NYQUIST COLT FASTEST AT FASIG GULFSTREAM UNDER-TACK SHOW

by Jessica Martini

HALLANDALE BEACH, FL - After a year’s absence, 2-year-olds were once again breezing at Gulfstream Park Monday ahead of Wednesday’s Fasig-Tipton Gulfstream Sale. The auction’s under-tack show began at 9 a.m. with sunny South Florida skies and temperatures in the upper 70s. It continued past 3 p.m. as the thermometer reached the mid-80’s, and the winds picked up throughout the day, with a noticeable headwind in the later grouping of five sets. The bullet times for both the furlong and quarter-mile works were both recorded during the day’s first set, with a colt by Nyquist (hip 28) blitzing the eighth-of-a-mile in :9 4/5 for Wavertree Stables and a filly by Arrogate (hip 113) going the quarter-mile in :21 1/5 for Tom McCrocklin.

“I thought we had a really outstanding display of talented racehorses on the racetrack today,” Fasig-Tipton President Boyd Browning, Jr. said Monday afternoon. “Consignors have been very positive prior to the breeze show with how the horses had been training on the farms and how they prepped here and they sure showed up today. We were very encouraged by that and we expect the barn area to be very busy tomorrow and most of the day Wednesday before the sale starts.”

While Browning acknowledged conditions were more difficult as the day progressed, he said he would expect astute buyers to make allowances for horses who worked in the later sets. Cont.

EQUINE FATALITY RATE LOWEST SINCE RECORD KEEPING BEGAN by Bill Finley

According to the Equine Injury Database, released Monday, there were 1.41 fatalities per 1,000 starters at North American racetracks in 2020, the lowest number recorded since The Jockey Club began compiling injury rates in 2009. The number of fatal injuries declined by 7.8% from 2019 and 29.5% overall since 2009, when the rate was 2.0 per 1,000 starters.

“Overall, there was an 8% decrease in the risk of fatal injury from 2019 to 2020,” said Dr. Tim Parkin, a veterinary epidemiologist. “Since 2009, risk has declined by 29.5% or equivalent to 140 fewer horses sustaining a fatal injury while racing in 2020 than would have occurred had there been no change in risk since 2009. We will dig deeper into the numbers in the coming months to better understand trends in the 2020 data.” Cont. p3

IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

THE WEEKLY WRAP: OLD GUARD, NEW BLOOD

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NIALL BRENNAN STABLES ON A ROLL

Courtesy of a standing relationship with Godolphin, 2-year-old consignor Niall Brennan has had his hands on the likes of recent G1 Dubai World Cup hero and 'TDN Rising Star' Mystic Guide (Ghostzapper) and champion Essential Quality (Tapit). Brennan spoke with Katie Ritz about those successes and looks ahead to his draft at Fasig-Tipton Gulfstream.

'HONOUR' STAYS PUT IN DERBY TOP 12

Despite a lackluster third as the favorite in Saturday's GI Curlin Florida Derby, Greatest Honour (Tapit) continues to hold down the top spot in the latest TDN Kentucky Derby Top 12, brought to you by Fasig-Tipton. Known Agenda (Curlin) is on the rise and G2 UAE Derby hero Rebel’s Romance (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}) also makes the list.
Equine Fatality Rate cont. from p1

There was also good news out of Santa Anita, which reported six deaths for the year for a rate of 1.17. Just a year earlier, in 2019, when the breakdowns at Santa Anita were making headlines and giving ammunition to animal rights activists, there were 20 deaths for a rate of 3.01 per 1,000 starters. The 2020 numbers at Santa Anita were the lowest since 2009 when the main track was a synthetic surface.

“The continuing reduction in equine fatalities is due to the collaborative effort of the industry stakeholders and regulators putting the safety of the horse first,” said Aidan Butler, COO of racing for The Stronach Group, which owns Santa Anita. “This has been a significant culture change and, while it has required much adjustment from a lot of different parties, this modernization will allow for the sport’s future. There is still some work to be done to ensure that horses in every jurisdiction receive the same opportunity for intervention and injury prevention.

“We are thrilled to be on the low end and back to where we’ve been historically,” said Dr. Dionne Benson, the chief veterinary officer for The Stronach Group. “This year we are seeing another decrease in our numbers from last year and we are optimistic that we will continue to improve. At Santa Anita, there has been a complete culture change when it comes to how everyone views racing. It’s from the trainers to the jockeys to the racing office to the veterinarians. It has become a culture of safety.”

Once again, synthetic tracks proved to be the safest surfaces among the three surfaces used for racing. The fatality rate on synthetics was 1.02 per 1,000 starters, a bit better than the 1.27 number recorded on turf. The number for dirt tracks was 1.49.
Equine Fatality Rate cont.

The injury database also revealed that sprint races are more dangerous than route races. The fatality rate for races run at more than a mile was 1.22. It was 1.35 for races run between six and eight furlongs and 1.66 for races shorter than six furlongs.

The Jockey Club report did reveal one area of concern. The breakdown rate in 2020 was highest in 2-year-old races, with 1.69 fatalities per 1,000 starters. That was higher than the numbers for 3-year-olds (1.57) and 4-year-olds and upward (1.29). In all other years between 2009 and 2019, the 2-year-old number was the lowest among all age groups.

Del Mar led the way when it came to the sport’s safest tracks. It had just one fatality in 2020 from 3,417 starters. The rate of 0.29 breakdowns per 1,000 starters was best among all tracks holding meets of one month or longer. Keeneland came in a close second with one fatality in 2020 from 1,989 starters or 0.50 fatalities per 1,000 starters.

“Over the past three years, there has been an extremely dedicated safety effort by everyone involved with racing at Del Mar—our owners, trainers, jockeys, regulators, staff and others,” said Del Mar President Josh Rubinstein. “And we have seen a positive change in our culture. There is still more to be done, and we will continue to be laser focused on the safety and welfare of our equine and human athletes.”

Kristin Werner, senior counsel and administrator of the EID, said the work to further reduce the numbers continues.

“Although we are thrilled to see improvement in the numbers from 2020 and commend the racetracks and regulatory authorities in their efforts to reduce injuries, other areas require closer study,” she said. “The recording of additional data through tools like the Electronic Treatment Records System and the Management Quality System of the Racing Surfaces Testing Laboratory will give regulators, racetracks, and researchers a better understanding of horse health and racetrack safety, allowing for additional scrutiny and research aimed at preventing injuries.”

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Fasig-Tipton Gulfstream Breeze Show cont. from p1

“Weather is a variable that you can’t control,” he said. “But the one thing I know is that buyers are smart enough to know which set horses worked in. The later sets worked into a little bit of a headwind. I wish we had a controlled environment, but we don’t. All in all, I thought the track was pretty consistent. We saw some exceptional works even in the last set. I have a high level of confidence that the buyers take into consideration the various elements when they evaluate how horses work.”

The breeze show attracted a large number of onlookers to the Gulfstream Park grandstand. With trainers Steve Asmussen, Graham Motion, Mark Casse, Todd Pletcher, Dale Romans, Wesley Ward, Barclay Tagg, Saffie Joseph, Jr. and Mark Hennig all taking in the works trackside. Vinnie Viola, who celebrated a GI Curlin Florida Derby win with Known Agenda (Curlin) at the South Florida track Saturday, was back looking for his next star, as were Jeff Bloom, Terry Finley, Larry Best, Aron Wellman, Bill Parcells, Jack Knowlton, Billy Koch, and Kirk Wycoff. WinStar Farm’s Elliott Walden was on hand, as was Spendthrift’s Ned Tofrey and Stonestreet’s John Moynihan. Bloodstock agents in attendance included Donato Lanni, Tom Ryan, Conor Foley, David Ingordo, Deuce Greathouse, Jacob West, Jane Buchanan, Kerri Radcliffe, Patrick Lawley Wakelin, John Dowd and Mike Ryan.

“I think all of the right faces were here and apparently all of the suites were full upstairs too,” Browning said. “We had a ton of interest pre-sale. I think people are excited to be back into the sales process and a little bit more normal setting and environment. I know we missed being here last year and are thrilled to be back.”

Cont. p6
A far superior racehorse to his sire **CONSTITUTION**

Out of G2SW **TIZFIZ**, an own-sister to G3 winner and CashCall Futurity [G1] runner up **FURY KAPCORI**

**Champagne Stakes [G1], 1m**

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**Florida Derby [G1], 1 1/8 m**

“surged to the top of the Road to the Kentucky Derby leaderboard with an emphatic score” BloodHorse

**Belmont Stakes [G1], 1 1/2 m**

“came streaking down the line a dominating 3¾-length winner” TDN

**Travers Stakes [G1], 1 1/4 m**

“He gave me chills. When I pressed the button, he just took off”

Jockey **Manny Franco**

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FTMAR Breeze-Show cont.

Browning continued, “It was a spectacular day of racing here at Gulfstream Park on Saturday which certainly helps set a positive mood. And we are heading into Derby and Oaks Fever and I think people are generally excited about racing and the owners are happy to be able to go back to the racetrack and fans are almost able to go back. I think people are generally upbeat.”

The breeze show’s fourth set was interrupted by a freak accident when a colt by American Pharoah (hip 47) scheduled to work over the inner turf course tossed his rider and turned and ran the wrong way up the course. The colt ran into the rail, injuring himself significantly before dazedly walking into the infield’s lake.

“It was an unfortunate incident,” Browning said. “The incident occurred before the horse breezed. The horse dropped its rider and ran through the rail and suffered a catastrophic injury. We are highly committed to doing things in the safest manner possible to take care of both horses and humans. I don’t know of anything that could have been done to prevent this accident.

We give our deepest sympathy to the connections and for the horse and we are deeply sorry this occurred.”

The Fasig-Tipton Gulfstream Sale will be held in the track paddock Wednesday with bidding scheduled to begin at 2 p.m.

Nyquist Colt Sets Gulfstream Furlong Mark

A colt by GI Kentucky Derby winner Nyquist (hip 28) earned the fastest furlong time during Monday’s under-tack show at Gulfstream when covering the distance in :9 4/5 early in the day’s first set. Consigned by Ciaran Dunne’s Wavertree Stables, the bay colt is the first foal out of Spinning Wheel (Smart Strike), a half-sister to multiple Grade I placed Ride on Curlin (Curlin). The juvenile was purchased by the Red Wings pinhooking partnership led by Paul Reddam—who campaigned the colt’s 2011 Derby-winning sire—for $160,000 at last year’s Fasig-Tipton Selected Yearlings Showcase.

“He’s different,” Dunne said of the colt. “He’s been a special horse from day one. Mentally, he’s like a pony around the barn. He does everything right. Thankfully, it worked out for him today.”

Wavertree Stables was represented by 20 horses during the under-tack show.

“It was about like we expected,” Dunne said of the results. “The horses early on obviously had a distinct advantage. I would say the first two sets obviously got the best of the conditions. The track was a little faster and there was more moisture in it and there was no headwind. It got a little tougher as the day went on. I think anybody who was up there will realize that.

Maybe we were disappointed with some of the horses who went in :10 3/5, but I think they are nice horses and when they come to the barn, they will pull them out because people will realize what the conditions were. The horses in the first two sets performed about like what we hoped—it’s hard to say thought—they would. We thought they were a good group of horses coming in here and they showed up.”

Cont. p7
Hip 67’s full-sister Dream Tree | Sarah Andrew

FTFMAR cont.

