A WAYNE LUKAS RENAISSANCE

The Week in Review, by Bill Finley

As Hall of Famer Wayne Lukas entered his mid-eighties, his longevity and his persistence became one of racing’s best feel-good stories. A trainer who belongs in the conversation as one of the best of all time, he was still out there every day, physically active, mentally sharp. There didn’t seem to be anything stopping him.

But there was a missing ingredient. Lukas, now 87, simply wasn’t winning many races, especially important ones. Lukas won the 2018 GII Risen Star S. with Bravazo (Awesome Again) on Feb. 17, 2018. He didn’t win another graded stakes until Secret Oath (Arrogate) won the GIII Honeybee S. on Feb. 16, 2022, nearly four years after Bravazo’s win. From 2018 through 2021, he won just 69 races and his winning percentage was just 10.8%. It wasn’t hard to figure out what was going on. There just weren’t many owners willing to trust their horses to a trainer in his mid-eighties.

Cont. Pg. 3

IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

MICHAEL DONOHOE TALKS LUCKY VEGA

The TDN’s Brian Sheerin sits down with BBA Ireland’s Michael Donohoe to discuss some of the high-quality mares in Group 1-winning juvenile Lucky Vega’s 2023 book.
THE FASTEST BREEDERS' CUP CLASSIC WINNER EVER.

Thoro-Graph

**VINO ROSSO** - 6 ¼
Flightline - 6
Arrogate - 5
Saint Liam - 4 ¾
Ghostzapper - 4 ½
Curlin - 4

FIRST 2YOS SELL AT OBS.
EARNING THEIR STRIPES: DAN BLACKER

Dan Blacker said he always knew that he wanted to be a trainer. But it wasn’t until a trip to the U. S. during the Godolphin Flying Start program that he fell in love with the racetrack way of life.

AMERICAN DIRT PEDIGREES AT GOFFS DUBAI

There are American pedigrees galore that feature in the 73-strong catalogue for the Goffs Dubai Breeze-Up Sale.

WEST COASTERS BREEZE TOWARDS NEXT PREPS

National Treasure worked five furlongs in 1:00 for trainer Tim Yakteen. Stablemates Practical Move (Practical Joke) and Reincarnate (Good Magic) each worked.

BREED TO A PA STALLION IN 2023

50% BREEDER AWARDS

ELIGIBLE FOR 2YO PA-Sired PA-BRED

$1 MILLION STALLION SERIES

Potential buyers inspect 2-year-olds ahead of the OBS March Sale which begins Monday. Photos by Z
# OBS March 2-Year-Olds

**Monday, Mar. 20**

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<td>Omar Ramirez Bloodstock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>121</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Speightstown-Temperit</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>KEESEP YLG 22</td>
<td>Brick City Thoroughbreds</td>
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<td>122</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Munnings-Tensas Cowgirl</td>
<td>$90,000</td>
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<td>Barrel Pick Bloodstock</td>
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<td>124</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Audible-Texas Gem</td>
<td>$80,000</td>
<td>KEESEP YLG 22</td>
<td>Antonio Sano</td>
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<td>127</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Leofric-Them There Eyes</td>
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<td>130</td>
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<td>Liam's Map-Tiger Silk (Aus)</td>
<td>$130,000</td>
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<td>Scott &amp; Evan Dilworth</td>
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<tr>
<td>132</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Mo Town-Timetobegone</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
<td>KEESEP YLG 22</td>
<td>Pro Racing Stable</td>
<td>GOP Racing Stable Corp.</td>
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<tr>
<td>136</td>
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<td>Curlin-Tiz o' Gold</td>
<td>$180,000</td>
<td>KEESEP YLG 22</td>
<td>Scott &amp; Evan Dilworth</td>
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<tr>
<td>137</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Violence-Tizway That Way</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>KEESEP YLG 22</td>
<td>30-30 Ranch</td>
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<td>138</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Uncle Mo-Toasting</td>
<td>$210,000</td>
<td>FTN SEL YLG SAR 22</td>
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<td>141</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Practical Joke-Tortuga Lady</td>
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<tr>
<td>142</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Uncle Mo-To the Moon Alice</td>
<td>$280,000</td>
<td>FTN NY-BRED YLG 22</td>
<td>Cary Frommer</td>
<td>Cary Frommer</td>
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<tr>
<td>143</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Mitole-Toula</td>
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<td>KEESEP YLG 22</td>
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<tr>
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<td>C</td>
<td>Jimmy Creed-Trail Trick</td>
<td>$17,000</td>
<td>OBS YLG SALE 22</td>
<td>Fast Horses</td>
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<td>145</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Enticed-Tranquil Song</td>
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<td>Granpollo Stables</td>
<td>Golden Rock Thoroughbreds</td>
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<td>146</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Copper Bullet-Tricia's Trama</td>
<td>$28,000</td>
<td>FTKOCT YLG 22</td>
<td>Tari Brocklebank</td>
<td>Havens Bloodstock</td>
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<td>147</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Midnight Storm-Trizelle</td>
<td>$8,000</td>
<td>KEENOV BRDG 21</td>
<td>Jhair Galvan</td>
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<tr>
<td>149</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Khozan-True Bliss</td>
<td>$16,000</td>
<td>OBS YLG SALE 22</td>
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<td>150</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>American Freedom-True Martha</td>
<td>$8,500</td>
<td>KEESFP YLG 22</td>
<td>Jesus Avila</td>
<td>Blue Sapphire Stables</td>
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<td>152</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Audible-Turning Tide</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>FTNY-BRED YLG 22</td>
<td>Tom McCrocklin/Jeffrey Bloom</td>
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<td>154</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>More Than Ready-Tuscan Chianti</td>
<td>$52,000</td>
<td>KEESFP YLG 22</td>
<td>Paul Neatherlin</td>
<td>Longoria Training &amp; Sales</td>
</tr>
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<td>155</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Shamon Ghost-Tuvalu</td>
<td>$7,000</td>
<td>KEESFP YLG 22</td>
<td>30-30 Ranch</td>
<td>Las Palmas Farm</td>
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<td>157</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Munnings-Twisted Kitty</td>
<td>$55,000</td>
<td>KEESFP YLG 22</td>
<td>Marvin Boyd/Renuto T'bred</td>
<td>SBM Training and Sales</td>
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<tr>
<td>160</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Forever d'Oro-Two Item Maker</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>FTKOCT YLG 22</td>
<td>Kaden Clary</td>
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<tr>
<td>161</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Omaha Beach-Two Sugars</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
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<td>Nassar Alotabib</td>
<td>Eddie Woods</td>
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<tr>
<td>162</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Catholic Boy-Ultimate Mo</td>
<td>$18,000</td>
<td>KEESFP YLG 22</td>
<td>Flynt Fensmire</td>
<td>Flynt Fensmire</td>
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<tr>
<td>163</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Maclean's Music-Ultimate Shopper</td>
<td>$105,000</td>
<td>FTKSUM YLG 22</td>
<td>Team Farm</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>Lea-Unabashed</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>KEENOV BRDG 21</td>
<td>Cruzin’ Thoroughbreds</td>
<td>Cruzin’ Thoroughbreds</td>
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<tr>
<td>166</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Laoban-Unapped Secret</td>
<td>$115,000</td>
<td>KEESFP YLG 22</td>
<td>C S V</td>
<td>Paul Sharp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>169</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Flatter-Ur Dvln Disguise</td>
<td>$65,000</td>
<td>KEENOV BRDG 21</td>
<td>Fred M. Allor</td>
<td>Gene Recio</td>
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<tr>
<td>170</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Tapiture-Variance</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>FTI YLG OCT 22</td>
<td>Rochos Racing/Jose Luis Ramirez</td>
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<tr>
<td>171</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Flatter-Varisimo</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
<td>KEESFP YLG 22</td>
<td>Sicada Stable</td>
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<tr>
<td>173</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Connect-Velvet Glove</td>
<td>$28,000</td>
<td>FTKOCT YLG 22</td>
<td>Servicios y Construcciones La Esmerald</td>
<td>Navas Equine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>174</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Take Charge Indy-Very Fashionable</td>
<td>$17,000</td>
<td>KEENOV BRDG 21</td>
<td>Barry Lamb</td>
<td>Silvestre Chavez T'bredd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>178</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Kantharos-Violencia</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
<td>KEESFP YLG 22</td>
<td>Ervin Rodriguez</td>
<td>Randy Miles</td>
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<tr>
<td>179</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Freud-Virgin Cocktail</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
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<td>Edward Pulgar</td>
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<tr>
<td>180</td>
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<td>Mastery-Virginia Hill</td>
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<td>Tari Brocklebank</td>
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<tr>
<td>181</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Danzing Candy-Visual Treat</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>NCA AUG YLG 22</td>
<td>Juan Zamora</td>
<td>Triple J Equine Sales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>182</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Catholic Boy-Vivere</td>
<td>$45,000</td>
<td>KEESFP YLG 22</td>
<td>Carlos Munoz</td>
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<tr>
<td>185</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>West Coast-Walking in Nassau</td>
<td>$17,000</td>
<td>KEESFP YLG 22</td>
<td>Aureliano Noguez</td>
<td>Golden Noguez</td>
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<tr>
<td>188</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Munnings-Waving Flags</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>KEESFP YLG 22</td>
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<td>On Point Training &amp; Sales</td>
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<tr>
<td>189</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>City of Light-Wear Red</td>
<td>$170,000</td>
<td>KEESFP YLG 22</td>
<td>Super Fine Farms</td>
<td>Wavertree Stables</td>
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<tr>
<td>190</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Midshipman-Weekend</td>
<td>$55,000</td>
<td>FTKSUM YLG 22</td>
<td>Scattered Acres/Rusty Roberts</td>
<td>McKathan Bros. Sales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>191</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Mendelsohn-Weekend Fantasy</td>
<td>$67,000</td>
<td>KEENOV BRDG 21</td>
<td>Global Racing</td>
<td>Global Thoroughbreds</td>
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<tr>
<td>193</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Flameaway-Wendy Peffercorn</td>
<td>$17,000</td>
<td>FTN FALL MIXED 21</td>
<td>Ramiro Salazar</td>
<td>G. A. Thoroughbred Sales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>194</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Catalina Cruiser-Whatacharacter</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>KEESFP YLG 22</td>
<td>Violet</td>
<td>Navas Equine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>195</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Always Dreaming-What's Bruin</td>
<td>$33,000</td>
<td>OBS YLG SALE 22</td>
<td>H.H.</td>
<td>Halcyon Hammock Farm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>196</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Munnings-What Time It Is</td>
<td>$280,000</td>
<td>FTN SEL YLG SAR 22</td>
<td>Peaceful Valley</td>
<td>Wavertree Stables</td>
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<tr>
<td>197</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Upstart-Why Lucy Why</td>
<td>$72,000</td>
<td>KEESFP YLG 22</td>
<td>Valera Stable</td>
<td>Niall Brennan Stables</td>
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<td>198</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Catalina Cruiser-Wicked Speed</td>
<td>$70,000</td>
<td>KEESFP YLG 22</td>
<td>Gina Fennell</td>
<td>L.G.</td>
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<tr>
<td>200</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Union Rags-Winding Way</td>
<td>$70,000</td>
<td>KEESFP YLG 22</td>
<td>Dark Star Thoroughbreds</td>
<td>Dark Star Thoroughbreds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hip</td>
<td>Sex</td>
<td>Pedigree</td>
<td>Price</td>
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<td>Buyer/Agent</td>
<td>Current Consignor</td>
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<tr>
<td>202</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Flameaway-Wishful Dreamin</td>
<td>$18,000</td>
<td>KEENOV BRDG 21</td>
<td>Steve Weston</td>
<td>Silvestre Chavez T'breds</td>
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<tr>
<td>203</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Catalina Cruiser-Witchy One</td>
<td>$23,000</td>
<td>KEESEP YLG 22</td>
<td>Advanced Thoroughbreds</td>
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<td>204</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Audible-Wonder Stone</td>
<td>$200,000</td>
<td>FTKSUM YLG 22</td>
<td>Gus King</td>
<td>Randy Miles</td>
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<tr>
<td>207</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Maximus Mischief-Yamato Damashii</td>
<td>$27,000</td>
<td>KEESEP YLG 22</td>
<td>Conrado Colin</td>
<td>King's Equine</td>
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<tr>
<td>210</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Danzing Candy-Yolanda B. Too</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
<td>NCA AUG YLG 22</td>
<td>Juan Zamora</td>
<td>Triple J Equine Sales</td>
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<tr>
<td>211</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Mastery-You Asked</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>KEESEP YLG 22</td>
<td>Steel Prospect Racing</td>
<td>Julie Davies</td>
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<tr>
<td>213</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Cairo Prince-Zarmant</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>OBS YLG SALE 22</td>
<td>H.H.</td>
<td>Halcyon Hammock Farm</td>
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<tr>
<td>214</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Catholic Boy-Zestina</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>KEENOV BRDG 21</td>
<td>Todd Frederick</td>
<td>G. A. Thoroughbred Sales</td>
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<td>215</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Justify-Zinzay</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
<td>KEESEP YLG 22</td>
<td>Hartley/De Renzo Thoroughbreds</td>
<td>Hartley/DeRenzo T'breds</td>
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<tr>
<td>216</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Mizzen Mast-Zulia</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>KEESEP YLG 22</td>
<td>Tamkeen Stables</td>
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<tr>
<td>217</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>More Than Ready-A. A. Azula's Arch</td>
<td>$70,000</td>
<td>KEESEP YLG 22</td>
<td>Aint Rich</td>
<td>Coastal Equine</td>
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<td>218</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Quality Road-A Bit Special (GB)</td>
<td>$205,000</td>
<td>FTN SEL YLG SAR 22</td>
<td>Lehigh Bloodstock</td>
<td>Wavertree Stables</td>
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<td>219</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Kantharos-Above the Mien</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
<td>KEESEP YLG 22</td>
<td>Arrowhead Farm</td>
<td>Pick View</td>
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<tr>
<td>220</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Tapiture-Abundance of caution</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>FTKSUM YLG 22</td>
<td>Omar Ramirez</td>
<td>Omar Ramirez Bloodstock</td>
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<td>221</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Klint-Act Nicely</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
<td>KEENOV BRDG 21</td>
<td>Samuel Guerra</td>
<td>F. Alanis</td>
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<td>222</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Astern (Aus)-Ad In</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>KEESEP YLG 22</td>
<td>Nick J. Hines</td>
<td>Navas Equine</td>
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<td>223</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Midnight Lute-Adler</td>
<td>$55,000</td>
<td>KEESEP YLG 22</td>
<td>Leta Partners</td>
<td>Julie Davies</td>
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<td>224</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Demarchelier (GB)-Aesculus</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<td>Alberto Alejandro Amundaray</td>
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<td>226</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Yoshida (Jpn)-Afsaneh</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>FTKOCT YLG 22</td>
<td>Andry Blanco</td>
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<td>227</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Good Samaritan-Afternoon Tango</td>
<td>$12,000</td>
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<td>Navas Equine/Luis Macias</td>
<td>Mis Top Racing Stable</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>Tapiture-Agent Romanoff</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
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<td>Jose Luis Munoz Padilla</td>
<td>Jose Munoz</td>
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<td>230</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Hard Spun-Ainda Melhor (Brz)</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<td>Aureliano Noguez</td>
<td>Golden Noguez</td>
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<td>232</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Goldencents-Allanah</td>
<td>$80,000</td>
<td>KEESEP YLG 22</td>
<td>Quarter Pole Enterprises</td>
<td>Eddie Woods</td>
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<td>233</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Outwork-All Day Donna</td>
<td>$38,000</td>
<td>FTKOCT YLG 22</td>
<td>Bryan Ford</td>
<td>Pick View</td>
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<td>234</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Nyquist-All Due Respect</td>
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<td>FTKOCT YLG 22</td>
<td>Tari Brocklebank</td>
<td>Havens Bloodstock</td>
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<td>236</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Army Mule-Alternative Energy</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>KEESEP YLG 22</td>
<td>Lara Run</td>
<td>Rice Horse Stable</td>
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<td>237</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Goldencents-Alwaan</td>
<td>$28,000</td>
<td>KEESEP YLG 22</td>
<td>Carlos Munoz</td>
<td>CM Thoroughbreds</td>
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<td>238</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Copper Bullet-Amazement</td>
<td>$160,000</td>
<td>FTKSUM YLG 22</td>
<td>SGV Thoroughbreds</td>
<td>SGV Thoroughbreds</td>
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<tr>
<td>239</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Kantharos-Amazing Peyton</td>
<td>$65,000</td>
<td>FTKSUM YLG 22</td>
<td>De Merc Sales</td>
<td>De Merc Sales</td>
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<tr>
<td>241</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Lea-Ambient</td>
<td>$3,500</td>
<td>KEENOV BRDG 21</td>
<td>Lara Run</td>
<td>Rice Horse Stable</td>
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<tr>
<td>242</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Classic Empire-Ambleside Park</td>
<td>$35,000</td>
<td>KEESEP YLG 22</td>
<td>Featherbed Lane</td>
<td>Brick City Thoroughbreds</td>
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<tr>
<td>243</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Ghostzapper-America's Friend</td>
<td>$160,000</td>
<td>KEESEP YLG 22</td>
<td>Dark Star Thoroughbreds</td>
<td>Dark Star Thoroughbreds</td>
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<tr>
<td>244</td>
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<td>Kantharos-Amused</td>
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OBS March (cont. from pg. 1)

