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Congratulations to Breeders’ Cup Sprint winner and Eclipse Champion Elite Power’s connections:
Owner: Juddmonte
Breeder: Alpha Delta Stables, LLC
Hall of Fame Trainer: Bill Mott
REBEL WIN FOR CANDY RIDE'S CONFIDENCE GAME

Confidence Game (Candy Ride {Arg}) rewarded his backers Saturday at 18-1 with a win in Oaklawn Park’s GII Rebel S. and 50 points on the Road to the Kentucky Derby.

BLAME’S WET PAINT THRILLS IN HONEYBEE

Wet Paint (Blame) proved that her fondness for the off going was no fluke Saturday with a rousing win in Oaklawn’s GIII Honeybee S.

CURLIN’S ELITE POWER TRIUMPHS IN RIYADH

Juddmonte’s champion sprinter Elite Power (Curlin) picked up right where he left off with an easy score in the G3 Riyadh Dirt Sprint.

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BEHIND PACE MELTDOWN, CONFIDENCE GAME TAKES THE REBEL

Confidence Game (Candy Ride {Arg}), despite being, as his trainer Keith Desormeaux said, “the complete opposite of his name” in the paddock, rewarded his backers Saturday at 18-1 with a win in the GII Rebel S. and 50 points on the Road to the Kentucky Derby.

Breaking from the same gate as Wet Paint (Blame) won from one race prior in the GIII Honeybee S., Confidence Game raced two-wide past the stands and settled a path off the rail as the field sorted themselves out into the first turn. Powerful (Nyquist) and Frosted Departure (Frosted) did their best to separate themselves from the group, duking it out on the front end just ahead of stablemates Verifying (Justify) and Giant Mischief (Into Mischief). The first quarter, up in :22.75, had the field strung out up the backstretch with Red Route One (Gun Runner) looking hopelessly beaten in the back. Confidence Game hung back just off those top four, shifting out a path as a rival came along inside for an outside move past the group of leg-weary leaders. Widest of the field past the quarter pole, he rallied with momentum down the lane despite hanging on his left lead. Red Route One came roaring up from the back of the pack inside the final sixteenth but ran out of time as Confidence Game hit the wire in front.

“He sort of lost his mind in the paddock, so I was worried until he got on the track,” said Desormeaux. “James [Graham] got him to settle down out there. He’s really come into his own. He started off pretty immature, but as the races went on, he has improved things mentally, and physically.”

Winning rider Graham added: “I was able to settle him down when we were warming up so he got back in the things mentally. I was really happy with where I was early in the race. He wasn’t doing too much too soon.” Cont.
Confidence Game, cont.

Graham continued: “He had a ton left down the lane. I’m just so happy for everyone involved and especially this horse. He keeps maturing and doing things the right way. I think the sky is the limit for him.”

Pedigree Notes:

A bargain buy at just $25,000 as a yearling at Keeneland September, Confidence Game is out of a half-sister to Horse of the Year Zenyatta (Street Cry {Ire}) and MGISW Balance (Thunder Gulch). Second dam Vertigineux was named 2008’s Broodmare of the Year, while Eblouissante has twice brought big dollars at sales, first from St. George Farm at the 2013 KEENOV sale for $2.1 million and finally from Summer Wind Farm at Tattersalls in 2016 for 1,100,000gns.

Confidence Game is followed by juvenile and yearling half-brothers by More Than Ready and Speightstown, respectively, while Eblouissante was bred to Maclean’s Music for this spring. Confidence Game is the 52nd graded-stakes winner for Candy Ride (Arg).

Saturday, Oaklawn Park

REBEL S.-GII, $1,000,000, Oaklawn, 2-25, 3yo, 1 1/16m, 1:44.21, sy.

1--CONFIDENCE GAME, 119, c, 3, by Candy Ride (Arg)

1st Dam: Eblouissante, by Bernardini

2nd Dam: Vertigineux, by Kris S.

3rd Dam: For the Flag, by Forli

1ST BLACK TYPE WIN, 1ST GRADED STAKES WIN. ($25,000 Ylg '21 KEESEP). O-Don't Tell My Wife Stables; B-Summer Wind Equine LLC (KY); T-J. Keith Desormeaux; J-James Graham.

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Confidence Game, cont.
Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree or free Equineline.com catalogue-style pedigree.

Wet Paint

Since breaking her maiden two starts back over a sloppy track at Horseshoe Indy last fall and parlaying that into a win last time out in the Martha Washington S. over a wet-fast track at Oaklawn, Wet Paint (Blame) proved that her fondness for the off going was no fluke Saturday with a rousing win in the GIII Honeybee S.

She is the new leader on the Road to the Kentucky Oaks with the 50 points earned Saturday giving her a total of 70 points.
**Godolphin homebred Wet Paint led them home in the Honeybee**

Still stuck along the inside as the field swung around the far turn, the bay needed racing room and got it, tipping outside a tiring rival before ducking between horses with a sixteenth to run to finally find clear sailing. With plenty left from there, Wet Paint cruised the final yards to pick up the dominant win.

“Going into the first turn, I was little concerned. She was pretty far back and taking a lot of dirt,” said winning trainer Brad Cox. “She showed a lot of heart to be able to handle these conditions today. She showed she liked the wet track and I think as the distances get longer, she’ll keep improving.

“The Kentucky Oaks is our goal and I think timing wise the Fantasy or the Ashland is the next logical goal.”

**Pedigree Notes:**

Her dam’s first winner, Wet Paint is from the same family as MGSW Pixelate (City Zip). She is the 21st graded-stakes winner for Claiborne Farm’s Blame.
Saturday, Oaklawn Park
HONEYBEE S.-GIII, $300,000, Oaklawn, 2-25, 3yo, f, 1 1/16m, 1:45.35, sy.

1--WET PAINT, 122, f, 3, by Blame
   1st Dam: Sky Painter (GSP, $169,755), by Street Cry (Ire)
   2nd Dam: Skylighter, by Sky Mesa
   3rd Dam: Painted Lady, by Broad Brush
1ST GRADED STAKES WIN. O/B-Godolphin (KY); T-Brad H. Cox;
J-Flavien Prat. $171,600. Lifetime Record: 5-3-1-0, $334,100.
Werk Nick Rating: F. Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross
pedigree or free Equineline.com catalogue-style pedigree.

2--Condensation, 122, f, 3, Frosted--Tiz Briska, by Tiznow.
1ST GRADED BLACK TYPE. ($40,000 Ylg '21 FTKOCT).
O-Pravin A. Patel; B-William Humphries & Altair Farms LLC
(KY); T-Chris A. Hartman. $52,800.

3--Grand Love, 117, f, 3, Gun Runner--Grand Prayer, by Grand
   Slam. O/B-Three Chimneys Farm, LLC (KY); T-Steven M.
   Asmussen. $26,400.
Also Ran: Gambling Girl, Towhead, Defining Purpose,
   Take Charge Briana, Olivia Twist, Taxed, Effortlesslyelgant,
   Boss Lady Bailey, Doudoudouwanadance.
Click for the Equibase.com chart or the TJCIS.com PPs. VIDEO,
sponsored by TVG.

ELITE POWER PARLAYS BREEDERS' CUP
VICTORY TO DIRT SPRINT TRIUMPH
by Heather Anderson

Named the 2022 Eclipse Champion Male Sprinter, Juddmonte's
Elite Power (Curlin) picked up right where he left off with an
easy 3 1/4-length score in the G3 Riyadh Dirt Sprint Presented
By Sports Boulevard. The favorite held fellow American-bred
challenger and GI Hopeful S. hero Gunite (Gun Runner) in
second in the $1.5-million 1200-meter race.

In between horses as Meraas (GB) (Oasis Dream (GB)) showed
the way, the $900,000 Keeneland September yearling raced in
the last third of the field away from the kickback in the center of
the track. Piloted by veteran jockey extraordinaire Frankie
Dettori, who rode Juddmonte's star mare Enable (GB) (Nathaniel
(Ire)) and is riding his final season, the 5-year-old had about five
lengths to make up at the 500-metre mark. The Italian said go a
few strides later, and Elite Power unleashed a strong turn of foot
to motor right by his rivals before the final furlong and win as he
pleased. Cont.
HANCOCK’S LAW

The late ‘Bull’ Hancock of Claiborne Farm was one of the most successful of all stallion selectors; he laid down five criteria for selecting a stallion...

1. **He must have shown good form as a 2YO.**
   Won the **Champagne Stakes-Gr.1** by 4 lengths (previous winners include Coolmore America’s outstanding sires Scat Daddy, Uncle Mo & Practical Joke).

2. **He must have demonstrated his ability to stay 1¼ miles as a 3YO.**
   Won the **Travers Stakes-Gr.1** by 5½ lengths (faster than Bernardini, Medaglia d’Oro etc.) and runner-up in the **Kentucky Derby-Gr.1**, both over 1¼m.
   He also won the **Belmont Stakes-Gr.1 (1⅛m)** by 3¾ lengths and **Florida Derby-Gr.1 (1⅛m)** by 4⅞ lengths (previous winners include Scat Daddy, Quality Road, Constitution and Nyquist).

3. **He must be sound.**
   9 runs at 2 and 3 years, 6 wins, once second, once third.
   4 Gr.1 wins by 17½ lengths.

4. **He must look masculine.**

5. **He must have the right kind of pedigree.**
   A better racehorse than his sire Constitution (by Tapit).
   His dam Tizfiz (by Tiznow) was a Grade 2 winner at Santa Anita and is a full-sister to Fury Kapcori (Gr.3 winner & runner-up in the CashCall Futurity-Gr.1).

TIZ THE LAW

First crop weanlings/short yearlings have sold for $270,000, $215,000, $190,000, $160,000, $140,000, $140,000 etc.
Elite Power, cont.
Gunite also made steady late progress to take second, another two lengths to the good of Remake (Jpn) (Lani). The victory marked the first time a Breeders' Cup winner had landed a Saudi Cup day event, and it was the first time an American-based horse had made the winner’s circle in the Dirt Sprint.

Dettori, who had also finished second in the G3 Saudi Derby Presented By Boutique Group aboard Havnameltdown (Uncaptured), and filled the same spot later in the evening with Country Grammer (Tonalist) in the G1 Saudi Cup, said, “My first word has to be aeroplane. I was a little out of reach and asked him to get a little closer and then the turbo just kicked in and I was a passenger then. He’s a very laid-back horse and only does what you ask him to do but wow he has some turn of foot.

"The Abdullah family has given so much to the sport; the legacy keeps going. I love these colors and it’s nice to give the locals something to cheer about."

Neil Poznansky, assistant to trainer Bill Mott, said, “He’s a big strong animal. He shows nothing but class. He shipped over here like he was here his whole life. He’s a good horse, a very good horse. His turn of foot is incredible, he’s just incredible to watch, a magnificent animal.

"He’s really coming into himself and getting better as he was really slow to mature. Now he’s putting it all together. Bill doesn’t come here without reason but bringing a horse like Elite Power is a good reason to come. For Frankie and Juddmonte it was like a whole dynasty thing."

Comparatively lightly raced, Elite Power’s victory was his sixth in a row. After an allowance optional claiming win at Saratoga in September, he ran out a 5 3/4-length winner of the GII Vosburgh S. at Belmont Park a month later, and secured his first top-level tally in the GI Breeders’ Cup Sprint at Keeneland Nov. 5. Cont.
Elite Power, cont.

Pedigree Notes:

One of the best dirt sires standing in America, dual Horse of the Year Curlin also thrived in desert conditions, taking the 2008 G1 Dubai World Cup. The Hill 'n Dale stallion has 93 stakes winners (51 graded) to his credit.

Of Curlin's 20 Grade I-winning offspring, 11 trace tail male to Seattle Slew, and Elite Power is out of a Vindication mare, just like three-time Grade I winner and GI Preakness S. winner Exaggerator.

Broadway's Alibi won the GII Forward Gal S. and GIII Comely S. and was second in the GII Kentucky Oaks in 2012. Put in foal to Curlin's sire Smart Strike, the dark bay made $2.15 million from Alpha Delta Stables when offered as part of the E. Paul Robsham Stables dispersal during the 2013 Keeneland November Sale. The lone runner out of his dam, Elite Power has a 2-year-old full-brother, and Broadway's Alibi is carrying to City of Light.

GI Florida Derby hero Dialed In (Mineshaft) is a half-brother to the winner's granddam, Astoria S. heroine Broadway Gold (Seeking the Gold).

Elite Power’s fourth dam is American Champion Juvenile Filly Eliza (Mt. Livermore), who collected both the GI Breeders’ Cup Juvenile Fillies and GI Santa Anita Oaks, and was second in the GI Kentucky Oaks.

Please see ‘TDN Europe’ for the remaining Saudi Cup meeting coverage.
Saturday, King Abdulaziz (Riyadh), Saudi Arabia

RIYADH DIRT SPRINT PRESENTED BY SPORTS BOULEVARD-G3, $1,500,000, King Abdulaziz, 2-25, 3yo/up, 1200m, 1:11.01, gd.

1--ELITE POWER, 126, h, 5, by Curlin
1st Dam: Broadway's Alibi (MGSW & GISP-US, $521,500), by Vindication
2nd Dam: Broadway Gold, by Seeking The Gold
3rd Dam: Miss Doolittle, by Storm Cat ($900,000 Ylg '19 KEESEP). O-Juddmonte; B-Alpha Delta Stables (KY); T-William I. Mott; J-Lanfranco Dettori; $900,000. Lifetime Record: Ch. Male Sprinter-US, GISW-US, 9-6-0-1, $2,305,711. Werk Nick Rating: A+++ *Triple Plus*. Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree. Click for the free Equineline.com catalog-style pedigree.

2--Gunite, 126, c, 4, Gun Runner--Simple Surprise, by Cowboy Cal. O/B-Winchell Thoroughbreds, LLC (KY); T-Steven Asmussen; J-Tyler Gaffalione; $300,000.

3--Remake (Jpn), 126, c, 4, Lani--Sariel (Jpn), by King Kamehameha (Jpn). O-Koji Maeda; B-North Hills Co., Ltd. (Jpn); T-Koichi Shintani; J-Yuichi Fukunaga; $150,000. Margins: 3 1/4, 2, 1. Odds: 1.00, 3.50, 4.50. Also Ran: Justin (Jpn), Dancing Prince (Jpn), Ryuno Yukina (Jpn), Freedom Fighter, Pagan (Ire), Meraas (GB). VIDEO.

LOCALLY BASED COMMISSIONER KING OUTSLUGS HAVNAMELTDOWN IN SAUDI DERBY

by Alan Carasso

The locally trained American-bred Commissioner King (Commissioner) engaged in a race-long battle with favored US shipper Havnameltdown (Uncaptured) in Saturday’s G3 Saudi Derby Cup and proved narrowly best in a war of attrition to scoop the winner’s share of the $1.5-million pot. Cont.
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Commissioner King, cont.

Unraced since defeating Almurtajiz (Good Magic) by four lengths in the Ministry of the National Guard Cup over this course and 1600-meter distance Dec. 16, the $9,000 Keeneland January graduate would not allow Frankie Dettori to steal away on Havnameltdown, last-out winner of the GII San Vicente S., who was sent off favourite in the World Pool in spite of question marks surrounding his ability to handle the trip. As early as 600 metres out, it was clear that the Derby would be a two-horse affair, as nothing was making any sort of progress from behind while the pacemakers continued to eyeball each other on the sharp end. Still shoulder to shoulder as they entered the final furlong, Havnameltdown battled on with good courage down inside, but Commissioner King proved the better stayer, if only just, to post a first Saudi success in the Derby. Japan's Derma Sotogake (Jpn) (Mind Your Biscuits) was third.

"The plan was to be close to Havnameltdown and try to test him in the straight," said Abdulaziz Alyousef, representing the winning owners. "We felt he would run well but we weren’t optimistic enough to think he would win. It is just amazing."

Added winning jockey Luis Morales: "What a tough horse. It was an honour to ride in a race like that and to come out on top is just the best. He was so tough, he kept wanting it and we got there at the line."

Dettori was always cognizant of the fact that furlong number eight Saturday was uncharted territory, and so it proved.

"After speaking to Bob, I tried to nurse his speed--he has tonnes of speed," said the Italian. "I tried to save as much as I could, we got into a duel, but unfortunately in the last 50 yards, it ran out. He was absolutely knackered, he put on a great show and he was very brave. It’s a shame it wasn’t seven-eighths, but this is life."

Pedigree Notes:

Commissioner King is a 10th black-type winner and fourth group/graded winner for his sire, who just failed to give A.P. Indy a poignant Classic winner when falling just short in the 2014 GI Belmont S. Commissioner’s North American graded winners include Boardroom, the late Con Lima and Island Commish.

Commissioner stood for his owners WinStar Farm in Kentucky before a deal was brokered by Andrew Cary in June 2020 to send the stallion to Saudi Arabia to continue his career.

Ek Hassena is the dam of a 2-year-old colt by Always Dreaming and is due to Jimmy Creed for 2023.

Saturday, King Abdulaziz (Riyadh), Saudi Arabia
SAUDI DERBY PRESENTED BY BOUTIQUE GROUP-G3, $1,500,000, King Abdulaziz, 2-25, NH/SH3yo, 1600m, 1:38.82, ft. 1--COMMISSIONER KING, 121, c, 3, by Commissioner

1st Dam: Ek Haseena (MSP, $150,590), by Songandaprayer
2nd Dam: Deed, by Exploit
3rd Dam: Flirty Frosty, by Pleasant Colony

1ST GROUP WIN. 1ST BLACK-TYPE WIN. ($9,000 Ylg '21 KEEJAN). O-Faisal Mohammed A Aljadheei; B-Paul Tackett Revocable Trust, Phil Tackett Estate et al (KY); T-Sabah Alshammri; J; $900,000. Lifetime Record: Werk Nick Rating: A. Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree. Click for the free Equineline.com catalog-style pedigree.

