

GOLDEN STARS LINING UP FOR OPPENHEIMER



Anthony Oppenheimer with his family, the Gosdens and Frankie Dettori after Star Catcher's Irish Oaks victory | *Racing Post*

By Emma Berry

Exactly five years ago, **Golden Horn (GB)** led home his stablemate Jack Hobbs (GB) for a John Gosden-trained one-two in the G2 Dante S. at York, foreshadowing the result of the Derby a little over three weeks later.

Golden Horn's Classic victory ignited a glorious season for his owner-breeder Anthony Oppenheimer, whose colt by Cape Cross (Ire) represented generations of his family's Hascombe And Valiant Studs' breeding. Golden Horn went on to claim victory in the Coral-Eclipse S., Irish Champion S. and Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe before narrowly losing out in the Breeders' Cup Turf and retiring to Dalham Hall Stud.

Oppenheimer may well have reflected on that triumphant year, which came half a century after his father Sir Philip Oppenheimer had bought Hascombe Stud, and felt that it would be hard to top. Indeed, a homebred Derby winner is the realisation of excellence in the pursuit of Thoroughbred breeding, and though Golden Horn's achievements have not been topped, they have come close to being equalled by another two homebreds in recent seasons.

Two years later, Oppenheimer had another legitimate Classic contender on his hands in the shape of **Cracksman (GB)**, a huge-striding son of the mighty Frankel (GB).

Cont. p2

MORE CLASSIC HOPES ON DISPLAY AT PARISLONGCHAMP

France's frenzied week of high-class action continues on Thursday, with ParisLongchamp again in action with key trials for the middle-distance Classics. First up is the nine-furlong G3 Prix la Force for the colts, with last year's G1 Criterium de Saint-Cloud hero **Mkfancy (Fr)** (Makfi {GB}) looking to build on a solid comeback effort when beaten a length attempting to give four pounds to the smart Waltham (Fr) (Wootton Bassett {GB}) in the Listed Prix Maurice Caillault over this trip on Chantilly's Polytrack Mar. 9. This rates as the most serious challenge yet for Abdullah Al Maddah's bay, with Waltham's trainer Christophe Ferland engaging the Wertheimers' **Pao Alto (Fr)** (Intello {Ger}). He signed off in 2019 with an emphatic 4 1/2-length success in the Listed Grand Criterium de Bordeaux at Bordeaux-le-Bouscat in October and is joined by a pair of intriguing prospects and **TDN Rising Stars** in **Ocean Atlantique** (American Pharoah) and **Another Sky (Fr)** (Le Havre {Ire}). The former, who races for the Magnier/Tabor/Smith alignment and Andre Fabre, was highly impressive when winning by eight lengths over a mile at Saint-Cloud in October, while Another Sky lit up Chantilly Mar. 3 with a powerful debut display on the Polytrack. [Cont. p6](#)



Mkfancy | Scoop Dyga

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

SANTA ANITA TO RE-OPEN MAY 15

Officials at Santa Anita received the green light to re-open to spectator-free racing May 15. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN America.](#)

Oppenheimer Cont. from p1

The winner of the Derby Trial on only the second start of his life, Cracksman returned to Epsom for the big one, beaten only a length in third behind Wings Of Eagles (Fr) and Cliffs Of Moher (Ire) in a classy Derby field which included subsequent Group 1 winners Capri (Ire), Benbatl (GB), Best Solution (Ire) and Rekindling (GB). Second on his next start in the Irish Derby, Cracksman remained unbeaten in another three starts that season, culminating in the G1 Champion S. His near-faultless career continued at four, with wins in the Prix Ganay and Coronation Cup, before signing off with a second Champion S. victory.

"I would never have imagined it possible," says Oppenheimer as he sits out lockdown at his home near Newbury, awaiting, along with the rest of the British and Irish racing fraternity, a call to action. "We are extremely fortunate to have had two top-class colts. Two champions in a way, it's absolutely amazing. And then the filly."

The filly is of course **Star Catcher (Ire)** (Sea The Stars {Ire}), a

horse who, with three consecutive Group 1 wins to her name last season, would be a standout in most stables. But when you have Enable (GB) as your stablemate, it is perhaps understandable to be a tad overlooked. Star Catcher is also a horse who, had she been owned by a number of other owner-breeders might well already be in foal by now. But

Oppenheimer has elected to roll the dice and enjoy some more sport this season, even though subsequent events have given him pause for thought.

He says, "When I took the decision to keep Star Catcher in training, the one thing I hadn't reckoned on was that Enable was going to stay in training. Then of course with the coronavirus, a month or so ago I began to wonder whether I should be covering her.

If it had gone on much longer I'd have been wondering how many races we would have had to run in but I think we should be okay as long as we can get going soon."



Golden Horn | Racing Post

[Cont. p3](#)

WOOTTON BASSETT

2 GROUP WINNERS IN 2 DAYS

WOODED wins the Gr.3 Prix Texanita in impressive style
Congratulations to all the connections!

HARAS
D'ÉTREHAM



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IN TDN AUS/NZ TODAY

OMAHA BEACH & VINO ROSSO TO SPENDTHRIFT AUS
 Omaha Beach (War Front) & Vino Rosso (Curlin) will stand at Spendthrift Australia. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Aus/NZ.](#)

Oppenheimer Cont.

Star Catcher almost inveigled her way onto the Classic scene last year. A sixth-place finish in a Chelmsford maiden in the December of her juvenile season would not have put her in many notebooks ahead of the start of the turf season. Though impressively winning her maiden at Newbury's Greenham meeting, she was then turned over when returning to the Berkshire course for the listed Haras de Bouquetot Fillies' Trial. Oppenheimer credits Frankie Dettori with setting her on a winning path with some invaluable feedback from that race.



Cracksman winning the Voltigeur | *Racing Post*

He recalls, "Frankie got off her that day and said 'I'm terribly sorry, I made a disastrous mistake. I had so much more in the filly that I could have won it easily. Run her in the Ribblesdale and you'll win, but don't run her in the Oaks because she's not ready for it.' And that's what we did. She was almost unbelievable. Each time we thought to ourselves 'she can't win that', and off she went and won."

Following the Ribblesdale S., Star Catcher sailed through the Irish Oaks and Prix Vermeille and then delivered Oppenheimer a third Group 1 victory on British Champions Day in successive years when winning the British Champions Fillies & Mares S.

He adds, "That's what we're so lucky with—John Gosden training the horses and Frankie Dettori riding them. The combination of those two talking to each other and being able to feel their way forward is incredible."

Regarding Star Catcher's longer-range targets this year, Oppenheimer is naturally entertaining the possibility of taking on Enable as she bids for a historic third victory in the Arc. He says, "She's done well and she is growing stronger, which is what we need. Obviously we wouldn't want to take on Enable immediately, being from the same stable and everything, but that would probably be our target." [Cont. p4](#)

Oppenheimer Cont.

Unlike Golden Horn and Cracksman, who share Lora (GB) (Lorenzaccio {GB}) as a fourth dam and represent two branches of a longstanding Hascombe And Valiant family, Star Catcher hails from a more recent addition to the stud. Her dam Lynnwood Chase (Horse Chestnut {SAf}) was bred in the U.S. and was of particular interest to Oppenheimer at the Deauville yearling sale in August 2003 because of her sire.

"Lynnwood Chase was amazing quite honestly," he says. "I bought her in Deauville and she was quite small and not terribly exciting, and she does get small stock. But I bought her because of Horse Chestnut, who was a South African horse my cousin owned. I remember being at Deauville and it was very hot and I wanted to find a horse for Richard Gibson to train, so I bought her and then rushed back to the hotel to get out of the heat. We were just terribly lucky."

Though she ran only twice in France, Lynnwood Chase, who died last year at the age of 17, made amends at stud. Her second foal, from the second of five matings with Lemon Drop Kid, was Pisco Sour, winner of the G2 Prix Eugene Adam and G3

Tercentenary S. at Royal Ascot for Hughie Morrison and Michael Kerr-Dineen. Three years later his brother Cannock Chase won the same race at the Royal Meeting for Sir Michael Stoute and Saeed Suhail and went on to win the G1 Pattison Canadian International. Star Catcher has eclipsed them both and her dam has several chances still to come. The mare's 3-year-old daughter Maurimo (GB) (Kingman GB) is in training with Roger Charlton, and Oppenheimer has a Frankel



Star Catcher & Frankie Dettori | *Racing Post*

2-year-old filly named Nettleton (GB) as well as a yearling colt by Time Test (GB).

Star Catcher is not the only horse to remain in training at four for Oppenheimer this year. [Cont. p5](#)



ARQANA

WOODED

c. 2017 WOOTTON BASSETT x FRIDA LA BLONDE



**PRICELESS
MOMENT**

Prix Texanita (Gr.3) Chantilly

Owner Al Shaqab Racing
 Trainer Francis-Henri Graffard
 Breeder Gestüt Zur Küste AG

2018 OCTOBER YEARLING SALE

Price €90,000
 Buyer Al Shaqab Racing
 Vendor Haras d'Étremham

NEXT SALE

BREEZE UP SALE

June 29-30 -Goffs, Co.Kildare, Ireland

Oppenheimer Cont.

The 108-rated stayer **First In Line (GB)** (New Approach {GB}) has stayed at Gosden's Clarehaven Stables and indeed looks likely to be first in line to resume.

"I hope First In Line will be out very soon once racing starts. Star Catcher will probably be much later because most of the races for a 4-year-old fillies are much later in the year, so I don't see her being out in the immediate future," says Oppenheimer, who also has last season's G2 Prix de Pomone winner **Dame Malliot (GB)** (Champs Elysees {GB}) in training with Ed Vaughan.

The extended lockdown restrictions mean that the breeder has not been able to inspect any of his new arrivals at his stud near Newmarket, though he has kept an eye on those waiting in the wings to be assigned to a trainer, as he explains.

"I have 21 foals, two of them are in America, but I haven't seen any of them unfortunately. The only horses I've really seen [this year] are the 2-year-olds in pre-training with Malcolm Bastard. I have 10 there at the moment and I was lucky to be able to go there quite a lot before lockdown, as that's just up the road from me. My policy is to keep my 2-year olds with Malcolm until he or the trainers feel they're ready to go into training, which is normally July, August or September. Malcolm does a marvellous job. He said to me that he thinks I have the best bunch of 2-year-olds that I've ever had this year so that's encouraging."

It's also quite a thought considering the potential chances of this year's 3-year-olds, which include four fillies being campaigned with the Classics in mind. Leading that quartet and of particular significance to Oppenheimer as she is a first-crop daughter of Golden Horn is **Domino Darling (GB)**, who featured in [Tom Fray's Under the Radar column](#) last week. He also has high hopes for a member of Golden Horn and Cracksman's family, **Frankly Darling (GB)**, a Frankel half-sister to First In Line, as well as for the impressive Newcastle maiden winners **Tiempo Vuela (GB)** (Lope De Vega {Ire}) and **Little Becky (GB)** (Sir Percy {GB}).

"Little Becky won her race very easily and is coming along," he says. "We're very excited about Domino Darling. She really put her foot forward to win her first and only race and she beat one of Mr. Varian's top fillies. It was very heavy ground, and the one thing about Golden Horn was that he hated heavy ground, but being out of a Sadler's Wells mare maybe helps her. But we have two others to take her on."

He adds, "One of the best things about the lockdown for horses is that a lot of them will have needed a bit more time. It's not such a bad thing for some of the trainers to be forced to give them a little bit more time."

One of the great joys for many breeders is pondering over matings, and Oppenheimer admits that he starts making tentative plans as early as August.

He says, "I sex-test all my mares and as soon as I know what they are carrying, when I go to France on holiday I do some trial matings myself. One of the things I really enjoy more than anything else is doing the matings. The top stallions are terribly expensive, so if you just stick with them you begin to panic a little bit on the cost front. I think we might see stallion fees coming down a little bit next year with everything that's going on."

While his late father put everything he bred into training, Oppenheimer generally races his fillies and sells his colts, as he

did with the 2000 Guineas winner of 2005, **Footstepsinthesand (GB)** (Giant's Causeway). Fortunately, Golden Horn failed to reach his reserve when offered as a yearling, giving Hascombe And Valiant Studs their first homebred Classic winner since **On The House (Fr)** (Be My Guest) won the 1000 Guineas in 1982.

