

IF SPECTATORS AREN'T ALLOWED, DOES IT MAKE SENSE TO RUN AT SARATOGA?



Sunrise at Saratoga | Sarah Andrew

The Week in Review, by Bill Finley

As the calendar turned to mid-April, suddenly opening day at Saratoga doesn't seem that far off. The meet is set to begin in less than three months, July 16. And while resuming racing at Belmont is of more immediate concern, it's not too early for the New York Racing Association team to begin to explore options for Saratoga, options that should include racing downstate throughout the summer.

That's assuming that NYRA is allowed to race at all. The only thing we know now is that Belmont will not open as scheduled Apr. 24. In an announcement that surprised exactly no one, NYRA made it official last week that racing would continue to stay on hiatus and did not set a new date for the Belmont opener. In early April, NYRA announced that Saratoga will open as planned, but, as developments with the coronavirus change by the day so, too, do the well-intentioned plans of those trying to make future schedules. Nothing is certain.

No one knows when New York racing will be allowed to resume and trying to predict when that will happen is pure guesswork.

Cont. p3

DELAY NO BAR TO DEVAUX AMBITION

by Chris McGrath

Cherie DeVaux remembers a 2-year-old by Giant's Causeway coming in one summer. He was hot and raw and really wasn't showing a lot. Then, at Palm Meadows, she breezed him on turf for the first time.

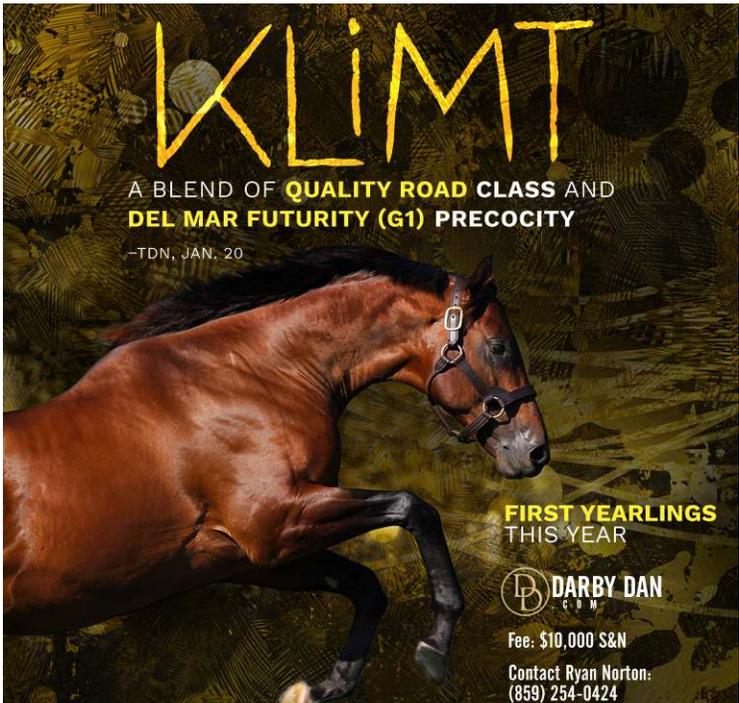
Now Chad Brown has a lot of horses and DeVaux watched plenty of others that morning. And they were just breezing, after all. So it took something special to make her call her boss, away for his Christmas break, as she walked back to the car.

"I'm telling you," she said. "This horse is a monster on the grass."

DeVaux pauses and grins. "Well, if that horse didn't try to make a liar out of me every time he breezed after that!" she says. "Never repeated it. I guess, being so immature in the mind, he just started messing around. I remember a conversation with Chad, going back and forth. 'Are you sure that horse went as well as you saw?' Really had to stick my neck out. But now we know what Bricks And Mortar came to be." **Cont. p5**

IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

DOLAN ON THE UP DOWN UNDER Emma Berry speaks with jockey Robbie Dolan, who moved his tack to Australia, and won the G2 Arrowfield 3yo Sprint aboard Splintex (Aus). [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Europe.](#)



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A filly by Mendelssohn and out of Butternut Bloomers (Curlin) explores the world around her. [Click here](#) to email photos of your 2020 foals for consideration in the TDN. Please include sire, dam, owner, and photographer's name. [Click here](#) to submit foaling news for your stakes-winning and stakes-producing mares. | Paula Taube

V.E. DAY TO STAND FREE OF CHARGE

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In the model of Chuck Fipke's gesture last week, V.E. Day (English Channel), who had been standing at Buck Pond Farm for a fee of \$6,500 live foal, will now be offered to breeders free of charge.

SHOTSKI BACK IN TRAINING

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BREEDING IN PENNSYLVANIA

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The Week in Review *(cont. from p1)*

But as racing, and society, tries to figure out how to move forward while under attack from the coronavirus, the one thing that is fairly certain is that fans will not be allowed in the stands for the foreseeable future.

That would mean that if NYRA has been cleared to race come mid-July, the Saratoga meet might have to be held before empty stands. That's not Saratoga. Saratoga is a place where live racing not only matters, but is the pulse of the meet. The grandstand is normally teeming with life, young and old come to celebrate the horse and the entire town comes alive for six weeks. If you can't have fans, if the horses navigate around the track primarily so that people positioned in front of their computer screens have something to bet on, should you even have a meet? At the very least, that's something that NYRA needs to examine.



Travers crowd at Saratoga | Horsephotos

An empty Saratoga really wouldn't be any different than an empty Belmont. When the sport is stripped down to a made-for-television event, it really doesn't matter where the races are held. So, if Saratoga can't be Saratoga, wouldn't it be a lot easier on everyone involved with New York racing to stay put downstate?

Taking an entire community of racing people and transplanting them from Long Island to Saratoga is neither cheap nor easy. Hundreds of people have to be uprooted and find temporary homes. More than 1,000 horses have to be shipped out. Staying at home would mean a lot less

hassle and it would have only a minimal impact on the Saratoga economy. If there are no fans in town and if the bars and restaurants are closed anyway, holding a live meet will do little for local businesses.

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Nacho Patino (Left), Anthony Manganaro (Middle), David Pope (Right)

And could there be some related risks involving the coronavirus? It would seem that taking a large group of people and injecting them into a new community that has been trying to stay isolated would involve some health risks.

There are a handful of reasons to go to Saratoga anyway. It might be good for the collective psyche of the sport as canceling Saratoga, even a spectator-free Saratoga, would be depressing. The Saratoga brand should never be discounted and a Saratoga meet would likely handle more than a July-August Belmont meet, even if the racing is the same.

Then there is turf racing. The Belmont turf course gets worn down by the end of the meet and trying to get another six weeks of use out of it might be pushing things. Then again, if the Belmont spring meet doesn't begin until, say, June, that may be less of a problem. If the status of turf racing does become a problem, another option may be to head over to Aqueduct for a while and race over the two turf courses there that get only limited use.

These are tough questions and there are no easy answers. In a perfect world, Saratoga would not only open July 16, but would open up before a large and enthusiastic crowd ready to celebrate the return of racing. That's probably not going to happen, so a contingency plan is needed, even if that means saying see you next year to what is one of the sport's great meets.

Again, the Animal Rights Activists Have It All Wrong

In his story last week about the [possible re-opening of Santa Anita](#), Dan Ross noted that a phone conference between track officials and Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger was moved up to keep animal rights activists out of the loop and unable to interfere with the process. It wasn't the first time it has been reported that the animal rights crowd has gone out of its way to keep Santa Anita closed during the coronavirus. The hypocrisy is off the charts.

Anyone who cares about the animal should be doing the exact opposite, lobbying for racing to resume. Anything else could prove to be a major problem for the horses the PETA crowd claims to be so concerned about.

Even at Santa Anita, the horse population includes animals that will be put in increasing danger the longer the track is shuttered. With no racing, horses can't earn and horses that don't earn can become expendable. When an owner tells a trainer that he can no longer afford to pay the day rate to keep a horse in training, where does that horse go? It's not going to be to California Retirement Management Account (CARMA), which has announced that it can no longer take in retirees from Santa Anita because it has lost its main source of funding, purse contributions and matching funds during live racing.

The problem is worse at lower-level tracks, where many owners and trainers are having to deal with the harsh reality of what to do if someone can no longer afford to keep a horse in training. PETA, et. al., should be lining up behind those who are fighting to re-open the tracks because that is what is best for the horses. They would--if they actually cared more about the horse than an agenda to end horse racing.