OBS April sale has stamped itself as the premier 2-year-old sale in the country in recent years, but the March sale seems to have drawn increased attention this year even as the auction calendar was shuffled with the absence of Fasig-Tipton’s boutique Gulfstream sale.

“It’s safe to say that we see the pendulum swing on the sales seasons from year to year or over a period of time,” Wojciechowski said. “Certainly April, rightly so, has gotten a lot of attention. But I think March is doing its job and holding its own.”

Without a seven-figure horse for two years, four hit the million-dollar mark at the 2022 March sale. Asked if that could be a trend for the March market, Wojciechowski said succinctly, “I sure hope so.”

With its appearance as the first 2-year-old sale of the year, March attracts a specific type of offering and that could cap any future expansion of the auction, according to Wojciechowski.

“Being earlier in the year, you need to make sure you bring the right kind of horse to March,” he said. “You need to bring a horse that is precocious. That type of horse is the type that does well in March. Not every horse fits that bill.”

OBS conducted a four-day under-tack preview of the March sale last week. A colt by Good Magic (hip 546, video) and a son of Not This Time (hip 654, video) shared the fastest furlong time of :9 3/5, while a colt by Bucchero (hip 406, video) and a filly by Enticed (hip 631, video) shared the fastest quarter-mile time of :20 3/5.

“The breeze show went very well,” Wojciechowski said. “It was unfortunate we had some pretty significant headwinds Friday, gusting up to 20 and 30 miles an hour. There were some horses that hopefully don’t get overlooked and the buyers pay attention to the conditions under which they had to perform. There were some nice horses in that group that maybe don’t necessarily have the same time as other horses on the grounds, but are equally as nice. The second set of the second day was a little slower than the first set of the other days, but I think the buying public are sharp guys and they will be able to wade through varying conditions like that and pick out good horses.”

During last year’s March sale, 374 horses sold for $49,371,00 for an average of $132,008 and a median of $75,000. A colt by More Than Ready brought the auction’s top price of $1.2 million.

Wayne Lukas (cont. from pg. 1)

The days of having Eugene Klein, William T. Young, Bob and Beverly Lewis and so many other top owners were long gone. At his age, Lukas appeared destined to spend the rest of his days with a relatively small stable with the kind of horses that might give him an allowance win here or there. Counting him out seemed like a safe bet. Only it wasn’t.

When Last Samurai (Malibu Moon) won Saturday’s GIII Essex H. at Oaklawn Lukas picked up his third graded stakes win on the year. He also won the GIII Razorback H. with Last Samurai and the GII Azeri S. with Secret Oath. It’s early but both look like Eclipse Award candidates. He has not had an Eclipse Award winner since Take Charge Brandi (Giant’s Causeway) was named champion 2-year-old filly in 2014.

He may not be the Wayne Lukas of the mid-eighties when he dominated the sport. What he is is relevant again. A lot of this has to do with Secret Oath, who put Lukas back in the spotlight last year and proved that he could still get the job done at the highest level. Her win in the GI Kentucky Oaks was arguably Lukas’ biggest win since Will Take Charge (Unbridled’s Song) won the GI Travers S. in 2013. It’s not that Lukas remembered how to train. It was that someone—the filly’s owners and breeders, Rob and Stacy Mitchell—were willing to give Lukas a chance with a talented horse.

“We’ve been with him, gosh, 15 or 17 years,” Stacy Mitchell told the TDN’s Chris McGrath last year. Cont.
“He’s fair, he’s honest, a true gentleman, someone everyone should have the opportunity to sit down and have a coffee with. As he has said, times have changed. Some of his big clients got out of the business, some passed on. Again, he said it himself, people used to love the old guys, now they love the new guys. But a lot of those are people he trained himself. You don’t forget how to ride a bicycle, and I don’t think you forget how to train a horse. People can say Wayne is back, but in my mind, I don’t think he ever went away.”

In mid-summer last year, Willis Horton, who had had several top horses with Lukas over the years, also showed some faith in the Hall of Famer. He made a switch, sending the then 4-year-old Last Samurai from Dallas Stewart to Lukas. (Horton has since passed away and Last Samurai now races for his family). Initially, it looked like Lukas wasn’t going to get much out of the horse who lost seven straight after the change in trainers. But Lukas figured something out and Last Samurai is now one of the hottest horses in the sport.

Ask Lukas and he will tell you he’s lost nothing off of his fastball.

“Our game is an experience based game,” he said. “There are no how-to books. If you’ve been at it as long as I have been it becomes a little bit easier. You see things that you can correct. I see things I can do with a horse now that I wouldn’t have been aware of when I was in my forties or fifties. The game gets a little easier. Believe it or not, I think it’s easier for me now to develop a nice horse than when I was 50 and I had some nice years in that era.”

After all these years, is he still learning?

“If you’re in the horse business you are always learning,” Lukas said. “The whole secret to this game is to read the horse. You need to read the horse and figure out what its capabilities are without over doing it. That’s where you get in trouble. You think you can develop a horse to a certain level in a certain time frame and when you fail at it you’re not going to get the maximum out of the horse. If you can read them and know when to push them and when not to the game can be pretty good.”

Secret Oath is heading to the GI Apple Blossom H., where she’ll likely be the favorite. Up next for Last Samurai will likely be the Gill Oaklawn H., a race he won last year for Stewart. They’re both $1 million races. Lukas also has Caddo River (Hard Spun), who was second in the 2021 GI Arkansas Derby and won a Feb. 25 allowance at Oaklawn, and Major Blue (Flatter), a recent maiden winner at Oaklawn. He’s on track to have his best year since 2013.

He’ll turn 88 in September. Yes, he’s a survivor but this year he’s showing that he’s something a lot more than just that.

Fifty Years Ago, Secretariat Won His 3-Year-Old Debut

On March 17, 1973, Secretariat made his 3-year-old debut in the GIII Bay Shore S. at Aqueduct. Click here for the replay of the race.

