ASMUSSEN PICKS UP WIN 10,000

by Bill Finley

Hall of Fame trainer Steve Asmussen reached another personal milestone in his career on Monday at Oaklawn Park, winning his 10,000th race. The first North American trainer ever to reach that number, Asmussen recorded the historic win in the fifth race on the card with $40,000 maiden claimer Bet He’s Ready (More Than Ready), an easy winner under jockey Ricardo Santana Jr.

“This is very hard to put into words,” Asmussen said from the Oaklawn winner’s circle. “There’s all the support that we have continually gotten. This is a family affair for me with my mom and dad and my coming from a racing family. I got so many well wishes since we got close. This is a wonderful thing and I’m blessed to have my family here and to have all the continuing support that I get.”

The win ended an uncharacteristically cold streak for Asmussen. He picked up win 9,999 in the first race on Saturday at Sam Houston Race Park with maiden claiming winner Noble Honor (Distorted Humor). From there, Asmussen had 29 straight losers before the win with Bet He’s Ready.

“We were stuck on 9,999 for quite enough time,” Asmussen said. “I guess we wanted to make it a little bit dramatic.”

Cont. Pg. 3

GREG MEANS: AN APPRECIATION

by Alan Foreman

Greg Means died suddenly two weeks ago at the age of 62. If his name doesn’t ring a bell, it should. For over two decades working with the National Thoroughbred Racing Association (NTRA), Greg and his firm the Alpine Group were our principal lobbyists in Washington. It was Greg’s responsibility to promote and advocate for the economic health and well-being of our industry during very challenging times as competition from other forms of gaming grew and animal rights advocates questioned our relevance and very existence. He was a great advocate who was both influential and respected on Capitol Hill.

I know. As a 20-plus year member of the NTRA Board of Directors, I was fortunate to have a front row seat and work with Greg as the NTRA grew its footprint in Washington, D.C. in support of the Thoroughbred industry. While the NTRA has been criticized for many things, its work on behalf of the industry on Capitol Hill has not been one of them. Much of the NTRA’s success in the area of federal legislative advocacy can be traced to Greg and his firm.

Cont. Pg. 3

HALFORD ENTERING TRAINING PARTNERSHIP

Group 1-winning trainer Michael Halford has announced that he will train in partnership with Tracey Collins for the upcoming Flat season.
NEVER HAS A FIRST-CROP SIRE BEEN SO PROVEN

ALREADY THE SIRE OF A MILLIONAIRE

"Now, nearly four years later, Long Range Toddy is one of only three remaining horses from that oddball 2019 Derby to still be racing... It’s also amazing that the 7-year-old has garnered $1,194,670 in lifetime purse earnings."

- T.D. Thornton, TDN, 2/20

2YOs ARE BACK IN 2023

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WORLD'S MOST EXCITING G1 DIRT PEDIGREE
A.P. Indy - Take Charge Lady, by Dehere

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AGRI/GATE ENHANCES OWNERSHIP EXPERIENCE
Agri/Gate Management, an app and web-based platform, could simplify communication and streamline the flow of data in the racing industry.

LOGGINS OFF DERBY TRAIL
GI Claiborne Breeders’ Futurity runner up Loggins (Ghostzapper), was officially removed from Kentucky Derby consideration.

SAUDI CUP TO BE WORLD POOL EVENT
Sports Information Services has entered into an agreement with the Hong Kong Jockey Club for six races to become a HKJC World Pool event.

Champion sprinter Elite Power (Curlin) and Neil Poznansky prepare to gallop at King Abdulaziz Racetrack Monday morning ahead of Saturday’s $1.5-million G3 Riyadh Dirt Sprint. | Jockey Club of Saudi Arabia
The win at Oaklawn was also the 700th at that track for Santanta.

“We've hit some significant milestones with Ricardo and I am sure we will continue to do so,” Asmussen said.

To honor Asmussen's win, Oaklawn donated $5,000 in his name to the Permanently Disabled Jockeys Fund and another $5,000 to the Arkansas Thoroughbred Retirement & Rehabilitation Foundation.

Monday’s feat was just the latest for a trainer who, when it comes to winning races, has no equal. Asmussen began his career in 1986, winning just one race that year, with a horse at Ruidoso Downs. He consistently improved his numbers over the years and had a career-best 407 wins in 2002. In 2004, he set a single-season record for wins by a trainer with 555, surpassing the previous mark of 496 held since 1976 by Jack Van Berg. He topped his own record in 2008 with 621 wins and topped it again in 2009 with 650 victories. On August 7, 2021, Asmussen won his 9,446th race, surpassing the late Dale Baird to become the leading trainer in North America by wins when Stellar Tap (Tapit) won the fifth race at Saratoga.

Just 57 and in the prime of his career, Asmussen is likely to record several thousand more wins before he is done and further pull away from the pack. Jerry Hollendorfer is second all-time in North America with 7,757 wins, but has averaged just 35 wins per year since 2020.

Asmussen’s next target will be the Peruvian trainer Juan Suarez Villarroel, who has the most career wins of any trainer in the sport. Suarez Villarroel entered Monday's action with 10,336 career wins.

Greg Means cont. from Pg. 1

Greg was a rare individual. He was not your typical silk-stocking lobbyist. He was different. Unabashedly blunt, with a southern drawl and downhome personality rooted in his small-town Arkansas upbringing, he was equally effective in the offices of some of the most powerful and influential lawmakers in the land or speaking before a small gathering of industry stakeholders worried about the future of Thoroughbred racing.

What distinguished Greg, and made for effective advocacy, was his own lifetime love of horseracing and betting, which began at his spiritual home, Oaklawn Park, long before he arrived in D.C. He was an informed, passionate and convincing advocate as a result of those early experiences. When he explained how the tax code worked against horseplayers, the Hill staff got it because he lived it and loved it. The Board of the Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association (THA), which I chair, loved his briefings.

Cont.
We learned as much about the current state of American politics as we did the intricacies of legislation or issues that he was promoting or deflecting.

Over the course of his career representing our industry, Greg kept a relatively low profile. Nonetheless, his impact on our business was enormous. Whether you are a breeder, owner, trainer, racetrack operator, bloodstock agent, jockey, sales company representative or horseplayer, Greg helped you by improving the business of racing and breeding Thoroughbreds.

Greg and the Alpine Group were first retained to help the NTRA establish relationships with key lawmakers and committees on Capitol Hill--those who could dramatically impact the entire industry with one vote or the stroke of a pen.

Almost overnight, he helped form Horse PAC, which quickly became one of the racing and gaming industry's largest and most influential political action committees. By helping us handicap hundreds of Congressional races over 20 years, Greg's astute choices enabled the industry to build a core roster of Congressional allies, many of whom have supported our legislation over that entire time span.

In 2004, Greg helped us devise a strategy to secure passage of legislation to eliminate a 30% withholding tax on winnings by foreign nationals wagering into U.S. pools--something of vital importance to the Breeders' Cup and others pursuing an international wagering market.

In 2006, with internet wagering under assault by the Department of Justice (DOJ) and various lawmakers, Greg almost singlehandedly saved the industry ADW sites from being criminalized by the Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act (UIGEA) by negotiating a carveout for state regulated pari-mutuel wagering. The carveout preserved the status quo under which ADW sites were operating legally at the time.

In 2008, Greg led the charge to secure passage of the Equine Equity Act (EEA), part of the broader Farm Bill, that allowed for accelerated depreciation of racehorses from seven years (in most cases) to three years--an important change especially to many smaller owners and breeders. Greg and his partners at the Alpine Group helped us renew that three-year depreciation provision, which almost sunset in 2013, for many more years.

Over the years, Greg helped us pursue numerous industry objectives on Capitol Hill--sometimes on offense to pass legislation and often on defense to keep Congress from passing legislation that would hurt our industry. But nothing Greg helped us accomplish was more important than the win we achieved in 2017.

After many years of unsuccessful attempts, Greg and his team devised a strategy to leverage the strength of thousands of horseplayers to convince the U.S. Treasury Department and the IRS to modernize antiquated withholding and reporting.
requirements relative to winning pari-mutuel proceeds, thus making our wagering product fairer and more attractive. The changes virtually eliminated what were referred to by horseplayers as "signers" and since 2017 have kept hundreds of millions of dollars in the pockets of horseplayers and within the pari-mutuel system.