In addition to the bullet furlong worker, Wavertree was also represented by a pair of juveniles sharing the second-fastest furlong time. A filly by American Freedom (hip 154) worked in :10 flat and a colt by Uncle Mo (hip 67) equaling that :10 flat time.

Dunne has already had Gulfstream sales success with the colt’s family. Out of Afleet Maggi (Afleet Alex), hip 67 is a full-brother to Dream Tree, who sold through the Wavertree consignment for $750,000 at the 2017 auction and went on to win the GI Starlet S. and GII Prioress S.

“He’s a special little horse,” said Dunne, who purchased the colt for $335,000 at last year’s Keeneland September sale, said. “He was a beautiful yearling I couldn’t believe they let us buy him.”

Asked if he saw similarities between the siblings, Dunne said, “Not a lot. They are both fast. That would be about the extent of it. He’s a smoother horse than Dream Tree was. Dream Tree was a little heavier and maybe a little courser. He’s a lot smoother horse. He’s a prettier horse than she ever was. He’s still just a baby. His ass is stuck up in the air and he has so much improvement left to do. There is no telling where he’ll end up.”

The Wavertree consignment is centrally located in the Fasig sale barn tents at Gulfstream and Dunne admitted he has been impressed by the quality of juveniles walking through the shedrows.

“We stand on the end here and everyone is stabled basically in the same spot and you watch them walk around,” Dunne said. “Physically they are a beautiful bunch of horses. Fasig has done a great job gathering them up. I would have to think there is something here for everybody. The traffic was good earlier in the week. So I would expect the sale will be solid.” Cont. p8
Arrogate Filly Sets Quarter-Mile Bullet

Consignor Tom McCrocklin wasn’t sure how fast his filly by Arrogate (hip 113) would work at Gulfstream Monday, but he knew she’d work well. The juvenile more than delivered with a bullet quarter-mile drill in :21 1/5.

“We loved the work,” McCrocklin said. “I thought it was beautiful. I try not to be a slave to the stopwatch, I like to look at the work and see how they move and switch their leads. Visually, I think it was very good. She breezed a quarter a week ago, and it was a very good work, so it didn’t come as a big surprise. I don’t clock horses—I never clock them at the farm and I don’t clock them here—so when they breeze, I feel like I know who can run, but literally the time is always a surprise to me.”

Hip 113 is out of graded-placed Flatter Up (Flatter) and from the family of Grade I winner Midnight Storm.

“She is more compact than you’d picture coming from an Arrogate,” McCrocklin said of the gray filly, who was purchased for $260,000 at the Fasig showcase last September. “I have a colt at the farm that is a big, scopey, stretchy kind of horse. She probably has a lot of that Flatter in her.”

McCrocklin sent seven 2-year-olds out to work Monday and the Ocala horseman agreed conditions were more difficult later in the day.

“It was tough conditions today,” he said. “I am not a whiney-baby about the track, the wind, the sun, but it was tough out there today. Big-time headwind, they could not keep enough water on the track. I felt like we got through about five to 10 breezes in a set and it was back where it was before.”

McCrocklin is already looking beyond Wednesday’s Gulfstream sale to a potentially exciting debut effort for a graduate Saturday at Santa Anita. McCrocklin consigned a colt by Speightster to last year’s OBS Spring sale on behalf of Solana Beach Sales. The chestnut colt sold through the ring for $1.1-
“They give you a lot of leeway in developing these young horses. There’s no pressure to move them along in the program. Anything that needs time, we just back right off.”

A regally bred ‘TDN Rising Star’, Essential Quality thrived on the patience given him at Brennan’s training center in Ocala.

“Essential Quality just kept getting better and better,” Brennan recalled. “The more we did with him, the stronger he got. The more he liked it, the more competitive he got. The good horses do that. I know when Brad Cox got Essential Quality and he put in his first works at Keeneland, he did everything right and it turned out that he just kept getting better and better and thankfully, he has stayed healthy. That’s part of the key when you’ve got these really good ones, you just pray they stay healthy.”

After securing his Eclipse title last year with a win in the GI Breeders’ Cup Juvenile and then taking the GIII Southwest S. in his sophomore debut, the gray colt heads into his final prep sitting at or near the top of most every Derby poll.

“He was an exciting colt, but we treat them all the same here,” Brennan said. “We don’t ever think, ‘well this one is going to win the Derby.’ I mean, you can’t get like that. You just take it day to day and watch for the ones that continue to improve and do very well.”

At Wednesday’s Fasig-Tipton Gulfstream Sale, Brennan has one filly in his consignment that he believes has done just that.

Hip 126, a Curlin filly bred by Mike Ryan and the late Gerry Dilger, was given all the time she needed to reach her best before going through the sales ring.

“I think she was a little bit immature as a yearling and [Ryan and Dilger] felt like a little more time would only be beneficial,” Brennan noted. “They always loved her.”

The February-foaled chestnut is a daughter of GSW and GISP Above Perfection (In Excess {Ire}), the dam of 2017 GI Kentucky Derby winner and WinStar sire Always Dreaming (Bodemeister), 2009 GI Spinaway S. winner Hot Dixie Chick (Dixie Union) and GIISW Positive Spirit (Pioneerof the Nile). Hot Dixie Chick has since produced the stakes-winning ‘TDN Rising Star’ and Sequel New York stallion Union Jackson (Curlin), as well as a recent addition to the TDN Oaks Top 10 list in GIII Honeybee S. runner-up Pauline’s Pearl (Tapit), who is entered for Saturday’s GII Fantasy S.

“It’s a collector’s pedigree,” Brennan said. “It’s without question, the best pedigree in the book. At the 2-year-old sales, you rarely find a filly with her pedigree, so I would seriously think people would be lined up to get at this filly. She’s a lovely physical and a real Curlin. She’s got a tremendous way of going on the racetrack with a great presence, great mind and great demeanor. She’s the whole package. You don’t find many like this, truthfully.”

At Monday’s under tack show, the filly breezed in :10 1/5. “When you see her on the track, she just gives you goose pimples,” Brennan said. “But to see her walk home after she breezes, she’s like an older horse. I’ve been lucky to be around a lot of really good horses as 2-year-olds and there’s only a few in every crop that have a chance to be very special, and she’s certainly one of them.”

Brennan’s three-horse consignment at Gulfstream also includes Hip 134, a Flatter filly out of the stakes-placed mare Ire (Political Force) that breezed in :10 2/5, as well as Hip 137, a full-brother to 2016 GI Spinaway S. winner Sweet Loretta (Tapit).

Cont. p10
Taylor Made Farm has immediate openings for Barn Foreman, Grooms, Mower, and Night Watchmen. We are looking for dependable, hard workers who have a passion for horses. Previous horse experience preferred but not required.

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Niall Brennan cont.

“This horse has grown a lot and he’s a good size. He’s a stretchy colt with a lot of scope to him,” Brennan said, referring to hip 137. “There’s a lot of potential here. It’s a very good pedigree and he’s a horse that will only improve, no question. He has the ability and the athleticism to be here at this stage, but in his mind, he’s going to continue to get better and better as he learns what this whole game is about.”

The son of the stakes-placed mare Ihthikisawapudycat (Bluegrass Cat) breezed in :10 3/5 on Monday.

Brennan said he is optimistic going into this week’s juvenile auction following a successful OBS March Sale earlier this month.

“We were very happy with the OBS sale,” Brennan noted. “The one thing that was the common denominator, the one opinion that all the buyers looking around had said, was that there were a lot of nice horses. Accordingly, I think the results showed that, because it was very strong, it was very fair at the top end but there was a good depth to the market with a lot of people trying to buy horses. It wasn’t just that they landed on a few, so I think the market spread out really well.”

He continued, “It bodes very well for the sales coming up that many people are excited about having racehorses. Obviously people were locked down all last year with COVID and couldn’t operate as normal. I think some people are more anxious now to get out and get back to living their lives. They want something for this summer and fall and then hopefully into next year as Derby dreaming has started already.”

Last year, 2016 GI Kentucky Derby winner and Darley stallion Nyquist, a graduate of Brennan’s program, led his freshman class of sires with GI Breeders’ Cup Juvenile Fillies champion Vequist and another Grade I-winning juvenile in Gretzky the Great.

The son of Uncle Mo was a successful $230,000 yearling turned $400,000 pinhook at this sale for Brennan and his partners in 2015.

“As I’m reflecting back, I’m just very humbled to have been around so many good horses over the years,” Brennan said. “With Nyquist, he was a pinhook for Mike Ryan, myself and our partnership, so that’s even more gratifying because you’re involved the whole way. We loved him all along and the fact that he went on to be what he became wasn’t a surprise to us. Obviously he’s gotten off to a great start at stud. They’re very consistent and they’re very like him.”

Eight second-crop sons and daughters of Nyquist are set to go through the sales ring this week at Gulfstream. Hip 28, the first foal out of the Smart Strike mare Spinning Wheel, led Monday’s under-tack show after firing a bullet :9 4/5 work.

One freshman sire that Brennan has high hopes for this year is yet another graduate of his program in 2017 Horse of the Year Gun Runner. The young sire led his class last year by average yearling sales price.

“He was immature as a 2-year-old, but he was still very athletic,” Brennan recalled. “He had tremendous athletic ability and the will to do it. He was the whole package, he just wasn’t filled out into that package yet.”

While it wasn’t until the end of Gun Runner’s sophomore campaign that he scored his first of six Grade I victories, Brennan said that of the Gun Runner progeny he has seen, they seem to be developing much earlier than their sire.

“I’ve been impressed with them so far,” he said. “Like him, they love to train and they’ve got the right attitude. I’d say the only difference I’ve seen is that they are more mature in their bodies at this stage. They’ve all got more substance and more strength than their daddy. It bodes well for him because he got better and better as he got older. I think that’s what the Gun Runners will do. They can have speed, but I do think they’ll stretch out without any problem.”

Five sons and daughters of the Three Chimneys sire are slated to go through the ring at Gulfstream including Hip 100, a half-brother to GISW Finley’s luckycharm (Twirling Candy).

“Good horses excite you, no question,” Brennan said. “It’s fun every spring to look at the new crops from freshman sires and see if some of them have that same consistency. Obviously, they have to get lucky and get to good homes to get a chance, but there are several exciting young sires again this year.”

The Fasig-Tipton Gulfstream Sale begins this Wednesday at 2 p.m. Tune in to watch live at https://www.thoroughbreddailynews.com/live/.
Known Agenda jumps to No. 4 via his GI Curlin Florida Derby win

by T.D. Thornton

We are on the cusp of the one-month mark to the GI Kentucky Derby, and this Saturday marks the most important weekend of nine-furlong preps on the Triple Crown calendar, with significant stakes at Santa Anita, Keeneland, and Aqueduct. Next week, the Top 12 expands to the Top 20 as the race for qualifying points intensifies and the actual field begins to take shape.