The value-added excitement for Oppenheimer since his star colts have retired to the Darley stallion barn is being able to follow their stock. Cracksman's

first foals have arrived this season, four of which are at Hascombe And Valiant, and Golden Horn's eldest offspring are now three

"It's terribly exciting," he says. "I'm really looking forward to seeing what Golden Horn's 3-year-olds can do this year, not just our own but those bred by other people as well. He's having another good year at stud and is going to get at least 110 nice mares. People are coming back, saying they are so pleased with their Golden Horns. This is the year that really counts now and I hope we'll see some good ground for his runners."

Despite a rash of recent success, there is one blank on the stud's roll of honour which Oppenheimer is longing to fill. "I'm very keen to win the Oaks, wherever and whenever it may be," he says.

And if that happens to be achieved with a homebred daughter of Golden Horn, then so much the better.



Frankie Dettori & Anthony Oppenheimer | *Racing Post*

French Group Previews Cont. from p1

Freddy Head throws George Strawbridge's half-brother to Almanzor (Fr) (Wootton Bassett {GB}) in at the deep end on his first turf start and connections will learn a lot more about him here.

Potential protagonists for the G1 Prix de Diane have the G3 Prix Vanteaux to aim at on the card, where Team Valor International's **Emoji (Ger)** (Soldier Hollow {GB}) is a fascinating contender. With Henk Grewe last term, the impressive Baden-Baden maiden scorer shone on her first start for the Francis-Henri Graffard stable when making all to beat the re-opposing Galova (Fr) (Galiway {GB}) in Saint-Cloud's Listed Prix la Camargo at a mile Mar. 15. She encounters White Birch Farm's acquisition **Flighty Lady (Ire)** (Sir Percy {GB}), who was last seen finishing third in the G1 Prix Marcel Boussac here on Arc day for the Gavin Hernon yard. Like Emoji, she has made the switch to a bigger operation, this time Jean-Claude Rouget, and she sets the form standard.

For the fillies in need of a stouter trip, the opening 11-furlong Listed Prix de la Seine sees another Team Valor-Graffard link-up with the Mar. 6 Listed Prix Rose de Mai third **American Apples (Fr)** (American Post {GB}), who meets Shadwell's Jan. 23 Cagnes-Sur-Mer debut scorer **Raabihah** (Sea the Stars {Ire}) from Rouget's troupe. Later on the card, the seven-furlong Listed Prix du Pont Neuf plays host to a further Rouget representative in the G3 Prix la Rochette third **Sujet Libre (Fr)** (Hurricane Cat) who encounters Coolmore's Listed Prix Francois Boutin runner-up **Arapaho (Fr)** (Lope de Vega {Ire}). The 10-furlong Listed Prix Zarkava is another intriguing contest, with **Grand Glory (GB)** (Olympic Glory {Ire}) reappearing for the first time since her surprise third in Chantilly's G1 Prix de Diane last June. She faces a clutch of potential improvers among the older fillies and mares, including the Aga Khan's Listed Prix Casimir Delamarre winner **Dariyza (Fr)** (Dawn Approach {Ire}).

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[FRENCH GROUP & LISTED VIDEO REPLAYS FROM MAY 13, 2020:](#)

Race	Course
G3 Prix Texanita	CHY

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EUROPEAN NEWS

REVISED PLANS FOR GUINEAS', DERBY AND OAKS REMAIN ON COURSE

In its latest update on Wednesday, the British Horseracing Authority's Flat Pattern Committee revealed that plans remain for the G1 2000 Guineas and G1 1000 Guineas to be staged on June 6 and 7, respectively, while the G1 Investec Derby and G1 Investec Oaks are both set for Saturday, July 4. The G1 Eclipse S. will take place on July 5, and Royal Ascot remains on its original dates of June 16 to 20, though some changes to the order of races "will be confirmed as soon as possible." The update also noted that pattern and listed races will be open to international runners when racing returns.



Anapurna winning the 2019 Oaks | *Racing Post*

A provisional programme for the first seven days of non-pattern races after returning was published on May 7, and the committee said further details for that time period and a plan for the second seven days will be released later this week. The aim is to provide at least one pattern or listed opportunity covering the key distances for 3-year-olds and older. The schedule will also include a number of novice and conditions races for 2-year-olds to give them an opportunity to have a run before Royal Ascot.

An exact timetable for the return of racing remains subject to an agreement with government and the provisional plan may yet require adjustment. Following the British government's release of a potential timeline for the resumption of sports on Monday, it is acknowledged that racing in Britain will begin again no sooner than June 1. [Cont. p7](#)

Pattern and Listed Races June 3 to 7:

June 3 and 4:

Classic Trial (10f, 3yo, G3)
 Snowdrop (8f, 3yo/up, f, Lst)
 Pavilion (6f, 3yo, G3)

June 5:

Abernant (6f, 3yo/up, G3)
 Brigadier Gerard (10f, 4yo/up, G3)
 Paradise (8f, 3yo/up, Lst)
 Lingfield Oaks Trial (11.5f, 3yo, f, Lst)
 Lingfield Derby Trial (11.5f, 3yo, c/g, Lst)
 Coronation Cup (12f, 4yo/up, G1)

June 6:

2000 Guineas (8f, 3yo, c/f, G1)
 *Dahlia (10f, 4yo/up, f, G2)
 Palace House (5f, 3yo/up, G3)
 Sagaro (16f, 4yo/up, G3)
 Newmarket (10f, 3yo, c/g, Lst)
 *Distance change to 10f

June 7:

1000 Guineas (8f, 3yo, f, G1)
 Pretty Polly (10f, 3yo, f, Lst)
 Buckhounds (12f, 4yo/up, Lst)
 Cecil Frail (6f, 3yo/up, f, Lst)
 Spring Trophy (7f, 3yo/up, G3)
 Pinnacle (12f, 4yo/up, f, G3)

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WOODED STRIKES AT CHANTILLY

All the rage prior to Wednesday's G3 Prix Texanita, Al Shaqab Racing's **Wooded (Ire)** continued the strong start to the season for his sire Wootton Bassett (GB) by registering an authoritative success in the Chantilly feature. Dropping to this six-furlong trip for the first time, the G3 Prix la Rochette runner-up was able to easily lay up with the pace set by Juddmonte's filly **Alocasia (GB)** (Kingman {GB}) and when shaken up readily subdued her with 300 metres remaining. Stretching out with stamina assured from there, the 12-5 favourite hit the line with 3 1/2 lengths to spare, with Alocasia in turn two lengths ahead of **My Love's Passion (Fr)** (Elvstroem {Aus}) who raced with one other on the far side.

"Last year, in all his races he had shown a lot of speed and so I was tempted to run in this and Pierre-Charles Boudot was also convinced he would do well in sprints," trainer Francis-Henri Graffard commented. "He won very well indeed and he was quite keen, even over that trip. He quickened very nicely and

the little gamble paid off. We know what to do with this horse now and, although there isn't much for three-year-old sprinters on the French program, if Royal Ascot takes place we'll send him there for [G1] Commonwealth Cup."

Posting an impressive winning time here, Wooded looks a colt with a future now that he has found his true metier. Campaigned solely over seven furlongs at two, he learnt enough from a debut reversal when second at Dieppe in July to break his maiden at Deauville August before being caught late on when a short-head runner-up to Kenway (Fr) (Galiway {GB}) in the Prix la Rochette at ParisLongchamp in September. No match for the Charlie Appleby-trained duo King's Command (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}) and Royal Crusade (GB) (Shamardal) when third in the G3 Prix Thomas Bryon at Saint-Cloud the following month, the bay looked more in his comfort zone in this sphere and warrants a tilt at the generation's main sprint at the still-unscheduled Royal meeting.



Wooded | Scoop Dyga

Pedigree Notes

Wooded is the second foal out of the dam, with the first being his talented full-brother Beat Le Bon (GB). Successful in last year's Golden Mile H. at Glorious Goodwood, he was also runner-up in the six-furlong Listed Redcar Two Year Old Trophy while often showing genuine group-class ability. The second dam is the listed-winning and G2 Premio Regina Elena (Italian 1000 Guineas) runner-up Firm Friend (Ire) (Affirmed), who was also twice group-placed in France. Her speedy sons Fred Lalloupet (GB) (Elusive City) and Mon Pote Le Gitan (Thunder Gulch) were both also successful at listed level and placed in Group 3 contests, while this is also the family of the G3 Cornwallis S. and G3 Norfolk S.-winning sire Magic Ring (Ire) (Green Desert). Frida La Blonde's third foal, a daughter of Ajaya (GB), sold for €65,000 at Arqana October, while she also has a yearling filly by Intello (Ger).

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Wednesday, Chantilly, France

PRIX TEXANITA-G3, €56,000, Chantilly, 5-13, 3yo, 6fT, 1:08.90, g/s.

1--**WOODED (IRE), 125, c, 3, by Wootton Bassett (GB)**

1st Dam: Frida La Blonde (Fr), by Elusive City

2nd Dam: Firm Friend (Ire), by Affirmed

3rd Dam: Chere Amie (Fr), by Gay Mecene

1ST BLACK-TYPE WIN; 1ST GROUP WIN. (€90,000 Ylg '18 AROCT). O-Al Shaqab Racing; B-Gestut Zur Kuste AG (IRE); T-Francis-Henri Graffard; J-Pierre-Charles Boudot. €28,000. Lifetime Record: 5-2-2-1, €73,500. *Full to Beat Le Bon (Fr), SP-Eng, \$348,824. **Werk Nick Rating: C+.** [Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree.](#)



2--**Alocasia (GB), 121, f, 3, Kingman (GB)**--Portodora, by Kingmambo. O-Khalid Abdullah; B-Juddmonte Farms (GB); T-Henri-Francois Devin. €11,200.

3--**My Love's Passion (Fr), 121, f, 3, Elvstroem (Aus)**--Amber Two (GB), by Cadeaux Genereux (GB). (€10,000 Ylg '18 AROCT). O-Passion Racing Club; B-Patrick Chedeville (FR); T-Yann Barberot. €8,400.

Margins: 3HF, 2, 1. Odds: 2.40, 4.70, 7.30.

Also Ran: Abama (Fr), Mutual (Fr), Wanaway (Fr), Bavaria Baby (Fr), Porcelaine (Ire), Xaaros (Fr), Lindy Lou (Fr), Minuty (Fr), Ammobaby (Fr), Gratiane (Fr). [Click for the Racing Post result or the free Equineline.com catalogue-style pedigree.](#) [Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.](#)

THE IMPORTANCE OF MENTORS

JOHN OXX

In this series for TDN Europe, we speak to key players in the Thoroughbred industry about the importance and role mentors have played in their success. First up we have the renowned Irish trainer John Oxx.

TDN: Who has been the biggest inspiration in your career?

JO: My father was a successful trainer, and instilled in me a love of horses. He was also a great reader and had all the books about racing and breeding around the world. He encouraged me to read them from an early age and he also brought me out with him in the morning on The Curragh. All of these things gave me my inspiration.

Additionally, my mother was a teacher and, between them, they stressed the importance of education and knowledge and the combination of both gave me ambition. However, they taught me that ambition is not a 'wish list' but, rather, a determination to learn everything you can, work as hard as you

can to be as good as you can be.

TDN: What's the best advice you've ever been given?

JO: I have had so many people who gave me good advice that I could not easily pick one, but it probably comes down to the basics again. My parents advice from an early age: 'never sacrifice your good reputation for a quick buck.'

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John Oxx | *Racing Post*

**FIRST-SEASON SIRE
WITH RUNNERS**

Thursday, May 14, 2020:

FRANCE

Dariyan (Fr) (Shamardal), Haras de Bonneval
68 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners
4-ANGERS, 1100m,
€15,000 RNA Arqana Deauville October Yearlings 2019

Goken (Fr) (Kendargent {Fr}), Haras de Colleville
61 foals of racing age/1 winners/0 black-type winners
4-ANGERS, 1100m, LAGOKEN (Fr)
€10,000 RNA Arqana Deauville Autumn Mixed Sale 2019
4-ANGERS, 1100m, MAGIC SWORD (Fr)
€12,000 Arqana December Breeding Stock Sale 2018 - English Version; €32,000 Arqana Deauville v2 Yearling Sale 2019

Territories (Ire) (Invincible Spirit {Ire}), Dalham Hall Stud
113 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners
4-ANGERS, 1100m, TERRITORIO (Fr)



Goken, who sired his first winner on Wednesday, is aiming for his second at Angers | Haras de Colleville

FRANCE

Thursday, ParisLongchamp, post time: 11.10 a.m.