The Remington Debacle

The Oklahoma Racing Commission's suspension of the Sooner Six wager at the Remington Park quarter horse meet was a welcome development. Something needed to be done after horseplayer Jeff Arthur appeared to have taken home [the entire jackpot pool Apr. 10](#) and the commission will now investigate. Arthur had the only ticket with all six winners, but didn't collect the whole pool because two of the horses he had in the last leg finished in a dead-heat for the win. That led Remington to declare that there were actually two winning tickets, albeit two belonging to Arthur, which meant the jackpot was carried over. Arthur received a consolation payoff of \$8,920. Had it been declared that he was entitled to the entire pool, he would have won \$35,145.



Racing at Remington Park | *Dustin Orona Photography*

Remington wasn't entirely wrong. Going strictly on the rules of the wager, there were two winning tickets and the jackpot can only be paid out if there is a single winning ticket. But there should be a way to rely on simple common sense, which would dictate that Arthur deserved to be paid.

There's an easy solution to this: stick to the rules, but still pay Arthur as a goodwill gesture. Give him his \$35,145, but keep the jackpot pool intact as if no one had a single ticket. That way everyone is happy and Remington can come out of this looking like the good guys rather than the track that stiffed a horseplayer out of what is rightfully his.

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Delay No Bar to DeVaux Ambition

(cont. from p1)

Now that she supervises a stable of her own, DeVaux tries to remember that lesson.

"Once in a blue moon, one will breeze--and it can be a quarter of a mile--and there's just a special presence about them. And you try not to get your hopes up, because more often than not, they're going to disappoint you. But if you're confident they have talent, you don't want to push them before they're ready. They can go through a growth phase, their condition changes, their coat, color, weight. Your reward will be so much better if you just let them take you there. Especially if you feel that the horse is worth the time, but it's true for every developing 2-year-old."

Such seasoned acuity, plainly, is uncommon in a trainer who saddled her first winner only a year ago. But a long perspective, right now, cannot be confined only to her horses.

Fortunately DeVaux is way too smart, and too steely, to feel sorry for herself. In fact, she stresses how lucky she feels, to be able to get outdoors and tend her horses. At the best of times, after all, the barn is where she's happiest. But the fact remains that the coronavirus lockdown could hardly have come at a less convenient moment in her career.

For here's a young trainer who had ended 2019 on a roll that transparently confirmed a talent to watch. Her last 10 starters of that first full year included three winners and three seconds. And while she did at least squeeze 'TDN Rising Star' debutante Remanded (Elusive Quality) into the Gulfstream winner's circle, before the shutdown, like everyone else she now has a stable in suspended animation.

"I'm very happy I get to escape the confines of my house," she says. "And very fortunate to be stabled at Payson, where we can keep training, and have the option to give some horses turnout, or adjust them to different training regimes. But yes, the pandemic has definitely thrown a wrench in our plans. We had everything primed for a spring campaign in Kentucky. The struggle all trainers share is that we don't have a target for when racing will resume. So we're trying to maintain a balance between keeping the horses fit, both physically and mentally, without over-training them or risking injury. The problem we'll all face is the logjam when racing does resume."



Cherie DeVaux | Will Wong

In one respect, DeVaux has been especially unfortunate--having long resolved, as her consolidation strategy, to target the 2-year-old sales.

Certainly they proved fertile ground last year, notably through six fillies assembled for Belladonna Racing: five starters, four winners. Once again, however, DeVaux has sought a silver lining. Having managed to pick up three fillies from OBS March, she has meanwhile accompanied her husband, bloodstock agent David Ingordo, on a scouting trip to Florida consignors stranded by an unpredictable sale schedule.

"We found it a great opportunity, to get some very promising prospects that were fairly priced and did not have to go through the rigors of a sale," she explains.

Even so, the loss of momentum is vexing for a trainer who had been obliged to build from a standing start. It is two years now since she quit Brown's service: her last day was a Sunday, the

first day of the rest of her life was the Monday. From an entirely blank slate, she initially assembled just a handful of horses.

"It was really hard to have the patience," she admits. "I was trying to do all the things I knew to be right: like we were just saying, to let the horses develop, give them the time. But when you have eight horses sitting there, you really need to have faith that it's going to work."

Whatever your numbers, it comes down to a reliable sense of whether an individual's graph-lines are rising or falling. Brown and the other "super-trainers" can only do this so long as they can delegate to assistants of sufficient caliber. With those guys, as DeVaux says, "you're buying into a program" rather than a specific trainer. In her own case, then, the goal is not to become too spread out.

"Because the key, for me, is to be able to see all the horses," she says. "So in the summertime, when we were in Kentucky and Saratoga, I split my week: three days in one place, four mornings in the other. Of course, in both you still need people you can trust, people that care enough to be on top of things the way you would be. It's about not missing those nuances. When I worked for Chad, it didn't matter if I had 20 horses in my care or 100, I would check them all myself."

For now, the only "stretch" arising from a string of around 40 concerns stalls space in Kentucky. (And that was true even before the congestion that looms once the calendar is renewed.)

Being so attuned to the quiet prompts of a horse under the stress of training, DeVaux is uncomfortable with pressure to match stall allocation with starts. She would love a Payson Park in Kentucky.

"I don't blame the racing secretaries. They have a business to run," she says. "But it can be hard to justify your stalls when you're trying to develop horses the right way. At Payson, thanks to clients who are on the same page, we have the opportunity to do just that."

Not that DeVaux is unduly conservative with her youngsters. If anything, quite the reverse. Back in school, studying physical therapy, she learned about bone as living tissue.

"Without some kind of stress, bone doesn't build strong," she explains. "Studies of shin fracture, and splints, have shown that if you do short, fast works, it will stimulate bone regeneration. That's why, with a 2-year-old that isn't early or precocious, it's important you still train them. It's almost irresponsible not to. But you also don't need them in full training, and obviously you don't run them before they're ready because that will cause other issues. So, for me, it's a cycle you have to be on top of."



DeVaux and Lady Eli | *Susie Raisher*

DeVaux's grounding was actually not with Thoroughbreds: her father trained Standardbreds in upstate New York, at Saratoga and Monticello, and a couple of her brothers went into that world. (One has driven over 5,000 winners.)

"Everything was hands-on," she recalls. "I was cleaning stalls at eight years old. You learned that if you want to go out and have fun later, there's barn chores first. When I was a teenager we moved out of the business, but I used to barrel race, and participated in a lot of rodeos. So horses have always been a big part of my life; and hard work, too."

The man who first gave her real responsibility was Chuck Simon, who had started out with her father at the harness track. But she was still at a crossroads when, after six years, she took a summer job with Brown. She was 28, could still go back to school and finish qualifying. But things were beginning to happen for her boss, so DeVaux put her hand up for the winter division in Belmont: if that didn't kill off her sense of vocation, nothing would.

The next eight years are Turf history. Not just grass history, mind--despite Brown's perceived forte. DeVaux supervised the flowering of Last Gunfighter (First Samurai), for instance, and he ended up running fifth in the GI Breeders' Cup Classic. But the highlight was certainly Lady Eli (Divine Park).

"I always get a little emotional," DeVaux admits, asked to sum up a bond forged during the mare's celebrated recovery from laminitis. "Sitting on a bucket inside her stall for about a week straight... The biggest win was not that she went back to the races and did what she did. It was to get her over the hump in that critical phase. Everything above that was a bonus. The conversations went from her teetering between life and death; to how much quality of life is she going to have; to okay, she's sound and might even make a racehorse again."

DeVaux is in no doubt that the same inner drive sustained the mare's recuperation and her indomitability on the track. The day she was asked to lead Lady Eli out of confinement, to graze for half an hour if possible, the mare toppled over a couple of times in the first 10 minutes.

"Not bad, but she got grass stains on her bandages," DeVaux recalls. "I looked in her eye, and she was pissed off. I wanted to bring her in. But she was standing there like she would not be defeated. And that was why she not only made it through, but also came back to be a star on the track."

Last fall, DeVaux took her stepdaughter Reagan to visit Lady Eli at Hill 'n' Dale, marvelling at the pacification the ornery mare has achieved in motherhood.

"Reagan walks up to her and she's petting her," she says. "And it's still hard for me to trust Lady Eli with her, you know, I'm kind of hovering over. But she has completely changed. They said as soon as she had that baby, she turned into mom mode."

Reagan herself represents an equivalent new experience for DeVaux, whose marriage has incidentally created as formidably sharp, ambitious and dynamic a breakfast counter as there can be on the American Turf. Anyone who knows Ingordo will know that he would not dream of compromising professional judgement with sentiment--and his faith in DeVaux's ability has an unmistakable and iron objectivity. As such, would both parties be delighted when industry people start referring to Ingordo as "Cherie DeVaux's husband"?

"Right," says DeVaux with a smile. "We'll make him change his last name! I haven't changed mine, though I told him I'll consider hyphenating it when he finds me a horse that has a good shot in the Derby.