1) GREATEST HONOUR (c, Tapit--Tiffany's Honour, by Street Cry {Ire})
O/B-Courtlandt Farms (KY). T-Claude R. McGaughey III. Lifetime Record: MGSW & GISP, 7-3-1-3, $422,440.
Last Start: 3rd GI Curlin Florida Derby, OP, Mar. 27
Accomplishments: 1st GII Fasig-Tipton Fountain of Youth S., GP, Feb. 27, 1st GII Holy Bull S., OP, Jan. 30
Next Start: GI Kentucky Derby, CD, May 1
Equineline PPs. KY Derby Points: 80

Known Agenda jumps to No. 4 via his GI Curlin Florida Derby win

Ryan Thompson

because he's still the horse to beat over 10 furlongs with a more robust pace in front of him. Since he burst into the Top 12, I've been cautioning that it can be tactically dangerous to fall in love with a deep closer as your Derby horse because late runners are so often at the mercy of traffic. That exact scenario worked against this Tapit-sired Courtlandt Farms homebred on Saturday, when jockey Jose Ortiz tried to follow the rail trip of eventual winner Known Agenda (Curlin), but instead had his momentum halted three times when hemmed in on the backstretch and on the far turn. Greatest Honour got pelted with kickback and briefly had to pause at the heels of several rivals before tipping out for a belated rally that lacked true spark. Ortiz wisely didn't hammer on his horse when it was obvious Greatest Honour wasn't in it to win it down the lane, and we should expect to see the tightest version yet of this long-striding stayer by the time trainer Shug McGuaghey gets him to Louisville.

2) ESSENTIAL QUALITY (c, Tapit--Delightful Quality, by Elusive Quality)
O/B-Godolphin (KY). T-Brad Cox. Lifetime Record: Ch. 2yo Colt & MGISW, 4-4-0-0, $1,785,144.
Last Start: 1st GIII Southwest S., OP, Feb. 27
Accomplishments: 'TDN Rising Star', 1st GI TVG Breeders' Cup Juvenile, KEE, Nov. 6, 1st GI Claiborne Breeders' Futurity, KEE, Oct. 3
Next Start: GII Toyota Blue Grass S., KEE, Apr. 3
Equineline PPs. KY Derby Points: 40

The undefeated juvenile champ closed as the 4-1 favorite Sunday in Pool 5 of the Kentucky Derby Future Wager. This Tapit-sired 'TDN Rising Star' and Godolphin homebred is a high-energy stalker who has demonstrated an adept level of comfort both pressing the pace and rating from farther back. But he's yet to encounter a serious, multi-pronged, deep-stretch challenge in any of his victories, and thus far he's been superior enough that jockey Luis Saez has been able to park him outside and in the clear, giving up ground so as not to encounter traffic. That strategy might not work in a crowded 20-horse race like the Derby. But then again, elite-level horses make their own
breaks, and in-race agility is very much on the side of this athletic gray. As of this writing, no other Top 12 horses are listed as probables for Saturday’s GII Blue Grass S., and Essential Quality figures to go off as one of the heavier prep-race favorites we’ve seen this spring. He’s already won twice at Keeneland going long (albeit over the short-stretch configuration that ends at the sixteenth pole). But we’re now going on 30 years since the last winner of the Blue Grass—Strike the Gold in 1991—parlayed that win into a blanket of roses on the first Saturday in May. In that interim, however, three horses—Street Sense in 2007, Thunder Gulch in 1995 and Sea Hero in 1993—lost the Blue Grass in their final Derby tune-up then won in Louisville.

3) CONCERT Tour (c, Street Sense—Purse Strings, by Tapit)
O/B-Gary & Mary West Stables Inc (KY); T-Bob Baffert. Lifetime Record: MGSW, 3-3-0-0, $756,600.
Accomplishments: 'TDN Rising Star', 1st GII San Vicente S., SA, Feb. 6
Next Start: GI Arkansas Derby, OP, Apr. 10
Equineline PPs. KY Derby Points: 50

The pace scenario in the Arkansas Derby figures to be one of the more intriguing tactical matchups of the Triple Crown prep season. The last time the two likely favorites met, in the GII Rebel S., Concert Tour outbroke Caddo River and Caddo River gave up the rail and the lead to let him go, but then looked uncomfortable and rank and never engaged when asked for run on the far turn. Will the two ‘TDN Rising Stars’ hook up from the outset in a committed duel in the Arkansas Derby? Or will jockey Joel Rosario turn the tables and opt out of a kamikaze confrontation?

Cont. p13
**Derby Top 12 cont.**

Concert Tour looked pretty confident bounding along at a measured clip on the lead in the Rebel, but the style of his run didn’t stamp him as a needs-the-lead type of horse. At 3-for-3 lifetime and with two of those wins in sprints, Concert Tour will still be light on experience over a distance of ground in the Arkansas Derby. But his Street Sense (out of a Tapit mare) breeding line should be stout enough to allay any concerns he’ll hit a wall at nine furlongs. Favorites have crossed the finish wire first in the Arkansas Derby for five straight runnings, including split divisions in 2020 (when there was a subsequent drug positive DQ).

4) **KNOWN AGENDA** (c, Curlin--Byrama [GB], by Byron [GB]) O/B-St Elias Stable (KY); T-Todd Pletcher. Sales History: $135,000 RNA Ylg ’19 FTSAUG. Lifetime Record: 6-3-1-1, $541,700.

Last Start: 1st GI Curlin Florida Derby, GP, Mar. 27
Next Start: GI Kentucky Derby, CD, May 1
Accomplishments: 3rd GII Remsen S., AQU, Dec. 5
Equineline PPs. KY Derby Points: 102

Known Agenda has now bested No. 1-ranked Greatest Honour twice in head-to-head matchups and his Florida Derby win demonstrated marked progression and an increased level of midpack stalking comfort while racing in blinkers for the second time. He now has a stamina-centric base of three victories over nine furlongs, and trainer Todd Pletcher said Sunday that this $135,000 RNA at FTSAUG “came back in great shape [with] good energy.” Known Agenda and Greatest Honour both opted for rail trips in the Florida Derby, but this colt is a touch quicker out of the gate and attained a more prominent placement, and jockey Irad Ortiz Jr. was able to deftly guide Known Agenda through tight passages that closed by the time Greatest Honour attempted to follow him. A three-wide move off the turn put Known Agenda in charge through the lane; he wandered out under left-handed stickwork yet responded ably when roused (although it should be noted that the only rival he had to truly run down was a 12-1 shot who had been softened up in the pace duel and was on his left lead through the stretch). “I’ve been pleased with the way he’s been able to get a better position in the race and improve his position going along. We’ve always had a strong feeling that added distance was going to be to his liking,” said Pletcher.

5) **HOT ROD CHARLIE** (c, Oxbow--Indian Miss, by Indian Charlie)

O-Roadrunner Racing, Boat Racing LLC & William Strauss; B-Edward A Cox (KY); T-Doug O’Neill. Sales history: $17,000 Ylg ’19 FTKFEB; $110,000 Ylg ’19 FTKOCT.

Lifetime Record: GSW & GISP, 7-2-1-2, $1,005,700.

Equineline PPs.

Last Start: 1st GII Twinspires.com Louisiana Derby, FG, Mar. 20
Accomplishments: 2nd GI Breeders’ Cup Juvenile, KEE, Nov. 6; 3rd GII Robert B. Lewis S., SA, Jan. 30
Next Start: GI Kentucky Derby, CD, May 1

Equineline PPs. KY Derby Points: 110

**Thrive at Woodstock Farm**

**FELD FAMILY FIND**

**THOROSTRIDE**-featured horse

At some point in late April, jockey Joel Rosario--currently leading the continent in both earnings and graded stakes wins--is going to have to choose between two live Derby mounts, Concert Tour and Hot Rod Charlie. If Rosario opts off of this two-time Fasig-Tipton sales grad ($17,000 FTKFEB; $110,000 FTKOCT), jockey Flavien Prat could wind up with the ride. “This is the time of year where the jockeys are jockeying, literally, for their best chance to win the Derby,” Bill Strauss, a co-owner of Hot Rod Charlie, told the San Diego Union-Tribune over the weekend. He added that his partnership has been keeping contact with Prat, the runaway leader in wins and earnings at the current Santa Anita meet, and he noted that Prat rode this Oxbow colt back in September when Hot Rod Charlie was fifth, beaten 3 1/4 lengths, in a Del Mar grass MSW. “With those two, it’s like, do you want [Babe] Ruth or [Joe] DiMaggio?” Strauss quipped. “You’d rather have the guy that’s faced the same pitcher, though. Experience on the horse is invaluable.” So is proficiency in the Derby itself: Prat has ridden in three Derbies, placing third in 2017 aboard 40-1 Battle of Midway, and crossing the wire second but getting elevated to first via DQ on 65-1 Country House in 2019.

6) **CADDI RIVER** (c, Hard Spun--Pangburn, by Congrats)

O/B-Shortleaf Stable (KY). T-Brad Cox. Lifetime Record: SW, 5-2-2-0, $196,092.

Last Start: 5th GI Rebel S., OP, Mar. 13.
Next Start: GI Arkansas Derby, OP, Apr. 10

Equineline PPs. KY Derby Points: 10

The Kentucky Derby is the ultimate goal for every Top 12 contender, but don’t overlook the fact that the Arkansas Derby always figured to be high on the wish list of this colt’s connections. This Hard Spun homebred races in the colors of Shortleaf Stable, the outfit run by Hot Springs native John Ed Anthony. Formerly racing as Loblolly Stable, Anthony has won the Arkansas Derby a record three times, with Temperence Hill in 1980, Demons Begone in 1987, and Pine Bluff in 1992 (the latter two were half-brothers). This ‘TDN Rising Star’ who just hit his third birthday Mar. 29 is a speed-centric threat, but after Caddo River handed the lead to Concert Tour in the Rebel S., he
refused to settle and spent most of his energy fighting the rider down the backstretch before suffering a self-inflicted meltdown turning for home. That subpar performance has a “too bad to be true” aura to it though, and it’s definitely not in line with the poised and professional appeal that Caddo River flashed earlier in the winter. This colt absolutely needs a qualifying points influx to make the traveling team to Louisville. Right now he’s ranked 30th with 10.

7) MIDNIGHT BOURBON (c, Tiznow--Catch the Moon, by Malibu Moon)

If you like Derby contenders with ample seasoning, Midnight Bourbon should appeal to your taste. This $525,000 KEESEP colt by Tiznow out of a Malibu Moon mare has made seven starts, all at a mile or longer. Five were in graded stakes, and he’s never finished worse than third while racking up Beyers of 93, 96 and 96 in starts at age three. But Midnight Bourbon has yet to unleash that breakthrough effort he seems capable of. He earned his maiden at Ellis Park in a race that yielded only one next-out winner from nine starters, and his GIII Lecomte S. score was achieved under an ideal pace scenario when Midnight Bourbon unexpectedly found himself on the lead with no pressure. This colt is a hard trier capable of digging in when challenged, but Hot Rod Charlie pasted him pretty solidly when they hooked up for the final 2 1/2 furlongs of the Louisiana Derby. Midnight Bourbon looms as a second-tier threat at this point. But if chaos reigns in the Derby, we at least know that he’s fit enough to handle a distance of ground and has experienced a few stretch fights that may have toughened him up.

8) PREVALENCE (c, Medaglia d’Oro--Enrichment, by Ghostzapper)

‘TDN Rising Star’ Prevalence wowed in his 89-Beyer maiden debut on the GI Pegasus World Cup undercard (other next-out starters collectively 1-for-8), then got a useful allowance tightener at 1-10 odds when coasting home when under light encouragement in a Mar. 11 one-turn mile at Gulfstream. Now this Godolphin homebred will hit the road in search of Derby qualifying points in Saturday’s GII Wood Memorial S. at Aqueduct, where he’ll be making both his two-turn and stakes debuts while foregoing Lasix for the first time. “He’s a very nice, quiet, easy-going horse and I don’t think the travel will affect him at all,” trainer Brendan Walsh said. “We’ll see how he handles the track. He hits me as a horse who can handle any kind of surface.”