How things have changed. The purse was just $27,750 and the attendance was 32,906. It was the first of his three preps for the GI Kentucky Derby and they would come within a span of five weeks, culminating in his defeat in the GI Wood Memorial.
2023 Spring Meet Stakes
APRIL 7–28

FRIDAY, APRIL 7
$600,000 Central Bank Ashland (G1)
3-year-old fillies, 1 1/16 miles | $100,000 KTDF Contribution*

$400,000 Kentucky Utilities Transylvania (G3)
3-year-olds, 1 1/16 miles (turf) | $100,000 KTDF Contribution*

$400,000 Lafayette
3-year-olds, 7 furlongs | $100,000 KTDF Contribution*

SATURDAY, APRIL 8
$1 Million Toyota Blue Grass (G1)
3-year-olds, 1 1/8 miles | $150,000 KTDF Contribution*

$600,000 Madison (G1)
4-year-olds and up, fillies & mares, 7 furlongs | $100,000 KTDF Contribution*

$400,000 Appalachian (G2)
Presented by Japan Racing Association
3-year-old fillies, 1 mile (turf) | $100,000 KTDF Contribution*

$350,000 Shakertown (G2)
3-year-olds and up, 5 ½ furlongs (turf) | $50,000 KTDF Contribution*

$300,000 Commonwealth (G3)
4-year-olds and up, 7 furlongs | $50,000 KTDF Contribution*

FRIDAY, APRIL 14
$600,000 Maker's Mark Mile (G1)
4-year-olds and up, 1 mile (turf) | $100,000 KTDF Contribution*

$250,000 FanDuel Limestone (L)
3-year-old fillies, 5 ½ furlongs (turf) | $50,000 KTDF Contribution*

SATURDAY, APRIL 15
$600,000 Jenny Wiley (G1)
4-year-olds and up, fillies & mares, 1 1/16 miles | $100,000 KTDF Contribution*

$400,000 Stonestreet Lexington (G3)
3-year-olds, 1 1/16 miles | $100,000 KTDF Contribution*

$250,000 Giant’s Causeway (L)
3-year-olds and up, fillies & mares, 5 ½ furlongs (turf) | $50,000 KTDF Contribution*

SUNDAY, APRIL 16
$400,000 Beaumont S. (G2) Presented by Keeneland Select
3-year-old fillies, 7 furlongs & 184 feet | $100,000 KTDF Contribution*

$250,000 Palisades (L)
3-year-olds, 5 ½ furlongs (turf) | $50,000 KTDF Contribution*

FRIDAY, APRIL 21
$300,000 Baird Doubledogdare (G3)
4-year-olds and up, fillies & mares, 1 1/16 miles | $50,000 KTDF Contribution*

SATURDAY, APRIL 22
$350,000 Elkhorn (G2)
4-year-olds and up, 1 ½ miles (turf) | $50,000 KTDF Contribution*

$300,000 Ben Ali (G3)
4-year-olds and up, 1 3/16th miles | $50,000 KTDF Contribution*

FRIDAY, APRIL 28
$300,000 Bewitch (G3)
4-year-olds and up, fillies & mares, 1 ½ miles (turf) | $50,000 KTDF Contribution*

**Turf Races**
*pending approval from the KHRC

KEENELAND OPENING WEEKEND STAKES CLOSING DEADLINE | Wednesday, March 22

NOMINATE
Cont.
The Bay Shore was not without a dose of controversy. Riding Impecunious, jockey James Moseley claimed foul against Secretariat and rider Ron Turcotte. Secretariat was blocked for much of the race and Turcotte did have to bull his way through horses in the stretch. Trainer Lucien Laurin was not pleased.

“That Moseley,” he said. “He claimed against me in the Garden State, but it turned out that his horse was at fault in that race.”

According to the report in the New York Times, some fans booed when the stewards declared there would be no change in the order of the finish.

“Let them boo,” Penny Tweedy said. “We’ve won the race.”

But Laurin was pleased with the end result.

“He was wonderful,” he said. “He did everything I expected him to.”

Fifty years after what was the most memorable season in the history of horse racing, it would have been a perfect time for NYRA to announce it had named a stakes races in honor of Big Red. The GI Hopeful S., a race Secretariat won, would have been a perfect candidate. But it was not to be.

Share this story

EARNING THEIR STRIPES

EARNING THEIR STRIPES: DAN BLACKER

Last year, we conducted a popular Q and A series called ‘Smaller But Still Super,’ where we featured veteran trainers who have built a competitive racing stable with relatively small numbers (click here to view the archive). This year, we will highlight trainers who have already cut their teeth as novice trainers, but now have a few years of experience under their belt and are looking to make a name for themselves as they grow their stable. We’ll talk about the challenges that come with hanging out your single, advice for trainers setting out on their own, how the incoming class of young trainers differs from previous generations and more.

Dan Blacker said he always knew that he wanted to be a trainer. His first job was with British jump racing champion trainer Nicky Henderson and he spent school holidays riding out in his native England and in France. But it wasn’t until a trip to the U. S. during the Godolphin Flying Start program that he fell in love with the racetrack way of life.

As part of the Flying Start program, the horseman spent time learning from Richard Mandella and he returned to work for the Hall of Fame trainer in 2007.

Cont.
Blacker and partner Craig (Boomer) Rounsefell | Fasig-Tipton

After working under Mandella for two years, Blacker spent two years with Tom Albertrani on the East Coast. In 2011, he jumped at the opportunity to launch his own stable.

Since then, Blacker has made a name for himself within the training ranks in California. Last year he not only reached 100 career wins, but he also celebrated his best season yet with 16 wins on the year and over $880,000 in earnings.

Blacker’s name has long been associated with his leading earner Hit the Road (Medaglia d’Oro). After going through the ring unsold during Book 1 of the 2018 Keeneland September Sale, Hit the Road was picked out by Blacker and associate Craig (Boomer) Rounsefell for $160,000. Hit the Road took Blacker to his first Breeders’ Cup at two and then gave his conditioner his first Grade I victory as a 3-year-old in the 2021 Frank E. Kilroe Mile S.

How did you ultimately take the plunge in going out on your own?

Jamie Lloyd, a bloodstock agent in England now, was training here in California and he was going back to England. He asked me if I wanted to start up, but I wasn’t sure if I was ready financially. But Jamie got me a few owners and I started with three horses.

I had met Gary Stevens when I was working in France for Jonathan Pease. When I was starting out, Gary had just finished training. I asked if I could borrow some equipment. He told me to go to this container in Sierra Madra and take whatever I needed. I opened it up and grabbed two saddles, some webbings, all the stuff I needed, and took it back to Hollywood Park. I went and got my first three horses from Jamie and then found two grooms and asked if they wanted to work for me. I didn’t have a whole lot of money, but thankfully I had some friends who helped me get going. We’ve built it up from there and now 10 years later, we have 30 horses.

What was the biggest challenge in those first few years as you were getting started?

The first major challenge is going from an assistant to a head trainer. As an assistant, you always have an idea of how you want to do things when you’re the boss. You take a piece of the routine from everyone you work for and then formulate your own routine that’s unique to you. So you have this idea in your head, but then when you do take the plunge, it’s a massive difference when you don’t have that person to ask what to do. You’re the person that has to make the decisions for everything and ultimately if something doesn’t work out, you’re the one that has to answer to it with the owners. You never really deal with owners when you’re an assistant, but when you go out on your own, all of a sudden you have all this responsibility. There are a lot of things you don’t think about when you’re an assistant that you now have to do on a day-to-day basis.

You have to learn to wear many hats. You have to be a good communicator, a good horseman and you have to be good with finances. I started my business having no real background in running a business and I had to learn as I went. I opened a QuickBooks program and started learning.

Is there anything the industry as a whole should do to make it easier for trainers starting out?

That’s what is really unique about America. It’s one of the best places for young trainers to start without a huge amount of financial backing. Back home in England, it’s so hard to get going as a trainer. You need a lot of financial backing because you need your own private yard. Here you can have three horses and three stalls and away you go.

In general, I think young people in America are given opportunities much more readily, especially compared to where
A far superior racehorse to his ace sire
CONSTITUTION

Grade 1-winning juvenile

1st Champagne Stakes [G1], 1m, by 4 lengths
1st MSW, Saratoga, 6½f, by 4¾ lengths on debut

Brilliant Triple
Grade 1-winning 3YO

1st Travers Stakes [G1], 1¼m, by 5½ lengths
1st Belmont Stakes [G1], by 3¾ lengths
over a reduced 1¼m trip

1st Florida Derby [G1], 1⅛m, by 4¼ lengths
Three of the previous four winners finished first
in the Kentucky Derby on their next start

1st Holy Bull Stakes [G3], 1⅛m, by 3 lengths

2nd Kentucky Derby [G1], 1⅛m on September 5th
Tiz The Law was the shortest-priced Derby favorite
since Spectacular Bid in 1979 despite drawing post 17

TIZ THE LAW

The best value 3rd crop stallion in Kentucky. Give us a call today!

“"It was disappointing after he won the Florida Derby not having the
Kentucky Derby five weeks later. Barclay had him ready to peak
on the first Saturday in May.”"  
Owner Jack Knowlton of Sackatoga Stable

Coolmore®

I’m from back home in England. I think Americans in general are much more open to giving young people a chance if you prove that you work hard and you’re passionate about what you do. You don’t need a well-known last name and it doesn’t matter what you look like. If you have a bit of success, people will give you a chance.

I think the finances are the hardest point. Running a business in any industry takes a lot of planning. I was really winging it in the beginning and it would have been nice to have some sort of guidance in terms of setting up a viable business.

What do you think makes your stable or your training style unique?

We really focus on individual routines for each horse when it comes to training and feed.

We put a lot of emphasis on communication. We send out weekly updates. We film every workout and send workout reports. Most of my owners are not local, so it’s great for them to be able to see the works. I think that’s one of the most important things. It’s why we’re here.

If I can get the owners more involved with the process of getting a horse ready for a race, I think I’m doing my job. The more you can get them involved, I think the more they enjoy it and the more likely they are to be longtime owners.

I like to think that in terms of training horses, I can train any type of horse. I know I have a British accent but ironically, my statistics are actually a little bit better on the dirt just because we’ve had a run of decent dirt horses lately.

I worked for Richard Mandella and he has won Grade I races on every distance on every surface. I hope that one day I can get close to his kind of record.

What was the main takeaway from your time working for Richard Mandella?

There are so many different things I learned from him that I still think about today. He’s the best horseman I’ve ever been around.

The main thing would be attention to detail and really focusing on each horse. Training a horse is not just about what they’re doing on the track. It’s their whole life—how they behave in the barn, how they behave in the paddock, how they’re eating. The whole package of a horse’s life can impact the outcome of a race.

As assistants for Mandella, we spent our entire time in the barn watching how they were behaving. It was about all the little things that I don’t think a lot of people think about. Winning and losing is a matter of inches sometimes, so for Mandella it was about trying to tweak these horses and their routines to gain every kind of advantage.

What is something that this incoming generation of trainers does better or different than previous generations?

The obvious one is communication. There is a lot more emphasis on communication these days.

In terms of training, I think training horses has evolved everywhere around the world. There is a lot of talk about how horses race less often than they used to. I think it’s a combination of many different things at play. Maybe the breed has been bred over generations to run faster and possibly the breed might have become tougher to keep sound. But more likely, with statistics and numbers being analyzed more these days, trainers have been able to see that horses run better with more time between races. When you’re spacing out races more, horses tend to run bigger and have better performances. If you’re running against a trainer that spaces his races out, you’re going to be at a disadvantage.

That’s not always the case. You can get a horse that runs well every two weeks. But statistically on the whole, I think that trainers have learned over the years that horses run a much bigger race when the races are more spread out. It’s difficult to compete with the guys that do that unless you’re doing the same thing, so I think it’s just the way that training styles have developed over the years.

Could you tell us a bit about the Keeneland Files you did with Boomer Bloodstock? Will we see those again this year?

I really owe all of that to Vicky Leonard and Boomer [Craig Rounsefell]. They came up with the idea and I was just along for the ride. I was a little skeptical at first as I’m not one to jump in front of the camera. But once we got going, I realized that what they were trying to achieve was great and it was crazy how much positive feedback we got from it. So many people were coming up and saying how much they loved the videos. If it can
shed some light on the process that we go through with buying horses, then I think we're doing our job. Boomer really does his homework leading up to it and in the videos you can see how much work he puts in. I had some calls afterwards and people were interested in coming in, so I think we definitely got some new partners from it.

Who is your favorite horse that you've trained?
That's a pretty easy one—Hit the Road (More Than Ready).
He had some minor injuries after the Pegasus last year so we gave him some time off. He has come back and was a bit disappointing, but after his last race a splint bone became inflamed so we've been going easy with him recently. This will be his last year of training. Hopefully we will have him back to the races before Del Mar this summer.
I genuinely believe he deserves a shot as a stallion. He has a great pedigree, he was precocious and he has always had a great mind. As a trainer, those are the kind of horses I want to train. He had a spotty racing career, but that was mostly due to the pandemic. He really has everything that I would hope to have in a racehorse. He's so competitive and he's won a stakes race at two, three and four. I hope he gets a chance to be a stallion because has all the attributes you look for in a racehorse.

