TDN DERBY TOP 20: WAITING IS THE HARDEST PART

by T.D. Thornton

The rankings below are independent from the "Road to the Derby" leaderboard Churchill Downs uses to determine starting berths, with several horses included here who are currently below the cut. View the qualifying list here.

1) PRACTICAL MOVE (c, Practical Joke--Ack Naughty, by Afleet Alex) O-Leslie & Pierre Jean Amestoy & Roger Beasley; B-Chad Brown & Head of Plains Partners (KY); T-Tim Yakteen. Sales history: $90,000 RNA yrl '21 KEESEP; $230,000 2yo '22 OBSAPR. Lifetime Record: GISW, 7-4-1-2, $884,200. Last Start: 1st Apr. 8 GI Runhappy Santa Anita Derby. Kentucky Derby Points: 160.

BREGMAN'S NO NAY NEVER COLT STEALS THE SHOW AT OBS MONDAY by Jessica Martini

A colt by No Nay Never (hip 332) turned in the fastest quarter-mile work of the second session of the under-tack show for the Ocala Breeders' Sales Company's Spring Sale of 2-Year-Olds in Training Monday in Central Florida, covering the distance in :20 4/5. The juvenile was the first of three from an initial pinhooking group owned by Houston Astros third-baseman Alex Bregman to hit the OBS track ahead of next week’s auction.

Bregman Family Racing made its debut on the racetrack a winning one just last May when the first horse to carry the family's colors, Cadillac Candy (Twirling Candy), graduated at Churchill Downs. Cont. p3

IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

CRAVEN SALE KICKS OFF TUESDAY The Tattersalls Craven Breeze-Up Sale, responsible for the likes of recent Classic winners Native Trail (GB) and Cachet (Ire), kicks off Tuesday. Brian Sheerin has the preview.

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FIRST-CROP 3YO COLT

SAUDI CROWN,
a $240,000 2YO purchase, was ultra-impressive in his debut on Sunday, winning a $100,000 MdSpWt at Keeneland by 4 ¾ lengths and earning a 97 Beyer.

Owner: FMO Stables, Inc.
Breeder: CHC Inc.

WATCH RACE

 Always Dreaming
Fee: $10,000 S&N
FORTE ARRIVES AT CHURCHILL
St. Elias Stable and Repole Stable’s GI Kentucky Derby favorite Forte (Violence) arrived at Churchill Downs Monday following a 14-hour van ride from trainer Todd Pletcher’s winter base of Palm Beach Downs.

SWISS SKYDIVER DELIVERS FIRST FOAL
Champion Swiss Skydiver (Daredevil) delivered her first foal, a filly by Europe’s 2014 Horse of the Year Kingman (GB), Feb. 15 at Northern Farm in Japan.

SIRES WITH NEW STAKES WINNERS
Honor Code was among the stallions represented by new stakes winners last week when Cats in the Timber won the Weber City Miss S. at Laurel.
Bregman’s No Nay Never Colt Steals the Show at OBS Monday (cont. from p1)

The family’s focus will still be on racing, according to Ciaran Dunne, whose Wavertree Stables preps Bregman’s horses in Ocala, but the reoffered lots reflect a slight adjustment for the three-year-old stable.

“Alex made the decision to sell a few colts to try to finance his racing stable,” Dunne said. “I think he’s decided that racing fillies is probably, in his grand scheme of things, going to be a better plan. He wants to develop a broodmare band and sort of have a long-term plan of action. By selling the colts, it helps finance some of the racing stable and the broodmare band.

That’s not to say he won’t race a colt going forward, but, if he races fillies, he wants to own them 100% and he’ll partner on colts with the hope of making a stallion. We have three in the sale for him here and if the right people with the right plan came along, I am sure he would be more than willing to stay in and be a partner.”

Hip 332, an Irish-bred son of No Nay Never, was purchased on behalf of Bregman by bloodstock agent Mike Akers for €180,000 at last year’s Arqana August Yearling Sale. He is the first foal out of group winner Etoile (War Front), who is a full-sister to group winner and multiple Group 1-placed Ancient Rome.

“We got him in October or November sometime,” Dunne said of the colt. “It took him a little while to get his feet underneath him. It’s a long process between shipping and quarantine and everything else. But ever since, he’s been a really straightforward horse. His works have been more than solid coming into this. So we went in there with high expectations and I think he delivered. He’s just a really solid colt by probably one of the top stallions in Europe.”
On behalf of the Bregman family, Wavertree will also send out a colt by Twirling Candy (hip 402) to work Tuesday and a son of Omaha Beach (hip 617) to work Wednesday.

“He absolutely loves the horse business,” Dunne said of Bregman. “It will be bittersweet for him. Racing is his first love. Pinhooking is probably going to be very hard for him. But we’ve had the discussion, ‘look if you bring them over, you have to sell them.’ So I think he will. But, like I said, if someone were to come along, I think he would be more than happy to stay in.”

Four horses shared Monday’s fastest furlong time of :9 4/5. A filly by Flameaway (hip 177, video) worked the bullet for David McKathan and Jody Mihalic’s Grassroots Training and Sales just minutes after the session’s 8 a.m. start time. Out of Cinnamon Girl (Meadowlake), the chestnut filly was purchased by Grassroots for $15,000 at last year’s Keeneland September sale.

Consignor Marcial Galan sent out a colt by Jimmy Creed (hip 239, video) to share the fastest furlong time Monday around 10:30 a.m. Out of Days Like This (Congrats), the juvenile was bred by Jason Hall, Stephen Baker, Herschel Martindale and Mike Riordan.

A colt by Triple Crown winner Justify (hip 299, video), who is out of D’Wildcat Speed (Forest Wildcat) and is a half-brother to multiple Group 1 winner Lady Aurelia (Scat Daddy), gave Jonathan Navas’s Navas Equine its first :9 4/5 work when he hit the track around 10:40 a.m. Monday morning.

“I am very fortunate to have such a nice individual under my care,” Navas said. “He is an easy colt to work with. He is that kind that goes out there, puts in a lot of effort in training, does his best in the morning, and then comes back to the stall. Rest and repeat.”

Navas picked the well-bred colt out of the back ring at Keeneland last September and purchased him as part of a pinhooking partnership for $50,000.

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TIMING IS EVERYTHING

Dynamic Catalog for the April Selected Horses of Racing Age Sale, featuring full form figures, will be updated until the sale:

- DRF and Equibase PPs
- Thoro-Graph figures
- Ragozin sheets
- Race replays

AND MORE

April Selected Horses of Racing Age Sale

Sunday, April 30 at 4 p.m.

Supplemental entries will continue to be considered until sale date

VIEW FULL SALE FORM FIGURES
“I saw him in the back ring, but I didn’t inspect him at the barn,” Navas said. “His page is obviously really strong. And I liked the way he was taking everything in at the sale. We liked what I thought I could polish and develop a little bit more with training.”

Asked if he was surprised to get the colt at that price last fall, Navas said, “Yes, to be honest, it was a little bit surprising. With that pedigree, I would have thought I would have had to extend my budget a little bit more. He didn’t look as athletic as he does now. He had a belly and he was a little bit narrow as a yearling. But with the time and training, he became a better-looking athlete. That’s what I visualized last year and I think that’s what we have right now.”

From a racing family in Venezuela, Navas launched his consignment in 2020. He was represented by a Shackleford filly who worked a quarter-mile bullet in :20 3/5 at the 2021 OBS June sale. Purchased for $7,500 at the 2020 Keeneland September sale, the filly sold for $70,000 that June. Now named Join the Dance, she resold for $110,000 at last year’s Keeneland Horses of Racing Age Sale and is two-time stakes-placed.

This is my third year consigning and I had never had a :9 4/5 before,” Navas said of hip 299’s work Monday. “He was able to put up this great workout for us and am I very happy with it. It was pretty impressive.”

A colt by Twirling Candy (hip 192, video), consigned by Steve Venosa’s SGV Thoroughbreds, completed the quartet of bullet workers shortly before noon Monday. Out of Conquest Babayaga (Uncle Mo), the dark bay was bred by St. Elias Stables and RNA’d for $120,000 at Keeneland September last fall.

The colt was the second from the SGV Thoroughbreds to turn in a :9 4/5 work this week at OBS. A filly by Flameway (hip 37, video) hit that mark for the consignment Sunday.

The final sets of Sunday’s initial session of the under-tack show had horses working into a headwind, but it was the earlier sets Monday that had to deal with the wind, according to Dunne.