Later in 2017, Greg and his team at Alpine made sure Thoroughbred racing and breeding were not left out of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act signed into law by President Trump. That Act contained a number of tax provisions favorable to the Thoroughbred industry, including 100% bonus depreciation.

As the pandemic raged in 2020 and several COVID-19 relief bills were hurriedly passed by Congress, Greg and his team helped make sure that members of the horse racing and breeding industry would benefit from those critical economic assistance packages.

As recently as this past December, Greg's work was on full display. Through contacts at the Alpine Group, the NTRA played a key role in identifying and resolving the "shared wallet" challenge, opening the door for sports betting and ADW companies to offer sports betting and horse race wagering on the same platform using a common platform and wallet. The launch of horse racing wagering on the FanDuel app was another quiet, yet important, victory for Greg and for the NTRA in Washington.

Seeing all the important successes achieved on Capitol Hill over the past two decades with Greg's leadership and strategic acumen, it is no wonder that the NTRA has doubled down on its presence in our nation's capital by opening a D.C. office and hiring former Congressman Tom Rooney as its President and CEO. A lengthy and proven track record in Washington—made possible with Greg's able assistance—made these decisions easy for the NTRA.

Year after year, the Thoroughbred industry benefited from Greg's unique relationship-building skills, his ability to open doors and the respect and high regard in which he was held by all on Capitol Hill. We always celebrate and honor the successes and achievements of our equine athletes, owners, trainers, jockeys and breeders. We tend to forget that there are less-celebrated unsung heroes who make our industry better and stronger. All of us in Thoroughbred racing owe a debt of gratitude and many thanks to Greg Means.

Personally, I will miss Greg's intellect and his dedication to our industry. He was a true friend and a trusted colleague. People like Greg are hard to forget and even harder to replace.

Share this story
Kentucky-bred LEMON POP proved an impressive winner of the February S. (G1) at Tokyo Racecourse in Japan on Sunday, following in the footsteps of fellow Kentucky-bred winners of the race in recent years—MOZU ASCOT in 2020 and CAFÉ PHAROAH the last two years.

The February S. is a “Win and You’re In” for the Breeders’ Cup Classic (G1).

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CONNECTIONS:
Owner: Godolphin
Breeders: Mr. & Mrs. Oliver Tait
Trainer: Hiroyasu Tanaka

LEMON POP
A $70,000 KEENOV graduate in 2018

BREED THEM, RAISE THEM, RACE THEM. WE ALL WIN.
AGRI/GATE MANAGEMENT AIMS TO ENHANCE THE OWNERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Six years ago, Landon Jones and Dawson Guhle got connected through the sport of horse racing. Now, they’re preparing to launch a platform that they hope can do the same for others.

In 2021, Jones and Guhle formed the idea for Agri/Gate Management, an app and web-based platform that could be used to simplify communication and streamline the flow of data in the racing industry. They envisioned that through their software, they could remove the barriers to entry for new participants through education, improve the traceability of horses on and off the track, and contribute to the sustainability of the industry for future generations.

Guhle has been involved in the sport for over a decade as a breeder based in Alberta. He met Jones, who was running a sales agency at the time, when Jones became interested in getting involved in racing.

Jones bought into a horse campaigned by Guhle’s Lucky 13 Racing syndicate and was hooked from there. He soon became a partner on another Lucky 13 Racing horse named Maria’s Song (Marine Landing). When Maria’s Song made his debut on Canadian Derby Day and won going away, Jones brought over 50 people with him into the winner’s circle at Century Mile Racetrack.

“It looked like we had won the Super Bowl,” Guhle recalled with a laugh. “But I think that really sparked something for both of us in seeing how excited everyone was and the enjoyment of bringing people together to share that moment. Racing can bring those thrills that you can’t really experience anywhere else. It got the wheels turning of how we could bring more people in.”

Agri/Gate Management founders, COO Dawson Guhle (left) and CEO Landon Jones (right) | photo courtesy Agri/Gate Management
As a newcomer to racing with a knack for business, Jones saw an opportunity in the sport and a need to bridge the gap between the traditional racing community and a new generation of industry participants. Through this train of thought, he and Guhle formed the idea for Agri/Gate Management.

“In my first few years in the industry, I saw a void as far as a lack of transparency and a lack of communication,” Jones said. “We wanted to build a platform that would streamline communication and billing, create a welcoming environment for newcomers, and re-engage the traditional participants.”

The software is now in its beta version and Agri/Gate is well on its way to launching in the app store in the next few months. Trainers will be able to communicate directly with their owners via the app by sending updates on their horses and organizing administrative records like licensing, billing notes and veterinary reports.

The app will be integrated with Equibase, allowing users to search any horse that is on Equibase and find basic data. Privacy settings will be in place so that only users associated with a specific horse as an owner or trainer persona will be able to see the information shared by the horse’s trainer.

Along with increased transparency with horses in training, another key initiative of Agri/Gate is to improve traceability when a horse is no longer on the racetrack. Once a horse is retired, a trainer can pass on the ability to share updates to the new person responsible for the horse.

That new managerial persona can share updates within the app so that former stakeholders in the horse can track the horse into its second career.

“These types of things are becoming really important for the sustainability of the industry,” Guhle said. “People don’t just accept not having any idea of where a horse went anymore.”

“If we really look at the well-being of the animal and the traceability aspect of the software, I think that’s going to be the biggest benefit to the industry as a whole,” added Jones.

Education is another main goal of Agri/Gate. On the app, fans will be able to access informative videos and other educational content.

“Getting the fans on the platform is almost as important to us as the communication piece between trainer and owner,” Jones explained. “One of our key initiatives is converting fans to owners. Syndicates may be able to market on the platform to new potential owners. I think that’s going to really provide a new wave to the ownership side.”

Jones said they envision that users will be able to access the platform through some type of subscription model. While all the details are still being finalized, Jones and Guhle are firm in their vision for the platform as the date of Agri/Gate’s official launch approaches.

“We want to work with the industry to reduce the barrier of entry. We want to contribute to the sport with a software that is going to help the typical fan get engaged and learn about ownership.”

To learn more about Agri/Gate, click here to visit their website.

**BREEDERS’ FUTURITY RUNNER UP LOGGINS OFF DERBY TRAIL**

Gl Claiborne Breeders’ Futurity runner up Loggins (Ghostzapper), who hasn’t had a recorded work since before the Breeders’ Futurity, was officially removed from Kentucky Derby consideration by trainer Brad Cox Monday.

“He’s not here,” said Cox in reference to where the colt is currently training. “He’s off the Derby trail. He’s in light training. At this point, it’s too late in the season to bring him here (Fair Grounds). We will get more serious with him when we get back to Kentucky.”
THE SAUDI CUP TO BE WORLD POOL EVENT

Sports Information Services (SIS) has entered into an agreement with the Hong Kong Jockey Club (HKJC) for six races on the US$31.5-million Saudi Cup race meeting hosted at King Abdulaziz Racecourse on Feb. 25 to become a HKJC World Pool event.

Established in 2019, The Saudi Cup race day has solidified itself on the global racing calendar with horses from 15 countries planning to participate this year. The feature race, the US$20-million G1 Saudi Cup, will showcase last year’s top-two finishers in Emblem Road (Quality Road) and Country Grammar (Tonalist).

The HKJC will host the wagering pools on races three through eight on Saudi Cup Day, giving bettors access to the biggest international commingled pools in the world. SIS will coordinate the commercial arrangements with global pool operators.

Historically, North America has been the largest participant in the Saudi Cup Day pools and this deal not only benefits that market with increased liquidity from Hong Kong, but attracts additional operators from France, the United Kingdom and Ireland, who join existing operators from Germany, Netherlands, Brazil, Peru and Panama.

“The Saudi Cup is a race that has already firmly established itself in the racing calendar and we are thrilled to have this meeting as part of the World Pool. We aim to include the best international racing events within the World Pool schedule, so it makes sense for the Saudi Cup to join the roster in 2023,” Sam Nati, HKJC’s Head of Commingling, said.