Is there an up-and-coming horse in your barn that we should know about?
A horse called Arrowthegreat (Arrogate). He ran second in a straight maiden last summer at Del Mar. After a little issue we ran him back and he was a bit disappointing here last month, but was really sick after the race. He's a really beautiful horse and I have high hopes for him for the second half of the year. He'll be getting back on the work tab next week.
We have some exciting 2-year-olds arriving soon, including one by Good Magic. We've heard good reports about him from Ocala.

If you aren't at the racetrack, what can you be found doing?
I have three daughters. I spend a lot of time with them. They're all active in softball and soccer.

What is your favorite restaurant to go to after celebrating a win?
My wife [TVG host Christina Blacker] and I like to go out and try new places. There's a good one in Pasadena, a new Italian place called Piccolo. But all you Breeders' Cup people, don't be taking up my reservations.

Click here for more from our 'Earning Their Stripes' series.
September Yearling Sale
Entries Open April 3
The energy. The magic. The momentum. It all returns September 11 - 23.
LEARN MORE
Lot 25, c, Constitution—Caribbean Babe, by Arch
Consigned by Grove Stud
Bred by CHC Inc (KY)
This half-brother to G3 Killavullan S. third Bold Discovery (Bolt d’Oro) is out of a half-sister to multiple graded-stakes winner and Grade I-placed Independence Hall—also a son of Constitution—as well as Grade III winner Black Onyx (Rock Hard Ten), SW & GSP Francois (Smarty Jones) and GSP Quality Council (Elusive Quality). Third dam Desert Stormette (Storm Cat) was a sister to GI Breeders’ Cup Sprint winner Desert Stormer and the family also includes Group 1-winning juvenile filly White Moonstone (Dynaformer).

Lot 28, c, Liam’s Map—Class Included, by Include
Consigned by Longways Stables
Bred by Buck Pond Farm Inc (KY)
Purchased by Durcan Bloodstock/Longways for $100,000 out of the Keeneland September sale, this chestnut colt is the latest from his dam, whose 11 career stakes victories include the GIII Ballerina S. in Western Canada and additional black-type successes at the Fair Grounds, Delta Downs and Emerald Downs. Doug Arnold acquired Class Included for $110,000 in foal to Star Guitar at the 2019 Fasig-Tipton Winter Mixed Sale.

Lot 34, c, Bolt d’Oro—Dame Ursula (GB), by Elusive Quality
Consigned by Longways Stables
Bred by Runnymede Farm One & P J Callahan (KY)
A half-brother to the stakes-placed Fairyland (Scat Daddy), the May 1 foal is out of a half-sister to Agnes Digital (Crafty Prospector), nine times a stakes winner in Japan and victorious in the G1 Hong Kong Cup in 2001. The colt, a $155,000 KEESEP purchase by Durcan/Longways, hails from the deeper female family of Blushing Groom (Fr). Bolt d’Oro is the sire of G2 UAE Derby hopeful Mr Raj, a graduate of the inaugural Dubai Breeze-Up Sale.

Lot 39, c, Palace Malice—Fiery Pulpit, by Pulpit
Consigned by The Bloodstock Connection
Lot 39 stands to benefit from Saturday’s Dubai World Cup meeting, as the $23,000 KEEJAN yearling and $50,000 KEESEP yearling is a half-brother to the progressive GII Mr. Prospector S. winner Sibelius (Not This Time), one of five American entries for the G1 Dubai Golden Shaheen. The Feb. 15 foal is out of a half-sister to the talented Grade III-winning turf distaffer Clamorosa (Seattle Dancer).

Lot 44, f, More Than Ready—Gone to Town, by Munnings
Consigned by Powerstown Stud
Bred by Nursery Place & Dicken Equine (KY)
John Mayer’s Nursery Place gave $240,000 for this half-sister to Canadian stakes winner Sans Souci Island (Chester House)—dam of MGSW River Seven (Johannesburg)—when she was offered in foal to Mendelssohn at Keeneland November in the fall of 2019. The Feb. 18 foal is one of several of Tuesday’s offerings purchased as yearlings by bloodstock agent Chad Schumer, who gave $110,000 at KEESEP last fall. Go Soldier Go (Tapiture, $45,000 KEESEP), pinhooked by Schumer to last year’s sale (€123,962), won the Listed Al Bastakiya S. Mar. 4 and also goes in Saturday’s G2 UAE Derby.

WEST COASTERS BREEZE TOWARDS NEXT PREPS
Edited Press Release
Both National Treasure (Quality Road) and Skinner (Curlin) worked five furlongs Sunday in preparation for the GI Santa Anita Derby that also serves as a final west coast prep for the GI Kentucky Derby. A day earlier, Geaux Rocket Ride (Candy Ride {Arg}) had his first work since finishing second in the GII San Felipe S. National Treasure worked five furlongs in 1:00 for trainer Tim Yakteen. Following the drills, Yakteen said Practical Move would most likely run in the GI Santa Anita Derby. In turn, Reincarnate would return to Oaklawn Park to run in the GI Arkansas Derby April 1. National Treasure would run in either the Santa Anita Derby or GI Blue Grass S. at Keeneland April 8.

“He had a very nice work this morning, very happy,” Yakteen added.

Skinner’s five-furlong work was completed in 1:01.60 for trainer John Shirreffs who confirmed Skinner was on track for the Santa Anita Derby.
‘ROOT’ ADDS TO FAMILY TREE: INTO MISHIEF’S 37TH ‘RISING STAR’ IMPRESSIVE

Root Cause (Into Mischief), second at Saratoga Aug. 14 last season in a 1 1/16-mile turf maiden which yielded SP Towhead (Malibu Moon), SP Beautifulnavigator (Ire) (Expert Eye {GB}), and SP Forever Dixie (Quality Road), made it look effortless here en route to ‘TDN Rising Star’-dom at 1-5 favoritism in her 2023 bow over Gulfstream Park grass.

Breaking well, but in no hurry to challenge the eager early speed, Root Cause stalked from the two path in third through the first bend. Midway up the backstretch, the eye-catching bay found herself locked in traffic as Tawaret (Pioneerof the Nile) rushed up the rail to claim an opening and the field was closing ranks around her for the run through the far turn. Shuffled back to fifth as 1:13.80 flashed across the board, Irad Ortiz opted for the overland route, and was full of horse when they arrived at the head of the stretch. Unleashing a wicked turn of foot, Root Cause put 2 1/2 lengths on her rivals with a motionless rider in the irons and won as easily as she pleased to claim her diploma over Settling Storm (Tonalist).

A half to Vertical Oak (Giant Oak), MGSw, $773,095—herself dam of ‘TDN Rising Star’ SP Giant Mischief (Into Mischief)—the victress is her sire’s 37th runner to get the TDN stamp of approval. Half-brother Payne (Paynter), SP, $437,870 was a six-time winner in his own right. Root Cause has a 2-year-old half-sister, Mitole Vision (Mitole), as well as a yearling half-sister by Authentic. Vertical Vision visited Caravaggio for 2023.

BISHOPS BAY SKIPS OVER HEELS AND ON TO A 14TH ‘TDN RISING STAR’ FOR UNCLE MO

Bishops Bay (Uncle Mo) posted a noteworthy 97 Beyer Speed Figure on debut Feb. 18 at the Fair Grounds, defeating next-out ‘Rising Star’ First Mission (Street Sense) in the process and showed his own ‘TDN Rising Star’-worthy determination Sunday at the venue in his first trip at two-turns.

Breaking in line with First Defender (Quality Road) and keen to go with that one, the Triple Crown-nominated bay was forced to take back when that early leader crossed over in front of him.
LEADING DERBY CONTENDERS ARE BRED IN KENTUCKY

8 of the Top 10 leading Kentucky Derby (G1) contenders are KENTUCKY-BRED, led by last year’s Eclipse Champion 2-Year-Old Male FORTE.

FORTE
KEESEP ’21 $110,000
Owners: Repole Stable & St. Elias Stable
Breeder: South Gate Farm
Trainer: Todd Pletcher

Find your KENTUCKY-BRED this week at the OBS MARCH SALE MARCH 20-22

KTDF-registered horses raced for purse money of $165,428,337 (association and KTDF), an all-time high at Kentucky’s five racetracks, in 2022.
and wound up clipping heels going into the first turn. In an excellent display of athleticism, he overcame the early trouble to recover and return to applying pressure from two wide on that leader. The colts locked horns around the far turn and Bishops Bay eventually got the best of that one inside the furlong grounds. Inches away from that challenge, he had to fend off a second from stablemate Demolition Duke (Good Magic) as that one loomed large in the late stages. Rising to meet yet another question, he gamely provided an answer and held off the charge by a neck on the line.

The year younger half-brother to 2021 $825,000 KEENOV procurement Strava (Into Mischief), MSP, $282,340 hails from the female family of GSP Mindy Sue (Pleasantly Perfect), who herself produced MSP Malibu Max (Malibu Moon). Dam Catch My Drift hit the board in the GI Beldame S., and as a broodmare has also produced a 2-year-old colt by Constitution, as well as a yearling filly by Improbable. She’s due to Not This Time for 2023.

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**IN ORDER OF PURSE:**

**SENSATIONAL STAR S.,** $100,000, Santa Anita, 3-19, (S), 4yo/up, 6 1/2fT, 1:12.97, fm.

1-- **THE CHosen VRON, 124, g, 5, Vronsky--Tiz Molly, by Tiz Wonderful.** O-Sondereker Racing LLC, J. Eric Kruljac, Robert S. Fetkin, & Richard Thornburgh; B-Tiz Molly Partners (CA); T-J. Eric Kruljac; J-Hector Isaac Berrios. $60,000. Lifetime Record: MGSW, 15-11-1-2, $732,678.

2-- **Kings River Knight, 122, g, 5, Acclamation--Seasontoperfection, by Poteen. 1ST BLACK TYPE.** O-Integrity Thoroughbred Racing, LLC, The Ellwood Johnston Trust & Kenneth A. Tevelde; B-Old English Rancho (CA); T-John W. Sadler. $20,000.

3-- **Indian Peak, 124, g, 6, Comic Strip--Ms. Booty, by Roar.** O-Wachtel Stable & Gary Barber; B-William T. Gray (CA); T-Peter Miller. $12,000.

Margins: NO, HD, 3 1/4. Odds: 0.30, 7.60, 8.00.

Also Ran: Fast Buck, Jack Sixpack.

Sony favorite and MGSW The Chosen Vron made it six straight—all in Cal-bred competition—with a win Sunday in Santa Anita’s Sensational Star S. He settled comfortably into fourth as they came down the hill in :22.22 and tipped wider than the rest in crossing the dirt. Shuffled back to fifth and last shortly after the half sped by in :44.60, The Chosen Vron turned on the afterburners, powered down the center of the course, and hit the line in tandem with Kings River Knight and Indian Peak. The veteran had his nose down when it counted most.
"I had to wait a bit to assure my position and I went a little wide on the turn," said winning rider Hector Berrios, "but I knew what I had under me, and we got it done. There was a little doubt that we won, but I'm glad we did."

The versatile Sensational Star winner is a dual GSW, a dual surface black-type winner, and a multiple distance black-type winner, having scored in stakes ranging from six furlongs to 1 1/16th miles. Last seen taking the Tiznow S. on the dirt going a mile Feb. 20, The Chosen Vron has now won nine black-type events, including the GIII Affirmed S. and the GIII Lazaro Barrera S.

Tiz Molly, who was picked up for $1,200 at the CTBA January Mixed Sale in 2019 by Dick Thornburgh, has a yearling filly by Clubhouse Ride and was bred back to that sire for this spring. Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.

DAMON RUNYON S., $97,000, Aqueduct, 3-19, (S), 3yo, 6f, 1:13.75, ft.
1--LOOMS BOLDLY, 118, c, 3, by Goldencents
  1st Dam: See the Forest, by Forestry
  2nd Dam: Critical Eye, by Dynaformer
  3rd Dam: Critical Crew, by Dr. Blum
1ST BLACK TYPE WIN. O-Ten Strike Racing; B-Marshall Gramm & Clay Sanders (NY); T-Brad H. Cox; J-Manuel Franco. $55,000. Lifetime Record: 4-2-1-1, $117,540. *1/2 to Critical Value (Bodemeister), MSW, $303,795.