2--Havnameltdown, 121, c, 3, Uncaptured--Ashley’s Babe, by Put It Back. ($16,000 Ylg ’21 OBSOCT; $200,000 2yo ’22 OBSAPR). O-Michael E Pegram, Karl Watson & Paul Weitman; B-Katherine S Devall (FL); T-Bob Baffert; J-Frankie Dettori; $300,000.

3--Derma Sotogake (Jpn), 121, c, 3, Mind Your Biscuits--Amour Poesis (Jpn), by Neo Universe (Jpn). (¥18,000,000 Ylg ’21 JPNJUL). O-Hiroyuki Asanuma; B-Shadai Farm; T-Hidetaka Otonashi; J-Fuma Matsuwaka; $150,000.

Margins: HD, 1 3/4, NK. Odds: 12-1, 6-5, 7-2.

Also Ran: Es-Unico (Brz), Continuar (Jpn), Almurtajiz, Atta Alghali, My Map, From Dusk, Almulhem, Baalb (Ire), Ecoro Ares, Loreley (Brz). VIDEO

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Confidence Game (Candy Ride {Arg}) splashes home in the GII Rebel S. at Oaklawn Park
(click to watch)
RALPH WALDROP, SR., FATHER OF ALEX, DIES AT 100

Ralph Thomas Waldrop, Sr., a life-long resident of Mayfield, Kentucky and the father of former longtime head of the NTRA Alex Waldrop, passed away Friday, Feb. 24, surrounded by family at his home. He was 100 years old.

Waldrop was born June 7, 1922, near Mayfield. As a young boy growing up during the Great Depression, he worked many jobs including as a newspaper boy for the Louisville Courier-Journal where he was recognized as a statewide top-seller and as a caddy at Mayfield Golf and Country, where he was a member for most of his adult life.

In 1941, at the age of 19 after the attack on Pearl Harbor, Mr. Waldrop enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps and was called up for officer training in April, 1943. He was sent to Maxwell Field in Montgomery, Alabama for qualifying tests to become a pilot and in May of 1944 he was stationed with the 340th Bomb Group 444th Squadron on the island of Sardinia off the coast of Italy as the pilot of a B-26 Martin Marauder bomber.

During his service, Mr. Waldrop flew 64 bombing missions over Italy, France and Germany and volunteered to fly a C-47 Cargo plane for 52 supply missions to General Patton’s 3rd Army on the front lines of the Battle of the Bulge. He flew one of the first planes into Germany after the end of WWII to assist in the liberation of multiple Nazi concentration camps and witnessed first-hand the atrocities suffered by those imprisoned there. He eventually achieved the rank of Captain. The 340th Bomb Group was awarded the Distinguished Unit Citation and the French awarded his Bombing Group the Croix de Guerre, the first such citation made to an American unit in WWII. His personal awards were: Air Medal with 8 Oak Clusters; Campaign Medals, Northern Apennines; Po Valley; Southern France; Ardennes-Alsace; Rhineland; Central Europe; the Victory Medal, and he was inducted into France’s National Order of the Legion of Honor as a Chevalier for his service in WWII.

Waldrop attended George Washington University in Washington, D.C. before the war and was a proud member of the Sigma Chi fraternity. After the war, he attended the University of Virginia at Charlottesville, VA, and graduated from Murray State University where he met and in 1950 married the love of his life and the mother of his five children, Mary Julia Moore Waldrop, a fellow graduate of Murray State University.

With his father, H.C. Waldrop, he founded Waldrop & Waldrop Real Estate, where for more than 60 years Mr. Waldrop was a successful realtor and MAI Appraiser. He served as president of the Kentucky Association of Realtors in 1967, was named Kentucky Realtor of the Year in 1968, and then in 1988, he was elected president of the Kentucky Chapter of the Appraisal Institute. Waldrop was a life-long member of the First United Methodist Church in Mayfield where he was active as a Sunday school teacher and a beloved song leader for many years.

Waldrop loved the Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs and attended the Run for the Roses many times over the last 80 years. Cont.
Waldrop, cont.
Waldrop is survived by five children: H. Gregory (Nancy) Waldrop of Cadiz, KY, R. Thomas Waldrop, Jr. of Mayfield, Alex Waldrop (Jayne) of Lexington, KY, Julie Waldrop Muscarella (Michael) of Paducah, KY and Jim Waldrop (Charlotte Reynolds) of Jackson, WY; seven grandchildren; one great-grandchild, Penelope Press, Palo Alto, CA; his sister, Ruth Helen Williams, Paducah; and many beloved nieces and nephews.

Mr. Waldrop was preceded in death by his wife of 45 years, Mary Julia, who died in 1995.

The family wishes to thank the many caregivers who helped Mr. Waldrop so wonderfully in the last years of his life as well as the staff at the Veterans Administration in Mayfield, including his primary care physician, Lynn Bushor, DNP, APRN.

Funeral arrangements are pending. In lieu of flowers or other gifts, the family asks that any gifts be made to the Murray State University Foundation, Waldrop Scholarship, at 200 Heritage Hall, Murray, KY 42071 or First United Methodist Church, Mayfield, KY, P.O. Box 766, Mayfield, KY 42066.

Repole Stable and St. Elias Stable’s Forte (Violence) completed his preparation for his 2023 debut in next Saturday’s GII Fountain of Youth S. at Gulfstream Park after breezing five furlongs in 1:01.99 Saturday morning at Palm Beach Downs.

“Last week was the work we wanted to make sure that we were on target,” trainer Todd Pletcher said. “We got a good strong work into him. We got a good work today, but after last week, we weren’t looking for him to do too much. We’re right on schedule and think we are where we want to be.”

The 2022 2-year-old champion is the 7-5 morning-line favorite for the 1 1/16-mile stakes for sophomores, which will headline a program with nine stakes worth $1.85 million in purses.

“He seems to be thriving right now,” Pletcher continued before Forte drew the No. 4 post position Saturday afternoon. “I hope he can continue on that trajectory. We’re super pleased with the way he’s coming into the race.”

“With that type of seasoning, I’m very comfortable with two races leading up, hopefully, to the Derby,” Pletcher said. “We’ve approached it from various angles and felt like this was the right path for him. So far everything has been going to plan. Hopefully, it continues to do that.”
Pounded into 1-5 favoritism off a big-figure runner-up debut effort behind the very impressive Far Bridge (English Channel) in an 8 1/2-furlong maiden over this course Jan. 21, eFive Racing Thoroughbreds’ Carl Spackler (Ire) {c, 3, Lope de Vega (Ire)--Zindaya, by More Than Ready} ‘teed it up ‘exiting the far turn and won Saturday’s Gulfstream finale by a margin as great as the distance from Hallandale Beach to the fictitious Bushwood Country Club to become a no-brainer ‘TDN Rising Star’.

Alertly into stride from gate eight, the blaze-faced chestnut secured a good spot from fourth, one off the fence and in touch with a decent pace ahead of him. Given his cue fully three furlongs from home, Carl Spackler inhaled the front-runners while under a Jose Ortiz hold nearing the entrance to the stretch and accelerated away smartly to score in an effort that will most certainly grade out well above ‘par.’

By the sire of the Brown-trained ‘Rising Star’ and subsequent dual Grade I winner Newspaperofrecord (Ire), Carl Spackler was offered across the ‘pond’ by Ballylinch Stud during Book 1 of the 2021 Tattersalls October Sale, but was originally led out unsold when the hammer dropped at 350,000gns. The colt’s dam originally raced in the colors of Regis Racing before being purchased by Mike Ryan on behalf of eFive for $550,000 at the 2015 Keeneland November Sale. She made a half-dozen starts in those silks, winning the 2016 Intercontinental S. for the second year running and adding the GII Goldikova S. late that season.

Zindaya, a half-sister to Grade I winner and India-based stallion Western Aristocrat (Mr. Greeley), has been well-received overseas. Her Frankel (GB) colt of 2019, Tribal Wisdom (Ire), fetched 280,000gns from Godolphin at TATOCT in 2020, while one’s now 2-year-old full-sister was purchased by the Boys in Blue for 450,000gns at last year’s October Sale. She is also the dam of a yearling full-sister to Carl Spackler.
Counted present with **MILAN MISCHIEF** (Into Mischief), their $440,000 KEESEP daughter of America’s four-time reigning champion general sire. Hailing from the female line of Irish Mare of the Year, several time European/Irish champion, and four-time highweight runner MG1SW Kooyonga (Ire) (Persian Bold (Ire)), the Dale Romans trainee is a full-sister to SW Little Menace. Their dam is herself a half-sister to MGSW & GISP Balance the Books (Lemon Drop Kid) as well as seven-time winner SP Photo Shoot (Giants Causeway). This is also the extended female family of G1SP Princess Sinead (Ire) (Jeremy); MGSW & G1SP Mondragon (Brz); South African champion 3-year-old filly, GISW Kundalini (El Gran Senor); and G1SP Jaljuli (Ire) (Jalmood). **TJCIS PPs**

7th-FG, $50k, Msw, 3yo, f, 1mT, 5:15 p.m. ET

Godolphin’s royal blue silks are carried to post here on the back of **HECKLED** (Hard Spun), a homebred half-sister to MGSW Pixelate (City Zip). Out of SP Speckled (Street Cry (Ire)), herself half to MGSW Skylighter (Sky Mesa)--granddam of Wet Paint (Blame), winner of Saturday’s G2ILL Honeybee S.--as well as SW Cave Hill (Frosted) and the dam of GSP Meru (Sky Mesa), Heckled claims three other winning half-siblings. Michael Stidham sends her to post with a steady string of works and one off the rail for this unveiling. This is the female line of MGISW Nastigue (Naskra), herself responsible for 11-time winner, Japanese multi-millionaire Nobo True (Broad Brush) and GSW Thunder Kitten (Storm Cat), dam of five graded/group performers including MG1SP Michita (Dynaformer) and G1 Emirates Airline Dubai World Cup-placed Cat O’Mountain (Street Cry (Ire)); among others. **TJCIS PPs**

**IN ORDER OF PURSE:**

**CAROUSEL S.,** $150,000, Oaklawn, 2-25, 4yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:10.17, sy.

1--**YUUGIRI,** 119, f, 4, Shackleford--Yuzuru (SW, $105,759), by Medaglia d’Oro. O/B-Sekie & Tsunebumi Yoshihara (KY); T-Rodolphe Brisset; J-Ricardo Santana, Jr. $94,575. Lifetime Record: GSW, 8-4-2-1, $714,285. **Foaled and Raised at WINCHESTER FARM Dr & Mrs Naoya Yoshida, DVM, Lexington, KY**

2--**Pretty Birdie,** 119, f, 4, Bird Song--Bird Sense, by Street Sense. O/B-Marylou Whitney Stables (Hendrickson) (KY); T-Norm W. Casse. $29,100.

3--**Hazy Command,** 124, f, 4, Mastery--Justasprinkle, by Gilded Time. ($75,000 Ylg ’20 KEESEP). **1ST BLACK TYPE.** O-Late Night Stables LLC; B-Belvedere Farm Inc. (KY); T-Thomas M. Amoss. $14,550.


Yuugiri, winner of last term’s Gill Fantasy S., opened her 2023 campaign showing that she’s stronger than ever with a determined win in the Carousel S.

Never off the board until finishing 13th in the GI Kentucky Oaks, it was almost eight months before she was seen again at this track and trip Dec. 30, in similarly muddy, rainy conditions, putting 2 1/4 lengths on SW Hot and Sultry (Speightster) and earning a career-best 90 Beyer against that allowance group in service of first-time Lasix.

Away in good order as the 3-2 favorite, she quickly locked horns with speedster Pretty Birdie from the rail and dueled up the backstretch before falling back off that one early into the bend. Moving out to the three path as Ricardo Santana, Jr. scrubbed on her to rally, find a second wind she did, and Yuugiri kicked away from the game grey to a 3 1/2-length margin.

“The good ones, they can do anything,” winning trainer Rodolphe Brisset said. “Obviously, last time we saw she liked the
mud. Today, was a little bit sloppier, I think. They went a
[half-mile] in :44 and he [Ricardo Santana, Jr.] decided to take
her back a little bit. He gave her a breather and she re-engaged.
We know she knows how to dig in. She won at a mile and a
sixteenth. Everything went as planned.”

Brisset also said that the next objective for the winner was the
GI Madison S. at Keeneland Apr. 8.

One of the only runners for her breeder/owners to remain in
the States for the entirety of her career thus far, Yuugiri is the
most accomplished offspring for her dam. Her half-sister, Air
Twice (Air Force Blue) is in Japan and due to Leontes (Jpn), while
that one’s 3-year-old full-brother is listed as active in Japan.

Yuzuru herself is a half-sister to the dam of GSW, millionaire Air
Almas (Majestic Warrior) and SW Air Fanditha (Hat Trick (Jpn)).
She also claims a 2-year-old Nyquist colt. This is the deep female
family of G1SP & MGSW-turned-sire Danon Ballade (Jpn) (Deep
Impact (Jpn)); Sligo Bay (Ire) (Sadler’s Wells); leading UAE sire
Singspiel (Ire) (In the Wings (GB)); Saint Ballado (Halo); Devil’s
Bag (Halo); and Rahy (Blushing Groom). Click for the
Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.

2--Uncle Ernie, 118, g, 5, Talent Search--Mary Cole, by Broken
Vow. O/B-Gilman Hallenbeck (PA); T-John C Servis. $24,500.

3--Lightening Larry, 120, c, 4, Uncaptured--Moon and Sun, by
Malibu Moon. ($500,000 2yo ’21 OBSMAR). O-Lea Farms LLC;
B-Michelle Redding (FL); T-Jorge Delgado. $12,250.

Margins: 2, 3 3/4, NK. Odds: 1.40, 4.10, 4.90.
Also Ran: Cajun’s Magic, Super Ocho (Chi), Doc Amster,
Scaramouche.

A handful of hours after his Eclipse Award-winning stablemate
Elite Power (Curlin) ran off with the G3 Riyadh Dirt Sprint, Frank
Fletcher’s Candy Man Rocket turned in an impressive
performance of his own in the Gulfstream Park Sprint.

Candy Man Rocket broke alertly from an outside gate and sat a
three-wide trip as Super Ocho (Chi) (Dubai Sky) whistled through
an opening quarter-mile in :21.49. Junior Alvarado was content
to sit against his mount before asking for a bit of acceleration
three furlongs from the wire and the duo easily overhauled the
spent pacesetter in upper stretch before kicking home smartly
through the final furlong.

Winner of last year’s GII Sam F. Davis S., Candy Man Rocket
was a long last in the GII Wood Memorial and was shelved off a
nose loss in the May 9 Gold Fever S. at Belmont. An impressive
allowance winner in a single 4-year-old appearance last
February, the dark bay returned from 11 months away to post a
2 1/4-length victory over this track and trip Jan. 23.

Hailing from the family of champion Althea, the winner has a
3-year-old half-sister named Active Lane (Tonalist) and a
yearling full-sister. Kenny Lane most recently visited Candy
Ride’s son Gun Runner. Click for the Equibase.com chart or
VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.
STYMIE S., $125,000, Aqueduct, 2-25, 4yo/up, 1m, 1:36.75, ft. 1–REPO ROCKS, 124, g, 5, Tapiture—Hawaiian Love, by Not For Love. ($35,000 Wlg '18 KEENO; $70,000 Ylg '19 KEES). O-Double B Racing Stables; B-Mrs. C. Oliver Iselin (VA); T-Jamie Ness; J-Andrew Wolfsont. $68,750. Lifetime Record: GSW, 33-8-6-6, $639,621. 2–Miles D, 118, h, 5, Curlin–Sound the Trumpets, by Bernardini. ($470,000 Ylg '19 KEES). O-Peter M. Brant & Robert V. LaPenta; B-River Bend Farm (KY); T-Chad C. Brown. $25,000. 3–Far Mo Power, 118, g, 5, Uncle Lino–J. D. Safari, by Power by Far. O-Joseph E. Sutton; B-Peter Giangiulio (PA); T-Louis C. Linder, Jr. $15,000. Margins: 3 1/4, HF, 1 1/4. Odds: 1.15, 2.40, 7.10. Also Ran: Bourbonic, Black Belt, Tough Tickets.

A regular stakes competitor for over a year, Repo Rocks made it four-for-four under trainer Jamie Ness. The gelding stepped up into graded company last time out to win convincingly by 8 1/2-lengths with a gaudy 111 Beyer Speed Figure in the GIII Toboggan S. Jan. 29 at Aqueduct.

The dark bay raced keenly down the backstretch as he matched up with pacesetter Black Belt (Not This Time). He was shuffled back to mid-pack after jockey Andrew Wolfsont tapped on the brakes. The chalk began to chase the new leader Miles D (Curlin) around the far turn. Cutting to the three path, Repo Rocks collared Miles D, sailed on by, and won over his tote rival for fun.

When asked about a potential start in the GI Carter H., Ness said, "I think so. The owner is from there and I want to keep him local. Why change something that’s working?"

Repo Rocks is out of unraced dam Hawaiian Love, who produced a colt by Exhí in 2022 and was bred back to Big Blue Kitten.