The first race will be 7:45 a.m. EST.
FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 19, 2023
NORTH AMERICAN-BASED STALLIONS

Mimi Kakushi (left) | Dhric/AK/DRC

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<td>(Mimi Kakushi--UAE Oaks-G3)</td>
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**STANDING AT LANE’S END • CLICK HERE FOR MORE**
**NOMINATE A MARE • EMAIL CHRIS KNEHR**

**Classic Empire** (Pioneer of the Nile)

8 4

(Angel of Empire--Risen Star S. presented by Lamarque Lincoln and Lamarque Crescent City Ford-GII; Classy Edition--Royal Delta S.-GIII)

**STANDING AT ASHFORD STUD • CLICK HERE FOR MORE**
**NOMINATE A MARE • EMAIL CHARLIE O’CONNOR**

**Constitution** (Tapit)

32 15

(Freedom Flyer--Wishing Well S.)

**Curlin to Mischief** (Curlin)

4 ---

(See Through It--El Dorado Shooter S.)

**Frosted** (Tapit)

14 3

(Frost Point--Heavenly Prize Invitational S.-L)

**Hard Spun** (Danzig)

77 36

(Evan Sing--Colonel Power S.)

**Into Mischief** (Harlan's Holiday)

126 62

(Pretty Mischievous--Rachel Alexandra S. presented by Fasig-Tipton-GII)

Italics indicate new activity, statistics include Northern Hemisphere results only. Want to promote your stallion? Email suefinley@thoroughbreddailynews.com.

WITH HEAVY RAIN FORECASTED, SANTA ANITA CANCELS FRIDAY’S CARD

Santa Anita has canceled Friday’s card due to heavy rain forecast for the area beginning Thursday. Most of the races scheduled for Friday will be brought back as “extras” on Saturday, according to a notice from the racing office.

“We’re looking at a low end of probably two inches of rain between late Thursday and Friday with a high end closer to five inches,” said Jason Egan, Santa Anita director of racing and racing secretary.

Friday was originally scheduled to be a dark day at Santa Anita following Monday’s special Presidents’ Day card. However, due to multiple rain-related cancellations earlier in the meet, Friday’s card was added to serve as a makeup for the lost days.

MUTASAABEQ SET TO BEGIN STUD CAREER AT PLEASANT ACRES

Graded stakes winner Mutasaabeq (Into Mischief--Downside Scenario, by Scat Daddy) has arrived at Pleasant Acres Stallions in Morriston, Florida where he will stand his first season at stud for a fee of $6,500.

Tabbed a ’TDN Rising Star’ following his debut win at Saratoga in 2020, Mutasaabeq was third in the GI Runhappy Hopeful S. in his second career outing before winning the GI Bourbon S. over the turf at Keeneland for Shadwell Stable and trainer Todd Pletcher. He added a win in the Mucho Macho Man S. in his lone start at three.

Mutasaabeq | Lauren King
"Mutassabeq is a perfect fit for Florida and for Florida breeders. Not only does he have an impressive pedigree on his sire and dam lines, he was also a talented racehorse with a tremendous turn of foot," said Pleasant Acres director of stallion services Christine Jones. "We are proud to have the only first year Into Mischief sire in Florida for 2023."
### Saturday, Oaklawn #11, post time: 6:23 p.m. EST

**REBEL S.-GII**, $1,000,000, 3yo, 1 1/16m

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Breeders: 1-Hunter Valley & Mountmellick Farm, LLC, 2-Parks Investment Group, LLC, 3-Winchell Thoroughbreds, LLC, 4-Three Chimneys Farm, LLC, 5-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC, 6-Woods Edge Farm, LLC, 7-Summer Wind Equine LLC, 8-Spruce Lane, Stepwise, Ground Thunder, Robbins, Copper Beech, Lynn, et al, 9-Camas Park Stud, 10-Machmer Hall, 11-Alastar Thoroughbred Company, LLC

### Saturday, Oaklawn #10, post time: 5:43 p.m. EST

**HONEYBEE S.-GIII**, $300,000, 3yo, f, 1 1/16m

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Breeders: 1-Offshoot Farm LLC, 2-DJ Stable, LLC, 3-Three Chimneys Farm, LLC, 4-Gallagher’s Stud, 5-William Humphries & Altair Farms LLC, 6-Willis Horton Racing LLC, 7-Godolphin, 8-Colette Marie VanMatre, 9-White Fox Farm, 10-Terry J. Westemeir, 11-Brushy Hill, LLC, 12-Brereton C. Jones
IN ORDER OF PURSE:

**TIZNOW S.**, $98,000, Santa Anita, 2-20, (S), 4yo/up, 1m, 1:36.16, ft.

1--**THE CHOSEN VRON**, 124, g, 5, Vronsky--Tiz Molly, by Tiz Wonderful. O-Sondereker Racing LLC, J. Eric Kruljac, Robert S. Fetkin & Richard Thornburgh; B-Tiz Molly Partners (CA); T-J. Eric Kruljac; J-Hector Isaac Berrios. $60,000. Lifetime Record: MGSW, 14-10-1-2, $672,678.

2--**Leyas Candy**, 120, c, 4, Danzing Candy--Ilikecandy, by Malibu Moon. (§42,000 Ylg '20 WASSEP). **1ST BLACK TYPE**. O-Muir Hut Stables, LLC; B-Premier Thoroughbreds LLC (CA); T-Mark Glatt. $20,000.

3--**Coalinga Road**, 124, g, 6, Quality Road--Coco Ecolo, by Johannesburg. O/B-Harris Farms, Inc. (CA); T-Carla Gaines. $12,000.

Margins: 6HF, 4 1/4, 10. Odds: 0.30, 5.30, 3.50.

Also Ran: Club Cal. Scratched: Finneus.

The ultra-consistent The Chosen Vron made easy work of the four-horse field to record his fifth straight stakes victory in the Tiznow s. at Santa Anita Monday. The chestnut gelding charged out to the early lead and was under a snug hold through a quarter in :23.60. Leyas Candy was a constant presence just to the outside of the heavy favorite through a half in :47.15, but The Chosen Vron never looked to be bothered and shrugged off that foe at the top of the lane before bounding clear to the wire.

“A winner of 10 of 14 lifetime starts and on the board in all but one of those outings, The Chosen Vron took the 2021 GIII Laz Barrera S. and GIII Affirmed S. He was fifth in the GII Pat O’Brien S. last August, but returned with four straight wins in state-bred stakes company, most recently taking the Jan. 7 California Cup Sprint. “It was a huge effort for him,” said winning trainer Eric Kruljac. “Coming back off of the sprint where he used himself up probably 90 to 95%. We gave him enough time to bounce back, and I think two turns is definitely his preference. He pretty much can do anything, which is really a blessing. He isn’t the best over deep tracks that are hard to get a hold of, or loose on top because he floats and if you don’t break through it to a certain degree you don’t have any traction.”

Tiz Molly has a yearling filly by Clubhouse Ride and was bred back to that stallion last year.

“We’re really blessed to have this horse, we bred him ourselves,” said co-owner Richard Thornburgh, who signed for Tiz Molly for $1,200 at the 2019 CTBA January Mixed sale. “We didn’t know much about breeding and what happens? We get The Chosen Vron, so we’re very lucky. When I saw on the turn that the four horse rider was pumping his arms a little bit and Chosen Vron was just going easy, that’s when I was confident that he was going to do it.”

Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.

**HAYNESFIELD S.**, $97,000, Aqueduct, 2-20, (S), 4yo/up, 1m, 1:37.86, ft.

1--**DR ARDITO**, 120, g, 5, Liam's Map--Delightfully So, by Indian Charlie. (§95,000 Ylg '19 SARAUG). **1ST BLACK TYPE WIN**. O-Michael Caruso & Michael Dubb; B-Fred W. Hertrich Ill & John D. Fielding (NY); T-Chad C. Brown; J-Manuel Franco. $55,000. Lifetime Record: 7-6-1-0, $284,600.

2--**Bankit**, 124, h, 7, Central Banker--Sister in Arms, by Colonel John. (§85,000 Ylg '17 SARAUG; $260,000 2yo '18 OBSMAR). O-Winchell Thoroughbreds LLC & Willis Horton Racing LLC; B-Hidden Brook Farm, LLC & Blue Devil Racing (NY); T-Steven M. Asmussen. $20,000.
Dr Ardito outbattles Bankit

Chelsea Durand

3--Full Moon Fever, 118, g, 5, Effinex--Double Mint, by Eltish. ($70,000 RNA Ylg '19 SARAUG). 1ST BLACK TYPE. O-Windylea Farm, LLC; B-Team West Side Stables & Ann Zabar (NY); T-Mark A. Hennig. $12,000.