KANTEX (f, 4, Street Strategy--Wicked Dixie, by Dixie Union) had not been seen since graduating versus state-bred maiden claimers in December 2021. Sent off at 6-1, the bay filly broke alertly and prompted pacesetting Fly Like The Wind (Hightail) through an opening quarter in :22.52. She stuck her head in front at the top of the lane as the half went up in :46.42 and strolled clear in the final furlong to win by 5 3/4 lengths. Kantex is a half-sister to Twisted Dixie (Archarcharch), SP, $212,703. Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.
8th-Oaklawn, $104,000, Alw (C)/Opt. Clm ($100,000), 3-19, 3yo, f, 1 1/16m, 1:45.96, ft, neck.

EFFORTLESSLYELGANT (f, 3, Liam's Map—County Clare, by Uncle Mo) rallied to be the caboose on the superfecta when she debuted at Churchill Downs Nov. 23. Going six panels once again, the gray filly graduated in the Hot Springs mud Jan. 29 with a wire-to-wire score by 4 3/4-lengths. Stepping up in the GIII Honeybee S. at Oaklawn Feb. 25, the Norm Casse trainee came up empty in tenth place as Wet Paint (Blame) covered up the field in the slop and collected the Oaks points. Looking for a better routing performance here on the drop, the even-money favorite took up a position along the rail in third behind the pacesetting Stellar Lily (Speightster). With little change towards the top of the lane, the chalk tried to cut outside to the two path from the fence, and after briefly colliding with Midnight Heiress (Midnight Storm), rallied in the final sixteenth to surpass the flying Take Charge Briana (Curlin) by a neck. Part of a family that includes MGSW Indyanne (Indian Charlie), the winner’s unraced dam is responsible for a 2-year-old colt by Constitution and a yearling of the same gender by Caravaggio. She was bred to Liam’s Map last year. Sales History: $475,000 Ylg ’21 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 4-2-0-0, $126,900.

9th-Gulfstream, $76,200, Alw (NW1$X)/Opt. Clm ($25,000), 3-19, 4yo/up, f/m, 5f, 1:03.61, ft, neck.

AXTHELM (c, 4, Into Mischief--Preemptive Attack, by Smart Strike), who broke his maiden at second-asking at Kentucky Downs Sept. 1 going a mile, turned in a pair of show performances over Keeneland’s Haggin in an allowance race Oct. 12 and then in the Gill Bryan Station S. Oct. 29. Heading to Hallandale for his next three races, the bay colt was sixth in the Tropical Park Derby on the Tapeta Dec. 26, before heading back to the turf, where he was eighth Jan. 28 and fourth Feb. 19 in a pair of optional claiming races. As the 3-2 chalk on the cutback, the homebred bided his time at the back of the field until he unleashed a cannonade of power to win over Unsociable (Social Inclusion) by 3/4 length. With a talented family behind him, the winner is a half to Sky Treasure (Sky Mesa), GSW-Can, SW-USA, $492,426, Surgical Strike (Red Giant), GSW, $428,049 and Azul Coast (Super Saver), GSW, $257,080. Dam Preemptive Attack’s last produce is an unraced 2-year-old colt named Delaware Crossing (Noble Mission {GB}). Lifetime Record: 8-2-1-2, $184,963. Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.

5th-Santa Anita, $73,500, Alw (NW1$X)/Opt. Clm ($100,000), 3-19, 3yo, 5 1/2f, 1:02.24, ft, 3/4 length.

VALIANCER (c, 3, Tapiture--War Angel, by Declaration of War), second last year in the GIII Del Mar Juvenile Turf S., won his second in a row with this Santa Anita allowance. Last seen breaking his maiden Feb. 11 going six furlongs on The Great Race Place’s lawn, he was sent at 7-2 here to make it two consecutive wins. Trailing the field through a sizzling :21.29 first fraction, Valiancer went between horses, tipped out on the turn, belatedly switched leads, and mowed down the leaders to post a three-quarter length win over 13-1 Marks Hip (Goldencents). Cont., p5
5th-Santa Anita, Cont.  
Due to a clenbuterol suspension for trainer Jeff Mullins, Valiancer spent some time under the jurisdiction of his son, Jeff Mullins, Jr., when making his 2023 debut with a fourth Jan. 21, but is back under the former’s tutelage. The winner’s dam, who brought $4,500 in 2019 from Savesnine Corp. at Keeneland November with Valiancer in utero, has a 2-year-old colt named Cupid’s War (Cupid), whom Savesnine sold for $10,000 at Keeneland November 2021 and bought back at Fasig-Tipton Kentucky October 2022 for $9,000. War Angel also has a Quraabaan yearling filly and was bred to Forever d’Oro for this term. Sales History: $7,000 Ylg ’21 KEEJAN; $150,000 2yo ’22 OBSOPN. Lifetime Record: 10-2-3-2, $150,700. Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.

O-Doug Gans, Gary Jacobs, Larry M. Katz, Michael Lewis, William Meathe, & Kevin Riggs; B-Savesnine Corp (KY); T-Jeff Mullins.

4th-Fair Grounds, $50,000, Msw, 3-19, 3yo/up, 5 1/2f (off turf), 1:04.10, ft, 11 3/4 lengths.
CALL ME Q (c, 3, Not This Time--Des Moines {SW-Can, SP-USA, $246,390}, by Evansville Slew) went to the bench for seven months after notching three runner-up finishes at Prairie Meadows, emerging at 2-1 in this off-the-turf sprint in NOLA. He broke outward at the start, sped to the front, and set all the fractions, including a :23.09 quarter and a :46.03 half, then opened up to power home a romping winner. It was 11 3/4 long lengths back to Cloud Without Rein (Frosted). Call Me Q is a half to Topper T (Bellamy Road), MSW & MGSP, $417,097; and to Hilton Magic (Daaher), SP, $235,994. He is the most recent foal for his dam, who was bred to The Factor for 2023. Lifetime Record: 4-1-3-0, $54,684. Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.

O-Black Oak Farm and Albaugh Family Stables LLC; B-Sherri Tracy (IA); T-Tanner Tracy.

7th-Fair Grounds, $50,000, Msw, 3-19, 3yo, 1 1/16m (off turf), 1:45.25, ft, 4 1/4 lengths.
PROMISE ME A RIDE (c, 3, Mastery--Promise Me More {SW & GSP, $171,866}, by More Than Ready), Triple Crown-nominated and sporting many of the same owners as his stablemate one race prior, ‘TDN Rising Star’ Bishops Bay (Uncle Mo), raced from the second flight in this off-turf unveiling and rode the rail going into the first turn. Angled out into the four path and pulling for his head to take command, Promise Me a Ride was in control at the half-mile pole and going willingly at the three-eighths. Cont., p6
7th-Fair Grounds, Cont.

Striding clear as Monomoy Girl (Tapizar)’s half-brother and even-money favorite Taphedrum (Tapit) closed encouragingly from fourth to take runner-up honors by a head, the dark bay gave his conditioner a daily double by 4 1/4 lengths. A half to MSP Warrior’s Promise (Warrior’s Reward) and SP North Arm Bay (Overanalyze), Promise Me a Ride has a 2-year-old half-sister by Classic Empire. Dam Promise Me More is due to Maclean’s Music for 2023. Sales history: $95,000 Ylg ’21 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, $30,000. Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by TVG.

O-Spendthrift Farm LLC, Steve Landers LLC, Schwartz, Martin S., Dubb, Michael, Ten Strike Racing, Bakke, Jim, Titletown Racing, LLC, Kueber Racing, LLC, Big Easy Racing LLC, Winners Win and Caruso, Michael J.; B-Almar Farm, LLC (KY); T-Brad H. Cox.

STAKES RESULTS:

5th-Aqueduct, $82,000, 3-19, (NW1$X), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:12.82, ft, neck.

SURPRISE BOSS (c, 4, War Dancer--Chimichurri (GSW & GISP, $269,126), by Elusive Quality) Lifetime Record: GSP, 14-4-2-4, $297,000. O-Richie’s World Stables LLC; B-Blue Chip Bloodstock, Inc. & War Dancer LLC (NY); T-Rafael Romero. *$7,000 Ylg ’20 KEESEP; $37,000 2yo ’21 OBSMAR.

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

5th-Turfway, $78,000, (NW2$X)/Opt. Clm ($40,000), 3-18, 3yo/up, 6 1/2f (AWT), 1:16.90, ft, 1 1/4 lengths.

PURPLE DREAM (h, 5, Point of Entry--Golden Crown {Uru}, by T. H. Approval) Lifetime Record: 12-3-4-0, $190,138. O/B-Brownwood Farm (KY); T-Paulo H. Lobo.

11th-Santa Anita, $74,000, (S), 3-18, (NW1$X), 4yo/up, 6 1/2fT, 1:13.17, gd, 1/2 length.

MINISTER SHANE (g, 5, Ministers Wild Cat--Tizzy Miss, by Cee’s Tizzy) Lifetime Record: 10-2-3-0, $129,800. O-Mark Devereaux, and F. Scott Gross; B-Mark Devereaux & Scomar Enterprises, LLC (CA); T-Carla Gaines.

8th-Laurel, $62,930, (C)/Opt. Clm ($44,000-$55,000), 3-19, 4yo/up, 7f, 1:25.01, ft, 1 3/4 lengths.

THREES OVER DEUCES (g, 8, Flat Out--Cruelmore, by Forestry) Lifetime Record: SW & MGSP, 55-8-20-10, $701,947. O-Pocket 3’s Racing LLC; B-Machmer Hall & Montese LLC (KY); T-Gary Capuano. *$30,000 Ylg ’16 KEESEP.

3rd-Charles Town, $36,300, (C)/Opt. Clm ($25,000), 3-18, 4yo/up, 6 1/2f, 1:19.82, ft, 2 1/4 lengths.

SOCIAL CHIC (g, 5, Upstart--Tres Chic, by Harlan’s Holiday) Lifetime Record: SW, 20-9-7-1, $288,438. O-Smart Angle LLP; B-James Franklin Miller (WV); T-Jeff C. Runco. *$47,000 RNA Wlg ’18 EASDEC.
6th-Charles Town, $36,300, (S), 3-18, (NW4L), 3yo/up, 6 1/2f, 1:21.01, ft, 3 1/4 lengths.
ICING (g, 4, Nyquist—Honey Chile {MGSP-USA, GSP-Can, $344,924}, by Invisible Ink) Lifetime Record: 14-4-1-4, $111,634. O-Built Wright Stables, LLC.; B-James F. Miller (WV); T-Norman L. Cash. *$85,000 Ylg '20 KEESEP; $300,000 2yo '21 OBSAPR.

7th-Sam Houston Race, $36,000, (S), 3-19, (NW1X), 3yo/up, f/m, 5 1/2f, 1:05.87, ft, 1 1/2 lengths.
RECLUSIVE (f, 4, Flat Out--Rockintotherhythm, by Broad Brush) Lifetime Record: 7-2-1-1, $45,556. O-Century Acres Farm; B-Century Acres Farm, LLC (TX); T-Tina Rena Hurley. *1/2 to Heavenly Rhythm (Congaree), SW, $166,749; and to Wabel (Curlin), SP, $273,514.

5th-Sam Houston Race, $36,000, 3-19, (NW1X), 3yo/up, 5fT, :57.26, fm, neck.
HOOVES YOUR DADDY (g, 5, Majesticperfection--Jaycee's Humor, by Distorted Humor) Lifetime Record: 8-3-1-0, $58,948. O/B-Ghost Hollow Farm LLC (KY); T-Scott E. Young.

7th-Sunland, $35,200, 3-19, (NW2L), 3yo/up, 7f, 1:29.22, ft, 3 1/4 lengths.
HAZEDNCONFUSED (g, 3, Juba--Celestial Haze, by Utopia {Jpn}) Lifetime Record: 6-2-1-1, $52,237. O/B-Taylor Mountain Farm (WV); T-Ronald G. Sigler.