9) MEDINA SPIRIT (c, Protonico--Mongolian Changa, by Brilliant Speed)

At 2-for-4 with a stakes win to his name, Medina Spirit’s overachieving SoCal form looked pretty good in and of itself for a horse who twice sold at public auction for relatively short money ($1,000 OBSWIN and $35,000 OBSOPN). Then came last week’s revelation from trainer Bob Baffert that this Protonico colt was discovered to have a slightly entrapped epiglottis and
has recently had surgery to correct it. “Pretty impressive he still ran that well,” Baffert told DRF.com. “We scoped him after [the GII San Felipe Mar. 6]. Gave him a few extra days for it to clear up.” Medina Spirit has since twice worked well, firing one training bullet. His GII Lewis S. wire job was notable for the way he took heat on the lead through swift splits, then never let another horse by him in a three-way fight that had him a neck in front at the wire. That performance took on added significance when third-place finisher Hot Rod Charlie wired the Louisiana Derby with a 99 Beyer next time out. Medina Spirit’s only two losses were seconds behind now-sidelined stablemate and ‘TDN Rising Star’ Life Is Good (Into Mischief), who had been ranked as high as No. 2 on the Derby Top 12 through mid-March.

10) REBEL’S ROMANCE (IRE) (Dubawi {Ire}–Minidress {GB}, by Street Cry {Ire})
O/B-Godolphin (IRE). T-Charles Appleby. Lifetime Record: GSW-UAE, 5-4-0-0, $549,879. Last Starts: 1st G2 UAE Derby, MEY, Mar. 27 Next Start: Uncommitted
Equineline PPs. KY Derby Points: 100

Rebel’s Romance, a Godolphin homebred by Dubawi (Ire), has a Kentucky Derby berth if his connections opt to ship the UAE Derby winner (currently fourth in qualifying points with 100). This is a big gelding known as a slow breaker, and he at first looked out of touch at the back of the pack while careening six paths off the fence through the first turn at Meydan. Rebel’s Romance settled on the backstretch run, then methodically began picking off half the pack with an outside swoop. Always making headway, he responded to rousing down the long home straight to win easily by open lengths. “He is still very much a work in progress and he looked much better tonight than he did in Saudi Arabia,” said trainer Charlie Appleby. “I think the biggest attribute to him today is that he was going to stay. We were always confident he was going to stay. Stepping up in trip was going to be his forte.”

11) HELIUM (c, 3, Ironicus--Thundering Emilia, by Thunder Gulch)
O-D J Stable LLC; B-Teneri Farm Inc & Bernardo Alvarez Calderon (KY); T-Mark Casse. Sales History: $55,000 Ylg ’19 FTKOCT. Lifetime Record: GSW, 3-3-0-0, $287,763. Last Start: 1st GII Lambholm South Tampa Bay Derby, TAM, Mar. 6. Next Start: GI Kentucky Derby, CD, May 1 Accomplishments: 1st Display S., WO, Oct. 18
Equineline PPs. KY Derby Points: 50

Stabled at Palm Meadows in Florida and training up to the Kentucky Derby, the 15-1 winner of the GII Tampa Bay Derby had his first breeze since that victory on Saturday, going a half mile in :49.25 (17/58). This $55,000 FTKOCT (and subsequently privately purchased) first-crop Ironicus colt owns a 3-for-3 record while displaying a versatile running style, winning on the lead, while stalking, and from closing farther off the pace. At Tampa, Helium was four wide on both turns, got first run at the tiring pacemaker, then gamely held off a fresh closer late in the lane. While Helium will go eight weeks between starts, the third-fifth- and sixth-place horses who ran behind him in the Tampa Derby ran back on Saturday in stakes at Turfway and Gulfstream; two ran sixth, the other was eighth. Only one horse has ever parlayed wins in the Tampa/Kentucky Derbies--Street Sense in 2007. But Helium’s maternal grandsire, Thunder Gulch, was the 1995 Derby winner, and Helium’s odds in this year’s Run for the Roses probably won’t be too far off grandpa’s juicy 24-1 price.

12) RISK TAKING (c, 3, Medaglia d’Oro--Run a Risk, by Distorted Humor)
O-Klaravich Stables Inc; B-G Watts Humphrey Jr (KY); T-Chad Brown. Sales History: $240,000 Ylg ’19 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: GSW, 4-2-0-0, $182,530. Last Start: 1st GIII Withers S., AQU, Feb. 6 Next Start: GII Wood Memorial S., AQU, Apr. 3
Equineline PPs. KY Derby Points: 10

The 2-for-4 Risk Taking was committed to the Wood Memorial soon after he won the GIII Withers S. when trainer Chad Brown articulated a desire to keep this $240,000 KEESEP bay racing over a track and distance at which the colt has demonstrated ability. But over the past 10 days or so, the list of probables for
the Wood has morphed from a relatively shallow stakes to a fairly deep lineup that now includes No. 8-ranked Prevalence, a pair of Aqueduct stakes victors, the beaten fave in the Tampa Bay Derby, and maybe a West Coast invader. After Risk Taking won the Withers with a sweet stalking trip, Brown said “everyone that’s touched the horse has commented about how classy he was, the ability that he has, and how he will get better with time and distance.” On Saturday, we’ll find out.

On the Bubble (in alphabetical order):

Candy Man Rocket (Candy Ride {Arg}): Winner of the GIII Davis S. but beaten fave in the Tampa Bay Derby rerouted from Arkansas Derby to Wood Memorial on Saturday at Aqueduct.

Defunded (Dialed In): Impressive MSW sprint layoff winner for Baffert could resurface in Saturday’s Santa Anita Derby.

Hush of a Storm (Creative Cause) This New York-bred winner of the Battaglia S. scratched out of the GIII Jeff Ruby Steaks in favor of Saturday’s Blue Grass S. at Keeneland.

Like the King (Palace Malice): Big, rangy colt with affinity for turf and Tapeta survived foul claim to win the Jeff Ruby Steaks.

Soup and Sandwich (Into Mischief): Fought the pace battle and gallantly stuck around late in the lane despite being on his left lead through the stretch of the Florida Derby. Trainer Mark Casse also reported this gray got “a little worked up” shipping over from Palm Meadows. “He’ll run a lot better out of his stall at Churchill Downs.”

FAUCHEUX, GRAHAM, GODOLPHIN TAKE DOWN FAIR GROUNDS TITLES

Racing at the Fair Grounds in New Orleans drew to a close Mar. 28, a meet which saw purses hiked no fewer than three times and featured a typically strong stakes and overnight program supported by a wide swath of horsepeople.

Ron Faucheux won his first training title at the Fair Grounds with 40 victories, three better than four-time defending champion trainer Brad Cox, whose successes at the meeting included the GII Risen Star S. with ‘TDN Rising Star’ Mandaloun (Into Mischief) and the GII Fair Grounds Oaks with ‘Rising Star’ Travel Column (Frosted). Tom Amoss held the premiership lead until deep into the final weeks of the season and ended on 35 wins, two clear of Steve Asmussen. Joe Sharp was third with 23 wins.

“It means the world,” Faucheux said. “Being here, being from New Orleans, and coming to this track since I was a child. This is what it’s all about. We have so many people that put their faith in us. I have some great owners. I have the best help. This is my track; this is the best track in the country, as far as I’m concerned, and it’s a privilege and an honor to be a part of it.”
Fair Grounds cont.

James Graham saves his best for the Big Easy and took home his third riding title with 88 victories, some 25 better than his performance in 2019-2020. He was made to work for it, however, as Adam Beschizza rode 85 winners, with Mitchell Murrill on 73.

“It means everything,” Graham said. “We kept digging away and plowing through and doing what we had to do. My stock ran really good this year and everything ran accordingly. It’s been a fantastic meet. You can’t race anywhere better in the wintertime; Fair Grounds is the best. I’m over the moon and ecstatic.”

There was a three-way photo for leading owner, ultimately won by Godolphin, whose 13 wins—including wins from Maxfield (Street Sense) in the Tenacious S. in December and in the GII Mineshaft S. Feb. 13—proved narrowly better than Chester Thomas’s Allied Racing Stable (12) and End Zone Athletics (11).

Track officials reported strong handle and betting support and reasoned that the elimination of the Black Gold 5, a jackpot bet that was instead replaced by early and late conventional Pick 5s, contributed to that.

“It was a meet like no other but we are extremely proud of everyone who came together to put out a great product on a day-in, day-out basis,” Fair Grounds senior director of racing Jason Boulet said. “We are extremely grateful to the horsemen and our fans and bettors for their continued support throughout the meet.”

HUSH OF A STORM WORKS BULLET

John Battaglia Memorial S. hero Hush of a Storm (Creative Cause), scratched out of Saturday’s GII Jeff Ruby Steaks with this weekend’s $800,000 GII Toyota Blue Grass S. in mind, worked five furlongs in :59.80 following the second renovation break at Keeneland Monday morning.

With jockey Santiago Gonzalez in the irons, the New York-bred broke off about five lengths behind his unraced workmate Poseidon Wrath (Super Saver) and was eight lengths clear of his company at the wire. The work went in splits of :24.40 and :36.40, with a six-furlong gallop out in 1:12.60.

“I thought he worked well,” said trainer Bill Morey.

Well-beaten when a seven-furlong main-track maiden claimer on Churchill debut Nov. 19, Hush of a Storm has since put together three in a row over the Turfway Tapeta track, including a 1 1/2-length defeat of Like the King (Palace Malice), who franked the form when taking out the Jeff Ruby.

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The three 2021 Keeneland/Maker's Mark bottles

KEENELAND MAKER’S MARK BOTTLE FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT LEXARTS, ISAAC MURPHY MEMORIAL ART GARDEN

This year, the annual release of a commemorative Maker’s Mark Bourbon bottle in partnership with Keeneland will benefit LexArts, greater Lexington’s premier cultural development, advocacy, and fundraising organization, to support its initiatives at the Isaac Murphy Memorial Art Garden in Lexington. Murphy was a Hall of Fame jockey who remains the only rider to win the Kentucky Derby, Kentucky Oaks and Clark H. in the same year (1884). The Art Garden is the first park in the U.S. to honor African American jockeys, who were the earliest Black professional athletes.

For the first time, the fundraiser will feature three distinct bottles, each with its own label featuring the work of artists Sandra Oppegard, Andre Pater, or Tyler Robertson. The bottles are all pre-signed by the artist who created each label along with Keeneland President and CEO Shannon Arvin, Maker’s Mark Managing Director Rob Samuels, and one of three active Hall of Fame jockeys who have won the GI Maker’s Mark Mile S. at Keeneland multiple times: Javier Castellano, Edgar Prado, and John Velazquez.

The three bottles will go on sale Friday, Apr. 2. This begins a three-year series benefiting LexArts initiatives, with the same three artists creating new labels each year for the commemorative release.

“To have the immeasurable support of these two iconic brands, Keeneland and Maker’s Mark, is meaningful in so many ways for LexArts and our entire arts community,” said Ame Sweetall, LexArts President and CEO. “The support of the Isaac Murphy Memorial Art Garden this partnership will further engage and enrich the East End community and build upon the early work of those who made the art garden a reality more than ten years ago.”

John Velazquez.

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John Velazquez.
ARIZONA DOWNS NAMES WEISS GENERAL MANAGER

Michael Weiss, a longtime racing industry professional with deep ties to Arizona horse racing, has been named the new General Manager at Arizona Downs. Weiss will lead preparations to restore the track and operate the 2021 return of live racing to the Prescott Valley facility. He most recently served as General Manager of Rillito Park Racetrack in Tucson and is well-known for pioneering the PRISE educational program for the University of Arizona’s Race Track Industry Program. He is also a former student in the RTIP and currently serves as a career advisor to program graduates.