PRIX DE LA SEINE-Listed, €38,000, 3yo, f, 11fT

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER
1	6	Raabihah	Sea the Stars (Ire)	C Demuro	Rouget
2	4	Dilala (Fr)	Makfi (GB)	Bazire	Vermeulen
3	5	Annalyse (Fr)	Olympic Glory (Ire)	Barzalona	Chappet
4	3	American Beach (Fr)	American Post (GB)	Hardouin	Montzey
5	2	American Apples (Fr)	American Post (GB)	Boudot	Graffard
6	1	Seachange (Fr)	Siyouni (Fr)	Guyon	Laffon-Parias

All carry 123 pounds.

Thursday, ParisLongchamp, post time: 1.10 p.m.

PRIX DU PONT NEUF-Listed, €38,000, 3yo, 7fT

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER
1	3	Sujet Libre (Fr)	Hurricane Cat	C Demuro	Rouget
2	5	Golden Boy (Fr)	Siyouni (Fr)	Bachelot	Wattel
3	9	Tibasti (Fr)	Dabirsim (Fr)	Soumillon	Le Dren Doleuze
4	10	Kloster (Fr)	Style Vendome (Fr)	Trullier	Hollinshead
5	2	Arapaho (Fr)	Lope de Vega (Ire)	Boudot	Fabre
6	1	Sky Power (Fr)	Stormy River (Fr)	Hardouin	Barbedette
7	8	Brave Shiina (Fr)	Bated Breath (GB)	Peslier	Shimizu
8	6	Mageva (GB)	Wootton Bassett (GB)	Pasquier	Chappet
9	7	Wootton Saga (Fr)	Wootton Bassett (GB)	Cheminaud	Delzangles
10	4	Yomogi (Fr)	Zoffany (Ire)	Moutard	Shimizu

All carry 126 pounds bar Mageva, Wootton Saga & Yomogi, 122.

Wednesday's Results:

1st-Chantilly, €28,000, Cond, 5-13, 3yo, c/g, 8fT, 1:36.34, g/s.

RESHABAR (FR) (c, 3, Iffraaj {GB}--Rait {Ire}, by Tamayuz {GB}), who bettered a debut eighth here in September with a Nov. 6

second over this strip last time, broke sharply and led from the outset of this seasonal return. Enjoying an easy time on the front end, the 59-1 outsider quickened further clear approaching the final furlong and was pushed out in the closing stages to easily account for Celestin (Fr) (Dabirsim {Fr}) by three lengths. Kin to a yearling filly by Oasis Dream (GB), the March-foaled bay is the first foal produced by a winning half to MG1SP G3 Nell Gwyn S. victress Nathra (Ire) (Iffraaj {GB}), herself out of a half-sister to G1 July Cup-winning sire Owington (GB) (Green Desert). Lifetime Record: 3-1-1-0, €19,400. **Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-Erich Schwaiger; B-Concept Real AG (FR); T-Markus Munch.

2nd-Chantilly, €28,000, Cond, 5-13, 3yo, f, 8fT, 1:37.40, g/s.

SIMEEN (FR) (f, 3, Lope de Vega {Ire}--Samadriza {Ire}, by Oasis Dream {GB}), who prevailed in seven-furlong tests at Saint-Cloud in June and at Clairefontaine in September, employed patient tactics and was under restraint behind all five rivals until deep into this sophomore bow. Nudged along to close passing the two pole, the 6-5 favourite went second approaching the final eighth and quickened smartly to deny Golden Crown (GB) (Siyouni {Fr}) by a short neck in the dying strides. She is the first foal produced by a winning half to four stakes performers including MSW G1 Prix Saint-Alary second Sanaya (Ire) (Barathea {Ire}) and MG1SW European champion Sarafina (Fr) (Refuse to Bend {Ire}), who in turn is the dam of G3 Prix Messidor victor Geniale (Jpn) (Deep Impact {Jpn}), G3 Prix d'Aumale victress Savarin (Jpn) (Deep Impact {Jpn}) and G3 Radio Nikkei Sho third Go Timing (Jpn) (Deep Impact {Jpn}). The homebred bay is half to a 2-year-old filly by Teofilo (Ire) and a yearling colt by Fastnet Rock (Aus). Lifetime Record: 3-3-0-0, €44,500. **Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

O-H H The Aga Khan; B-H H The Aga Khan's Studs SC (FR); T-Jean-Claude Rouget.

6th-Chantilly, €22,000, Cond, 5-13, 3yo, 6fT, 1:09.84, g/s.

HURRICANE IVOR (IRE) (c, 3, Ivawood {Ire}--Quickstep Queen {GB}, by Royal Applause {GB}) earned 'TDN Rising Star' status with a blistering debut score over five furlongs on this card last year, but blew out when seventh of eight in the June 29 G3 Prix du Bois back over the same strip in his only other start last time. Claiming the stands' side rail and lead after a slick getaway, the 16-5 pick dominated throughout and stretched out under mild rousting inside the final quarter mile to hit the line 3 1/2 lengths ahead of Crew Dragon (Fr) (Poet's Voice {GB}). Half-brother to a yearling colt by Galileo Gold (GB), he is the second of three foals and lone performer out of an unraced half to G3 Silver Flash S. second Take A Deep Breath (GB) (Bated Breath {GB}).



'TDN Rising Star' Hurricane Ivor (Ire) (Ivawood {Ire}) made a winning reappearance in the Prix des Veneurs (conditions) at Chantilly on Wednesday. Amanda Skiffington purchased the colt for 105,000gns at the Tattersalls December Foal Sale in 2017. | *Scoop Dyga*

6th-Chantilly Cont.

His third dam is MGSW G2 Prix du Gros-Chene speedster Millyant (GB) (Primo Dominie {GB}), herself the dam of dual G3 Prix du Petit Couvert victor Mirza (GB) (Oasis Dream {GB}) and three-time stakes placegetter Millybaa (Anabaa). Sales history: 105,000gns Wlg '17 TATFOA. Lifetime Record: 3-2-0-0, €24,500.

Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.

O-Fiona Carmichael; B-P McLoughney & J McLoughney (IRE); T-Fabrice Chappet.

FIRST WINNER FOR SIRE

3rd-Chantilly, €22,000, Mdn, 5-13, unraced 2yo, f, 5fT, :58.99, g/s.

LIVACHOPE (FR) (f, 2, Goken {Fr}--Laia Chope {Fr} {SP-Fr}, by Soave {Ger}) recovered from a slightly awkward getaway to track the pace in a handy third after the initial exchanges of this unveiling. Shaken up with 300 metres remaining, the 21-2 chance launched her challenge passing the furlong marker and was ridden out in the latter stages to deny Rose Gold (Fr) (Tamayuz {GB}) by a neck. Becoming the first scorer for Haras de

Colleville-based freshman sire Goken (Fr) (Kendargent {Fr}), the February-foaled homebred bay is a half-sister to the yearling filly Lizie Chope (Fr) (Captain Chop {Fr}). She is out of Listed Criterium de Vitesse third Laia Chope (Fr) (Soave {Ger}) and hails from a family featuring MGSW G1 Haydock Sprint Cup runner-up Bolshoi (Ire) (Royal Academy). Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, €11,000. **Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

1ST-TIME STARTER. O/B-Alain Chopard (FR); T-Jane Soubagne.

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4th-Chantilly, €22,000, Mdn, 5-13, unraced 2yo, c/g, 5fT, :59.30, g/s.

GIULIO CESARE (FR) (c, 2, Dabirsim {Fr}--Cherie Good {Ire} {SW-Ity}, by Big Bad Bob {Ire}) raced in the vanguard after a slick getaway in this newcomers' test. Coming under pressure soon after passing the quarter-mile, the 183-10 chance ranged upsides Axdavali (Fr) (Goken {Fr}) with 150 metres remaining and was ridden out edge that rival 1 1/2 lengths. White Birch Farm's well-related Ornamental Glitter (Ire) (No Nay Never) was prominent until halfway, but faded late to finish 10 lengths off the winner in fourth. **Cont. p11**

4th-Chantilly Cont.

Kin to a yearling colt by Shalaa (Ire), Giulio Cesrae is the second of three foals and first scorer produced by Listed Premio Repubbliche Marinare winner Cherie Good (Ire) (Big Bad Bob {Ire}), herself half to Listed Premio Alessandro Perrone victress Val Nanda (Ire) (Fast Company {Ire}). The March-foaled homebred bay's second dam Kristal Xenia (Ire) (Xaar {GB}) is a winning half-sister to Gill Generous S. runner-up Moment of Weakness (Ire) (Big Bad Bob {Ire}). Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, €11,000. **Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.** 1ST-TIME STARTER. O/B-Scuderia Micolo SNC (FR); T-Andrea Marcialis.

IRELAND

ITM BREEZE-UP CONSIGNOR MARKETING SUPPORT SCHEME LAUNCHED

The Irish Thoroughbred Breeze-Up Marketing Support Scheme was launched by ITM on Wednesday. Consisting of a €30

financial contribution per horse toward the cost of pre-sale confirmation videos and digital content, the idea is to assist Irish breeze-up consignors with digitally marketing their stock. The contribution is available for those breeze-up consignors that engage the services of a recognised professional videographer to create video and photo content that complies with pre-set standards relation to quality and content. The €30/horse contribution will be paid to the relevant videographer, on behalf of the consignor, upon receipt of a completed application form.

“The importance of the breeze-up market to the industry as a whole cannot be overestimated,” said ITM’s Sile Hayes. “In these times of restricted travel and increased public health measures, ITM is seeking to assist this pivotal sector by lending its support to breeze-up consignors’ digital marketing efforts.”

For more information on the scheme, go to www.itm.ie or contact Sile Hayes at shayes@itm.ie.

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<http://www.thoroughbreddailynews.com/getLatest.php> to download the latest edition of the TDN each day.



Livchope, the first winner for her first-season sire Goken, won a Chantilly maiden by a neck on debut. | Scoop Dyga

ITALY

ITALIAN CLASSICS PROVISIONALLY SCHEDULED

The Italian Classics have been provisionally scheduled and close on May 14 at noon, *Jour de Galop* reported on Wednesday. The €154,000 G3 Premio Parioli (Italian 2000 Guineas) and €154,000 G3 Premio Regina Elena (Italian 1000 Guineas) are slated for Sunday, June 7. The €704,000 G2 Derby Italiano will be held on June 21 and the €407,000 G2 Premio Oaks d'Italia seven days later on June 28. An actual date for the resumption of Italian racing has not been given, although the date of May 19 has been discussed, as well as May 26. Italian racing was halted due to the coronavirus on Mar. 11.

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IN HONG KONG:

Beauty Happy (Ire), g, 4, **Elzaam (Aus)**--Diamond Circle (GB), by Halling. Happy Valley, 5-13, Hcp. (£153k/€173k), 1800mT, 1:49.08. B-Limetree Stud. *Formerly Mackqeez (Ire). **€6,500 Wlg '16 GOFNOV; €22,000 Ylg '17 GOFSP. **VIDEO**

IN AUSTRALIA:

Mubariz (GB), g, 4, **Dansili (GB)**--Could It Be (Ire), by Galileo (Ire). Warwick Farm, 5-13, Hcp. (£24k/€27k), 1600mT, 1:36.33. B-Al Shahania Stud. *40,000gns HRA '19 TATAUT.
Accountability (Ire), g, 4, **Dubawi (Ire)**--Vow (GB) (SW-Eng), by Motivator (GB). Warwick Farm, 5-13, Hcp. (£24k/€27k), 2110mT, 2:10.96. B-Lodge Park Stud. *240,000gns Ylg '17 TATOCT; 14,000gns HRA '19 TATFEB.



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 Race: 4

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Thursday, ParisLongchamp, France, post time: 11.40 a.m.

PRIX LA FORCE-G3, €56,000, 3yo, c/g, 9FT

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	WT
1	3	Mkfancy (Fr)	Makfi (GB)	Soumillon	Brandt	128
2	4	Chachnak (Fr)	Kingman (GB)	C Demuro	Vermeulen	128
3	5	Nat King (GB)	Nathaniel (Ire)	Peslier	Laffon-Parias	128
4	2	Ocean Atlantique 	American Pharoah	Boudot	Fabre	128
5	1	Another Sky (Fr)	Le Havre (Ire)	Lemaitre	Head	128
6	6	Pao Alto (Fr)	Intello (Ger)	Guyon	Ferland	128

Thursday, ParisLongchamp, France, post time: 12.10 p.m.