Margins: HD, 7 3/4, 3HF. Odds: 0.85, 3.05, 16.80.
Also Ran: Wudda U Think Now, Sea Foam.

Dr Ardito, who has lost only once in seven starts so far in his start-stop career, made his stakes debut a winning one Monday at Aqueduct.

The 4-5 favorite settled well off an early speed duel that saw the quarter go up in :22.84 and the half in :46.18. The pacesetters saw their lead evaporate as the five-horse field bunched up on the far turn. Dr. Ardito and Bankit rolled past the early leaders at the top of stretch and those two rivals went toe-to-toe to the wire, with Dr. Ardito just getting on top in the final stride.

“I know the horse pretty well so I know when I ask him, he's going to be there for me,” said winning rider Manny Franco. “I knew the pace was hot in front of me and at that point the horse to beat was going to be Bankit, so I had to follow him. When I had the chance, I went around him and I asked my horse because I knew it was him and me. I went a little early, but I think that was the right move.

“I can't take anything away from Bankit, he's a nice horse, too. But I really love my horse, and he always tries. [Trainer] Chad [Brown] and his team have done an excellent job and I'm just happy to be a part of it.”

Dr Ardito graduated over the Haynesfield’s track and trip in his second start in April of 2021, but wasn’t seen for the rest of the season. He returned with three wins in the spring of 2022, including an allowance tally in his first start in open company at Belmont May 15. He was off eight months after that effort and returned to narrowly take a seven-furlong optional claimer at Aqueduct Jan. 19 last time out.

“He has a ton of heart,” said co-owner Michael Dubb. “Chad has managed this horse incredibly well. You have to be patient. I had in my mind if this race didn't go, we'd be in the 3X here today. Fortunately, it did go and it all worked out well. He's had ankle [issues], but we've given him plenty of time. We gelded him a long way back and that may have helped him. He's sound now. Chad is never in a rush.”

Of the gelding’s name, Dubb explained, “He’s named after Dr. Anthony Ardito, who has been my doctor for 30 years.”

Delightfully So has a 2-year-old filly by Audible, who sold for $15,000 at last year’s Keeneland September sale, and a yearling filly by Volatile, who sold for $180,000 at Keeneland November. She was bred back to Liam’s Map last year. The mare, who is a half-sister to Canadian champion Delightful Mary (Limehouse) and multiple graded stakes winner Delightful Kiss (Kissin Kris), was purchased by co-breeder Fred Hertich for $55,000 as a 3-year-old at the 2013 Keeneland January sale. Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.
IN ORDER OF PURSE:

4th-Laurel, $57,780, Alw (NW1LX)/Opt. Clm ($50,000-$62,500), 2-20, 3yo, 1 1/16m, 1:45.87, ft, 2 lengths.

CIRCLING THE DRAIN (g, 3, West Coast--Who's Cozy {GSP}, by Cozzene) traded punches with familiar foe SP Feeling Woozy (Irish War Cry) in his unveiling Nov. 20 at this venue, finishing second to that one and ahead of four next-out winners. Sent out in a $45,000 maiden claimer to cap his juvenile year--with the tag waived due to his state-bred status--he waltzed away from the field by seven lengths in his first try at 1 1/16-miles Dec. 9 as the heavy 1-5 favorite and again went runner-up to Feeling Woozy last out Jan. 29 on his seasonal bow at a mile with first-time Lasix. Once again the betting public’s golden child here at 1-5, Circling the Drain rated off runners from fifth around the first turn and was inching up from the outside in the four path heading into the far bend. Launching his winning move from three deep passing the three-eighths marker, the winner briefly locked horns with Termsofengagement (Liam’s Map) at the head of the lane but shook clear by mid-stretch to win by two lengths.

A half-brother to Who's in Town (Speightstown), SW, $211,022 and SP Campaign Vows (Broken Vow), Circling the Drain also claims the dam of SP Buff's in Love (Buffum). Their dam has a yearling filly by Golden Lad and is due to Galawi (Ire) for 2023.

Sales history: $45,000 RNA Ylg '21 EASOCT. Lifetime Record: 4-2-2-0, $92,000.

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O/B-Sycamore Hall Thoroughbreds, LLC (MD); T-Brittany T. Russell.

5th-Fair Grounds, $52,000, (S), Alw (NW2X)/Opt. Clm ($20,000), 2-20, 4yo/up, f/m, 1m, 1:39.42, ft, 8 1/2 lengths.

NOSILVERSPONSHERE (f, 4, Connect--Grand Style {SW, $184,721}, by Giant's Causeway), an eight-length winner at first asking last season--and subsequent $100,000 claim from that Keeneland race by her current connections--picked up a second-place effort against a Churchill allowance group in June. Out in the back of the field for her lone attempt at graded company in the GIII Iowa Oaks and in her subsequent race in October against an allowance group at Keeneland, she was moved to the barn of Tom Amoss from Jeff Hiles during her winter spell. She returned to winning ways in fabulous fashion last out as the overwhelming favorite for her new conditioner, turning her seasonal bow into a 17-length exhibition against state-bred company and didn’t do much different here, tracking along comfortably before looming into contention approaching the far turn. Vying around that bend, she was in hand and pulling away from She’s Gone d’Wild (D’wildcat), who could only watch as the runner coasted in 8 1/2 lengths to the good. The victress is the final registered foal for her dam. Sales history: $27,000 Wlg '19 KEENOV; $48,000 RNA Ylg '20 FTKSEL; $125,000 2yo '21 OBSAPR. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, $38,500. Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.

O-Sean Carney, David Donk & Douglas Mackay; B-Apache Farm LLC (NY); T-David G. Donk.

IN ORDER OF PURSE:

5th-Aqueduct, $70,000, (S), Msw, 2-20, 3yo, f, 6 1/2f, 1:20.76, ft, neck.

HARLAN’S BOND (f, 3, Good Samaritan--Discreet Woman, by Discreet Cat), sent off at 6-1 in this debut, set the pace through fractions of :23.33 and :47.86. Clover Street (Teuflesburg) rolled up to challenge pacesetter into the stretch and those two foes battled down the lane, with Harlan’s Bond grittily turning back the favorite in the final strides to graduate by a neck. After RNA’ing for $22,000 at the SARAUG sale, Harlan’s Bond sold for $45,000 at EASOCT. Discreet Woman was bred to Cupid last year. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, $38,500. Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.

O-Sean Carney, David Donk & Douglas Mackay; B-Apache Farm LLC (NY); T-David G. Donk.

2nd-Santa Anita, $67,500, Msw, 2-20, 3yo, 6 1/2f, 1:16.91, ft, 7 1/4 lengths.

SONORAN (c, 3, Ride On Curlin--Awesome Sunrize, by Awesome Again) was runner-up behind ‘TDN Rising Star’ Faustin (Curlin) in his six-furlong debut at Santa Anita Dec. 26 and was second again at that same track and trip Jan. 29. The 3-5 favorite exchanged blows with Don Corleone (More Than Ready) through a quarter in :21.55 and a half in :44.41. He skipped away from that foe at the top of the lane and sailed home a seven-length winner.
2nd-Santa Anita, Cont.

Castle Island (City of Light) was second. Don Corleone tired to fourth. Sonoran sold for $230,000 at last year’s OBS June sale. Awesome Sunrize, a half-sister to graded stakes winner Stubbs (Morning Line), has a yearling filly by Buccero and was bred back to Qurbaan last year. Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.

Lifetime Record: 3-1-2-0, $67,000.
O-Natalie J. Baffert; B-Casey Seaman (FL); T-Bob Baffert.

IN JAPAN:

Giuc0 Piano, c, 3, Justify. See ‘US-Bred & -Sired Winners in Japan’

Jasper Great, c, 4, Arrogate—Shop Again (SW, $122,274), by Wild Again. Hanshin, 2-19, Allowance, 1800m, 1:52.8. Lifetime Record: 13-3-1-2, $408,951. O-Kazuo Kato; B-Jamm Ltd (KY); T-Hideyuki Mori. *1/2 to Power Broker (Pulpit), GISW, $865,612; and Fierce Boots (Tiznow), SW, $103,147.