GANDER S., $97,000, Aqueduct, 2-25, (S), 3yo, 1m, 1:38.64, ft. 1–NEURAL NETWORK, 118, c, 3, by Cloud Computing 1st Dam: Lapinski, by Street Cry (Ire) 2nd Dam: Burgundy Ice, by Storm Cat 3rd Dam: Cara Rafaela, by Quiet American ($120,000 Ylg '21 FTKOCT). 1ST BLACK TYPE WIN. O-Klaravich Stables, Inc.; B-Miller Farm Inc. (NY); T-Chad C. Brown; J-Manuel Franco. $55,000. Lifetime Record: 3-2-0-0, $102,500. 2–Maker’s Candy, 118, c, 3, Twirling Candy–Purple Cat, by Bluegrass Cat. ($97,000 Ylg ’21 SARAUG; $200,000 2yo ’22 FTFMAR). 1ST BLACK TYPE. O-Paradise Farms Corp., David Staudacher & Maxis Stable; B-Newtownanner Stud Farm (NY); T-Michael J. Maker. $20,000.

NEWTOWNANNER STUD BRED & RAISED 3–Dr. Kraft, 118, c, 3, The Lieutenant–Princess Consort, by Dixieland Band. ($50,000 2yo ’22 EASMAY). 1ST BLACK TYPE. O-Cedar Meadow, Inc.; B-Seedallions New York LLC (NY); T-Chris J. Englehart. $12,000. Margins: NK, 1HF, 4 3/4. Odds: 1.35, 1.70, 17.20. Also Ran: D’ont Lose Cruz, Starquist. *DQ’d from first and placed second. Neural Network vaulted to the top of the stakes podium via disqualification. The winner was sparkling on debut two races back at the Big A Nov. 13. The Chad Brown trainee was up against it, however, when 9 1/4 lengths back to Lugan Knight (Goldencents) in the GIII Toboggan S. Jan. 29 at Aqueduct.

The dark bay raced keenly down the backstretch as he matched up with pacesetter Black Belt (Not This Time). He was shuffled back to mid-pack after jockey Andrew Wolfsont tapped on the brakes. The chalk began to chase the new leader Miles D (Curlin) around the far turn. Cutting to the three path, Repo Rocks collared Miles D, sailed on by, and won over his tote rival for fun.

When asked about a potential start in the GI Carter H., Ness said, “I think so. The owner is from there and I want to keep him local. Why change something that's working?”

Repo Rocks is out of unraced dam Hawaiian Love, who produced a colt by Exhí in 2022 and was bred back to Big Blue Kitten.

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

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8th-Fair Grounds, $51,000, Alw (NW1X)/Opt. Clm ($80,000), 2-25, 3yo, f, 6f, 1:11.29, ft, 3 1/4 lengths. 

TOPSY (f, 3, Bee Jersey--Secretariat Humor, by Distorted Humor) broke her maiden on debut Jan. 7 with a wire-to-wire score to win by 3 1/4 lengths. The $225,000 OBSMAR purchase stepped up against this group, battled Flamand (Creative Cause) on the lead from the rail all the way around the far turn and put away her rival. She began to extend her margin past the eighth pole to win by 3 1/4 lengths over the late arriving Just Like Magic (Good Magic). Second dam Secretariat's Soul (Ire) (Sadler's Wells) is a full-sister to GSW & MGSW Perfect Soul (Ire), the leading sire in Canada in 2011. The first offspring to make it to the races, the winner has a pair of full-sibs in an unraced 2-year-old colt named Secretbeehumor and a yearling filly. Her dam was bred back to the same sire last year. Sales History: $42,000 Ylg ’21 KEESEP; $225,000 2yo ’22 OBSMAR. Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, $60,600. Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.

O-L. William Heiligbrodt, Corinne Heiligbrodt & Jackpot Farm; B-Charles Fipke (KY); T-Steven M. Asmussen.

4th-Fair Grounds, $51,000, Alw, 2-25, (NW2L), 3yo, f, 1:09.57, ft, 3 lengths. 

INVULNERABLE (c, 3, Practical Joke--Mobeautiful, by Uncle Mo) broke fastest here, and this time there would be no GSW Hit Show (Candy Ride [Arg]) or SP Determinedly (Cairo Prince) to get in his way. Off Lasix after finishing fifth last out to open his 2023 season, the 3-1 shot set all the fractions and only expanded his advantage on the wire to three lengths as favorite Gilcrease (More Than Ready) belatedly tried to cut the margin. The coast-to-coast tactics were reminiscent of his debut last year, where
he did much the same to hold on by a head at Churchill and what he tried to do in an Oaklawn optional claimer two back against Hit Show, who went clear by 3 1/2 lengths in the end. He yielded to the back of the field last out Jan. 21 at this venue when trying a stretch out on the main track. Invulnerable is the first to the races for Mobeautiful, who also claims a yearling filly by Vino Rosso. She is due to McKinzie for 2023. Sales history: $130,000 Ylg ’21 OBSWIN. Lifetime Record: 4-2-1-0, $122,350. Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.

O-Highlander Training Center; B-Hartley/De Renzo Thoroughbreds (KY); T-Joe Sharp.

Purchased by SHEPHERD EQUINE ADVISERS
Sold by Summerfield Sales

IN ORDER OF PURSE:
6th-Oaklawn, $90,000, Msw, 2-25, 3yo, f, 6f, 1:11.43, sy, 2 1/2 lengths.
GROVE (f, 3, Munnings--Wishful Winking, by Rip Van Winkle {Ire}), off at odds of 9-1, took pressure inside and out for the opening half-mile of her debut run, but went through her gears from between those rivals as they hit the head of the stretch. Grove put some daylight between her and the rest of the field and ran out a comfortable winner. From the extended female family of GSW and GI Kentucky Derby runner-up Firing Line (Line of David) and Grade I winners Sharp Azteca (Freud) and Bowies Hero (Artie Schiller), Grove has a 2-year-old half-sister by Competitive Edge and a yearling half-brother by Omaha Beach. Wishful Thinking was most recently covered by Tiz the Law. The winning conditioner’s father Mark Casse trained two-time Eclipse Award winner Tepin (Bernstein) for this owner. Sales history: $100,000 Ylg ’21 FTKJUL; $175,000 2yo ’22 OBSAPR. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, $54,000. Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.

O-Brereton C. Jones & Naber Racing, LLC; B-Brereton C. Jones (KY); T-Ron Moquett.

4th-Oaklawn, $90,000, Msw, 2-25, 3yo, 1 1/16m, 1:45.91, sy, neck.
KING RUSSELL (c, 3, Creative Cause--Believe You Will, by Proud Citizen) rolled a pair of two’s in his last two over this surface Dec. 31 and Jan. 28. Given a 2-1 chance to go one better in the slop here, he raced in a ground-saving fifth and rallied smartly through traffic in the stretch to gun down favored Seeking Unity (Unified) by a neck. Progeny in the pipeline for the winner’s dam include the 2-year-old filly Elodine (Creative Cause) and a yearling colt by American Freedom. The full-sister to GI Kentucky Oaks heroine Believe You Can was bred to Upstart for 2023. Sales history: $60,000 Ylg ’21 FTKOCT. Lifetime Record: 5-1-2-0, $94,850. Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.

O-Brereton C. Jones & Naber Racing, LLC; B-Brereton C. Jones (KY); T-Ron Moquett.

3rd-Fair Grounds, $50,000, Msw, 2-25, 3yo, 7 1/2fT, 1:37.38, fm, 1/2 length.
SAM STORMY (c, 3, Get Stormy--Midnight Mangata {Ire}, by Maxios {GB}), fourth on unveiling Sept. 8 in a big Kentucky Downs sprint maiden, wrapped his juvenile season Oct. 30 finishing ninth beneath the Twin Spires in a sloppy main track route won by GIII Holy Bull S. conqueror Rocket Can (Into Mischief). Taking a seasonal bow here with first-time Lasix and
carrying 3-1 odds, Sam Stormy watched the pacesetter roll through pedestrian fractions from the inside in third as More Than Five (More Than Ready) came calling from the stalking position first, entering the stretch after a 1:19.31 split to take command. Muscling through traffic, the winner was closing fast and managed to reel in More Than Five in the final sixteenth to hit the wire a half-length in front. The flag bearer for Midnight Mangata, Sam Stormy has a 2-year-old half-brother Bucky Bambino (Hit It a Bomb). Their dam visited Catholic Boy and Lost Treasure (Ire) for this season. Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-0, $39,555. Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.

O-St. Augustine Manor LLC; B-Jason Hewitt (KY); T-Eddie Kenneally.

6th-Fair Grounds, $50,000, Msw, 2-25, 3yo, 1 1/16mT, 1:49.58, fm, 3/4 length.
DESSERT DUKE (c, 3, Kitten’s Joy--Desert Duchess (SW, $240,505), by Hard Spun), still looking for his first win after three starts in New Orleans, was eighth on debut Dec. 16 on the dirt before switching to route nine furlongs over the firm going Jan. 6 when he just missed by a nose. With more give in the ground Feb. 3, the chestnut colt lost steam in the stretch to finish third by two lengths. As the 5-2 second choice this time, he was handed an easy lead and dictated terms. Rounding the far turn, with those slow fractions at his back, he switched to the stands side and kicked on for home to win by 3/4 of a length over the hard-charging 4-5 favorite He’s Got Swagger (Temple City). Desert Duke is the first of his dam’s offspring, but she is also responsible for a 2-year-old colt by Constitution and a yearling filly by Munnings. She visited Not This Time last year. Lifetime Record: 4-1-1-1, $45,500. Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.
O-William Brook Henderson; B-Sam Henderson (KY); T-Chris A. Hartman.

SECOND-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: SUNDAY, FEB. 26
2023 Stud Fees Listed

Always Dreaming (Bodemeister), WinStar Farm, $10,000
212 foals of racing age/14 winners/1 black-type winner
9-Aqueduct, 4:57 p.m. EST, Msw 1m, Awesome Force, 30-1
$32,000 KEE NOV wnl; $55,000 RNA KEE SEP yrl; $75,000 OBS APR 2yo

Bolt d’Oro (Medaglia d’Oro), Spendthrift Farm, $35,000
256 foals of racing age/36 winners/6 black-type winners
6-Sunland, 4:37 p.m. EST, $75K Island Fashion S., 1m, Christian d’Oro, 8-5
$18,000 KEE SEP yrl; $80,000 OBS MAR 2yo

Collected (City Zip), Airdrie Stud, $10,000
234 foals of racing age/17 winners/1 black-type winner
7-Fair Grounds, 5:15 p.m. EST, Msw 1mT, Calm Cool, 6-1
$43,000 KEE NOV wnl; $210,000 KEE SEP yrl
7-Fair Grounds, 5:15 p.m. EST, Msw 1mT, Salsalita Verde, 6-1
$14,000 FTK OCT yrl

Conquest Farenheit (Scat Daddy), Harris Farms
38 foals of racing age/6 winners/0 black-type winners
4-Turf Paradise, 4:30 p.m. EST, Aoc 5 1/2f, Gypsy Rosie, 8-1

Conquest Mo Money (Uncle Mo), McKenna Thoroughbreds
30 foals of racing age/1 winner/0 black-type winners
7-Sunland, 5:04 p.m. EST, $100K Red Hedeman Mile S., 1m, Sweet Money, 8-1

Destin (Giant’s Causeway), Sequel New York
77 foals of racing age/5 winners/0 black-type winners
9-Aqueduct, 4:57 p.m. EST, Msw 1m, In My Shadow, 50-1
$25,000 KEE SEP yrl; $30,000 OBS APR 2yo

Girvin (Tale of Ekati), Airdrie Stud, $20,000
179 foals of racing age/26 winners/7 black-type winners
8-Sunland, 5:32 p.m. EST, $100K Mine That Bird Derby, 1 1/16m, Giroovin, 5-1
$40,000 KEE SEP yrl

Good Magic (Curlin), Hill ‘n’ Dale at Xalapa, $50,000
237 foals of racing age/31 winners/7 black-type winners
8-Sunland, 5:32 p.m. EST, $100K Mine That Bird Derby, 1 1/16m, How Did He Do That, 2-1
$190,000 FTK OCT yrl
**Justify** (Scat Daddy), Coolmore Ashford, $100,000
343 foals of racing age/33 winners/6 black-type winners
6-Gulfstream, 2:39 p.m. EST, Msw 1 1/16m, Just My Own, 7-2

**Majestic Hussar** (Majestic Warrior), Kirton Farms
24 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners
1-Sam Houston Race, 2:00 p.m. EST, Msw 5f, Awesome Outlaw, 8-1

**Mendelssohn** (Scat Daddy), Coolmore Ashford, $25,000
348 foals of racing age/37 winners/3 black-type winners
3-Sam Houston Race, 2:00 p.m. EST, Msw 5f, Kell's Bells, 3-1

**Mobile Bay** (Lone Star Special), Whispering Oaks Farm
7 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners
1-Fair Grounds, 5:15 p.m. EST, Msw 1mT, Acting, 8-1

**Mo Town** (Uncle Mo), Coolmore Ashford, $5,000
171 foals of racing age/28 winners/2 black-type winners
4-Sam Houston Race, 3:30 p.m. EST, Msw 1m, Destron Bay, 20-1

**West Coast** (Flatter), Lane's End Farm, $10,000
198 foals of racing age/14 winners/2 black-type winners
1-Sam Houston Race, 2:00 p.m. EST, Msw 5f, Westcoast Breeze, 12-1

**STAKES RESULTS:**

**LOUISIANA STALLION OF THE YEAR HALF OURS S.,** $75,000, Fair Grounds, 2-25, (S), 3yo, f, 1m, 1:39.47, ft.

1--ALLNIGHT MOONLIGHT, 122, c, 3, by Ransom the Moon--Gingertini, by Medaglia d'Oro. ($15,000 Ylg '21 TTAYHR). O-Roger G. Smith; B-Coteau Grove Farms, LLC (LA); T-Ron Faucheux; J-Jareth Loveberry. $45,000. Lifetime Record: 5-2-2-0, $97,000.

2--Benoit, 122, g, 3, Closing Argument--Katiebarthedoor, by English Channel. 1ST BLACK TYPE. O-Stacey Moak; B-Joseph Tosterud (LA); T-Greg Tracy. $15,000.

3--Mangum, 122, g, 3, Mo Tom--Bovell Road, by Graeme Hall. O-Set-Hut LLC; B-Adcock’s Red River Farm, LLC & J. Adcock (LA); T-Jeff Delhomme. $8,250. Margins: 4, 5 1/4, 6 1/4. Odds: 5.50, 6.30, 6.50.

**LOUISIANA BROODMARE OF THE YEAR BUTTERCUP'S SONG S.,** $75,000, Fair Grounds, 2-25, (S), 3yo, f, 1m 70y, 1:43.94, ft.

1--FREE DROP MADDY, 122, f, 3, by Free Drop Billy--Solo Buena, by Half Ours. ($10,500 Ylg ’21 LTBSYM; $200,000 2yo ’22 TTAAPR). O-Mansfield Racing; B-Clear Creek Stud LLC (LA); T-W. Bret Calhoun; J-Reylu Gutierrez. $45,000. Lifetime Record: 8-4-1-2, $272,800. *1/2 to Swot Analysis (Anchor Down), MSP, $208,323.

2--Olivia G, 117, f, 3, Strong Mandate--Adrienne G, by Indygo Shiner. O/B-Thomas M Galvin (LA); T-Patricia G. West. $15,000.

3--New Destiny, 122, f, 3, Tapiture--My Mella Bella, by Graydar. ($24,000 Ylg ’21 TTAYHR). O-Norman Stables, LLC; B-Paul Pruett & Kim Stover (LA); T-Jayde J. Gelner. $8,250. Margins: 2 1/4, 1 1/4, 2 1/4. Odds: 1.80, 3.10, 8.70.

**CACTUS FLOWER S.,** (NB) $50,000, Turf Paradise, 2-25, (S), 4yo/up, f/m, 1m 70y, 1:14.58, ft.

1--OUTSIDE THE LAW, 124, m, 6, Macho Uno--Against the Law (MSP, $106,780), by Officer. O/B-John Campo (AZ); T-Stacy Campo; J-Harry Hernandez. $31,000. Lifetime Record: 19-7-3-4, $151,288. *1/2 to Lazy Daisy May (Rocky Bar), MSW, $214,083.

2--Alberta Sun, 120, m, 5, Ministers Wild Cat--Drifa, by Tabasco Cat. ($40,000 Ylg ’19 ARZNOV). O-Chris Nolan; B-Fleming Thoroughbred Farm LLC (AZ); T-Robertino Diodoro. $10,000.

3--Big Heat, 124, f, 4, Mr. Big--California Heat, by Unusual Heat. O/B-Triple AAA Ranch (AZ); T-R. Kory Owens. $5,000. Margins: 2HF, 3/4, 9 1/4. Odds: 0.60, 1.80, 2.90.

**CACTUS WREN S.,** (NB) $50,000, Turf Paradise, 2-25, (S), 4yo/up, f/m, 1m 70y, 1:14.58, ft.

1--RAMBLIN' MAN, 124, g, 8, Uh Oh Bango--Double Punch, by Two Punch. O/B-Kevin R. Owens (LA); T-R. Kory Owens; J-Daniel P. Vergara. $30,690. Lifetime Record: 33-13-5-8, $275,530. *1/2 to Two the Punch (Top Hit), SP, $185,819; Rocked Twice (Rocky Bar), SP, $189,185.

2--Annie’s Boy, 122, g, 6, Lotsa Mischief--Awesome Effort, by Awesome Again. ($3,500 Ylg ’18 ARZNOV). O-Michael Feigenbaum; B-Fleming Thoroughbred Farm LLC (AZ); T-Rafael S. Barraza. $9,900.