PRIX VANTEAUX-G3, €56,000, 3yo, f, 9FT

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	WT
1	6	Rolleville (Fr)	Rock of Gibraltar (Ire)	Pasquier	Chappet	126
2	1	Fee Historique (Fr)	Lucayan (Fr)	Moutard	Shimizu	126
3	8	Way of Tango (Fr)	Galiway (GB)	Lemaitre	Mathijs	126
4	9	Passefontaine (Fr)	Wootton Bassett (GB)	Badel	Bollack-Badel	126
5	5	Magic Attitude (GB)	Galileo (Fr)	Piccone	Chappet	126
6	3	Leilani (Spa)	Dink (Fr)	Cheminaud	Bertran de Balanda	126
7	4	Galova (Fr)	Galiway (GB)	Crastus	C Boutin	126
8	2	Emoji (Ger)	Soldier Hollow (GB)	Boudot	Graffard	126
9	7	Flighty Lady (Ire)	Sir Percy (GB)	C Demuro	Rouget	126

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OMAHA BEACH & VINO ROSSO TO SPENDTHRIFT AUSTRALIA



Omaha Beach winning the Arkansas Derby | Coady Photography

By Bren O'Brien

Spendthrift has backed up its investment in Australia with the confirmation that two of the hottest stud prospects in North America, **Omaha Beach (USA)** and **Vino Rosso (USA)**, will shuttle to stand at Spendthrift Australia's Victorian base this year.

Five years after establishing its Australian operation at Kerrie, north of Melbourne, Spendthrift Australia continues to build its stallion offering and the arrival of the two highly credentialed young stallions off their first seasons in Kentucky is another significant boost. Omaha Beach will stand his first season at \$22,000 (inc GST), while Vino Rosso will debut at \$13,750 (inc GST).

Garry Cuddy, General Manager of Spendthrift Australia said the fact the two of the highest-profile first-season stallions in North America were coming to Victoria was a sign of real intent from the international operation.

"It's a big endorsement for the Victorian industry. Breeders asked us to bring the big boys to Australia and here they are. They are the two highest-priced first-season stallions in America this year, and they have both covered full books of tremendous quality. We have brought them down here for Australian breeders and they are going to get every chance at value fees

and with the weight of our broodmare band supporting them," he said.

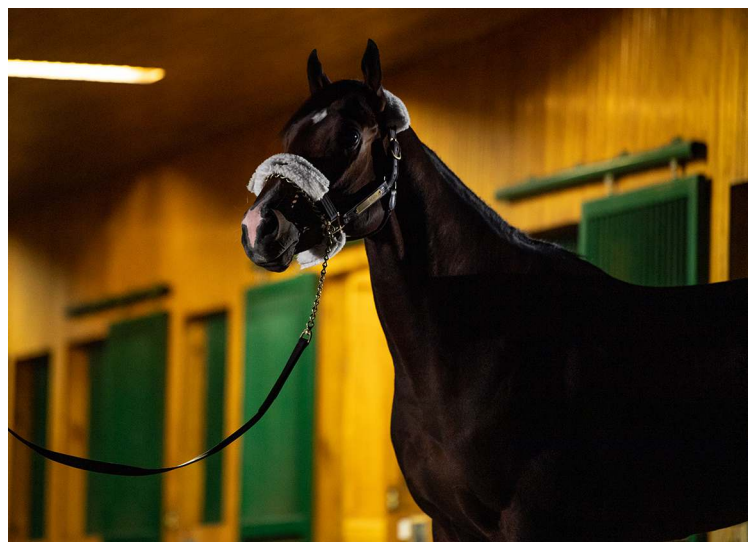
Omaha Beach, a son of War Front (USA), won a trio of Grade 1 races as a 3-year-old under the eye of Hall Of Fame trainer Richard Mandella. He burst to prominence with a 9l win at Santa Anita early in his 3-year-old season and then stepped through a win in the G2 Rebel S. at Oaklawn Park to claim his first top-level win in the G1 Arkansas Derby, again at Oaklawn Park.

Omaha Beach returned again in the fall to claim the G1 Santa Anita Sprint Championship and after being edged out in the G1 Breeders' Cup Mile the following start, ended his year with a comfortable victory in the G1 Malibu S. His three Grade 1 victories came over six furlongs, seven furlongs and nine furlongs, and he became the first American 3-year-old in 30 years to win at the elite level across such a distance range, prompting Mandella to remark he hadn't trained one better.

"He's like a son; he's better than a son. He makes me money; he doesn't cost money," Mandella quipped at the time.

Omaha Beach's racetrack performances are backed up by a rich pedigree. His half-sister Take Charge Brandi (USA) (Giant's Causeway {USA}) won multiple Grade I races, including a Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies which saw her crowned Champion 2YO Filly. His dam Charming (USA), is a half-sister to two Grade 1-winning stars in Take Charge Indy (USA) (A.P. Indy {USA}) and Will Take Charge (USA) (Unbridled's Song {USA}).

He stood his first season at Spendthrift in Kentucky at US\$45,000 (AU\$69,500), and Australian breeders are being given an excellent opportunity to breed to him early in his career for a fraction of that fee.



Omaha Beach at Spendthrift | Autry Graham/Spendthrift



Vino Rosso | Horsephotos

Breeders' Cup Winner to Make Impact

Vino Rosso was a brilliant winner of the GI Breeders' Cup Classic at Santa Anita last November and at this stage, will be the only son of Curlin (USA) to stand in Australia in 2020. Trained by Todd Pletcher, he was unbeaten as a 2-year-old, and then won the GII Wood Memorial in a 2018 campaign where he contested the best 3-year-old races.

He kicked off his 4-year-old season with a listed win at Aqueduct and would then go on to record his first Grade I victory in the Gold Cup at Santa Anita over 1 mile 2 furlongs, the equivalent of 2000 metres. He saved his best performance for his final appearance on the racetrack, powering to a 4.5l win in the Breeders' Cup Classic, defeating multiple Grade I winner McKinzie (USA) (Street Sense {USA}).

Vino Rosso was a US\$410,000 (AU\$634,000) purchase for Mike Repole and St Elias at the 2016 Keeneland September Yearling Sale. He is out of Mythical Bride (USA) (Street Cry {Ire}), who has also produced the stakes-placed So Alive (USA) (Super Saver {USA}) and is a half-sister to graded winners Commissioner (USA) (A.P. Indy {USA}) and Laugh Track (Distorted Humor {USA}).

He, like Omaha Beach, covered a full book in his first season in Kentucky, standing at US\$30,000 (AU\$46,400), while he will debut in Australia at less than half that fee, \$13,750 (inc GST).

Cuddy said he expects both horses to resonate very well with breeders in Australia.

"Everybody who follows American racing knows who Vino Rosso's sire Curlin is--he's a top stallion in America who produces over 10% stakes winners to runners, which is an elite standard. The feats of Declaration Of War in recent times has ensured that War Front is securing his dynasty as a sire of sires, and Omaha Beach is his best-credentialed son," he said. "They are two high quality horses by high quality stallions. In Vino

Rosso, you have a fantastic outcross and in Omaha Beach, you've got a horse of who legendary trainer Richard Mandella said, 'he had never trained one better'.

"It's a big vote of confidence in the Victorian breeding industry for Mr. Hughes to shuttle two of the most popular and valuable stud prospects in North America. They will be afforded every opportunity at stud when supported by quality mares from the Spendthrift Australia broodmare band. We will be active at the sales over the coming months to purchase mares that specifically complement their profiles."

Aussie Trio Stays at 2019 Fees

The pair will join Spendthrift Australia's trio of Australian-bred stallions, who have the added advantage of being part of Spendthrift's Breed Secure program, which allows breeders to pay the service fee after selling the resultant foal.

Overshare, a son I Am Invincible, served a big book of 150 mares in his second season and stands at an unchanged price of \$11,000 (inc GST). His oldest Australia crops will feature at the 2021 yearling sales. The same is the case for **Gold Standard**, G2 Stan Fox Stakes-winning son of the late Sebring. His price also stays steady at \$5500 (inc GST) entering his third year at stud. **Swear**, the Group 3-winning son of Redoute's Choice, had his first crop of yearlings through the sales this year, with a top price of \$80,000 for a colt purchased by Hawkes Racing at the Inglis Classic Sale. He also stands for \$5500 (inc GST) in 2020, the same price he has stood for his past two seasons.

"Swear will have his first crop of 2-year-olds in the new racing season which we are very excited about, because they've ended up in some of the best stables in Australia. not just Victoria," Cuddy said. "The first foals from both Overshare and Gold Standard created a great impression and everybody got behind both those horses in their second year based on that quality. They doubled their book from year one to year two which only happens when foal quality is exceptional, so if that's a sign of things to come, all three of those will be supported throughout the 2020 season as well."



IN HONG KONG:

Daily Delight, g, 3, **Smart Missile**--Framboise, by Snippets.

Happy Valley, 5-13, Hcp. (\$192k), 1000m, :57.52. B-E McNulty (Vic). *\$120,000 Ylg '18 INGMAR; NZ\$125,000 2yo '18 NZBRTR. **VIDEO**


Australia-bred Winners Cont.

Compassion Spirit, g, 3, **Supreme Class**--Your Grace, by Testa Rossa. Happy Valley, 5-13, Hcp. (\$192k), 1200m, 1:10.12. B-Miss N Burke (Vic). *\$40,000 2yo '18 MMOCT.

VIDEO

Victoriam, g, 4, **I Am Invincible**--Quality Impulse, by Elusive Quality (USA). Happy Valley, 5-13, Hcp. (\$290k), 1200m, 1:09.93. B-Daandine Pastoral Co Pty Ltd (Qld). *\$120,000 Ylg '17 MMGCYS; NZ\$180,000 RNA 2yo '17 NZBRTR.

VIDEO

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

Group 1 Target for Dissident's Acrophobic

Te Akau, Cambridge Combine Forces

Five Minutes With Jamie Richards

Before They Were Famous: Microphone

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SANTA ANITA GETS COUNTY CLEARANCE, WILL RACE MAY 15



The sun shines bright over Santa Anita | Horsephotos

Officials at Santa Anita Park in Arcadia, CA, announced late Wednesday afternoon that the track has received approval from the Los Angeles County Health Department to resume safe live racing beginning this Friday, May 15, as part of Los Angeles County's revision of its 'Safer at Home' guidelines. Racing will be conducted without spectators and with essential personnel following strict protocols to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

"We are very grateful for the open and continuous communication with both the Health Department and Supervisor Kathryn Barger's office," said Aidan Butler, Executive Director of California Racing Operations for The Stronach Group. "Supervisor Barger, in particular, understood the importance of live racing to support thousands of individuals, and that we are able to accomplish it safely under these protocols."

Protocols that will be in place include mandatory face masks and daily health screening including temperature checks and mandatory social distancing while on the property, increased sanitation procedures, the creation of a Restricted Zone, housing jockeys, valets and other essential personnel who must have a negative COVID test to access, and revised saddling and pre-race protocol to increase physical distancing. **Cont. p3**

MONOMOY GIRL SET TO RETURN AFTER THIRD COMEBACK *by Katie Ritz*

Ever since **Monomoy Girl** (Tapizar) surged past the Churchill Downs finish line to take the 2018 GI Breeders' Cup Distaff, fans have eagerly awaited her return. It's been a long road over the past year and a half, but the now 5-year-old Eclipse champion is slated to make her 2020 debut beneath the Twin Spires Sat., May 16.

The five-time Grade I winner will be the star of Churchill Downs' opening day, facing six other fillies and mares in a one-mile \$80,000 allowance optional claimer. Her competition includes dual stakes winner Fashion Faux Pas (Flatter), as well as the GSW & GISP 'TDN Rising Star' Talk Veuve to Me (Violence).

"It's been an uphill battle since the Breeders' Cup, but she's responded well this time around," said trainer Brad Cox. "We have her ready to run and she's moving great; she's happy."

Cont. p7

IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

GOLDEN STARS LINING UP FOR OPPENHEIMER

Emma Berry chats with owner/breeder Anthony Oppenheimer on his 2020 runners to look forward to, including 2019 G1 Irish Oaks heroine Star Catcher (Ire) (Sea The Stars (Ire)). [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Europe.](#)



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Malibu Moon

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Thursday, May 14, 2020



"Breeders asked us to bring the big boys to Australia and here they are." Spendthrift Australia's Garry Cuddy on the decision to shuttle Omaha Beach, pictured, and Vino Rosso to its Victorian base for the Southern Hemisphere season. See TDN AusNZ for more. | Spendthrift/Autry Graham

PUTTING THE VERITAS IN VERRATTI

4

Jessica Martini introduces us to Bob Verratti, whose pinhooking experiment in 2018 and 2019 has already yielded a graded winner and a promising 'TDN Rising Star.'

