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MEDINA SPIRIT: THE PUBLIC, MAINSTREAM MEDIA REACTS



Medina Spirit | Coady

by Bill Finley

The death of **Medina Spirit** (Protonico) following a workout Monday at Santa Anita has resulted in a predictable backlash, with at least two media outlets calling for the sport to be banned and readers of some of the nation's most prominent newspapers posting numerous vitriolic comments online.

Here is a sampling of what has been written and said about horse racing following Monday's shocking news:

The *New York Post* led the charge with Maureen Callahan writing a column with the headline "Medina Spirit's shocking death is yet another reason we should end horse racing."

"Can you imagine any sport in which human athletes routinely died on the field, in competition, and we simply removed the bodies and kept going? Or one in which aged-out players weren't retired but sent to the slaughterhouse, as about 13,000 Thoroughbreds are annually?" Callahan writes.

She concludes: "The circus is dead. Dogfighting is almost completely eradicated. What will it take for us to save the racehorse?"

Writing for the website *Deadspin*, Sam Fels authored a story with the headline "Horse racing should be put out of its misery."

Cont. p3

FEDS: FISHMAN STILL SELLING PEDS EVEN AS TRIAL DATE LOOMS

by T.D. Thornton

An employee of Florida veterinarian Seth Fishman last week permitted Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) agents to search her workplace, and the inside tip has allegedly yielded evidence that Fishman is still selling purportedly performance-enhancing drugs (PEDs) while awaiting an expected January start to his trial in the international racehorse doping conspiracy case.

"Remarkably, despite having been arrested in October 2019 and indicted in 2020 in connection with his sale of misbranded and adulterated drugs designed to be 'untestable' by various antidoping authorities, Fishman apparently persists in touting the efficacy of his drugs in evading antidoping testing regimes," said a Dec. 6 prosecution court filing asking a judge to consider revoking the bail terms of Fishman's pretrial release. **Cont. p5**

IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

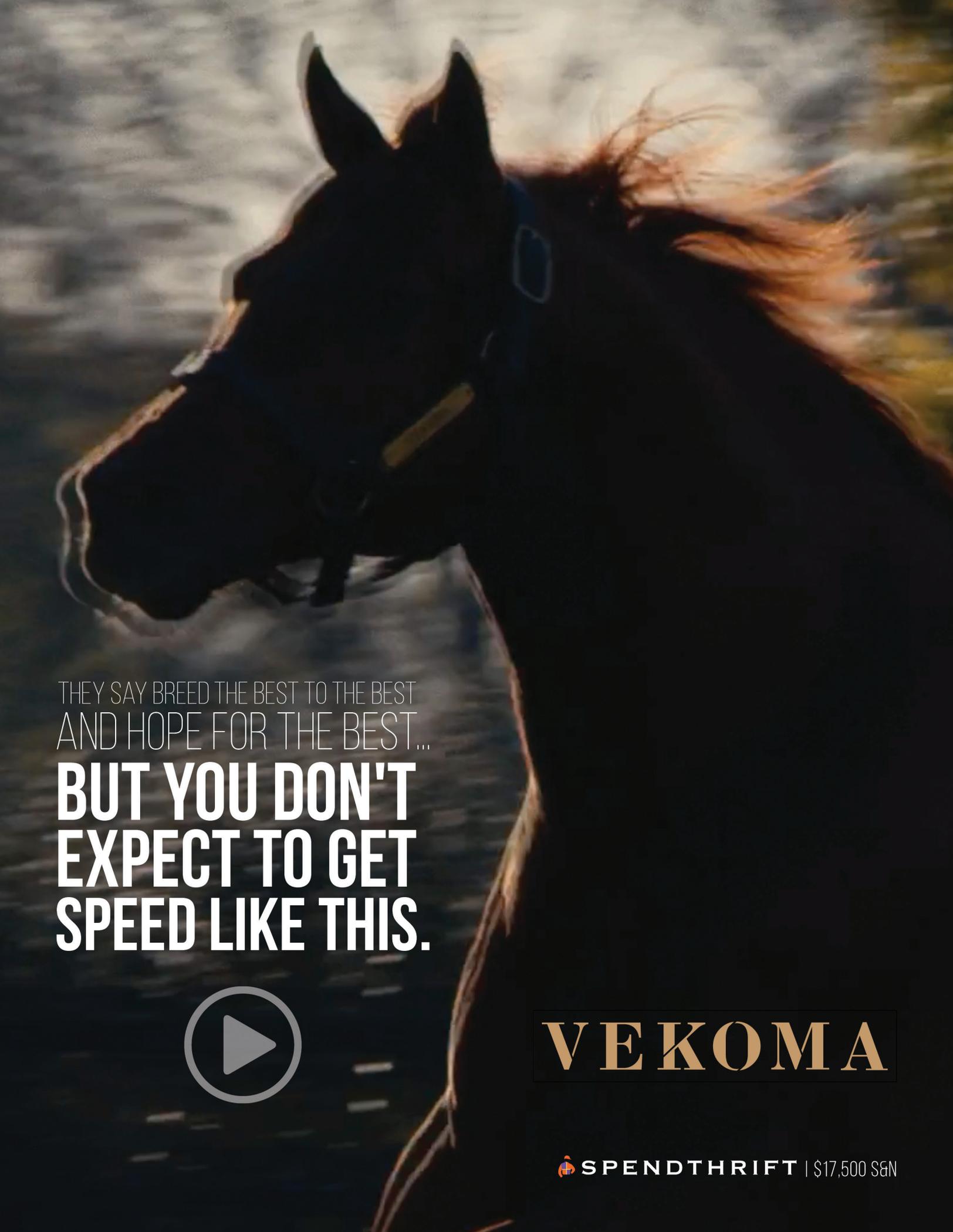
POLICE RAID ROSSI STABLES IN MARSEILLE

The stables of trainers Frederic, Cedric and Charley Rossi were subjected to police raids in Marseille on Tuesday morning. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Europe.](#)

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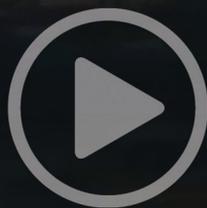
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Wednesday, December 8, 2021



2021 in Photos: October 3. Horses race over Gulfstream Park's newly installed Tapeta track. | Ryan Thompson/Coglianese

SYMPOSIUM: HISA PANELS LIGHT ON SPECIFICS

7

Dan Ross reports from the University of Arizona's Racetrack Symposium, where he says several panels on the impending Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act did not offer much in the way of specific answers.

AMID REPAIRS, NEW LAUREL OPEN DATE DEC. 16

12

T.D. Thornton reports on Tuesday's Maryland Racing Commission meeting, where executives from The Stronach Group were called to answer questions about the ongoing safety issues with Laurel's main track.



DECEMBER PENNSYLVANIA THOROUGHBRED REPORT

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Medina Spirit: The Public, Media Reacts cont. from p1

The stories ran some 21 months after the *Washington Post* published an editorial in March, 2020 calling for the sport to be banned. “No other accepted sport exploits defenseless animals as gambling chips,” the editorial read. “No other accepted sport tolerates the cruelties that routinely result in the injury and death of these magnificent animals. The rot in horse racing goes deep. It is a sport that has outlived its time.”

The editorial appeared shortly after trainers Jason Servis, Jorge Navarro and 25 others were indicted for allegedly taking part in a scheme to dope horses with performance-enhancing drugs.

The coverage in the *Washington Post*, which has been highly critical of the sport, of Medina Spirit’s death was straightforward, but the story evoked a strong response from readers. As of Tuesday afternoon, 616 comments on the story were posted online, and



Medina Spirit | Horsephotos

the overwhelming majority of them were unforgiving toward a sport that is clearly dealing with serious public perception problems.

“Horse racing is not a legitimate sport any more than cock fighting or dog fighting is. Just put an end to this,” wrote Avian_Donn.

“Horse racing is as evil as bullfighting,” reader Turquoises wrote.

There were a few favorable comments.

“These comments are ridiculous,” Velvet2 wrote.

“Most likely he either had an aortic rupture (the wobbling before he collapsed points to this) or he had a faulty heart valve that stressed his heart, leading it to enlarge and beat irregularly, and then just stop

(what seems to have happened to Swale). Neither of these possibilities have anything to do with man-made abuse.”

Cont. p4

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The story in the *New York Times*, another media outlet whose coverage of the sport has been overwhelmingly negative, elicited 170 comments.

“It’s so sad what trainers and owners do to these beautiful horses to make money from them,” read a post from Ms. Pea. “It’s no secret that long-term use of steroids can damage the heart. This whole ‘sport’ should be banned. It’s despicable.”

Leo Moon wrote: “This young horse is dead because he was abused and drugged to make humans rich and satisfy their need for entertainment. It is despicable that this continues in this day and time. This was 100% preventable. We need to go after the Kentucky Derby the way the circus protesters have gone after Ringling Brothers.”

There were 132 comments attached to the *Wall Street Journal’s* coverage of Medina Spirit’s death. The *Journal* attracts a more conservative audience than the *Washington Post* and the *New York Times*, so it was no surprise that the comments were, generally less harsh.

“I can’t believe what I’m reading here,” reader Micheal Trian posted. “I can’t believe how ‘woke’ we have become. I can’t believe the Left, using their wacky liberals, has destroyed The Sport of Kings.”

But plenty of *Journal* readers took the sport to task.

“Inhumane sport... needs to be banned,” wrote srikanth iyer. “The enormous amount of money spent to sustain this ludicrous business can be better spent elsewhere.”

Les Utley wrote: “WHEN is this going to stop? How many horses have to die at Santa Anita and at other tracks before something is done? Drugging, overdosing and pushing these horses beyond their bodily limits is sickening and immoral--all for the amusement of the elites and the gamblers. Despicable.”

Many of the comments posted on Twitter were from horse racing insiders, but several touched upon the reaction of the general public.

“The @TODAYshow posted an article on Medina Spirit & within 30 minutes had 161 comments” wrote Leah Alessandrini. “I read them all. 160 are anti-racing. 1 was pro. That’s just a tiny snapshot, the same responses are happening all over social media. TB industry needs to decide if it wants to live or die.”

“As expected, Medina Spirit’s death made the national, nightly news,” read a tweet from WelbourneStud. “Who else out there is already fielding a bunch of texts/social media messages from non-horse racing friends asking what is going on with BB, Santa Anita, and horse racing?”

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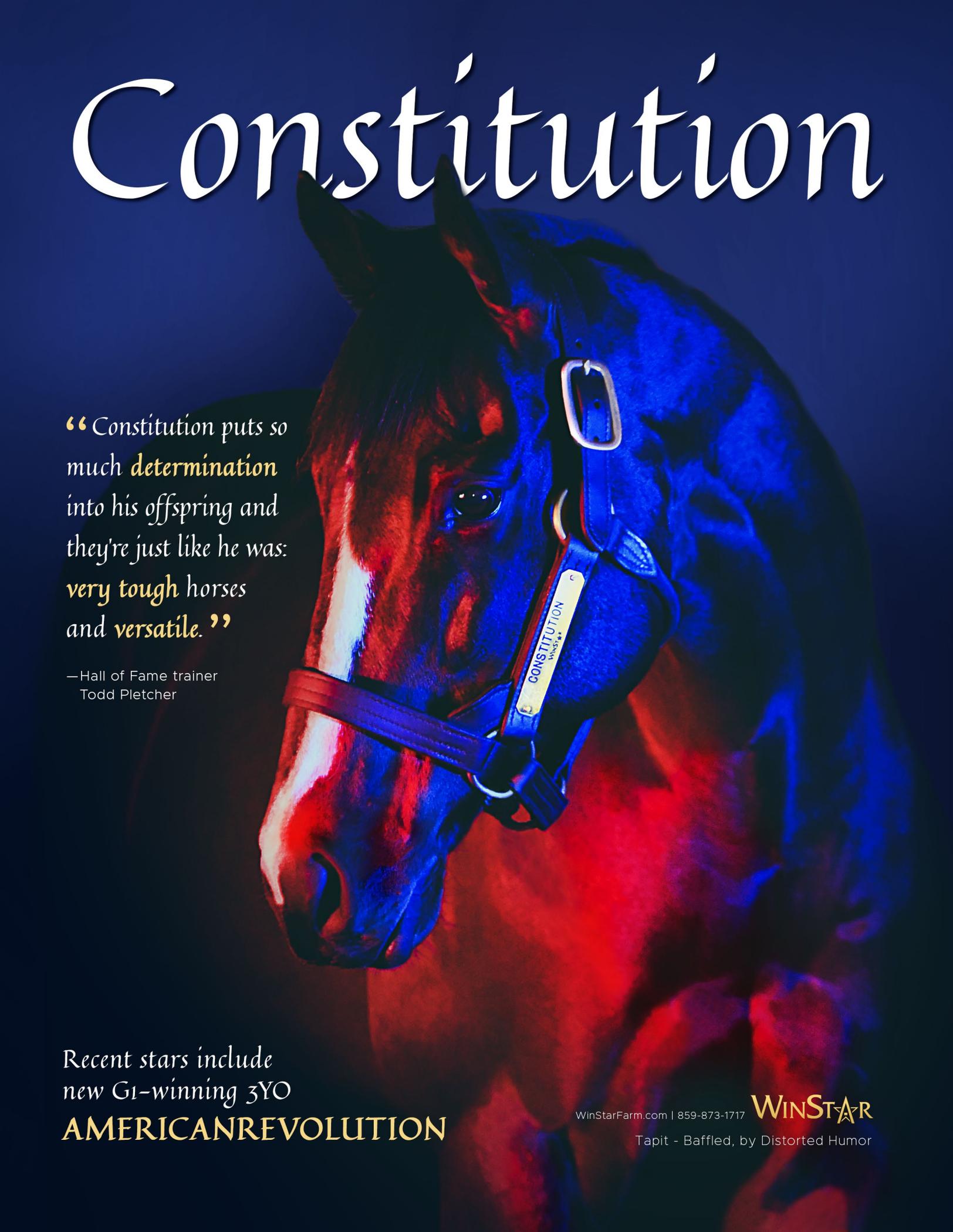
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Fishman Allegedly Selling PEDs still cont. from p1

"[Fishman is] labeling his new batches of HP Bleeder so as to indicate to his clientele that they contain no known 'testable' ingredients," the filing explained.