“All the way through the first set and through the second set, there was a pretty good headwind and then it seemed to get quieter towards the end of the day,” Dunne said. “We had a horse go :10 1/5 in the last set, so I think the track has been consistent the whole way through, which is all we can ask.”

The under-tack show continues through Saturday with sessions beginning daily at 8 a.m. The Spring sale will be held next Tuesday through Friday. Bidding commences each day at 10:30 a.m.
14 black type horses from his best-bred crop of 3yos to date.

FASTEST OAKS PREP WINNERS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Horse</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ragozin</td>
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<td>Affirmative Lady</td>
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TDN DERBY TOP 20 (cont. from p1)

Practical Move has the distinction of being the only Derby contender this year to run two triple-digit Beyer Speed Figures at age three, earning a 100 in each of his last two wins, the GII San Felipe S. and the GI Santa Anita Derby. Among all the "Road to the Kentucky Derby" qualifying races in 2022-23, this Tim Yakteen trainee also produced the two fastest final clockings at 1 1/16 miles (GI Los Alamitos Futurity and San Felipe), plus the quickest nine-furlong winning time (Santa Anita Derby).

Beyond the question of "how fast," Practical Move rates highly from a "how he does it" perspective. Regular rider Ramon Vazquez should feel pretty confident he's on a colt who has enough tactical speed to be placed within the first flight and doesn't shy from slicing through tight inside passages. Practical Move's late-race torque is a proven commodity that he's used to his advantage in three consecutive rail-running victories.

Vazquez has had only one previous Derby mount, a trip-troubled 13th in 2015 aboard the 36-1 Mr. Z.

Although Practical Move's sire, Practical Joke, was a three-time Grade I winner in New York, he never won a two-turn race (fifth in the 2017 Derby). Maternal grandsire Afleet Alex, though, ran third in the 2005 Derby, then won both the GI Preakness S. and GI Belmont S.

2) FORTE (c, Violence--Queen Caroline, by Blame) 'TDN Rising Star'
O-Repole Stable and St. Elias Stable; B-South Gate Farm (KY); T-Todd Pletcher. Sales history: $80,000 Wlg '20 KEENOV; $110,000 Ylg '21 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: Ch. 2yo Colt, MGISW, 7-6-0-0, $1,833,230. Last start: 1st GI Curlin Florida Derby at Gulfstream Apr. 1. Kentucky Derby Points: 190.

Peer closely at that past-performance block though, and you can see reasons why some handicappers will be willing to bet against this son of Violence on Derby day.

Even if you don't believe in speed figures at their face-value level, it's concerning when any horse--let alone a divisional champion--regresses in his overall pattern from age two to three. Forte ran a 100 Beyer in the Juvenile, dipped to a 98 in the Fountain of Youth, then checked in with a 95 in the Florida Derby.

That Fountain of Youth slippage might be forgiven considering Forte prowled around the track like he knew he had the field at his mercy and was geared down in the final stages when his win was evident. The Florida Derby, though, featured robust early splits (it was the only nine-furlong prep this season in which the first three quarters were all clocked in sub-24 seconds). Yet when Forte unleashed his customary late kick, it came during a so-so final quarter in :25.72 and a tepid final eighth in :13.02.

Still, you have to respect that this is an A-level athlete who simply fires on the far turn every time out. It's also noteworthy that Forte's three most visually appealing races (GI Breeders' Futurity, Juvenile, Fountain of Youth) all came over short-stretch configurations with the finish line at or near the sixteenth pole, a setup that does not traditionally favor horses kicking in from farther back. The Derby distance and Churchill's ample stretch both have the potential to work to Forte's advantage.
3) **HIT SHOW** (c, Candy Ride (Arg)--Actress, by Tapit) O/B-Gary & Mary West (KY); T-Brad Cox. Lifetime Record: GSW, 5-3-1-0, $404,375. Last Start: 2nd in GII Wood Memorial S. at Aqueduct Apr. 8. Kentucky Derby Points: 60.

Hit Show, a 3-for-5 Candy Ride (Arg) homebred for Gary and Mary West, has the distinction of going off favored in every one of his races. His three victories were open-length romps, and his only two losses were a second by a nose in the roughly run GII Wood Memorial (after overcoming post 12) and a fourth at age two in his first try against winners (when he bobbled at the break).

Although the two horses ranked above him—Practical Move and Forte—earned their spots based on proven ability, Hit Show is more of a speculative selection based on the assumption that he’ll offer significantly overlaid value while being primed to peak on Derby day.

Hit Show is a May 9 foal. Although exact foaling date records are sketchy prior to 1940, 11 known May foals have won the Derby dating to 1875. The most recent two were Authentic in 2020 (who won a Derby that was run in September) and Country House in 2019 (who crossed the wire second but was elevated to the win because of the disqualification of Maximum Security).

4) **VERIFYING** (c, Justify--Diva Delite, by Repent) O/Westerberg, Mrs John Magnier, Jonathan Poulin, Derrick Smith & Michael Tabor; B-Hunter Valley & Mountmellick Farm (Ky); T-Brad Cox. Sales history: $775,000 yrl ’21 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: MGISP, 6-2-2-0, $489,900. Last start: 2nd GI Toyota Blue Grass S. at Keeneland Apr. 8. Kentucky Derby Points: 54.

Verifying, like Hit Show, also won’t technically turn three until after the Derby (May 11). But he ran a "wise beyond his age" second in the GI Blue Grass S., beaten only a neck after twice clawing back the lead in a heavyweight stretch smackdown with No. 5-ranked ‘TDN Rising Star’ Tapit Trice (Tapit).

This Justify colt is a half-brother to 2019 champion older dirt distaffer Midnight Bisou. Beyond the Triple Crown-winning cachet atop his pedigree, Verifying’s female family includes some overlooked nuggets. Damsire Repent was a hard-charging early favorite for the 2002 Derby before getting derailed from the Triple Crown series by an ankle injury. And Repent’s sire, Louis Quatorze, wired the 1996 GI Preakness S.

A decent post draw and a clean break almost certainly puts Verifying in the hunt for the lead in the Derby, an obvious plus considering eight of the past nine Derbies have been won by horses either on the front end or forcing the issue.
5) TAPIT TRICE (c, Tapit--Danzatrice, by Dunkirk) 'TDN Rising Star'. O-Whisper Hill Farm LLC and Gainesway Stable (Antony Beck); B-Gainesway Thoroughbreds Ltd. (KY); T-Todd Pletcher. Sales history: $1,300,000 Ylg '21 KEESSEP. Lifetime Record: GISW, 5-4-0-1, $100,150. Last start: 1st GI Toyota Blue Grass S. at Keeneland Apr. 8. Kentucky Derby Points: 150.

'TDN Rising Star' Tapit Trice “takes a little while to get going,” according to jockey Luis Saez. But once he picks up steam, look out. He rolled to victory from off the tailgate in the GIII Tampa Bay Derby, and looked beaten on the far turn of the Blue Grass S. before relentlessly reeling in Verifying to win a length-of-stretch battle.

Tapit Trice closed with gusto through a final furlong in :12.40, the fastest final eighth in the Blue Grass since Keeneland switched back to dirt in the fall of 2014. Even more impressive is that he launched his sustained move six furlongs out, which no other competitor on the Derby trail has come close to doing this season.

This gray son of Tapit ($1.3 million at KEESEP) has come around horses in all four of his victories. But his wide-and-driving tactics, combined with his propensity for dawdling at the break, could work against him in a 20-horse Derby.

Even though the two are built differently, consider a comparison to Essential Quality, another ‘Rising Star’ gray who was favored in the 2021 Derby and also ridden by Saez. The juvenile champ went into the Derby undefeated after similarly making big, outside moves. Like Tapit Trice, Essential Quality’s final prep was the Blue Grass, and it, too, featured a demanding stretch duel through the previously fastest Blue Grass S. before relentlessly reeling in Verifying to win a length-of-stretch battle.

In the Derby, Essential Quality got off slowly, then Saez kept him four wide on both turns in an effort to avoid getting jammed inside. The colt rallied, but his fourth-place try lacked the spark of previous tries. The tough last prep didn’t help him, and the lost ground definitely hurt him. Essential Quality skipped the GI Preakness S., then won the GI Belmont S., GI Jim Dandy S. and GI Travers S. in succession.

Regardless of whether you think that sort history will repeat with Tapit Trice, you at least have to factor in those tactical similarities when assessing whether or not banking on a closer who gives himself so much extra work to do is a sound bet in a crowded, chaotic race like the Derby.

