent heightened immediate risk of fracture? What recommendations regarding return to training should follow on from a horse being scratched? Screening programmes come with their own ethical and legal challenges, and full consideration of these is also important. To address these topics, a multi-disciplinary group of key international veterinary experts will review all available evidence and translate it into clear and concise consensus statements on major aspects of pre-race risk assessment. The agenda is ambitious, however, the meeting has been embraced enthusiastically by the wider veterinary community and is expected to set benchmarks for 'best practice' that will assist the daily work of veterinary and regulatory teams tasked with safeguarding our equine athletes."

Staged by the Beaufort Cottage Educational Trust in association with Rossdales, The Jockey Club and The Gerald Leigh Charitable Trust, as well as imaging companies Asto CT, Hallmarq and LongMile, the conference will take place at Newmarket's Jockey Club Rooms.

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BHA TO CONDUCT BREATH TESTING

The British Horseracing Authority will conduct breath testing of riders at British racecourses from Feb. 17 in a move away from the practice of having an external supplier conduct the testing.

From Mar. 1, new rules will come into effect allowing a more flexible approach to breath testing.

Chris Watts, Head of Integrity at the BHA, said, “This is an important and positive step in our testing procedures and will allow us to adopt a smarter and more cost-effective approach to testing. It will allow us to test more frequently but also with more flexibility, hopefully minimising the impact that it has on riders.

“There are plans to consider the other ways in which we test riders later this year, to examine if the testing methods that we use and the matrices that we are testing are as effective as they can be.”

Paul Struthers, Chief Executive of the Professional Jockeys Association, said, "The PJA and its board has long been in support of increased testing for riders. Bringing breath testing ‘in-house’ and increasing the flexibility of the testing process are important steps which we fully support."

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BRITAIN

Wednesday's Results:

5th-Southwell, £8,050, Nov, 2-26, 3-4yo, 8f 13y (AWT), 1:42.71, st.

QUEEN OF ALL (GB) (f, 3, Mukhadram {GB}--Dhuyoof {Ire}, by Sinndar {Ire}), a Nov. 29 debut scorer going seven furlongs at Kempton in her only prior start, was comfortable in a forward role after an alert getaway here. Turning for home with a narrow advantage, the 5-6 pick was nudged along in early straight and urged clear inside the final quarter mile to comfortably account for Mesmeric (Ger) (Casamento {Ire}) by 3 1/2 lengths. Kin to G3 Premio Parioli (Italian 2000 Guineas) victor Salford Secret (Ire) (Sakhee's Secret {GB}), the February-foaled bay is the latest of seven foals and one of four winners produced by the unraced Dhuyoof (Ire) (Sinndar {Ire}), herself out of a winning half-sister to MG1SW sire Dylan Thomas (Ire) (Danehill) and G1SW distaffers Queen's Logic (Ire) (Grand Lodge) and Homecoming Queen (Ire) (Holy Roman Emperor {Ire}). Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, $10,949. **Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton**.

O-Jaber Abdullah; B-Rabbah Bloodstock Ltd (GB); T-Richard Hughes.

3rd-Kempton, £6,000, Mdn, 2-26, 3yo/up, 11f 219y (AWT), 2:33.82, st/sl.

PUNCTUATION (GB) (c, 3, Dansili {GB}--Key Point {Ire}, by Galileo {Ire}), who was denied by a head in his Jan. 22 debut over this course and distance last time, employed patient tactics off the pace from the outset of this one. Bounding by rivals to the fore once past halfway, the 4-5 choice was untroubled thereafter and lengthened ever clear under mild coaxing inside the final quarter mile to score by an impressive 11 lengths from Pledge of Peace (Ire) (New Approach {Ire}). Half-brother to a yearling colt by Kingman (GB), the May-foaled homebred becomes the first winner produced by an unraced half-sister to MG1SW sire Kalanisi (Ire) (Doyoun {Ire}). Lifetime Record: 2-1-1-0, $6,554.

O/B-The Queen (GB); T-Andrew Balding.