Fishman is charged with two felony counts related to drug alteration, misbranding, and conspiring to defraud the government. His case is being heard in United States District Court (Southern District of New York).

According to the filing, in the course of proffering an unnamed potential trial witness who has been a "long-time employee of Fishman's illegal drug distribution business" (variously operating under the names Equestology, Camelology, Equi-Tech and other monikers), the government was informed on Nov. 9 by "Employee-1" that Fishman's business "continued to operate in a purportedly limited" capacity.

"More specifically, Employee-1 informed the Government, in substance and in part, that Fishman's business was creating 'energy drinks' for foreign distribution and that Employee-1 remained tasked, by Fishman, with continuing to create a 'bleeder' paste (itself a drug containing active pharmaceutical ingredients), which Employee-1 also described as being for foreign distribution," the filing stated.

"As charged in the Indictment, Fishman's drug operation is not registered or licensed with the Food and Drug Administration

(FDA) to create, manufacture, and distribute drugs, including the 'bleeder' paste reportedly in continued production," the filing stated.

After initially providing this information, Employee-1 and her attorney consented for FBI agents to accompany her to where she works for Fishman on Dec. 3.



Sarah Andrew photo

Cont. p6

Another Graded Stakes success!

AS TIME GOES BY adds Sunday's **G3 Bayakoa S.** at Los Alamitos to her two Grade 2 wins earlier in the year



2021 LEADING SIRES

(by individual black-type winners)

1	Into Mischief	28
2	MUNNINGS	18
-	Curlin	18
4	Medaglia d'Oro	16
5	AMERICAN PHAROAH	14
-	Ghostzapper	14
7	UNCLE MO	13
-	Tapit	13

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"At that time, the FBI agents (accompanied throughout by Employee-1) discovered that Fishman is continuing to produce and distribute not only the paste identified by Employee-1 and the purported 'energy drinks,' but additional injectable, misbranded and adulterated PEDs, including the injectable drugs 'HP Bleeder' and 'PSDS: Pain Shot DS.'

"Labeling on certain of the vials discovered during this consent search reflect that Fishman continues to create and distribute these drugs today, including 'date of manufacture' markings reflecting activity even into 2021," the filing stated.

The filing stated that "shipping material for 'E.G.H.' appears to be recently created packaging for equine growth hormone, a substance that, like HP Bleeder and various pain shots, were also sold by Fishman during and as part of the charged conspiracies."

In asking the judge to consider revoking Fishman's bail, the filing stated that, "In addition to constituting evidence of the charged offenses and reflecting continued violation of federal law, the recent search reflects Fishman's failure to comply with the most basic term of his pretrial release, namely that he not 'violate federal, state, or local law while on release.'

"The drugs found in Fishman's offices continue to be manufactured through the same unregistered, unlicensed business that forms the basis of the charged offense, and include the drug 'HP Bleeder' previously obtained from multiple searches of premises controlled by Jorge Navarro, Lisa Giannelli, Christopher Oakes, as well as [other defendants]," the filing stated.

"As such, there is ample basis for a finding of probable cause that Fishman has flagrantly violated the terms of his pretrial release by committing an ongoing federal crime," the filing stated.

The judge in the case immediately ordered a Dec. 20 hearing on the bail revocation request.

Fishman's attorney, Maurice Sercarz, told TDN in an email that "We will vigorously oppose any effort by the Government to modify Dr. Fishman's bail on the theory that he has engaged in continuing criminal conduct."

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11 STRAIGHT TRIPLE-DIGIT BEYER SPEED FIGURES!

- 111** 1st Cigar Mile [G1]

- 107** 1st Pacific Classic [G1]

- 106** 1st Bold Ruler H. [G3]

- 103** 5th Breeders' Cup Classic [G1]

- 102** 1st Haskell Invitational Stakes [G1]

- 102** 1st Starter Optional Claimer

- 101** 1st Kentucky Derby [G1], DQ'd

- 101** 1st Florida Derby [G1]

- 101** 1st San Diego H. [G2]

- 101** 2nd Awesome Again S. [G1]

- 100** 2nd Pegasus Stakes [L.]

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SYMPOSIUM: HISA PANELS LIGHT ON SPECIFICS

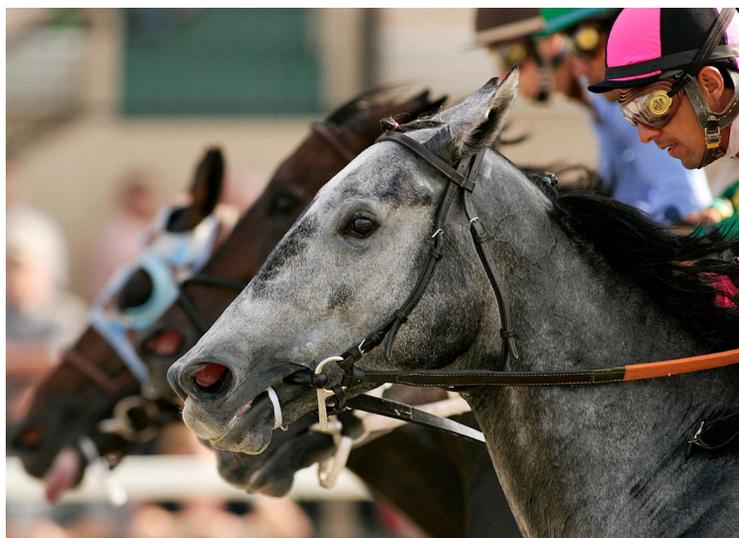
by Dan Ross

Over the course of three panel sessions Tuesday during the latest Race Track Industry Symposium (RTIP) at Tucson, Arizona, more flesh was publicly added to the bones of the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act (HISA).

Nevertheless, overall specifics were pretty light on the ground--frustratingly so, for many--with an overarching message that the various medication and safety programs are very much a work in progress.

Looming over proceedings was yesterday's news that Kentucky Derby winner, Medina Spirit (Protonico), **suffered an apparent sudden cardiac death** after a scheduled workout at Santa Anita.

Indeed, Charles Scheeler, chairman of the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority--the broad non-profit umbrella established by HISA and commonly referred to as just the "Authority"--kicked the presentations off by warning that the sport is viewed by many to be in an "existential crisis."



Horsephotos

Highlighting how the U.S. has the worst catastrophic musculoskeletal injury rate among five major global racing jurisdictions--comprising the UK, Hong Kong, Australia/New Zealand and Canada--Scheeler called this a key metric for HISA.

"We have to understand that we've deferred maintenance here," Scheeler said, of the industry's broad approach to equine health and safety.

Arguably the most salient tidbit Scheeler shared--at least in regards to a practical implementation of HISA--was that **individual states will continue to conduct race-day testing** and sample collection, if indeed HISA goes into effect on July 1 next year. Initially, the United States Anti-Doping and Agency (USADA) will manage the out-of-competition testing program, according to Scheeler. **Cont. p8**



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However, when the 2023 season rolls around, USADA will then assume responsibility for both race-day testing and the out-of-competition testing program.

Scheeler explained that this staggered implementation allows for a number of key adjustments (which were laid out in a [subsequent press release](#) and posted again here):

- A less disruptive transition to race-day testing from the middle of the racing season to the beginning of a new season
- State Racing Commissions to synchronize budget cycles more easily
- Laboratories more time to adapt to new standards
- Greater opportunities for additional education on the new procedures and protocols for covered persons
- More thorough testing and implementation of needed new technology solutions

And who adjudicates any medication violations during this time? Because of staggered implementation, individual states will continue to adjudicate the post-race samples they're charged with collecting, Scheeler explained.

If USADA encounters a violation of the out-of-competition testing program, "they will prosecute that according to the rules they have promulgated," Scheeler said.

Scheeler also used his presentation to emphasize some of HISA's main selling points, such as a centralized database which identifies trends to reduce fatalities and catch cheats, as well as a "powerful, rigorous investigations program."

And what about cost? Here, Scheeler didn't have an answer, explaining that the Authority was still working on that, though emphasizing an oft-repeated expectation that HISA will eventually produce economies of scale.

HISA Anti-Doping and Medication Control Committee

While this constituted the third HISA-related panel of the morning, it had arguably the most practical relevance for the industry, comprising, as it did, information on the everyday drug-testing and enforcement program proposed under HISA.

The panel was led by Jim Gates, director of the Anti-Doping and Medication Control standing committee. Adolpho Birch, committee chair, Scott Stanley, another committee member, along with USADA's Tessa Muir and Jeff Cook, all joined via Zoom.

The bulk of the first half of the presentation constituted a rundown of information that has been made public for a while, including the proposed [results management process](#) and an overview of the [possible sanctions](#). **Cont. p9**




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Arguably the most salient information came via the public question period, towards the end--with National HBPA CEO, Eric Hamelback, leading the charge-- even though much sought after specifics were generally left dangling.

Under the new rules, a positive finding might not necessarily be publicly disclosed after the relevant parties have been notified, but when the violation has been confirmed via a B sample analysis. The panelists explained that the trainer and/or the agency have the discretion to disclose the finding before confirmation B sample analysis--especially in circumstances like an upcoming big race--but that the idea is to protect undue reputational damage.



Coady

Another key new ingredient to the way medication violations will be handled is the possibility of a sanction for a horse who tests positive--a seismic shift away from the current system.

Under the **proposed guidelines**, a horse will be automatically disqualified in the event of a race-day violation. But a horse also faces the possibility of a maximum 14-month sanction, depending on the substance and what is described as the "method."

When asked about the philosophy behind these kinds of sanctions, Gates explained that "in most cases, when a horse is suspended, it is to give time for any medication to clear their system so that they would not have a competitive advantage going forward."

It should also be noted that a horse can also face a sanction in the event of whereabouts violation. This is the intended system that horses can be tested anywhere and at any time with no advance notice from the moment they fall under the purview of the program until the moment they are permanently retired from racing. A horse falls under HISA's auspices at one of four moments: the date of their first timed and reported workout at a track, the date of their first timed and reported workout at a

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training facility, the date of their first race entry, or the date of their first nomination to a race.

Under the new rules, a whereabouts violation could lead to a 12-month sanction for the respective horse. Just don't expect to see this whereabouts program go into effect immediately, with USADA warning that the practical working logistics need to be hashed out and phased in.

Another key bone of contention among industry stakeholders has been the lack, thus far, of a publicly available therapeutic substance list--in other words, those medications that would largely fall under the "secondary substances" umbrella.

Muir explained that the list is still being worked out. She added, however, that it will use a hybrid model of thresholds and screening limits. **Read here for a more detailed explainer** of what that difference means. Screening limits, Muir said, will be especially applicable for those substances commonly found in a horse's environment, and therefore a genuine threat of inadvertent contamination.

The panelists also explained that the committee was using as a key reference point the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities' (IFHA) thresholds for therapeutic substances. The IFHA's screening limits for urine can be **found here**. For blood, **it's here**.



Coady

In other talking points, the panelists explained the reasons behind deviating from the current multiple medication penalty system towards a much more punitive one. The change “allows for more stringent sanctions for those who commit more egregious violations or more frequent violations,” said Cook.

Cook also explained that the new system provides “more discretion to provide proportional sanctions based on the degree of fault of those involved.” Fines are permitted, for example, but not specified because “we want the fine to be meaningful to deter behavior,” Cook explained.

The panelists confirmed that veterinarians could face charges for certain offenses, though failed to provide any specifics.

Similarly, when asked exactly how the National Stewards Panel would work, the panel explained the goal was to employ the most qualified individual available but added scant other details.

Interestingly, when it comes to the education component, the panel explained that the general plan was to have an easy-to-use education module in English and Spanish to be taken by every “covered person.” But once again, it’s unclear when that would be implemented and what the education module would specifically entail.

The draft Anti-Doping and Medication Control rules are expected to be submitted to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) later this month. **Cont. p11**

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HISA Racetrack Safety Committee

The second HISA-related presentation was a Q&A between Sue Stover, chair of the Racetrack Safety standing committee and the one who took the hot seat, with Ann McGovern, the committee’s director, asking the questions.

This was a statistics-heavy presentation, with Stover broadly connecting the dots between plans under HISA to start collecting relevant data in a uniform manner and what is already known about the underlying factors predisposing racehorses to catastrophic injuries.

From the industry’s standpoint, arguably the most immediately pertinent information concerned racetrack accreditation standards under HISA. According to the panel, current National Thoroughbred Racing Association (NTRA) accredited tracks will receive interim HISA accreditation that will last for three years, provided they comply with program requirements. Other non-NTRA accredited tracks will receive provisional accreditation lasting for one year.