"It is a partnership. Marriage takes work, and business takes work. His business is established, obviously, and I'm building my own brand. But from the beginning he has believed in me—including sometimes when I was doubting. And that's important in any relationship, working or personal, to have that belief.



David and Reagan Ingordo and Cherie DeVaux

photo courtesy Cherie DeVaux

"And for us, it's our life. You know, some people watch TV. We're reading the *TDN* at night together, or looking up charts. It's all-encompassing. I'm not saying everybody could do it, but it works for us. I'm a strong personality. I run my own business. But he's great for bouncing ideas off."

So here are two straight-talking, independent thinkers, whose domestic harmonies remain their own business; but whose professional agendas, intersecting not always but often, command esteem not just from each other but from everyone they deal with. Long before Ingordo's input, after all, DeVaux had a long apprenticeship with one of the highest achievers of their generation.

Nor does she just try to get inside a horse's head. As a longtime athlete herself, DeVaux can nearly put herself into its body. She has had her knee injected; she has had shockwave; once she had to do without water for 25 hours, a horrible experience that makes her wary of dehydrating therapies.

"But the real eye-opener was the knee injection," she says. "Because I went from not being able to walk to being able to do a lot of things, and ended up hurting myself because I overdid it. Horses don't have a voice, so I'm always mindful of making sure we do the diagnostics right."

And that respect for the horse is indiscriminate.

"When they come in, they're all horses and all need the same level of care—whether they cost \$1 million or \$10,000," she insists. "Everyone knows that a \$1-million baby can be end up a \$25,000 maiden claimer. But in every case you're trying to get the most potential out of them, and it doesn't matter at what level.

"And I need to keep that in mind: to not pressure yourself. If there's a lot of potential, great, but I'm not doing my job if I'm placating an owner by saying, 'Well sure, this horse you paid a lot of money for is really good.' That horse will be the biggest truth-teller when it goes out on the racetrack. So it doesn't matter how much you paid, you give them all every opportunity."

She gets it. Don't count the milestones to the horizon and hurry breathlessly to the next one. Just take each step right, with each horse, and you'll end up reaching your destination a lot faster. DeVaux is not a trainer in a hurry. She's a trainer going places. And the current hold-up, maddening as it is, won't change either of those things.

"I believe everything happens in its own time," she says. "If I came out of the box and won a lot of races, I might have grown too fast. And then, right off the bat, you wouldn't be set up right. I'm always a driven person. Where I was last year, I want to be more next year. But you have to be patient; have to appreciate each stepping stone along the way."

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V.E. DAY TO STAND FREE OF CHARGE

by Sue Finley

In the model of Chuck Fipke's gesture last week, **V.E. Day** (English Channel), who had been standing at Buck Pond Farm for a fee of \$6,500 live foal, will now be offered to breeders free of charge, according to Buck Pond's owner Doug Arnold.

V.E. Day is owned by Magalen Ohrstrom Bryant. Arnold said that her close friend Johnathan Miller called him on Friday to talk about the possibility of following Fipke's lead.

"Johnathan had called me and talked to me about it, and I thought it was a great idea," said Arnold. "We're in a situation where some people have not booked their mares, are unsure about the financial stability going forward, and the future is very bright for him. I have been around all the foals, and without a doubt, I have yet to see a bad foal. When you look at what makes a stallion, he's got a great race record, won the Travers, from a great old Darby Dan family, there's no better broodmare sire than Deputy Minister, and there's the way that the babies look. He's by English Channel, by sire of sires Smart Strike. No one knows who's going to make it and who isn't. I'm not sure they're going to be 4 1/2-furlong horses, but they have an opportunity to be really good racehorses. It's a good time to breed to him and the price is right."

V.E. Day entered stud in New York in 2017, where he stood one season before being transferred to Buck Pond in 2018. He has a small first crop of 2-year-old and his first Kentucky crop are yearlings.

Arnold said that Bryant and Miller had approached him about relocating the horse to Kentucky, and that he felt it was a good opportunity for everyone. “Like I said, I haven’t seen a bad baby. His numbers have not been great all along, which is a trend we’re all seeing for stallions at his fee, but at this point, based on apples to apples, I wouldn’t trade places with anybody. That’s the type of horses he’s getting. I think if somebody takes a chance with him, they’ll be rewarded.”



Travers winner V.E. Day | Barbara Livingston

V.E. Day’s career included a win in the Curlin S. at Saratoga along with the Grade I Travers. He registered triple-digit Beyers at Belmont and Saratoga, and retired with earnings of over \$1 million and wins on both turf and dirt.

Arnold was reflective when asked why gestures such as this one were important. “This is a little handout,” he said. “It’s not a great big thing. I don’t want to make it sound like people are going to show up with 100 mares. They’re not. But I hope that people can look on this as an opportunity that we provided when things were bad.

“It’s really hard to get your head around what’s going on right now,” he said. “I went the other day and gave blood. That’s a little thing. But it does make you think about the times we were living in. This thing has touched us all and we’ll never go back to life the way it was before. It’s a small gift to say, ‘hey, we get it. We care.’ If people don’t respond, that’s fine. But at the same time, it’s out there.

“We all used to look out for one another,” he said. “And now, this business has gotten so competitive. Maybe we’ll all get back to embracing what’s most important, and that’s family and friends, and helping each other out.”

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SHOTSKI BACK IN TRAINING

Last year’s GII Remsen S. winner **Shotski** (Blame) traveled to Dubai only to ship back home again without racing when the G2 UAE Derby was canceled. He was given some time off after shipping back stateside, but is now back in training with Jeremiah O’Dwyer. The sophomore, who was second in the Feb. 1 GIII Withers S. and fourth in the Feb. 29 GII Fasig-Tipton Fountain of Youth S., is expected to return to the work tab later this week.

“I’ve given him a bit of down time after coming back from Dubai,” said O’Dwyer. “He’s done a fair bit of traveling. He’s had some turnout and he’s been galloping. We might breeze him here later this week and see how he is.”

In addition to Shotski, who is not expected to make the race, O’Dwyer also nominated maiden winners **My Friends Beer** (Stay Thirsty) and **Amen Corner** (Malibu Moon) to the May 2 GI Arkansas Derby.

Purchased for \$25,000 at last year’s OBS April sale, Designated Hitters Racing’s My Friends Beer graduated at fifth asking in a \$40,000 maiden-claiming sprint at Laurel Park. Following a closing second in the Mar. 14 Private Terms S. at Laurel, the sophomore shipped to Oaklawn to finish third behind ‘TDN Rising Star’ Pneumatic (Uncle Mo) in a one-mile optional claimer Apr. 11.

“He’s very nicely bred,” O’Dwyer said of the half-brother to champion female sprinter Shamrock Rose (First Dude). “We only paid \$25,000 for him and he’s a bit on the smaller side, but he’s done nothing but mature. He’s never run a bad race. Once he broke his maiden, he’s steadily improved with every run and stretching him out seems to be a good thing for him as well.”

O’Dwyer continued, “He was third in a very good allowance race last week. He was a little outpaced before they turned in, but he stayed on well to the line and got up for third. He’s one that would appreciate the mile and an eighth.”

Howling Pigeon Farms’ Amen Corner, purchased for \$70,000 at last year’s Keeneland November sale, graduated in his second start at Laurel Park in January. He was fourth in a one-mile optional claimer at Oaklawn in his most recent start Apr. 11.

“The earnings would likely stop Amen Corner from getting into either of the divisions [of the Arkansas Derby], if they split, but at the same time I’d like to run one of them in the allowance race that day,” O’Dwyer said. “[Amen Corner] is not as hardened as My Friends Beer, even though I think there’s very little between them ability wise. My Friends Beer is much more in the game right now, while Amen Corner will progress throughout the year.”

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WELLS BAYOU STAYING SHARP

Clint and Lance Gasaway, Madaket Stables and Wonder Stables' **Wells Bayou** (Lookin at Lucky), most recently winner of the GII Louisiana Derby, continued training towards a potential start in the May 2 GI Arkansas Derby with a five-furlong work in 1:00.40 (9/17) at Oaklawn Park Sunday.

Wells Bayou, on the outside during his drill with maiden stablemate Wild Union (Bayern), was credited with splits of :24.40 for his opening quarter-mile, :36.80 for three furlongs, :48.40 for a half-mile and galloping out six furlongs in 1:12.40 and seven furlongs in 1:26.40.

"We were looking for a good work today--if we decide to run," trainer Brad Cox told the Oaklawn media team Sunday morning. "It was one of those things where we were just kind of looking to see how he would respond and he worked really well. Pleased with him."

Of his charge's status for the Arkansas Derby, which attracted 99 nominations, Cox said, "I would label him a candidate right now."