TODAY'S GRADED STAKES

EST **Race**
5:40a **Prix la Force-G3, LCH**
6:10a **Prix Vanteaux-G3, LCH**

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Butler continued, “We also want to thank our stakeholders, including the Thoroughbred Owners of California, the California Thoroughbred Trainers, the Jockeys Guild, our Santa Anita Park team and our fans for their patience during this pandemic. This has been a difficult time for all. Now we are focused on getting back to work in a safe and secure manner.”

[Share this story](#) 

Monomoy Girl cont. from p1

Following her championship-clinching victory in the Distaff, Monomoy Girl received a freshening before returning to the Fair Grounds at the beginning of 2019. She was able to put in five recorded works and was preparing for her 4-year-old debut when a sudden case of colic sent her to the sidelines.

BSW Bloodstock’s Liz Crow carefully monitored Monomoy Girl’s progress as she worked through the setback. “She was in pretty rough shape at Rood and Riddle. She lost a lot of weight, and it was pretty serious.”

Monomoy Girl was sent to rehab at WinStar before heading to Churchill in July of last year to rejoin Cox.

“She was doing extremely well and we felt like she was a couple weeks from the races,” said Cox.

But this time, a hamstring injury kept her from the starting gate.



Monomoy Girl is set for her first start in 18 months Saturday

Crow said, “She breezed four times, and on the fourth breeze, she didn’t come out of it well the next day. She was off behind.”

She was sent to Paul Sharp’s stable in Florida and stayed there for the remainder of 2019.

At the beginning of this year, Monomoy Girl rejoined the Cox barn for the third time. She was able to put in three works at Fair Grounds before shipping to Lexington and has been training consistently at Keeneland since.

Crow credits Dr. Wes Sutter of Rood and Riddle for getting the mare back to the track for a third time.

Cont. p4



CITY OF LIGHT

Quality Road – Paris Notion, by Dehere

FIRST FOALS OF 2020



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LANE'S END

Mr. Monomoy cont.

"I really don't think we'd be back here without him," she said. "He played a major role both when she colicked and when she had her hamstring injury. He's been involved in every step of the process."

Monomoy Girl put in a work in the company of stablemate and multiple graded stakes winner Owendale (Into Mischief), clocking five furlongs in :59 4/5.

"It was a fantastic work," said Cox. "She's a really good work horse. Honestly, I think she's moving as well as she's ever moved."

Jockey Florent Geroux, who has ridden Monomoy Girl in all but one of her 11 career starts, was up for the breeze and will also be aboard for Saturday's start.

"She's coming along very nicely," Geroux said. "She's very stable every week. We're happy with her and are hoping she can run back to her winning ways of when she left."

Both Crow and Cox give credit to owners Michael Dubb, Sol Kumin, Mike Caruso, and Stuart Grant for sticking with their mare through these setbacks.

Crow said, "I remember thinking [after the hamstring injury], 'Are they going to retire her?' But they are game. To have a filly that's a champion, that's worth a lot of money in the sales ring, and to say 'we're not going to sell her, we're going to try again even though the odds aren't in our favor,' I think that's pretty cool."

"The owners have never quit believing in her," Cox added. "And neither have we. But they know that I'm not going to run her if she's not where she needs to be. They've trusted me and we work well together. She's a fantastic filly. She's a champion."

"I think it's really important for racing fans to have something they can follow," Crow said. "I'll tweet a picture of her and it's amazing the response you get. People really love her and I think the rivalry between her and Midnight Bisou (Midnight Lute) during her 3-year-old campaign captured a lot of fans."

"The ultimate goal would be to get her back to the Breeders' Cup," Cox said. "That's a dream right now, and it's a long ways off, but as long as she's doing well, it's something that hopefully it's in the cards."

Monomoy Girl has already visited Keeneland's winner's circle after claiming the GI Ashland S. during her sophomore season in 2018.

As for Saturday's start, a victory would push the champion past \$3 million dollars in earnings and would mark her fifth win at Churchill.

"It's been an emotional roller coaster, for sure," said Crow. "The setbacks have been hard, but we're all so excited that she's back and I think it'll be really meaningful to get to see her run, to see her back in the starting gate."

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INDEPENDENCE HALL, SCOLDING PUT THE VERITAS IN VERRATTI

by *Jessica Martini*

Bob Verratti, who has done a little of everything in racing for the past four decades, decided to purchase a small group of pinhooking prospects at the 2018 yearling sales and, with the help of bloodstock agent Dennis O'Neill, the Pennsylvania businessman came away with a pair of home runs, albeit to opposite sides of the park. The first of the trio to go through the sales ring was a colt from the first crop of Constitution who Verratti bought back for \$200,000 at last year's Fasig-Tipton Gulfstream sale. The buy-back proved fortuitous when, named **Independence Hall**, the dark bay's impressive debut win attracted high-power partners in Eclipse Thoroughbreds and Twin Creeks Racing and he dominated the 2019 GIII Nashua S. in just his second career start.

Verratti's second offering at last year's juvenile auctions was a daughter of Carpe Diem who turned heads with a quarter-mile work in :20 3/5 at the OBS Spring sale.

Bob Verratti cont.

Purchased for \$75,000 as a yearling at the 2018 Keeneland September sale, the filly sold to Phoenix Thoroughbreds at OBS for \$475,000. Now named **Scolding**, the filly was equally impressive in her racetrack debut, winning geared down by six lengths at Oaklawn Park May 2 (video) and earning the 'TDN Rising Star' label.



Kathleen and Bob Verratti lead Independence Hall into Aqueduct winner's circle | Sarah Andrew

Verratti traces his love of racing right back to a specific day in the summer of 1967.

"I was in the Navy and I was stationed at the Knolls Atomic Naval Reactor Facility in West Milton, New York," Verratti said. "I had one day off, so I went to this place called Saratoga. I went with \$12 and I came home with \$18, show bets all. I thought it was the greatest thing in the world. I made \$212 a month at the time, so that was pretty big money. I went back the next day with the \$18 and I came back with nine. The good news for me was that was closing day."

It would be nearly a decade later that Verratti became a racehorse owner.

"I bought my first racehorse, a \$3,000 horse from Charles Town, West Virginia, as a partner with a friend of mine. So \$1,500 was my first investment," he said. "That was in 1977, if you can believe that."

Asked if his initial \$1,500 investment had panned out, Verratti admitted, "No. But I thoroughly enjoyed it and I started to read and study and took an interest in breeding and bloodlines even before I could act on it. Just as a curiosity for me and an intellectual exercise to see if there was a way to figure this all out. And I realized after all of that study, that yes, there are some things that you can give you a better probability of success, but it's always better to be lucky than smart. That's my conclusion after 40 years."

By the 1980s, Verratti owned a handful of horses each year and raced mostly in California. He also bred a few fillies he had raced. He came closest to graded stakes success with Our Bobby V. (Majestarian), who was second in the 2003 GII Santa Catalina S. With family friends Kirk and Debbie Wycoff of Three Diamonds Farm, he even tried his hand at the pinhooking game.

"That was successful, it was very successful," Verratti said of his initial pinhooking venture. "We put up a few bucks and we made a few bucks and it was fun and exciting. But mostly, I was too busy in my career to really follow up on any of it. I just kept watching it out of the corner of my eye, always seeing how pinhookers were doing and how racing was going. You can call me intensely passionate about the sport, but a small player in the business for that last 40 years or so."

His investments in the sport benefitted from a chance encounter with Dennis O'Neill in 2008.

"Dennis bought a horse I bred at the Barretts [2008 May sale] for \$12,000," Verratti said. "I think it was one that he just decided to take a chance on. I didn't know him, but I called him up and told him I had bred the horse and I shouldn't have let him go for \$12,000. I asked him if he would let me back in as a partner. He did whatever due diligence that he needed to do on me, and apparently he did it incorrectly because he accepted me." **Cont. p6**



Scolding | Coady Photography

CLOSES MAY 16

<div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 5px;">WINNING COLORS, GRADE III</div> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">\$100,000 Runs Sat., May 30 Fillies & Mares, Four-year-olds & Up SIX FURLONGS, Dirt</p>	<div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 5px;">OLD FORESTER MINT JULEP, GRADE III</div> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">\$100,000 Runs Sat., May 30 Fillies & Mares, Four-year-olds & Up ONE MILE AND ONE-SIXTEENTH, Turf</p>
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Verratti cont.

He continued, “So we started out with a horse named Skim Scam (Skimming). He only won a couple of races, but it started a relationship with Dennis and that’s probably 20 years ago.”

When Verratti decided to purchase pinhook prospects in 2018, he turned to O’Neill, who had already picked future Kentucky Derby winners I’ll Have Another and Nyquist out of public auctions.

“Dennis has picked out horses for me, usually in partnerships, especially around Del Mar time, so we have something to run there,” Verratti explained. “I called him and I said, ‘Dennis, I want to buy some yearlings to pinhook.’ and he said, ‘Fine, I’m going. Let’s do it.’ So we did.”

Verratti went into the Keeneland September sale with a budget of \$400,000 to \$500,000 and expecting to buy up to four horses in the \$75,000 to \$150,000 range. Independence Hall and Scolding are both from the first crops of their sires and Verratti agreed that was part of his buying strategy.



Dennis O’Neill | Fasig-Tipton photo

“If you wanted to buy the Into Mischiefs and the other established sires, that was way, way out of my budget,” he explained. “So we were looking for a horse that we could take a shot with. If it didn't work out, it would be OK and if it did, obviously, we could turn up with something that really worked well for everybody.”

In the name of his Charlestown Investments, Verratti purchased three yearlings at the September sale that year: Independence Hall for \$100,000, Scolding for \$75,000, and still- unraced Moonhak Mischief (Into Mischief) for \$175,000.

“That was enough,” Verratti said of the trio. “Dennis did try to get me to buy two more. But I am an investor and a venture capitalist and I've run several companies in my life, so I can

tell you this: no other business that I've been involved in punishes you for lack of discipline like the horse business does. So I said, ‘No, Dennis. I appreciate it. They look good, the price looks right, but I have a budget and I have to stop here.’ So who knows how many future graded stakes winners I left out there?”

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Verratti cont.

The three yearlings were sent to Ocala for the winter.

“We sent them to Ciaran Dunne down at Wavertree,” Verratti said. “He has an excellent, excellent operation. And I will tell you this, while they were in training, in retrospect, he was spot on in his analysis of how he told me they were all progressing. He told me, ‘Bob, I don’t think the Into Mischief is going to turn out to be much. The Carpe Diem could surprise you.’ And Independence Hall, he said, ‘He’s getting so good every day, we’re going to enter him in the Gulfstream sale,’ which is a premium sale.”



Scolding at OBS | *Thorostride*

Independence Hall did indeed make it to Fasig-Tipton Gulfstream Sale last spring, but, hampered by a shin issue, failed to find the buyers. Still, practicing his disciplined approach, Verratti almost let the talented youngster go.

“We had a reserve set at \$180,000 and we got to \$185,000,” Verratti recalled. “Dennis said, ‘Bob this horse is so much better than that. The shin is putting people off.’ He said, ‘You can’t go wrong if you race this horse, but you’ve got to do what you’ve got to do.’ I had about eight seconds to think about it and the next thing I know, Dennis’s hand is in the air. I said, ‘Dennis, did you just buy yourself a horse?’ He said, ‘No, you have one.’ So we brought him home.”

Independence Hall swept to an impressive debut victory at Parx on the Pennsylvania Derby undercard last September for Verratti and wife Kathleen, but added in Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners and Twin Creeks Racing for what had originally been a planned allowance start at Laurel Park. A fluke turn of events turned into Verratti’s first graded stakes win as an owner when the colt romped to a 12 1/4-length victory in the GIII Nashua S. at Aqueduct.