6) SKINNER (c, Curlin–Winding Eway, by Malibu Moon) O-C R K Stable; B-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC (KY); T-John Shirreffs. Sales history: $40,000 Ylg '21 KEESSEP; $510,000 2yo '22 OBSAPR. Lifetime Record: MGSP, 6-1-0-3, $216,300. Last start: 3rd GI Santa Anita Derby at Santa Anita Apr. 8. Kentucky Derby Points: 45.

Skinner still needs two defections to make the qualifying cut. But I can see him emerging as a “wiseguy” horse at over 30-1 if he gets in.

To arrive at that conclusion, you have to buy into the benefits of the patient, confidence-building training methodology of John Shirreffs, and basically put a line through Skinner’s uninspiring race results at age two.

Instead, focus on his progression at age three, which includes a mile maiden win followed by a pair of thirds over increasing distances behind No. 1-ranked Practical Move, the latter punctuated by a purposeful, three-furlong late kick.

All three efforts generated strong Beyers (95-94-99) that leave room for improvement. There’s also the been-there-done-that factor, based on John Shirreffs’s 50-1 Derby upset with Giacomo in 2005, and jockey Victor Espinoza’s three Derby wins with War Emblem (2002), California Chrome (2014) and American Pharoah (2015).

7) KINGSBARNS (c, Uncle Mo–Lady Tapit, by Tapit) O-Spendthrift Farm; B-Parks Investment Group (KY); Todd Pletcher. Sales history: $250,000 yr1 '21 FTSAR; $800,000 2yo '22 FTMAR. Lifetime Record: 3-3-0-0, $657,300. Last Start: 1st GII Twinspires.com Louisiana Derby at Fair Grounds Mar. 25. Kentucky Derby Points: 100.

This 3-for-3 son of Uncle Mo projected to control the tempo in the GII Louisiana Derby, and he did just that, leading at every call through very moderate fractions (:24.71, 49.50, 1:14.69, 1:39.13) and light pressure.
The effort earned a 95 Beyer, a decent number despite the 1:57.33 clocking for 1 3/16 miles being the slowest in four years since that stakes got elongated from nine furlongs.

Still, the win represents capable advancement through only 10 weeks of racing experience, and the overall trend for the undefeated Kingsbarns shows no regression (74-85-95 Beyers). Beyond what he’s shown on paper, this is a no-nonsense colt who goes about his business without drama, and he's already handled shipping to and racing over three very different dirt surfaces (Gulfstream, Tampa, Fair Grounds).

Only two horses have won the Louisiana Derby and then the Kentucky Derby: Grindstone in 1996 and Black Gold in 1924.

8) REINCARNATE (c, Good Magic--Allanah, by Scat Daddy) O-SF Racing LLC, Starlight Racing, Madaket Stables LLC, Robert Masterson, Stonestreet Stables LLC, Jay Schoenfarber, Waves Edge Capital LLC & Catherine Donovan; B-Woods Edge Farm (KY); Tim Yakteen. Sales history: $775,000 yr'l '21 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: GSW & GISP, 6-2-3-1, $231,900. Last Start: 3rd in the GI Arkansas Derby at Oaklawn Apr. 1. Kentucky Derby Points: 45.

Reincarnate is a glass half empty/half full proposition. Winless since his Jan. 8 GIII Sham S., his Beyers share a similar in decline pattern over three races as Forte’s (95-90-86), and his no-impact third in the Arkansas Derby doesn’t supply much next-race momentum.

Yet this long-striding $775,000 KEESEP colt by Good Magic has never been out of the money from seven starts, all at a mile or longer, and he gives the impression of a contender who should be finishing better than his running lines suggest.

Jockey John Velazquez said three months ago that Reincarnate was "still learning how to run" and tended to wait on other horses once he made the lead. His speed-centric style should give him the advantage of being forwardly placed and potentially ahead of trip trouble in the Derby, but you’d better hold out for a sizable mutuel before banking on that investment.

9) DISARM (c, Gun Runner--Easy Tap, by Tapit) 'TDN Rising Star'. O/B-Winchell Thoroughbreds LLC (KY); T-Steve Asmussen. Lifetime Record: GSP, 4-1-2-1, $290,350. Last Start: 3rd in the GIII Lexington S. at Keeneland Apr. 15. Ky Derby Points: 46.

All that ‘TDN Rising Star’ Disarm had to do in Saturday's Gill Lexington S. was run third to secure the six qualifying points that would put him into the Derby, and jockey Jose Ortiz made sure the colt did just that. Unless it was obvious this Winchell Thoroughbreds homebred was going to blow by the field under his own power, everyone knew going into the race there would be no sense in asking Disarm for too strenuous an effort in the interest of keeping him fresh for May 6.

Disarm broke okay then was briefly squeezed back entering the first turn. The momentum loss wasn't serious, and he took up the chase seventh onto the backstretch, incrementally edging his way toward the top by the time the field hit the far turn.

Disarm responded when asked for a test-drive spurt of energy that propelled him to third at the top of the lane. But Ortiz realized he wasn't going to catch the dueling duo up front (especially with Keeneland's short-stretch configuration for 1 1/16 miles ending at the sixteenth pole), so he wisely kept Disarm to task just enough win the "race within the race," securing show by three-quarters of a length.

No wins at age three and having never raced beyond 1 1/16 miles aren’t ideal. But those circumstances were dictated by Disarm having been out of action between August and February. A bet on him in the Derby is essentially a wager that his Gun Runner (out of a Tapit mare) bloodlines are going to put him over the top at 10 furlongs.

10) ANGEL OF EMPIRE (c, Classic Empire--Armony’s Angel, by To Honor And Serve) O-Albaugh Family Stables LLC; B-Forgotten Land Investment Inc & Black Diamond Equine Corp (PA); T-Brad Cox. Sales history: $32,000 RNA wlg '20 KEENOV, $70,000 yr'l '21 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: GISW, 6-4-1-0, $1,069,375. Last Start: 1st in the GI Arkansas Derby at Oaklawn Apr. 1. Kentucky Derby Points: 154.

Trainer Brad Cox has secured the services of jockey Flavien Prat to ride Angel of Empire (Classic Empire) in the Derby. Prat, currently tops in the nation with 15 graded stakes wins in 2023, had piloted both Angel of Empire and No. 7-ranked Kingsbarns in their respective final preps.
Prat has ridden in five Derbies and finished in the money four times. In 2019 he rode Country House, who was declared the 65-1 winner via disqualification of Maximum Security. Prat was also third at 40-1 with Battle of Midway in 2017, second with Hot Rod Charlie at 5-1 in 2021, and third with Zandon at 6-1 in 2022.

Angel of Empire ($32,000 RNA KEENOV; $70,000 KEESEP) is fourth in terms of when given front-end targets to track down. Although his GII Risen Star S. win (89 Beyer) could be attributed him benefitting from a pace meltdown, this colt’s Oaklawn score (94 Beyer) was noticeably more assertive, with this Pennsylvania-bred decisively overpowering the pacemaker.

11) TWO PHIL'S (c, Hard Spun–Mia Torri, by General Quarters)
O-Patricia's Hope LLC and Phillip Sagan; B-Phillip Sagan; T-Larry Rivelli. Sales History: $150,000 RNA Ylg '21 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: MGSW, 8-4-1-1, $683,450. Last start: 1st GIII Jeff Ruby Steaks at Turfway Mar. 25. Kentucky Derby Points: 123.

Two Phil’s, the 101-Beyer winner of the GIII Jeff Ruby Steaks, is 4-for-8 closer/stalker who rates highly in terms of versatility and adaptability.

But this son of Hard Spun does own a 5 1/4-length win at 7-1 odds over a sloppy, seeded Churchill dirt track in the Oct. 30 GIII Street Sense S., which could mean his connections will be doing a rain dance come Derby week.

12) MAGE (c, Good Magic–Puca, by Big Brown) O-OGMA Investments, LLC, Ramiro Restrepo, Sterling Racing LLC and CMNWLT; B-Grandview Equine (KY); T-Gustavo Delgado. Sales history: $235,000 yrl '21 KEESEP; $290,000 2yo '22 EASMAY. Lifetime Record: GISP, 3-1-1-0, $247,200. Last Start: 2nd GI Curlin Florida Derby at Gulfstream Apr. 1. Kentucky Derby Points: 50.