Punctuation | *Racingfotos.com*

WORLDWIDE NEWS

KRA SUSPENDS RACING THROUGH MAR. 8

The Korea Racing Authority has suspended racing across all of South Korea due to the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, Alastair Middleton of *Horseracing in Korea* reported. The countries three tracks--Seoul, Busan and Jeju will not race as scheduled, as their meetings have been postponed from Feb. 28-Mar. 8. The following meetings have been suspended:

- Feb. 28: Busan/Jeju
- Feb. 29: Seoul/Jeju
- Mar. 1: Seoul/Busan
- Mar. 6: Busan/Jeju
- Mar. 7: Seoul/Jeju
- Mar. 8: Seoul/Busan

The situation will be re-evaluated by the KRA on Mar. 9.

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DUBAI

Thursday, Meydan, UAE, post time: 7:05 p.m.

MEYDAN CLASSIC SPONSORED BY MOHAMMED BIN RASHID AL MAKTOUM CITY-DISTRICT ONE, $175,000, NH & SH 3yo, 1600mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	WT
1	Colour Image (Ire)	Kodiac (GB)	Stott	bin Suroor	125
2	Hamama	Shackleford	Fresu	bin Harmash	121
3	I Will Not	Square Eddie	O'Shea	O'Neill	125
4	Well of Wisdom (GB)	Oasis Dream (GB)	Buick	Appleby	125
5	Youonlyliveonce (Fr)	Sidestep (Aus)	Doyle	Kelp	125
6	Al Mukhtar Star	Lemon Drop Kid	de Vries	Nass	125
7	Light Blush (Ire)	Kodiac (GB)	Barzalona	Appleby	121
~~8~~	~~More Caviar (Ire)~~	~~Brazen Beau (Aus)~~	~~SCR~~	~~SCR~~	~~SCR~~
9	Lost in Time (GB)	Dubawi (Ire)	Soumillon	bin Suroor	125
10	Raahy (GB)	Brazen Beau (Aus)	Veron	Nass	125
11	Good Fighter	Distorted Humor	Mullen	Seemar	125
12	First View (Ire)	Exceed And Excel (Aus)	Murphy	bin Suroor	125
13	Emirates Currency (GB)	Muhaarar (GB)	Bentley	Charpy	125
14	Silent Night (Swe)	Night of Thunder (Ire)	Lopez	Wahl	121

Thursday, Meydan, UAE, post time: 9:25 p.m.
CURLIN S. SPONSORED BY MOHAMMED BIN RASHID AL MAKTOUM CITY-DISTRICT ONE, $175,000, NH 4yo/up & SH 3yo/up, 2000m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	WT
1	Grand Argentier (Fr)	Palace Episode	Dobbs	Watson	121
2	George Villiers (Ire)	Dubawi (Ire)	O'Shea	Seemar	119
3	Barreesh (Ire)	Giant's Causeway	Morris	Ramadhan	117
4	Today (Kor)	Drosselmeyer	Jara	Kim	118
5	Parsimony	Dominus	Buick	O'Neill	122
6	Ambassadorial	Elusive Quality	Egan	Chapple-Hyam	132
7	Great King	Majestic Warrior	Beasley	Gillespie	118
8	Assimilation (Ire)	Xtension (Ire)	Fresu	Walker	117
9	Tried and True	Medaglia d'Oro	Hitchcott	Watson	117
10	Baengmunbaekdap	Tapizar	Ffrench	Kim	120
11	Dehbashi	Blame	Doyle	Watson	118
12	Red Cactus	Hard Spun	Lopez	Olsen	123

AUSTRALIAN GROUP 1 RACES – 2020

Date	Race	Track
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
THE CHAMPIONSHIPS		
Apr. 4	G1 The Star Doncaster Mile S.	Randwick
	G1 T J Smith S.	Randwick
	G1 Harrolds Australian Derby	Randwick
	G1 Inglis Sires' S.	Randwick
Apr. 11	G1 Longines Queen Elizabeth S.	Randwick
	G1 Schweppes Sydney Cup	Randwick
	G1 Heineken 3 Australian Oaks	Randwick
	G1 Coolmore Legacy S.	Randwick
Apr. 18	G1 Schweppes All-Aged S.	Randwick
	G1 Moet & Chandon Champagne S.	Randwick

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GROUP ENTRIES

Thursday, Meydan, UAE, post time: 8:50 p.m.