“I am excited for the opportunity to contribute to efforts to save Arizona horse racing because I truly believe it is worth saving,” Weiss said. “I look forward to rebuilding the team at Arizona Downs and assembling a safe environment for horsemen and a memorable experience for fans.”

Weiss’s hiring comes at a pivotal time for horse racing in the state, as the Arizona Senate is now considering a bill to modernize wagering at horse tracks and OTBs. Senate Bill 1794 would bring more than $300 million in capital investment to Arizona horse racing, including a new track at Arizona Downs, while generating more than $100 million in new state tax revenues.

Live racing returns to Arizona Downs June 1, with a 1:30 p.m. post time, and racing will take place every Tuesday and Wednesday through Sept. 15.

Share this story
### Friday, Aqueduct, post time: 4:34 p.m. EDT

**DISTAFF H.-GIII, $150,000, 4yo/up, f/m, 7f**

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**Breeders:** 1-Candy Meadows LLC, 2-Eileen H. Hartis & Godolphin, 3-Ashview Farm & Colts Neck Stables, 4-WinStar Farm, LLC, 5-White Fox Farm

### Friday, Keeneland, post time: 4:57 p.m. EDT

**BEAUMONT S. PRESENTED BY KEENELAND SELECT-GIII, $150,000, 3yo, f, 7f**

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**Breeders:** 1-Erich Brehm, 2-Gary & Mary West Stables Inc., 3-G. Watts Humphrey Jr., 4-Monticule, 5-Hidden Brook Farm, Candy Meadows LLC & Chris Swann, 6-Brett A. Brinkman & P. Dale Ladner, 7-Three Chimneys Farm, LLC
### Friday, Keeneland, post time: 5:30 p.m. EDT

**KENTUCKY UTILITIES TRANSYLVANIA S.-GIII, $150,000, 3yo, 1 1/16mT**

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<td>Artie Schiller</td>
<td>Bantry Farms</td>
<td>Ewing</td>
<td>Van Dyke</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Earls Rock (Ire)</td>
<td>Fascinating Rock (Ire)</td>
<td>Anthony Fanticola</td>
<td>D'Amato</td>
<td>Geroux</td>
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**Breeders:** 1-Stuart S. Janney, III LLC, 2-HnR Nothhaft Horseracing LLC & Pioneerof the Nile Syndicate, 3-Newtownanner Stud, 4-Troy Rankin, 5-Thomas Girardi, 6-Newtown Anner Stud

### Saturday, Oaklawn, post time: 6:54 p.m. EDT

**FANTASY S.-GIII, $600,000, 3yo, f, 1 1/16m**

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<td>Shanghai Bobby</td>
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<td>Kueber Racing, LLC</td>
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<td>Take Charge Lorin</td>
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<td>Willis Horton Racing LLC</td>
<td>Stewart</td>
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<td>Munnings</td>
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<td>Pauline's Pearl</td>
<td>Tapit</td>
<td>Stonestreet Stables LLC</td>
<td>Asmussen</td>
<td>Santana, Jr.</td>
<td>117</td>
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</table>

**Breeders:** 1-Springhouse Farm, 2-Southern Equine Stables, LLC, 3-Castleton Lyons & Kilboy Estate, 4-Three Lyons Racing, LLC, 5-Willis Horton Racing LLC, 6-Juddmonte Farms Inc, 7-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC

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**THE SIGN OF SUCCESS**

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7th-Will Rogers Downs, $25,080, (S), Alw, 3-29, (NW2L), 3yo/up, f/m, 5 1/2f, 1:05.67, ft, 8 1/2 lengths.

OKIE FRONT (f, 3, Summer Front--Miss Manchester, by Tiz Wonderful) scored a frontrunning 26-1 upset on debut Mar. 12 at Sam Houston and was made the clear 11-10 favorite in this Oklahoma-bred spot. Pressing the pace three wide, the homebred took control on her own power nearing the stretch and poured it on from there to romp under wraps by 8 1/2 lengths. Maria Elena Y. G (Sebastian County) completed the exacta at 93-1. The winner's dam has a 2-year-old Wilburn colt and foaled a filly by Jimmy Creed last term before visiting Caleb's Posse. Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, $39,890. Click for the Equibase.com chart.

O/B-Ed Sutter & Kelly Thiesing (OK); T-Scott E. Young.

IN JAPAN:
Unsaid Vow, g, 4, Giant's Causeway--Country Cafe, by Lion Heart. Chukyo, 3-28, Allowance ($131k), 1800m, 1:52.5. Lifetime Record: 12-2-3-2, $214,636. O-Makoto Kato; B-Mike G Rutherford (KY); T-Kazuya Nakatake. *$110,000 Ylg '18 KEESEP.

Lotus Land, f, 4, Point of Entry. See 'US-Bred & -Sired Winners in Japan'

IN SOUTH KOREA:
Lovely K, f, 3, Cairo Prince--Medicine Butte, by Old Fashioned. Seoul, 3-28, Hcp., 1200m. B-Jack Sims (KY). *$60,000 Ylg '19 FTKOCT.

Heungwa Gippeum, c, 3, Kantharos--Hard Headed Temper, by Hard Spun. Seoul, 3-28, Hcp., 1400m. B-Cloyce Clark (KY). *$45,000 Ylg '19 KEESEP.

Eoma Eoma, c, 4, Algorithms--Lignite, by Run Away and Hide. Seoul, 3-28, Hcp., 1200m. B-Gateway Wood Bell, Wesley Ward, Bret Jones, Wes Welker & Drew Fleming (KY). *Won for the seventh time in nine starts. **$1,200 Wlg '17 KEENOV; $14,000 Ylg '18 KEESEP; $60,000 2yo '19 OBSJUN.

Haengbok Wangja, c, 4, Daredevil--First Installment, by Broken Vow. Seoul, 3-28, Hcp., 1800m. B-Richard Forbush (KY). *1/2 to Mercenary (Closing Argument), GSP, $460,851. **$67,000 Ylg '18 FTKJUL; $30,000 2yo '19 OBSAPR.

Uncle Oh, h, 5, J P'S Gusto--Ginablui, by Bluegrass Cat. Seoul, 3-28, Hcp., 1400m. B-Brent & Crystal Fernung, Mike Sebastian Jr & Mike Sebastian (FL). *$11,000 2yo '18 OBSJUN.

Alphaking Iji, g, 5, Revolutionary--Missing Miss (SW, $225,805), by Unaccounted For. Busan, 3-27, Hcp., 1800m. B-Draper Farm (KY). *$10,000 Ylg '17 KEESEP; $43,000 2yo '18 OBSJUN.

IN PERU:
Van Winkle, c, 3, Tapiture--Disclosed Desire, by Forestry. Monterrico, 3-26, Maiden, 2000mT. B-James M Herbener & Heather Herbener-Ford (KY). *Won by 4 1/2 lengths. *$5,000 Ylg '19 FTKFEB. VIDEO

Sissy Chanel, f, 4, Tapizar--Passing By (GB), by Raven's Pass. Monterrico, 3-27, Clasico Ernesto Ayulo Pardo-Listed, 2000mT. B-Azienda Agricola Valle Falcone (KY). *Ch. Grass Mare-Per. **1ST STAKES WIN. ***$1,300 Ylg '18 KEEJAN. VIDEO

IN PANAMA:
Song By Factor, f, 3, The Factor--Street Talk, by Street Cry (Ire). Presidente Remon, 3-26, Maiden, 1000m. B-Kathryn Nikkel & Sanford Robertson (KY). *1ST-TIME STARTER. **$20,000 Ylg '19 KEESEP. VIDEO

IN SOUTH KOREA:
Showmaker (Kor), f, 3, Maclean's Music--Dixie Marlin, by Uncle Mo. Seoul, 3-28, Hcp., 1200m. B-Choi Jong Bok. *$35,000 in utero '17 KEENOV.
**Oxford King (Kor)**, c, 3, *Summer Front*—Oxford Babes, by Curlin. Seoul, 3-28, Hcp., 1200m. B-Kim Tae Young. *$75,000 RNA in utero '17 KEENOV.

**Magic Record (Kor)**, f, 3, *Take Charge Indy*—Menifee Magic (Kor), by Menifee. Seoul, 3-28, Hcp., 1200m. B-Kim Sang Wook. *1ST-TIME STARTER.

**Lotus Land** (f, 4, Point of Entry--Little Miss Muffet, by Scat Daddy) entered this second-up test with just a single victory to her credit, but had kept, having previously finished runner-up to the likes of future G1SW Lauda Sion (Jpn) (Real Impact {Jpn}) and MGSW Babbitt (Jpn) (Nakayama Festa {Jpn}). A good second off a May layoff over this course and distance Feb. 20, Lotus Land was 3-5 to return to winning ways and made no mistakes. Ridden forward from gate nine, the 4-year-old settled wide on the course from fourth. Traveling with cover into the final three furlongs, she came three wide into the stretch and quickened clear to score by a convincing 2 1/2-length margin. Produced by a winning half-sister to MSP Emma Darling (Hennessy) and from the female family of the accomplished GISW Gozzip Girl (Dynaformer), Lotus Land is one of seven winners from as many Japanese runners for her sire. Of those, four are bred or co-bred by Winchester Farm/Dr. Naoya Yoshida. Lifetime Record: 6-2-3-0, $256,000.

O-Eiichi Kobayashi Holdings; B-Dr Aaron Sones & Dr Naoya Yoshida (KY); T-Yasuyuk Tsujino.

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**Den’s Legacy** (Medaglia d’Oro), Mighty Acres, $2,000 49 foals of racing age/3 winners/0 black-type winners 4-Will Rogers Downs, Msw 5 1/2f, Sandman’s Legacy, 8-1 RNA OKC Yrl yrl

**Not This Time** (Giant’s Causeway), Taylor Made Farm, $40,000 204 foals of racing age/37 winners/5 black-type winners 5-Delta Downs, Msw 1m, One Time Gem, 7-2 $120,000 RNA KEE SEP yrl

**Prayer for Relief** (Jump Start), R Star Stallions, $3,000 21 foals of racing age/3 winners/0 black-type winners 3-Mahoning Valley, Msw 6f, Blazing Miss Jojo, 6-1

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**SECOND-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: TUESDAY, MARCH 30 2021 Stud Fees Listed**

**Air Force Blue** (War Front), Ashford Stud, $10,000 178 foals of racing age/26 winners/0 black-type winners 3-Mahoning Valley, Msw 6f, Blue Abbi Road, 8-5 $21,000 RNA KEE SEP yrl

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**ALLOWANCE RESULTS:**

**8th-Parx Racing, $50,100**, 3-29, (NW1X), 4yo/up, f/m, 6 1/2f, 1:17.78, ft, 11 lengths.

**PRECIOUS** (f, 4, Fed Biz--Brilliant Sunshine {MSP, $185,550}, by Smarty Jones) Lifetime Record: 9-3-2-0, $141,020. O/B-Newell Thoroughbreds (PA); T-John C. Servis.