The panelists provided a slide of some of the key ingredients of the accreditation program. The list included:

- Expanded veterinary oversight
- Void claim rule
- Transfer of claimed horses’ medical records

- Surface maintenance and measurement standards
- Enhanced reporting standards
- Data reporting: medications, treatments, injuries and fatalities,
- Jockey concussions and medical care reporting

The panelists warned, however, that accreditation isn’t automatic nor assured for any length of time once given. According to McGovern, “there are processes out there to help the smaller racetracks to get accredited and to learn what to do to meet the standards that are outlined.”

Stover warned, however, that “if a track were to lose accreditation, they will lose the ability to conduct interstate wagering.”

Earlier in the panel presentation, Stover--a long-time UC Davis professor--guided the audience through her research into some of the main factors underlying catastrophic breakdowns in racehorses, such as:

- The mechanical loading and cyclical wear and tear on the fetlock joint
- The relative safety of different surfaces
- A horse’s regulatory and medication history
- The significance of under-conditioning and over training

Cont. p12

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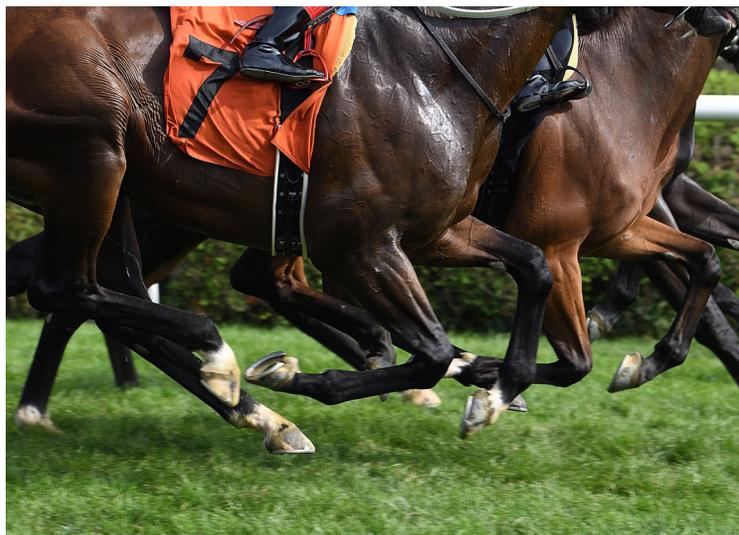
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Stover then explained how a key component of HISA's data collection program would be focused on these factors, at the heart of which is this statistic: That 85% of catastrophic injuries in racehorses are associated with pre-existing conditions.

Stover also explained that horses returning from a layoff are at greater risk of injury, and that, under HISA, they would be looking for information that explains what constitutes a good or bad lay-up program.



Coglianesse

As such, "We are also asking trainers when they do send a horse for a lay-up period that they submit the training and medical records of the horse for that lay-up time," explained McGovern.

A member of the audience asked the panel if, ultimately, this kind of data collection would lead to a scenario whereby a trainer, attending veterinarian and owner would have minimal say in a horse's training and racing program.

"That is not the intent," McGovern replied. "The intent is to give the trainers and the vet the information so they can make the decisions on how they train the horse and how they race their horse."

The Racetrack Safety proposed rules have already been submitted to the FTC for review, though the public will have the opportunity to tweak the document further during the mandatory public comment period.

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AMID REPAIRS, NEW DATE FOR RACING AT LAUREL NOW DEC. 16

by T.D. Thornton

The new date for the resumption of racing at Laurel Park has now been pegged as Thursday, Dec. 16, with timed workouts expected to resume Friday, Dec. 10.

Both targets are pending a satisfactory safety review of the extensive base and cushion work now being done on the troubled main dirt surface at Maryland's most heavily used Thoroughbred venue.

With the exception of light training that continues to take place around cordoned-off areas of the dug-up oval, Laurel has been closed for racing and timed works since Nov. 28.

Seven Laurel horses have died since Nov. 6, and eight total have perished this autumn, all after sustaining fractures while racing or training over a completely new multi-million-dollar surface that had been installed over the summer.

Executives from The Stronach Group (TSG), which owns Laurel, were called before the Maryland Racing Commission (MRC) on Tuesday to explain the repair process and to face verbal grilling about why the problems escalated in the first place.



MJC Photo

"There are seams that are being made in the base during starts and stops," Mike Rogers, the president of TSG's racing division, said during the Dec. 7 meeting. "So our working theory is that some moisture got into [a seam in the homestretch] before it was able to cure, and it caused a slight depression."

Rogers said that part of the repair job has been fixed, and now a consensus plan among "experts" hired by both the track and the Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association (MTHA) is underway to "add body to the cushion" by working sand into the mix.

John Passero, who years ago was Laurel's superintendent, has been retained by the MTHA as a consultant. **Cont. p13**

He told the commission that the game plan outlined by Rogers should put the track in the "right direction" to resume racing and full training.

"All that happened was, as they started withdrawing water from the track, the cushion failed to do its job," Passero said. "That was the long and short of it."

Passero continued: "What's happening now is they're putting body back into the cushion, which [is] a little bit of a coarser sand that you can walk across the top of that will stop the horses from hitting the hardpan hard. That's the whole thing in a nutshell, and that's what they're aiming for now. The quicker you get that washed, clean sand into the track, the better off it's going to be."

As expected, TSG officials faced considerable verbal blowback from commissioners. The key points revolved around the perception that TSG's reliance on scientific methods is occurring at the expense of not listening to the experienced opinions of riders and trainers. Commissioners also wanted to know what "measurable objectives" will be used to ensure safety moving forward.

Audio difficulties with the meeting's internet feed rendered large portions of the testimony unlistenable, and commissioners did not always identify themselves when speaking, making direct attributions difficult.

"We are all in this together," said MRC chairman Michael Algeo. "The industry depends upon racing. We don't--need--negative--stuff," he stressed, accentuating those final few words to make his point.

"This commission has an obligation, irrespective of our desire to be collaborative, to do what we think is right, irrespective of everybody's else's opinion," Algeo said. "We have to act. Because at the end of the day, it's our obligation to [put] safety first. Safety, safety, safety."

"Nobody's excluding anybody here," Algeo continued. "It's a collaborative approach. I think we need both [science and experience]. No one's rejecting science. But when you have the science and something's not working, then you've got to scratch your head and go, 'Houston, we have a problem.'"

The cluster of fatalities is the latest safety blow at Laurel. The main track was in such bad shape last spring that Laurel ceased racing on Apr. 11 to begin an emergency overhaul of the main track, which got rebuilt from the base up over the course of four months while the race meet shifted to TSG's other track in the state, Pimlico Race Course.

Rogers said that, "Feedback from the trainers and the riders is critical. We welcome it, and we take it serious."

But TSG's chief operations officer, Aidan Butler, said that ultimately, track executives have to take responsibility for the decisions that get made.

"There are always some people who want the track slower, some people who want the track faster," Butler said. "We're all aware of that. But I believe...the maintenance routine that was done on the track this year was the same as last year and the year before.... Because of the complete change of the surface it just didn't react the way it should have done."

The commission will meet again Dec. 14 to decide whether or not the final approval for the resumption of racing will be granted.

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TAKING STOCK

by Sid Fernando



TAKING STOCK: NOTES ON MEDINA SPIRIT AND BREEDERS HERTRICH III AND FIELDING

by Sid Fernando



Medina Spirit | Horsephotos

As I sat down to write this column Monday, I got a text from a bloodstock agent that said, "Heard Medina Spirit broke down at Santa Anita a little while ago. Gonna be a shit storm." I checked Twitter right away, but there was nothing yet about **Medina Spirit** (Protonico). I didn't have to wait long. Some minutes later, the "I heard Medina Spirit..." tweets started trickling out, and then the dam burst. Everyone had something to say, and most of it was derogatory or innuendo about his trainer, Bob Baffert, who's been a lightning rod for controversy, including for a post-race betamethasone positive on Medina Spirit after the colt had surprised many with a gutty win in the GI Kentucky Derby this spring.

Cont. p14

The negative response was expected, because Baffert went through a tough period some years back when a number of his trainees died of apparent "sudden-death" heart attacks, which was the immediate speculation about Medina Spirit. Although Baffert was mostly cleared of wrongdoing and never sanctioned in the prior deaths, they left a black mark that's never been erased. His recent medication violations have only infuriated his detractors and heightened tensions, creating the climate that was a tinderbox for the "shit storm" that hit after the news broke Monday morning.

Ironically, Medina Spirit had been in the news Friday evening, when Baffert's attorney had triumphantly released a statement that said that a lab had determined the betamethasone in the Derby positive had been from an ointment and not an injection.



Bob Baffert | Coady

It's always a gut punch for anyone in this business when a horse dies, especially the connections. I sent condolences via texts to both Baffert and Amr Zedan, the owner, and both responded, Zedan with the praying symbol and Baffert with one word, "Devastated." When the Derby winner and a high-profile horse like Medina Spirit dies, emotions are understandably amplified, but because it was a Baffert horse, the angst and anger surrounding the death was at another decibel level altogether on social media, where he's positively toxic. Unfortunately, lost in all this were Medina Spirit's accomplishments, some of which were minimized by folks while he was alive because of the betamethasone positive and because he was trained by Baffert. That's too bad, because he was a Classic winner and also a rare type of horse. **Cont. p15**





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TOP 5 SIRE OF 3YOs IN 2021

3YO FILLY
BULLSEYE BEAUTY

scored her second stakes win of the season with a determined victory in the **\$100,000 HOLIDAY INAUGURAL S.** at Turfway Park Saturday night.

Owner/breeder: **Neil Jones**
Trainer: **Andrew McKeever**

Fee: \$15,000 S&N

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Bred by Gail Rice in Florida in a "backyard" breeding program, Medina Spirit exceeded all expectations and was an inspiration to small breeders everywhere. A \$1,000 yearling, he was purchased for \$30,000 as a 2-year-old in training by Zedan Racing Stable but steadily climbed the ladder in Baffert's elite barn, stepping over high-priced yearlings one at a time to become the third-best 3-year-old for Baffert behind Life Is Good (Into Mischief) and Concert Tour (**Street Sense**), two Gary and Mary West-bred colts. But when those two failed to make the Churchill Classic, Medina Spirit stepped up to the plate off the bench and delivered the ultimate pinch hit, succeeding at 12-1. His win appeared to surprise even his trainer.

Medina Spirit's road to Louisville had included some tough races, notably two against the stable star, the handsome and brilliantly fast Life Is Good. In the GIII Sham S., Medina Spirit immediately caught the eye for closing the distance when Life Is Good had looked like was going to blow open the race. At the finish, less than a length separated the two horses, but it was Medina Spirit's "try" that caught the eye--he simply wouldn't give up, despite the excuses that were made for his stablemate's lack of focus in the race. That try is the characteristic that most defined Medina Spirit, and it was evident in all 10 of his starts, five of which he won. He placed in the other five races, and it's notable that he never let the popular Godolphin runner and GI Belmont S. and Travers S. winner Essential Quality (**Tapit**), the champion 2-year-old colt last year who's touted as the favorite to win the Eclipse as champion 3-year-old colt, finish ahead of him in two meetings.

Medina Spirit wasn't particularly attractive, he wasn't a big horse, and he didn't appear to be a physically athletic standout unlike most in Baffert's barn, but that will to win and the will to never give up that he repeatedly exhibited is the rarest and most sought-after characteristic in racehorses.

Aidan O'Brien once told me that his G1 2000 Guineas winner **Saxon Warrior (Jpn)** (Deep Impact {Jpn}) "would absolutely kill himself stone dead for you," meaning he'd generously empty the tank and run on fumes if he had to.

That's exactly how I'll remember Medina Spirit. He was that type of warrior, and one of the few horses in recent years that I've admired for his try. He left it all on the track.

Americanrevolution

You've already read in *TDN* about the notable accomplishment of breeders **Ashview Farm and Colts Neck Stables** being represented by the juvenile duo of Mo Donegal (**Uncle Mo**) and Nest (**Curlin**), two Todd Pletcher trainees who won the GII Remsen and GII Demoiselle, respectively, at Aqueduct Saturday. They can dream about the Derby and the GI Kentucky Oaks over the winter.



Americanrevolution | Sarah Andrew

Pletcher also won the GI Cigar Mile Saturday with CHC Inc. and WinStar's ascendant 3-year-old colt **Americanrevolution (Constitution)**, who was bred by in New York by Fred W. Hertrich III and John D. Fielding, who've been having a dream of a year. Alone or in partnership, Hertrich, at the least, should be considered for an Eclipse Award as breeder of the year, because he's had a hand in breeding six Grade I winners in 2021--quite an accomplishment, especially for a fairly small breeding entity that's based at Watercress Farm in Lexington.