3--Famous Rock Star, 120, g, 8, Rocky Bar--Famous Gal, by Western Fame. O-Jeremy Ramsland; B-John & Judy Pendergast (AZ); T-Miguel L. Hernandez. $4,950. Margins: NO, 3HF, 1. Odds: 1.30, 1.90, 2.90.

**ADDITIONAL RACING**

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**Mating by Cary Bloodstock**

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2--Benoit, 122, g, 3, Closing Argument--Katiebarthedoor, by English Channel. 1ST BLACK TYPE. O-Stacey Moak; B-Joseph Tosterud (LA); T-Greg Tracy. $15,000.

3--Mangum, 122, g, 3, Mo Tom--Bovell Road, by Graeme Hall. O-Set-Hut LLC; B-Adcock’s Red River Farm, LLC & J. Adcock (LA); T-Jeff Delhomme. $8,250. Margins: 4, 5 1/4, 6 1/4. Odds: 5.50, 6.30, 6.50.

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ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

8th-Oaklawn, $106,000, (NW2SX)/Opt. Clm ($50,000), 2-25, 4yo/up, 6f, 1:10.29, sy, 3/4 length.

SPANKSTER (c, 4, Mastery--Spank, by Blame) Lifetime Record: 12-3-2-1, $235,991. O-Willis Horton Racing LLC; B-Wedgewood Farm (KY); T-D Wayne Lukas. *$260,000 Ylg '20 KEESSEP.

8th-Oaklawn, $106,000, (NW2$X)/Opt. Clm ($50,000), 2-25, 4yo/up, 6f, 1:10.79, ft, 1 1/2 lengths.

AL LOVES JOSIE (g, 4, Holy Boss--Pick Your Pleasure, by Lemon Drop Kid) Lifetime Record: 18-4-4-2, $160,615. O-Tom Curtis; B-Tom Curtis & Wayne Simpson (LA); T-Victor Arceneaux. *$9,500 RNA Ylg '20 ESLYRL.

2nd-Aqueduct, $72,000, (S), 2-25, (NW1$X), 4yo/up, 6f, 1:11.11, ft, 1 1/2 lengths.

BREAKING STONES (g, 5, Congrats--Stone Maker, by Empire Maker) Lifetime Record: 26-4-5-5, $153,766. O-Paul W. Barrow & William G. Anthony.; B-Roddy J Valente (NY); T-Paul W. Barrow.

2nd-Aqueduct, $72,000, (S), 2-25, (NW1$X), 4yo/up, 6f, 1:10.79, ft, 1 1/2 lengths.

AL LOVES JOSIE (g, 4, Holy Boss--Pick Your Pleasure, by Lemon Drop Kid) Lifetime Record: 18-4-4-2, $160,615. O-Tom Curtis; B-Tom Curtis & Wayne Simpson (LA); T-Victor Arceneaux. *$9,500 RNA Ylg '20 ESLYRL.
2nd-Delta Downs, $38,810, 2-24, (C), 3yo/up, f/m, 1m, 1:39.89, ft, 3/4 length.

MAJESTIC WAYS (f, 4, Tapiture--Tippling Ways, by Scat Daddy)
Lifetime Record: 12-5-2-1, $129,356. O-Norman Stables, LLC; B-Russell Jones (KY); T-Jayde J. Gelner. *$20,000 Wlg '19 KEENOV; $35,000 Ylg '20 FTKOCT.

1st-Delta Downs, $37,810, 2-25, (C), 4yo/up, 5f, :58.33, ft, 3/4 length.

MIDNIGHT FIRE (h, 5, Midnight Lute--Meili, by Forestry)
Lifetime Record: 10-4-1-1, $92,385. O/B-Pegasus Stud LLC (FL); T-Brett A. Brinkman.

7th-Delta Downs, $36,860, 2-24, (C), 3yo, f, 7 1/2f, 1:35.16, ft, 4 1/4 lengths.

FREEBRITNEY (f, 3, Klimt--Arrostos, by Bodemeister)
Lifetime Record: 5-2-1-0, $53,720. O-James McIngvale; B-Mullikin Thoroughbreds (KY); T-Chris Richard. *$22,000 RNA Wlg '20 FTKNOV; $27,000 Ylg '21 KEESEP.

4th-Sam Houston Race, $36,000, 2-25, (NW1X), 4yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:11.44, ft, neck.

UNION DATA (g, 4, Midshipman--Im a Bear {MSW, $136,048}, by Touch Tone)
Lifetime Record: 5-3-1-4, $89,854. O-Built Wright Stables, LLC; B-Stephen J. W. & Janene M. (KY); T-Norman L. Cash. *$85,000 Ylg '20 KEENOV; $90,000 2yo '22 OBSAPR.

4th-Penn National, $31,600, (S), 2-24, (NW1BX), 4yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:12.10, ft, 3/4 length.

EARLY FROST (m, 6, Frost Giant--Mahalia, by Songandaprayer)
Lifetime Record: 26-5-5-3, $93,605. O-IBB Thoroughbred & Brandon Paul Stem; B-IBB Thoroughbred (PA); T-Mark Ippolito.

5th-Turf Paradise, $21,900, (NW1X)/Opt. Clm ($10,000-$12,500), 2-25, 4yo/up, 6f, 1:07.91, ft, neck.

STAY HAPPY (g, 7, Oxbow--Plum Happy, by Lookin At Lucky)
Lifetime Record: 24-9-2-5, $153,124. O/T-Justin R. Evans; B-Maccabee Farm (KY).

7th-Turf Paradise, $21,900, 2-25, (C), 4yo/up, 1m, 1:34.71, ft, 6 1/4 lengths.

MR. WHO (g, 6, Kantharos--Even Road {MSP, $261,167}, by Stephen Got Even)
Lifetime Record: 40-7-5-7, $136,129. O-Mike Chambers & Bradley Green; B-Sam E. & Sammy L Stevens (FL); T-Mike Chambers.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Bon Dia, f, 3, Bernardini--Sounds Delicious (SW, $240,100), by Yes It's True. Tampa Bay Downs, 2-25, (C), 6f, 1:11.29. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, $10,200. E-US; T-Justin R. Evans; B-Cingles Thoroughbreds (NH).

Jeweled Shillelagh, c, 3, City of Light--Knock, by Tapit. Golden Gate Fields, 2-25, 1m (AWT), 1:39.43. Lifetime Record: 4-1-0-0, $19,500. B-Lesley Campion & River Oak Farm (KY). *$35,000 Ylg '21 KEESEP.

American Grant, g, 3, Commissioner--American Prayer, by Quiet American. Aqueduct, 2-25, (S), 1m, 1:27:05. Lifetime Record: 4-1-0-0, $28,690. B-Edward C. Behringer (NY).

De Saix, c, 3, Dialed In--Gemsaresparkling, by Gemologist. Fair Grounds, 2-25, (C), 6f, 1:10.88. Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-0, $19,800. B-Bruce Hirsch & Felicia Branhman (KY). *$36,000 Ylg '21 OBSAPR; $90,000 2yo '22 OBSAPR.

Nomadic Pride, f, 3, Flatter--Cayala, by Cherokee Run. Delta Downs, 2-24, 7f, 1:27.96. Lifetime Record: 4-1-0-0, $23,101. B-Iron Age & Felicia Branhman (KY). *$325,000 Ylg '21 KEESEP. **1/2 to Roderick (Into Mischief), SP, $187,530; Provocateur (Into Mischief), MSW & GISP, $228,330; One Liner (Into Mischief), GSW, $475,250.

**1/2 to Roderick (Into Mischief), SP, $187,530; Provocateur (Into Mischief), MSW & GISP, $228,330; One Liner (Into Mischief), GSW, $475,250.


Faccia Bella, f, 3, Summer Front--West Kentucky, by Yankee Victor. Tampa Bay Downs, 2-25, 1 1/8mT, 1:51.44. Lifetime Record: 7-1-3-1, $33,030. B-Brereton C Jones (KY). *$16,000 Ylg ‘21 KEESEP. **1/2 to Forever Juanito (Badge of Silver), SW & GSP, $303,014.

Witt America, g, 4, Drums of Thunder--Expect Michelle, by Valid Expectations. Sam Houston Race, 2-25, 1 1/8mT, 1:39.05. Lifetime Record: 16-1-3-3, $35,786. B-Henry S. Witt (TX).

Tranquility, f, 4, Northern Afleet--Dynachick, by Dynaformer. Sam Houston Race Park, 2-25, (S), 1mT, 1:39.82. Lifetime Record: 4-1-1-0, $28,935. B-Century Acres Farm, LLC (TX).

Arrogate, Icarus, g, 4, o/o Light the Sky, by Tapit. STR, 2-25, Oaklawn

Astrology, First I've Seen, f, 4, o/o Correct Call, by Consolidator. ALW, 2-24, Delta Downs

Bee Jersey, Topsy, f, 3, o/o Secretariat Humor, by Distorted Humor. AOC, 2-25, Fair Grounds

Bernardini, Bon Dia, f, 3, o/o Sounds Delicious, by Yes It's True. MCL, 2-25, Tampa Bay

Blame, Wet Paint, f, 3, o/o Sky Painter, by Street Cry (Ire). GIII Honeybee S., 2-25, Oaklawn

Candy Ride (Arg), Candy Man Rocket, h, 5, o/o Kenny Lane, by Forestry. Gulfstream Park Sprint S., 2-25, Gulfstream

Candy Ride (Arg), Confidence Game, c, 3, o/o Eblouissante, by Bernardini. GII Rebel S., 2-25, Oaklawn

City of Light, Jeweled Shillelagh, c, 3, o/o Knock, by Tapit. MSW, 2-25, Golden Gate

Cloud Computing, Neural Network, c, 3, o/o Lapinski, by Street Cry (Ire). Gander S., 2-25, Aqueduct

Commissioner, American Grant, g, 3, o/o American Prayer, by Quiet American. MCL, 2-25, Aqueduct

Congrats, Breaking Stones, g, 5, o/o Stone Maker, by Empire Maker. ALW, 2-25, Aqueduct

Connect, Granny's Connection, f, 4, o/o Granny's Drink, by Cherokee Run. MCL, 2-25, Gulfstream

Creative Cause, King Russell, c, 3, o/o Believe You Will, by Proud Citizen. MSW, 2-25, Oaklawn

Creative Cause, Stonemont Reunion, c, 3, o/o Proud Reunion, by Proud Citizen. MSW, 2-24, Turfway

Diam In, De Saix, c, 3, o/o Gemsaresparkling, by Gemologist. MCL, 2-25, Fair Grounds

Drums of Thunder, Witt America, g, 4, o/o Expect Michelle, by Valid Expectations. MCL, 2-25, Sam Houston

First Samurai, Samurai Prince, g, 5, o/o Betises de Cambrai, by Candy Ride (Arg). AOC, 2-24, Turfway

Flatter, Nomadic Pride, f, 3, o/o Cayala, by Cherokee Run. MSW, 2-24, Delta Downs

Free Drop Billy, Free Drop Maddy, f, 3, o/o Solo Buena, by Half Ours. Louisiana Broodmare Of The Year Buttercup's Song S., 2-25, Fair Grounds

Frost Giant, Early Frost, m, 6, o/o Mahalia, by Songandaprayer. ALW, 2-24, Penn National

Get Stormy, Sam Stormy, c, 3, o/o Midnight Mangata (Ire), by Maxios (GB). MSW, 2-25, Fair Grounds

Golden Years, Sparkleinyoureye, f, 3, o/o Lucky Candy, by Luftikus. MSW, 2-24, Charles Town

Hard Spun, Caddo River, h, 5, o/o Pangburn, by Congrats. AOC, 2-25, Oaklawn

Hightail, Fly Like the Wind, f, 3, o/o Half Way Up, by Half Ours. MSW, 2-25, Oaklawn

Holy Boss, Al Loves Josie, g, 4, o/o Pick Your Pleasure, by Lemon Drop Kid. AOC, 2-25, Laurel

Jay Gatsby, I Bear Arms, f, 3, o/o Enduring Erin, by Kela. MSW, 2-25, Delta Downs

Kantharos, Mr. Who, g, 6, o/o Even Road, by Stephen Got Even. ALW, 2-25, Turf Paradise

Kitten’s Joy, Desert Duke, c, 3, o/o Desert Duchess, by Hard Spun. MSW, 2-25, Fair Grounds

Klint, Freebritney, f, 3, o/o Arrostos, by Bodemeister. ALW, 2-24, Delta Downs

Long Island Sound, I'm Buzzy, f, 4, o/o Merry Merry Bee, by Purim. ALW, 2-25, Aqueduct

Lope de Vega (Ire), Carl Spackler (Ire), c, 3, o/o Zindaya, by More
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Than Ready. MSW, 2-25, Gulfstream

**Macho Uno**, Outside the Law, m, 6, o/o Against the Law, by Officer. Cactus Flower S., 2-25, Turf Paradise

**Mastery**, Spankster, c, 4, o/o Spank, by Blame. AOC, 2-25, Oaklawn

**Midnight Lute**, Midnight Fire, h, 5, o/o Meili, by Forestry. ALW, 2-25, Delta Downs

**Midshipman**, Union Data, g, 4, o/o I'm a Bear, by Touch Tone. ALW, 2-25, Sam Houston

**Munnings**, Grove, f, 3, o/o Wishful Winking, by Rip Van Winkle (Ire). MSW, 2-25, Oaklawn

**Munnings**, Learning to Win, f, 4, o/o Quiero Ganar, by Lasting Approval. ALW, 2-25, Sam Houston

**Northern Afleet**, Tranquility, f, 4, o/o Dynachick, by Dynaformer. MSW, 2-25, Sam Houston

**Not This Time**, Chasing Time, c, 4, o/o Race Hunter, by Dixie Union. AOC, 2-25, Oaklawn

**Nyquist**, Icing, g, 4, o/o Honey Chile, by Invisible Ink. ALW, 2-24, Charles Town

**Oxbow**, Stay Happy, g, 7, o/o Plum Happy, by Lookin At Lucky. AOC, 2-25, Turf Paradise

**Practical Joke**, Invulnerable, c, 3, o/o Mobelicious, by Uncle Mo. ALW, 2-25, Fair Grounds

**Practical Joke**, Skelly, g, 4, o/o Adande, by Bwana Charlie. ALW, 2-25, Oaklawn

**Profitable (Ire)**, Thunder Love (GB), f, 4, o/o Nanyglo (GB), by Mark of Esteem (Ire). AOC, 2-24, Turfway

**Quality Road**, Strong Quality, c, 4, o/o Tiz So Sweet, by Tiznow. AOC, 2-25, Gulfstream

**Ransom the Moon**, Allnight Moonlight, c, 3, o/o Gingertini, by Medaglia d'Oro. Louisiana Stallion Of The Year Half Ours S., 2-25, Fair Grounds

**Shackleford**, Yuugiri, f, 4, o/o Yuzuuru, by Medaglia d'Oro. Carousel S., 2-25, Oaklawn

**Street Sense**, Brigadier General, c, 4, o/o Mia and Molly, by Giant's Causeway. AOC, 2-25, Fair Grounds

**Sum of the Parts**, Say What, f, 4, o/o Perfetta, by Pleasantly Perfect. ALW, 2-24, Delta Downs

**Summer Front**, Faccia Bella, f, 3, o/o West Kentucky, by Yankee Victor. MSW, 2-25, Tampa Bay

**Tapiture**, Majestic Ways, f, 4, o/o Tipping Ways, by Scat Daddy. ALW, 2-24, Delta Downs

**Tapiture**, Repo Rocks, g, 5, o/o Hawaiian Love, by Not For Love. Stymie S., 2-25, Aqueduct

**Uh Oh Bango**, Ramblin' Man, g, 8, o/o Double Punch, by Two Punch. Cactus Wren S., 2-25, Turf Paradise

**Vancouver (Aus)**, Slim Slow Slider, g, 4, o/o Entice, by Cherokee Run. AOC, 2-25, Gulfstream

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**REHAB. RETRAIN. REHOME.**
PANTHALASSA STARS AS JAPAN CELEBRATE MAIDEN SAUDI CUP SUCCESS

by Alan Carasso

Going into Saturday's Saudi Cup meeting at King Abdulaziz Racecourse in Riyadh, there was approximately one way that this year's results could better the massive success achieved by Japan in 2022. And who better to orchestrate it but trainer Yoshito Yahagi, who has won major races everywhere with the possible exception of Mars, as Hiroo Race Co. Ltd's Panthalassa (Jpn) (Lord Kanaloa {Jpn}), one of six top-shelf gallopers signed on from the Land of the Rising Sun and making just the second start of an already successful career on the dirt, led from flagfall to finish for a maiden Japanese victory in the world's richest horse race.

Following Wednesday’s post position draw, Yahagi declared himself pleased enough with having been assigned the one hole, saying simply, ‘gotta go.’ And jockey Yutaka Yoshida followed the script to a ‘T’, kicking the entire straight into the lead, as G1 Satsuki Sho hero Geoglyph (Jpn) (Drefong), an unknown commodity on the dirt, raced closest in attendance to the pace, while ‘TDN Rising Star’ Taiba (Gun Runner) was pulled out wide to stalk that pair. Traveling like a seasoned main-track horse while racing a few paths off the rail into the turn, Panthalassa skipped along comfortably and hit the quarter pole with a clear advantage over Geoglyph. Cont. p3

‘SAUDI CUP RESULT GIVES US A GLOBAL SPREAD’ - RYAN THRILLED WITH PROGRESS

By Brian Sheerin

When Panthalassa (Jpn) (Lord Kanaloa {Jpn}) provided Japan with a breakthrough victory in the $20-million G1 Saudi Cup, Tom Ryan, one of the key men behind the lucrative two-day meeting, punched the proverbial air.