Mage, who celebrates a birthday Apr. 18, is still without a committed Derby rider as of this writing. This son of Good Magic popped with an encouraging second in the Florida Derby, launching a big, far-turn bid, repulsing a stern stretch drive from the eventual third-place horse, but still being no match for the vastly more experienced winner Forte. The conundrum facing Derby bettors centers on whether that 94-Beyer improvement represents the ceiling for Mage or if it is just a sneak preview of a higher phase of his development.

Mage’s company lines from his Jan. 28 MSW win at Gulfstream got a boost over the weekend. The runner-up in that race, Bourbon Resolve (Hard Spun) came back to win a MSW route at Keeneland as the favorite.

The fourth-place finisher, Perform (Good Magic), who had already won his subsequent start at 7-10 odds at Tampa back on Mar. 11, won again at Laurel, capturing the Federico Tesio S. by a head at 10-1 odds.

Potentially Rounding Out the Starting Gate:

13) Lord Miles (Curlin)

Lord Miles broke his maiden by 5 3/4 lengths sprinting at Gulfstream. Then he ran third in the one-turn-mile Mucho Macho Man S., beaten only three-quarters of a length. Stretched out to two turns to take advantage of his stout, female-family bloodlines (A.P. Indy, Seeking the Gold), Lord Miles then drew the rail in both the Gill Holy Bull S. and the Tampa Bay Derby, encountering trouble at the start on both occasions while sixth and fifth. He was bumped at the break in the Wood Memorial too, but overcame it to force the issue, drop back, then re-rally to charge home to a $120 victory in a roughly ridden, three-way stretch fight.

14) Derma Sotogake (Jpn) (Mind Your Biscuits)

When Derma Sotogake wired the G2 UAE Derby, it marked the first group winner for Mind Your Biscuits, the Grade I and Group 1-winning sprinter from five or six years back whose last stateside triumph was a successful stretch-out to nine furlongs in the 2018 GIII Lukas Classic at Churchill Downs.

This ¥18,000,000 JRHJUL yearling orchestrated a comfortable, 5 1/2-length score in that 1 3/16-miles Meydan stakes, leading home a Japan-based 1-2-3-4 finish. Since 2000, 12 winners of the UAE Derby have gone on to compete in the Kentucky Derby, and the best finish among them was sixth (along with two DNF’s and a 20th-place try). But times are changing, as Japanese horses are increasingly stamping themselves as worthy global competitors at racing’s top levels. Getting too mired in past results might be a mistake in prognosticating how Derma Sotogake will fare in this year's edition.

15) Rocket Can

After Rocket Can (Into Mischief) ran a lackluster fourth as the beaten fave in the Arkansas Derby, trainer Bill Mott surmised that this $245,000 FTSAUG RNA gray has the ability to do better, but "he's just not quite giving it all" yet. A bullet half-mile over the Churchill strip in :46.60 (1/34) last Thursday might be a step toward bringing about an attitude adjustment, but Rocket Can is generally a sharp work horse anyway, having routinely posted bullets at Payson Park over the winter.
He has five route races leading up to the Derby, and he earned style points in most of them as a punch-above-his-weight type of stalker. But the poorest try among them was over nine furlongs at Oaklawn, leading to realistic concerns about whether 10 furlongs will be within his scope. Churchill does seem to be Rocket Can's preferred surface. He broke his maiden there back on Oct. 30 and was second, beaten just a half-length, in a Nov. 26 allowance.

16) Sun Thunder (Into Mischief)

Trainer Kenny McPeek described Sun Thunder as a Derby “fringe horse” in a Daily Racing Form interview last week, and that label fits. This late-running Into Mischief colt ($400,000 KEENOV; $495,000 RNA FTSAUG) was fourth, 6 1/2 lengths off Tapit Trice in the Blue Grass S. He still hasn't won beyond the maiden ranks, but he’s run second, fourth (twice), and fifth in graded stakes through a winter/spring campaign. He is going to need help both pace-wise and trip-wise in the Derby while also having to find at least another 14 or 15 points on the Beyer scale to be in it to win it (he’s twice maxxed out at 89).

17) Jace's Road (Quaity Road)

Prior to last Saturday, Jace's Road barely made the qualifying cutoff. But Disarm's six-points third in the Lexington S. knocked him back onto the also-eligible list. A $510,000 KEESEP son of Quality Road, this colt ran a non-threatening third in the Louisiana Derby, and the best race on his resume is still the 90-Beyer Dec. 26 wiring of the Gun Runner S. Jace's Road's status as an early 'TDN Rising Star' whose form has taken a hit reminds me a little bit of fellow Brad Cox trainee Mandaloun, who was also a 'Rising Star' and had a subpar final prep in the 2021 Louisiana Derby. Mandaloun reawakened with a 26-1 second in the Kentucky Derby, then subsequently was upgraded to the win because of the still-under-appeal drug DQ of Medina Spirit.

18) Confidence Game (Candy Ride {Arg})

Confidence Game, the 18-1 upstart of the GII Rebel S., registered a 94-Beyer win by getting third run at wilting leaders. This $250,000 KEESEP Candy Ride (Arg) colt was initially slated for one more prep, but in March trainer Keith Desormeaux said it took Confidence Game “a little longer than usual to recover.” There was speculation he’d enter this past Saturday’s Gill Stonestreet Lexington S., but he instead breezed a mile from the gate Friday in 1:38.20 (1/1). Now Confidence Game will head to the Derby off a 70-day layoff and never having run beyond 1 1/16 miles. Since 1929 (the advent of complete records), the longest winning layoff for a regularly scheduled Derby in May was 42 days, equaled by Needles (1956) and Animal Kingdom (2011).

19) Continuau (Jpn) (Drefong)

The 2-for-5 Continuau (Jpn) was third and beaten 10 lengths by Derma Sotogake in the UAE Derby. In their three common races, Derma Sotogake now has two wins over Continuau (the other was by a nose in a Nov. 6 handicap at Hanshin). Derma Sotogake was also third ahead of Continuau (fifth) in the G3 Saudi Derby. This ¥70,000,000 JRHJUL yearling’s most recent victory was in the Cattleya S. at Tokyo last Nov. 26. Stateside fans will recall his sire, Drefong, as the Bob Baffert-trained champion sprinter in 2016.

20) Wild On Ice (Tapizar)

Every Derby needs a massive, small-circuit-based long shot as a rooting interest, and Wild On Ice fits the bill this year. The 35-1 winner of the GIII Sunland Derby in New Mexico has 60-year-old jockey Ken Tohill poised to become the oldest rider ever to compete in the Kentucky Derby. In the Sunland Derby, this Texas-bred homebred for Frank Sumpter stalked two front-running favorites who had shipped in from Santa Anita, and when the invaders dueled themselves into defeat, Wild On Ice opportunistically picked up the pieces for a 77-Beyer, 1 1/4-length score.

Note: Mandarin Hero (Jpn) (Shanghai Bobby) was ranked at No. 11 here last week but has now dropped to the 25th spot in qualifying points. Because of his diminished chances at making it into the main body of the race, he got relegated out of the TDN Top 20. Two horses who are currently inside the qualifying cut—Raise Cain (Violence) and Blazing Sevens (Good Magic)—are also not listed in this week’s write-up.
FORTE ARRIVES AT CHURCHILL DOWNS

St. Elias Stable and Repole Stable’s GI Kentucky Derby favorite Forte (Violence) arrived at Churchill Downs Monday following a 14-hour van ride from trainer Todd Pletcher’s winter base of Palm Beach Downs in South Florida. Last year’s champion juvenile colt bedded down in his barn 39 and joined fellow Derby hopefuls Kingsbarns (Uncle Mo) and Tapit Trice (Tapit), who both arrived in Louisville Sunday.

Forte, who won last year’s GI Breeders’ Cup Juvenile and GI Hopeful S. before being honored with the Eclipse Award, has won both the GII Fountain of Youth S. and GI Curlin Florida Derby in two starts this year.

SWISS SKYDIVER DELIVERS FIRST FOAL IN JAPAN

Champion Swiss Skydiver (Daredevil) delivered her first foal, a filly by Europe’s 2014 Horse of the Year Kingman (GB) (Invincible Spirit {Ire}) Feb. 15 at Northern Farm in Japan, according to the farm’s Twitter and Facebook accounts.

The 6-year-old mare, who defeated males in the 2020 GI Preakness S. and also won the GI Alabama S. and GI Beholder Mile, was purchased for $4.7 million by Katsumi Yoshida at the 2021 Fasig-Tipton Fall Mixed Sale and was then sent to England, where she was bred to Kingman at Juddmonte Farms’ Banstead Manor Stud before shipping to Yoshida’s Northern Farm in Japan.