Aside from Americanrevolution, a winner of five of seven starts, the other Grade I winners are Beyond Brilliant (**Twirling Candy**), Hit the Road (**More Than Ready**) Juju's Map (**Liam's Map**), Pinehurst (**Twirling Candy**), and Maxim Rate (Exchange Rate). Hertrich and Fielding, along with Robert L. Tribbett, bred Beyond Brilliant, who won the GI Hollywood Derby for trainer John Shirreffs on Nov. 27. **Cont. p16**



Fred Hertrich | Keeneland

Hertich alone bred Juju's Map, winner of the GI Darley Alcibiades at Keeneland on Oct. 8 for trainer Brad Cox. Hertrich is the sole breeder of Hit the Road, who won the GI Frank E Kilroe Mile Mar. 6 at Santa Anita for trainer Dan Blacker. Hertrich and Fielding bred Pinehurst, who won the GI **Runhappy** Del Mar Futurity on Sept. 6 for Baffert. Hertrich and Fielding bred Maxim Rate, who won the GI Gamely at Santa Anita on May 31 for Simon Callaghan. Hertrich and Fielding are commercial breeders who sell with Taylor Made, and these are the prices they got for these six future Grade I winners: Maxim Rate was a \$130,000 weanling; Pinehurst sold for \$180,000 as a weanling; Juju's Map was a \$190,000 short yearling; Beyond Brilliant sold for \$50,000 as a fall yearling; Hit the Road was a \$200,000 RNA fall yearling; and Americanrevolution was a \$275,000 summer yearling.

If I were shopping for young horses, I'd be looking carefully in the Taylor Made consignments for horses bred by Hertrich and Fielding.

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SAFALOW'S MISSION TOPS FASIG DECEMBER SALE



Safalow's Mission | Fasig-Tipton

By Christie DeBernardis

A juvenile colt named **Safalow's Mission** (**Mission Impazible**) (**Hip 267**) topped the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic December Mixed and Horses of Racing Age Sale Tuesday, bringing \$130,000 from trainer Linda Rice, acting on behalf of Thelma and Louise Stable.

"He was purchased for a new client, Thelma & Louise Stable," Rice said. "He is a very attractive horse. He is a half-brother to a filly that I trained, My Roxy Girl (Emcee), who has earned over \$600,000 on the NYRA circuit. He ran well in both of his previous starts and should be a lot of fun for the new owners. As a

maiden, he has all of his conditions, plus he is a New York-bred, which is a big bonus for us."

As for the price, the veteran New York conditioner said, "I thought it was a fair price for the quality of this horse and the options available to him with the New York-bred and New York-sired races."

Bred in New York by Becky Thomas' Sequel Thoroughbreds and Bill Barone's Sunny Crest Farm, Safalow's Mission was purchased by Dean and Patti Reeves' Reeves Thoroughbred Racing for \$9,500 at the 2019 FTNMIX sale and was re-offered at this year's EASMAY sale, summoning \$25,000 from Joseph Besecker after breezing in **:10 2/5**. The dark bay finished second on debut for George Weaver in a race restricted by auction price at Belmont Oct. 21 and was third next out in a state-bred event at Aqueduct Nov. 19.

When asked about the future plans for her stable's newest addition, Rice said, "We will point him towards the New York Stallions Series, likely starting with The Great White Way S. on Dec. 18 at Aqueduct."

The New York Stallion Series is a very lucrative set of stakes races, making this gelding a very appealing prospect to many New York conditioners, including Weaver and Carlos Martin, who were two of the underbidders. The aforementioned The Great White Way S. offers a purse of \$500,000. Rice won that stake with a maiden before when taking the 2018 renewal with Blindwillie McTell (Posse).

This is the third straight year that a member of Besecker's reduction of racing stock, which is handled by Northview Stallion Station's David Wade, has topped this auction. Laddie Liam (Golden Lad) led the 2019 renewal at \$450,000 and Fly On Angel (**Palace Malice**) topped last year's auction at \$195,000.

Besecker was represented by 86 horses Tuesday, with 60 selling for \$1,224,700 and an average of \$14,750.

The catalogue increased dramatically this year with 401 horses entered in the sale compared to 287 in the COVID-impacted 2020. In comparison, the 2019 Fasig December Sale catalogue was comprised of 367 Thoroughbreds. A total of 260 horses changed hands in Timonium Tuesday for a gross of \$3,880,100 with an average of \$14,923 and median of \$10,000. There were 71 horses who failed to meet their reserves.

At last term's renewal of this auction, 182 horses brought \$2,345,600 with an average of \$12,888 and median of \$5,000. There were 55 RNAs.

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Fasig-Tipton Midlantic December Mixed Sale

CUMULATIVE TOTALS	2021	2020
• Catalogued	401	287
• No. Offered	333	240
• No. Sold	260	182
• RNAs	71	55
• % RNAs	21.32%	22.9%
• No. \$100K+	3	2
• High Price	\$130,000	\$195,000
• Gross	\$3,845,100	\$2,345,600
• Average (% change)	\$14,903 (+15.6%)	\$12,888
• Median (% change)	\$10,000 (+100%)	\$5,000

SALES TOPPERS

FASIG-TIPTON MIDLANTIC DECEMBER SALE

HIP	NAME	STATUS	PRICE (\$)
267	Safalow's Mission	racng prospect	130,000

(2, g, *Mission Impazible*--Mosaico, by City Zip)
Consignor: Northview Stallion Station (David Wade), Agent for Joseph Besecker (Reduction of Racing Stock)
Purchaser: Linda Rice, Agent for Thelma & Louise Stable

238	Money FromHeaven	Rcg/b'mare prospect	120,000
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(5, m, *Munnings*--Smart Policy, by Smart Strike)
Consigned by GreeMount Farm, Agent
Purchaser: Stoneriggs Farm

83	Dad's Princess	i/f Omaha Beach	100,000
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(9, m, *Mineshaft*--Rooneys Princess, by Deputy Minister)
Consignor: Becky Davis Inc., Agent
Purchaser: Bonita Farm, Agent

KEENELAND 2022 JANUARY HORSES OF ALL AGES SALE CATALOG NOW ONLINE

Keeneland has cataloged 1,516 horses--broodmares and broodmare prospects, yearlings and horses of racing age along with stallions and stallion prospects--for its 2022 January Horses of All Ages Sale, which will present four sessions from Jan. 10-13.

The January Sale catalog is available online at Keeneland.com. Print catalogs are scheduled to be delivered the week of Dec. 20.

"Given the dynamic markets we've seen in September and November, the January Sale will offer breeders another terrific

opportunity to acquire quality broodmares and broodmare prospects in advance of the breeding season," Keeneland Vice President of Sales Tony Lacy said. "Additionally, horsemen with an eye toward the race track can shop a nice selection of short yearlings and horses of racing age to round out their orders."

For the January Sale, Keeneland once again will offer online and phone bidding to accommodate buyers who cannot attend. More information for prospective buyers, including accessing the Keeneland Sales Portal, can be found by clicking [here](#).



Keeneland January | Keeneland

Sale schedule

The four sessions of the January Sale all begin at 10 a.m. ET. The sale schedule is as follows:

Book 1 on Monday, Jan. 10 and Tuesday, Jan. 11.

Book 2 on Wednesday, Jan. 12 and Thursday, Jan. 13.

The entire January Sale will be livestreamed at Keeneland.com. TVG2 will feature live coverage of the first two days of the sale, and the entire sale will be shown on the Watch TVG App.

Successful stallions represented

A number of prominent stallions and emerging young sires are represented in the January Sale catalog with in-foal mares and yearlings. Among them are mares in foal to GI Kentucky Derby winner and Horse of the Year Authentic, the leading covering sire at the November Breeding Stock Sale.

Additional covering sires include *American Pharoah*, *Audible*, *City of Light*, *Constitution*, *Ghostzapper*, *Gun Runner*, *Hard Spun*, *Into Mischief*, *Justify*, *Kitten's Joy*, *Liam's Map*, *Medaglia d'Oro*, *Mendelssohn*, *Munnings*, *Speightstown*, *Street Sense*, *Twirling Candy* and *War Front*.

Also cataloged are broodmares carrying the final foals by **Bernardini**, **English Channel**, Laoban and Malibu Moon.

Yearlings in the catalog include those by stallions whose first weanlings were popular at the November Sale. Sires include **Audible**, **Catalina Cruiser**, Mitole, Omaha Beach and Vino Rosso.

Other cataloged yearlings are by such popular stallions as **American Pharoah**, **City of Light**, **Constitution**, **Ghostzapper**, **Good Magic**, **Gun Runner**, **Hard Spun**, **Justify**, **Liam's Map**, **Medaglia d'Oro**, **Mendelssohn**, **Munnings**, **Not This Time**, **Nyquist**, **Practical Joke**, **Quality Road**, **Speightstown**, **Street Sense**, **Twirling Candy**, **Uncle Mo** and **War Front**.

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HOMEBRED CODE OF HONOR ARRIVES AT LANE'S END FARM

by *Katie Petrunyak*



Homebred and GI Travers S. hero Code of Honor retires to Lane's End Farm in 2022 | Sarah Andrew

Code of Honor (Noble Mission {GB}--Reunited, by Dixie Union) arrived at Lane's End Farm, where he will stand the 2022 season, early in the morning hours of Tuesday, Dec. 7. The multiple Grade I winner was bred and raced by W.S. Farish and earned nearly \$3 million over his four-year career.

"It's a really fun day for all of us at Lane's End," Bill Farish said after watching the homebred take in his new surroundings at the Lane's End stud barn. "Code of Honor coming home is something we've been waiting on for a long time, so it's very exciting to get him here and we're really looking forward to starting his breeding career."

Bought back by Lane's End at the 2017 Keeneland September Sale, Code of Honor was soon sent to trainer Shug McGaughey. The chestnut broke his maiden on debut as a juvenile at Saratoga and ran second in the GI Champagne S. after stumbling at the start.

As a sophomore, the colt won the GII Fountain of Youth S. before finishing third in the GI Florida Derby and second in the GI Kentucky Derby. He then rolled off consecutive victories in the GIII Dwyer S., GI **Runhappy** Travers S. and GI Jockey Club Gold Cup S.

The Travers win, Farish said, marked an unforgettable day for the Farish family.

"It was a real high point for us," he explained. "It's hard to put into words. It's something that Dad has been trying to do for a long time and we have been second twice, so it was a big, big day for us. It's really what it is all about for us. It's very rewarding to go to the sales and pick out a Grade I winner, but to breed one is a whole other thing."

As an older horse, Code of Honor captured graded victories in the GIII Westchester S. at four and the GIII Philip H. Iselin S. at five. He also hit the board in the GI **Runhappy** Metropolitan H., GII Kelso H., GI Clark S. and GII Hagyard Fayette S.

The six-time graded stakes winner is from the first crop of Noble Mission and is out of the W.S. Farish-bred and owned Reunited, winner of the 2005 GIII Thoroughbred Club of America S. Farish said he is confident that the versatility in Code of Honor's pedigree will be reflected in the individuals he will soon produce.

"I wouldn't be surprised at all if he was able to get both dirt and turf horses with his pedigree," he noted. "He has a lot of speed on the bottom side and he has stamina on the top. He's a really well-made horse with a tremendously-efficient stride and he's a real throwback-type horse."

Code of Honor will stand for a fee of \$10,000 in 2022.

"We're going to be supporting him very heavily," Farish said. "We're going to put everything we can into getting him a really good first crop and we've priced him to where we think he's unbelievably attractive for a horse with his credentials. We just can't wait to get going."

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2022 ROCKRIDGE STUD ROSTER & FEES

Stallion	Fee
Combatant (Scat Daddy)*	\$7,500
Slumber (GB) (Cacique {Ire})	\$7,500
Disco Partner (Disco Rico)	\$4,000
Frank Conversation (Quality Road)	\$3,500
Al Khali (Medaglia d'Oro)	\$2,500
A Shin Forward (Forest Wildcat)	\$2,500

*Indicates new stallion



TPA INSTALLS OFFICERS FOR 2022-23

During the Turf Publicists of America award luncheon at the Global Symposium Tuesday, Dave Zenner and Tom LaMarra were re-elected as secretary-treasurer and vice-president, respectively, and Ryan Martin was elected as vice-president; his first time on the board.

Dave Zenner is a freelance publicist, a racing official at Hawthorne, and was the stakes coordinator at Arlington Park. Tom LaMarra holds a diverse set of positions, including Communications Director for the Maryland Thoroughbred Horseman's Association, and Coordinator for the Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred Championships. NYRA's Ryan Martin is a racing communications specialist. The new slate of officers was installed immediately and will serve a two-year term.

LaMarra, Zenner, and Martin join TPA President Wendy Davis and Vice Presidents Najja Thompson, Kevin Kerstein, and Clare Crawford, each of whom was elected last year to serve for 2021-22.

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- Stakes: purses of \$40,000/up
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- 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 Jockey Club Scholarship:
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 \$20,000 (\$10,000 per semester)
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The Jockey Club Vision Scholarship:
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 to a student from a minority racial or
 ethnic group enrolled full time as an
 undergraduate or graduate student
 at a college or university.

The Jockey Club Benevolence Scholarship:
 \$15,000 (\$7,500 per semester)
 to enable a student to attend a full-time
 program with preference given
 to backstretch and horse farm employees
 and family members.

Jack Goodman Scholarship:
 \$6,000 (\$3,000 per semester)
 to a student enrolled in the University of
 Arizona's Race Track Industry Program.

**Scholarship applications
 for the 2022/2023 school year are due
 February 1, 2022.**

**For more information,
 visit bit.ly/tjcscholarships2022.**

2021 Leading Dirt Sires of 3YOS

for stallions standing in North America through Monday, Dec. 6

Earnings represent worldwide figures, NH foals only, stud fees listed are 2021 fees.