NAD AL SHEBA TROPHY SPONSORED BY MOHAMMED BIN RASHID AL MAKTOUM CITY-DISTRICT ONE-G3, $300,000, NH 4yo/up & SH 3yo/up, 2810mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	WT
1	Dubai Horizon (Ire)	Poet's Voice (GB)	Soumillon	bin Suroor	125
2	Secret Advisor (Fr)	Dubawi (Ire)	Buick	Appleby	125
3	Charles Kingsley (GB)	New Approach (Ire)	Barzalona	bin Ghadayer	125
4	Koeman (GB)	Dutch Art (GB)	Egan	Channon	125
5	Dubhe (GB)	Dubawi (Ire)	Doyle	Appleby	125
6	Spanish Mission	Noble Mission (GB)	Spencer	Simcock	121
7	Gifts of Gold (Ire)	Invincible Spirit (Ire)	Cosgrave	bin Suroor	125
8	Massif Central (Ire)	Arcano (Ire)	Whelan	Halford	125
9	Dubai Future (GB)	Dubawi (Ire)	Bentley	bin Suroor	121

Saturday, King Abdulaziz Racetrack, Saudi Arabia, post time: 8:40 p.m.

THE SAUDI CUP-COND., $20,000,000, 4yo/up, 1800m

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	WT
1	3	Benbatl (GB)	Dubawi (Ire)	Murphy	bin Suroor	126
2	13	Capezzano	Bernardini	Barzalona	bin Ghadayer	126
3	10	Chrysoberyl (Jpn)	Gold Allure (Jpn)	Soumillon	Otonashi	126
4	1	Gold Dream (Jpn)	Gold Allure (Jpn)	Lemaire	Hirata	126
5	11	Great Scot (GB)	Requinto (Ire)	Morena	Mishrif	126
6	5	Gronkowski	Lonhro (Aus)	Dettori	bin Ghadayer	126
7	7	Maximum Security	New Year's Day	Saez	Servis	126
8	9	McKinzie	Street Sense	Rosario	Baffert	126
9	14	Mjjack (Ire)	Elzaam (Aus)	Alawfi	Al Harabi	126
10	8	Mucho Gusto	Mucho Macho Man	Ortiz, Jr.	Baffert	126
11	4	North America (GB)	Dubawi (Ire)	Mullen	Seemar	126
12	2	Tacitus	Tapit	Lezcano	Mott	126
13	12	Magic Wand (Ire)	Galileo (Ire)	Moore	O'Brien	121
14	7	Midnight Bisou	Midnight Lute	Smith	Asmussen	121
Reserve:						
15	Staunch (GB)		Pivotal (GB)	No Rider	Almindeel	126

Saturday, King Abdulaziz Racetrack, Saudi Arabia, post time: 5:10 p.m.

THE LONGINES TURF H.-COND., $2,500,000, 3yo/up, 3000mT

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	WT
1	1	Cross Counter (GB)	Teofilo (Ire)	Buick	Appleby	135
2	5	Dee Ex Bee (GB)	Farhh (GB)	Barzalona	bin Ghadayer	135
3	4	Call The Wind (GB)	Frankel (GB)	Peslier	Head	132
4	3	Called To The Bar (Ire)	Henrythenavigator	No Rider	Brandt	131
5	2	Prince of Arran (GB)	Shirocco (Ger)	Doyle	Fellowes	130
6	8	Twilight Payment (Ire)	Teofilo (Ire)	No Rider	O'Brien	130
7	9	Downdraft (Ire)	Camelot (GB)	Moore	O'Brien	129
8	13	King's Advice (GB)	Frankel (GB)	No Rider	Johnston	128
9	10	Mekong (GB)	Frankel (GB)	No Rider	Osbourne	128
10	12	True Self (Ire)	Oscar (Ire)	Dettori	Mullins	127
11	7	Contango (Ire)	Casamento (Ire)	Morales	Alghareeban	116
12	6	Hibou (GB)	Street Cry (Ire)	Ortiz Jr	Alabdmonim	110
13	11	Mafaaheem (Ire)	Shamardal	Al Audeeb	Alharabi	110
14	14	Dramatic Device (GB)	Dansili (GB)	Murphy	Khalid	108