Of all the results possible in the big race, a Japanese victory would have been right up there as the most desirable for a relatively new fixture on the international racing circuit, as extravagant the prize-money may be.

Nobody understands this better than the County Tipperary native who swapped managing Naas racecourse for his current role as the Racing Advisor to the Jockey Club of Saudi Arabia a little over four years ago.

Cont. p10

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

CANDY RIDE COLT TAKES REBEL

Confidence Game (Candy Ride (Arg)) splashed home to win the GII Rebel S. at Oaklawn Park on Saturday.

Browse our dedicated TDN Europe homepage

thetdn.com/europe
SHADWELL RUNNER IS BEST IN NEOM TURF CUP
John and Thady Gosden’s Mostahdaf was dominant in capturing the G3 Neom Turf Cup Sponsored by Altanfeethi in Saudi Arabia.

JAPANESE COLT STRONG IN DESERT VICTORY
Bathrat Leon fended off a late charge from America’s Casa Creed to win the G31351 Turf Sprint Presented by STC at King Abdulaziz.

LORD NORTH BACK IN WINNER’S CIRCLE
Sheikh Zayed bin Mohammed Racing’s globetrotting gelding scored in his final prep before attempting to repeat in the G1 Dubai Turf.
G1 Saudi Cup Cont. from p1

By this point, Taiba had hoisted the white flag, and at one stage with about a quarter mile to the finish, the top four spots were occupied by the Japanese. Geoglyph boxed on very gamely and dual G1 February S. hero Cafe Pharoah (American Pharoah) loomed a brief threat between rivals after being steered down the inside 800 metres out by Joao Moreira, but Panthalassa kept finding and was home narrowly best.

Country Grammer (Tonalist) was trapped out about five wide for much of the journey, and he looked to be struggling beneath Frankie Dettori as the field hit the final three furlongs. But in a manner similar to last year’s G1 Dubai World Cup, he found his second wind and rattled home down the centre of the track to set him up beautifully for a return trip to Meydan next month. He was also second to Emblem Road (Quality Road) in last year’s race.

“At the top of the straight, I thought, ‘Oh god, I’m going to finish sixth’ but he just has too much heart,” Dettori said. “He wants a mile and a quarter [2000m]. Super result.” Cafe Pharoah edged Geoglyph for third, completing a 6-year-old trifecta, while Crown Pride (Jpn) (Reach the Crown {Jpn}) made for a 1-3-4-5 finish for Japan. These winning connections also celebrated the 1351 Turf Sprint with Bathrat Leon (Jpn) (Kizuna {Jpn}).

“Mr. Yahagi said to me to ride my race and I would get a good result,” commented the 47-year-old Yoshida, who was in the saddle for Panthalassa’s dead-heat victory in last year’s G1 Dubai Turf. “So, I didn’t think about the surface. I just rode my race and thought if he adapts to the track, it would be all right. Of course, they were coming for me in the straight, but Panthalassa always found another gear and so I kept riding. It is an unforgettable moment and I am very happy to have ridden the winner.”

Yahagi added, ”I really can’t believe it. I don’t know if it is real at the moment. I think I was correct that my feeling was right that he could handle the dirt. You know this is not easy. Japanese racing tries everything to improve and develop. Japanese horse racing has become more international. Of course, this is the best feeling as the prize-money is the best!”

Yahagi’s international conquests are now well-documented, but bear repeating. Having sent out Deep Brillante (Jpn) (Deep Impact {Jpn}) to win the 2012 G1 Tokyo Yushun at home, Yahagi saddled Real Steel (Jpn) (Deep Impact {Jpn}) to victory in the 2016 Dubai Turf. In 2019, Lys Gracieux (Jpn) (Heart’s Cry {Jpn}) gave the stable a memorable success in the G1 Cox Plate in Melbourne, while in 2021, Real Steel’s full-sister Loves Only You (Jpn) won a pair of Group 1s in Hong Kong and was one of two landmark winners for Yahagi and Japan at that year’s Breeders' Cup meeting at Del Mar. Cont. p4
Panthalassa is welcomed back by his connections | Racingfotos.com

G1 Saudi Cup Cont.

At last year’s Saudi Cup meeting, he added the G3 Longines Red Sea H. with Stay Foolish (Jpn) (Stay Gold {Jpn}), who would go on to take the G2 Dubai Gold Cup four weeks later in Dubai, one of three winners on the evening for Yahagi.

Victorious in the G2 Nakayama Kinen last February as a springboard to the Dubai Turf, Panthalassa found Titleholder (Jpn) (Duramente {Jpn}) and—likely—the 11 furlongs of the G1 Takarazuka Kinen a task too tall, finishing 11th in that June 26 test. Outgamed by the flashy Jack d’Or (Jpn) (Maurice {Jpn}) in August’s G2 Sapporo Kinen over 2000 metres, the bay opened a lead of as many as 15 lengths in the G1 Tenno Sho (Autumn) at Tokyo Oct. 30 and fought on bravely into deep stretch before being reeled in by eventual Horse of the Year Equinox (Jpn) (Kitasan Black {Jpn}). A well-bet 24-5 in the G1 Longines Hong Kong Cup in December, he failed to produce anything close to his best and finished well down the field.

Pedigree Notes

Panthalassa’s Saudi Cup is yet another feather in the cap of the outstanding Lord Kanaloa, who has sired Group 1 winners over sprint trips (Danon Smash {Jpn}, Tagaloa {Aus}), going a mile (Stelvio {Jpn}, Danon Scorpion {Jpn}) and Classic winners (Horse of the Year and Filly Triple Crown heroine Almond Eye {Jpn} and Saturnalia {Jpn}) from just six crops of racing age. Panthalassa is the stallion’s first Group 1 winner on dirt.

Panthalassa is one of five winners from eight to the races for his dam, a 50,000gns purchase by the BBA Ireland at Tattersalls October in 2003 who was twice third from seven trips to the races in Japan as a 3-year-old before being retired. Miss Pemberley, whose female family includes the likes of Croco Rouge (Ire) and Alidiva (Ire), has a 2-year-old colt by Kizuna (Jpn) and her last listed produce is a yearling colt by Rey de Oro (Jpn), a Tokyo Yushun-winning son of Lord Kanaloa’s late sire King Kamehameha (Jpn).

Saturday, King Abdulaziz (Riyadh), Saudi Arabia

SAUDI CUP-G1, $20,000,000, King Abdulaziz, 2-25, 4yo/up, 1800m, 1:50.80, ft.

1--PANTHALASSA (JPN), 126, h, 6, by Lord Kanaloa (Jpn)
1st Dam: Miss Pemberley (Ire), by Montjeu (Ire)
2nd Dam: Stitching (Ire), by High Estate (Ire)
3rd Dam: Itching (Ire), by Thatching (Ire)
O-Hiroo Race Co Ltd; B-PANGLOSS Y K, Toshihiro Hirosaki et al; T-Yoshito Yahagi; J-Yutaka Yoshida; $10,000,000. Lifetime Record: G1SW-UAE, MGSW & G1SP-Jpn, 25-7-6-0, $14,418,903. *1/2 to Etendard (Jpn) (Deep Impact {Jpn}), GSP-Jpn, $770,677; and Dimension (Jpn) (Deep Impact {Jpn}), MGSP-Jpn, $1,030,766. Werk Nick Rating: B. Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree. Click for the free Equineline.com catalog-style pedigree.

2--Country Grammer, 126, h, 6, Tonalist--Arabian Song, by Forestry. ($60,000 Ylg ’18 KEESEP; $450,000 2yo ’19 OBSAPR; $110,000 HRA ’21 KEEJAN). O-Zedan Racing Stables, WinStar Farm & Commonwealth Thoroughbreds; B-Scott & Debbie Pierce (KY); T-Bob Baffert; J-Frankie Dettori; $3,500,000.

3--Cafe Pharoah, 126, h, 6, American Pharoah--Mary’s Follies, by More Than Ready. ($475,000 2yo ’19 OBSMAR). O-Koichi Nishikawa; B-Paul P Pompa (KY); T-Noriyuki Hori; J-Joao Moreira; $2,000,000.

MOSTAHDAF MAKES IT LOOK EASY FOR THE GOSDENS IN NEOM TURF CUP

George Boughey’s Missed The Cut (Quality Road) may have fluffed his lines but still the G3 Neom Turf Cup Sponsored By Altanfeethi went for export with fellow Newmarket-based trainers John and Thady Gosden landing the $1.5-million contest with Arc also-ran Mostahdaf (Ire) (Frankel {GB}) sprinting clear under Jim Crowley. Cont. p5
G3 Neom Turf Cup Cont.

John Gosden suggested after the race that the G1 Dubai World Cup could be next for Mostahdaf, a horse the team at Clarehaven Stables thought good enough to run in Europe’s showcase race last autumn.

But this was the day where Mostahdaf came good on his initial promise by carrying the famous Shadwell Estate colours to a seven-length victory over Saeed bin Suroor’s Dubai Future (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}). Missed The Cut could only manage fourth after racing far too keenly.

Gosden said, “He did it perfectly. He had a nice draw and Jim used it. I think the track is quick and, if you are handy and have Mikael Barzalona [aboard Eagle’s Flight (Ire) (Gleaneagles {Ire})] measuring the fractions, that’s where you want to be; handy.”

He added, “Stunningly-good performance. We obviously know the family well and Sheikha Hissa has done wonderfully to keep these horses in training and her father would be so proud with what she has done with the stable. It’s a Shadwell family and we have the sister and we have the brother who is a nice 3-year-old, so look, he’s an improving horse and we’re delighted with him.

“If he flies home in great form, obviously we came here with Mishriff (Ire) (Make Believe (GB)) and then he went to Dubai, so he could run on Dubai World Cup night as well.”

Boughey was less sure where Missed The Cut would be off to next. The bitterly-disappointed trainer explained how the short-priced favourite was somewhat a victim of his own downfall after his early antics in the race.

“He probably did a little bit too much down the outside. It was no-one’s fault and I think he might have travelled a little bit further than some of them. That’s racing, isn’t it. It’s frustrating but he will be back.”

Boughey added, “He travelled down to post good and then was one who was throwing about. It didn’t help him but, essentially, he’s probably run a little bit below the form of his last race if you take the winner out of it.

“There’s lots of different options for him but I was slightly hoping that we’d see a different horse today. We’ll see how he is tomorrow and see where we go from there.”

A winner of the G3 Gordon Richards S. and G3 September S., Mostahdaf was unplaced in the G1 Prix de l’Arc de Triomphe.

Pedigree Notes

Part of Frankel’s 108 stakes winners (76 group), Mostahdaf is bred identically to With The Moonlight (Ire), who won the G2 Balanchine at Meydan on Friday; her full-brother, the late Group 1 winner Dream Castle (GB); 2022 G1 Irish 1000 Guineas heroine Homeless Songs (Ire); and G1 Derby/G1 King George hero Adayar (Ire), who are all out of Dubawi mares.

Listed winner Handassa (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}), herself a half-sister to G1 San Gabriel S. hero and G1 Frank E. Kilroe Mile S. second Desert Stone (Ire) (Fastnet Rock {Aus}), is also the dam of the G1 Sun Chariot S. and G1 Falmouth S. heroine Nazeef (GB) (Invincible Spirit {Ire}), the winning Dark Angel (Ire) 3-year-old Mostabshir (GB), a juvenile full-brother to the winner and a yearling colt by Kingman (GB).

Group 1 winners and sire full-brothers Pastoral Pursuits (GB) and Goodricke (GB), both by Bahamian Bounty (GB), are under the third dam.
Saturday, King Abdulaziz (Riyadh), Saudi Arabia

NEOM TURF CUP SPONSORED BY ALTANFEETHI-G3,
$1,500,000, King Abdulaziz, 2-25, 4yo/up, 2100mT, 2:06.24, fm.

1--MOSTAHDAF (IRE), 126, h, 5, by Frankel (GB)
   1st Dam: Handassa (GB) (SW-Ire), by Dubawi
   2nd Dam: Starstone (GB), by Diktat (GB)
   3rd Dam: Star (GB), by Most Welcome (GB)

2--Dubai Future (GB), 126, g, 7, Dubawi (Ire)--Anjaz, by Street Cry (Ire). O/B-Godolphin; T-Saeed Bin Suroor; J-Daniel Tudhope; $300,000.

3--Flying Visit (Ire), 126, g, 5, Pride Of Dubai (Aus)--Fionnuar (Ire), by Teofilo (Ire). (28,000gns HRA '21 TATAUT). O-Alfathwa Stable; B-J S Bolger; T-Sami Al Harabi; J-Ricardo Ferreira; $150,000.

Margins: 7, 5 3/4, 1 3/4. Odds: 1.80, 8.00, 55.00. Also Ran: Missed the Cut, Eagle's Flight (Ire), Castle (Ire), White Moonlight, Star of Wins, Sir Busker (Ire), Byline (GB). Scratched: Peter The Great (GB). VIDEO.

**SILVER SONIC GOES ULTRASONIC IN RED SEA TURF** by Heather Anderson

Silver Sonic (Jpn) (Orfevre {Jpn}) was the second of three Japanese winners on the Saudi Cup card, and turned in a smooth performance to take the $2.5-million G3 Longines Red Sea Turf H. as the 2-1 favourite by 2 1/2 lengths over Enemy (GB). It was the second consecutive year a Japanese runner--both incidentally bearing the silks of Shadai Race Horse Co.--has lifted the 3000-metre turf prize after Stay Foolish (Jpn) (Stay Gold {Jpn}) in 2022.

Before the race, the main talking horse had been Charlie Johnston's Subjectivist (GB) (Teofilo {Ire}), who, on his best day, loomed a formidable obstacle to his rivals. The 2021 G1 Gold Cup hero duly claimed pacemsetting duties, while under the watchful eyes of Damian Lane and Silver Sonic just behind. Trawlerman (Ire) (Golden Horn {GB}) cruised up to stalk from second, and Lane was content to let his grey save ground against the fence.

Subjectivist displayed plenty of verve from the front, but his lengthy injury-induced break from the races began to take its toll and he appeared vulnerable 500 metres from home. Lane sent Silver Sonic, and he responded to take command by the head of the straight, before fending off the closing Enemy, who made his bid out in the centre of the course. It was another three-quarters of a length back to Get Shirty (Ire) (Teofilo {Ire}) in third. Subjectivist finished 12th. After the race, Enemy's rider Richard Kingscote weighed in lighter than allowed, but, after a stewards' inquiry, the result was allowed to stand.

Lane said, "I have had great support in Japan, especially the Shadai Race Horse Club. He began well, which is always important from barrier one. I was happy to track Subjectivist, who was always going to set a nice tempo and be a good horse to follow. I needed a bit of luck to get through but once it opened up he finished really well."

Yasutoshi Ikee said, “This might be the second win for Japan, but it is a first win for me. This is a great achievement for me and I am very happy.” Cont. p7

Silver Sonic winning the Red Sea Turf | Jockey Club of Saudi Arabia
G3 Red Sea Turf H. Cont.

He added, "I didn't talk tactics with Damien today. I brought Orfevre to the Arc twice but he ran second on both occasions, so winning a big race abroad with Orfevre's son, it is a great pleasure. My father trained Stay Gold, his sire's sire, so the feeling with this victory is so special."

Joe Fanning, aboard Subjectivist, said after the race, "I felt he was keen enough, he has been off for a while and in the end he just got tired. As long as he's OK afterwards, I'm sure he'll be back."

The Shadai Farm-bred 7-year-old entire did not finish May's G1 Tenno Sho (Spring) after losing jockey Yuga Kawada at the start, running with the field for the entire race and then bounding over a fence after the finish, but he bounced back to take the 3600-metre G2 Sports Nippon Sho Stayers S. over firm turf on Dec. 3 in his Riyadh warmup.

Silver Sonic will be trained with an eye to the 3200-metre G1 Tenno Sho back in Japan, or he will continue to ply his trade in the desert in the Mar. 25 G2 Dubai Gold Cup at Meydan Racecourse. He could face Saturday's runner-up Enemy once again in the latter.

"I'm very grateful to the people of the JCSA who received us so well," Ike added. "Silver Sonic travelled over really well and kept his condition, he has been the same as he is at home. We have two options, the Tenno Sho and the other is the Dubai Gold Cup."

"We knew the distance wouldn't be a problem," Lane added. "I would never advise a trainer, but the Tenno Sho looks a good option. I'm just grateful to be a part of it all, it's a big thrill as a part of my career and I'm really enjoying it."

Pedigree Notes

At stud, the Shadai Stallion Station-based dual Arc runner-up Orfevre has been represented by 25 stakes winners (20 group) led by four-time Group 1 winner Lucky Lilac (Jpn), one of a quartet of top-flight winners for the 15-year-old. Bred on the same Sunday Silence-Tony Bin (Ire) cross as standout stallion Heart's Cry (Jpn) (Deep Impact {Jpn}), Silver Sonic is part of a 36-strong legion of group winners for Tony Bin, who sired seven Group 1 scorers.

The well-credentialed Air Thule (Jpn) earned six victories over the course of four seasons racing, taking a stakes in her native land, third in Singapore's G3 KrisFlyer Sprint, as well as running second in the G1 Prix Maurice de Gheest in 2002. She struck gold with her first foal, the Fuji Kiseki (Jpn) filly Ultima Thule (Jpn), who won both the G2 Centaur S. and G3 Silk Road S. and is already a stakes producer, and the quality continued with her second, 2008 Japanese 2000 Guineas winner Captain Thule (Jpn) (Agnes Tachyon (Jpn)), who also captured two editions of the G3 Asahi Challenge Cup. In 2009, she delivered Crans Montana (Jpn) (Deep Impact (Jpn)), a stakes winner and Group 3-placed in Japan, and four years later that filly's full-sister, Contessa Thule (Jpn), who was third in the G1 Japanese 1000 Guineas in 2015. Silver Sonic is her 11th foal of 13, and one of 11 winners.