SUNLAND DERBY HERO WILD ON ICE WORKS AT CHURCHILL

Frank Sumpter’s GII Sunland Park Derby hero Wild On Ice (Tapizar) worked five furlongs in 1:00 with regular jockey Ken Tohill in the irons at Churchill Downs Monday morning. It was the gelding’s first workout over the Louisville oval’s main track. Churchill’s clocker John Nichols caught the Texas-bred in splits of 11:40, :23, :35.20 and :47.60 before galloping out six furlongs in 1:13.20 and seven furlongs in 1:28.

“Everything seemed to work perfectly this morning and you don’t really see that a lot in horse racing,” trainer Joel Marr said. “We’re taking every day in stride and enjoying being part of this year’s Kentucky Derby.”

Should Wild On Ice make the Derby gate May 6, it would mark both the first Churchill Downs appearance and first Derby starter for Marr, and also Tohill, who at age 60 would become the oldest jockey to ever ride in the Kentucky Derby and surpass Jon Court, who was 58 when he rode Long Range Toddy (Take Charge Indy) to a 16th-place finish in 2019.

“We know coming to Kentucky there are a lot more accomplished jockeys and trainers than us,” Tohill said. “It is the elite of the elite. But, we’re coming to compete with them.”

Listen to this week's podcast
April 13, 2023
Amy Moore, breeder of Forte, tells the story behind the Derby-bound 3-year-old

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Share this story
Cats In the Timber becomes the latest stakes winner for Lane’s End’s Honor Code in the Weber City Miss S. | MJC/Jim McCue

FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 16, 2023
NORTH AMERICAN-BASED STALLIONS

Sire (Sire’s Sire) | #SWs | #GSW
--- | --- | ---
American Pharoah (Pioneer of the Nile) | 31 | 16
(Per Aa--Marine Cup-L) |
STANDING AT ASHFORD STUD • CLICK HERE FOR MORE NOMINATE A MARE • EMAIL CHARLIE O’CONNOR
City of Light (Quality Road) | 6 | 1
(Gaslight Dancer--Palisades S.-L) |
STANDING AT LANE’S END • CLICK HERE FOR MORE NOMINATE A MARE • EMAIL CHRIS KNEHR
Good Magic (Curlin) | 8 | 5
(Perform--Federico Tesio S.)
Honor Code (A.P. Indy) | 13 | 5
(Cats In the Timber--Weber City Miss S.)
STANDING AT LANE’S END • CLICK HERE FOR MORE NOMINATE A MARE • EMAIL CHRIS KNEHR
Jess’s Dream (Curlin) | 6 | 1
(Beth’s Dream--Heavenly Cause S.)
Mo Town (Uncle Mo) | 3 | 2
(Key of Life--Beaumont S. Presented by Keeneland Select-GII)
STANDING AT ASHFORD STUD • CLICK HERE FOR MORE NOMINATE A MARE • EMAIL CHARLIE O’CONNOR
Practical Joke (Into Mischief) | 13 | 7
(Skelly--Count Fleet Sprint H.-GIII)
STANDING AT ASHFORD STUD • CLICK HERE FOR MORE NOMINATE A MARE • EMAIL CHARLIE O’CONNOR

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

ELIZABETH SNELLINGS NAMED DENALI STUD DIRECTOR OF SALES

Elizabeth Snellings has been named Director of Sales at Denali Stud. Snellings, who previously served as farm office manager at Indian Creek, replaces Sarah Fishback, who held the position for the last seven years.

“We are thrilled to welcome Elizabeth onto the team at Denali Stud. She brings a large skillset that will benefit us, as well as our clients,” said Conrad Bandoroff. “Elizabeth has always felt like part of the Denali family, so we’re happy and very excited to make that official.”

Snellings has held positions at American Association of Equine Practitioners, Keeneland, Warrendale Sales and Mill Ridge Farm.

“When this opportunity presented itself, it was a very clear next step for me,” said Snellings. “I really appreciate Shack Parrish, Sarah Sutherland, and the entire team at Indian Creek and the time I spent there. I’m looking forward to working for Denali and its world-class farm and sales operation.”

HORSESHOE INDIANAPOLIS OPENS TUESDAY

Horseshoe Indianapolis is set to open for its 21st season of live racing Tuesday with a 10-race card consisting of nine Thoroughbred races and one Quarter Horse race. Racing will be conducted for 123 days through Nov. 17 on a Monday-through-Thursday schedule with a handful of Saturday night cards for Thoroughbreds only added beginning June 3.

“We have a lot to look forward to in 2023,” Eric Halstrom, Vice President and General Manager of Racing, said. “Our barn area is nearly full already. We have had horses ship in from all over the United States. Entries have been strong for our first two days. We are glad to welcome a few new stables this year and will work to keep the momentum going from last season where we had a record-setting year in handle.”
Halstrom continued, “Every year, we have some really nice horses that train and race here. Last year, Angel of Empire (Classic Empire) started off his career here and had two wins for trainer Brad Cox. He is now headed to this year’s Kentucky Derby. This is just an example of some of the top horses we see throughout the season.”

The track’s signature event, the 29th running of the $300,000 GIII Indiana Derby is slated for Saturday, July 8. Post time Monday through Wednesday will be 2:30 p.m. CDT, with Thursday post time set for 2:10 p.m. Saturday night cards will begin at 5:30 p.m.

BERNARDINI, BATISTA TOP MAHONING VALLEY SPRING MEET

Trainer Jay Bernardini captured the leading trainer title at the recently concluded spring meet at Mahoning Valley, saddling 25 winners from 126 starters over the season, which kicked off Jan. 2 and concluded Sunday. The veteran conditioner, who defeated Nestor Rivera and Bob Gorham by one win on the final day of racing, picked up his seventh overall career training title having previously earned top honors at the shuttered Suffolk Downs and Mountaineer Park.

Luis Batista was the leading jockey at the meet after booting home 60 winners, and the horse of the meet was Loaded Once More (Reload), who is trained by Bernardini and owned by Siesta Thoroughbreds, Gregg Rossi, and Greg Torporcer.

Live racing is scheduled to return to the Ohio venue Oct. 21.

ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE DATE ANNOUNCED

This year’s The Jockey Club’s 71st annual Round Table Conference on Matters Pertaining to Racing will be held Thursday, Aug. 3, a departure from its traditional position on a Sunday. The two-hour conference will begin at 10 a.m. EDT at the Saratoga Springs City Center in Saratoga Springs, NY.

The conference will also be streamed on The Jockey Club’s website and Facebook page.

KEEP LAUNCHES NEW GRANT PROGRAM

The Kentucky Equine Education Project (KEEP) Foundation has launched its new Seattle Slew grant program available to Kentucky non-profits, equine educational programs, events and initiatives. The program is part of the foundation’s efforts to support education and promote the importance of the equine industry to Kentucky’s economy and culture.

“Kentucky’s equine industry is a vital part of our state’s heritage and economy,” Katie LaMonica, KEEP Foundation Board Chair said. “We believe it’s important to support educational programs and projects that foster awareness of the industry and its contributions to our state. We’re excited to see the innovative and impactful programs and projects that will be supported through this grant program.”

The grant program is open to non-profit organizations, schools, and other groups that are involved in equine-related educational programs and projects. Examples of eligible programs and projects include, but are not limited to: Equine-related STEM education initiatives, Equine-assisted therapy programs, Equine-related vocational training programs, Equine-related art or cultural initiatives, and Equine-related history and heritage projects.

Grants of up to $5,000 are available, and new submissions will be reviewed quarterly. For more information or to apply for a grant, visit the KEEP website.

MHLEC TO HOST PREAKNESS WEEK BOOK SALE

The Maryland Horse Library and Education Center will hold a duplicate book sale May 17 and May 18 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Reisterstown. A large collection of classics, many out-of-print, as well as newer offerings will be available for purchase.

Local authors will be on hand at designated times throughout the day Wednesday to sign their books, with new copies available for sale. Josh Pons, Eclipse Award-winning writer of “Country Life Diary” and “Merryland” about the Pons family’s farms in Harford and Baltimore Counties, as well as Baltimore native Alvin Stone, author of “Stoney: The Story of My Dad’s Life, An African American Groom of Horse Racing,” will be on site from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Baltimore author and sportswriter John Eisenberg, author of, among other books, “Native Dancer: The Grey Ghost: Hero of a Golden Age,” as well as Baltimore journalist Jack Gilden, the author of the recently published “The Fast Ride: Spectacular Bid and the Undoing of a Sure Thing,” will be available from 1 to 3 p.m.