7th-Charles Town, $33,900, (S), 3-18, (NW2L), 3yo/up, f/m, 7f, 1:30.04, ft, 3 1/4 lengths.
BARBERS POINT (f, 3, Congrats--Saturday Nthe Park {MSP, $210,312}, by Any Given Saturday) Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, $39,636. O/B-Coleswood Farm, Inc. (WV); T-Jeff C. Runco.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:
My Sweet Summer, f, 3, Accelerate--Gold N Shaft, by Mineshaft. Fair Grounds, 3-19, (C), 6f, 1:12.98. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, $26,500. B-Brereton C. Jones (KY). *$60,000 Ylg '21 KEESEP. **1/2 to Turtle Trax (Cairo Prince), GSP, $163,294; 1/2 to Backtohisroots (Mark Valeski), SW, $249,605.
Captain Jack, g, 3, McCraken--Great Family, by Harlan's Holiday. Gulfstream, 3-19, (C), 6f, 1:11.65. Lifetime Record: 5-1-0-2, $38,600. B-Cannon Thoroughbred LLC (KY). *$60,000 Ylg '21 KEESEP. **1/2 to Turtle Trax (Cairo Prince), GSP, $163,294; 1/2 to Backtohisroots (Mark Valeski), SW, $249,605.
Exit Soul, f, 4, Animal Kingdom--Mahee, by Unbridled's Song. Golden Gate Fields, 3-18, 1m (AWT), 1:39.72. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, $38,600. B-Cannon Thoroughbred LLC (KY). *Won by 5 1/4 Lengths.

TODAY’S FEATURED REPLAY
Bishops Bay (Uncle Mo) battles to Rising Star nod at Fair Grounds (click to watch)
Accelerate, My Sweet Summer, f, 3, o/o Gold N Shaft, by Mineshaft. MCL, 3-19, Fair Grounds
Animal Kingdom, Exit Soul, f, 4, o/o Mahee, by Unbridled's Song. MSW, 3-18, Golden Gate
Bluegrass Cat, American Farmer, h, 6, o/o Farmers Wife, by Quiet American. McCann's Mojave S., 3-18, Golden Gate
Congrats, Barbers Point, f, 3, o/o Saturday Nthe Park, by Any Given Saturday. ALW, 3-18, Charles Town
Connect, Grannys Connection, f, 4, o/o Granny's Drink, by Old Fashioned. AOC, 3-19, Aqueduct
Cross Traffic, Fast Traffic, g, 3, o/o Summer Place, by Super Saver. MSW, 3-19, Sunland
Flat Out, Reclusive, f, 4, o/o Rockintotherhythm, by Broad Brush. ALW, 3-19, Sam Houston
Flat Out, Threes Over Deuces, g, 8, o/o Cruelmore, by Forestry. AOC, 3-19, Laurel
Goldencents, Looms Boldly, c, 3, o/o See the Forest, by Forestry. Damon Runyon S., 3-19, Aqueduct
Into Mischief, Axthelm, c, 4, o/o Preemptive Attack, by Smart Strike. AOC, 3-19, Gulfstream
Into Mischief, Root Cause, f, 3, o/o Vertical Vision, by Pollard's Vision. MSW, 3-19, Gulfstream
Juba, Hazednconfused, g, 3, o/o Celestial Haze, by Utopia (Jpn). ALW, 3-18, Charles Town
Liam's Map, Effortlesslylegant, f, 3, o/o County Clare, by Uncle Mo. AOC, 3-19, Oaklawn
Majesticperfection, Hooves Your Daddy, g, 5, o/o Jaycee's Humor, by Distorted Humor. ALW, 3-19, Sam Houston
Mastery, Promise Me a Ride, c, 3, o/o Promise Me More, by More Than Ready. MSW, 3-19, Fair Grounds
McCraeken, Captain Jack, g, 3, o/o Great Family, by Harlan's Holiday. MOC, 3-19, Gulfstream
Ministers Wild Cat, Minister Shane, g, 5, o/o Tizzy Miss, by Cee's Tizzy. ALW, 3-18, Santa Anita
Mrazek, Please Focus, g, 3, o/o Atlantic Swing, by Stormy Atlantic. AOC, 3-19, Santa Anita
Mucho Macho Man, Rock Rose, f, 4, o/o Sweet Rose, by Hat Trick (Jpn). ALW, 3-18, Charles Town
Not This Time, Call Me Q, c, 3, o/o Des Moines, by Evensville Slew. MSW, 3-19, Fair Grounds
Nyquist, Icing, g, 4, o/o Honey Chile, by Invisible Ink. ALW, 3-18, Charles Town
Nyquist, K P Kwest, g, 5, o/o Abundantly Clear, by Pulpit. ALW, 3-19, Sunland
Ronridge Will, Crazy Ridge, g, 5, o/o Lady Elagence, by Barberstown. MSW, 3-19, Sam Houston
Speightster, Portofino, g, 3, o/o Love Co, by Not For Love. MSW, 3-19, Gulfstream
Street Strategy, Kantex, f, 4, o/o Wicked Dixie, by Dixie Union. ALW, 3-19, Oaklawn
Tapiture, Valiancer, c, 3, o/o War Angel, by Declaration of War. AOC, 3-19, Santa Anita
The Factor, Factor It In, h, 7, o/o Speightlass, by Speightstown. ALW, 3-19, Laurel
Uncle Mo, Bishops Bay, c, 3, o/o Catch My Drift, by Pioneerof the Nile. AOC, 3-19, Fair Grounds
Upstart, Social Chic, g, 5, o/o Tres Chic, by Harlan's Holiday. AOC, 3-18, Charles Town
Vronsky, The Chosen Vron, g, 5, o/o Tiz Molly, by Tiz Wonderful. Sensational Star S., 3-19, Santa Anita
War Dancer, Surprise Boss, c, 4, o/o Chimichurri, by Elusive Quality. ALW, 3-19, Aqueduct
By Brian Sheerin

Few stallions who stand in and around the €15,000 bracket can boast a book of mares quite like Lucky Vega (Ire). The Group 1-winning juvenile has been supported by his owner Yuesheng Zhang from the outset and, judging by the Chinese businessman’s spending at the premier mare sales through BBA Ireland’s Michael Donohoe last year, that backing is set to continue.

While the majority of the prominent owner’s European-based mares will visit Lucky Vega this year, a number will also be spread out between Frankel (GB), Baaeed (GB), Sea The Stars (Ire), Siyouni (Fr) and Mehmas (Ire), with Donohoe revealing that the ultimate aim is to breed another stallion prospect.

But the early indication, according to the County Kilkenny native, is that Lucky Vega is worthy of the mammoth support. The leading bloodstock agent and advisor says that he was most impressed by the first foals by the sire down under in Australia and reports the first crop of European-bred foals by the stallion to be catching the imagination of some notable breeders.

Donohoe said, “We have always been a big believer in Lucky Vega and are happy to support him in a big way. He didn’t show what he was capable of on the track and we know that.

“Okay, he won his Group 1 but a decision was made pretty early in his three-year-old career for him to go to Australia. In hindsight, there were plenty of races that we could have aimed for and won after Royal Ascot with him.”

He added, “I think Jessica Harrington would also agree that her horses might not have been firing on all cylinders during the spring of his three-year-old campaign so there are a lot of reasons to believe that we did not see the best of Lucky Vega on the track for all that he won his Group 1. People seem to be amazed about the backing Mr Zhang is giving Lucky Vega but we have no doubt whatsoever in our minds. He is a fabulous-looking horse and the foals are fabulous as well.

“I was in Australia earlier in the year for the Magic Millions Sale and I was delighted to see for myself what I had been hearing from all of the top judges down there because his foals really were gorgeous. Cont. p3
FILLY IS EUROPE'S FIRST JUVENILE WINNER OF '23
The *Footstepsinthesand* filly Marie Mancini scores at first asking at Lyon-Parilly to become the first 2-year-old victor of 2023.

VOYAGE BUBBLE ANNEXES HONG KONG DERBY
The Ricky Yiu trainee and jockey Alexis Badel teamed up to annex Hong Kong’s most prestigious race by a short head.

LORD KANALOA COLT PICKS UP GROUP 2 IN JAPAN
Bellagio Opera earns his first career black type when winning the G2 Fuji TV Sho Spring S. at Nakayama.
He has had some very good-looking foals... I bred a lot of stakes-winning mares to him. What I do is, I give the stallion mares over a three-year period and the best mares will probably be sent to him in years two and three so that the quality is maintained.

Peter Brant of White Birch Farm, TDN

Amongst the eight mares Brant has already booked for 2023 are $4,100,000 four-time Grade 1 winner UNI, 650,000gns Rockfel Stakes-Gr.2 winner SPAIN BURG (on the strength of her 2023 Sottsass colt), €675,000 purchase BLUE KIMONO and City Of York Stakes-Gr.3 winner NEMORALIA.

“A strong, quality, well-balanced and exceptionally good-walking foal. Sottsass himself was a World Champion 3YO by a top stallion in Siyouni and is owned by a very important man in the industry.”

Michael Fitzpatrick, purchaser of a €180,000 colt at Goffs November

“We like him a lot. He was a frame of a horse as a foal and has the potential to turn out a big scopey yearling. I like the idea of the stallion and tried to buy another by him at Goffs February.”

Jamie Raitton, on the colt purchased with Trotting Bloodstock for €105,000 at Arqana December

“The Sottsass was a good, straightforward colt who had good X-rays and a good scope. He’d plenty of fans—he had six or seven vets, and there was plenty of action on him.”

David Cox, of Baroda Stud who consigned the €115,000 colt bought by Tally Ho Stud at Goffs February

“Two lovely fillies, both very good walkers with plenty of size and scope. I was very impressed by Sottsass when I saw him at Coolmore and if these two are anything to go by, you’d have to give him a great chance.”

Mags O’Toole, purchaser of filly foals for €105,000 at Goffs November and 80,000gns at Tattersalls December

“We based on what I’ve seen, the future for Sottsass looks very bright.”

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Paul Shanahan who has supported him strongly from the outset

Broke the 1m2½f track record at Chantilly defeating triple Gr.1 winner Persian King in the Prix du Jockey Club-Gr.1. Previous winners include leading sires New Bay, Lope de Vega and Shamardal

SOTTSASS

Fee: €25,000

Contact: Coolmore Stud Tel: +353-52-6131298, Castlehyde Stud Tel: +353-25-31966. E-mail: sales@coolmore.ie Website: www.coolmore.com
There aren’t as many on the ground here in Ireland yet but the early reports are that they are as good a bunch as you will see so we’re very excited. He’s getting a lovely type."

One of the major themes to develop from the sale season in 2022 was the strength of Zhang through Donohoe at all of the major sales. All told, the owner spent roughly €20 million upgrading his broodmare band, concentrating on broodmares by Galileo (Ire) in particular.

Donohoe explained, "There are so many smart mares booked into Lucky Vega this year. Obviously we put in a lot of work at the mare sales last year on behalf of Mr Zhang but, for these young stallions, there aren’t too many nicks.

"Lope De Vega (Ire) has done quite well himself with the Danehill line but that’s probably the only standout. Mr Zhang bought a lot of Galileo mares last year because Galileo is one of these freakishly-good sires whose mares seem to nick with everything. He’s just very potent as a broodmare sire. So Lucky Vega has covered a lot of nice Galileo mares already and he will cover a lot more again this year."

He added, “Physically, Lucky Vega matches up well with these Galileo mares as he seems to be putting the strength into his stock with great, big back ends on them. Because he was a quite precocious and fast horse himself, we think he could inject that speed into the Galileo mares. We think that could be a good cross.

“But we don’t buy mares just for the sake of it either. We put a value on them and, if it goes over that value, we pull up.”

Zhang is expected to support Lucky Vega with over 50 of his own broodmares this year, the majority of which boast mouthwatering pedigrees. Asked to nominate some of the most exciting mares set to visit the young stallion, Donohoe joked, ‘where do I start,’ before putting forward a few of the more recent additions to the team.

“Let's Misbehave (Ire) (Montjeu (Ire)) could be a good mare to include,” he said. “She is a half-sister to High Chaparral (Ire) who we bought for €920,000 at Arqana last year. It's a tremendous pedigree and she’s already the dam of a high-class War Front filly called Sippinsoda (Fr). She’s a young mare who is the dam of a stakes winner from her first three foals and from a proper deep stallion-producing family. Asked to nominate some of the most exciting mares set to visit the young stallion, Donohoe joked, ‘where do I start,’ before putting forward a few of the more recent additions to the team.