Air Thule's dam, Ski Paradise (Lyphard) was of the highest class in Europe, and scored in the G1 Prix du Moulin while placing in three other Grade/Group 1 events on both sides of the Atlantic. She is the ancestress of seven black-type horses. Royal Ski's Ski Goggle, successful in the 1983 GI Acorn S. and the third dam of Silver Sonic, left three other stakes winners in three countries who were all given a chance as sires in Ski Captain (Storm Bird), Ski Champ (Icecapade) and Ski Chief (Chief's Crown).
Saturday, King Abdulaziz (Riyadh), Saudi Arabia
LONGINES RED SEA TURF H.-G3, $2,500,000, King Abdulaziz, 2-25, 4yo/up, 3000mT, 3:06.46, gd.
1--SILVER SONIC (JPN), h, 7, by Orfevre (Jpn)
   1st Dam: Air Thule (Jpn) (SW-Jpn, G1SP-Fr, GSP-Sin, $1,442,676), by Tony Bin (Ire)
   2nd Dam: Ski Paradise, by Lyphard
   3rd Dam: Ski Goggle, by Royal Ski
   O-Shadai Race Horse Co., Ltd.; B-Shadai Farm (Jpn); T-Yasutoshi Ikee; J-Damian Lane; $1,500,000. Lifetime Record: GSW-Jpn, 21-6-3-6, $3,031,870. *1/2 to Ultima Thule (Jpn) (Fuji Kiseki {Jpn}), MGSW-Jpn, $2,086,687; Captain Thule (Jpn) (Agnes Tachyon {Jpn}), GSW-Jpn, $3,960,829; Crans Montana (Jpn) (Deep Impact {Jpn}), SW & GSP-Jpn, $2,002,758; and Contessa Thule (Jpn) (Deep Impact {Jpn}), G1SP-Jpn, $499,346. Werk Nick Rating: A+++.*Triple Plus*. Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree. Click for the free Equineline.com catalog-style pedigree.
2--Enemy (GB), 128, g, 6, Muhaarar (GB)--Prudenza (Ire), by Dansili (GB). (€420,000 Vlg ‘18 ARQWUG; €92,000 HRA ‘21 ARQNOV). O-Tracey Bell & Caroline Lyons; B-Ecurie des Monceaux & Skymarc Farm, Inc. (GB); T-Ian Williams; J-Richard Kingscote; $500,000.
3--Get Shirty (Ire), 125, g, 7, Teofilo (Ire)--Soccer Mom (Ger), by Monsun (Ger). (€30,000 HRA ‘21 ARQJUL). O-Akela Thoroughbreds Limited; B-Haras du Mont Dit Mont (Ire); T-David O’Meara; J-Joe Fanning; $250,000. Margins: 2HF, 3/4, NO. Odds: 2.00, 6.00, 18.00. Also Ran: Big Call, Nate The Great (GB), Sisfahan (Fr), Echt (Jpn), Trawlerman (Ire), Pin Your Hopes (Ire), My Frankel (GB), Al Qareem (Ire), Subjectivist (GB), Master Gatsby (Fr). VIDEO.

BATHRAT LEON TAKES TURF SPRINT FOR JAPAN AS CASA CREED MISSES OUT AGAIN

By Brian Sheerin
Had the distance for the G3 1351 Turf Sprint Presented By STC been set just a few metres longer, Casa Creed (Jimmy Creed) may well have been recording his second victory in the race for Bill Mott on Saturday, but it was the front-running Bathrat Leon (Jpn) (Kizuna {Jpn}) who clung on from the fast-finishing runner-up to open the floodgates for the Japanese raiders on Saudi Cup night.

Trained by Yoshito Yahagi, who would go on to win the Saudi Cup with Panthalassa (Jpn) (Lord Kanaloa {Jpn}), Bathrat Leon was extremely brave under Ryusei Sakai in relegating Casa Creed to the runner-up spot for the second year in a row. Cont. p9
Bathrat Leon | Jockey Club Of Saudi Arabia

G3 1351 Turf Sprint Cont.

Successful in the G2 Godolphin Mile on dirt at the Dubai World Cup meeting last year, connections of Bathrat Leon suggested that the versatile 5-year-old would aim for a repeat success at Meydan next month.

Yahagi said, ”Even as a trainer, I don’t have the right answer if he is a turf horse or a dirt horse. I thought Bathrat Leon would suit the turf here and the distance. I think his best is seven furlongs, this is six-and-a-half furlongs.

"The jockey and I had the same opinion to go from the front. They get on very well. We won today, we have to have a discussion with the owner. He handles turf pretty well, but at the moment I would say we can look at the Godolphin Mile."

It was a second major triumph in the last six days for the 25-year-old Sakai, who guided Lemon Pop (Lemon Drop Kid) to victory in the G1 February S. at Tokyo last Sunday.

He said, "I am very grateful to the owner and my boss Mr. Yahagi and the connections who gave me the chance to ride here. My horse had the best run, he had a great trip."

Last year’s winner Songline (Jpn) (Kizuna {Jpn}) broke slowly and never recovered while Luis Saez, the rider of Casa Creed, was left rueing what might have been on the second.

He said, "He broke from there pretty well and I was in a good position. I thought we were going to get up to win but every time the winning horse just kept going and going and it was too late when we passed him. That’s racing but I saw the line and I knew I was not in front in time. He tried pretty hard, it’s just the winner was tough to catch. I thought we were going to get him."

Prior to Saturday’s winning effort, the 5-year-old ran fourth in the G2 Hanshin Cup on Christmas Eve.

Pedigree Notes

Kizuna is the sire of top-level winners Songline and Akai Ito (Jpn) among his 20 stakes winners. Although it is fairly early days yet for New Approach as a broodmare sire, his best are American champion Modern Games (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}), and fellow top-tier winners Earthlight (Ire) (Shamardal) and Mustang Valley (NZ) (Vanbrugh {Aus}).

One of three foals and the only winner out of the unplaced Bathrat Amal (Jpn) (New Approach {Ire}), Bathrat Leon is followed by the 3-year-old filly Letter My Heart (Jpn) (Daiwa Major {Jpn}). Two-time Group/Grade 1 winner Serious Attitude (Ire) (Motto {GB}) is a half-sister to Bathrat Amal, and she is the dam of triple group winner and G1 Tenno Sho (Spring) second Stiffelio (Jpn) (Stay Gold {Jpn}).

Saturday, King Abdulaziz (Riyadh), Saudi Arabia

1351 TURF SPRINT PRESENTED BY STC-G3, $1,500,000, King Abdulaziz, 2-25, 4yo/up, 1351mT, 1:17.48, gd.

1--BATHRAT LEON (JPN), 126, h, 5, by Kizuna (Jpn)

1st Dam: Bathrat Amal (Jpn), by New Approach (Ire)

2nd Dam: Zameyla (Ire), by Cape Cross (Ire)

3rd Dam: Angelic Sounds (Ire), by The Noble Player


Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree. Click for the free Equineline.com catalog-style pedigree.

2--Casa Creed, 126, h, 7, Jimmy Creed--Achalaya, by Bellamy Road. ($15,000 Ylg ’17 OBSJAN; $105,000 Ylg ’17 KEESEP).

O-LRE Racing LLC & JEH Racing Stable LLC; B-Silver Springs Stud, LLC (KY); T-William I. Mott; J-Luis Saez; $300,000.
3--Raaed (Ire), 126, g, 6, Dark Angel (Ire)--Ambassadrice (GB), by Oasis Dream (GB). 1ST BLACK TYPE. 1ST GROUP BLACK TYPE. (£90,000 Ylg '18 GOFAUG; 55,000gns HRA '20 TATOCT). O-Sharaf Mohammed S. Al Hariri; B-J. Hanly, A. Stroud & T. Stewart (Ire); T-Bedan Alsubaie; J-Ricardo Ferreira; $150,000. Margins: HD, 1 3/4, NK. Odds: 8.00, 5.00, 22.00. Also Ran: Happy Romance (Ire), Resistencia (Jpn), Lusail (Ire), Rozgar (Ire), Garrus (Ire), Lauda Sion (Jpn), Songline (Jpn), Pogo (Ire). VIDEO.

Saudi Cup Reflections Cont. from p1

Ryan and his team have worked tirelessly to provide the Saudi Cup fixture with a foothold on the international programme in that time and, along with Panthalassa's Saudi Cup win that spearheaded a Japanese-trained treble on the evening, the victory of Breeders' Cup winner Elite Power (Curlin) and a local success in the Saudi Derby all helped point to the fact that such status is being secured.

“We’re in year four now and it’s hard to believe that it’s been four years since I left Naas racecourse to come out here,” a wide-eyed Ryan said after racing on Saturday.

“Tonight’s result gives us a global spread--America won the Saudi Cup in year one, England in year two, the Middle East last year and now Japan. It gives the event an unbelievable spread.”

He added, “I am also delighted for Juddmonte to get their winner [Elite Power in the G3 Riyadh Dirt Sprint ] as they’ve tried very hard to. I felt very bad about the fact that Mandaloun (Into Mischief) got delayed going back home to America last year after running in the Saudi Cup. Obviously that was out of our control but I was very happy to see Elite Power winning for them tonight.

“On the whole, the event has been fantastic and the enthusiasm for racing in Saudi Arabia is exploding. Our job now is to harness that and hopefully give them a platform for it.”

The progress that has been made in a short space of time can largely be put down to the huge confidence trainers and jockeys have had in the racing surface at Riyadh racecourse, particularly on the dirt track, which was evident when Frankie Dettori described it as ‘one of the best in the world’ at a press conference on Thursday.

That, along with a developing programme and colossal prize-money, has provided enough of a carrot for the international runners to take up the challenge. A number of those box office names helped make this year’s meeting one to remember.

Ryan said, “We’ve been very well-supported from the outset. The Saudi Cup is the most important race on the card but we had a Breeders’ Cup sprint winner here today and the Turf Sprint is a Group 1 in all but name. That race started out as a bit of a play thing at 1,351 metres and now it’s a Group 3 but, the quality of field it is attracting, it could be a Group 1.”

He added, “The track was always our core asset—the dirt track in particular. We took a chance here in developing the turf track on the inside and that has matured beautifully. From that point of view, the international riders have been happy from day one to endorse the dirt track as possibly the best in the world. We added the turf track and took a chance that first year with an expansive race programme.”

Whether it was races for Arabian-breds, contests confined to runners who were bred locally, sprints, marathons and everything in between, you name it, there was a race for it in Riyadh. Not only that, chances were that there was a pretty lucrative purse up for grabs as well. Take for example the fact that there was an Arabian race on dirt worth $1 million on Friday while Saturday’s Group 1 Classic on turf was run for $2 million. Staggering stuff. Cont. p11
Saudi Cup Reflections Cont.

A local expert told Nick Luck that one of the main reasons why people follow Arabian racing is that the majority of the runners are seasoned campaigners that tend to be kept in training that bit longer. The Gulf’s answer to jumps racing back home in Britain and Ireland if you like. Given the average age for Saturday’s 12-runner Group 1 was six, it was hard to disagree with that logic.

However, what our expert failed to tell us about Arabian-breds is that they are flighty little buggers. Just ask the stalls handler who had his leg broken by one of the runners on Friday.

None of the Japanese-trained horses were reported to have wreaked such havoc this week but Panthalassa did win the Saudi Cup as a 6-year-old and that could go some way to explaining the growing affection and association that fans from that part of the world have built up with him.

Not only that, but his stablemate Bathrat Leon (Jpn) (Kizuna {Jpn}) won the 1351 Turf Sprint as a 5-year-old while Japan’s third winner of the evening, the Yasutoshi Ikee-trained Silver Sonic (Jpn) (Orfevre {Jpn}), took out the G3 Red Sea Turf H. at the grand old age of seven.

If it's not the horses that send the Japanese racing fans wild, perhaps it’s the great characters associated with the game, and they don’t come much better than the Saudi Cup-winning trainer Yoshito Yahagi.

Just about the only man who could pull off a grey suit bedecked with a red and white-striped tie and topped off with a bright purple hat, Yahagi let everyone in on the secret behind his hat-wearing habits after Panthalassa’s triumph.

"When I started training, nobody knew who I was. That way, how people came to recognise me, was when I started wearing hats. Today, I wore the same hat that I wore to the Breeders’ Cup. I have 200 to 300 hats."

Long gone are the days where Yahagi needs to wear an illuminous hat to get himself recognised. His achievements speak volumes. Similarly, the Saudi Cup has now become a recognised event, and Ryan says that it is here to stay.

“When you think about it, we started in April 2019 with one race and now we have ended up with a two-day festival with people coming from all over the world. Even look at that jockeys’ challenge yesterday, that is turning into a proper test—dirt, turf, sprint and middle-distance races—and we have jockeys begging us to get into it. It's become a real spectacle.”
Saudi Cup Reflections Cont.

He added, “It was great that the locals got a winner. We always felt that the Saudi Derby was probably the race that they could grab a hold of and win. There are just plenty of positives to take from the two days and there was a huge crowd again here tonight. It’s really positive.”

He added, “You see the guys here who are so active in the horses-in-training sales back home, in particular looking for those dirt types, and it’s very easy to see what pedigrees go on it. For the horses who have been imported, it does take them a little bit of time to acclimatise, we have seen that, but a bit of patience goes a long way.”

Hapipi Go Lucky (Ire) (Mehmas {Ire}) is one such graduate. A winner for Johnny Murtagh when trained in Ireland, she was sourced at the Tattersalls Horses-In-Training Sale in 2011 for just 11,000gns, but landed a $400,000 handicap for her new connections on Friday.

Such success can only be a benefit to the local owners and trainers, who will doubtlessly feel they have a chance to get in on the action in the coming years. But it’s the Panthalassas, Elite Powers and the Country Grammers of this world that will help drive the Saudi Cup’s status as a global event, and Ryan has put together a team with a track record of delivering the goods.

“IT started from year one—we put the horse at the very centre of our efforts. The trust with the horse and then hopefully the people will follow. A mention for Emer Fallon, a fellow Irish native, she does amazing work with the trainers, who all know her. The jockeys get on great with her as well. She follows the form on a global level and she’s really the one who sets the tone for all of this and we just rally around her in terms of the conversations that need to be had to attract people to the meeting.”

STRAIGHTFORWARD RETURN FOR LORD NORTH

by Tom Frary

Meydan’s G1 Dubai Turf calls again for the now-veteran Lord North (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}) as HH Sheikh Zayed bin Mohammed Racing’s pride and joy marked his 2023 debut with a comfortable success in Saturday’s G3 G3 BetUK Winter Derby at Lingfield.

Reported by jockey Robert Havlin to be further ahead than 12 months ago when he came up against the formidable presence of Alenquer (Fr) (Adlerflug {Ger}) in this, the 8-11 favourite travelled with gusto anchored behind the early leaders. Cont. p13
G3 Winter Derby Cont.

Taking time to wind up approaching the home straight, the Gosdens’ flagbearer outpowered *Tyrrhenian Sea* (Ire) (Dark Angel (Ire)) 150 yards out en route to an authoritative 3 1/4-length success.

Havlin said of the winner, who along with his 2021 Dubai Turf and 2022 dead-heat in the same race also boasts the 2020 G1 Prince of Wales’s S. on his resume, “That was like clockwork. His work has been a lot brighter and I think that was a better performance than last year, even though today did not have the depth of last year’s race. He was a bit laboured through the final furlong and a half here last year, whereas today I was always confident he was going to pick up. He is better on galloping tracks, coming off a strong pace, but his class shone through. He has been showing us a bit of that at home--it was as if he was back to being a 4- or 5-year-old. Hopefully he can get back on song and win the Dubai Turf outright this year.”

Pedigree Notes

Lord North’s pedigree is a decorated one, with his dam Najoum (Giant’s Causeway) being a granddaughter of the Gl Santa Anita Oaks heroine Hail Atlantis (Seattle Slew). Responsible for the sires Stormy Atlantic and Mr. Katowice, her stakes-placed daughter Divine Dixie (Dixieland Band) produced the Gl Blue Grass S.-winning sire Bandini and is the second dam of the Gl Ashland S. scorer Out For A Spin (Hard Spun). Also related to the Gl Summer S. winner Decorated Invader (Declaration Of War) and that sire’s Gl Breeders’ Cup Juvenile Turf hero Fire At Will, Najoum has a 2-year-old filly by Too Darn Hot (GB) and a yearling full-brother to Lord North.

Saturday, Lingfield, Britain

BETUK WINTER DERBY S.-G3, £100,000, Lingfield, 2-25, 4yo/up, 1f (AWT), 2:02.32, st.

1--LORD NORTH (IRE), 128, g, 7, by Dubawi (Ire)

1st Dam: Najoum, by Giant’s Causeway
2nd Dam: Divine Dixie, by Dixieland Band
3rd Dam: Hail Atlantis, by Seattle Slew

O-HH Sheikh Zayed bin Mohammed Racing; B-Godolphin (IRE); T-John & Thady Gosden; J-Robert Havlin. £56,710. Lifetime Record: MG1SW-UAE, G1SW-Eng, 19-9-3-1, $5,154,571. Werk Nick Rating: A. Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree, or click for the free Equineline.com catalogue-style pedigree.