**$200,000 Ylg ’20 FTKSEP.

IN SOUTH KOREA:


*Won by nine lengths as the 1-5 favorite. *1/2 to Senora Roma (Verrazano), SP, $209,428. **$4,500 Wlg ’20 KEENOV; $35,000 2yo ’19 FTMMAY. VIDEO (SC 5)

Lord Ban, h, 6, Malibu Moon—Melancholy, by Run Softly. Seoul, 2-18, Hcp. (C2), 1400m. B-Barr Inman & Spendthrift Stallions LLC (KY).

*1/2 to Got Shades (Pollard’s Vision), MSW, $222,769. **$15,000 Ylg ’18 KEESEP; $30,000 Yg ’18 FTKOCT; $50,000 2yo ’19 FTMMAY. VIDEO (SC 5)

IN PERU:

Estrella de Fuego, f, 3, Oscar Performance—Settle’n Speight, by Speightstown. Monterrico, 2-18, Maiden, 1000m. B-Woodslane Farm (KY).

*7,000 Ylg ’21 KEESEP; $25,000 2yo ’22 OBSJUN. VIDEO (SC 5)

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Descending from an Airdrie family that includes Grade I winners Sweet Talker (Stormin Fever), Sam’s Sister (Benchmark), Include Me Out (Include) and Check the Label (Stormin Fever), Giuoco Piano has a 2-year-old half-sister named Silverheels (Tonalist) that is catalogued as hip 517 at OBSMAR next month. Haddie Be Good is also the dam of a yearling colt by Munnings and is due to McKinzie for her 2023 foal. Sales history: $400,000 2yo ’22 OBSMAR. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, $46,269. VIDEO (SC 14)

O-Kazumi Yoshida; B-Craig B Singer (KY); T-Hiroyasu Tanaka.

SECOND-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

2023 Stud Fees Listed

Accelerate (Lookin At Lucky), Lane’s End Farm, $10,000
214 foals of racing age/24 winners/1 black-type winner
8-Parx Racing, 3:10 p.m. EST, Msw 7f, First to Last, 5-1
$95,000 RNA KEE NOV wnl; $175,000 KEE SEP yrl

Always Dreaming (Bodemeister), WinStar Farm, $10,000
212 foals of racing age/14 winners/1 black-type winner
3-Mahoning Valley, 1:35 p.m. EST, Alw 6f, Agnelly’s Dream, 8-1
$35,000 KEE SEP yrl

McCraken (Ghostzapper), Airdrie Stud
48 foals of racing age/11 winners/0 black-type winners
8-Parx Racing, 3:10 p.m. EST, Msw 7f, One Bite, 9-2
$45,000 RNA KEE SEP yrl; $42,000 OBS OPN 2yo

Mor Spirit (Eskendereya), Spendthrift Farm, $5,000
190 foals of racing age/23 winners/1 black-type winner
8-Parx Racing, 3:10 p.m. EST, Msw 7f, Jsk Pharaoh’s reign, 15-1
$10,000 SAR AUG yrl; $22,000 RNA OBS OPN 2yo

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

8th-Oaklawn, $104,000, (S), 2-20, (NW$1X), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:11.51, ft, head.

RUN FEARLESS (m, 5, Archarcharch--Pistolpackinpenny (SW & GSP, $198,093), by Portobello Road) Lifetime Record: 18-3-3-2, $178,982. O/B/T-William H. Fires (AR).

6th-Santa Anita, $73,000, (S), (NW$1X)/Opt. Clm ($20,000), 2-20, 4yo/up, 6 1/2f, 1:16.45, ft, 3 1/4 lengths.

JACK SIXPACK (g, 4, Bluegrass Cat--Lady Sweetness, by Candy Ride (Arg)) Lifetime Record: 8-3-1-1, $150,780. O/B-Nicholas B. Alexander (CA); T-Philip D’Amato.

8th-Aqueduct, $72,000, (S), (NW$1X)/Opt. Clm ($50,000), 2-20, 3yo, 6f, 1:12.07, ft, 3 1/4 lengths.

WHAT’S UP BRO (g, 3, Dialed In--Lady On Holiday {SP, $145,452}, by Harlan’s Holiday) Lifetime Record: 4-2-0-1, $89,540. O-Knollwood Stables; B-Barry R. Ostrager (NY); T-Robert P. Klesaris. *$55,000 Ylg ’21 KEEJAN; $24,000 RNA Ylg ’21 KEESEP. **1/2 to Eagle Orb (Orb), SW, $193,100.

8th-Laurel, $60,610, (NW$2LX)/Opt. Clm ($32,000-$40,000), 2-20, 4yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:11.68, ft, 2 lengths.

BENEATH THE STARS (f, 4, Connect--Twice Tempted, by Wild Again) Lifetime Record: 13-5-1-1, $179,039. O-Leonard Mattingly; B-Sparks View Farm LLC (KY); T-Anthony Farrior. *$1,500 Ylg ’20 FTKOCT.

3rd-Fair Grounds, $53,000, (S), 2-20, (NW$4L), 4yo/up, 1m 70y, 1:45.92, ft, 1 length.

WICKED ROSE (g, 4, Wicked Strong--Paloma Rose, by City Zip) Lifetime Record: 10-4-3-1, $144,100. O-Marianne and Paul H.Phillips; B-Perry Segura (LA); T-Henry B. Johnson, Jr.. *$9,000 Ylg ’20 ESLYRL.

6th-Fair Grounds, $51,000, (S), 2-20, (NW$1X), 3yo/up, f/m, 1mT, 1:45.03, fm, 1 1/4 lengths.

GRACELEADSUSHOME (f, 4, Congrats--Maggies Ransom, by Thunder Gulch) Lifetime Record: 9-2-2-1, $98,520. O-Louie Roussel III, Ronnie Lamarque & Oaktree Stable, LLC; B-Stephen Brown (LA); T-Louie J. Roussel, III. *$20,000 Ylg ’20 ESLYRL; $65,000 2yo ’21 OBSAPR.
7th-Laurel, $48,300, (C), 2-20, (NW1BLX), 4yo/up, 5 1/2f, 1:04.61, ft, nose.

**BRILLIANT ICE** (g, 4, Great Notion--Little Ice Patch, by Housebuster) Lifetime Record: 10-2-1-3, $89,900. O/B-Crystal Park Stables, Inc. (MD); T-Annette M. Eubanks.

**ERNIE BANKER** (g, 6, Central Banker--Tall Timbercowgirl, by Prime Timber) Lifetime Record: 29-11-3-5, $298,261. O-Farmers Fillies Racing; B-Andy Beadnell (NY); T-J. R. Caldwell. *$20,000 Ylg '18 OBSOCT.

4th-Sam Houston Race, $38,000, (NW26MX)/Opt. Clm ($40,000), 2-20, 4yo/up, 6f, 1:10.99, ft, 1 1/4 lengths.

**ERNIE BANKER** (g, 6, Central Banker--Tall Timbercowgirl, by Prime Timber) Lifetime Record: 29-11-3-5, $298,261. O-Farmers Fillies Racing; B-Andy Beadnell (NY); T-J. R. Caldwell. *$20,000 Ylg '18 OBSOCT.

4th-Mahoning Valley, $27,500, 2-20, (NW4L), 3yo/up, f/m, 1m, 1:43.99, ft, 1/2 length.

**CANDY ISLAND** (f, 4, Shackleford--Sweet Cindy Lou, by Candy Ride (Arg)) Lifetime Record: 7-3-1-0, $60,273. O/T-Khadeem Galloway; B-Tim Thornton (KY).

2nd-Turf Paradise, $22,900, (C)/Opt. Clm ($25,000-$35,000), 2-20, 3yo/up, 7 1/2fT, 1:29.88, fm, 1/2 length.

**BAROSSA** (g, 4, Into Mischief--Bouquet Booth (GSW, $527,279), by Flower Alley) Lifetime Record: GSP, 14-3-3-4, $194,809. O-Jeremy Ramsland; B-Spendthrift Farm LLC (KY); T-Miguel L. Hernandez. *$775,000 Ylg '20 KEENSEP; $190,000 RNA 3yo '22 FTDMAR; $90,000 3yo '22 FTKHRA.

**ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:**
- **Dancing On My Own**, f, 3, Drill--Pursuing Fate (SP, $109,150), by In Summation. Parx Racing, 2-20, (S), 6f, 1:15.98. Lifetime Record: 7-1-3-1, $40,477. B-English Channel Co-Owners & Robert Cline (OH). *$12,000 Ylg '21 OTBOMX.
- **Culdee**, f, 3, Flatter--Bend (MSP, $144,946), by Arp. Mahoning Valley, 2-20, 1m, 1:45.69. Lifetime Record: 11-1-4-2, $69,185. B-Claiborne Farm (KY). *$180,000 Ylg '20 KEENSEP; $75,000 3yo '22 KEENOV. **1/2 to Bendable (Horse Greeley), GSW, $256,845; and to Clearly Now (Horse Greeley), MGSP & GISP-USA, MSP-Can, $1,145,674.
- **Bet He’s Ready**, c, 4, More Than Ready--Separate Forest (GSW, $206,525), by Forestry. Oaklawn, 2-20, (C), 6f, 1:10.58. Lifetime Record: 12-4-2-3, $59,273. B-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC (KY). *$75,000 Ylg '20 FTKOCT; $115,000 RNA 3yo '21 FTFMAR; $200,000 2yo '21 EASMAY. **1/2 to Hendy Woods (Uncle Mo), MSW & MGSP, $609,131.
- **Dancing Rinca**, g, 4, Practical Joke--Entrechat (GSP, $170,730), by Giant’s Causeway. Santa Anita, 2-20, 6 1/2fT, 1:15.38. Lifetime Record: 8-1-2-1, $87,460. B-Stepaside Farm LLC (KY).
- **Sundria**, f, 4, Red Vine--Deona, by Yankee Victor. Parx Racing, 2-20, (S), 6 1/2f, 1:20.44. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, $30,000. B-R. N. Miller (PA). *1ST-TIME STARTER.
Archarcharch, Run Fearless, m, 5, o/o Pistolpackinpenny, by Portobello Road. ALW, 2-20, Oaklawn
Bluegrass Cat, Jack Sixpack, g, 4, o/o Lady Sweetness, by Candy Ride (Arg). AOC, 2-20, Santa Anita
Bold Warrior, Utottalikeit, c, 4, o/o Poco Uno, by E Dubai. ALW, 2-20, Mahoning Valley
Central Banker, Bankers Daughter, m, 6, o/o Lazeka, by Belong to Me. STR, 2-20, Aqueduct
Central Banker, Ernie Banker, g, 6, o/o Tall Timbercowgirl, by Prime Timber. AOC, 2-20, Sam Houston
Classic Empire, Ascendancy, f, 4, o/o Tensas Punch, by War Front. ALW, 2-19, Golden Gate
Congrats, Graceleadsushome, f, 4, o/o Maggies Ransom, by Thunder Gulch. ALW, 2-20, Fair Grounds
Connect, Beneath the Stars, f, 4, o/o Twice Tempted, by Wild Again. AOC, 2-20, Laurel
Connect, Nosilverspoonshere, f, 4, o/o Grand Style, by Giant’s Causeway. AOC, 2-20, Fair Grounds
Dialed In, What’s Up Bro, g, 3, o/o Lady On Holiday, by Harlan’s Holiday. AOC, 2-20, Aqueduct
Diallll, Dancing On My Own, f, 3, o/o Pursuing Fate, by In Summation. MSW, 2-20, Parx Racing

English Channel, Chanel Spirit, f, 3, o/o Latin Tudor, by Yes It’s True. MSW, 2-20, Mahoning Valley
Flatter, Culdee, f, 4, o/o Bend, by Arch. MSW, 2-20, Mahoning Valley
Good Samaritan, Harlan’s Bond, f, 3, o/o Discreet Woman, by Discreet Cat. MSW, 2-20, Aqueduct
Great Notion, Brilliant Ice, g, 4, o/o Little Ice Patch, by Housebuster. ALW, 2-20, Laurel
Into Mischief, Barossa, g, 4, o/o Bouquet Booth, by Flower Alley. AOC, 2-20, Turf Paradise
Liam’s Map, Dr Ardito, g, 5, o/o Delightfully So, by Indian Charlie. Haynesfield S., 2-20, Aqueduct
More Than Ready, Bet He’s Ready, c, 4, o/o Separate Forest, by Forestry. MCL, 2-20, Oaklawn
Practical Joke, Dancing Rinca, g, 4, o/o Entrechat, by Giant’s Causeway. MSW, 2-20, Santa Anita
Red Vine, Sundria, f, 4, o/o Deona, by Yankee Victor. MSW, 2-20, Parx Racing
Ride On Curlin, Sonoran, c, 3, o/o Awesome Sunrize, by Awesome Again. MSW, 2-20, Santa Anita
Shackleford, Candy Island, f, 4, o/o Sweet Cindy Lou, by Candy Ride (Arg). ALW, 2-20, Mahoning Valley
Sky Kingdom, Skykat, m, 6, o/o Heykittykittykitty, by Tactical Cat. ALW, 2-20, Sam Houston
Speightstown, Dean’s List, c, 4, o/o Mildly Offensive, by Sharp Humor. AOC, 2-20, Sam Houston
Vronsky, The Chosen Vron, g, 5, o/o Tiz Molly, by Tiz Wonderful. Tiznow S., 2-20, Santa Anita
West Coast, Circling the Drain, g, 3, o/o Who’s Cozy, by Cozzene. AOC, 2-20, Laurel
Wicked Strong, Wicked Rose, g, 4, o/o Paloma Rose, by City Zip. ALW, 2-20, Fair Grounds

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MICHAEL HALFORD ENTERS TRAINING PARTNERSHIP WITH TRACEY COLLINS

By Brian Sheerin

Group 1-winning trainer Michael Halford has revealed that he is set to join forces with Tracey Collins and take out a joint licence ahead of the new Flat season in March.

Halford, whose Group 1 win was achieved with Casamento (Ire) (Shamardal) in the Racing Post Trophy in 2010, has also enjoyed international success in Dubai as well as Royal Ascot glory in recent years from his Copper Beech Stables.

However, he is set to relocate from that purpose-built facility to Collins' Conyngham Lodge yard on The Curragh, where the pair will become just the second joint-licence holders in Ireland.

Speaking about the move, Halford, who sent out 24 Flat winners last term, said, “The association between the Collins family and Irish racing goes back close to a century and is one of the proudest in our sport. I’m grateful, humbled and excited by the chance to train alongside Tracey at one of the most famous yards on The Curragh and look forward to starting this new chapter next month.”

Halford is one of the few trainers in Ireland to have sent out more than 1,000 winners. He has trained for some of the biggest owners in racing, including Godolphin and the Aga Khan, and his seasonal tally of winners has hit double figures every year since 1998. Cont. p3

BRITISH EBF SUPPORT TOPS £2 MILLION

Edited Press Release

For the first time in the 40-year history of the organisation, the British European Breeders’ Fund will increase its contribution to prize money to £2 million.

“Britain continues to be recognised for the quality of its stallion market: we stand promoting young sires and established producers of Champions,” said British EBF Chairman Simon Sweeting. “The support of all our stallion owners to the British EBF means we can support well over 700 flat races in 2023 with £1.9million, our biggest commitment to date. With our National Hunt programmes considered too, the British EBF contribution is over £2 million, directly to racing’s prize money. It is a genuine enhancement of the value of the race programme, with a particular focus on developmental races and projects that protect the diversity of the race programme and, ultimately, the Thoroughbred.” Cont. p3

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

ASMUSSEN RECORDS 10,000TH WINNER

Hall of Fame Steve Asmussen, the winningest North American trainer in history, was represented by his 10,000th winner Monday at Oaklawn Park in Hot Springs, Arkansas.
GUEST NAMED TIEA EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Sarah Guest, yard manager for trainer John O’Shea, was named the Employee of the Year at the TIE Awards Monday at York Racecourse.

WHAT’S IN A NAME

In another installment of ‘What’s In a Name?’, Andrea Branchini looks at French winners Mr Moliere (Fr) and Mon Ouragan (Fr).

PURTON TO RIDE ARTORIUS IN SYDNEY

Leading Hong Kong jockey Zac Purton will ride Artorius (Aus) (Flying Artie {Aus}) in the G1 Canterbury S. Mar. 4, his first visit to Australia since 2018.
Collins, who sent out two winners last term, commented, “There is a long and proud tradition here at Conyngham Lodge and I’m greatly looking forward to the next chapter in the yard’s history by teaming up with Michael from the start of March. It’s an exciting venture and one full of potential and I hope we have much to look forward to over the coming months and years.”