**2nd-Delta Downs, $44,040**, (C)/Opt. Clm ($30,000), 3-29, 4yo/up, 7f, 1:27.20, ft, 3/4 length.

**FLYING HONEYPOT** (h, 7, Discreet Cat--Noontime Angel, by Successful Appeal) Lifetime Record: 24-7-9-1, $226,965. O-Benard Chatters & Colette Branch; B-Clover IV Stables & Hidden Brook Farm (KY); T-Benard Chatters.*$4,700 RNA Ylg ’15 FTKOCT; $4,000 2yo ’16 OBSOPN.
9th-Delta Downs, $41,000, (S), 3-29, (NW1X), 4yo/up, 1m, 1:42.94, ft, 1 length.
TUNE MY GUITAR (g, 7, Star Guitar--Macaroni's Deelite, by Afternoon Deelites) Lifetime Record: 38-4-8-0, $104,885. O/T-Denise Schmidt; B-Terry Peterson (LA).

9th-Golden Gate Fields, $36,070, (NW1$X)/Opt. Clm ($25,000), 3-28, 4yo/up, 1 1/16m (AWT), 1:44.72, ft, 1/2 length.
MECKLENBURG (IRE) (g, 4, Power (GB)--Temecula (Ire), by High Chaparral (Ire)) Lifetime Record: 9-3-0-1, $41,324. O-Little Red Feather Racing; B-N. Hartery (IRE); T-Steve M. Sherman.
*£1,800 Ylg '18 GOYRL.

7th-Mahoning Valley, $30,500, (S), 3-29, (NW2X), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:13.16, ft, 1 1/2 lengths.
CACKI (f, 4, Northern Afleet--Cape Fog, by Cape Town) Lifetime Record: 9-3-1-0, $56,390. O-Authentic Racing, LLC; B-Hillburn Racing Stable LLC (OH); T-James H. McDonald. *1/2 to The Great Caper (Albert the Great), SP, $150,274.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:
Flat Out Larceny, f, 3, Flat Out--Gracinha, by Siphon (Bzr). Will Rogers Downs, 3-29, 5 1/2f, 1:06.54. Lifetime Record: 5-1-0-2, $22,142. B-Center Hills Farm & Rendell Saddler (OK). *$7,500 Wlg '18 KEENOV; $10,000 2yo '20 EASMAY. **1/2 to Devious Rumor (Street Boss), SW, $213,572.

Buckling Sales Graduate

Kulp, g, 3, Munnings--Tapit's World (GSP, $154,179), by Tapit. Mahoning Valley, 3-29, 1m, 1:40.71. Lifetime Record: 5-1-0-2, $16,683. B-Willow Oaks Stable, LLC (KY). *$80,000 RNA Ylg '19 FTSAUG; $55,000 Ylg '19 EASOCT; $30,000 2yo '20 EASMAY.

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Flat Out, Flat Out Larceny, f, 3, o/o Gracinha, by Siphon (Bzr). MSW, 3-29, Will Rogers
Munnings, Kulp, g, 3, o/o Tapit's World, by Tapit. MSW, 3-29, Mahoning Valley
Northern Afleet, Cacki, f, 4, o/o Cape Fog, by Cape Town. ALW, 3-29, Mahoning Valley
Power (GB), Mecklenburg (Ire), g, 4, o/o Temecula (Ire), by High Chaparral (Ire). AOC, 3-28, Golden Gate
Star Guitar, Tune My Guitar, g, 7, o/o Macaroni's Deelite, by Afternoon Deelites. ALW, 3-29, Delta Downs
Summer Front, Okie Front, f, 3, o/o Miss Manchester, by Tiz Wonderful. ALW, 3-29, Will Rogers

Apriority, She's My Priority, f, 3, o/o She's Prado's Idol, by Screen Idol. MSW, 3-29, Delta Downs
Discreet Cat, Flying Honeypot, h, 7, o/o Noontime Angel, by Successful Appeal. AOC, 3-29, Delta Downs
Fed Biz, Precious, f, 4, o/o Brilliant Sunshine, by Smarty Jones. ALW, 3-29, Parx Racing

TDN CRITERIA
The races covered in the TDN are as follows:
• Stakes: purses of $50,000/up
• Allowance Races: purses of $20,000/up
• Optional Claiming Races: purses of $20,000/up
• Maiden Special Weight Races: purses of $18,000/up
• Maiden Claiming Races: purses of $18,000/up & a minimum claiming price of $40,000
THE WEEKLY WRAP: OLD GUARD, NEW BLOOD

Haqeeqy and Benoit de la Sayette burst to the lead in the Lincoln in front of empty Doncaster stands | Racingfotos.com

By Emma Berry

When we wrapped up last Flat season, the lofty assumption was that by the start of this new one we would be back to some semblance of normality. How wrong could we have been?

After a brutal winter, the pandemic is only now easing to the point where a limited number of owners were permitted to attend racecourses in England and Scotland from yesterday (Monday).

There are not too many areas within racing in which Britain is ahead of Ireland or France—witness the Irish domination of the Cheltenham Festival and France’s enviable prize-money situation. But one of the few consolations for much of Britain at the moment is the accelerated Covid vaccination programme which has hastened the return of owners. May is being pencilled in for the same to happen in France, while there is no clear indication in Ireland as to when owners can be welcomed back to the races for the first time since the initial lockdown began in March 2020.

In England, the two owners per horse rule has been increased to four for the Good Friday fixtures at Lingfield and Newcastle, and from Apr. 12 it is the BHA’s intention to increase that limit to six per horse. The planned June return of spectators at sporting events in Britain can’t come soon enough.

UK RACING WELCOMES GOVERNMENT AID

UK racing organisations welcomed the news that the racing industry would receive £21 million in loan support, which was announced late on Sunday evening. The loan is to assist with the continuing financial fallout due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The British Horseracing Authority (BHA), Racecourse Association (RCA) and The Horsemen’s Group released a joint statement in response on Monday morning. The statement reads:

“The leaders of British racing have welcomed the announcement that around £21 million of loan funding will be made available to the sport through the Sports Winter Survival Package. The money will be lent to the Horserace Betting Levy Board because of its role in providing central funding of industry costs of race-day regulation, equine welfare and industry training.”  Cont. p5

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

EQUINE FATALITY RATE LOWEST SINCE RECORD KEEPING BEGAN

The US equine fatality rate has dropped to the lowest since record keeping began. Bill Finley has the details. Click or tap here to go straight to TDN America.
2021 Inglis Easter Yearling Catalogue

Includes photos, videos and full pedigree analysis

click here to view
Old Guard, New Blood Cont. from p1

Holidays can be eschewed, but the prospect of another summer not being able to mill around the racecourse, eyeing up the runners in the parade ring and bumping into friends, would be too miserable to contemplate.

With the backdrop of Covid restrictions made even more onerous by the ludicrous amount of red tape and extra expense inflicted on horse movement between the UK and EU by Brexit, it has been a gloomy enough start to the year. This situation will ease, however. What cannot be rectified is the enormous loss for the racing and breeding industry brought about by the sad deaths of David Thompson, Prince Khalid Abdullah and Sheikh Hamdan Al Maktoum.

When Sheikh Hamdan’s passing was announced on Wednesday, the notable aspect to the many glowing tributes paid to the founder of the Shadwell breeding empire was the genuine emotion in the voices of those who had worked for him—usually over a period of many years. That in itself speaks volumes of a loyalty between boss and employee, owner and trainer, which can be all too sadly lacking in modern-day life.

It is why, across a blockbuster weekend of racing, the most pleasing result was that of the Lincoln. Of course for Flat racing fans in Britain, the Lincoln meeting is a longed-for annual marker which says goodbye to winter and all those slow jumpers. But these days it has to compete with its glitzier and much richer cousin, the Dubai World Cup.

An hour after winning the Lincoln with Haqeeqy (Ire) (Lope De Vega {Ire}), the partnership of John and Thady Gosden, with the ink barely dry on their joint training licence, had added both the G1 Dubai Turf and G1 Dubai Sheema Classic to an impressive weekend haul. But it was the Lincoln which gave perhaps the most important pointer towards the future.

Yes, the steady hand of the multiple champion trainer John Gosden is still on the tiller, but he made it plain when joining the TDN Writers’ Room last month that he intends to step back completely in a few years after completing a transition period with his youngest son.
Thus, Thady’s name appeared on the stable’s first heritage handicap winner of the new era, and it was alongside that of Haqeeqy’s owner, Sheikh Hamdan’s young daughter Sheikha Hissa, who had eight runners from the Gosden stable last season. Add to the mix a first win on turf for one of the most eye-catching young jockeys on the scene, 18-year-old Benoit de la Sayette, who is apprenticed at the Gosdens’ Clarehaven stable. In many respects, it’s the old team, but one boasting plenty of young blood.

Haggas Goes Walkabout

Three years ago, William Haggas used the Lincoln—a race he has won on four occasions—to set Addeybb (Ire) (Pivotal {GB}) on his way from being a decent handicapper to a Group 1 star. Some may sniff at the gelding’s soft-ground form, others may point to the dearth of top-class homegrown middle-distance horses in Australia. But fans of the 7-year-old—and there’s one right here—will appreciate his ability to take the travel between hemispheres with apparent ease and perform up here or down there with admirable consistency.

Addeybb was at it again at the weekend, this time not quite managing to avoid having the tables turned on him by the classy galloper but poor speller Verry Elleegant (NZ) (Zed {NZ}) when attempting to defend his crown in the G1 Ranvet S. at Rosehill. The 5-year-old mare has finished second to him in both Addeybb’s Group 1 victories in Australia last year but he was relegated to the runner-up spot this time around.

Haggas loves an international challenge and in December he told TDN that he felt the progressive 4-year-old Favorite Moon (Ger) (Sea The Moon {Ger}) was just the sort to send on an Australian mission. He was right, and the trainer duly won the G3 N E Manion Cup on the same Rosehill card for the second year running, following the success of Young Rascal (Fr) (Intello {Ger}) in 2020. Cont. p4
The Weekly Wrap Cont.

If Haggas was smarting at being beaten by Chris Waller in the Ranvet, the latter did at least provide some consolation for him at Doomben, the scene of the fifth Australian victory for Humbolt Current (GB) (Fastnet Rock {Aus}). Haggas formerly trained the 6-year-old for his breeder The Queen and, when recommending him to Waller was talked into taking a share in him. Perhaps Haggas can now talk Waller out of running Verry Elleegant back in the G1 Queen Elizabeth S., when Addeybb will be joined at Sydney’s Championships meeting by Favourite Moon, who heads next to the G1 Sydney Cup.

The Other Sir Mark

It was a good day for ex-pat trainers at Rosehill on Saturday, as Haggas and Waller, a New Zealander, was joined in the list of winners by British-born Annabel Neasham, who celebrated her first Group 1 success in the Rosehill Guineas with Mo'unga (Aus) (Savabeel {Aus}).

Waller’s fellow Kiwis Sir Mark Todd and Peter Vela teamed up in Britain on Friday with the patriotically named Tasman Bay (Fr) (Le Havre {Ire}), an easy winner at Newcastle on his second start, and a colt with a Derby entry.

Those who have followed British racing for the last 50 years will be of the opinion that there is only one Sir Mark and his surname is Prescott. In fact, if you've been following three-day eventing during much of that same period, you'll know the other Sir Mark better as ‘Toddy’.

The latter, who retired from the eventing scene in 2000 with two Olympic Gold medals to his credit, made good use of the break from riding by training the New Zealand Oaks winner Bramble Rose (NZ) before making a comeback and competing at another three Olympics up to 2016.

The potential excitement of Sir Mark Todd, who is already revered as one of the greatest horsemen of our time, turning up at Epsom with a Derby runner might be all too much for some horsey ladies of a certain age to bear.