Also working Sunday from the Cox barn was **Warrior's Charge** (Munnings), expected to go next in the May 2 GII Oaklawn H. The 4-year-old, most recently winner of the Feb. 17 GIII Razorback H., went four furlongs in :47 flat (2/53).

"He's doing what we like to see leading up to this race," Cox said of the work. "Very similar to how he led up to the Razorback. It looks like it's going to be a really solid race. He's a solid horse, so we'll see what happens."

In other Oaklawn news, **Ce Ce** (Elusive Quality), winner of Saturday's GI Apple Blossom H., was scheduled to leave the Arkansas track Sunday afternoon to return to trainer Mike McCarthy's Southern California base.

Of where the 4-year-old filly might start next, McCarthy said, "We'll have to see what happens here. Obviously, it would be nice to go ahead and circle the Breeders' Cup. Hopefully, everything gets back to the new normal again."

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TDN  **Traffic Trends**
THOROUGHBRED DAILY NEWS

Through the first three months of 2020, traffic is up compared to 2019 as follows:

Pageviews.....	up 41% (1.8m to 2.6m)
Unique Users.....	up 66% (453k to 754k)
28 Day Active Users.....	up 111% (196k to 413k)
PDF Downloads.....	up 3%



FONNER PARK TO SEEK ADDITIONAL RACING DAYS

After hinting at the prospect **last week**, Fonner Park has announced its intention to continue racing through the month of May. One of just a handful of tracks currently holding Thoroughbred racing--without spectators--the Nebraska track's meet was scheduled to end Apr. 29. It will seek approval from the Nebraska State Racing Commission for a second meet, which would begin Monday, May 4 and end May 31.

"While no spectator racing continues to be conducted at Fonner Park under COVID-19 precaution and prevention guidelines, the continuation of racing is still very much a day-to-day prospect," said Fonner CEO Chris Kotulak. "The ability to continue racing with minimal national and global wagering opportunities has cast a bright light on Fonner Park. There has been a chunk of mutuel handle on the Fonner Park races, but money bet out-of-state only represents a chink of revenue compared to money bet on-track."



Chris Kotulak | Brad Mellema

He continued, "Fonner Park operates on a wickedly narrow profit margin. What might seem like a successful spell of handle one week might only equate to survival or even a deficit another week. We cannot be swooned by sexy handles this year when we have to consider purse money for 2021 and the hundreds of thousands of dollars of expenses and repairs we face annually. Another important financial factor is that once other tracks return with their racing, the mutuel handle on Fonner Park will drop. My goal is not simply to make hay this year. I have a responsibility to Fonner Park, the horsemen and the city of Grand Island, Nebraska to remain viable for many years to come."

The Nebraska State Racing Commission has a meeting scheduled for Apr. 22.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

BARRY WEISBORD**SUPERHERO— noun**

1. a hero, especially in children's comic books, television cartoons, and movies, possessing extraordinary, often magical powers.
2. R D Hubbard

Dee's not feeling well and I thought some words might pick his spirits up.

I met my Superhero in the mid 70's when a family friend from Wichita collected a group of his friends to create a bloodstock investment company. I was transitioning from training to bloodstock management and investment, and they gave me the chance to play at the major leagues. Dee was one of the partners.

He had been active in the Quarter horse business, but this was his first Thoroughbred participation. Together we were introduced to the stallion share business (a Danzig when he first retired was our first share), the Keeneland bloodstock sales (Veruschka, dam of The Very One was our first November \$100,000-plus purchase), the select yearling sales, and the great international events, including Royal Ascot and the Arc.



R.D. Hubbard | AQHA photo

Although he was a great partner to share the learning with, it was in the rest of his life, as a teacher to me, where his Superhero status was earned.

It is unlikely that any of us know a better example of working hard and playing hard than Dee. But that doesn't tell the story.

Observing Dee at close range you learned about success and how to go about achieving it.

He has the best instincts for understanding a deal. Although he likes to project an Everyman image, this was not by gut. When presenting, you had to be prepared as he always asked the best questions and wanted all the important facts. The learning about what he considered important was invaluable.

He is always the most observant person in the room and has amazing attention to detail. Learning what he was thinking about was invaluable.

His memory and recall are also legendary, and that includes after a few scotches back in the day (him not me, I championed vodka then). You had to always think about your words, as often they might be quoted, recalled, or challenged years later. An invaluable teaching.

He is kind and caring. Walking the line at his float glass plant in Kingsport on a Friday afternoon, he spoke to all employees by name, dozens of people. The greetings were often accompanied by a question about a loved one. Those lessons were invaluable.

The kind and caring was not just for his employees, but also for his customers. They too enjoyed doing business and socializing with Dee and Joan Dale. Also an invaluable lesson.

He is fun. He isn't just fun, he is the most fun. That same Friday we went to the local watering hole to join many of the employees for a Coors after work. All were eager to engage with Dee. Fun is important, but while being fun he never takes his eye off the ball. Both lessons are invaluable.

My education with Dee followed his movements from Wichita, to Kingsport, Ft. Worth, Smith Center, Newport Beach, Hollywood Park, Ruidoso, and his masterpiece, Big Horn. Along the way, I received not just his Master Class but introductions to talented staff, interesting friends, special experiences like dinner at the White House and my first corporate board meeting. Everywhere he went, people wanted to share time with him. An invaluable lesson.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention the line through Dee brought me Sonny Mayor, then Johnny Jones, Jr., and of course Bat Masterson.

Dee supported me, not just showing up, but always giving guidance, not just in my bloodstock career, but Matchmaker Sales, ACRS, many family events. His counsel is always available for the problems, too.

It's amazing how many times I would be stuck in a difficult situation and wonder, 'How would Dee solve this?'

This just seemed like a great time to say thanks to Dee and Joan Dale (his invaluable partner).

Not everyone can actually speak to their Superhero. I'm lucky.

To send your own positive message to Dee [click here](#) and I'll pass it along.

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IN ORDER OF PURSE:

9th-Oaklawn, \$63,000, Alw (C)/Opt. Clm (\$75,000), 4-19, 4yo/up, 1 1/16m, 1:43.79, wf.

TWO THIRTY FIVE (g, 6, Stay Thirsty--A Footstep Away, by Giant's Causeway) took the Harry F. Brubaker S. by a nose at Del Mar last August, and was third in that venue's GIII Native Diver S. in November and second in the GII San Pasqual S. at Santa Anita Feb. 1. Cutting back off a seventh-place run in the Mar. 7 GI Santa Anita H. while making his first start outside of the state of California here, the 5-2 favorite sat just off the pace along the fence early and seemed to be coming under a busy ride along the home turn. He continued to chip away at longshot pacesetter Shang (Shanghai Bobby)'s advantage entering the straight, and wore down that erratically traveling but stubborn foe by a half-length. The winner has a 2-year-old half-sister by Uncle Mo. Sales History: \$55,000 RNA Wlg '14 KEENOV; \$47,000 RNA Ylg '15 FTKJUL; \$40,000 2yo '16 OBSOPN. Lifetime Record: SW & MGSP, 23-6-4-5, \$306,465. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#), sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-Richard Baltas, Tom Mansor, Tammi Nielsen & Kim Rasmussen; B-A Footstep Away Syndicate (KY); T-Richard Baltas.



Two Thirty Five | Coady Photo

8th-Gulfstream, \$39,000, Alw (NW1\$X)/Opt. Clm (\$75,000), 4-19, 3yo, 1mT, 1:34.64, fm.

STREET READY (c, 3, More Than Ready--Sense to Compete {SP}, by Street Sense) graduated second time out and first time on turf Sept. 22 at Churchill, and was fifth in a washed-off Keeneland spot Oct. 26 before running third back on the Louisville lawn in his juvenile finale Nov. 21. Eighth in the local GIII Palm Beach S. Feb. 29, he ran a sneaky good seventh when moving early into a fast pace and hung wide on both turns in the Cutler Bay S. here Mar. 28. Backed down to 67-10 off a 15-1 morning-line quote here, the dark bay broke well, but was caught six to seven wide all the way around the clubhouse turn. Stalking the pace from fourth down the backstretch through sharp fractions of :23.06 and :46.37, he challenged for the lead approaching the stretch, hooked up with second choice Mystic Lancelot (Into Mischief) entering the final furlong and gradually wore that rival down to prevail by a length. No Word (Silent Name {Jpn}) was third as the favorite. The victor has a juvenile half-sister by Declaration of War and a full-sister foaled Feb. 29. Sales History: \$240,000 Ylg '18 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 7-2-0-1, \$92,582. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#), sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-Lucky Seven Stable (Mackin); B-Earle I. Mack LLC (KY); T-Ian R. Wilkes.