“I must admit, being a risk taker, I wanted to go to a stakes race, but the better part of wisdom was to go to the allowance race,” Verratti explained. “So we had an allowance race at Laurel and Joel Rosario flew down to ride. But a water main broke on the main track and they cancelled racing the morning of the race. The only race available was the Nashua. We didn’t want him to sit in the barn, so we reluctantly ran him in the Nashua. He went off at 9-1 and of course that’s when he ran his triple-digit Beyer. And everybody thought we were geniuses. So there has been a lot of serendipity with him: the shin helped me out, then the water main break. I should have sent a case of champagne to the maintenance crew down at Laurel.”

It was an easier decision to let Scolding sell at OBS last April.

“Anytime you can buy a horse for \$75,000 and sell it seven months later for \$475,000, you’d have to categorize that as a good result,” Verratti said. “But because I had kept the Constitution, I really did need to sell her. The Carpe Diem could have worked in :19 and something and I would have still sold her. I try to follow the discipline rule and I am very happy. It took her a year to get to the races, but boy does it look like it was worth it. I will be happy I sold her even if she goes on and wins the Kentucky Oaks, and God love her, I hope she does.”

Despite the success of his 2019 juveniles, Verratti wasn’t planning on another pinhooking venture this spring.

“I was really enmeshed in a couple of business transactions that took all of my time and I couldn’t make it to the sale,” Verratti said. “I trust Dennis implicitly, no doubt, he’s bought me lots of horses that I wasn’t present for. But we decided we were going to pass.”

Still, O’Neill found a way to keep the owner involved in the game.

“Dennis told me, ‘I have a horse you just have to buy.’ He had already purchased him, so we bought him. So I only have one 2-year-old.”

Fittingly the youngster, catalogued at the upcoming OBS Spring Sale as **hip 820**, is a colt from the first crop of Nyquist, the 2016 Kentucky Derby winner O’Neill picked out at the Fasig Gulfstream sale in 2015.

“It’s a first-year sire again and Dennis picked him out,” Verratti said. “How can you not take advice from someone like Dennis, especially when it comes to a Nyquist?”

Understandably, Verratti is undecided about his plans for the yearling sales coming up this fall.

“A lot of it depends on the dynamics,” he said. “I think everyone right now is on pause with their plans. This is not my livelihood or my life, it’s something that I very much enjoy. But there are others in the business, it’s critical that they try to figure out what is going on and plan accordingly. For me, I will be looking for targets of opportunity. But I need to see more about what is happening to racing. I think we all do.” **Cont. p8**

Verratti cont.

As for Independence Hall, he added a win in the Jerome S. and a runner-up effort in the GIII Sam F. David S. to his resume this year, but was a disappointing fifth when last seen in the Mar. 28 GI Florida Derby.

“He is back galloping,” Verratti said of the colt. “It’s a shame he had to throw in a bad race in the Florida Derby, but we are sorting that out. We will get it all sorted out and see what the calendar will show for us for the balance of the year. I think he’s a brilliant horse.”

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Independence Hall winning the Jerome | Sarah Andrew

NEEDING ‘GREEN’ STATUS, PENNSYLVANIA TRACKS MAY NOT REOPEN ANYTIME SOON

by Bill Finley

Addressing the plight of the state’s racetracks on Tuesday, Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf laid out a difficult path that must be followed before the state’s three Thoroughbred tracks can start running again.

As is the case with many governors, Wolf has put forth a plan that calls for the state to reopen in stages, in Pennsylvania’s case red, yellow and green phases. While horsemen have advocated that racing, without spectators, should be among the first businesses in the state to reopen, Wolf said the tracks cannot resume racing until their geographic areas have been placed in the green category.

Wolf’s statement came in response to a letter sent to him by Pennsylvania Racing Commission Chairman Russell Redding that stated the case being made by racing interests that it was safe to begin racing again. Wolf wrote: “We foresee horse racing reopening when counties enter the green phase, like other entertainment.”

Nowhere in his letter to Redding did he bring up the sport’s position that it can run safely without spectators and that racing under those conditions has been conducted in a number of other states.

“Broad re-openings or re-openings that are not structured around ongoing social distancing, universal masking, or other public health guidance would likely result in a spike of cases and new stay-at-home and closure orders,” he wrote.

“Looking at the response he sent to the racing commission, it’s not clear if he really grasps what is being asked of him,” said Pete Peterson, the president of the Pennsylvania Horse Racing Association, which represents horsemen and breeders in both Thoroughbred and Standardbred racing. “We were not asking to re-open racing as normal. It was to have live racing with no fans. He compared racing to movie theaters and casinos. They are indoor activities with patrons interacting with one another. There is no comparison. I’m not sure he fully understands what the racing industry is seeking.”

The red, yellow, green phases are decided on a county-by-county basis. The majority, including the counties that are home to Parx Racing and Penn National, remain in the red phase and none has moved on to green. Presque Isle Downs is in a “yellow” county.



Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf | Getty Images

The green phase is when all businesses in the state are allowed to open and includes businesses like casinos and movie theaters, indoor businesses where social distancing is particularly difficult. A county’s status is determined by per-capita virus case counts, ability to do tracing and testing and population density.

There has been no racing in the state since Mar. 16, and Peterson noted how difficult the shutdown has been on horsemen. **Cont. p9**

PA Tracks May Not Re-Open Soon cont.

“We’re getting to the point where we are going to have an equine welfare crisis,” he said. “Without people having an income source, they are facing challenges caring for their own families, let alone the horses in their care. They need to start seeing some income coming in so they can care for these equine athletes.”

Joe Taylor, the leading trainer in wins at Parx in 2019, said he has grown so discouraged by the Pennsylvania situation that he is sending strings of horses to Gulfstream and Charles Town.

“This is just devastating,” Taylor said. “I’m not very optimistic about when Parx is going to reopen or how Parx is going to come out of this,” he said. “We should be running. I don’t see a light at the end of the tunnel anymore. I know people were hoping we’d be running by June 15, but I think getting into the green area by then would be almost impossible. We have to start making some money. Like the rest of the people in our business we are going broke.”

This is not the first time the racing industry has been upset with a Wolf decision. In February, he issued a budget plan that called for the \$204 million that annually goes to purses from slots revenues to be diverted to a fund that would provide college scholarships for Pennsylvania residents.

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TURF PARADISE CLOSES DOORS FOR SUMMER BENEATH CLOUDS OF UNCERTAINTY

by Dan Ross



Turf Paradise | Coady

This week saw the final horses stabled at Turf Paradise leave the premises as the facility closes its doors for the summer beneath an array of question marks dangling over the industry in the state.

For one, the horses weren’t the only Turf Paradise residents to vacate the facility this week. At the beginning of May, track management sent the Arizona Horsemen’s Benevolent and Protective Association (HBPA) a letter giving the organization 30 days to “remove its belongings” from its Turf Paradise office and to “remove the trailer (medical trailer) from Turf Paradise property.”

All HBPA equipment would “ordinarily have remained there for the summer,” explained Bob Hutton, president of the Arizona HBPA, who said his organization removed these items Wednesday morning.

“So, what’s the plan here?” Hutton said. “The answer to the question could be one of two things. Number one, they have no plan on running ever again. And number two, they did it just out of spite.”

When asked about the intent behind the letter, Vince Francia, Turf Paradise general manager, said, “we asked them to remove their property from the premises, and I believe they have done so.”

When it comes to the future of live racing at Turf Paradise, Francia said that “our intent and hope” is to have another racing season.

“We are hopeful of getting some form of gaming [legislation passed], which would complement our racing operation here,” Francia said. “Gaming would not only be beneficial to Turf [Paradise], but to the horsemen and their purse structure, and so, we are hoping for that.”

These developments form just the latest chapter in a protracted stand-off between the horsemen and Turf Paradise management. Earlier in the year, a **simulcasting dispute** led The Stronach Group’s Monarch to pull its signal from the state, dealing a sizeable blow to the industry’s coffers.

The crux of the issue surrounded Arizona Downs, one of three tracks in the state. When Arizona Downs reopened for live racing in 2019, Monarch sent its signal to the track itself but not to the track’s network of off-track betting sites (OTBs). In contrast, Monarch distributed its signal to Turf Paradise and its network of some 60 OTBs.

Near the start of March, the HBPA **voted to withdraw** the Turf Paradise signal from all Stronach Group affiliates. Before that could happen, however, the Covid-19 pandemic erupted, and the operators of Turf Paradise gave the horsemen days to **vacate the premises**--a move the facility later shied away from under pressure from the HBPA.

Another hurdle standing before the industry in Arizona concerns the issue of simulcasting signals. According to Arizona racing commissioner, Rory Goree, the state’s suite of OTBs are allowed to open at the end of the week.

Cont. p10

Turf Paradise cont.

But all simulcasting signals need to be approved by the commission before they can be beamed into the state, and right now, the commission is one person short of a quorum needed to make those decisions, explained Goree.

“Without a quorum we can’t even meet,” said Goree, who added that **Turf Paradise’s decision** in March to cancel live racing completely could have been debated by the commission, had a quorum existed at that time.

“That technically should have been something that would have required commission approval,” said Goree. “Who knows how the commission would have ruled--maybe we would have had some discussion about continuing racing but without people in the stands.”

Goree said that it was possible the governor could name a new commissioner this week. “I’m hearing that the governor could name somebody today,” he said. “But I haven’t had confirmation, nor have I seen a name yet.”

Then comes the issue of live racing in Arizona’s immediate future. According to Tom Auther, an owner and partner in Arizona Downs, his facility is in shape for horses to stable and train there, but he hasn’t yet received the green light to open doors from the Yavapai County health department.

“We just have not got any direction about whether we can let anybody up at the track,” Auther said, adding that the same uncertainty surrounds the possibility of live racing.

Cont. p10

Turf Paradise cont.

“We can’t run without fans--we don’t have a big enough export,” said Auther. “I’ve started to think the right thing to do is hit the reset button and let’s have a hell of a year next year. It’s just so chaotic right now.”

In the meantime, several Arizona-based trainers have voiced frustration with some of the decisions Turf Paradise made during the Covid-19 pandemic. “It’s been horrible for a lot of people,” said trainer Mike Chambers, who sits on the Arizona HBPA board of directors.

Between the suspension of live racing at the facility in March and the end of April, the horsemen and the track shared the costs of keeping the facility open for training, while the HBPA assumed all costs of keeping the stable area open for horses from May 1 onwards.

Some feel as though the track could have done more to help the trainers, many of whom have been hit hard financially with the suspension of live racing.

“He has no respect for the people who put on a show for him,” said Chambers, pointing to how Jerry Simms, the owner of Turf Paradise, had donated \$1 million to the state’s fight against the Covid-19 pandemic.

In response, Francia said that “I’m not sure I could assemble the right stream of words with anyone who could find fault with someone donating their own money--that’s not Turf [Paradise] money, that’s Mr. Simms’s personal money--to fight this virus.”

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APB | **STEVE SHERACK**
Tracks Down Top Horses
on the Sidelines

CHURCHILL TARGET FOR SHARING

by Steve Sherack



Sharing | Horsephotos

Monomoy Girl (Tapizar) isn’t the only comebacking Breeders’ Cup winner set to return at the highly anticipated upcoming Churchill Downs spring meet.

‘**TDN Rising Star**’ **Sharing** (Speightstown), a last-out 13-1 upset victress of the GI Breeders’ Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf at Santa Anita Nov. 1, is being aimed at the \$100,000 Tepin S. going a mile on the lawn beneath the Twin Spires May 23.

The Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners and Gainesway Stable colorbearer, a \$350,000 Fasig-Tipton Saratoga yearling graduate, has been gearing up at trainer Graham Motion’s Fair Hill base, most recently breezing seven furlongs in 1:28.40 (3/7) May 9. She’s won her last three trips to the post, including Laurel’s Selima S. in September.

“Graham Motion has done a really admirable job of finding a balance between getting her race fit while trying to maintain her freshness,” Eclipse President and Founder Aron Wellman said of the daughter of GI Breeders’ Cup Filly & Mare Turf heroine Shared Account (Pleasantly Perfect). **Cont. p11**

APB--Sharing cont.

“She’s grown, matured and strengthened in all the right ways, and while you never know until you run them as 3-year-olds and verify their brilliant form at two, all indicators are encouraging that she will sustain her top level status.”

Although given time by design since her Breeders’ Cup heroics, Sharing’s sophomore campaign--with potentially some very lucrative targets--is still very much fluid as racetracks continue to re-open amid the coronavirus pandemic.

“We had aspirations of sending her to the U.K. to compete at Royal Ascot, as we believe she’s that type of filly, but with so much in flux right now, our only focus is getting a useful race into Sharing to launch her campaign,” Wellman said. “We are grateful racing has re-opened in Kentucky and that we have this opportunity.”