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“Lucrece (GB) is a beautiful Pivotal (GB) mare who is the dam of Hello You (Ire) (Invincible Spirit (Ire)) and a half-sister to Signs Of Blessing (Ire) (Invincible Spirit (Ire)). She was €710,000 from Arqana last year as well and is a fabulous-looking mare. Hello You was a proper fast two-year-old so Mr Zhang is not just sending those Galileo mares to Lucky Vega. He’s giving him a chance to produce something with precocity as well.”

He added, “Expressionism (Ire) (Galileo (Ire)) is a nice mare out of Lady Springbank (Ire)). She’s in foal to him already actually and will go back to him again this year. She actually only cost 200,000gns from Godolphin at Tattersalls in 2021 and is from a good family. It’s a family we know well because Eamonn Riley of BBA Ireland bought Lady Springbank for the Gittins family.

“Revenue Share (Jpn) (Deep Impact (Jpn)) is an interesting one as she's a sister to the dam of Sea Of Class (Ire). Mr Zhang bought a few mares in Japan to visit Lucky Vega and it’s nice because it will be something different. Mr Zhang does a lot of research and follows racing on an international scale and obviously the success that Japan has had and the bloodlines that they are working with interests him greatly. He’s investing in that now so it’s amazing really."

They say the secret to becoming an overnight success is the culmination of years of hard work. In the case of this emerging owner-breeder, who enjoyed a breakthrough Classic success with Magical Lagoon (Ire) (Galileo) in the Irish Oaks last year and flexed his muscles at most of the major yearling and mare sales in Europe last term, the seeds had been planted over a decade ago.

Donohoe explained, “Mr Zhang has been observing and doing his research for over 10 years now and didn’t just rush into it without having his homework done like others in his position might have done.

“He has taken his time and built up a strong team here in Ireland and Australia. He has a really good, young and dynamic team in Australia, headed by Sam Fairgray, and all of his family are involved as well. It’s something that he has been building up to for a long time. This whole project has been years in the making. I’ve learned a lot from Mr Zhang—he’s a genius.”

Cont. p4
As well as sending a strong book of his own mares to the Irish National Stud resident, Zhang is reported to have a strong understanding of the bigger picture by Donohoe, who revealed that the owner plans on investing in a number of foals by the stallion this year.

On other notable mares set to visit Lucky Vega, Donohoe said, “It’s Magic (Ire) is a Galileo half-sister to Mukhadram (GB) who we gave €490,000 for at Arqana in 2021. It’s a deep family. High Heels (Ire) is another very nice Galileo mare being a stakes-placed daughter of Charlotte Bronte (Danehill Dancer {Ire}). This family is a real fillies-producing family. Recover Me (Fr) (Fastnet Rock {Aus}) is another nice stakes-placed mare from a stakes-producing French family that includes So Unique (Fr) (Siyouni {Fr}), who is also in Mr Zhang’s broodmare band. Mrs Frankel (Ire) (Frankel {Ire}) is quite an interesting one as well because Mr Zhang is a big believer in Frankel as a broodmare sire. Mrs Frankel is from the family of Gregorian (Ire) and is a sister to Hidden Dimples (Ire) in France. There is a lot of speed in the family.”

He added, “Ligne D’Amour (Ire) is worth a mention being a Galileo daughter of Rosdhu Queen (Ire) (Invincible Spirit {Ire}). She has a gorgeous Lucky Vega filly foal at foot and will go back to him this year. “Atone (GB) (Oasis Dream {GB}) is a nice mare we bought in foal to Frankel from Juddmonte. She’s a sister to Midday (GB) and has a cracking page. She should be a nice mare for Lucky Vega. Lights On Me (GB) (Kyllachy {GB}), who is the dam of Light Infantry (Fr) (Fast Company {Ire}), is another. It’s just a very exciting time for the stallion and we’re confident that he will justify all of the support.”

Donohoe told TDN Europe last week that Zhang was expanding his string of horses in training in Britain, with Karl Burke set to train 20 two-year-olds for the owner, who is keen not to keep all of his eggs in the one basket with number one trainer Jessica Harrington.

That approach is somewhat mirrored to the broodmare band with Zhang set to support a number of proven and up-and-coming stallions to go with Lucky Vega.

Donohoe said, “Mr Zhang is a big fan of Baaeed and is going to send mares to him this year. Lady Hayes (Ire) (Kodiac {GB}), who was second in the G2 Lancashire Oaks, Shomooly (Frankel) and Aspiring (Ire) (Galileo), a sister to Danedream (Ger) (Lomitas {GB}), will go to Baaeed.

“He will send three to Frankel. Bocca Baciata (Ire) (Big Bad Bob {Ire}), who won the G2 Kilboy Estate S. for Jessica Harrington, is going to him. Cont. p5
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As I mentioned before, Mr Zhang has been a massive fan of Frankel from the beginning. He sent a lot of mares to him and bought a lot of mares in foal to him in Australia as well. He’s had a big role to play in the initial success Frankel has enjoyed in Australia.

“The plan is to send German 1,000 Guineas winner T xope (Fr) (Siyouni (Fr)), who we bought at Arqana last year for €1.2 million, to Frankel. French Dressing (GB) (Sea The Stars (Ire)) is another nice mare going to Frankel and is actually in England already. She is the dam of Mohaafeth (Ire) (Frankel) so the plan is to go back to him. Rasmia (Ire) (Galileo) will go to Siyouni (Fr). She is a sister to Above Average (Ire) (High Chaparral). We’ll also send Zerziyna (Fr), a Fastnet Rock mare who we bought at Arqana, to Sea The Stars (Ire). She’s a daughter of Zarkava (Ire) and is a gorgeous-looking mare.

“We also plan on sending mares to Mehmas. He has had to do it the hard way and his results speak for itself. He’s a proper stallion and his progeny know where the winning line is—they really try to win. Bay Of Islands (Fr) (Dubawi (Ire)) will go to Mehmas. She’s the dam of a stakes winner called Bahrani Star (Mehmas). She’s the dam of a stakes winner called Bahrani Star (Mehmas). She’s the dam of a stakes winner called Bahrani Star (Mehmas). The plan is to send German 1,000 Guineas winner Txoepe (Fr) (Siyouni (Fr)), who we bought at Arqana last year for €1.2 million, to Frankel. French Dressing (GB) (Sea The Stars (Ire)) is another nice mare going to Frankel and is actually in England already. She is the dam of Mohaafeth (Ire) (Frankel) so the plan is to go back to him. Rasmia (Ire) (Galileo) will go to Siyouni (Fr). She is a sister to Above Average (Ire) (High Chaparral). We’ll also send Zerziyna (Fr), a Fastnet Rock mare who we bought at Arqana, to Sea The Stars (Ire). She’s a daughter of Zarkava (Ire) and is a gorgeous-looking mare.

“Maria Montessori (Ire) (Galileo), a daughter of Lesson In Humility (Ire) (Mujadil), is from a speedy family and will go to him as well. Slaney East (Ire) (New Approach (Ire)), a nice mare we bought in foal to Mehmas from Jim Bolger, will go back to him along with Eaves (Ire) (Galileo).”

Sunday’s Results:

2nd-Lyon-Parilly, **€23,000, Debutantes**, 3-19, 2yo, 4 1/2fT, 0:55.45, sf.

MARIE MANCINI (IRE) (f, 2, Footstepsinthesand (GB)—Sees (Fr), by Le Havre (Ire)), sent off the 2-1 favourite, broke well and raced prominently throughout the early stages of this first European juvenile race of 2023. Staying on as the line neared, the chestnut was in front where it mattered to prevail by a short head from Aquila Volante (Fr) (Gleneagles (Ire)). The unraced dam, whose yearling filly is by Starspangledbanner (Aus), is a full-sister to the Listed Derby du Languedoc winner and G2 Prix de Royallieu-placed Sotteville (Fr) and the G2 Prix de la Nonnette-placed Crisolles (Fr). This is also the family of the G1 Chipping Norton S. and G1 Ranvet S.-winning champion miler Contributer (Ire) (High Chaparral (Ire)). Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, €11,500.

**Video, sponsored by TVG.**

O-Ecurie MG; B-Ecurie de Launay, Mme V Teehan & Ecurie Vivaldi Rock (IRE); T-Fabrice Vermeulen.

4th-Lyon-Parilly, **€22,000, Cond**, 3-19, 3yo, 11fT, 2:25.15, sf.

AMELIELYMPIQUE (IRE) (f, 3, Olympic Glory (Ire)—Celebre (Fr) {SP-Fr, $127,898}, by Peintre Celebtre), third behind Al Barq (Fr) (Al Wukair (Ire)) and the subsequent listed scorer Harry Way (Fr) (Galiway (GB)) in the Prix Sky Lawyer on Cagnes-sur-Mer’s all-weather last month, raced in third early. Reeling in Torneo (Fr) (Toroando (Ire)) passing the 300-metre marker, the 1-2 favourite stayed on to beat that rival by 1 1/4 lengths. The listed-placed dam, whose first foal was Olympic Glory’s Olympic (Ire) who also achieved black-type in that company, is related to the Singaporean heavyweight Big Maverick (NZ) (O’Reilly (NZ)). Her 2-year-old filly Coupe d’Europe (Fr) is by Footstepsinthesand (GB). Lifetime Record: 3-2-0-1, €24,500.

**Video, sponsored by TVG.**

O/B-Jean-Claude Seroul (IRE); T-Jerome Reynier.

2nd-Machecoul, **€10,000, Mdn**, 3-19, 3yo, 2350mT, 2:33.63, hy.

ORION ROCK (FR) (c, 3, Le Havre (Ire)—Orion Girl (Ger) (SW-Fr), by Law Society), making his belated debut, was rushed into the lead after the first half a furlong and dictated at his own leisure from there. Cutting loose on the turn into the straight, the bay registered a 16-length success against outclassed peers. The listed-winning dam, who has produced the G3 Prix de Flore-placed Omana (Fr) (Speedmaster (Ger)) and the listed-placed Oriental Wind (GB) (Zamindar), is kin to the G1 Grand Prix de Paris-placed Orion Star (Fr) (Sternkoenig (Ire)), the GII Beauagay S. runner-up Orion Moon (Fr) (Manduro (Ger)) and G2 Prix de Malleret-placed Orion Love (GB) (Zamindar). Her yearling filly Orion Class (Fr) is by Sea The Moon (Ger). Sales history: €120,000 Ylg ’21 ARQOCT. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, €5,000.

O-Haras de Hus; B-Chevotel de la Hauquerie (FR); T-H-A Pantall.

**CONDITIONS RESULT:**

6th-Machecoul, **€8,500**, 3-19, 4yo, 2350mT, 2:33.87, hy.

KALEONA (FR) (f, 4, Tiberius Caesar (Fr) (Orellana, by With Approval) Lifetime Record: 3-2-0-0, €9,000. O-Couetil Elevage; B-Mme E Lafeu (FR); T-Alain Couetil.

**ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:**

Maitre De Musique (Fr), g, 3, Ifraaj (GB)—Terrienne (Fr), by Henny Hughes. Mont-de-Marsan, 3-19, 2150mT, 2:29.40. B-SC Ecurie de Meautry (FR).

Pyrotechnic (Fr), g, 4, Nathaniel (Ire)—Lightupthenight (GB) (SP-Fr), by Dutch Art (GB). Mont-de-Marsan, 3-19, 2150mT, 2:28.80. B-Al Shahania Stud (FR).

Dalmar (Fr), g, 4, Siyouni (Fr)—Daltama (Ire), by Indian Ridge (Ire). Machecoul, 3-19, 1650mT, 1:43.74. B-S A Aka Khan (FR).

*1/2 to Doliyana (Fr) (Azamour (Ire)), G1SW-UAE, GSW & MG1SP-Fr, G1SP-Eng, $4,225,405.

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IN ROME:


VIDEO

'BUBBLE' POPS AT GIANT PRICE IN HONG KONG DERBY by Alan Carasso

An all-the-way winner of January's Hong Kong Classic Mile under a perfectly rationed ride from the visiting Jamie Kah, Voyage Bubble (Aus) (Deep Field (Aus)) capitulated without much of a fight after leading through the opening mile of the Hong Kong Classic Cup, fading into sixth behind Super Sunny Sing (Aus) (Nicconi (Aus)).