10th-Gulfstream, \$39,000, Alw (NW1\$X)/Opt. Clm (\$25,000), 4-19, 3yo/up, f/m, 1mT, 1:37.91, fm.

NO WAY JOSE (IRE) (f, 4, No Nay Never--Crystal Valkyrie {Ire}, by Danehill), trained by Brian Meehan in Great Britain for her breeder while competing almost exclusively in sprints, was third at 25-1 in her five-furlong Stateside debut for these connections Feb. 12. Seventh on the stretch-out to 7 1/2 panels Mar. 7, she was backed at 6-1 from a 15-1 morning line Sunday. Away well with a head in front entering the first bend, the bay was reined in to draft behind the pacesetter while tugging at her rider through splits of :24.64, :48.21 and 1:11.97. She was guided out into the clear for the stretch run, and seized command in the final furlong while on her wrong lead to notch a 1 1/4-length tally from Cariba (Cairo Prince). The winner is half to Above Average (Ire) (High Chaparral {Ire}), GSW-Eng, GSP-Aus, \$332,395; and Sent From Heaven (Ire) (Footstepsinthesand {GB}), GSW-Eng, \$114,862. She has a 2-year-old half-brother by Gleneagles (Ire) and a yearling half-brother by Churchill (Ire). Sales History: €30,000 RNA Ylg '17 GOFOR; 50,000gns Ylg '17 TATDEY. Lifetime Record: 12-2-1-2, \$39,561. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#), sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-William Werner; B-C. O. P. Hanbury (IRE); T-Roger L. Attfield.



IN ORDER OF PURSE:

10th-Oaklawn, \$60,000, Msw, 4-19, 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:09.96, sy. MERNEITH (f, 3, American Pharoah--Flattermewithroses {SW}, by Flatter), a \$600,000 OBSMAR grad off a :20 4/5 breeze, had settled for second in sprint and route attempts Jan. 20 and Feb. 23, respectively, at Santa Anita. Backed down to 4-5 for a barn that typically tears it up in Hot Springs, the bay broke on top from her outside draw before settling into a perfect stalking spot perched in third. She sidled up to the leader leaving the bend through a :45.96 half, took charge soon thereafter and ran up the score to splash home by 10 1/4 lengths. Pricey and well-bred firster It's Mine (Medaglia d'Oro) completed the exacta. The winner has a 2-year-old half-brother by Exaggerator and a yearling half-sister by Classic Empire. Her turf stakes-winning dam was bred back to City of Light. Sales History: \$350,000 Wlg '17 FTKNOV; \$600,000 2yo '19 OBSMAR. Lifetime Record: 3-1-2-0, \$58,000. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-HRH Prince Sultan Bin Mishal Al Saud; B-China Horse Club (KY); T-Bob Baffert.

◆ Purchased by Narvick Int'l ◆		
	Raised & Sold by Hunter Valley Farm	
Consigned by de Meric Sales		

5th-Gulfstream, \$38,000, Msw, 4-19, 3yo/up, f/m, 1mT, 1:36.45, fm.

ETERNAL PEACE (f, 4, War Front--Eternal Bounty {Ire} {GSP-Ire}, by Galileo {Ire}) finished fifth debuting over course and distance last March and returned off the long layoff here showing a half-mile bullet on the Payson turf in :48 2/5 (1/19) Apr. 11. Given a 19-2 chance, the homebred broke smoothly and settled in seventh behind splits of :23.12 and :47.97. Tipped into the clear six deep at the head of the lane, the dark bay edged past longshot pacesetter Winnipeg Wonder (Shanghai Bobby) in the closing strides before just holding sway from tough-luck favorite Talking Book (Honor Code) by a head on the wire. The winner's dam, a 420,000gns purchase at Tattersalls December in 2013, is a full-sister to MGSW/G1SP Mizou (Ire), while her third dam is MG1SW My Emma (GB) (Marju {Ire}). Her juvenile full-brother sold to Godolphin for \$800,000 at Keeneland September, and she has a yearling half-sister by Quality Road. Eternal Bounty was bred to English Channel last term. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0,

\$23,300. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O/B-Robert S. Evans (KY); T-Roger L. Attfield.



Eternal Peace just holds off Talking Book | Lauren King

11th-Gulfstream, \$38,000, Msw, 4-19, 3yo/up, f/m, 1mT, 1:35.60, fm.

FOLLOW THE FLAG (f, 3, Tapit--Mushka {GISW-USA, GSP-Can, \$1,096,125}, by Empire Maker) did little running when 11th in her course-and-distance unveiling Feb. 23, but took play to be 79-10 off of a 20-1 morning-line price while adding Lasix in this spot. Pushed on for early speed by Luis Saez, the \$675,000 Keeneland November graduate tracked from the pocket in third behind favored pacesetter Let Them Eat Cake (Animal Kingdom) through splits of :23.40 and :47.21. Squeezing through a tight rail opening inside of the chalk at the furlong grounds, the gray took over past the sixteenth pole and staved off Makisupa (GB) (Muhaarar {GB}) to score by a half-length. The winner's dam, who captured the 2009 GI Juddmonte Spinster S., sold for \$650,000 with her in utero at Keeneland November in 2016. She is responsible for a yearling filly by Ghostzapper. Follow the Flag's third dam is four-time GISW Lakeway (Seattle Slew). Sales History: \$675,000 Wlg '17 KEENOV. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, \$23,230. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-Skara Glen Stables, Majdi Abulaban & John Verbanac; B-SF Bloodstock LLC & Matthew Sandblom (KY); T-Michael R. Matz.

Consigned by Hill 'n' Dale Sales Agency		
	Broken and Trained by Randy Bradshaw	
BLUEWATER Purchase for Skara Glen Stable		



ADDITIONAL RACING

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Bahama Pearl, f, 3, **Bahamian Squall**--Niebla, by Belong to Me. Tampa Bay Downs, 4-19, 5f (off turf), :58.97. B-Shade Tree Thoroughbreds Inc & Joyce Corwin (FL).

First Course, f, 3, **Curlin**--Dyning Out, by Dynaformer. Tampa Bay Downs, 4-19, 1m 40y (off turf), 1:43.16. B-Rashit Shaykhutdinov (KY). *\$250,000 Ylg '18 KEESAP.

LANE'S END SALES GRADUATE



ALL TDN WINNERS BY SIRE

AMERICAN PHAROAH, Merneith, f, 3, o/o Flattermewithroses, by Flatter. MSW, 4-19, Oaklawn

BAHAMIAN SQUALL, Bahama Pearl, f, 3, o/o Niebla, by Belong to Me. MSW, 4-19, Tampa Bay
CURLIN, First Course, f, 3, o/o Dyning Out, by Dynaformer. MSW, 4-19, Tampa Bay
MORE THAN READY, Street Ready, c, 3, o/o Sense to Compete, by Street Sense. AOC, 4-19, Gulfstream
NO NAY NEVER, No Way Jose (Ire), f, 4, o/o Crystal Valkyrie (Ire), by Danehill. AOC, 4-19, Gulfstream
STAY THIRSTY, Two Thirty Five, g, 6, o/o A Footstep Away, by Giant's Causeway. AOC, 4-19, Oaklawn
TAPIT, Follow the Flag, f, 3, o/o Mushka, by Empire Maker. MSW, 4-19, Gulfstream
WAR FRONT, Eternal Peace, f, 4, o/o Eternal Bounty (Ire), by Galileo (Ire). MSW, 4-19, Gulfstream :-)

TODAY'S FEATURED VIDEO REPLAYS

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Third time's a charm for FTKNOV purchase Merneith (American Pharoah) as she graduates at Oaklawn



Street Ready (More Than Ready) overcomes a wide trip to score a sharp allowance victory at Gulfstream | Lauren King



DOLAN ON THE UP DOWN UNDER



Robbie Dolan and Jim Cassidy | Getty

By Emma Berry

It's a move that has already worked well for Johnny Allen, and swapping Ireland for Australia also seems to be paying off for Robbie Dolan.

Champion apprentice last year in Sydney, Dolan is attached to the rising stable of successful jockey-turned-trainer Mark Newnham, who has boxes at both Randwick and Warwick Farm. The pair combined last Saturday to win the G2 Arrowfield 3YO Sprint with Splintex (Aus) (Snitzel {Aus}) to give Dolan the biggest win of his career to date during the second weekend of The Championships.

"That was my fourth stakes winner and second Group 2 and to win on Queen Elizabeth day was unbelievable," says the 24-year-old. "I've ridden [Splintex] since he was a young horse and he used to be a strong-pulling horse but he has really settled down now and he's very tractable in his races. You can ride him with a sit or lead on him which is probably a bonus, to be able to put your horse on the speed in Sydney in the spring races. It's nearly a head start to be up on the speed."