Photographer Patricia McQueen will do an author talk about her recently published “Secretariat’s Legacy” at 4 p.m. May 18.
**Friday, Keeneland #9, post time: 5:16 p.m. EDT**

**BAIRD DOUBLEDODGARE S.-GIII, $300,000, 4yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16m**

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<td>Traverse</td>
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<td>Green Up</td>
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<td>Team Valor International, LLC</td>
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<td>Ortiz, Jr.</td>
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<td>Classic Empire</td>
<td>Flurry Racing Stables LLC</td>
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<td>Moon Swag</td>
<td>Malibu Moon</td>
<td>Farfellow Farm, Ltd.</td>
<td>Walsh</td>
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<td>Music Street</td>
<td>Street Sense</td>
<td>Kim Valero, Prakash Sham Masand and Grandview Equine</td>
<td>Beckman</td>
<td>Leparoux</td>
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<td>Hidden Connection</td>
<td>Connect</td>
<td>Hidden Brook Farm and Black Type Thoroughbreds</td>
<td>Calhoun</td>
<td>Gutierrez</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Shotgun Hottie</td>
<td>Gun Runner</td>
<td>Omar Aldabbag and Jeff Ganje</td>
<td>DeVaux</td>
<td>Gaffalione</td>
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**Breeders:** 1-Claiborne Farm, 2-Althea Richards, 3-Godolphin, 4-William D. Graham, 5-Spendthrift Farm LLC, 6-Woodford Thoroughbreds, LLC, 7-Simon Place, 8-Vincent Colbert

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**Saturday, Oaklawn #10, post time: 6:06 p.m. EDT**

**OAKLAWN H.-GII, $1,000,000, 4yo/up, 1 1/8m**

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<td>Kodiak Kowboy</td>
<td>Danny R. Caldwell</td>
<td>Villafranco</td>
<td>Cabrera</td>
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<td>Willis Horton Racing LLC</td>
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<td>Shackleford</td>
<td>Steve Moger</td>
<td>Moger, Jr.</td>
<td>Desormeaux</td>
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<td>Tapit</td>
<td>Godolphin, LLC</td>
<td>Stidham</td>
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<td>Senor Buscador</td>
<td>Mineshaft</td>
<td>Joe R. Peacock, Jr.</td>
<td>Fincher</td>
<td>Santana, Jr.</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Classic Causeway</td>
<td>Giant's Causeway</td>
<td>Kentucky West Racing LLC and Clarke M. Cooper Family Living Trust</td>
<td>McPeek</td>
<td>Arrieta</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Charge It</td>
<td>Tapit</td>
<td>Whisper Hill Farm, LLC</td>
<td>Pletcher</td>
<td>Saez</td>
<td>121</td>
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**Breeders:** 1-Thorndale Stable L.L.C., 2-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC, 3-John Kerber & Iveta Kerber, 4-Godolphin, 5-Joe R Peacock Sr. & Joe R Peacock Jr., 6-Kentucky West Racing LLC & Clarke M. Cooper Family Living Trust, 7-Whisper Hill Farm, LLC
IN ORDER OF PURSE:

IN JAPAN:

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

Triple Loop, f, 3, Justify—Morena (Per) (Ch. 2yo Filly, Ch. 3yo Filly, Ch. Older Mare-Per, MGSW & G1SP-Per, GISP-US, $270,699), by Privately Held. Funabashi, 4-12, Allowance, 1600m. Lifetime Record: 7-1-1-1, $42,800. O-K. Matsushima; B-Mt Brilliant Broodmares I LLC (KY); T-H. Mori. *1/2 to Creator (Tapit), MGISW, $1,610,320. **$375,000 Ylg ’20 KEESEP; $1,000,000 2yo ’21 OBSAPR.

Shailene, f, 4, Arrogate—Amen Hallelujah (MGWSW & MGISP, $610,081), by Montbrook. Hanshin, 4-16, Allowance, 1800mT, 1:47. Lifetime Record: 10-3-1-3, $304,437. O-Kazumi Yoshida; B-Town & Country Horse Farms LLC (KY); T-Manabu Ikezoe. *$150,000 Ylg ’20 KEESEP; $1,000,000 2yo ’21 OBSAPR.
Jasper Krone, c, 4, Frosted--Fancy Kitten (SP), by Kitten's Joy. Nakayama, 4-15, Allowance, 1200mT, 1:09.8. Lifetime Record: 10-3-1-2, $343,717. O-Kazuo Kato; B-Machmer Hall & Godolphin (KY); T-Hideyuki Mori. *SP-Jpn. **$25,000 Ylg '20 KEESEP; $90,000 2yo '21 OBSMAR. 

IN PERU:
Storm Rufino, c, 3, Goldencents--Scene Maker, by Unbridled's Song. Monterrico, 4-16, Allowance, 1800mT. B-Machmer Hall (KY). *1/2 to Big Screen (Speightstown), SW & MGSP, $363,837. **$17,000 RNA Wlg '20 KEENOV; $20,000 Ylg '21 FTKOCT. VIDEO (SC 7)

Estrella de Fuego, f, 3, Oscar Performance--Settle 'n Speight, by Speightstown. Monterrico, 4-16, Allowance, 1800mT. B-Woodslane Farm (KY). *$7,000 Ylg '21 KEESEP; $25,000 2yo '22 OBSJUN. VIDEO (SC 1)

IN PANAMA:
Kyser, c, 3, Not This Time--My Girl, by Scat Daddy. Presidente Remon, 4-15, Maiden, 1300m. B-Charles S Giles & Patrick H Payne (KY). *1ST-TIME STARTER. **Won by about 15 lengths. ***$4,000 Ylg '21 FTKOCT. VIDEO (SC 5)

Saturday's Results:
2nd-Hanshin, ¥10,480,000 ($78,170), Maiden, 3yo, 1800m, 1:52.5, sy.

LAP STAR (c, 3, Justify--Guest House, by Ghostzapper) was the 6-5 second choice to break through in this spot, having just missed behind fellow American import Mystic Lore (Arrogate) over this track and trip Mar. 18. Three wide and on the pace as they raced around the first turn, the $400,000 Keeneland September purchase felt a few left-handed reminders to go on with it nearing the stretch. Lap Star took plenty of time to hit top gear, but worked his way to the front inside the final furlong and held on to defeat 320-1 Shigeru Sorosoro (Runhappy) by a neck. The winner is a half-brother to Guest Suite (Quality Road), GSW, $645,287, and is one of five winners from six to race out of a daughter of the late Grade III winner Welcome Surprise (Seeking the Gold), who also serves as the granddam of last year's GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies runner-up Raging Sea (Curlin). Third dam Weekend Surprise is responsible for the legendary A.P. Indy, Summer Squall, Honor Grades, et al. Guest House is also the dam of a 2-year-old filly by Constitution and foaled a colt from the first crop of Essential Quality Feb. 5. Sales history: $400,000 Ylg '21 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 4-1-2-1, $87,561. O-Susumu Fujita; B-Hartmut H Malluche & Silesia Farm (KY); T-Hideyuki Mori.