When connections landed gate 14 at Thursday’s barrier draw, the already difficult task at hand seemed that much more daunting, as valuable energy would need to be burned to get across to lead, assuming--of course--that was the plan. But trainer Ricky Yiu and jockey Alexis Badel tore the script for Sunday's HK$24-million BMW Hong Kong Derby into bits, settling the gelding last and sustaining a long and wide ride to cause a 45-1 boilover. Classic Mile runner-up Tuchel (NZ) (Redwood (GB)), the mount of Ryan Moore, was outfinished at the fence, while favoured stablemate Beauty Eternal (Aus) (Starspangledbanner (Aus)) was third.

“Of course, this is the most prestigious race in Hong Kong racing and I’m very, very happy and grateful to win this Derby race,” said trainer Ricky Yiu, best known for training the top sprinters Sacred Kingdom (Aus) and Fairy King Prawn (Aus).

“Over the trip, 2000 metres, I was a little bit doubtful, and then again with the wide draw. We needed to try something different. We even looked at the previous Derby races, horses drawn from the outside and where they finished and where they made a move,” he explained.

Keefy (Aus) (All Too Hard (Aus)) was kicked into the early lead from his low gate by Derek Leung and set a dawdling tempo from Encountered (Ire) (Churchill (Ire)). Tuchel landed in the box seat with Beauty Eternal and Zac Purton following his every move, while Voyage Bubble cabossed them into the first bend.

Sensing the lack of speed and knowing the Derby was bound to turn into a sit-sprint, Badel slipped Voyage Bubble some rein with better than six furlongs to go and by the time the field had reached the second turn and with a half-mile to race, he was three wide and only about five lengths off the leader.

Continuing to improve, but having not yet been asked for his best, Voyage Bubble was poised to pounce outside of Beauty Eternal as Keefy turned them in. The favourite was given a dig by Purton a furlong and a half from home, but he wasn't able to put any sort of a gap on the stubborn Voyage Bubble to his outside or the rail-skimming Tuchel. Four across the course at the 150m, Voyage Bubble managed to conjure up one final surge and was home narrowly over Tuchel.

It made for a fairy-tale ending to a tumultuous week for Badel, who was unceremoniously booted from defending champion Wellington (Aus) (All Too Hard (Aus)) in the G1 Queen’s Silver Jubilee Cup (see below).

“Being a jockey, you go through ups and downs and this season has been very difficult for me,” said Badel, who became the first Frenchman to win the Derby since Maxime Guyon on Ambitious Dragon (NZ) (Pins (Aus)) in 2011. “I came back from injury and suspensions and it means everything to win such a big race in Hong Kong as a jockey. [Voyage Bubble] was brilliant and I’m very happy for the connections, the owners and myself. I still can’t believe it, actually. It’s like the race isn’t finished yet. It’s very special.”
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• Features undulating countryside with free draining rich volcanic soils, multiple paddocks with improved pastures and excellent quality post and rail fencing and laneway access throughout the property. Encompasses 250* acres of pristine bushland.
• Over 1* kilometre of frontage to spring fed Charlie Creek, an equipped inground bore, a significant licenced dam (50* ML), with stock troughs to all paddocks and irrigation facilities.
• Excellent accommodation including a main four-bedroom homestead, two four-bedroom manager’s houses and other modern staff accommodation and amenity.

FOR SALE VIA EXPRESSION OF INTEREST CLOSING WEDNESDAY 26 APRIL 2023 AT 4PM AEST.
**Pedigree Notes:**

While officially recognised as a listed restricted stakes, Voyage Bubble is one of two big race winners in Hong Kong for the increasingly popular Deep Field, whose son Sky Field (Aus) took out the 2021 G1 Longines Hong Kong Sprint. Winning breeder Torryburn Stud is also responsible for the popular Hong Kong Group 1-winning sprinter Hot King Prawn (Aus) (Denman {Aus}).

Voyage Bubble is one of six winners from seven to race from his dam, whose other produce include Group 3 P J Bell S. winner Diddums and the listed-placed Brettan. Raheights is a half-sister to Bannock (Ire) (Bertolini), winner of the Listed Rockingham S. and placed in the G2 Richmond S. and G2 July S. for Sheikh Hamdan Bin Mohammed al Maktoum and Mark Johnston as well as Australian listed winner Moulin Lady (Aus) (Reset {Aus}). The stakes-placed third dam counts Canadian Horse of the Year Never Retreat (Smart Strike) as one of her 10 winners from 14 to the races. The last-listed produce out of Raheights is the 3-year-old gelding Seventies Hit (Aus), second in a Wagga Wagga maiden in two starts.

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**Sunday, Sha Tin, Hong Kong**

**BMW HONG KONG DERBY 2023-LR**, HK$24,000,000, Sha Tin, 3-19, NH/SH4yo, 2000mT, 2:02.78, gd.

1--**VOYAGE BUBBLE (Aus)**, 126, g, 4, by Deep Field (Aus)
   1st Dam: Raheights (Aus), by Rahy
   2nd Dam: Laoub, by Red Ransom
   3rd Dam: Lisieux, by Steady Growth
   (A$380,000 Ylg '20 INGFEB). O-Sunshine and Moonlight Syndicate; B-Torryburn Stud (NSW); T-Ricky Yiu; J-Alexis Badel; HK$13,680,000. Lifetime Record: 11-5-3-1, HK$25,597,725.
   *1/2 to Diddums (Aus) (Snitzel {Aus}), GSW-Aus, $164,688.

2--**Tuchel (NZ)**, 126, g, 4, Redwood (GB)--Trista Rossa (Aus), by Testa Rossa (Aus). (NZ$130,000 Ylg '20 NZBJAN). O-Philip Chan Kwok Chung; B-G Harvey; T-John Size; J-Zac Purton; HK$5,280,000.

3--**Beauty Eternal (Aus)**, 126, g, 4, Starspangledbanner (Aus)--Ithaca Queen (NZ), by Savabeel (Aus). (A$90,000 Ylg '20 INGFEB). O-Patrick Kwok Ho Chuen; B-P Raftopolous (Vic); T-John Size; J-Ryan Moore; HK$2,400,000.

Margins: SHD, NO, HD. Odds: 45-1, 10-1, 13-10.

Also Ran: Keefy (Aus), Straight Aron (Aus), Sword Point (Aus), Sweet Encounter (NZ), Super Sunny Sing (Aus), Encountered (Ire), Galaxy Witness (Aus), Bon’s A Pearla (Aus), Beautyverse (NZ), Atullibigeal (Aus), Flagship Warrior (Aus). **Click for the HKJC.com chart, PPs and sectional timing. VIDEO.**

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**Lucky Sweynesse Too Strong in QSJC**

Desperately unlucky when sixth as the odds-on favourite behind Wellington in December’s Hong Kong Sprint, **Lucky Sweynesse (NZ)** (Sweynesse (Aus)) won his third straight since Sunday, posting a relatively comfortable 1 1/4-length victory over G1 Longines Hong Kong Mile hero **California Spangle (Ire)** (Starspangledbanner (Aus)) in the G1 Queen’s Silver Jubilee Cup. California Spangle, off at 3-5 and cutting back in trip after finishing third to Golden Sixty (Aus) (Medaglia d’Oro) in the G1 Stewards’ Cup over a mile Jan. 29, jumped alertly from the rail and looked to hold all the aces, as he galloped them along at nothing more than a hack canter in sectional times well outside standard. But James McDonald, fresh off his victory about the outstanding Anamoe (Aus) (Street Boss) in Saturday’s G1 George Ryder S. at Rosehill, kept Lucky Sweynesse within striking distance at all times, and even though California Spangle sprinted home in :21.99, the 4-year-old quickened even more impressively in :21.74 en route to the victory. Defending champion Wellington was well-beaten in third.

“What makes him so talented is that he’s not only a very fast horse, but he can sustain the speed over seven furlongs, which not many sprinters can do,” said McDonald, who also teamed with Romantic Warrior (Ire) (Acclamation {GB}) to win the G1 Longines Hong Kong Cup in December. “So he’s got a great attribute of conserving energy and building into a race like a pretty good horse.”

Winning trainer Manfred Man said Lucky Sweynesse will go for a sweep of the Hong Kong Speed Series in the G1 Chairman’s Sprint Prize back over 1200 metres Apr. 30, with a trip overseas for the G1 Yasuda Kinen not out of the question.

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**Mel Copelin On Voyage Bubble**

**Romancing The Moon Delivers For Te Akau**

‘**J-Mac’ To Miss Tancred Meeting**

**Nature Strip On Target For Fourth TJ**

**Tassie Winner For Bolt D’Oro**
Pedigree Notes:
The lone Group 1 scorer for his sire (by Lonhro {Aus}), Lucky Sweynesse is a full-brother to G1 Queensland Oaks placegetter Signora Nera (NZ). From the extended family of champion Rose of Danehill (Aus) (Danehill) and Group 1 winner Wrap Around (Aus) (Bletchingly {Aus}), Lucky Sweynesse has a 3-year-old half-brother by Per Incanto and a yearling half-brother by Contributor (Ire). Madonna Mia was most recently served by Sweynesse.

Sunday, Sha Tin, Hong Kong
QUEEN’S SILVER JUBILEE CUP-G1, HK$12,000,000, Sha Tin, 3-19, 3yo/up, 1400mT, 1:21.12, gd.
1--LUCKY SWEYNESSE (NZ), 126, g, 4, by Sweynesse (Aus)
   1st Dam: Madonna Mia (NZ) (SW-NZ, $134,764), by Red Clubs (Ire)
   2nd Dam: Hill of Hope (Aus), by Danehill
   3rd Dam: Macozie (Aus), by Marscay (Aus)
2--California Spangle (Ire), 126, g, 5, Starspangledbanner (Aus)--Pearltas Passion (Ire), by High Chaparral (Ire). (€150,000 Ylg ’19 GOFORB). O-Howard Liang Yum Shing; B-M Enright; T-Tony Cruz; J-Zac Purton; HK$2,640,000.
3--Wellington (Aus), 126, g, 6, All Too Hard (Aus)--Mihiri (Aus), by More Than Ready. (A$70,000 Ylg ’18 MMGCYS). O-Mr & Mrs Michael Cheng Wing On & Jeffrey Cheng Man Cheong; B-Kia Ora Stud Pty Ltd, David Paradise, Steve McCann; T-Richard Gibson; J-Ryan Moore; HK$1,200,000. Margins: 1 1/4, 3, NK. Odds: 2.70, 4.50, 20.20. Click for the HKJC.com chart.

Sunday, Nakayama, Japan
FUJI TV SHO SPRING S.-G2, ¥105,100,000, Nakayama, 3-19, 3yo/up, 1800mT, 1:48.90, sf.
1--BELLAGIO OPERA (JPN), 123, c, 3, by Lord Kanaloa (Jpn)
   1st Dam: Air Routine (Jpn), by Harbinger (GB)
   2nd Dam: Air Magdalene (Jpn), by Sunday Silence
   3rd Dam: Air Deja Vu (Jpn), by Northern Taste
   1ST BLACK-TYPE WIN, 1ST BLACK TYPE, 1ST GROUP BLACK TYPE. (¥48,510,000 2yo ’22 CHIYYO). O-Shorai Hayashida; B-Shadai Farm (Jpn); T-Hiroiuki Uemura; J-Takeshi Yokoyama; ¥55,120,000. Lifetime Record: 3-3-0-0, ¥73,023,000. Click for the free Equineline.com catalogue-style pedigree. Werk Nick Rating: D. Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree. 2--Ho O Biscuits (Jpn), 123, c, 3, Mind Your Biscuits--Ho O Sabrina (Jpn), by Rulership (Jpn). 1ST BLACK TYPE, 1ST GROUP BLACK TYPE. O-Y Ozasa; B-Okada Stud (Jpn); ¥22,268,000.
3--Metal Speed (Jpn), 123, c, 3, by Silver State (Jpn)--My Viviane (Ire), by Shamardal. 1ST BLACK TYPE, 1ST GROUP BLACK TYPE. O-Him Rock Racing Holdings; B-Tabata Farm (Jpn); ¥14,134,000. Margins: 1 1/4, 3/4, HF. Odds: 2.10, 0.60, 31.20. Click for the JRA chart and video.