Dolan's own head start came when, acting on the advice of his jockey coach and friend Warren O'Connor, he packed his bags and flew 10,000 miles to Australia almost four years ago.

Cont. p2

CONTRAIL TAKES SATSUKI SHO, THIRD WINNER FOR DEEP IMPACT

2019 Japanese Champion 2-Year-Old Colt **Contrail (Jpn)** (Deep Impact {Jpn}) earned a Classic laurel while maintaining his unbeaten record in the 2020 G1 Satsuki Sho over 2000 metres at Nakayama on Sunday. He is the third Japanese 2000 Guineas winner for his late sire. Despite being drawn in the dreaded one hole, the 8-5 crowd's pick overcame that hurdle to win by a half-length over the previously undefeated third choice **Salios (Jpn)** (Heart's Cry {Jpn}). It was 3 1/2 lengths back to **Galore Creek (Jpn)** (Kinshasa no Kiseki {Aus}) in third.

Tracking from 12th against the fence through the early stages, the Shinji Maeda colourbearer was steered away from the inside as the field reached the 600-metre mark. [Cont. p5](#)

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

IF THERE ARE NO SPECTATORS, SHOULD WE RUN SARATOGA?

In the latest The Week in Review, Bill Finley poses the question, does it make sense to conduct a meet at Saratoga if there are no spectators allowed and social distancing is still in place?. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN America.](#)

REVISED TATTERSALLS UK SALES DATES

CRAVEN & ASCOT BREEZE UP SALE:

In Newmarket
Wednesday 27th - Friday 29th May

GUINEAS BREEZE UP SALE:

Monday 6th - Tuesday 7th July

Dolan Cont. from p1

"I was sent to Paul Deegan's stable from the RACE Academy and I finally got my apprentice licence with Adrian Keatley," he reflects. "I had a couple of winners for Adrian and then Warren recommended that I go overseas. I didn't think England would be a good place for me to go, with a lot of apprentices there, so Australia looked a better place and I've been here ever since."

On arriving in Melbourne and heading to John Sadler's stable, Dolan found an initial bump in the road when Racing Victoria wouldn't issue him with an apprentice licence.

He explains, "There's a waiting list in Melbourne to get an apprentice licence and you have to go through the programme, but they only allow six or seven apprentices every season to go into the programme. I arrived and I was very eager but they wanted me to wait 12 months in Victoria so I decided to go to Sydney where, if you're good enough and you're willing to work, you'll get a go."

Now based at Randwick, Dolan has been apprenticed to Newnham for two and a half years. With 12 months left to run on his apprenticeship, he only needs four more winners to ride out his claim.

"I could easily ride it out before my time is finished which would be great," says Dolan, who rode 93 winners last season and is on 44 so far this term.

The jockey flew his father, Bobby, who works for the Gittins family's Castlefarm Stud in Kildare, to Sydney last year to be at the ceremony when he was crowned champion apprentice and, while his family ties remain strong, he feels his home is now in Australia.

"I've met a lot of good people in the industry here and I

wouldn't have had these experiences if I had stayed at home in Ireland," he says. "I love Australia. It's very different to England and Ireland. There's less work on the ground but riding-wise you can easily ride six to 10 lots. And that's good for me because you'll only get better at riding if you're riding, and I have definitely improved a lot just from getting on so many horses every single day."

He continues, "I used to ride three lots on The Curragh and you could be on each lot for over an hour, and I could ride three or four lots in the space of that over here. I've made a lot of

connections here and have a life for myself. I have a partner here now and I'm looking to buy my first property soon so this is where I can see myself in the future. It's a very good place to live, very safe, and I don't think I can see myself moving back to Ireland in the near future."

As his friend Tom Marquand heads home from Australia after notching his second Group 1 victory aboard Addeybb (GB) (Pivotal {GB}), Dolan is grateful for the fact that Australian racing has been able to

continue, even if it meant that his biggest win to date came in front of empty stands.

He says, "We're not actually as strictly locked down as Ireland and England. You can't have more than two people together unless you are from the same household and you have to keep a two-metre distance but they've done a very good job over here and it's great to still be racing.

"The racing in Australia is world-class and I'm not sure if the English or the Irish lads realise how good it is until they've had a closer look at it. Tommy Marquand will tell you how competitive the racing is. It's just great to be involved." **Cont. p3**



Robbie Dolan and Splintex winning at The Championships | Getty

How much would you like to pay?

Buyers have already found great value, but you have to offer to get a deal.

The nominations are lined up ready for you to offer on. Don't miss out on the hidden value and see what you can save on the listed price. You need to make an offer to get a deal done, and as an added incentive from now until the end of the breeding season there's no charge for deals that get done!

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IN TDN AUS/NZ TODAY

KING'S ALREADY SET FOR RARE LEGACY

MG1SW King's Legacy (Aus) (Redoute's Choice {Aus}) caught the eye from a young age. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Aus/NZ.](#)

Dolan Cont.

With Australian racing appearing to be able to continue behind closed doors, Dolan can look forward to reacquainting himself with the five-time winner Splintex for some potential Group 1 targets later in the year.

He says of the colt, "He's got a good kick off a strong tempo and hopefully now he can get a nice Group 1 sprint. The quality of sprinters here at the moment is very good. He's out for a spell now but when he comes back I'm sure he'll be winning some really nice races if everything stays good with him."

Mark Newnham, the former go-to jockey at country meetings for Gai Waterhouse, later became a foreman at Waterhouse's Sydney stable before striking out on his own in January 2016. In 2018, he saddled Maid Of Heaven (Aus) (Smart Missile {Aus}) to win the G1 ATC Spring Champion S., and he repeated that feat the following year with Shadow Hero (Aus) (Pierro {Aus}), who went on to win the G1 ATC Randwick Guineas in March. Being attached to Newnham's stable has clearly done Dolan no harm and the star apprentice is understandably full of praise for his boss.

He says, "Mark would have over 100 horses between the two different stables. He's definitely an up-and-coming trainer and I'm lucky to be associated with him. He's a very good boss and a great mentor to me."

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EUROPEAN NEWS

presented by:  Destination Europe
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JOHNSTON RECOVERING FROM CORONAVIRUS

Record-breaking trainer Mark Johnston is continuing his recovery after contracting coronavirus. The Middleham handler has been isolating since having symptoms confirmed, but is reported to be making good progress.

His son Angus said on Racing TV's Luck on Sunday programme, "He had a couple of days in bed, but was back up yesterday and is starting to move around. He's eager to get back to work, mum is having to put the brakes on him and telling him to keep calm, Charlie [Johnston] is doing an amazing job of running things as normal. All the horses are getting out and everything is running really smoothly."

Johnston's wife, Deirdre, added, "I wouldn't wish it on anybody, thankfully his breathing was always fine and he didn't have to go to hospital."

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POST SURGERY, SPENCER ON THE MEND

Jamie Spencer is recovering after undergoing surgery following a fall on the gallops in Newmarket on Friday. Spencer was riding out for trainer David Simcock when his mount slipped and unshipped his Classic-winning rider, who was taken to Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge for treatment on his hip.

Spencer posted his thanks to Addenbrooke's staff on his Twitter account on Sunday.

He wrote, "On Friday morning at 8:40 a.m. I was returning from Warren Hill gallop when what can only be described as a freak accident when my horse spooked and I parted company with him. Because I landed awkwardly on the concrete pathway there was only going to be one winner of that event.

"First of all Ian, Tory and Gail came and helped comfort me before the Heath medics took over. I was then transferred in an NHS ambulance to Addenbrooke's and subsequently found to have an injury which has required surgery, but hopefully I am now on the road to recovery.

"If I needed any inspiration to put my very best into my rehabilitation then all I need to do is look at some of the horses I have to look forward to riding at David Simcock's stable and further afield.

"I'd like to take this moment to thank my brilliant family,

friends and well wishers, people who have text/emailed/tweeted me, but most of all the staff at Addenbrooke's who have been nothing short of amazing with their care for me."

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ARC TRACKS POTENTIAL VENUES FOR RACING RESUMPTION

Arena Racing Company tracks could be at the forefront of a return to racing in Britain when the time comes for the sport to resume following its suspension due to the coronavirus pandemic. Any resumption will be behind closed doors on the Flat, but only when Government advice permits, a point British Horseracing Authority chief executive Nick Rust has again reiterated. Should there be a heavily quarantined reintroduction, two of Arena's all-weather tracks are likely to have the facilities required to host such a scenario—Lingfield and Newcastle.