Rank	Stallion	BTW	BTH	GSW	GSH	G1SW	G1SH	Starters	Wnrs	Highest Earner	Earnings
1	Into Mischief (2005) by Harlan's Holiday Crops: 10	9	22	6	14	2	4	110	60	1,560,000	8,666,097
				Stands: Spendthrift Farm KY Fee: \$250,000						Mandaloun	
2	Curlin (2004) by Smart Strike Crops: 10	9	12	7	10	3	6	47	24	1,563,000	7,088,321
				Stands: Hill 'n' Dale at Xalapa KY Fee: \$175,000						Malathaat	
3	Tapit (2001) by Pulpit Crops: 14	3	6	3	4	1	2	55	20	3,420,000	6,065,291
				Stands: Gainesway Farm KY Fee: \$185,000						Essential Quality	
4	Dialed In (2008) by Mineshaft Crops: 6	3	7	2	4	1	1	83	50	996,915	4,464,044
				Stands: Darby Dan Farm KY Fee: \$15,000						Super Stock	
5	Constitution (2011) by Tapit Crops: 3	5	13	3	7	1	1	68	36	941,750	3,930,987
				Stands: WinStar Farm KY Fee: \$85,000						Americanrevolution	
6	Protonico (2011) by Giant's Causeway Crops: 2	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	6	3,520,000	3,679,459
				Stands: Castleton Lyons KY Fee: \$10,000						Medina Spirit	
7	Oxbow (2010) by Awesome Again Crops: 5	1	3	1	1	1	1	73	40	2,087,500	3,436,939
				Stands: Calumet Farm KY Fee: \$7,500						Hot Rod Charlie	
8	Maclean's Music (2008) by Distorted Humor Crops: 6	2	3	2	2	2	2	70	34	1,051,400	3,047,062
				Stands: Hill 'n' Dale at Xalapa KY Fee: \$50,000						Jackie's Warrior	
9	Street Sense (2004) by Street Cry (Ire) Crops: 11	4	7	2	3	--	1	58	24	856,600	2,959,744
				Stands: Darley KY Fee: \$75,000						Concert Tour	
10	Union Rags (2009) by Dixie Union Crops: 6	5	6	2	5	--	1	76	34	284,650	2,937,396
				Stands: Lane's End Farm KY Fee: \$30,000						Caramel Swirl	
11	Runhappy (2012) by Super Saver Crops: 2	2	4	1	2	--	1	56	31	843,020	2,855,046
				Stands: Claiborne Farm KY Fee: \$12,500						Following Sea	
12	Liam's Map (2011) by Unbridled's Song Crops: 3	3	6	1	3	--	--	69	31	597,080	2,761,260
				Stands: Lane's End Farm KY Fee: \$40,000						Crazy Beautiful	
13	Twirling Candy (2007) by Candy Ride (Arg) Crops: 7	2	7	1	3	1	2	63	28	830,000	2,628,162
				Stands: Lane's End Farm KY Fee: \$60,000						Rombauer	
14	Speightster (2012) by Speightstown Crops: 2	1	5	--	--	--	--	83	49	177,941	2,586,179
				Stands: WinStar Farm KY Fee: \$7,500						Door Buster	
15	Tapiture (2011) by Tapit Crops: 3	1	4	--	1	--	--	95	55	254,304	2,527,045
				Stands: Darby Dan Farm KY Fee: \$10,000						Li'l Tootsie	

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IN ORDER OF PURSE:

PENNSYLVANIA NURSERY S., \$200,000, PRX, 12-7, (S), 2yo, 7f, 1:26.44, ft.

1--**WITTY, 120, g, 2, by Great Notion - Zeezee Zoomzoom, by Congrats. 1ST BLACK TYPE WIN.** O/B-Elizabeth M. Merryman; T-McLane Hendriks; J-Carol Cedeno. \$111,000. Lifetime Record: 3-2-1-0, \$144,000. *1/2 to Caravel (**Mizzen Mast**), GSW-USA, GISP-Can, \$400,169.

2--**Uncle Buddy, 122, c, 2, Uncle Lino--Ruby Monday, by E Dubai.** (\$4,500 Ylg '20 EASOCT). **1ST BLACK TYPE.** O-Joseph E. Besecker; B-William E. Riddle (PA); T-Tim C. Kreiser. \$37,000.

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3--**Vine Jet, 120, g, 2, Red Vine--Our Girl Friday, by Van Nistelrooy. 1ST BLACK TYPE.** O-Felissa Dunn; B-E. Marie Morrison (PA); T-John J. Dunn. \$18,500.

Margins: 5HF, 3, HF. Odds: 2.30, 6.00, 24.90.

Also Ran: Dance Code, Disco Ebo, Wispering Springs, Allezare, Center Mid Maddie, Dr. Steve, Champion by Design.

When McLane Hendricks saddled Witty, it was his sixth career start as a trainer and his first race as the horse's trainer on record. When the 2-1 favorite came back to get his picture taken, it was, remarkably, the first stakes and career victory for Hendricks. Squeezed coming out of the gate, Witty was briefly outrun by the field but his position at the back was temporary. Pulling Carl Cedeno along, the grey quickly progressed to the front, weaving between rivals, and eventually finding his way to the rail.



Witty | Nikki Sherman/Equi-Photo

By the time they entered the homestretch, Witty was under a full head of steam on the outside of horses and opened up on the field by 5 1/2 lengths over Uncle Buddy (Uncle Lino) to win easily. Out of winning mare Zeezee Zoomzoom, he is a half to GSW and GISP Caravel (**Mizzen Mast**, \$400,169) and one other winner. The dam is represented by a yearling colt by Holy Boss, and has a weanling full-brother. She was bred to **Street Boss** for 2022. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#), sponsored by [TVG](#).**



IN ORDER OF PURSE:

8th-Parx Racing, \$58,530, Alw, 12-7, (NW1X), 3yo/up, 1m 70y, 1:43.31, ft, 2 1/2 lengths.

I AM REDEEMED (c, 3, Redeemed--One Smart Philly, by Smarty Jones), winner of a sloppy renewal of the Storm Cat S. over this track and trip Aug. 23, was well-beaten in the Sept. 25 GI Pennsylvania Derby and the Oct. 12 M.P. Ballezzi Appreciation Mile S. Favored in his latest, he was an improved second facing allowance foes here Nov. 9 and was pounded down to 1-5 favoritism to go one better this time. Sent to the front early, the homebred led throughout and drew off to score by 2 1/2 lengths. Lifetime Record: SW, 8-4-2-0, \$181,100.

Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#), sponsored by [TVG](#). O/B-Lawrence Anthony Rebbecchi (PA); T-Penny Pearce.



IN ORDER OF PURSE:

1st-Parx Racing, \$42,250, Msw, 12-7, 2yo, f, 1m, 1:41.50, ft, 4 lengths.

COLLIN'S GREY LADY (f, 2, **Frosted--Fennica, by Empire Maker)** was hard checked on her career debut against experienced 2-year-olds at Parx Nov. 24 when she went off as a tepid 11-1 shot. Wheeled back barely two weeks later against her own sex, the 6-1 shot coasted along on an uncontested lead. Ears pricked as this year's OBS Spring Sale graduate (:10.3) loped through fractions of :24 and a half in :48.1, she was well in-hand at the top of the stretch. **Cont. p2**

Parx 1 cont.

Justhappy (**Runhappy**) attempted a belated rally but couldn't close the distance on Collin's Grey Lady, who was drifting in and out while swapping leads repeatedly. She was good enough, however, to win by a comfortable four-length margin. Out of unplaced Fennica, Collin's Grey Lady is a half to four other winners. The dam was not bred in 2019, but has a weanling filly by **Preservationist**. Fennica visited **Tapiture** for 2022. Sales History: \$37,000 RNA Ylg '20 KEESEP; \$30,000 2yo '21 OBSAPR. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, \$25,450. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.**

O-Charles Fiumano; B-Sierra Farm (KY); T-Daniel Velazquez.

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FIRST-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8 2021 Stud Fees Listed

Blofeld (Quality Road), Murmur Farm, \$4,000
24 foals of racing age/3 winners/0 black-type winners
3-Penn National, 6:54 p.m. EST, Msw 5 1/2f, My Dixie Lass, 10-1
6-Penn National, 8:16 p.m. EST, Msw 5 1/2f, Orashi, 15-1

Cupid (Tapit), Coolmore Ashford, \$5,000
143 foals of racing age/19 winners/2 black-type winners
6-Penn National, 8:16 p.m. EST, Msw 5 1/2f, Fatherofthebrides, 8-1
\$27,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$77,000 OBS OPN 2yo

Greenpointcrusader (Bernardini), Ocala Stud, \$3,500
38 foals of racing age/4 winners/0 black-type winners
7-Tampa Bay Downs, 3:22 p.m. EST, Aoc 1mT, Sweet Laura, 15-1
\$2,700 KEE NOV wnl; \$3,000 FTK OCT yrl; \$13,000 OBS OPN 2yo

Iron Fist (Tapit), Whispering Oaks Farm, \$6,500
25 foals of racing age/6 winners/1 black-type winner
3-Delta Downs, 2:51 p.m. EST, Msw 5f, Brian's Iron Mike, 2-1
\$15,000 ESL YRL yrl; \$15,000 OBS APR 2yo

Keen Ice (Curlin), Calumet Farm, \$12,500
137 foals of racing age/16 winners/0 black-type winners
3-Penn National, 6:54 p.m. EST, Msw 5 1/2f, Salagadoola, 12-1
\$35,000 EAS DEC wnl

Mastery (Candy Ride {Arg}), Claiborne Farm, \$25,000
116 foals of racing age/11 winners/0 black-type winners
3-Penn National, 6:54 p.m. EST, Msw 5 1/2f, Superiority, 10-1
\$32,000 RNA KEE SEP yrl; \$27,000 OBS MAR 2yo

Noble Bird (Birdstone), Ocala Stud, \$4,000
50 foals of racing age/8 winners/1 black-type winner
7-Tampa Bay Downs, 3:22 p.m. EST, Aoc 1mT, Ready to Film, 10-1
\$10,000 OBS WIN wnl; \$10,000 RNA FTK OCT yrl

Ocean Knight (Curlin), Averett Farm, \$4,000
17 foals of racing age/2 winners/0 black-type winners
6-Penn National, 8:16 p.m. EST, Msw 5 1/2f, Micro Star, 15-1
\$22,000 OBS WIN wnl; \$1,500 OBS OCT yrl

Takeover Target (Harlan's Holiday), Red River Farms, \$2,000
33 foals of racing age/1 winner/0 black-type winners
3-Delta Downs, 2:51 p.m. EST, Msw 5f, Big Sessy, 8-1
\$1,200 ESL MIX wnl; \$5,600 TTA YHR yrl
3-Delta Downs, 2:51 p.m. EST, Msw 5f, Starship Festival, 15-1
\$10,000 ESL YRL yrl; \$25,000 OBS APR 2yo

Unified (Candy Ride {Arg}), Lane's End Farm, \$10,000
117 foals of racing age/15 winners/3 black-type winners
3-Penn National, 6:54 p.m. EST, Msw 5 1/2f, Queen Cadence, 10-1
\$42,000 RNA KEE NOV wnl; \$24,000 RNA EAS MAY 2yo

SECOND-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: WEDNESDAY, DEC. 8 2021 Stud Fees Listed

Mshawish (Medaglia d'Oro), Taylor Made Farm, \$7,500
133 foals of racing age/53 winners/3 black-type winners
3-Delta Downs, 2:51 p.m. EST, Msw 5f, Cheerfor **Mshawish**, 12-1
\$11,500 ESL YRL yrl; \$8,000 OBS APR 2yo



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ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

7th-Parx Racing, \$52,090, 12-7, 3yo/up, f/m, 6 1/2f, 1:18.05, ft, 2 3/4 lengths.

GLORY DIA (f, 4, Dialed In--Barb's Glory, by Sun King) Lifetime Record: 24-5-3-5, \$198,395. O-The Hakim's Stable LLC; B-Michael D O'Rorke (KY); T-Mario A. Dominguez. *\$32,000 RNA Wlg '17 KEENOV; \$7,500 Ylg '18 KEESEP; \$18,000 RNA 2yo '19 OBSOPN.

VINERY SALES GRADUATE

10th-Zia, \$43,000, (S), 12-7, (C), 3yo/up, 5 1/2f, 1:02.79, ft, 4 lengths.

DIABOLICAL GATOR (g, 7, Diabolical--Gator Prowl {SW, \$106,000}, by Roar of the Tiger) Lifetime Record: 9-7-1-0, \$173,840. O/B-J. Kirk & Judy Robison (NM); T-Joel H. Marr. *1/2 to Good With People (Curlin to Mischief), MSW, \$321,020; Full to Fast Gator, MSW, \$378,065.

9th-Zia, \$39,000, (S), 12-6, (NW2L), 3yo/up, 1m, 1:37.71, ft, 5 1/2 lengths.

MASTERCLASS (g, 4, Finale--Hymnsandhers, by Songandaprayer) Lifetime Record: 21-2-2-7, \$80,561. O-Sherri Galvez; B-R Legacy Racing, Inc. (NM); T-Sherry Armstrong. *\$5,000 Ylg '18 RUIAUG.

8th-Remington, \$37,825, 12-6, (NW1X), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:13.13, ft, 1 1/2 lengths.

RAGAN'S JET (f, 4, Mister Lucky Cat--She'sgotrownjet, by Songandaprayer) Lifetime Record: 6-3-1-1, \$72,726. O-Bryan Hawk; B-Millar Equine (OK); T-Joe S. Offolter.

5th-Remington, \$34,001, 12-7, (NW1X), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:11.55, ft, 2 1/4 lengths.