2--Tyrrhenian Sea (Ire), 128, g, 5, Dark Angel (Ire)--Nocturne (Ger), by Rock of Gibraltar (Ire). 1ST BLACK TYPE, 1ST GROUP BLACK TYPE. O/B-Flaxman Stables Ireland Ltd (IRE); T-Roger Varian. £21,500.

3--Foxes Tales (Ire), 128, g, 5, Zoffany (Ire)--Starfish (Ire), by Galileo (Ire). (400,000gns Ylg ‘19 TATOCT). O-King Power Racing Co Ltd; B-Manister House Stud (IRE); T-Andrew Balding. £10,760.

Margins: 3 1/4, HD, 2. Odds: 0.73, 4.50, 11.00.

Also Ran: Harrovian (GB), Lucander (Ire), Forest Of Dean (GB), King Of The South (Ire), Pistoletto.
Look Out Louis (GB), Arecibo (Fr), One Night Stand (GB), Epsom Faithfull (GB).

Registering a career-best when winning a competitive five-furlong handicap at York in early October, Kimngrace was sixth on heavy ground over the same trip at Doncaster later that month and arrived here under the radar on only her second all-weather start. Benefitting from a pace brawl up front which compromised the leaders, the bay was unleashed wide and late by George Rooke to overhaul the similarly patiently-ridden Tone The Barone close home.

Trainer Richard Hughes said, “I have a five-and-a-half-furlong race at Deauville in April in mind for Kimngrace and I said we needed to get a run into her if we are going over there on soft ground.”

Rooke added, “I was a good couple of lengths off them and I could not really go with them because we went a hard gallop. She found a lovely gear today and moved great. She hardly sweated either, which is a big thing for her as she is on her nerves a bit at home.”

The dam, who also has a yearling colt by Circus Maximus (Ire), hails from the family of Night Chapter (GB) (Night Shift) who captured a listed contest in France and a trio of stakes races Stateside as well as finishing runner-up in the Gill San Simeon H.

VIDEO.

5th-Lingfield, £10,000, Novice, 2-25, 3yo, 8f 1y (AWT), 1:37.05, st.

BURGLAR (GB) (c, 3, Cracksman {GB}–Hidden Hope {GB} {SW & MGSP-Eng, GSP-Fr, $142,832}, by Daylami {Ire}), sent off the 10-11 favourite, was slowly away but quickly able to show why he was gambled on by gaining a prominent pitch without effort. Still green on the home bend, the chestnut was in front after receiving a smack approaching the furlong pole and drew away in fluent fashion to score by four lengths from Garrick Street (Ire) (Zoffany {Ire}). The Listed Cheshire Oaks-winning and G2 Lancashire Oaks-placed dam, whose star performer was the G2 Ribblesdale S. winner and G1 Oaks third Frankly Darling (GB) (Cracksman’s sire Frankel (GB), is also responsible for the listed-placed First In Line (GB) (New Approach {Ire}) and the Listed Gaertles S. scorer Our Obsession (Ire) (Shamardal) who in turn produced Frankel’s G3 Musidora S. runner-up Frankellina (GB). A half to the G1 Coronation S. heroine Rebecca Sharp (GB) (Machiavellian) from the family of Golden Horn (GB) and Cracksman himself, Hidden Hope’s 2-year-old filly Ever Hopefull (GB) is by Bated Breath (GB). Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, $6,448. O-Mr A E Oppenheimer; B-Hascombe & Valiant Stud Ltd (GB); T-John & Thady Gosden.

6th-Lingfield, £10,000, Mdn, 2-25, 3yo/up, 5f 6y (AWT), 1:00.05, st.

CRIMSON ANGEL (GB) (f, 3, Harry Angel {Ire}–Fanrouge {Ire}, by Red Clubs {Ire}), fourth on debut over this trip at Wolverhampton on her sole start in November, was rushed up after breaking tardily from her wide stall and raced freely as a result. Gaining the lead approaching the furlong pole, the 7-2 shot had enough in reserve to register a 1 1/4-length success from Nogo’s Dream (GB) (Oasis Dream {GB}). The dam, whose 2-year-old colt also by Harry Angel named Crimson Spirit (GB) was a €32,000 purchase by Kubler Racing Limited at the Tattersalls Ireland September Sale, is kin to the G3 Prix d’Arenberg third Haikbidiac (Ire) (Kodiac {GB}) from the family of the G2 Prix Robert Papin and G2 Flying Childers S.-winning sire Gutaifan {Ire}). Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, $6,969. O-Oak Lodge Racing; B-Mrs Tina Cox (GB); T-Clive Cox.

1st-Chelmsford City, £8,050, Mdn, 2-25, 3-5yo, 8f (AWT), 1:39.68, st.

WOODSTOCK (GB) (c, 3, Sixties Icon {GB}–Isabella Bird {GB}, by Invincible Spirit {Ire}), runner-up on debut over this trip at Southwell Feb. 10, missed the break slightly from the widest stall and stayed separate from the main field initially. Keen when joining the rest in a prominent position, the 8-15 favourite tanked her way to the fore by halfway and when in front two out stayed on strongly to score by 3 1/2 lengths from Margaret’s Fuchsia (GB) (Dandy Man {Ire}). The dam, a half to the G2 Oleander Rennen winner Raa Atoll (GB) (Sea The Stars {Ire}), is a granddaughter of the late Gerlad Leigh’s Infamy (Ire) (Shirley Heights {GB}) who captured the G1 Rothmans International and G2 Sun Chariot S. Cont. p15
1st-Chelmsford City Cont.
Her 2-year-old filly Clara Barton (GB) is by Mukhadram (GB).
Lifetime Record: 2-1-1-0, $10,967.
O/B-Jon and Julia Aisbitt (GB); T-Jack Channon.

2nd-Chelmsford City, £8,050, Mdn, 2-25, 3-5yo, 6f (AWT), 1:13.56, st.
INVESTED (IRE) (f, 3, Smooth Daddy--Galeaza (GB), by Galileo (IRE)), eighth on debut over course and distance Feb. 2, quickly held a narrow lead. Angled towards the centre at the top of the straight, the 13-8 favourite stayed on strongly to register a two-length verdict over Copper Bay (Ire) (Starspangledbanner {Aus}). The unraced dam, who is related to the G1 Irish 2000 Guineas and G1 Irish Derby hero and sire Desert King (Ire) (Danehill), also has a yearling filly by Sioux Nation. Sales history:

O-Mr A York; B-Denis McDonnell (IRE); T-Michael Bell.

CONDITIONS RESULT:
8th-Dundalk, €14,500, 2-24, 4yo/up, 10f 150y (AWT), 2:17.15, st.
OKITA SOUSHI (IRE) (h, 5, Galileo {Ire}--Amicus {Aus} (G1SW-Aus, $641,722), by Fastnet Rock (Aus))
LifeTime Record: 9-3-2-2, $54,329. O-Toshihiro Matsumoto; B-Coolmore (IRE); T-Joseph O’Brien.

Saturday, Kenilworth, South Africa
SPLASHOUT CAPE DERBY-G1, R1,500,000, Kenilworth, 2-25, 3yo, 10fT, 2:03.55, gd.

1--SEE IT AGAIN (SAF), 132, c, 3, by Twice Over (GB)
1st Dam: Supreme Vision (SAf), by Visionaire
2nd Dam: Sweet Virginia (SAf), by Casey Tibbs (Ire)
3rd Dam: Millie Bovana (SAf), by Royal Prerogative (GB)
1ST BLACK-TYPE WIN. 1ST GRADED WIN. 1ST GRADE 1 WIN.
O-N Jonsson; B-Drakenstein Stud (SAF); T-Mike Roberts; J-Piere Strydom. R890,625. Lifetime Record: 7 starts, 3 wins, 2 places, R1,028,125.

2--Charles Dickens (SAf), 132, c, 3, Trippi--Demanding Lady (SAf), by Dynasty (SAf).
O/B-Drakenstein Stud (SAF); T-Mike Roberts; J-Pierre Strydom. R890,625. Lifetime Record: 7 starts, 3 wins, 2 places, R1,028,125.

3--Without Question (SAf), 132, g, 3, The United States (Ire)--Siena's Star (SAf), by Argonaut (SAf).
1ST GRADE 1 BLACK TYPE.
O-N Jonsson; B-Cheveley Stud (SAF); T-Justin Snaith. R142,500.

Margins: 1 1/4, 1 1/4, 2HF. Odds: 50.00, 0.20, 50.00.
Also Ran: At My Command (SAF), Rockpool (SAF), Grinkov (SAF), Triple Time (SAf), Cosmic Event (SAf), Nevada King (SAf), Mucho Dinero (SAf). Scratched: Itsrainingwilliam (SAf).

FRANCE
Saturday’s Result:
4th-Chantilly, €27,000, Mdn, 2-25, 3yo, f, 9 1/2f (AWT), 1:57.18, st.
MAYLIN (IRE) (f, 3, Footstepsinthesand {GB}--Mona Vale {Fr}, by Zoffany {Ire}), seventh on debut at Deauville in December, was in front initially before taking a lead. Committed two out, the 14-1 shot stayed on strongly to score by 3/4 of a length from Higgle (GB) (Sea The Stars {Ire}). The dam and second dam were both unraced, with the G3 Prix Fille de l’Air-winning third dam Marie De Ken (Fr) (Kendor {Fr}) responsible for a clutch of smart performers including the G2 Prix d’Harcourt winner and triple Group 1-placed Ana Marie (Fr) (Anabaa) and the GI San Francisco Breeders’ Cup Mile winner and GI Shoemaker Breeders’ Cup Mile runner-up Charmo (Fr) (Charnwood Forest {Ire}). Her 2-year-old filly Mona Louise (GB) is by Australia (GB).

IRELAND

CONDITIONS RESULT:
8th-Dundalk, €14,500, 2-24, 4yo/up, 10f 150y (AWT), 2:17.15, st.
OKITA SOUSHI (IRE) (h, 5, Galileo {Ire}--Amicus {Aus} (G1SW-Aus, $641,722), by Fastnet Rock (Aus))
Lifetime Record: 9-3-2-2, $54,329. O-Toshihiro Matsumoto; B-Coolmore (IRE); T-Joseph O’Brien.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:
Olympic Goal (Fr), c, 3, Olympic Glory (Ire)--Sydarra (Fr), by Sinndar (Ire).
O/B-Mme Waltraut Spanner (IRE); T-Mathieu Brasme.

Private Lounge (GB), f, 4, Toronado (Ire)--Polarized (GB), by Medicean (GB).

WORLDWIDE NEWS

Saturday, Kenilworth, South Africa
SPLASHOUT CAPE DERBY-G1, R1,500,000, Kenilworth, 2-25, 3yo, 10fT, 2:03.55, gd.

1--SEE IT AGAIN (SAF), 132, c, 3, by Twice Over (GB)
1st Dam: Supreme Vision (SAf), by Visionaire
2nd Dam: Sweet Virginia (SAf), by Casey Tibbs (Ire)
3rd Dam: Millie Bovana (SAf), by Royal Prerogative (GB)
1ST BLACK-TYPE WIN. 1ST GRADED WIN. 1ST GRADE 1 WIN.
O-N Jonsson; B-Drakenstein Stud (SAF); T-Mike Roberts; J-Piere Strydom. R890,625. Lifetime Record: 7 starts, 3 wins, 2 places, R1,028,125.

2--Charles Dickens (SAf), 132, c, 3, Trippi--Demanding Lady (SAf), by Dynasty (SAf).
O/B-Drakenstein Stud (SAF); T-Mike Roberts; J-Pierre Strydom. R890,625. Lifetime Record: 7 starts, 3 wins, 2 places, R1,028,125.

3--Without Question (SAf), 132, g, 3, The United States (Ire)--Siena’s Star (SAf), by Argonaut (SAf).
1ST GRADE 1 BLACK TYPE.
O-N Jonsson; B-Cheveley Stud (SAF); T-Justin Snaith. R142,500.

Margins: 1 1/4, 1 1/4, 2HF. Odds: 50.00, 0.20, 50.00.
Also Ran: At My Command (SAF), Rockpool (SAF), Grinkov (SAF), Triple Time (SAf), Cosmic Event (SAf), Nevada King (SAf), Mucho Dinero (SAf). Scratched: Itsrainingwilliam (SAf).

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## GROUP ENTRIES

**Sunday, Sha Tin, Hong Kong, post time: 4.05 p.m.**

**CITI HONG KONG GOLD CUP-G1**, HK$12,000,000, 3yo/up, 2000mT (PPs)

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<td>Lookin At Lucky</td>
<td>Bowman</td>
<td>Millard</td>
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**Breeders:** 1-Asco International Pty Ltd (Qld), 2-Corduff Stud & T J Rooney, 3-Arrowfield Group Pty Ltd, Jungle Pocket Pty Ltd (NSW), 4-Kingsclere Stud, 5-Haunui Bloodstock Ltd, 6-Team Hogdala AB, 7-Agricola Taomina Ltda

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**Sunday, Sha Tin, Hong Kong, post time: 5.15 p.m.**

**HONG KONG CLASSIC CUP-LR**, HK$12,000,000, 4yo, 1800mT (PPs)

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**Emergencies**

- Woodfire Bro (NZ)
- Perfect Team (Aus)

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**Sales Results by Stallion**

[Click here](#) to view a sire's individual sales results, sortable any way.
ANAMOE DEVASTATING IN CHIPPING NORTON

by TDN AusNZ

There were six Group 1s across Australia and New Zealand on Saturday afternoon but the day undoubtedly belonged to Godolphin’s superstar Anamoe (Street Boss (USA)) who delivered a sublime performance in the G1 Chipping Norton S. at Randwick.

At the front of the action at Sandown, the G1 Blue Diamond S. went to Little Brose (Per Incanto (USA)), giving a 10th win in the race to Lindsay Park, and a first to Ben and JD Hayes.

With James McDonald sitting off a fast early pace, the pair crept into the race rounding the home turn before the Champion Jockey set his mount to it, only for Anamoe to race away with minimal fuss, dispatching a high-class field.

Fighting it out for second place against Mo’unga (NZ) (Savabeel), Chris Waller’s Fangirl (Sebring) was the closest finisher, 1.29l away. But that margin belies Anamoe’s dominance in the race; citing a possible international campaign, trainer James Cummings believes he could produce an even greater performance were he to be taken further into the race.

“When you set the pace on for a horse like Anamoe, it’s a beautiful thing to watch because he gets the opportunity to assert his dominance,” Cummings said, adding, “He’s a truly great horse.

“It’s a pleasure for us to have a horse as good as this. We’ve got a great team around us... You can see the effort that’s gone into this horse to get him to this level, and to have him back every prep is amazing.”

Pedigree Notes

The Royal Ascot-bound 4-year-old is one of the 62 stakes winners and eight Group 1 winners sired by his Darley NSW-based sire, a horse who has been going from strength to strength in recent years; his service fee rising from $11,000 in 2015 to $77,000 last year. Anamoe’s dam is the G1 Australasian Oaks winner Anamato (Redoute’s Choice) who was campaigned overseas by the David Hayes stable—finishing third in the GI American Oaks whilst locally she was also able to win the G2 Kewney S., the G2 Moonee Valley Oaks and the G3 SAJC Sires’ Produce S. Served last spring by, not surprisingly, Street Boss (USA), Anamato missed the previous year to him with her most recent foal being a Blue Point (Ire) filly.

Saturday, Royal Randwick, Australia
CHIPPING NORTON S.-G1, A$600,000, ATC, 2-25, 3yo/up, Open Weight For, 1600mT, 1:34.99, Good.

1--ANAMOE, 59.0, h, 4, by Street Boss (USA)
1st Dam: Anamato (G1SW-Aus, GISW-US, $770,836), by Redoute’s Choice
2nd Dam: Voltage, by Whiskey Road (USA)
3rd Dam: Electric Belle (NZ), by Sovereign Edition (Ire)
O-Godolphin; B-Godolphin Australia (NSW); T-James Cummings; J-B Mc Donald; A$348,000.

2--Fangirl, 57.0, m, 4, Sebring--Little Surfer Girl (MSW, A$421,520), by Encosta de Lago.
O-Ingham Racing (Mgrs: Ms L J Ingham, J A Ingham, R C Ingham & Mrs D N Kepitis); B-Ingham Racing NSW; T-C J Waller; J-K Mc Evoy; A$114,000.

3--Mo’unga (NZ), 59.0, h, 5, Savabeel--Chandelier (NZ), by O’Reilly (NZ). ($325,000 Ylg ’19 NZBJAN). O-Newhaven Park Mo’unga, T R Maddern, M B Lee, K S So, Est A B White, Robrick Lodge, Bowness Stud, Harbour Racing, Dalanna Bloodstock, Aristia Park Bloodstock Pty Ltd, Ultra Horse Syndicate, J W Kelly Suffolk Vale & Co, Tfi & Redbank North Pty Ltd; B-Waikato Stud Ltd, Waikato (NZ); T-Annabel Neasham; J-J Bowman; A$57,000.
Margins: 1 1/4, 1HF, 1 3/4. Odds: 0.60, 7.00, 10.00.
Also Ran: Laws of Indices (Ire), Montefilia, Hinged, Arapaho (Fr), Knights Order (Ire), Benaud, Stockman (NZ), Huetor (Fr), El Bodegon (Ire). Click for the Racing Australia chart. VIDEO.

HAYES BROTHERS CONTINUE FAMILY TRADITION by TDN AusNZ

Ben and JD Hayes added to their rich family history in the G1 Blue Diamond S. at Sandown on Saturday when Little Brose (Per Incanto {USA}) grabbed Victoria’s premier juvenile feature in taking style.