Martin Cruddace, chief executive of ARC, told Racing TV's Luck on Sunday programme, "My own personal view is we'll have a position whereby we will be in a heavily quarantined first phase and we would need to make sure the movement of people is kept to the absolute minimum." [Cont. p5](#)



In part two of Tour of Newmarket Heath John Berry talks about the gallops that make up Bury Side. Watch here.

ARC Cont.

He added, "The first phase could and maybe should involve a quarantined, sanitised zone at a racecourse that is able to put on regular fixtures maybe each day, and where the participants do not have to leave that sanitised zone.

"To a large extent we are relying on Dr. Jerry Hill and his great team at the BHA and being guided by their advice, but I think we have to be in a position whereby we can meet every possible objection.

"So for instance those that unload the horses from the horse lorry and look after the horses at the stables may be part of the participants that are quarantined, and those that bring the horses to the racecourse do not have a chance to interfere with or infect the quarantined zone. I'm pretty sure we can put all of that in place."

He added, "I should make the point that our first priority is the public health emergency, without a doubt, but that doesn't mean that we shouldn't plan for when resumption can happen. It's important to emphasise we can't do anything without Government consent and that can only happen when the public health situation allows it to happen.

"I don't believe we will get to phase two and phase three until we have established the confidence amongst ourselves and within Government that we can deal with phase one and I believe we will do that. I can only speak for our tracks, and a lot depends on the conditions the Resumption of Racing Group and the BHA put on what is required--I don't think the conditions will be anything other than very restrictive, and rightly so.

look at it regionally, we have Lingfield where we have a hotel and we have Newcastle which has a hotel on-site as well. So we have two very viable options. We have also been doing our own work, we have a 37-point plan to put in place and we only need two or three days' notice and we will be up and running."

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A quartet of Galileo (Ire) yearling colts enjoying a frosty morning at Coolmore Stud this week (l to r): far left a son of MG1SW Halfway to Heaven (Ire) (Pivotal {GB}), and in the foreground—a colt out of G1 Cheveley Park S. victress Tiggy Wiggy (Ire) (Kodiac {GB}), MG1SW sprinter Quiet Reflection (GB) (Showcasing {GB}) 2019 foal and finally a son of Life Happened (Stravinsky). Life Happened is the dam of G1 Breeders' Cup Mile and G1 Queen Anne S. heroine Tepin (Bernstein).

Coolmore Stud



Horses racing at Newcastle | *Racing Post*

"If that is the case what you are looking for is probably a hotel on the racecourse, a surface that can take regular racing and also a hotel that can provide 100 to 110 rooms. Obviously if you

WORLDWIDE NEWS

Contrail Cont. from p1

Looping around the field at the quarter-mile pole, the dark bay began to let down strongly as G1 Asahi Hai Futurity victor Salios picked up the baton and briefly enjoyed sole leadership on the front end as pacesetter **Chimera Verite (Jpn)** (Kizuna {Jpn}) faded. The pair opened up on the remainder inside the final 200 metres and exchanged blows all the way to the line, with Contrail getting the best of the game Salios mere strides from wire.

Winning jockey Yuichi Fukunaga said, "He won strongly today. The race itself wasn't the way as I had expected--I actually had the idea of him racing further up in front as usual--but as it turned out, he wasn't keen to go up front early and I didn't push him so we were positioned much farther behind going around the second corner. [Cont. p6](#)

Conrail Cont.

"I had no choice but to change lanes to the outside after that, but with the way he was moving in the post parade and the response once I took him to the outside, I had every confidence in him entering the stretch.

"His power was so that I thought we might pull away, but Salios didn't let us win so easily. Winning the way he did today, I am confident that he has every reason to handle the extended distance in the coming Derby."

Striking in a Hanshin newcomer race last September, Conrail streaked past the post by five lengths in the G3 Tokyo Sports Hai Nisai S. under visiting pilot Ryan Moore, covering the 1800 metres over firm turf in 1:44.50, a new record. His juvenile swan song was a win in the G1 Hopeful S. at Nakayama on Dec. 28. The Satsuki Sho was his 3-year-old bow.

Pedigree Notes

One of 46 Group 1 winners for his formerly Shadai-based sire, Conrail joins 2016 winner Dee Majesty (Jpn) and 2017 victor Al Ain (Jpn) as winners of the first Japanese colts' Classic of the year for Deep Impact. Out of the placed mare Rhodochrosite, herself a daughter of Eclipse champion and GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies heroine Folklore (Tiznow), Conrail is her third foal and third winner. She has a yearling full-brother to the G1 Japanese 2000 Guineas hero, as well.

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Sunday, Nakayama, Japan

SATSUKI SHO (JAPANESE 2000 GUINEAS)-G1, ¥245,180,000 (US\$2,280,285/£1,823,588/€2,096,819), Nakayama, 4-19, 3yo, c/f, 2000mT, 2:00.70, gd.

1--**CONTRAIL (JPN)**, 126, c, 3, Deep Impact (Jpn)

1st Dam: Rhodochrosite, by Unbridled's Song

2nd Dam: Folklore, by Tiznow

3rd Dam: Conrvice, by Storm Cat

O-Shinji Maeda; B-North Hills (Jpn); T-Yoshito Yahagi; J-Yuichi Fukunaga. ¥134,633,000. Lifetime Record: Ch. 2yo Colt-Jpn, 4-4-0-0. **Werk Nick Rating: A+++**. *Triple Plus*. [Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree.](#)

2--**Salios (Jpn)**, 126, c, 3, Heart's Cry (Jpn)--Salomina (Ger), by Lomitas (GB). O-Silk Racing; B-Northern Farm (Jpn); ¥51,038,000.

3--**Galore Creek (Jpn)**, 126, c, 3, Kinshasa no Kiseki(Aus)--Gold Relic, by Kingmambo. O-Yukio Mizukami; B-Kasamatsu Farm (Jpn); ¥31,519,000.

Margins: HF, 3HF, 1 1/4. Odds: 1.70, 2.80, 40.20.

Also Ran: Win Carnelian (Jpn), Satono Flag (Jpn), Darlington Hall (GB), Cortesia (Jpn), Weltreisende (Jpn), Black Hole (Jpn), Deep Bond (Jpn), L'Excellence (Jpn), American Seed, My Rhapsody (Jpn), Bitterrender (Jpn), Rhinebeck (Jpn), Crystal Black (Jpn), Chimera Verite (Jpn), Tempin (Jpn). [Click for the JRA chart & video or the free EquineLine.com catalogue-style pedigree.](#)

Sunday, Hanshin, Japan

ANTARES S.-G3, ¥68,810,000 (US\$639,964/£511,791/€588,474), Hanshin, 4-19, 4yo/up, 1800m, 1:49.80, yl.

1--**WESTERLUND (JPN)**, 124, g, 8, Neo Universe (Jpn)

1st Dam: Uanme (GSW-US, \$279,924), by Marquetry

2nd Dam: Archimillionnaire, by Medaille d'Or

3rd Dam: Coqueluche, by Victorian Era

1ST BLACK-TYPE WIN. 1ST GROUP WIN. O-Sunday Racing;

B- Northern Farm (Jpn); T-Shozo Sasaki; J-Yusuke Fujioka.

¥36,567,000. Lifetime Record: G1SP-Jpn, 30-6-8-3. *Full to Mikrokosmos (Jpn) (Neo Universe {Jpn}), SP-Jpn, \$1,102,724.

[Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree.](#) **Werk Nick Rating: F.**

2--**Another Truth (Jpn)**, 128, g, 5, I'll Have Another--Kyoei Truth (Jpn), by Fuji Kiseki (Jpn). O-Normandy Thoroughbred Racing; B-Okada Stud (Jpn); ¥14,162,000.

3--**Clincher (Jpn)**, 126, h, 6, Deep Sky (Jpn)--The Fates (Jpn), by Brian's Time. O-Koji Maeda; B-Hirayama Farm (Jpn); ¥9,081,000.

Margins: 1 3/4, NO, NO. Odds: 6.50, 14.80, 3.90.

Also Ran: Reward Aonbharr (Jpn), Koma Bisho (Jpn), Satono Prime (Jpn), Angreifen (Jpn), Lord Golazo (Jpn), Meisho Sumitomo (Jpn), Mozu Attraction (Jpn), Namura Arashi(Jpn), Noble Saturn (Jpn), Wild Card (Jpn), Best Touchdown (Jpn), Leur Sauveur (Jpn), Meisho Wazashi (Jpn). [Click for the JRA chart & video or the free EquineLine.com catalogue-style pedigree.](#)

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KING'S ALREADY SET FOR RARE LEGACY



King's Legacy as a yearling | Bronwen Healy

By Bren O'Brien

Having become the first-ever son of Redoute's Choice to win two Group 1 races as a 2-year-old, **King's Legacy** is building a record of rare quality. TDN AusNZ took a closer look into the stallion credentials for the Coolmore Stud-destined juvenile colt.