CHITTO (c, 4, Into Mischief--Samiam {SP, \$146,659}, by Dynaformer) Lifetime Record: 23-4-3-1, \$69,277. O-Steve F. Williams; B-Martha Jane Mulholland, Yehuda Cohen & Tom Grether Farms, Inc. (KY); T-Steve F. Williams. *\$185,000 Ylg '18 KEESEP; \$225,000 RNA 2yo '19 EASMAV.

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6th-Mahoning Valley, \$32,700, (S), 12-7, (NW2X), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:13.10, ft, 4 3/4 lengths.

STAR RULES (f, 4, Mobil--Star of Atticus {SP, \$123,971}, by Atticus) Lifetime Record: 14-3-4-2, \$127,145. O/B-Doris E. Tummillo; T-James H. McDonald. *1/2 to Gabriel Charles (Street Hero), GISW, \$604,400.

5th-Mahoning Valley, \$32,700, (S), 12-7, (NW2X), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:12.25, ft, 2 lengths.

SHEZ SHACKED UP (f, 3, Shackleford--Lela, by Trippi) Lifetime Record: 24-3-7-6, \$160,452. O-Danielle Agnello; B-T/C Stable, LLC (OH); T-Jeffrey Skerrett. *\$19,000 RNA Ylg '19 FTKOCT.

4th-Mahoning Valley, \$26,500, 12-7, (NW1X), 3yo/up, f/m, 5 1/2f, 1:06.01, ft, 2 3/4 lengths.

LUCKY QUARTERS (f, 4, General Quarters--Sinister Deance, by Pikepass) Lifetime Record: 15-6-4-2, \$100,630. O-Michael J. Friedman; B-Jerry Hills, Timothy McCarthy & Ron Growe (KY); T-Jeffrey A. Radosevich.

2nd-Turf Paradise, \$25,350, (NW1X)/Opt. Clm (\$10,000-\$12,500), 12-7, 3yo/up, 6f, 1:10.27, ft, head.

ARABIAN STORY (g, 5, Fed Biz--Fattuma, by Mizzen Mast) Lifetime Record: 24-4-5-3, \$68,549. O-Terri Ferguson; B-International Equities Holding Inc. (KY); T-Chad M. Ferguson.

8th-Turf Paradise, \$25,350, (NW1X)/Opt. Clm (\$10,000-\$12,500), 12-6, 3yo/up, 1mT, 1:36.81, fm, 3 1/4 lengths.

MY INDY (g, 5, English Channel--E. T. Indy, by A.P. Indy) Lifetime Record: 17-3-3-1, \$71,433. O-Jamie Bolles; B-Calumet Farm (KY); T-Bart G. Hone. *\$2,700 Ylg '17 KEEJAN.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

McGraw, g, 2, He's Had Enough--Martha's Valentine, by First Dude. Mahoning Valley, 12-7, (S), 6f, 1:13.44. Lifetime Record: 3-1-1-0, \$23,680. O-Borchetta, Martha, Borchetta, Mike, Borchetta, Scott and Silver, Martin; B-Michael Borchetta (OH); T-Megan Fadlovich.

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Witty (Great Notion) gives trainer McLane Hendricks his first career win in Tuesday's Pennsylvania Nursery S.

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Brent and Fiona Williams, North Wales, UK

Early Edition, f, 3, **Munnings**--Very Distinctive {SW, \$160,388}, by Mutakddim. Parx Racing, 12-7, 6 1/2f, 1:18.00. Lifetime Record: 7-1-0-0, \$22,700. O/B-Gary & S Machiz; T-S Machiz. *1/2 to Late Breaking News (Jump Start), SP, \$361,751.

ALL TDN WINNERS BY SIRE



Diabolical, Diabolical Gator, g, 7, o/o Gator Prowl, by Roar of the Tiger. ALW, 12-7, Zia

Dialed In, Glory Dia, f, 4, o/o Barb's Glory, by Sun King. ALW, 12-7, Parx Racing

English Channel, My Indy, g, 5, o/o E. T. Indy, by A.P. Indy. AOC, 12-6, Turf Paradise

Fed Biz, Arabian Story, g, 5, o/o Fattuma, by **Mizzen Mast**. AOC, 12-7, Turf Paradise

Finale, Masterclass, g, 4, o/o Hymnsandhers, by Songandaprayer. ALW, 12-6, Zia

Frosted, Collin's Grey Lady, f, 2, o/o Fennica, by Empire Maker. MSW, 12-7, Parx Racing

General Quarters, Lucky Quarters, f, 4, o/o Sinister Deance, by Pikepass. ALW, 12-7, Mahoning Valley

Great Notion, Witty, g, 2, o/o Zeezee Zoomzoom, by Congrats. Pennsylvania Nursery S., 12-7, Parx Racing

He's Had Enough, McGraw, g, 2, o/o Martha's Valentine, by **First Dude**. MSW, 12-7, Mahoning Valley

Into Mischief, Chitto, c, 4, o/o Samiam, by Dynaformer. ALW, 12-7, Remington

Mister Lucky Cat, Ragan's Jet, f, 4, o/o She'sgotherownjet, by Songandaprayer. ALW, 12-6, Remington

Mobil, Star Rules, f, 4, o/o Star of Atticus, by Atticus. ALW, 12-7, Mahoning Valley

Munnings, Early Edition, f, 3, o/o Very Distinctive, by Mutakddim. MCL, 12-7, Parx Racing

Redeemed, I Am Redeemed, c, 3, o/o One Smart Philly, by Smarty Jones. ALW, 12-7, Parx Racing

Shackleford, Shez Shacked Up, f, 3, o/o Lela, by Trippi. ALW, 12-7, Mahoning Valley

Unbridled Energy, Victory Royale, f, 3, o/o Jewels N Jeans, by Quiet Enjoyment. ALW, 12-6, Mountaineer

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POLICE RAID ROSSI STABLES IN MARSEILLE



Charley Rossi & Jessica Maricalis | Scoop Dyga

The stables of Group 1-winning trainers Frederic, Cedric and Charley Rossi were subjected to police raids in Marseille on Tuesday morning, according to a report by *Le Parisien* newspaper. Charley Rossi and his wife, the jockey Jessica Maricalis, are reported to have been arrested at the Calas training centre. It is believed that Frederic and Cedric Rossi were also taken away by police.

The four are reportedly among a larger group of around 15 people from the Marseille and Paris regions, including at least one vet, to have been detained by police as part of an ongoing investigation into equine doping and race fixing.

French racing and bloodstock daily *Jour de Galop (JDG)* has reported that a judicial investigation has been opened and quotes the deputy prosecutor at the Aix-en-Provence prosecutor's office, Olivier Poulet, as saying that a 10-month investigation led to Tuesday's arrests and police search of the training centre.

"The two offences are organised cheating (for rigged horse races) and the administration of doping substances to horses participating in races," Poulet told the *JDG*. "For this type of offence, police custody can last four days. The presentation before the judge of those in police custody is scheduled for next Thursday. At this point, we cannot divulge their identity."

Cont. p2

TRAILBLAZING CHOISIR DIES AT 22

by Emma Berry

The dual Royal Ascot winner, Group 1-winning sprinter and influential sire **Choisir (Aus)** (Danehill Dancer {Ire}) has died at Coolmore Australia at the age of 22.

Trained by Paul Perry for Terry Wallace and Partners, Choisir can be considered an equine pioneer for the role he played in opening the floodgates through the early part of this century for Australian sprinters to travel north during the Southern Hemisphere winter and put the locals in their place.

A top-class 2-year-old who was placed in all three legs of Australia's juvenile Triple Crown, Choisir went on to win the G2 Emirates Classic and G1 Lightning S. at Flemington at three before departing for Britain. He first set foot on the English turf on June 17, 2003, and in three starts in just over three weeks, he ensured that his name would be remembered and revered for decades to come. [Cont. p3](#)

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

MEDINA SPIRIT: THE PUBLIC, MAINSTREAM MEDIA REACTS

Following **Medina Spirit** (Protonico)'s death on Monday, Bill Finley delves into the reactions from the public and mainstream media. [Click or tap here to go straight to TDN America.](#)

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Police Raid Rossi Stables Cont. from p1

JDG also reports that a number of horses and their documentation have been seized by police from all three stables. The Charley Rossi-trained Droit De Parole (Ire) (Toronado {Ire}) was withdrawn from Tuesday's Quinté at Chantilly.

The Rossi family has long been at the forefront of racing in the south of France. Frederic's father Henri Rossi was a leading jockey before becoming a trainer. Frederic and his elder brother Jacques both followed in his footsteps. Jacques, who is no longer training, is president of the Societe Hippique de Marseille, which oversees racing at the two local courses of Borely and Pont-de-Vivieux as well as the Calas training centre, which is home to 27 trainers. Jacques is the father of Cedric and Charley Rossi.

The family has gained wider prominence in world racing in recent years. In 2020, Frederic Rossi, who also has a satellite stable in Chantilly, trained his first Classic winner, the G1 Poule d'Essai des Pouliches victrix Dream And Do (Fr) (Siyouni {Fr}), as well as G1 Prix Jean-Luc Lagardere winner Sealiway (Fr) (Galiway {GB}). The Arc meeting of 2020 proved a highly successful one for the family, as Charley Rossi landed the G1 Prix Marcel Boussac with Tiger Tanaka (Ire) (Clodovil {Ire}), handing Jessica

Marcialis a memorable first Group 1 win in the saddle. Third in that same race was Rougir (Fr) (Territories {Ire}), trained by his brother, who would go on to star on the same weekend this year when winning the G1 Prix de l'Opera. Italian-born Marcialis is the sister of former Chantilly trainer Andrea Marcialis, who in March was banned from racing until 2025 having been found guilty of a number of charges including medication violations and running a training operation under the name of another trainer.

On Saturday, Rougir topped the Arqana Breeding Stock Sale in Deauville when sold to White Birch Farm and Coolmore's MV Magnier at a record-breaking €3 million. Shortly before that, the 2-year-old Purplepay (Fr) (**Zarak** {Fr}), also trained by Cedric Rossi, fetched €2 million and will race on in America for Lael Stable.

Dream And Do has not raced since her Classic success but was sold privately last year to Katsumi Yoshida of Japan's Northern Farm. Tiger Tanaka went through the ring at last week's Tattersalls December Mares' Sale, selling for 450,000gns.

Sealiway was switched from the stable of Frederic to Cedric Rossi this summer and went on to run fifth in the G1 Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe before winning the G1 QIPCO Champion S. He remains in training and may be aimed at the Saudi Cup in February. **Cont. p3**



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Police Raid Rossi Stables Cont.

French racing's governing body France Galop released a statement on Tuesday afternoon which read, "France Galop is following very closely the development of the ongoing investigations made public today and has no comments to make at this stage.

"France Galop has the responsibility of ensuring the regularity of races. In this context, it cooperates closely and regularly with the racing centres and the sports division of the National Police.

"The fight against doping is an absolute priority for the racing industry, which devotes an annual budget of €10 million to [this cause]. Thus, the equine sector carries out nearly 30,000 anti-doping tests per year, at the races, for horses in and out of training, and in the breeding sector."

Frederic Rossi is currently lying in fifth in the French trainers' table for 2021 with 94 winners, and Cedric Rossi is in 10th place.

None of the horses in question are known to have tested positive for any banned substance.

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Choisir Passes at 22 Cont. from p1

On the opening day of Royal Ascot, he was sent off an unconsidered 25-1 chance under Johnny Murtagh for the King's Stand S., which was then still a Group 2. A strong field which included **Oasis Dream (GB)**, Elusive City, the previous year's winner **Dominica (GB)**, and eventual runner-up **Acclamation (GB)**, was blown away by the Aussie raider's dominant performance, which saw him break sharply and make all to win by a length.

More deference was paid when he returned to Ascot four days later, stepping up a furlong for the G1 Golden Jubilee S. Choisir still wasn't favourite, however, with the British crowds unused to a horse backing up so quickly in major races. That honour went to Henry Candy's 3-year-old filly **Airwave**, who was carrying 10lbs less than Choisir, whose Southern Hemisphere birth date meant that he was considered a 4-year-old despite still technically being three. The extra weight failed to halt him in notching a rare double at the Royal Meeting, the first time this had been achieved since the great Irish mare **Stanerra** won the G2 **Prince of Wales's S.** and **G2 Hardwicke S.** 20 years earlier.

Choisir met **Oasis Dream** and **Airwave** again in the G1 **Darley July Cup** on what would transpire to be the final start of his career, but this time he had to settle for second behind **Juddmonte's Oasis Dream**, who later dropped back in trip for an emphatic victory in the G1 **Nunthorpe S.** on his next outing.

Choisir's glorious form on both sides of the world made him of obvious appeal as a shuttle sire, following in the footsteps of both his sire **Danehill Dancer** and illustrious grandsire **Danehill**.

[Cont. p4](#)

210,000GNS



“One of the best-looking foals I’ve seen this year. He’s a real quality colt, great mover - Magna Grecia seems to be getting very good stock”

Jamie McCalmont on the **MAGNA GRECIA** colt bought on behalf of the Coolmore partners for 210,000gns

110,000GNS



“Probably the best foal that we've bred for a very long time.”