Father-and-son team Eddie and Patrick Harty are the only other joint-licence holders in Ireland, but Danny Murphy is understood to be in the process of joining Kieran Cotter on the licence.

**British EBF cont. from p1**

Areas of the programme that will benefit from the extra support include juvenile developmental races, sire/dam-restricted 2-year-old races and a small series of novice and maidens for 3-year-olds.

“Some of our established high-value Novice and Maiden races at premier fixtures will benefit from extra funding,” said the British EBF’s Rachael Gowland. Our successful sire/dam-restricted races will receive a boost as an important cross-industry initiative to encourage the production of quality stayers in Britain. We are also supporting the BHA in special projects to strengthen developmental opportunities in the older horse programme. **Cont. p4**
Two Champions!

**EUROPEAN CHAMPION 3YO**
from his first crop

**CHAMPION 2YO IN FRANCE**
from his second crop

**VADENI**

**BLUE ROSE CEN**

‘ARC’ AIM

THIS SEASON

**EXCITING CLASSIC**

**PROSPECT**

CHURCHILL

**EUROPEAN CHAMPION 2YO & DUAL CLASSIC-WINNING MILER BY GALILEO**

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8 sons of **GALILEO** sired Gr.1 winners in Europe and North America in 2022 (compared with 2 sons of Dubawi) including:

**FRANKEL**
Champion Sire

**AUSTRALIA**
13 Group/Stakes winners in 2022 plus two 100 plus-rated 2YOs with Aidan & Donnacha O’Brien

**GLENEAGLES**
9 Group/Stakes winners in 2022, three of them 2YOs including exciting Guineas prospect

**ROYAL SCOTSMAN**

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**British EBF cont.**

“This is in addition to our long-standing commitments to our high-value fillies' and mares' handicaps, designed to retain mares in GB and give them productive targets throughout the season, and of course, our flagship British EBF £100,000 2yo Series finals founded last year.”

The British EBF 2yo Series covers over 140 qualifying races and is capped by a finale for fillies at Goodwood and one for colts and geldings at York, each worth £100,000. It aims to support the commercial end of the sales and stallion market by utilising Restricted Novice and Maiden races as qualifiers. A number of these, now supported by long standing EBF contributor Juddmonte, are to be run at £30,000, making them valuable qualifying targets on the way to the finals.

In 2022, David Mensuisier’s €13,000 purchase Munch (GB) (New Bay {GB}) claimed the fillies’ final at Goodwood. The race went on to produce subsequent Listed Winterkonigin Trial winner Sirona (Ger) (Soldier Hollow {GB}). The colts’ final was won by the unbeaten Eve Johnson Houghton trained Streets of Gold (Ire) (Havana Gold {Ire}), a £27,000 Tattersalls Ireland purchase whose spring target is the G1 2000 Guineas. The race also produced Legend of Xanadu (GB) (Sixties Icon {GB}) who went on to win the Listed Doncaster S. at the end of last season.

**GUEST NAMED EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AT TIE AWARDS**

Sarah Guest, the yard manager for trainer John O’Shea, was named the Employee of the Year during the 2023 Thoroughbred Industry Employee Awards sponsored by Godolphin in ceremonies held Monday evening at York Racecourse. It was the first in-person event since 2020 and was held for the first time in Yorkshire.

Guest took home a cash prize of £10,000 and an additional £10,000 to be divided among her colleagues at the John O’Shea yard.

Earlier in the evening, Guest was also presented with the Leadership Award, carrying a £5,000 prize and a similar amount for the yard, meaning she and her coworkers each ended with £15,000 following the ceremony.

"Sarah is a richly deserving winner of this prestigious award and, despite the high quality of the finalists brought forward to this evening’s ceremony, she was a stand-out selection to be named the Employee of the Year," said Nick Luck, chair of the judging panel. "There can be no doubting the importance of Sarah to the John O’Shea operation, which was demonstrated to greatest effect during 2022 when John O’Shea was unwell. Sarah is a shining example of the sort of hard work and dedication that keeps yards up and down the country running, and we as an industry can be rightly proud of her dedication to ensuring the well-being of her colleagues and the horses in her care."

The £30,000 awarded to Guest and her colleagues was part of a total of £128,500 offered by Godolphin. The ceremonies were hosted by Francesca Cumani and were organised by the British Horseracing Authority in conjunction with Racing Post and Racing TV.

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**Prime Minister Sunak Pays Tribute**

In a message, Prime Minister Rishi Sunak recognised the hard work and dedication of those who work in the Thoroughbred industry across Britain.

Sunak, whose Richmond Parliamentary constituency includes Middleham training centre and Catterick Racecourse, said: “I am delighted that the Thoroughbred Industry Employee Awards are taking place in Yorkshire for the first time.

“From my visits to Middleham, and Catterick Racecourse, both in my constituency, I have seen the sheer hard work, grit and dedication of all in British racing for the horses in their care.

“Tonight’s finalists exemplify all that is best about British racing and breeding—an industry which does so much for communities across our country, generates over £4 billion for our economy, and showcases Britain on the global stage.

“I want to see British racing and breeding stay at the front of this global race in the years ahead.

“I wish the best of luck and congratulations to all of tonight’s finalists.

“Though, if I may be a bit partisan, I do hope that Becky Smith can do the double for Middleham after Paddy Trainor’s victory last year!”

**TIEA Finalists (winners in bold italic type)**

**David Nicholson Newcomer**
Amy Grieve – Rose Dobbin

**Ryan Kavanagh – Amy Murphy**
Stephanie Wing – George Scott Racing

**Leadership**
Becky Smith – Micky Hammond
Jessica O’Keefe – Venetia Williams

**Sarah Guest – John O’Shea**

**Rider/Groom**

Amy Vickers – Harry and Roger Charlton
Emma Tully – Susan Corbett-Girsonfield Stud & Racing
Rita Gillies – Lucinda Russell

**Stud Staff**
Andrew Rawlin – Blue Diamond Stud

**Bethan Byrne – Godolphin Management Co Ltd**
Davina Burrows – Deerfield Farm

**Dedication**
Claire Ricks – Marco Botti
David Crofts – Marcus Tregoning
Patrick McConville – Hascombe & Valiant Stud Ltd

The Community Award (In recognition of the wonderful work Rory MacDonald achieved at The British Racing School)

**Gay Kelleway – For her work supporting Ukraine**
Jo Foster – Community racehorse visits
Margo Walsh – The Jockey Club

**WHAT’S IN A NAME: MR MOLIERE**

*by Andrea Branchini*

4th-Chantilly, $29,000, Debutantes, 2-6, 3yo, c/g, 8f (AWT), 1:39.82, ft. **MR MOLIERE** (g, 3, *Kingman* {GB}--Armande {Ire} {GSW & G1SP-Fr, $222,116}, by *Sea The Stars* {Ire}).

O-Baron Edouard de Rothschild & Lady O’Reilly; B-SC Ecurie de Meautry & Petra Bloodstock Agency Ltd (GB); T-Andre Fabre; J-M. Guyon.

Horseracing is a game of old. Appropriately, there is so much from the 17th and 18th centuries in the pedigree of Chantilly demolition winner **Mr Moliere** (GB).

“Monsieur Moliere” for the French race commentator, evidemment.

Moliere was the stage name of Jean-Baptiste Poquelin (1622-1673), the French playwright [and actor] dominating the theatre of the times of Louis XIV, who loved and protected him. Armande, the namesake of the dam of the Andre Fabre trainee, was the name of Moliere’s young wife, also a famous practitioner of the stage in her own right. And not for nothing there is a full sister in the pipeline baptized Mlle Moliere, the very stage name of Armande Poquelin [1640-1700] and, supposedly, also a yearling filly by **No Nay Never** carrying the name of Mme de Pomadour, the famous lover of King Louis XV and royal mistress par excellence. All in the [very historical] family.
The name of multiple French winner Mon Ouragan (Fr) appears to be the result of clever word-play across different languages. But... is it so?

Let’s take a step back. Years ago, when I first realized that there was a Group 1-winning horse called Toronado (High Chaparral–Wana Doo, by Grand Slam), I thought that he had been named after the famous 1960s Oldsmobile model, the first U.S.-produced car with front-wheel drive. I was ill-informed. In fact, when I eventually inquired with one of the professionals connected with the Richard Hannon Sr. trainee, she told me that it was named after the horse of Zorro!