SECOND-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: TUESDAY, APRIL 18
2023 Stud Fees Listed

Army Mule (Friesan Fire), Hill 'n' Dale at Xalapa, $12,500 143 foals of racing age/38 winners/7 black-type winners
4-Horseshoe Indianapolis, 4:03 p.m. EDT, Alw 5 1/2f, Hot Little Thing, 6-5 $35,000 FTK OCT yrl; $80,000 OBS MAR 2yo

Code West (Lemon Drop Kid), Westwin Farms 40 foals of racing age/1 winner/0 black-type winners
2-Will Rogers Downs, 2:35 p.m. EDT, Msw 1m, Grandsonsam, 8-5 $17,000 FTK OCT yrl

Forever d'Oro (Medaglia d'Oro), Breakway Farm 21 foals of racing age/1 winner/1 black-type winner
6-Horseshoe Indianapolis, 5:05 p.m. EDT, Msw 5 1/2f, Go Forever, 10-1 $16,500 IND MIX yrl
6-Horseshoe Indianapolis, 5:05 p.m. EDT, Msw 5 1/2f, Rock the Red, 6-1 $8,000 IND MIX yrl
6-Horseshoe Indianapolis, 5:05 p.m. EDT, Msw 5 1/2f, Snerdley, 30-1
6-Horseshoe Indianapolis, 5:05 p.m. EDT, Msw 5 1/2f, Star Review, 15-1
$5,100 IND MIX yrl

Good Magic (Curlin), Hill 'n' Dale at Xalapa, $50,000 237 foals of racing age/42 winners/8 black-type winners
6-Parx Racing, 2:59 p.m. EDT, Aoc 1m, Jackson Road, 4-1 $47,000 EAS OCT yrl; $62,000 RNA OBS APR 2yo; $49,000 OBS OPN 2yo

Mendelssohn (Scat Daddy), Coolmore Ashford, $25,000 348 foals of racing age/44 winners/3 black-type winners
Oscar Performance (Kitten's Joy), Mill Ridge Farm, $20,000
172 foals of racing age/22 winners/2 black-type winners
7-Horseshoe Indianapolis, 5:36 p.m. EDT, Msw 5 1/2f, Domhnall, 15-1

Oscar Performance (Kitten's Joy), Mill Ridge Farm, $20,000
172 foals of racing age/22 winners/2 black-type winners
7-Horseshoe Indianapolis, 5:36 p.m. EDT, Msw 5 1/2f, Professor Higgins, 6-1

$125,000 KEE SEP yrl

Tiz Sardonic Joe (Tiznow), R Star Stallions
7 foals of racing age/1 winner/0 black-type winners
6-Horseshoe Indianapolis, 5:05 p.m. EDT, Msw 5 1/2f, Second to No One, 8-1

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:
Let There Be Peace, g, 3, Stanford--Minster'sadventure (SP, $231,840), by Ministers Wild Cat. Sunray, 4-16, 4 1/2f, :51.81. Lifetime Record: 10-1-5-1, $32,352. B-Tommy Town Thoroughbreds, LLC (CA).

(DH) National Generaux (Ire), g, 4, National Defense (GB)--Just Special (GB) (SW & GSP-Ire, GSP-Fr), by Cadeaux Genereux (GB). Golden Gate Fields, 4-16, 1 1/16mT, 1:45.50. Lifetime Record: 13-1-5-1, $49,389. B-Platinum Bloodstock Ltd (Ire).

**20,000gns RNA Wlg '19 TATFOA; $14,000 RNA Ylg '20 TATIRY.

**1/2 to Best Dating (Ire) (King's Best), GSW-Fr, $230,702.

Lord of the Navy (Lord Nelson) breaks his maiden at Parx (click to watch)
SEVEN DAYS:
NATIONAL TREASURE OR
NATIONAL DISGRACE?

By Emma Berry

The headline to this piece is deliberately binary. That is, after all, what heated debates on social media or even more traditional media platforms, usually come down to: love or hate. And, let’s face it, in this clickbait age, that’s often deliberately so, to inflame the debate. The art of reasonable and nuanced argument is all but lost.

It was with wearying predictability in the countdown to Saturday’s Grand National that we witnessed the pink t-shirted protestors attempting to scale the perimeter fences of Aintree. A few glued themselves to fences in the manner that some of their cohort have been holding up traffic in London and the M25 over the years. It gains the perpetrators the desired but fleeting media coverage, perhaps a criminal record, but absolutely no sympathy for their cause. And what is the cause for those that descended on Aintree on Saturday? It certainly is not animal welfare.

Trainer Sandy Thomson, in an understandably emotional outburst after the death of his runner Hill Sixteen (GB), believed that their actions contributed directly to a heightened atmosphere that had the field more on edge than usual.

Cont., p3

“THE BAR KEEPS LIFTING”--TATTERSALLS CRAVEN SALE KICKS OFF ON TUESDAY

By Brian Sheerin

It’s that time of year again, the Tattersalls Craven Breeze Up Sale--where whispers of Royal Ascot horses and potential breeze-up sensations fills the air.

There’s scarcely anything more exciting than the eve of a major sale and they don’t come much bigger than the Craven. This is where Classic winners Native Trail (GB) (Oasis Dream {GB}) and Cachet (Ire) (Aclaim {Ire}) were found and the roll of honour does not stop there. Everything is up for grabs at Tattersalls over the next two days and few people know this better than Norman Williamson, who sold Irish 2,000 Guineas winner Native Trail to Godolphin here in 2021.

Williamson offers three colts through his hugely successful Oak Tree Farm operation this year--by Mehmas (Ire), No Nay Never and Blue Point (Ire), hotly tipped for first-season sire honours by some of the finest minds in the game. Cont., p6

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

TDN DERBY 20: THE WAITING IS THE HARDEST PART

T.D. Thornton gives his penultimate rankings for the GI Kentucky Derby as the first Saturday in May steadily inches closer, and yet, is still so far away.

Cont., p3

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One of Juddmonte Farm’s Classic hopefuls has been ruled out of the QIPCO 2,000 Guineas as well as its Irish and French equivalents with hopes for a mid-summer campaign.

Nick Bradley Racing and Elaine Burke’s 3-year-old son of Harry Angel (Ire) had twice knocked on the door as a juvenile and delivered a first black-type triumph in Monday’s G3 Prix Sigy at Chantilly.

Irish-bred Valour and Swagger strode clear under mild coaxing to win by 6 1/2 lengths at Royal Windsor and become his sire’s second to visit the winner’s enclosure.

Anamoe (Street Boss) will begin his stallion career at Darley Kelvinside for a fee of AU$121,000 (inc. GST) later this year. His trip to Royal Ascot is still pending.
Seven Days, Cont. from p1

The following morning, in more measured fashion, Davy Russell, who fell at the first on Galvin (Ire), effectively reiterated this feeling when saying on Luck on Sunday, "I'm not sure that the people who protested yesterday realised the damage they were doing...the experience they were laying upon the horse was unnecessary, and the experience they were laying on the trainers and the jockeys."

It is hard to disagree with two men whose lives have been hewn from their experience of working with Thoroughbreds. And one only had to listen to the various members of Animal Rising who were given airtime on television screens in Britain in the build-up to the Grand National to realise that this is a woefully ill-informed organisation when it comes to horse racing. So where do we go from here?

It is clear that the Grand National will have to undergo further modifications, most likely this time in the reduction of the field size and perhaps a shortened run to the first fence. Reducing the field from 40 had been dismissed by horsemen in a previous review of the race, which, between 2013 and 2021, after the new fences had been introduced, saw the fatality rate reduced to 1.12%, compared to 2.8% between 1993 and 2003. To put that into context, the overall fatality rate in British horse racing is 0.21% from around 90,000 runners. In jump racing alone that figure is 0.43%.

Clearly, the £40 million spent by British racing on veterinary research over the last 20 years, along with regular reviews and liaison with the RSPCA and World Horse Welfare, is having some effect. Equally clearly, though, is that it will never be enough for those protesting against the Grand National who won’t be satisfied until it (and horse racing in general) is banned.

While racing can field well informed commentators of the ilk of Kevin Blake and Richard Hoiles to speak on television and radio channels, their intelligent reasoning is set alongside those allowed to spout half-truths and lies. No amount of fact sheets from the racing industry will ever change the minds of those who are intent on not giving an inch. And no matter how many positive tweets of happy horses we post, we cannot hide from the fact that a very small number of horses will die when racing, on the Flat and over jumps. That, in a world increasingly at odds with the realities of encountering animals on a regular basis, is hard for many people to accept.

Without the Grand National I wouldn't be working in racing. Unless you’re born into a racing family, the chances are there will have been a grandfather who loved a bet, or a family trip to the races that sparked a passion for the sport that at times, certainly in the case of this writer, can border on obsession. I was lucky to be alive for the golden era of Red Rum, when his fame was such that he transcended the sports pages and encouraged pony-mad children to take an interest in racing.

The Grand National of Red Rum's days is almost unrecognisable in comparison to today. Though some within the sport had rued the changes made following a major safety review, when those changes kicked in with no fatalities for the first six years, it seemed that we were going the right way. We are, mostly, but the most telling factor following this year's race is how many people who love racing were publicly stating that they turned away from the race.

Cont., p4
Seven Days, Cont.

It was indeed hard and unpleasant to watch: a complete debacle from the start, rather than a display of sporting prowess. How much of that can be attributed to the delay and subsequent rushed start is hard to say. A personal view is that the protestors and the organisers must take equal blame for each of those deeply undesirable situations.

In Britain, horse racing is beset with problems, from a lack of prize-money to threats from a government gambling review (the two not unrelated) and it would be easy to feel that what amounts to a few hundred protesters is the least of our worries, but it is not.