Coolmore has a well-earned international reputation for buying into stallions with pedigrees and performances of the rarest type, so it wasn't a great surprise when it was confirmed that the global Thoroughbred powerhouse had bought into and secured the future breeding rights to dual Group 1-winning 2-year-old King's Legacy (Redoute's Choice).

Coolmore stands the most recent colt to have won multiple Group 1s as a juvenile in Australia in Pierro, while in the past few years its international pursuit of the rarest of Thoroughbred talents has led it to standing two American Triple Crown winners in American Pharoah (USA) and Justify (USA).

King's Legacy may be only a 2-year-old and just six starts into his career, but following his win in the G1 Champagne S. on Saturday he has proven himself in terms of his combination of pedigree, performance and type, among the most significant stallion prospects seen in Australia for some time.

Not only is he the first dual Group 1-winning Australian 2-year-old since Guelph (Exceed And Excel) in 2013, he is the only son or daughter of the legendary Redoute's Choice to have achieved that honour. In fact, with his win at Randwick on

Saturday, he becomes just the third son of the three-time champion stallion to become a multiple Australian Group 1 winner, joining The Autumn Sun and Lankan Rupee.

He also occupies rare air as one of only four of Redoute's Choice's progeny to sell for over \$1 million as a yearling--there are 82 in all--and then go on to win a Group 1 race, joining Samantha Miss, who also won the G1 Champagne S., Master Of Design and South African Group 1 winner Mustaaqem.

Bloodstock agent James Harron, driven by competition from Coolmore's Tom Magnier, was the one who ensured he set that mark, paying \$1.4 million for the colt at last year's Magic Millions Gold Coast Yearling Sale.

Looking through a pedigree page which features not only Australia's pre-eminent sire of the century, but also names on his dam side such as top stallions Not A Single Doubt and Snippets as well as recent Group 1 winner Oohood (I Am invincible), Harron knew that he was accessing a colt of enormous residual potential should he be able to perform at the top level on the track.

"He's very much a rare commodity. He's a three-quarter brother to Not A Single Doubt. The family goes back to Snippets. It's just as good a pedigree as you can get and for him to be the only two-time Group 1-winning son of Redoute's as a 2-year-old is quite amazing. He's a very rare article," Harron told TDN AusNZ. "We were very keen to get him. Obviously we had to pay a bit of money for him at the sales. As it turned out, MV and Tom Magnier were the underbidders on the horse at the time. They have kept a close eye on him. After the Sires' there had been a lot of interest in him from a lot of farms. They came out victorious and we are delighted to have them on board.



James Harron & King's Legacy | TDN AusNZ



The late Redoute's Choice | Bronwen Healy

"They are a great bunch of guys who do a super job and it's lovely that he is going to have a home at the end of his racing career at Coolmore, it's very exciting. All the owners are very excited about what we have in front of us."

When he arrives at Coolmore at some point in the future King's Legacy will continue to break new ground. He will be just the second Group 1-winning son of Redoute's Choice to stand at its Jerrys Plains base.

That Redoute's Choice sireline is something Coolmore has focussed more and more on in recent times. Of the eight yearlings Magnier purchased at the recent Inglis Easter Yearling Sale, three were colts by Redoute's Choice's sons. Two were by Snitzel, including the sale topper for \$1.8 million, and one was by Not A Single Doubt.

A Legacy Begins

Bred by Segenhoe Stud, King's Legacy is from Breakfast In Bed, mare by Hussonet (USA), a nick which has produced 16 winners, including five at stakes level. It was a combination Harron had already tasted success with before with now Arrowfield Stud stallion, Pariah.

Having seen off the Magniers, no small feat in itself, to secure the colt on behalf of a colts' syndicate featuring his biggest supporters, Harron sent King's Legacy to the breakers with his fingers crossed.

"He was broken in by Peter and Michelle [McMahon] at Kolora Lodge in Queensland. Peter called me after he'd done all his breakers and said this colt was his number one pick," Harron said. "That was music to my ears, because he's probably the best-bred colt we have ever bought. Within a short period of time, separately, Peter and Paul Snowden identified him as a really good horse as well."

During this time the colt was given the moniker of a horse with plenty of expectation on him.

His star stallion had died shortly after Harron had purchased the colt and the mantle seemed appropriate, if perhaps at that stage a little ambitious.

"We couldn't have put more pressure on him as a horse, but we thought we may as well go for gold. The name looks great now. He's well placed to live up to it," he said.

Living up to the Name

Placed on debut at Rosehill, he stepped up to the G3 BJ McLachlan S. at his second start and secured a stakes win. He closed for fifth in the Magic Millions 2YO Classic, a race Harron now admits was not really suitable, before being given time to prepare for the Sydney Group 1 features.

The decision to give the colt time off to develop and target the G1 Golden Slipper S. fresh has proven a stroke of genius. While he found the Slipper a bit slick off a break, finishing ninth, he improved markedly to win the G1 Inglis Sires' at his second run back and then completed the Group 1 double in the Champagne S. on Saturday.

Harron said King's Legacy came back a more seasoned horse off that break he had in Queensland off the Magic Millions, and he feels there is still further improvement to come heading into his 3-year-old season.

"Peter is adamant he still has a lot to come. I spoke to Hughie [Bowman - jockey] last night and he was the same. He was very emphatic about the colt and said I think he can be really good next season. The way he levels out and pins his ears back and attacks, that's just a great asset," he said. "Looking at him physically, he is only a baby, there is definitely room for improvement and he's continued to improve from the sale through every step. He has always improved at the right pace, nice and gradually and that has allowed him to win these 2-year-old races. He hasn't lost his balance or got out of shape.

"You can just see that he's going to have that little bit more upside to him because he goes out as a happy, pretty untouched horse, and when they spell like that, they come back bigger and better."

Harron has built his reputation on identifying colts and giving them every opportunity to make stallions and King's Legacy now occupies a special place in his heart.

"It's just very special. You put your neck out on these very expensive horses. There is a lot of pressure on everybody, but when you get it right and everything comes together, it's everything we dream and plan for," he said. "He's very, very special. From a long-term perspective as well, he's the sort of horse that can be a real breed-shaper. He ticks all the boxes and it's really hard to pick faults in the horse. To win two Group 1s as a 2-year-old is a cherry on the cake."



AUSTRALIAN-BRED WINNERS

IN HONG KONG:

Super Power Man, g, 3, **Anacheeva**--Silver Girl, by Fastnet Rock. Sha Tin, 4-19, Hcp. (\$196k), 1200m (AWT), 1:08.56.

B-Rockmount (Vic). *\$50,000 Ylg '18 INGMAR. **VIDEO**

Team Power, g, 4, **Excelebration (Ire)**--My Type, by Zabeel (NZ).

Sha Tin, 4-19, Hcp. (\$196k), 1400m, 1:22.11. B-Three Bridges Thoroughbreds, G Johnson (Vic). *\$55,000 Wlg '16 INGJUN; NZ\$90,000 RNA Ylg '17 NZBFEB; NZ\$100,000 2yo '17 NZBRTR.

VIDEO

Winner Supreme, g, 4, **Rothesay**--Little Big Horse, by Falvelon.

Sha Tin, 4-19, Hcp. (\$426k), 1200m (AWT), 1:07.27. B-Mrs S Wheelahan (NSW). *New track record. **\$20,000 Ylg '17 MMMAR; \$60,000 2yo '17 MMOCT. **VIDEO**

Foodie Princess, g, 4, **Sepoy**--Raziyya of Sydney, by Redoute's

Choice. Sha Tin, 4-19, Hcp. (\$294k), 1650m (AWT), 1:37.98.

B-Trelawney Stud (NSW). *NZ\$80,000 Ylg '17 NZBJAN. **VIDEO**

Fantasy, g, 4, **Sizzling**--Bon Fire, by Octagonal (NZ). Sha Tin,

4-19, Hcp. (\$294k), 1200m, 1:08.66. B-Galaxy Breeding

Syndicate, Wilkes Thoroughbreds (NSW). *1/2 to Heat of the

Fire (Strategic), GSP-Aus. **\$52,000 Wlg '16 MGLMAY; NZ\$240,000 2yo '17 NZBRTR. **VIDEO**



NEW ZEALAND-BRED WINNERS

IN HONG KONG:

Mighty Giant, g, 4, **Power (GB)**--Wanderov, by Ustinov (Aus).

Sha Tin, 4-19, Hcp. (NZ\$310k), 1400m, 1:21.12. B-Mrs C & L R Beckett. *Won by 2 1/4 lengths as the \$1.50 favourite while carrying top weight of 60 kg. **VIDEO**

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