With a ‘Rising Star’ performance in her maiden breaker on the Saratoga main track on her resume from last summer, could a return trip to Louisville for the 3-year-old filly centerpiece on the first Friday in September be in the cards for the Maryland-bred?

“The timing of the [GI] Kentucky Oaks is now more conducive to being able to keep that option in play and it’s a luxury and an honor to be associated with such a top class and versatile filly, but we’re just taking it one step at a time right now and hoping we get what we need to see from her at Churchill Downs on the 23rd,” Wellman concluded.

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TRAINING RESUMES AT CHURCHILL DOWNS

The Churchill Downs main track was opened for training Wednesday morning for the first time since last fall, with horses such as the Greg Foley-trained Major Fed (Fed Biz) and others conditioned by Steve Asmussen, Phil Bauer, Buff Bradley, Bret Calhoun, Mark Casse, Brad Cox, Neil Howard, Michelle Lovell and Dallas Stewart all stepping onto the surface just after 5:30 a.m.

“It’s a relief to be home,” said Lovell, who shipped her horses from the Fair Grounds to Ashbrook Farm in Lexington and made the trip across Interstate 64 each morning for the past six weeks. Lovell resides not far from the Churchill backstretch and commented, “It was tough traveling back and forth every day to Lexington, but we got through it and can see the light at the end of the tunnel.”

The former jockey has a pair of horses entered for Saturday’s opening-day program.

“It’s been tough on us all but we are so thankful racing is back at Churchill Downs,” Lovell said.

Horses from Louisiana began arriving at Churchill this past Monday and Florida-based runners were scheduled to arrive in Louisville Wednesday morning.

Training hours through Friday, May 15, will be from 5:30-9 a.m. with a single renovation break at 7 a.m. Beginning Saturday, May 16, training hours will be extended to 10 a.m., with renovation taking place at 7 and 8:30 a.m. Turf training will take place Sunday and Tuesday, weather permitting, and gate schooling will operate daily from 7:30-9:30 a.m. with the exception of Tuesdays.

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MINIMUM PURSE LEVELS FOR GRADED STAKES LOWERED FOR 2020

Officials on the American Graded Stakes Committee (AGCS) of the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association (TOBA) have announced that it will lower certain required minimum purses for graded stakes races for the balance of 2020. In arriving at their decision, the AGCS took into account that the stoppage of racing and the closure of casino operations in North America are negatively impacting purse accounts as well as the ability to fund graded stakes.

For the remainder of 2020, the threshold purse money for Grade I races is being lowered from \$300,000 to \$250,000; and for Grade II races from \$200,000 to \$150,000. Grade III races continue to be run for at least \$100,000, while listed and grade-eligible events will be contested for a minimum of \$75,000.

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OAKLAWN OWNER LOUIS CELLA JOINS TDN WRITERS' ROOM



On this week's episode of the *TDN Writers' Room* podcast presented by Keeneland, the writers were joined by Oaklawn Park owner and president Louis Cella to discuss the challenges and logistics of running a race meet in the coronavirus era. Oaklawn, along with Gulfstream and Tampa, have led the way for major tracks continuing operations uninterrupted through the pandemic, and Cella, as the *Green Group Guest of the Week*, talked about the advice they can impart as other ones start to reopen.

"Some of the details that we've shared with other tracks: we take the temperature of every single person every single day," he said of a system that Churchill Downs has now also adopted for its backstretch.

"That's over 900 people from Mar. 15 on, and we have color-coded bands. So today is yellow, tomorrow might be green, and if you're not wearing the right color, you step aside immediately. We have our trainers going into their barns temping also every single day. So it's been truly a group effort and we're very fortunate that we were able to pull this off, and I hope the other tracks will as well."

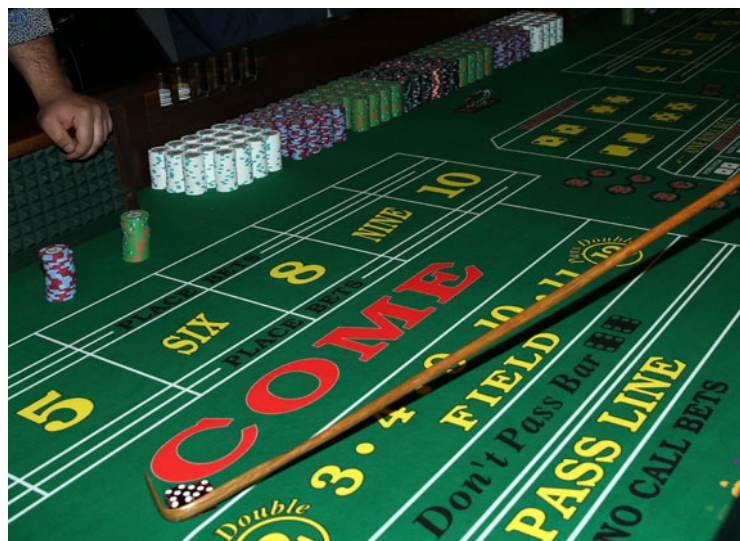
Cella also talked about the difficulty of running a racetrack without casino revenues, something other tracks will have to contend with as they reopen before casinos are able to.

"We cannot have the purses that we have at \$600,000 a day if we do not have that casino alternative revenue source," he said. "The spigot turned off on Mar. 15. So we reduced our purses by 35% in anticipation of trying to make the numbers work. Our horsemen agreed. Our commission agreed. And that's why we were able to give away just a freckle under \$30 million, which is extraordinary given the circumstances."

Elsewhere on the show, in the *West Point News of the Week*, the crew debated the reasoning for and implications of The Jockey Club's new 140-mare cap for stallions, looked forward to the return of racing to Kentucky and California, and called for more transparency in the reporting of workouts. [Click here to listen to the podcast](#), and [click here to watch it on Vimeo](#).

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OAKLAWN OUTLINES PROTOCOL FOR CASINO OPENING MAY 18



Coady

Oaklawn Park, which is scheduled to reopen its casino May 18 at 9:00 a.m., outlined the guidelines which will be implemented to facilitate the reopening process. The casino has been closed since Mar. 16 as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

"We are fully prepared to meet or exceed all recommended health and hygiene protocols," said General Manager Wayne Smith. "While we understand this timing might not be right for some people, just know we will be ready and safe for you when you are. The health and safety of our guests and team members are of the utmost importance. Of particular interest, on May 2 we concluded a successful race meet, albeit without fans, where we proved that by following strict protocols we could keep our horsemen and staff safe."

In accordance with the guidelines set forth by the Arkansas Department of Health, Oaklawn has submitted a plan to operate the casino and F&B outlets. The plan includes:

- Adjusted casino hours - 9 a.m. to 3 a.m., Sun-Thu and 9 a.m. to 5 a.m., Fri-Sat
- The casino will operate at 33% of facility capacity
- There will only be one entrance for guests, which will be the main/front casino entrance **Cont. p13**

Oaklawn Casino cont.

- All guests and team members will be required to have non-invasive temperature checks as they enter the facility. Anyone presenting a temp at/over 100 degrees Fahrenheit will not be permitted inside the building
- Guests will be asked to show ID upon entering should contact tracing be required
- Guests and Team members will be required to wear masks at all times
- Shuttle service will continue with limitations on number of guests per shuttle
- Guests will be limited to every other slot machine to ensure social distancing
- Live blackjack games limited to every other seat and no more than three players per table
- Live craps limited to three players per side of each table
- Live roulette will not be opened at this time
- Smoking will not be allowed anywhere inside the facility, including the casino

Additionally, Oaklawn outlined its health guidelines for cleaning and sanitizing protocols:

- The facility has undergone a series of deep cleaning in all areas and the frequency of cleaning all public areas during the day will be increased
- The casino will be electrostatically disinfected nightly when we are closed
- Oaklawn has added additional hand sanitizing stations in all public and office areas
- Prominently displayed signage regarding social distancing, health and hygiene for guests and team members throughout the property, porte cochere, shuttles and waiting areas
- All team members will receive training on Covid-19 safety and sanitation protocols; **Cont. p13**

The Race & Sports Book (room and kiosks) will remain closed and simulcast racing, marketing promotions, events, tournaments, or entertainment (live bands) have also been curtailed until further notice. Schedules for dining venues at Oaklawn have been amended for the upcoming opening. For more information, visit www.oaklawn.com.

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MAKING BETTING MORE FRIENDLY



With racing's temporary opportunity as the only game in town, the TDN's Katie Ritz took a poll of some industry insiders known to like a good bet and asked them: what is one simple way that tracks could make betting more friendly for existing horseplayers and/or more effective at bringing in new players? As you'll see, none of them could stop at just one.



Coady Photo

TOM AMELLO

Making betting more friendly, especially for novices, requires a new concept. I propose teaching the gamble at the core of Thoroughbred racing, grounded in wagering, and empowering new fans to easily wager on "live" horses.

The best experience at a Thoroughbred racetrack is winning--cashing a ticket. But everyone cannot win, so, what is the second-best experience? Most in and outside the industry say, "have fun." I believe the answer to the second question must be grounded in the same context as the first: a wager. My answer, then, is "the fun of being close"; holding tickets on horses engaged in the run to the wire. There is little "fun" holding tickets on horses which never contend. Non-winning "fun" is the between-race experience tracks work so diligently to provide. Equal diligence must be applied to helping newbies experience the joy of being in contention; the sizzle on the steak Thoroughbred racing sells.

Cont. p14

Making Betting More Friendly cont.

In my opinion, current fan education is flawed. First, newbies arrive unprepared to participate in a game of opinion. Second, newbies lack an understanding of what opinion means at a racetrack. For lack of opinion, newbies are less likely to cash tickets or be close. Additionally, current fan education opportunities overwhelm with arcane terminology, countless small numbers, and unfamiliar personalities. The information starts too high up the ladder of learning. The model emphasizes bewildering “how to” processes (how to read past performances, how to physically make a wager) rather than necessary critical understandings.

I propose a totally new concept of focusing education for new players on the tote board.

Since newbies have no opinion, they must be taught to play *with* the crowd and the tote board, as the tote board represents the collective opinion of all bettors. Near 85% of winners are among the betting public’s top three or four choices. These are the “live” horses.

Furthermore, the tote board presents pictures. These pictures determine the “type” of race facing bettors. There are only four pictures/types.

1. A one-horse race with a heavy favorite at noticeably short odds
2. A two-horse race with two entrants at 2-1 or less
3. A race with a clear favorite, a clear second and clear third choice; a balanced race
4. A race with no clear favorite, with two or more at similar odds (5-2, 3-1, 3-1)

Each picture/type, once identified during “live” betting, determines simple wagering options. These race types and wagering options are easily taught to and understandable by newbies.

This concept stands at the lowest rung on the ladder of learning. It can be mastered in a short session. No past performances are necessary, no trainer angles, no speed figures, no trips, no biases, no jargon--all are factored into the crowd’s “live” odds. From this point of learning, understanding and cheering, newbies can self-determine when to move up the ladder to more traditional information... and prepare to take on the crowd.

Tom Amello produced and hosted original programming for Capital District Off Track Betting in the Saratoga region of NY for over 20 years. Trackfacts Live was a feature call-in show from the backstretch at Saratoga. Tom has written blogs, hosted podcasts, and provided stakes analysis for Capital OTB. He can be reached at trkfacts@nycap.rr.com.

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CROSS GATE ONLINE AUCTION DRAWS OVER 100K

Cross Gate Gallery’s Charity Challenge online auction which concluded May 9 raised over \$100,00 to benefit a charity of the buyer’s choice. Although the majority serve the Central Kentucky region, donations were made to charities throughout the country. The sale was topped by Larry Wheeler’s ‘Kentucky River Palisades’ and Peter Howell’s ‘Headed Home, Newmarket’. The artwork realized a combined total of \$10,500, therefore contributing \$5,250 to each buyer’s charity.

“In these challenging times, many charities have lost the opportunity to have their spring fundraisers and are facing uncertain futures,” said Cross Gate owner Greg Ladd. “We are pleased to help support our community that has supported us for the last 46 years.”

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FLAY, JOHNSON FEATURE ON C & C

Celebrity chef, noted owner/breeder and Breeders’ Cup Ambassador Bobby Flay and the National Hockey League’s Erik Johnson are the featured guests on a ‘Pucks, Ponies and Pasta’ edition of ‘Cocktails and Conversation,’ scheduled for 6 p.m. ET across Breeders’ Cup platforms at [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#).