Tdn australia new zealand
THURSDAY, 27 FEBRUARY 2020

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YULONG SECURES ALABAMA EXPRESS

Alabama Express | *Bronwen Healy*

By Bren O'Brien

Alabama Express's future as a stallion has been assured with Yulong purchasing a significant share in the son of Redoute's Choice with the intention to stand him at its Victorian base once his racing career is over.

Alabama Express secured a valuable Group 1 victory when winning the CF Orr S. at Caulfield at his most recent start for trainer Mike Moroney. He is set to contest the G1 Australian Guineas at Flemington on Saturday.

Yulong, which stood 2018 G1 Australian Guineas Makybe Diva S. winner Grunt (NZ) as its foundation stallion at its Yulong Stud at Nagambie last year, has secured a share with the existing owners of Alabama Express ahead of his next Group 1 test.

"Investing in a colt the quality of Alabama Express highlights the commitment of Mr. Zhang to develop the strength of the Yulong stallion roster and the Melbourne breeding industry," said Sam Fairgray, Yulong's Chief Operating Officer.

Yulong has built an impressive broodmare band of well over 100 over the past few years and Grunt served an impressive book of 178 mares last year. Given that, Alabama Express should get every opportunity to make his name as a stallion whenever it is decided he will retire.

Bred by GSA Bloodstock, Alabama Express was purchased for $280,000 by Paul Moroney Bloodstock at the 2018 Inglis Easter Yearling Sale. He is out of Lago Ovation (Encosta De Lago) from the family of stakes winners such as Rekindled Interest (Redoute's Choice), Where We Left Off (GB) (Dr Devious {GB}) and Porticcio (Ire) (Lamitas {GB}).

"He was just a cracking athlete and he had a lot of quality, with a great mind," Paul Moroney recalled of him as a yearling. "He had a lot of his dad, Redoute's Choice, about him. He was a great moving horse and to me, he was a standout on class.

"He's obviously taken that quality of his looks across to the racetrack and he's proven himself as a high-quality racehorse. He's got all the hallmarks of making a great stallion prospect--he's a Group 1 winner, he's athletic, he's a standout on type and he's got a lot of his dad about him.

"We've always thought that he was a miler, so I'm excited to see him step up to that distance this weekend. We thought that from the day we bought him as a yearling."

Alabama Express is one of three Group 1 winners by Redoute's Choice out of an Encosta De Lago mare, a nick which has produced nine stakes winners in all from 61 runners.

It was that combination of those two great bloodlines which appealed greatly to Yulong.

"Redoute's Choice is an Australian phenomenon. He is peerless in his achievements at stud and continues to build his legacy through exceptional sons and daughters. We couldn't be more delighted to secure a Group 1 WFA-winning son, who is built in the mould of his Champion Sire," Fairgray said.

Alabama Express | *Bronwen Healy*

"Alabama Express is out of an Encosta De Lago mare, the same cross as exceptional sire Beneteau. This Australian sire-power is complemented by his quality international female family which should suit the local broodmare population."

Mike Moroney, who has guided Alabama Express to four wins from his seven starts to date, will continue to train the colt, with other parties involved in the ownership including Lib Petagna and Rupert Legh, who was also a major owner in Grunt.