Settled in the middle of the pack, Little Brose was briefly squeezed for room as the pace lifted with 350 metres to run, but fought his way into the clear and picked up the lead at the 100-metre mark. From there he was in the clear, and never looked in trouble, though 1l runner-up Don Corleone (Snitzel) was arguably a hard-luck story in behind, and he was followed by Arkansaw Kid (Harry Angel {Ire}), the Hayeses’ only other runner in the race.

The 2-year-old colt became the first horse since Rancher (Brave Lad) in 1982 to win both the Listed Merson Cooper S. and the Blue Diamond, and provided the Hayes brothers with their second elite-level victory. With their father David Hayes’ excellent record in the race, it was a 10th victory for Lindsay Park.

Ben Hayes told Racing.com, “It was a beautiful ride from Michael (Dee). For Little Brose to win so impressively, he’s just such an exciting horse. I’m thrilled for the whole team. It’s good to keep that family tradition going and win Blue Diamonds.”

For Michael Dee, Little Brose’s win continued his excellent season, adding Group 1 number eight to the jockey’s CV after he enjoyed a brilliant spring headlined by his victory aboard Durston (GB) (Sea The Moon {GB}) in the G1 Caulfield Cup.

Dee was full of praise for his mount, who had to put up with some scrimmaging more than once in the race.

“The way the race unfolded, that’s exactly how we planned,” Dee said. “I wanted to be somewhat positive and be as close as I can without putting him out of our comfort zone.

“He travelled strong throughout. There was a bit of jostling there with going to that first corner, but to the horse’s credit he was peaking on the right day.”

Having settled on the rail in the rear half of the field, Peter and Paul Snowden’s Don Corleone was twice checked in his run, and eventually found a passage through the gap left by the eventual winner.

Co-trained Peter Snowden concluded that it was, “Hard to watch when you know you should be the winner,” adding that Don Corleone may yet head to the G1 Golden Slipper S. in three weeks’ time or hold off and run in the G1 Sires’ Produce S. on Apr. 1.

Pedigree Notes

The 10th G1 Blue Diamond S. victory over three generations of the Hayes family, Little Brose (Per Incanto {USA}) was part of a great day for the Street Cry (Ire) sireline. One of the 27 stakes winners and the sixth Group 1 winner for his Little Avondale Stud-based sire, he was bred by Mr. D Wallace and sold by Sledmere Stud to Lindsay Park Racing at the Magic Millions Gold Coast Yearling Sale for $200,000. He is out of the Listed Music Prince S. winner Mohegan Sky (USA) (Straight Man {USA}) who has also produced the dual city winner Kutayha (NZ) (Savabeel). Sadly she died last spring with her final foal being a Russian Revolution yearling filly.

Saturday, Sandown-Lakeside, Australia
BLUE DIAMOND S.-G1, A$2,000,000, MRC, 2-25, 2yo, Open Set Weight, 1200mT, 1:10.00, gd.
1--LITTLE BROSE, 57.0, c, 2, by Per Incanto (USA)
1st Dam: Mohegan Sky (USA) (SW & GSP-US, $280,294), by Straight Man (USA)
2nd Dam: Seattle Moon (Can), by Seattle Dancer (USA)
3rd Dam: Tempest Moon (USA), by Caro (Ire)
1ST GROUP WIN. 1ST GROUP 1 WIN. (A$200,000 Ylg ‘22 MMLJAN). O-W P P Young; B-Mr D Wallace (NSW); T-Ben & Jd Hayes; J-M J Dee; A$1,215,000. Lifetime Record: 4-2-2-0, A$1,410,750. Click for the free Arion.co.nz catalogue-style pedigree. Werk Nick Rating: B. Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree.

2--Don Corleone, 57.0, c, 2, by Snitzel
1st Dam: Snipzu (MSW, A$475,400), by Snippetson. 1ST BLACK TYPE. 1ST GROUP BLACK TYPE. 1ST GROUP 1 BLACK TYPE. (A$650,000 Wlg ‘21 MMLMAY). O-Newgate Bloodstock, China Horse Club Racing
GATOR GRABS FIFTH GROUP 1

by TDN AusNZ

There can be no doubt that popular gelding Alligator Blood (All Too Hard) has enjoyed his recent preparations in Victoria, as he added a third Group 1 to his seasonal tally there with victory in the Futurity S. on Saturday at Sandown-Lakeside in his return to action this year.

Not that he needed the help as the most-voted for horse at the time, but the race also counts as a ‘win and you’re in’ for The All-Star Mile, a confirmed target for the 6-year-old.

Perhaps unexpectedly, the lead was taken up by Nugget (GB) (Siyouni (Fr)), Blake Shinn opting to settle Alligator Blood into second position. With the race accelerating to a blistering pace in the home stretch, it was Shinn leading the charge, and the pair raced clear of the field.

Having sat further back in the run, Mr Brightside (NZ) (Bullbars) may not have been seen to full effect, with Ben and JD Hayes’ gelding closing all the time, finishing 1.25l behind Alligator Blood at the line, whilst I’m Thunderstruck (NZ) (Shocking) was 0.5l away in third.

After Alligator Blood notched his fifth lifetime Group 1, co-trainer Adrian Bott hailed the horse as “sensational.” “I’m delighted for everyone involved, continuing the story of his career, he really is a phenomenal racehorse," Bott said.

“Everything has been based around The All-Star Mile, we have been guided by him throughout the whole campaign and felt he probably need that little extra time, and have him peaking second-up, we’ve followed that previously with him, and I think there is good improvement off the back of today.”

Pedigree Notes

Purchased by the Ezybonds No 1 Syndicate for $55,000 at the 2018 Magic Millions Gold Coast Yearling Sale, he was bred by Gerry Harvey and prepared for the sale by his Baramul Stud.

One of the 22 stakes winners (and one of the four Group 1 horses who have all won at the elite-level at least twice) for his Vinery Stud-based, four-time Group 1 winning sire, Alligator Blood is out of the unraced Lake Superior (Encosta De Lago) who sadly died young having had only four live foals, Alligator Blood the last of those.

Saturday, Sandown-Lakeside, Australia

FUTURITY S.-G1, A$750,000, MRC, 2-25, 3yo/up, Open Weight For Age, 1400mT, 1:23.13, Good.

1--ALLIGATOR BLOOD, 59.0, g, 6, by All Too Hard
1st Dam: Lake Superior, by Encosta de Lago
2nd Dam: Kylikwong, by Red Ransom (USA)
3rd Dam: Tracy’s Element, by Last Tycoon (Ire)

(A$55,000 Ylg ‘18 MMLJAN). O-G Harvey, Mrs R Simpson & J A Simpson; B-Mr G Harvey (NSW); T-G Waterhouse & A Bott; J-B Shinn; A$452,000. Lifetime Record: 27-13-4-1, A$6,026,575.

2--Mr Brightside (NZ), 59.0, g, 5, by Tavistock (NZ)

(A$22,000 Ylg ‘19 NZBMA). O-Lindsay Park Bloodstock (Mgr: Miss S Steel), Green Shorts Racing (Mgr: A Visalli), K Paisley, Mrs C Paisley, B Carson, M Andreadis, J Molinaro, Ms A Molinaro, Ms E Evans, D Hollyman, S Horn, R Jarvis, G Kerr, D Lee, R J White, D Cavallo, The Fighting Cowboys (Mgr: A Pettiona), D Maung & P Prest; B-R I & Est late M A G Johnson, Waikato (NZ); T-Ben & Jd Hayes; J-Craig Williams; A$135,000.
3--I’m Thunderstruck (NZ), 59.0, g, 5, Shocking--Primadonna Girl (NZ), by Edenwold (Can). O-Oti Racing (Mgrs: T Henderson & S Driscoll), S Bira’m, M Neale, B & Mrs J Hill, C Fraraccio, R Menchise, A & Mrs P Goodfellow, J & Mrs J Spence, L Webb, Ms D McKeown, T & Mrs B Porter, J Gurriri, Mangan Racing & 2w Syndications; B-T Forlong & Ms J Jones, Auckland (NZ); T-M Price & M Kent Jnr; J-Jamie Kah; A$67,500. Margins: 1 1/4, 1 3/4, 3HF. Odds: 1.80, 3.20, 1.90.

Also Ran: Aegon (NZ), Nugget (GB), My Oberon (Ire). Click for the Racing Australia chart. VIDEO.

PARIS STEALS SURROUND, INVADER’S FIRST GROUP 1 by TDN AusNZ

When James McDonald, aboard second-favourite Zougotcha (Zoustar), pushed ahead to hold Hugh Bowman, riding In Secret (I Am Invincible), against the rail as they turned for home, little did the pair realise that neither would finish in the top two, their main dangers still lying behind them.

It was a thrilling finish to the G1 Surround S. as the well-fancied G1 Coolmore Stud S. winner In Secret was resigned to third and G1 Flight S. winner Zougotcha to fourth as they, along with Sunshine In Paris (Invader) and Ruthless Dame (NZ) (Tavistock {NZ}), dived for the line in a four-way photo finish.

Prevailing by the narrowest of margins was Annabel Neasham’s Sunshine In Paris, who got the better of Ruthless Dame by a whisker.

"I was standing with my great mate Dave Eustace and I think he thought he’d got it, she is so small you can’t see her. I’m speechless," Neasham said.

“I’m not in shock because I was actually disappointed she didn’t win the Light Fingers, I thought she had the ability to be the best 3-year-old filly around, but obviously coming here today, they’re such good fillies. Seeing them fight out the finish like that was unbelievable.”

Pedigree Notes

Bred by Aquis Farm, she made her way through the ring at last year’s Magic Millions National Broodmare Sale—sold by the Blue Sky Premium Consignment to Champagne Bloodstock for $90,000. The first stakes winner for her Aquis Farm-based, G1 ATC Sires’ Produce Stakes-winning sire, a son of Snitzel, Sunshine In Paris is out of the city-placed winner Zenaida (NZ) (Zabeel {NZ}) who has also produced the G3 Typhoon Tracy S. winner Macroura (Snitzel). Served last spring by Maurice (Jpn) having missed the previous spring to Bivouac, Zenaida—whose yearling son is by Dubious—is a half-sister to the New Zealand Horse of the Year Vosne Romanee (NZ) (Electronic Zone {USA}).

Saturday, Royal Randwick, Australia

SURROUND S.-G1, A$600,000, ATC, 2-25, 3yo, f, Open S., 1400mT, 1:22.84, Good.

1--SUNSHINE IN PARIS, 56.0, f, 3, by Invader

1st Dam: Zenaida (NZ), by Zabeel (NZ)
2nd Dam: Madison Avenue (NZ), by Morcon (GB)
3rd Dam: Madison Square (NZ), by Marceau (AUS)

1ST BLACK TYPE WIN. 1ST GROUP WIN. 1ST GROUP 1 WIN. ($90,000 HRA ‘22 MMLMAY). O-Chip (Mgr: Ms K L Avison); B-Aquis Farm (NSW); T-Annabel Neasham; J-Ryan Maloney; A$348,000. Lifetime Record: 5-3-1-1, A$519,700. *1/2 to Macroura (Aus) (Snitzel (Aus)), GSW-Aus, $212,689. Click for the free Arion.co.nz catalogue-style pedigree. Werk Nick Rating: A+. Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree.

2--Ruthless Dame (NZ), 56.0, f, 3, Tavistock (NZ)--Ruthless Lady (NZ), by Keeper. 1ST GROUP 1 BLACK TYPE. ($90,000 Ylg ‘21 NZBIAN Sale). O-C A Stott, R R Gabb, P J Sexton, M C Goudie, I S Harmer, N Burrows, P Cahill, Murumba Racing, K J Weight, Mrs M Weight, Dr B Barresi, R W Henebery, Miss J Nelson, Mrs G M O’Flynn, S O’Flynn, Ms B O’Hara, M F Parris & M Cunningham; B-Go Bloodstock Australia Pty Ltd (NZ); T-C Maher & D Eustace; J-Tyler Schiller; A$114,000.

3--In Secret, 56.0, f, 3, I Am Invincible--Eloping, by Choisir. O-Godolphin; (A$900,000 Ylg ‘21 MMLIAN). B-Segenhoe Thoroughbreds Australia Pty Ltd (NSW); T-James Cummings; J-J Bowman; A$57,000.

Margins: NO, SHD, SNK. Odds: 10.00, 11.00, 1.30.

Also Ran: Zougotcha, Revolutionary Miss, Cinderella Days, Wolverine (NZ), Sheeza Belter, Fireburn, Razeta, North Star Lass, Madame Pommery, A Lot More Love. Click for the Racing Australia chart. VIDEO.
THOMPSON’S LUCK LANDS HIM OAKLEIGH PLATE by TDN AusNZ

Ben Thompson continued his winning partnership with Uncommon James (Cable Bay {Ire}) to land his first Group 1 in the Oakleigh Plate at Sandown-Lakeside on Saturday, in a turn of luck for the young rider in which Damian Lane was drawn away to ride in the Saudi Cup.

Trained by Steven O’Dea and Matthew Hoysted, the 4-year-old gelding took up a prominent position in the 1100-metre dash. With a strong pace set by fellow Queensland raider Zoustyle (Zoustar), Uncommon James worked to the front with 50 metres to run and was unchallenged at the line.

“It means so much; it means everything,” Thompson said of his first elite-level win. “It is so lucky for it to have happened. It’s the way it has panned out.

“Uncommon James is a horse I have had a lot to do with, I rode him in his first ever jump-out with other horses out of the barriers and I’d ridden him three times in Queensland for three wins and just also with the turn of events and getting the ride at the last hour...”

Co-trainer Matthew Hoysted was equally stunned, adding, “I can’t really put it in words, it hasn’t really sunk in. Can’t believe this horse, obviously there is a family connection with my in-laws having bred him.”

Pedigree Notes

A homebred for the Hoysted family’s Lavin Park Racing and Breeding, he is one of the two local stakes winners (and eight in total) sired by his former Woodside Park shuttleing sire... and he is that horse’s first Group 1 winner. Uncommon James is the second live foal produced by the stakes-placed multiple city winner Pickabee (Jet Spur) whose full sister Emmalene (dam of the stakes-placed Churning by Lonhro) is a Flemington Listed winner. Sadly, Pickabee died only recently having last spring the stakes-placed Churning by Lonhro) is a Flemington Listed winner Pickabee (Jet Spur) whose full sister Emmalene (dam of second live foal produced by the stakes-placed multiple city winner Pickabee (Jet Spur) whose full sister Emmalene (dam of the stakes-placed Churning by Lonhro) is a Flemington Listed winner.

Levante (NZ) (Proisir) joined long-time leader La Crique (NZ) (Vadamos {Fr}) in the straight.

Trained by Ken and Bev Kelso, the prolific Levante made it 12 victories from 21 starts, holding La Crique to a 0.8l margin, the pair 1.25l clear of the field.

Tried only twice before at the mile trip, yielding a win and a Group 1 fourth place, Levante’s part-owner Phillip Brown commented:

“That is really special and I have been keen to see her get over 1600 metres as I felt that could be one of her best distances,” Brown said.

Pedigree Notes

So tough in demanding conditions, Levante cemented her place as one of New Zealand’s very best--this win her fourth at Group 1 level. One of the 11 stakes winners for her in-form Rich Hill Stud-based sire, Levante was bred by L Williams. She is the second foal produced by the imported mare Island Doy (GB) (Doyoun {Ire}) who has been represented by another four winners including the stakes placegetters Dooyenne (NZ) (Kilimanjaro {GB}) and Miss Isle (NZ) (Bachelor Duke {USA}).

Both of those mares are also doing the job at stud --he former producing last year’s G1 Manawatu Sires’ Produce S. winner Maven Belle (NZ) (Burgundy (NZ)) and the latter last year’s Listed Castletown S. winner Sophmaze (NZ) (Derryn).
Saturday, Otaki, New Zealand

WFA S.-G1, NZ$300,000, Otaki Maori RC, 2-25, Open wfa, 1600mT, 1:36.85, Dead.

1—LEVANTE, 57.0, m, 6, by Proisir (Aus) (GSW, $A$475,230)
   1st Dam: Island Doy (GB), by Doyoun (Ire)
   2nd Dam: Nuravia (GB), by Nureyev (USA)
   3rd Dam: Bahariva (Fr), by Sir Gaylord (USA)
   O-Mrs C J & P H Brown, A C & Mrs M E Enting, Sandringham
   Investments Ltd & M J Tapper; B-L Williams, Waikato (NZ); T-K
   & B Kelso; J-R T Elliot; NZ$172,500. Lifetime Record:
   21-12-2-3, A$1,123,511.* Click for the free Arion.co.nz
   Plus*. Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree.

2—La Crique, 57.0, m, 4, Vadamos (FR)—Destiny Cove (AUS), by
   Dubai Destination (USA). O-J T Cassin & Mrs J K Cassin; B-J &
   M Cassin Family Trust, Auckland (NZ); T-S & K Alexander; J-C J
   Grylls; NZ$55,500

3—Chase, 59.0, g, 6, Zed—Dantessa, by Danasinga (AUS).
   ($6,000 Wlg '17 NZBMAY; $9,000 Ylg '18 NZBJAN). O-G A & L
   Knight & S Nickalls; B-K J Hickman & G W Hulston, Canterbury,
   (NZ); T-S Nickalls; J-J R Lowry; NZ$27,000.
   Margins: 3/4, 3, 4 1/4. Odds: 1.80, 1.80, 50.00.
   Also Ran: Perfect Scenario, Prise de Fer, Lightning Jack, Wild
   Night, Pride of Aspen (Aus). Click for the NZ Racing chart.