Winter Warmers

We see plenty of high-priced yearlings change hands at Tattersalls in October, but those who do their homework properly have proved the benefit of hanging around to the end of the month in a bid to try to find a bargain at the Horses-in-Training Sale.

Indeed, two of the busiest and most successful horses of this winter’s all-weather season were bought for a total of 15,000gns and have subsequently won 11 races between then since Nov. 24.

Nortonthorpe Boy (GB) (Swiss Spirit {GB}), like the dependable Spare Parts (Ire) (Choisir {Aus}) before him, is a product of the Phil McEntee academy which espouses the ethos of letting the horses roll in the mud between racing as frequently as possible. Now three, Nortonthorpe Boy was bred by Eleanor Kent, matriarch of the Kent dynasty of Co Cork. He’d already managed eight starts at two for Tim Easterby, including two placed runs, when he was sent to the sales.

A month after buying him for 7,000gns, McEntee sent his newly gelded recruit to Lingfield for the start of a sequence of 14 runs in the last four months, while has included six victories, most recently at Kempton on Saturday off a mark of 84. For his first win on Dec. 30, Nortonthorpe Boy was rated 58. Cont. p5
The Weekly Wrap Cont.

Another to have shot up the ratings is Khatm (GB) (Dubawi (Ire)), bought from Shadwell by the astute partnership of George Boughey and Sam Haggas for 8,000gns as a once-raced gelding. Khatm won for the first time on his fourth start for Boughey when rated 50. He has now won five times from six starts in the last month to improve his mark to 79 and is entered on Tuesday at Wolverhampton and again at Chelmsford on Friday. He needs just one more victory to join Nortonthorpe Boy at the top of the leaderboard for the winningmost horse in this year's All Weather Championships which conclude on Friday with Finals Day at Lingfield.

A Classic Family in the Reckoning

When winning the G1 Prix Royal-Oak last October, Subjectivist (GB) (Teofilo (Ire)) became the second Group 1 winner in three years to have emanated from Susan and Barry Hearn's Mascalls Stud following Urban Fox (GB) (Foxwedge (Aus)).

On Saturday, the 4-year-old backed up that success with a rout in the G2 Dubai Gold Cup and he will be a fascinating contender in the major Cup races this season.

The establishment of Subjectivist's family as a force to be reckoned with is largely down to Mark Johnston. The trainer bought his year-older sibling Sir Ron Priestley (GB) (Australia (GB)) for 70,000gns at the Tattersalls October Yearling Sale and returned a year later to buy Subjectivist for 62,000gns. Johnston duly beat a path to the New England Stud draft again in 2019 to buy their half-sister Alba Rose (GB) (Muhaarar (GB)) for 100,000gns, and it is easy to see why. By that stage Sir Ron Priestley had already won the G3 March S. and finished second in the St Leger. Subjectivist followed his example by also winning the March S. and, though he could only finish seventh in the St Leger, he has since surpassed his brother with his Group 1 success.

Though last year’s yearling, by another son of Galileo (Ire) as a member of the first crop of Ulysses (Ire), was bought back by Hearn, she too has joined Johnston's Kingsley Park stable from which she will race in the colours of her breeder. Alba Rose, meanwhile, who was third in last year's G2 Rockfel S., could yet become the third Classic runner from the first four foals of her dam Reckoning (Ire) (Danehill Dancer (Ire)).

Pat Smullen Remembered

As our accompanying story details, Pat Smullen will be remembered on the first day of racing in Newmarket in 2021 with a race named in his honour.

It is scarcely believable that almost 18 years have passed since Smullen rode Refuse To Bend (Ire) to glory in the 2000 Guineas, carrying the Moyglare Stud colours with which he would become so strongly associated during his long tenure at Dermot Weld’s stable.

A lifelong Irish resident, Pat Smullen was nevertheless revered throughout the racing world, and he will be in the thoughts of his many friends and admirers in Newmarket and beyond as racing returns to the Rowley Mile in a fortnight’s time.

UK Racing Welcomes Government Aid Cont. from p1

The statement continued, “Leaders representing the British Horseracing Authority, the Racecourse Association and The Horsemen’s Group have been engaging with Sport England and DCMS since the Survival Package was announced on Nov. 19th. It is intended to help sports severely impacted by coronavirus restrictions over the winter months, notably where the absence of spectators and the revenue they provide would pose a threat to the survival of clubs or sporting teams.

“The funding model for racing is different from many sports where clubs will typically receive the revenues from spectators, employ the players or participants and fund the costs of staging sporting events. Racing’s leaders asked government to allow the Horserace Betting Levy Board (HBLB) to be the recipient of loan funding, because of its role in providing central funding to support raceday and other industry costs. Work continues with the HBLB to agree how the loan funding can best be used to assist the industry with surviving and recovering from COVID-19.”
UK Racing Welcomes Government Aid Cont.

“No changes are expected to the HBLB’s plan for funding race-days and prize money until the end of June,” the statement said. “But with spectators not returning to racecourses until May 17th at the earliest, and in reduced numbers at that point, the gap in revenues will continue into July and until a full return of race-goers is possible. The government has already indicated that further financial help may be available for sports affected over the summer, which British racing has also welcomed.

“Racing has taken into account the need to repay any funds borrowed from the original £40 million which government set as a limit for horseracing. Whilst the terms of the loans are favourable, there is a recognition that any debts incurred will have to be paid back from future Levy income. Racing’s leaders will now work with the HBLB on a plan to repay the loans over the 10-year period.”

Charlie Liverton, Chief Executive of the Racecourse Owners Association, said, “Our thanks go to the officials at Sport England, DCMS and the Treasury for their help and support in providing this loan to British Racing. In particular, the team at Sport England for their time and advice during the process. The HBLB will be the recipients of the loan and we look forward to working with them to understand how the loan can be best utilized going forward. The Government’s Sports Winter Package has provided financial support to many sports industries over the past few months and this support to British Racing is very welcome.”

PAT SMULLEN HONOURED AT THE CRAVEN MEETING

The first day of the new season of racing at Newmarket will feature a race named in honour of the multiple Irish champion jockey Pat Smullen, who died last September at the age of 43. The Pat Smullen Memorial H. is a Class 2 contest for 4-year-olds and up on the opening day of the Craven meeting on Apr. 13. It is to be run over the Rowley Mile, where Smullen recorded his first British Classic victory aboard Moyglare Stud's Refuse To Bend (Ire) (Sadler's Wells) in 2003.

The race has been sponsored in Smullen’s name by his great friend and Newmarket resident Ted Durcan, one of the nine retired stars of the weighing-room to have ridden in the Pat Smullen Champions Race which contributed significantly to the late jockey raising more than €2.5 million for Cancer Trials Ireland.

"There were a lot of people in England at the time of Pat’s funeral who weren’t able to pay their respects with all the Covid restrictions," Durcan said. "I know many of us would have liked to have been able to hold a memorial service, which we weren’t able to do, and this is just hopefully a nice way to remember Pat."

He continued, "The Craven meeting is always a very exciting time and Pat had huge success over the years at the Rowley Mile. The team at Newmarket Racecourses were extremely helpful and only too happy to stage a race in Pat’s name."

Durcan’s sponsorship also ensures that each member of staff leading up a horse for the Pat Smullen Memorial H. will receive a bonus of £25. He added, "Rather than have a best-turned-out prize we decided that everyone who leads up will get £25 rather than just one person getting £50. Pat was always very well liked and respected by racing staff, and we all respect how much effort from the staff goes into getting the horses to the racecourse. It isn’t a large sum but it is just a token of our appreciation."

Cont. p7
Pat Smullen Honoured at Craven Meeting Cont.

Sophie Able, the general manager at Newmarket Racecourses, said, "We're greatly looking forward to The Pat Smullen Memorial H. on the opening day of the bet365 Craven Meeting and our 2021 season. Pat was no stranger to big-race success here at Newmarket and we hope the race can mark his achievements both in and out of the saddle and bring back some happy memories for his family and many friends across the British and Irish racing industries."

MARK RICHARDS JOINS GOFFS

Mark Richards, who has fulfilled a variety of roles with the Hong Kong Jockey Club for the past 20 years, has been appointed to the newly created role of British Agent for Goffs, the sales company announced on Monday.

Richards, most recently HKJC Executive Manager of the International Sale, begins on May 1. Originally a National Hunt jockey, Richards has been in the racing industry for 45 years and has contributed to a number of media outlets including the Racing Post, Daily Telegraph, Racing Channel, Sky and TVN. His primary duties for Goffs include attracting new and existing British buyers to sales at Kildare Paddocks with an emphasis on promoting the flagship Goffs Orby, November and Land Rover Sales.

Commenting on the appointment, Goffs Group Chief Executive, Henry Beeby said, "We are delighted to welcome Mark to the Goffs team. A familiar face at Kildare Paddocks during his time buying for the Hong Kong Jockey Club, he brings a wealth of experience and an extensive list of contacts to the role, while his passion for racing, personable approach and reputation of working to the highest standards ties in perfectly with the Goffs ethos.

"UK buyers represent the largest overseas market for so many of our top tier sales and we look forward to promoting Goffs to new and existing contacts through Mark who further strengthens Goffs' excellent client liaison team and roster of international agents."

"My experience working with owners, trainers, agents and racing managers across many areas of the racing industry has given me a deep understanding of the needs and requirements of clients attending sales, highlighting the importance for auction houses to offer a professional, transparent and personal service," said Richards.

"As a regular Orby buyer for many years with the HKJC, I am very aware of the strengths of the sale and have first-hand experience of the famous Kildare welcome and attention to detail. It is an honour to join the Goffs team and I look forward to bringing the company's personal approach and impeccable standards to a wider field of clients in the UK as they attend the major Goffs Flat and National Hunt sales in Ireland."

GROUP 1 PRODUCER STAGE PRESENCE DIES AT 23

Group 1 producer Stage Presence (Ire) (Selkirk-Park Charger {GB}, by Tirol {Ire}) has passed away at 23, the Racing Post reported on Monday.

Bred by Lodge Park Stud in Ireland, the eventual dual winner first sold for €40,000 at the 1999 Goffs Orby Yearling Sale, and she raced in the colors of Robert Sangster for trainer Barry Hills. Sold again for 49,000gns during the Tattersalls December Mares Sale in 2004, she went to Horse France. Cont. p8
Stage Presence Cont.

In foal to Danehill Dancer (Ire), the half-sister to Group 3 winner Rum Charger (Ire) (Spectrum {Ire}) was purchased by Hugo Lascelles Bloodstock for 475,000 guineas at Tattersalls three years later and her remaining progeny were all bred by Lady Bamford.

Her three black-type winners were 2015 G1 Prix de Diane heroine Star of Seville (GB) (Duke of Marmalade {Ire}), 2004 Danehill Dancer (Ire) filly English Ballet (Ire) (Danehill Dancer {Ire}) who won the 2006 G3 Sweet Solera S. and ran third in the G1 Meon Valley Stud Mile later that year, and black-type winner and 2019 G1 St. James’s Palace S. runner-up King of Comedy (Ire) (Kingman {GB}).

Three of her daughters have already added more black-type to the family, with her first foal, the winning Spectacular Show (Ire) (Spectrum {Ire}), responsible for stakes-winner Valbchek (Ire) (Acclamation {GB}) and the multiple stakes-placed Schroders Mistake (Ire) (Cable Bay {Ire}). English Ballet has two stakes-placed fillies, and her full-sister, Stage Performance (Ire) (Danehill Dancer {Ire}) has one.