AUSTRALIAN-BRED WINNERS

IN HONG KONG:

Winning Delight, g, 4, **Sebring**--Raise (GSW-Aus, $184,575), by Arena. Happy Valley, 2-26, Hcp. *($284k)*, 2200m, 2:16.63. B-Newhaven Park Stud (NSW). *Formerly Subraise. **$250,000 Ylg '17 MMGCYS. **VIDEO**

Invincible Missile, g, 4, **Smart Missile**--Phaedra, by Hussonet (USA). Happy Valley, 2-26, Hcp. *($284k)*, 1200m. B-Arrowfield Pastoral Pty Ltd, T & J Hodgson AM, Paul J Favretto T/A Favretto Bloodstock (NSW). *$110,000 Ylg '17 MMGCYS. **VIDEO**

NEW ZEALAND-BRED WINNERS

IN HONG KONG:

Ares, g, 3, **Zacinto (GB)**--Marzia, by Elusive City (USA). Happy Valley, 2-26, Hcp. *(NZ$197k)*, 1200m, 1:09.57. B-Scott Richardson Bloodstock. *NZ$150,000 **VIDEO**

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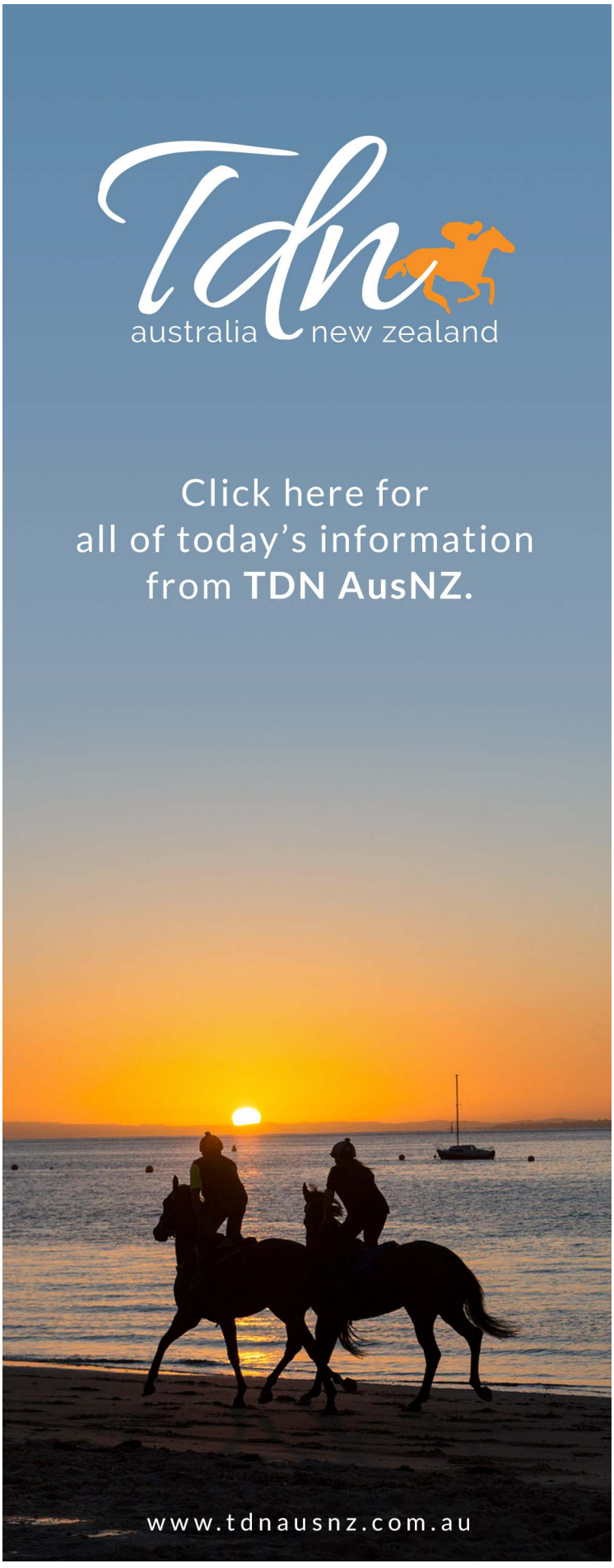
Jennifer Eccles Confirms Oaks Favouritism

No Newmarket for Nature Strip

Eight in G1 Australian Guineas

Pivotal's Avilius Read for Randwick

Gingernuts Given Derby Honour