Paul Venner of Petches Farm on their **MAGNA GRECIA** filly sold to Arthur Hoyeau for 110,000gns

100,000GNS



“Exactly what the market wanted, a good, strong, early colt. A precocious looking type... there’s a lot of Magna Grecia in him”

Anthony Phelan of Glashare House Stud, on his **MAGNA GRECIA** colt sold to Megan Nicholls for 100,000gns

Other first crop foals sold for **75,000gns** (Jesmond Bloodstock), **€90,000** (Tally Ho Stud), **68,000gns** (Eddie Fitzpatrick), **65,000gns** (Blandford Bloodstock/Wardley Bloodstock), **€70,000** (JR Bloodstock) etc.

MAGNA GRECIA

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Fee: €17,500

Choisir Passes at 22 Cont.

He started his stallion career in Australia at Coolmore, where he covered for 17 seasons until his retirement just over a year ago. During that time he also shuttled for 10 years to Ireland, standing initially at Castle Hyde Stud, before joining Coolmore's main farm in 2008.

His 100 stakes winners in 12 different countries include 11 individual Group 1 winners. Choisir's Australian-bred son **Starspangledbanner (Aus)** emulated him by winning the Golden Jubilee S., and went one better in the July Cup, as well as winning two Group 1 sprints at Caulfield, before beginning his own successful shuttle career. Despite suffering fertility issues in his early years which halted his trips north, **Starspangledbanner** resumed covering at Coolmore in Ireland after a two-year break and his own leading offspring are headed by The Wow Signal (Ire) and State Of Rest (Ire).

Choisir is also represented at stud in Australia by Aquis Farm's Group 1 winner Divine Prophet (Aus), while four-time Group 1 winner Olympic Glory (Ire), the sire of G1 Prix Jean Romanet winner Grand Glory (GB), is at Haras de Bouquetot in France, and G2 Coventry S. winner Rajasinghe (Ire) is at the National Stud in England.

Another of his Royal Ascot winners, the Wokingham S. victrix Laddies Poker Two (Ire), went on to become the dam of the dual Classic winner and four-time Group 1 scorer Winter (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}), and in this sphere Choisir's influence continues to be felt.

He is also the broodmare sire of G1 Prince of Wales's S. winner My Dream Boat (Ire) (Lord Shanakill) and July Cup winner Oxted (GB) (Mayson {GB}), while another of his daughters, the listed winner Choose Me (Ire), has produced two Group 1 winners to have starred on QIPCO British Champions Day in Persuasive (Ire) (Dark Angel {Ire}) and Creative Force (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}), as well as the listed winner and group-placed Tisbutadream (Ire) (Dream Ahead).

"I was lucky enough to be at Ascot in 2003 to witness his incredible triumphs on the Tuesday and then the Saturday where he was ridden by Johnny Murtagh," said Coolmore Australia's Tom Magnier. "It was a great achievement for his trainer Paul Perry and paved the way for future Australian sprinters to compete with distinction on the world stage."

He added, "Since he retired to the farm in 2003 he has been a favourite with all those who have worked with him, especially our longtime stallion manager Gerry Ryan who was particularly fond of him." [Cont. p5](#)



Johnny Murtagh powers to victory on Choisir in the G1 Golden Jubilee S. at Royal Ascot in 2003. [Click above for the race replay.](#)



Chosir | Coolmore

Chosir Passes at 22 Cont.

“Chosir was the ultimate professional in all he did and every stud dreams of having a stallion like him,” he continued. “We are so grateful to him and he will be sorely missed by the entire Coolmore team.”

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CURTAIN LOWERS ON ARQANA DECEMBER BREEDING STOCK SALE

The frenetic pace of the breeding stock sale season finally came to a halt on Tuesday, as, after four days of selling during Arqana’s December Breeding Stock Sale, the last horse passed through the ring at Deauville.

Overall, the aggregate grew by 58.5% to €42,007,700, up from €25,253,500 during the first year of the Covid pandemic and the first time the sale breached the €40-million mark. There were 689 lots sold from 907 offered (76%), and 13 horses made at least €500,000, compared to six in 2020. The average of €60,314 rose 33% from 2020, and the median decreased slightly to €15,000 (-6.3%).

Saturday’s quintet of seven-figure mares were led by G1 Prix de l’Opera heroine **Rougir (Fr)** (Territories {Ire}), who was sold for €3,000,000 to the sale’s leading buyers Peter Brant’s White Birch Farm and MV Magnier. She was followed closely by the €2.5-million G1 Prix Jean Romanet victrix **Grand Glory (GB)** (Olympic Glory {Ire}), while Gestut Ammerland bought out their partners when going to €2,050,000 for **Wildfeder (GB)** (Galileo {Ire}), a full-sister to G1 Prix de l’Arc de Triomphe winner Waldgeist (GB).

New consignor **Sumbe** stood firmly on top of the leading vendors’ table with six sold for an aggregate of €5,352,000. Haras de Capucines was next with 22 sold for €3,373,000, while **Haras de Castillon**’s draft brought €3,155,500 for 18 lots.

Wednesday’s session sported a higher clearance rate of 80.5% for 128 of 159 offered for a total of €586,000. Both the average at €4,578 and the median of €3,500 were down when compared to the corresponding session last year, by 28.6% and 22.2%, respectively.

Four mares made €20,000 or more led by **lot 977**, the winning **Hurrym (Fr)** (Hurricane Run {Ire}). A half-sister to the black-type winner Landym (Fr) (Lando {Ger}), the La Riviere-consigned bay brought €28,000 from George Mullins and is in foal to Rio de la Plata.

Nicola Fitzgerald snapped up **Anna’s Star (Ire)** (Hernando {Fr}) for €26,000 from Haras du Petit Tellier. **Lot 987**, a daughter of the G3 Deutscher Stutenpreis heroine Anno Luce (GB) (Old Vic {GB}), herself out of the German champion Anna Paola (Ger) (Prince Ippi {Ger}), is carrying to The Grey Gatsby (Ire) (Mastercraftsman {Ire}), whose first-crop runners this season include the listed winner Mylady (Ger).

Arqana Chairman Eric Hoyeau and Executive Director Freddy Powell said, “After a turbulent 2020, 2021 has been marked by tremendous resilience at all levels and concluded with an outstanding Vente d’Elevage that exceeded all our expectations. With five millionaire fillies in the first session and a turnover in excess of €40 million for the first time, the sale continued its upward trajectory and has now taken on a whole new dimension. All the ingredients were present and this resulted in very good prices in the ring. Four of the five fillies sold for a seven-figure price were acquired as yearlings at Deauville in August or October, and some owners did not hesitate to reinvest during the sale, such as with Tickle Me Green and Sun Bear. The quality of the catalogue attracted many buyers from the United States, Japan, England, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, Scandinavia, Spain, Italy, Turkey and all over France.”

Cont. p6



Arqana played host to buyers from all over the world as the sale broke the €40-million mark in revenue for the first time | Zuzanna Lupa

Arqana December Breeding Stock Sale Cont.

“We would like to thank our vendors who entrusted us with the best of their breeding and racing stock as well as all our teams who worked tirelessly to make this sale a success. We wish everyone a very happy holiday season and look forward to seeing you in February.”

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SPONSORS OF THE FOLLOWING STATS FOR THE:

ARQANA DECEMBER BREEDING STOCK SALE DAY 4

SESSION TOTALS	2021	2020
• Catalogued	182	199
• Number Offered	159	167
• Number Sold	128	131
• Not Sold	31	36
• Clearance Rate	80.5%	78.4%
• High Price	€28,000	€38,000
• Gross	€586,000	€839,500
• Average (% change)	€4,578 (-28.6%)	€6,408
• Median (% change)	€3,500 (-22.2%)	€4,500

CUMULATIVE	2021	2020
• Catalogued	1,025	840
• Number Offered	907	704
• Number Sold	689	557
• Not Sold	218	147
• Clearance Rate	76%	79.1%
• No. €500K+	13	6
• High Price	€3,000,000	€750,000
• Gross	€41,556,000	€25,253,500
• Average (% change)	€60,314 (+33%)	€45,338
• Median (% change)	€15,000 (-6.3%)	€16,000

was also placed another four times at group level. Overall, Century Dream’s record stands at 10 winners and another eight top three finishes to go with \$723,357 in earnings.

Trainer Simon Crisford said, “Century Dream was an incredibly tough and consistent performer throughout his career winning five stakes races over a mile. He was a stable star for us over the past six seasons and was a pleasure to train. He is an extremely good-looking son of Cape Cross who will be a fabulous addition to Norton Grove’s stallion roster.”

Added Bruce Raymond, Racing Manager of Rabbah Bloodstock of the half-brother to Group 1 winner King of Change (GB) (Farhh {GB}), “Century Dream was a wonderful racehorse. He was a Group 2-winning miler and amazingly consistent at the highest level-- he never ran a bad race. He is a beautifully bred horse who I am sure will be a great addition to the stallion roster at Norton Grove Stud.”

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Century Dream | Racingfotos.com

ASSESSMENT STARTED ON UK RACING’S ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

An initial assessment of British racing’s progress on environmental sustainability, initiated and funded by the Racing Foundation, has been commissioned by British racing’s leaders. The aim is to build a clearer overall picture of current environmental activities and expertise across racing and breeding—establishing what’s already being done, where there’s potential to go further, and how this could be achieved. It will also identify the key sustainability issues, risks, and opportunities for racing. The scoping assessment is likely to cover several areas of environmental sustainability, including CO2 emissions, decarbonisation and renewable energy, management of key resources such as water and plastics, and potential for positive contributions through biodiversity. [Cont. p7](#)

EUROPEAN NEWS

CENTURY DREAM RETIRED TO NORTON GROVE

Group 2 winner **Century Dream (Ire)** (Cape Cross {Ire}--Salacia {Ire}, by Echo of Light {GB}) has been retired and will stand at Norton Grove Stud next year. A stud fee for the G2 Celebration Mile and dual G3 Diomed S. victor will be announced later.

Bred by Rabbah Bloodstock Limited, the A. Belhab-raced 7-year-old’s best performance was a third in the G1 Queen Elizabeth II S. in 2018, while throughout his 35-start career, he



Horses round a bend at a UK racecourse | BHA

Environmental Sustainability Assessment Cont.

Lasting three months, the project will begin immediately and will be delivered by sustainability consultancy White Griffin. Working closely with industry representatives from the BHA, Horsemen's Group and RCA, White Griffin will actively engage with racing's businesses, employers, and participants, particularly those with interest or specialist expertise in environmental sustainability.

Brant Dunshea, BHA Chief Regulatory Officer and Project Executive Sponsor, said, "Climate change and sustainability are major challenges for our sport, given how dependent we are on the environment, transportation, and the use of essential resources.

"There is a real opportunity here for British racing to lead progress in this area, taking positive action to find effective solutions to the challenges we face--and crucially grasp some of the opportunities.

"This foundation research will help us do this by measuring where we are now, plus where there's scope to go further, either as individual organisations and businesses, or collectively through an industry-wide strategy."

Rob Hezel, Chief Executive of the Racing Foundation, said, "We believe that environmental sustainability is crucial to British racing's long-term future and prosperity, which is why it is key pillar of the Racing Foundation's strategy.

"We are pleased to fund this initial package of work, which it is hoped will inform the next steps in terms of determining the need for an industry-wide approach to sustainability.

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SAINT DES SAINTS COLT ANCHORS GOFFS DECEMBER NH

A colt foal by Saint des Saints (Fr) changed hands for €90,000 to top the first session of the Goffs December National Hunt Sale. Consigned by Rathmore Stud and bought by Saint Patrick, the bay (**lot 171**) is out of the listed jumper La Bombonera (Fr) (Mansonnien {Fr}) and is a full-brother to G1 Irish Grand National Chase victor Burrows Saint (Fr) (Saint des Saints {Fr}).

Crystal Ocean (GB), who was popular at earlier National Hunt sales this season, was the sire of record of **lot 218**, a colt out of Lucky Fancy (GB) (Kayf Tara {GB}), who went through the ring for €80,000 to Gerry Aherne. A member of The Beeches Stud draft, the May foal is from the same family as Group 2 bumper winner Diamond Sal (GB) (Bob Back) and the stakes-winning hurdler Ring The Boss (Ire) (Kahyasi {Ire}).

Of 226 lots offered, 135 (60%) sold for an aggregate of €1,928,000. The average was €14,281 and the median was €10,000. Selling will continue at 10 a.m. on Wednesday and Thursday.

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Lot 171, a son of Saint des Saints | Goffs

BREEDING SEASON PREP WORKSHOP TO BE OFFERED BY ITBA

The ITBA Educational Programme 2021: Breeding Season Preparation Workshop, was announced on Tuesday. Free to attend, the workshop lasts from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Dec. 16. Topics that will be covered are: assisting mares during foaling (Patricia Markey), preparing mares for foaling and postnatal care (Andrea Ryan), the best nutritional plan for pregnant mares during and post foaling and nutritional plans for foals (Lorraine Fradl) and smart approaches to getting mares back in foal plus the importance of selecting the most suitable stallions (Micheal Orlandi). **Cont. p8**

ITBA Breeding Season Prep Workshop Cont.

To register, please email [Kerry Ryan](#).

Commenting, ITBA’s Kerry Ryan said, “Over the last numbers of years, the ITBA Breeding Season Preparation Workshop, supported by the Department of Agriculture, under its Equine Technical Support & Breeding Scheme Project, has become a key fixture in [the] ITBA Educational Programme. A panel of industry experts will address the key issues breeders need to take into consideration in advance of the upcoming breeding season. If there are any topics breeders feel should be included in next year’s ITBA Educational Programme please contact ITBA HQ on 045 877543 as we would love to hear from them.”