Nick Luck and Britney Eurtion host the recurring virtual happy hour series, which is helping to raise funds for horse racing and service industry COVID-19 relief efforts. [Click here](#) to learn more, donate and view past editions of Cocktails and Conversation.

This week’s featured adult beverages, crafted by renowned mixologist Mark Tubridy, include a Cosmopolitan (Tito’s Handmade Vodka, Triple Sec, lime and cranberry juice); and the Bombardier (Maker’s Mark Bourbon, Campari and sweet vermouth).

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for stallions standing in North America through Tuesday, May 12

Earnings and Black-type represents North American & European figures & stud fees are for 2020

Rank	Stallion	BTW	BTH	GSW	GSH	G1SW	G1SH	Starters	Wnrs	Highest Earner	Earnings
1	Tapit <i>(2001) by Pulpit FYR: 2006 Crops: 13</i>	132	257	81	160	25	52	1050	782	3,926,625	132,698,161
										<i>Untapable</i>	
2	Distorted Humor <i>(1993) by Forty Niner FYR: 2000 Crops: 19</i>	149	264	62	119	16	34	1209	921	3,728,170	122,767,973
										<i>Drosselmeyer</i>	
3	Malibu Moon <i>(1997) by A.P. Indy FYR: 2001 Crops: 18</i>	120	226	48	105	17	36	1372	997	2,612,516	118,008,906
										<i>Orb</i>	
4	Candy Ride (Arg) <i>(1999) by Ride the Rails FYR: 2006 Crops: 13</i>	86	142	43	78	15	33	952	690	13,988,500	105,337,977
										<i>Gun Runner</i>	
5	Kitten's Joy <i>(2001) by El Prado (Ire) FYR: 2007 Crops: 12</i>	98	176	47	93	14	33	1068	772	4,292,904	99,670,282
										<i>Stephanie's Kitten</i>	
6	Medaglia d'Oro <i>(1999) by El Prado (Ire) FYR: 2006 Crops: 13</i>	114	189	58	109	21	44	962	615	4,692,000	98,527,274
										<i>Songbird</i>	
7	More Than Ready <i>(1997) by Southern Halo FYR: 2002 Crops: 17</i>	118	223	45	94	10	27	1267	935	2,939,765	96,660,364
										<i>Roy H</i>	
8	Tale of the Cat <i>(1994) by Storm Cat FYR: 2000 Crops: 19</i>	81	183	29	66	7	21	1361	1020	5,369,800	95,670,232
										<i>Gio Ponti</i>	
9	Stormy Atlantic <i>(1994) by Storm Cat FYR: 2000 Crops: 19</i>	102	174	41	70	7	20	1215	891	1,870,376	91,483,882
										<i>Up With the Birds</i>	
10	Speightstown <i>(1998) by Gone West FYR: 2006 Crops: 13</i>	110	172	51	90	17	36	861	658	1,414,689	89,323,698
										<i>Essence Hit Man</i>	
11	Lemon Drop Kid <i>(1996) by Kingmambo FYR: 2002 Crops: 17</i>	95	183	46	98	9	26	1124	799	2,532,945	87,738,513
										<i>Beach Patrol</i>	
12	Tiznow <i>(1997) by Cee's Tizzy FYR: 2003 Crops: 16</i>	77	148	43	75	14	29	1078	694	2,170,340	82,036,135
										<i>Tourist</i>	
13	Curlin <i>(2004) by Smart Strike FYR: 2010 Crops: 9</i>	66	119	31	73	9	23	608	425	4,803,125	76,522,086
										<i>Vino Rosso</i>	
14	Ghostzapper <i>(2000) by Awesome Again FYR: 2007 Crops: 12</i>	76	122	40	66	12	22	676	506	3,859,311	74,021,628
										<i>Shaman Ghost</i>	
15	Broken Vow <i>(1997) by Unbridled FYR: 2003 Crops: 16</i>	77	151	26	50	5	13	963	757	1,909,823	73,331,444
										<i>Unbridled Belle</i>	

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THURSDAY INSIGHTS: PLETCHER UNVEILS PRICEY PHAROAH FILLY ON GULFSTREAM GRASS

6th-GP, Msw, \$45K, 3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16mT, 3:43 p.m ET


A full field of 12 plus three also-eligibles signs on for this maiden turf route Thursday in Hallandale, headed by expensive Todd Pletcher debutante **THANKFUL (American Pharoah)**.

Owned by Bass Stables, the bay is a half-sister to GSW Brazen Persuasion (Indian Charlie) and hammered for \$625,000 as a Fasig-Tipton Saratoga yearling. She shows a steady series of breezes at Palm Beach Downs on both turf and dirt going back to mid-March, capped by a five-furlong grass move in 1:01 flat (1/4) May 3.

Drawing the second-widest post, the only filly to her outside is the Five Racing Thoroughbreds firster **Pseudonym (Hard Spun)**. Trained by Saffie Joseph, the dark bay is a half to MSP Loose On the Town (Speightstown) and Conquest Lemonraid (Lemon Drop Kid) and sold for \$225,000 at that same Fasig-Tipton Saratoga auction.

Among horses with experience, the most imposing appear to be Oak Bluff Stables' homebred **Fresco (Freud)**, third in a course-and-distance unveiling Jan. 26, and **So Darn Hot (Ghostzapper)**, a \$600,000 OBS June buy for Stetson Racing who was third debuting in a local main-track mile Mar. 22. **TJCS PPs --@JBiancaTDN**




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IN ORDER OF PURSE:

2nd-Will Rogers Downs, \$20,988, Msw, 5-13, 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:11.20, sy.

ELLE Z (f, 3, City Zip--Court Appeal, by Candy Ride {Arg}), a \$7,000 Keeneland September purchase who RNA'ed for \$72,000 at OBS June after a bullet :9 4/5 furlong breeze, showed that speed in a :46 4/5 (1/83) half-mile work from the gate Apr. 25 at Oaklawn and followed up with a five-furlong gate move in :59 3/5 (3/41) there for good measure May 1. Bet early for this unveiling before drifting up to 12-5 by post, the chestnut wasn't away all that great, but quickly recovered to track from in behind the speed through a :22.31 quarter. Drawing closer while angling into the clear past a :45.68 half, she took charge outside the furlong grounds and drew off to graduate by 6 1/4 lengths. Hallies Dream (Euroears) was second-best. The first foal out of a half-sister to GISW Mani Bhavan (Storm Boot), Elle Z has a juvenile half-brother by Noble Mission (GB), a yearling half-sister by Tonalist and a Karakontie (Jpn) half-sister born Feb. 27. Court Appeal sold for \$50,000 to Gainesway last year at Keeneland January. Sales History: \$7,000 Ylg '18 KEESEP; \$72,000 RNA 2yo '19 OBSOPN. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$11,592. **Click for the Equibase.com chart.**

O-M Bar O LLC; B-W. S. Farish & Lazy F Ranch (KY); T-Chris A. Hartman.



4th-Tampa Bay Downs, \$20,000, Msw, 5-13, 3yo, 6f, 1:10.32, ft. ONWARD (c, 3, Street Sense--Queenofperfection, by Arch), off the board in his first two outings, completed the exacta Nov. 9 at Aqueduct before backing up to be fourth there Dec. 7 and seventh as the favorite Mar. 19 at Gulfstream. Adding blinkers in this local bow, the \$600,000 Keeneland September buy was made an 8-5 favorite and tracked dueling leaders from third through a :22.65 quarter. Pouncing three deep at the top of the lane, he wore down longshot pace player Real Grace (Mineshaft) in the final sixteenth and edged away to a 2 1/4-length score. Real Grace held for second over late-running firster Branco Maria (Candy Ride {Arg}). The winner's second dam is a full-sister to champion and star sire Speightstown (Gone West). He has a juvenile half-brother by Mshawish in Ireland and his dam foaled a Sharp Azteca filly Feb. 8. **Cont. p2**

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LADY CHAIRMAN



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Sales History: \$600,000 Ylg '18 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 6-1-1-0, \$36,352. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

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Onward (Street Sense) gets off the mark at Tampa

FIRST & SECOND-CROP RUNNERS

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FIRST-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: THURSDAY, MAY 14

Firing Line (Line of David), Crestwood Farm, \$5,000
 33 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners
 2-Gulfstream, Msw 4 1/2f, DANCING IN FIRE, 20-1
 \$24,000 RNA KEE NOV wnl; \$27,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$17,000 RNA OBS MAR 2yo

Mshawish (Medaglia d'Oro), Taylor Made Farm, \$10,000
 86 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners
 2-Gulfstream, Msw 4 1/2f, DANNYHILL, 12-1
 \$17,000 KEE SEP yrl

Vancouver (Aus) (Medaglia d'Oro), Ashford Stud
 95 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners
 2-Gulfstream, Msw 4 1/2f, ROCK WITH ROBIN, 7-2

SECOND-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: THURSDAY, MAY 14

American Pharoah (Pioneer of the Nile), Ashford Stud, private
 318 foals of racing age/38 winners/6 black-type winners
 6-Gulfstream, Msw 1 1/16mT, NOUDHA, 12-1
 6-Gulfstream, Msw 1 1/16mT, THANKFUL, 7-2
 \$625,000 FTS AUG yrl

Golden Lad (Medaglia d'Oro), Northview Stallion Station, \$5,000
 125 foals of racing age/11 winners/2 black-type winners
 6-Charles Town, Msw 4 1/2f, PIPERS GOLD, 7-2

Khozan (Distorted Humor), Journeyman Stud, \$8,500
 130 foals of racing age/31 winners/2 black-type winners
 2-Gulfstream, Msw 4 1/2f, GO JO JO GO, 2-1

Normandy Invasion (Tapit), Pin Oak Lane Farm, \$2,500
 80 foals of racing age/4 winners/0 black-type winners
 6-Gulfstream, Msw 1 1/16mT, THEARTOFCOMPROMISE, 20-1
 \$9,000 RNA OBS WIN 3yo

Tapiture (Tapit), Darby Dan Farm, \$7,500
 246 foals of racing age/41 winners/3 black-type winners
 6-Charles Town, Msw 4 1/2f, TAPTAP, 10-1



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ADDITIONAL RACING

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

5th-Will Rogers Downs, \$27,500, 5-13, (C), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:09.76, sy.

LAWTON (g, 6, Archarcharch--Greer Lynn, by Speightstown)
 Lifetime Record: 27-7-5-9, \$274,397. O-End Zone Athletics, Inc.; B-Spendthrift Farm LLC (KY); T-Karl Broberg. *\$95,000 Ylg '15 FTKJUL. **1/2 to Mia Mischief (Into Mischief), GISW, \$1,215,234.



8th-Will Rogers Downs, \$23,320, 5-13, (NW2X), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:10.61, sy.

SHESOMAJESTIC (f, 4, Majesticperfection--Shesoprovocative, by Orientate) Lifetime Record: 11-3-3-1, \$118,721. O-Teed Off Stable LLC; B-Green Hills Farm Inc. (KY); T-Chris A. Hartman. *\$5,000 Ylg '17 FTKOCT. **1/2 to Hot Autumn (Tiz Wonderful), GISP, \$163,125.

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ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Baptism, g, 3, Ordained--Safe N Rich, by Storm Boot. Will Rogers Downs, 5-13, 6f, 1:11.86. B-Starfish Stable, LLC (AR).

November Mike, g, 3, Street Boss--Belleofthebridle (MSP), by Yes It's True. Will Rogers Downs, 5-13, (S), 5 1/2f, 1:05.91. B-Center Hills Farm (OK). *\$55,000 Ylg '18 KEESEP.

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ARCHARCHARCH, Lawton, g, 6, o/o Greer Lynn, by Speightstown. ALW, 5-13, Will Rogers

CITY ZIP, Elle Z, f, 3, o/o Court Appeal, by Candy Ride (Arg). MSW, 5-13, Will Rogers

MAJESTICPERFECTION, Shesomajestic, f, 4, o/o Shesoprovocative, by Orientate. ALW, 5-13, Will Rogers

ORDAINED, Baptism, g, 3, o/o Safe N Rich, by Storm Boot. MSW, 5-13, Will Rogers

STREET BOSS, November Mike, g, 3, o/o Belleofthebridle, by Yes It's True. MSW, 5-13, Will Rogers

STREET SENSE, Onward, c, 3, o/o Queenofperfection, by Arch. MSW, 5-13, Tampa Bay



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