Daylesford Stud Manager Charlie Brewer told Racing Post, “She was a fabulous mare and a real character. She’ll be greatly missed on the stud, everyone loved her.”

Tenebrism

By Andrea Branchini

Young filly Tenebrism (f, 2, Caravaggio--Immortal Verse {Ire}, by Pivotal {GB}), the dramatically fast winner of the first race at Naas on Mar. 28, carries a brilliant and astute name.

‘Tenebrism’, from Italian tenebroso (dark, gloomy, mysterious), also occasionally called ‘dramatic illumination’, is a style of painting using especially pronounced chiaroscuro, where there are violent contrasts of light and dark, and where darkness becomes a dominating feature of the image,” states Wikipedia.

And who is generally credited with the invention of this technique? None other than Michelangelo Merisi, also known as Caravaggio, the great and tormented artist on the cusp of the 16th and 17th centuries. Caravaggio preceded and surpassed Byron in being thought as Mad, Bad and Dangerous to Know: he was constantly involved in brawls and is reputed to have killed at least two men, one in a scuffle, and another one in a gruesome duel. Caravaggio died under suspicious circumstances at 38 years of age, but by then he had mastered the play of light and darkness on a canvas like no other and had produced masterpiece after masterpiece in his short and tortured existence.

The equine Tenebrism has the look of a masterpiece herself and let us hope that she is in for a long and happy career.

Additional Maiden Winners:

Billy Mill (GB), c, 3, Adaay (Ire)--Phantom Spirit (GB), by Invincible Spirit (Ire). Wolverhampton, 3-29, 7f 36y (AWT), 1:28.20. Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-0, $4,341. B-Mr & Mrs J R Worboys (GB). *£45,000 Ylg ’19 GOFFPR.

Stylish Performer (Ire), g, 3, Dandy Man (Ire)--Va Pensiero (Ire), by High Chaparral (Ire). Wolverhampton, 3-29, 7f 36y (AWT), 1:28.85. Lifetime Record: 2-1-1-0, $5,107. B-Mr Declan Murphy (IRE). *€24,000 Wlg ’18 GOFNOV; £18,000 RNA Ylg ’19 TASYG.
**FRANCE**

**Monday’s Result:**

2nd-Saint-Cloud, €27,000, Mdn, 3-29, 3yo, 10fT, 2:11.03, vs. GABELLO (FR) (c, 3, Galiway {GB}--Kenbella {Fr} {SW-Fr, $140,199}, by Kendargent {Fr}), runner-up on debut over 9 1/2 furlongs at Chantilly Mar. 9, was quickly at the head of affairs. Always in control, the 13-10 favourite was kept up to his work to score by 1 3/4 lengths from Mutabahi (Fr) (French Fifteen {Fr}). The dam, who scored at listed level in France, also has a 2-year-old colt by Reliable Man (GB). Sales history: €40,000 Ylg ‘19 AROCT. Lifetime Record: 2-1-1-0, i 18,900. Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.

O-Guy Pariente & Pascal Bary; B-Guy Pariente Holding (FR); T-Pascal Bary.

**CONDITIONS RESULTS:**

3rd-Saint-Cloud, €28,000, 3-29, 3yo, c/g, 8fT, 1:45.77, vs. MYSTERIOUS LAND (FR) (g, 3, Territories {Ire}--Secret Melody {Fr} {GSW-Sw & GSP-Ity, $129,133}, by Inchinor {GB}) Lifetime Record: 5-2-0-0, €29,980. O/B-Mme I Corbani & SARL Jedburgh Stud (FR); T-Stephane Wattel. *€90,000 Ylg ‘19 ARAUG. **1/2 to Pearl Flute (Ire) (Piccolo {GB}), MGSw-Fr, G1SP-UAE, $255,976, & to Milord's Song (Fr) (Siyouni {Fr}), GSP-Fr, $127,405.

4th-Saint-Cloud, €28,000, 3-29, 3yo, f, 8fT, 1:43.48, vs. FRENCHETTE (FR) (f, 3, The Gurkha {Ire}--Miryale {Fr}, by Anabaa) Lifetime Record: 5-2-1-1, €36,736. O-Ecurie Philippe Segalot; B-E Robin & M Robin (FR); T-Jean-Claude Rouget. *€75,000 Ylg ’19 ARAUG. **1/2 to Afandem (Fr) (Zoffany {Ire}), SW & MGSP-Fr, GISP-US, $150,143.

**GERMANY**

**CONDITIONS RESULT:**

7th-Dusseldorf, €4,500, 3-28, 3yo, 8fT, 1:36.12, g/s. JUANITO (GER) (c, 3, Zoffany {Ire}--Julissima {GB} {MSP-Ger}, by Beat Hollow {GB}) Lifetime Record: GSP-Ger, 5-2-1-0, €21,900. O-Stall Eines Tages; B-Gestut Brummerhof (GER); T-Henk Grewe. *€100,000 Ylg ’19 BBAGS. **1/2 to Julio (Ger) (Exceed and Excel {Aus}), Hwt. 3yo-Ger at 5-7f, GSW-Ger & GSP-Fr, $269,323.

**ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:**

Diadora (Ire), f, 3, Dansili (GB)--Diatribu (GB) (MSW-Ger), by Tertullian. Dusseldorf, 3-28, 8fT, 1:42.94. B-Gestut Rottgen (IRE). *€170,000gns Wlg 18 TAFOA. **1/2 to Degas (Ger) (Exceed and Excel {Aus}), MGSw-Fr & Ity, $373,722.

Diamantis (Ger), c, 3, Golden Horn (GB)--Diamantgottin (Ger) (GSP-Ger), by Fantastic Light. Dusseldorf, 3-28, 11fT, 2:19.45. B-Gestut Brummerhof (GER). *€49,000 Ylg ’19 BBAGS. **1/2 to Diamant (Ger) (Zamindar), Ch. 2-y-o Colt-Scandinavia, SP-Nor, $206,525, & to Diamanta (Ger) (Maxios {GB}), G1SW-Ger, $340,885.

**Sales Results by Stallion**

**Report type:**
- All reports
- Two-year-olds
- Racing/Broodmare prospects
- Covering sires
- Weanlings
- Yearlings

**Sales Year:**
- 2021
- 2020
- 2019
- 2018

**Click here to view a sire's individual sales results, sortable any way**
## Cumulative Leading Second-Crop Sires by Winners

for stallions standing in Europe through Sunday, Mar. 28.

Earnings represent worldwide figures, stud fees listed are 2021 fees.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Stallion</th>
<th>BTW</th>
<th>BTH</th>
<th>GSW</th>
<th>GSH</th>
<th>G1SW</th>
<th>G1SH</th>
<th>Starters</th>
<th>Wnrs</th>
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<td>Stands: Kildangan Stud Ire Fee: €5,000</td>
<td>Snapraeterea (Ire)</td>
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STAY INSIDE TO INGLIS SIRES’ PRODUCE

by TDN AusNZ

Stay Inside (Extreme Choice) will make his next appearance in the G1 ATC Inglis Sires’ Produce at Royal Randwick. Co-trainer Michael Freedman announced a change of plan on Monday after earlier indicating the colt would go for a spell in the wake of his G1 Golden Slipper S. victory.

“I’ve had a chat with a few of the owners and the colt has pulled up so well we have decided to press on the Sires’ at this stage,” Freedman told The Daily Telegraph.

Despite his dashing victory in the Golden Slipper, Stay Inside has been made a $4.50 second favourite for the Sires’ Produce by the TAB behind $4 market leader Anamoe (Street Boss {USA}), who chased him home on Saturday.

BRISBANE IN LOCKDOWN

by TDN AusNZ

Brisbane entered another snap three-day lockdown from 5 p.m. (local time) on Monday to contain a coronavirus outbreak with four new community transmission cases among 10 recorded. Racing NSW has issued a COVID-19 update in response and advised any person at the Eagle Farm race meeting on Mar. 20 and the Doomben race meeting last Saturday, or has been in the Greater Brisbane Area since Mar. 20, must not attend a racecourse in New South Wales or licensed premises until further notice.

NO DERBY FOR MO’UNGA

by TDN AusNZ

The G1 Australian Derby has been ruled out for star colt Mo’unga (NZ) (Savabeel) with the favoured options for him to tackle the older horses. Trainer Annabel Neasham confirmed on Monday her stable star will bypass the Classic with the G1 Doncaster H. and the G1 Queen Elizabeth S. the main races of interest.

Neasham said Mo’unga had pulled up well after posting the first Group 1 win of their careers in the Rosehill Guineas.

IN HONG KONG:

Winner Method, g, 3, Deep Field--Magical Belle, by Blackfriars. Sha Tin, 3-28, Hcp. (C3) ($253k), 1000m, :55.24. B-C B Atwell (WA). *Won for the third time in as many starts as the $1.35 favourite. **Formerly Muruntau. ***1/2 to Mystic Maid (Patronize), MGSP-Aus, $278,000; Enchanted Dream (Patronize), SW-Aus, $139,484. ****$150,000 Ylg ’19 MMGCYS. VIDEO
**Willow Park Set For Inglis Easter**

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**Nickajack Cave Set For G1 Tancred S.**

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**Gallant Express**, g, 3, I Am Invincible--Dance With Her (MSW & MGSP-Aus, $767,403), by Al Maher. Sha Tin, 3-28, Hcp. (C4) ($168k), 1200m, 1:08.64. B-Attunga Stud, G Walsh, Padraig Kelly (NSW). *1ST-TIME STARTER. **$150,000 RNA Wlg '18 INGCHM; $480,000 Ylg '19 MMGCYS. [VIDEO](#)**

**Good View Clarico**, g, 4, I Am Invincible--Andromache (NZ) (MSP-NZ), by Charge Forward. Sha Tin, 3-28, Hcp. (C3) ($253k), 1200m, 1:08.71. B-Yarraman Park Stud Pty Ltd (NSW). *$750,000 Ylg '18 MMGCYS. [VIDEO](#)**

**Authentic Champ**, g, 5, Star Witness--Considerable, by Casino Prince. Sha Tin, 3-28, Hcp. (C3) ($253k), 1600m, 1:34.03. B-J & M Equine (NSW). *$110,000 Ylg '17 INGFEB; $180,000 2yo '17 INGRTR. [VIDEO](#)**

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**IN JAPAN:**

**Cosmo Adirato (Aus)**, c, 2, Snitzel (Aus)--River Serenade (Aus), by Hurricane Sky (Aus). Chukyo, 3-28, Maiden ($115k), 1400m, 1:21.5. Lifetime Record: 3-1-1-1, US$78,182. O-Big Red Farm; B-Mr G Harvey (NSW); T-Shoichiro Wada. *1/2 to One World (Danehill Dancer), SW & G1SP-HK, G1SP-UAE, US$1,890,808; First Command (Command), GSW-Aus, G1SP-NZ, US$910,569; Rule the River (Commands), GSP-Aus, A$234,080. **$150,000 Ylg '20 MMGCYS.

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**IN HONG KONG:**

**Duke Wai**, g, 5, Per Incanto (USA)--Swan Lake (SP-NZ), by Green Perfume (USA). Sha Tin, 3-28, Hcp. (C2) (NZ$404k), 1200m, 1:08.28. B-Waikato Stud Ltd. *NZ$40,000 Wlg '16 NZBMAY; NZ$45,000 Ylg '17 NZBFEBl NZ$70,000 RNA 2yo '17 NZBRTR. [VIDEO](#)**

**NEW ZEALAND-BRED WINNERS**

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