Twice true, confirmed Google: “Tornado (occasionally Toronado) is a horse ridden by the character Zorro in several films and books. Tornado is said to be intelligent and fast. His name is pronounced in the Spanish way, ‘tor-NAH-do’ (except in the 1998 movie The Mask of Zorro)”.

As it happens, tornado is also Spanish for “tornado” and ouragan is French for, “hurricane, tempest, storm.” You do not have to be a weatherman to know which way the wind is blowing and understand that the connection is there.

Moral of the story: although there is power in names, names do not have to be a weatherman to know which way the wind is soon in command and stretched clear to record an emphatic 3 1/2-length success from Carbis Bay (GB) (Siyouni (Fr)). The dam, whose first foal was the G3 Chester Vase winner Youth Spirit (Ire) (Camelot (GB)), is kin to the G2 Gimcrack S. winner Blaine (GB) (Avonbridge (GB)) and to the Listed Two-Year-Old Trophy scorer Bogart (GB) (Bahamian Bounty (GB)).

Her yearling colt by Too Darn Hot (GB) was a 150,000gns purchase by Charlie Gordon Watson Bloodstock for Watership Down at the Tattersalls December Sale. Sales history: 125,000gns Wlg ‘20 TATFOA; 350,000gns Ylg ‘21 TATOCT. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, $12,209. O-Mr Boniface Ho Ka Kui; B-Ringfort Stud & Paul Hancock (IRE); T-James Ferguson.

**BRITAIN**

**Monday’s Results:**

3rd-Newcastle, £18,800, Novice, 2-20, 3yo, 8f 5y (AWT), 1:41.71, st.

**Canberra Legend (IRE) (c, 3, Australia (GB)–Rocana (GB), by Fastnet Rock (Aus)),** sent off the 8-11 favourite, was steadied early to track the leaders. Making up ground effortlessly to enter contention approaching the two-furlong pole, the chestnut was soon in command and stretched clear to record an emphatic 3 1/2-length success from Carbis Bay (GB) (Siyouni (Fr)).

The dam, whose first foal was the G3 Chester Vase winner Youth Spirit (Ire) (Camelot (GB)), is kin to the G2 Gimcrack S. winner Blaine (GB) (Avonbridge (GB)) and to the Listed Two-Year-Old Trophy scorer Bogart (GB) (Bahamian Bounty (GB)).

**2nd-Pornichet, €19,000, Mdn, 2-20, 3yo, 8 1/2f (AWT), 1:42.26, st.**

**Madame de Saxe (IRE) (f, 3, Saxon Warrior (Jpn)–Sariette (Ire), by Oasis Dream (GB)),** who was last seen finishing fifth over 7 1/2 furlongs at Chantilly in November, broke awkwardly from the widest stall and raced in last as a result. Passing each rival as stamina came into play, the 6-1 shot overhauled Keahenge Bere (Fr) (Seahenge) 100 metres from the post en route to a 2 1/2-length success. The winner is the first of two current foals out of the dam, a half-sister to the listed scorer and group-placed Baahama (Ire) (Anabaa) who is in turn responsible for the G3 Prix des Chenes scorer Akihiro (Jpn) and G3 Prix Belle de Nuit winner Bartaba (Fr) both by Saxon Warrior’s sire Deep Impact (Jpn). Baahama is also the second dam of last year’s G3 Staffordstown Stud S. scorer Lumiere Rock (Ire) who is the winner from the first crop of Saxon Warrior. Sariette, who is also a half to the G1 Grosser Dallmayr-Preis runner-up Opposite (Ire) (Dansili (GB)) descended from the Arc-winning champion Gold River (Fr) (Riverman), has a 2-year-old daughter of Ten...
Sovereigns (Ire) to come. Sales history: €50,000 Ylg ‘21 ARQOCT. Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-0, €10,850. Video, sponsored by TVG.

O-Patrick Fellous, Alain Giaoui, Alain Solal, Ecurie Francois Corda, Mme Annie Michel & Stephanos Constantinidis; B-M Monfort (IRE); T-Romain Le Dren Doleuze.

7th-Pornichet, €16,000, Debutantes, 2-20, 3yo, 10 1/2f (AWT), 2:21.14, st.

CENTORINA (FR) (f, 3, Gutaifan {Ire}--Loutka {Fr} {SW-Fr}, by Trempolino), sent off at 14-5, was in front soon after the start and able to dictate a steady tempo. Kicking on the home turn, the bay was firmly in control and needed only to be pushed out to comfortably account for Camavinga (Fr) (Seahenge) by two lengths. The listed-winning dam, who has produced one black-type performer so far in the listed-placed Dick Whittington (Fr) (War Command), is a half to the Oak Tree Juvenile Fillies Turf S. winner She’s Complete (Ire) (Oratorio {Ire}). Connected to the legendary Urban Sea (Miswaki) and the brilliant 2000 Guineas-winning sire King’s Best, she also has a 2-year-old filly by The Grey Gatsby (Ire) and a yearling full-sister to Dick Whittington. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, €8,000. Video, sponsored by TVG.

O/B-Malcolm Parrish (FR); T-Yann Barberot.

CONDITIONS RESULTS:

8th-Pornichet, €22,000, 2-20, 3yo, 10 1/2f (AWT), 2:15.37, st.

HAPTICS (FR) (g, 3, Camelot (GB)--Oasis Lady (Ire), by Oasis Dream (GB)) Lifetime Record: 7-2-1-0, €28,950. O-Hisaaki Saito; B-E Puerari, Oceanic Bloodstock SARL, Ecurie du Parc Monceau & Ecurie Ades Hazan (FR); T-Henri-Francois Devin. *€185,000 Ylg ‘21 ARQAUG.

1st-Cagnes-sur-Mer, €18,000, 2-20, 4yo/up, 12f (AWT), 2:33.46, st.

MON OURAGAN (FR) (h, 7, Toronado (Ire)--Lady Of The House (Ire), by Holy Roman Emperor (Ire)) Lifetime Record: 28-11-5-0, €146,997. O-Laurent Dassault; B-Framont Limited, M Matthew & M Beaumont (FR); T-Jean-Claude Rouget. *€38,000 Ylg ‘17 ARQOCT.

IN JAPAN:

Susan Asher (Jpn), c, 4, Siyouni (Fr)--Autignac (Fr), by Solon (Ger). Hanshin, 2-19, Plate Race, 8FT, 1:34.60. O-Chieko Hayashi; B Tomita Farm (Jpn); T Takashi Suzuki.

Alba Minoru (Jpn), h, 5, Bobby’s Kitten--Alapinta (GB), by Medicean (GB). Kokura, 2-19, Cond., 5f, :57.60. O-Minoru Yoshioka; B-Fujiwara Farm (Jpn); T-Eiji Nakadate. *12,000gns in utero ‘17 TATDEM.

HONG KONG SUPERSTAR PURTON TO RIDE ARTORIUS IN AUSTRALIA

Top Hong Kong-based jockey Zac Purton will return to ride in his native Australia for the first time since the 2018 G1 Melbourne Cup, Australia’s News Corp. reported. The 40-year-old reinsman will pilot Group 1 winner Artorius (Aus) (Flying Artie (Aus)) in the G1 Canterbury S., the 2-year-old King’s Gambit (Aus) (I Am Invincible (Aus)) in the G2 Todman S. and possibly Communist (Aus) (Russian Revolution (Aus)) in the G1 Randwick Guineas at Royal Randwick on Mar. 4.

"I am coming back to ride Artorius in the Canterbury Stakes and some other very good horses," Purton told News Corp. "It works out well because I got suspended [Sunday] in Hong Kong and I start my suspension after I ride in Sydney, so maybe I can spend a bit of extra time there [in Australia]. Purton has won Group 1 races in five countries since he started riding in 2007.

Click HERE to read today’s edition of Highlights Include:

115k Capitalist Filly Tops Magics Tas
Hedge & Carey On Elliptical’s Success
Magical Lagoon Given Quiet Trial
Anamoe Not Certain On Queen Elizabeth

WINNERS BY EUROPEAN SIRES

IN JAPAN:

Dazzling Brave (Jpn), c, 3, Saxon Warrior (Jpn)--Lily’s Candle (Fr) (G1SW-Fr, $317,864), by Style Vendome (Fr). Kokura, 2-19, Novice Race, 9FT, 1:55.50. O-Sunday Racing; B-Northern Farm (Jpn); T-Takashi Saito.

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