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EDUCATIONAL BURSARY FOR LICENSED JOCKEYS LAUNCHED BY IJJ

A bursary scheme for all current or former licensed jockeys who wish to further their education, retrain or upskill was launched by the Irish Injured Jockeys (IJJ) on Tuesday. Funded by

the Pierce family in memory of their late mother Kathleen, who was an avid racegoer, the scheme will make grants available to support the educational and career development goals of all licensed jockeys. The aim is to provide jockeys with enhanced career prospects when they leave racing. Equip, Horse Racing Ireland’s education and training division, will support IJJ in managing the scheme.

Irish Injured Jockeys General Manager, Michael Higgins, said, “This educational bursary scheme has been made possible by the generous donation from the Pierce family and will allow Irish Injured Jockeys to offer practical supports for educational and career development for all licensed jockeys. This is an area where we plan to devote increased resources to and I would encourage any current or former licensed jockey, thinking of returning to education or training, to consider applying for financial support. We are grateful to Equip for their knowledge and experience in helping to manage the scheme. Details of the scheme, including how to apply are available on our [website](#).”

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The TDN’s Alayna Cullen speaks with Mickley Stud’s Richard Kent on his new stallion recruit Ubettabelieveit (Ire) (Kodiac {GB}).

Click above to view a video of the G2 Flying Childers S. hero.

FIRST-SEASON SIRE WITH RUNNERS

Wednesday, Dec. 8, 2021:

UNITED KINGDOM

Almanzor (Fr) (**Wootton Bassett (GB)**), Haras d'Etream

106 foals of racing age/8 winners/0 black-type winners

17:00-KEMPTON PARK, 8f, Sonnerie Power (Fr)

210,000gns Tattersalls October Yearling Sale (Book 1) 2020

Ardad (Ire) (Kodiac {GB}), Overbury Stud

91 foals of racing age/22 winners/2 black-type winners

16:00-KEMPTON PARK, 7f, Initiate (GB)

20,000gns Tattersalls October Yearling Sale (Book 3) 2020

Cotai Glory (GB) (Exceed And Excel {Aus}), Tally-Ho Stud

126 foals of racing age/34 winners/2 black-type winners

16:30-KEMPTON PARK, 7f, Costa Adeje (Ire)

€19,000 Goffs November Foals Sale 2019; £30,000 Goffs UK

Premier Yearling Sale 2020

Divine Prophet (Aus) (Choisir {Aus}), Tara Stud

29 foals of racing age/2 winners/0 black-type winners

16:00-KEMPTON PARK, 7f, Tsubaki (GB)

IRELAND

Caravaggio (Scat Daddy), Coolmore Ashford

155 foals of racing age/25 winners/4 black-type winners

2-DUNDALK, 6f, National Gallery (Ire)

250,000gns Tattersalls December Foal Sale 2019; 190,000gns

RNA Tattersalls October Yearling Sale (Book 1) 2020

Galileo Gold (GB) (Paco Boy {Ire}), Tally-Ho Stud

109 foals of racing age/22 winners/3 black-type winners

3-DUNDALK, 6f, Pilbara Gold (Ire)

€19,000 RNA Goffs November Foals Sale 2019; £19,000

Tattersalls Ireland September Yearling 2020

Postponed (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}), Dalham Hall Stud

78 foals of racing age/3 winners/0 black-type winners

2-DUNDALK, 6f, Danmars Rogue (GB)

3,000gns Tattersalls October Yearling Sale (Book 3) 2020

Practical Joke (Into Mischief), Coolmore Ashford

140 foals of racing age/21 winners/4 black-type winners

2-DUNDALK, 6f, I Am Joking

\$39,000 RNA Keeneland Association November Breeding Stock

Sale 2019; \$75,000 Fasig-Tipton Selected Yearlings Showcase

2020; 140,000gns Tattersalls Craven Breeze-Up Sale 2021



Practical Joke has a runner at Dundalk | Coolmore

OBSERVATIONS

on the European racing scene

WRAPS OFF LOPE DE VEGA NOTABLE AT KEMPTON

5.30 Kempton, Novice, £6,500, 2yo, 8f (AWT)

NOBEL (IRE) (Lope de Vega {Ire}), a 825,000gns purchase at the

Tattersalls October Book 1 Sale, is a half-brother to the G3

Leopardstown Fillies Trial S. winner Love Locket (Ire) (**No Nay**

Never) and the listed scorer Raakib Alhawa (Ire) (**Kingman (GB)**)

who starts for Qatar Racing and the Andrew Balding stable. Out

of a relative of High Chaparral (Ire), the March-foaled chestnut is

met by the similarly unraced Hugo Palmer trainee

Sky Legend (GB) (Galileo {Ire}), a 450,000gns Book 1 graduate

who is a son of the G3 Prix Imprudence scorer and dual group 1-

placed Spectre (Fr) (Siyouni {Fr}).

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BRITAIN

Tuesday's Results:

6th-Southwell, £6,800, Novice, 12-7, 2yo, 7f 14y (AWT),

1:30.76, st/sl.

TRUE WARFARE (GB) (c, 2, Siyouni {Fr})--Patronising (GB), by

Galileo (Ire), a 9-1 shot on this debut, broke professionally from

his wide draw to dispute the early lead. In front from two out,

the dark bay stayed on strongly to record a 1 3/4-length success

over Love Mystery (GB) (**Frankel (GB)**). **Cont. p10**

6th-Southwell Cont.

The unraced dam, whose 3-year-old colt Shirbo (GB) (**War Front**) had won at Lyon La Soie two days earlier, is a half-sister to the G1 Coronation S. and G1 Matron S. heroine Lillie Langtry (Ire) (Danehill Dancer {Ire}) who has produced the seven-times Group 1-winning 1000 Guineas and Epsom Oaks heroine Minding (Ire) and this year's G1 Irish 1000 Guineas winner Empress Josephine (Ire) by Patronising's sire Galileo. Her 2021 colt is by Too Darn Hot (GB). Sales history: 150,000gns Ylg '20 TATOCT. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$4,854. **Video, sponsored by TVG.**

O-Clipper Logistics; B-Rabbah Bloodstock Limited (GB); T-Kevin Ryan.

7th-Southwell, £6,800, Novice, 12-7, 2yo, 7f 14y (AWT), 1:30.86, st/sl.

WINEGLASS BAY (IRE) (g, 2, New Bay {GB}--Lady Penko {Fr} {SW & G1SP-Fr, \$107,705}, by Archipenko), runner-up over seven furlongs at Kempton last time Oct. 20, tracked the leading trio throughout the early stages. Sent to the front passing the two-furlong marker, the 11-8 second favourite stayed on to prevail by a length from Yantarni (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}). Teumessias Fox (Ire) (Lope De Vega {Ire}), the full-brother to Zabeel Prince (Ire), was animated on his debut and after enjoying the lead briefly at the start and in midstraight gave best late on to be a further two lengths back in third. The winner's dam, who was successful in the Listed Prix Caravelle and finished third in the G1 Prix Saint-Alary, produced as her first foal the Listed Lingfield Oaks Trial runner-up Golden Lips (Ire) (Golden Horn {GB}). A granddaughter of the G3 Prix Vanteaux scorer and G1 Prix Saint-Alary runner-up Mare Nostrum (GB) (Caerleon) which links her to the G1 Grand Prix de Paris and G1 Canadian International winner Erupt (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}), her yearling is a daughter of **Saxon Warrior (Jpn)**. Sales history: 75,000gns Ylg '20 TATOCT. Lifetime Record: 3-1-1-0, \$8,153. **Video, sponsored by TVG.**

O-NAS Syndicate & Ballylinch Stud; B-Ballylinch Stud (IRE); T-James Ferguson.

FRANCE

Tuesday's Result:

3rd-Chantilly, €34,000, Cond, 12-7, 2yo, 7f (AWT), 1:24.80, st.

HEALING OASIS (FR) (f, 2, Oasis Dream {GB}--Healing Dream {Fr}, by Montjeu {Ire}), who was off the mark over 6 1/2 furlongs at Deauville Nov. 4, raced behind the leading trio early.

Roused to take control passing the two-furlong pole, the 9-5 second favourite readily asserted to score by three lengths from Omayra (Fr) (Cat Junior). The unraced dam, whose yearling colt is by Elvstroem (Aus), is a granddaughter of the G1 Cheveley Park S. runner-up Imperfect Circle (Riverman), the half-sister to Chimes of Freedom and Denon whose most notable performer was the five-times Group and Grade I hero and sire Spinning World (Nureyev). Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, €30,500. **Video, sponsored by TVG.**

O/B-Haras de Saint Julien (FR); T-Fabrice Chappet.

CONDITIONS RESULT:

2nd-Chantilly, €31,000, 12-7, 3yo, 8f (AWT), 1:41.43, st.

DAR TOUNGI (FR) (g, 3, Kendargent {Fr}--Toungi {Ire} {SW-Fr, \$116,259}, by Rock of Gibraltar {Ire}) Lifetime Record: 9-3-4-0, €58,760. O/B-Jean-Claude Seroul (FR); T-Jerome Reynier.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNER:

Rose In Bloom (Fr), f, 3, **Myboycharlie (Ire)**--Louisa M Alcott (GB), by King's Best. Chantilly, 12-7, 8f (AWT), 1:38.06. B-X Moyer & Mme A Moyer (FR).

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



Highlights Include:

Vale Choisir, The Trailblazing Sprinter

Coolangatta Impresses Again

TDN AusNZ Trivia

Verry Elleegant Aiming For Arc

Royal Ascot Awaits Nature Strip

JAPANESE GROUP 1 RACES – 2021

Date	Race	Track
Dec. 12	Hanshin Juvenile Fillies	Hanshin
Dec. 19	Asahi Hai Futurity S.	Hanshin
Dec. 26	Arima Kinen	Nakayama
Dec. 28	Hopeful S.	Nakayama
Dec. 29	Tokyo Daishoten	Ohi

Cumulative Leading Third-Crop Sires by Black-Type Winners

for stallions standing in Europe through Monday, Dec. 6

Earnings represent worldwide figures, stud fees listed are 2022 fees.

Rank	Stallion	BTW	BTH	GSW	GSH	G1SW	G1SH	Starters	Wnrs	Highest Earner	Earnings
1	Night of Thunder (Ire) <i>(2011) by Dubawi (Ire) FYR: 2017</i>	21	34	11	17	1	3	182	115	477,828 <i>Thundering Nights (Ire)</i>	7,776,523
				<i>Stands: Kildangan Stud Ire Fee: €75,000</i>							
2	Gleneagles (Ire) <i>(2012) by Galileo (Ire) FYR: 2017</i>	18	29	9	22	1	2	219	131	362,880 <i>Shock Action (Ire)</i>	5,748,627
				<i>Stands: Coolmore Stud Ire Fee: €15,000</i>							
3	Golden Horn (GB) <i>(2012) by Cape Cross (Ire) FYR: 2017</i>	8	22	1	8	--	1	177	104	390,750 <i>Turkish Palace (Ire)</i>	4,096,411
				<i>Stands: Dalham Hall Stud Eng Fee: £10,000</i>							
4	Galiway (GB) <i>(2011) by Galileo (Ire) FYR: 2017</i>	8	9	3	6	1	1	62	26	1,876,650 <i>Sealiway (Fr)</i>	3,473,782
				<i>Stands: Haras de Colleville Fr Fee: €30,000</i>							
5	Make Believe (GB) <i>(2012) by Makfi (GB) FYR: 2017</i>	6	9	5	6	1	2	115	61	15,167,491 <i>Mishriff (Ire)</i>	17,402,564
				<i>Stands: Ballylinch Stud Ire Fee: €17,500</i>							
6	Muhaarar (GB) <i>(2012) by Oasis Dream (GB) FYR: 2017</i>	6	14	3	9	1	3	227	124	503,275 <i>Eshaada (GB)</i>	4,197,260
				<i>Stands: Nunnery Stud Eng Fee: £10,000</i>							
7	Cable Bay (Ire) <i>(2011) by Invincible Spirit (Ire) FYR: 2017</i>	5	16	2	9	--	2	163	79	488,189 <i>Dragon Symbol (GB)</i>	3,612,271
				<i>Stands: Highclere Stud Eng Fee: £8,000</i>							
8	Brazen Beau (Aus) <i>(2011) by I Am Invincible (Aus) FYR: 2017</i>	5	8	3	4	--	--	141	62	399,304 <i>Harmony Fire (Aus)</i>	2,059,555
				<i>Stands: Dalham Hall Stud Eng Fee: £7,000</i>							
9	Gutaifan (Ire) <i>(2013) by Dark Angel (Ire) FYR: 2017</i>	3	5	1	3	--	1	243	106	221,839 <i>Fev Rover (Ire)</i>	2,919,742
				<i>Stands: Haras des Faunes Fr Fee: €3,500</i>							
10	Free Eagle (Ire) <i>(2011) by High Chaparral (Ire) FYR: 2017</i>	3	5	1	3	--	1	115	56	699,630 <i>Justifier (Ire)</i>	2,691,586
				<i>Stands: Irish National Stud Ire Fee: €5,000</i>							

FOR ALL TDN SIRE LISTS--INCLUDING INDIVIDUAL CROP-YEAR REPORTS--VISIT WWW.THETDN.COM/TDN-SIRE-STATS/



Night Of Thunder has made an exceptional start to his stud career. He will stand for €75,000 at Kildangan Stud in 2022. | Darley