When racing dominates the Sunday papers and a British race reaches the news channels as far afield as Australia for all the wrong reasons, it is time to look again at how we can seek to ensure that the pendulum between the Grand National being our most famous horse race and also one of the biggest threats to the sport’s future swings in our favour. Reducing the field to 30 runners or fewer would be a start.

In Praise of Davy Russell

With apologies for this week’s epistle being dominated by the theme of jump racing, one further note is required on the retirement of Davy Russell. Though he did not bow out, as Sam Waley-Cohen did last year, with victory in the Grand National, Russell did notch two further Grade 1 victories at Aintree last week to bring the curtain down on a glorious career in some style.

Russell is not just one of the finest jump jockeys of his era, but also one of the sport’s most sensible voices. His loss from the front line will be immense, as few jockeys speak in such an informative manner while maintaining a deep sense of modesty.

Two memories of Russell speak to his decency beyond his talent in the saddle. In the 2011 Grand National, when he had parted company with Becauseicouldntsee at the second fence and Jason Maguire had crossed the line in triumph aboard Ballabriggs, it wasn’t Maguire to be found throwing buckets of water over the winning horse in the aftermath but Russell, who had obviously noted that the horse required attention while many of those around him were celebrating.

Furthermore, at an ITBA seminar some years ago, Russell made an impassioned plea from the back of the room during a debate on the expansion of the National Hunt race programme for mares. As always, he was measured in his view while urging for a situation similar to what has indeed transpired in the intervening years.

Sensible man, great jockey. Godspeed, Davy Russell, but don’t be a stranger. Racing needs you. Cont., p5
**Classics Ahoy!**

While the picture for the French Classics grew ever more intriguing with some doughty performances from Blue Rose Cen (Fr) (Churchill {Ire}), American Flag (Fr) (Wootton Bassett {GB}) and Flight Leader (GB) (Frankel {GB}) in Longchamp’s muddy trials on Sunday, the round of British trials gets underway this week at Newmarket and Newbury.

The ball is already rolling in Japan, where the win of Liberty Island (Jpn) (Duramente Jpn)) in the GI Oka Sho (1,000 Guineas) was followed on Sunday with success for Sol Oriens (Jpn) (Kitasan Black {Jpn}) in the GI Satsuki Sho (2,000 Guineas). I’ve learned to my cost to double-check that last name after I type it, as my computer has an irritating habit of auto-correcting Satsuki to satsuma.

The JRA Horse of the Year in 2016 and 2017, Kitasan Black has already been lauded as the sire of Equinox (Jpn) and, as a Japanese St Leger winner, is flying the flag for all those stallions here who win over a similar distance and are consigned immediately to the jumps ranks. In fact, when you look at the pedigree of Sol Oriens, it makes a convincing argument for middle-distance class and guarantees that, if he is good enough, he will certainly see out the next two legs of the Japanese Triple Crown. As well as having a Leger-winning sire, his first two dams are by the Derby winners Motivator (GB) and Quest For Fame (GB).

There is a linking theme between Saturday’s Grand National winner Corach Rambler (Ire) and Sunday’s Satsuki Sho winner Sol Oriens, and that is Wind In Her Hair (Ire) (Alzao). The great mare, who lives in retirement at Northern Horse Park at the age of 32, appears in the third generation of both horses through her son Deep Impact (Jpn), grandsire of Sol Oriens, and her daughter Glint In Her Eye (Arazi), who is the dam of Corach...

And the man with the Midas Touch reports footfall ahead of the sale to be encouraging.

Williamson said, "We’ve got three nice colts here. The horses are trotting up sound after the breeze, which is a huge relief because, until you get to this stage, you haven’t jumped through the hoops."

He added, "The bar keeps lifting and so does the standard of horses at the breeze-ups. Obviously, it’s easy to see that by the results. But the standard has been lifted by the breeze-up consignors year after year.

"There’s only a small bunch of consignors but, John Cullinane always says it, we’re punching above our weight. It seems to be working--the standard of breezing is getting so high and so too is the competition. That means it costs a lot of money to be competitive and therefore the risks are getting higher. You have to have your ducks in a row."

Native Trail was not the only Classic winner to benefit from Williamson’s tutelage, as Roger Varian’s St Leger hero Eldar Eldarov (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}) also came through the Oak Tree Farm breeze-up system at Arqana.

Therefore, it was hardly surprising that Williamson’s corner down at the Highflyer Paddocks on the sale grounds was one of the busiest going and, in between shows to top bloodstock agents Mark McStay, Peter and Ross Doyle and BBA Ireland’s Michael Donohoe, he outlined his hopes about the sale that kicks off at 5.30pm on Tuesday.

"Mehmas and No Nay Never are two great sires and Mehmas is upgrading his mares. This Mehmas [lot 2] of mine has an excellent pedigree being a half-brother to Insinuendo (Ire) (Gleneagles {Ire}), who won the Group 3 [Park Express S.] for Willie McCreery at the Curragh the other day. He’s got lots going for him and is a real good-looking horse. The No Nay Never [118] is a big horse but did a beautiful breeze. And of course all of the talk is for Blue Point—he’s already had his winners and I think it was quite obvious why there is so much talk about the sire watching them breeze. They are quick and my horse is fast. The unofficial clock says he’s [199] very fast so let’s hope we get rewarded."

He added, "I have only one horse for day one and, usually at this sale, the buyers don’t normally look at the day one and day two horses together, but they seem to be looking at every horse today which is a good sign. I’d have to say that, for the evening of the breeze day, we’ve been very busy. We haven’t seen many international buyers around but we’re hoping to see them tomorrow."

It shouldn’t go unnoticed that the fingerprints of Peter and Antoinette Kavanagh’s Kildaragh Stud are all over the Native Trail success story, given they pinhooked the Classic winner as a foal to yearling. That is rather apt, as their son Roderic stands on the brink of recording notable success at this year’s Craven Breeze-Up Sale after two of his Glending Stables-drafted colts.
Roderic Kavanagh topped the unofficial times. Put simply, Kavanagh can stick his chest out on Tuesday knowing he has two blisteringly quick colts on his hands, by Equiano (Fr) and Havana Grey (GB), respectively.

What’s more interesting is that the Equiano is a full-brother to the brilliant three-time Group 1-winning sprinter The Tin Man (GB).

"He was very professional--just enjoys doing it and has always been the same," Kavanagh said of the Equiano colt [9]. "He's very like his dad with probably a bit more motion. In fairness, a lot of the credit has to go to everyone in Newsvells Park Stud. When I went down to look at their horses at Book 2 here in October, I asked them if there was anything getting missed out of all of their horses. They put forward the Equiano, in fairness to them. The mare [Persario (GB) (Bishop Of Cashel {GB})] is getting on in years but she doesn't miss too often. I'd say this is a very talented horse, hopefully."

He added, "The Havana Grey [198] is another horse who has shown an awful lot of ability. They showed up on the day and the man [Gordon Power] riding them was a big help--I think he rode four of the top six times. "We're still a million miles away and there's lots of water to flow under the bridge between now and the sale but hopefully it comes together. There's no reason why it won't because a lot of the right people are here and, when we have the models to match up with the performances, I think we should be okay." So, any nerves?

"After a good day like today, you wouldn't be as nervous. But hopefully it'll come together. They're not standing us a fortune, you know, they were 52,000gns and 42,000gns each, so I think we should be okay. "We're breezing horses for five or six years now and we've had a good run. We breezed Gis A Sub (Ire) (Acclamation {GB}), who was second in the Gimcrack, and we also had a good horse called Tuscan (Ire) (Churchill {Ire}), who was rated 105. In a short space of time we've had a few good ones."

The same can be said for the Craven Sale on the whole, which is something the ever-enthusiastic Jimmy George, marketing director at Tattersalls, was keen to get across on Monday evening.

"The breeze was well-attended and thankfully the weather was kind to us," he said in a typically upbeat fashion.

"There are some very smart two-year-olds in the sale and they breezed very well so all of the ingredients are in place for a good sale. The sale ground was pretty busy after the breeze and we’re looking forward to tomorrow now.

"The racecourse is the best possible barometer to measure any sale on and the results from the Craven Sale have been pretty spectacular in recent years, not least with Native Trail and Cachet winning Classics last season. That is the best possible advertisement for the Craven Sale which continues to go from strength to strength."

George added, "It should also be said that it doesn’t go unnoticed the bonuses that are on offer to buyers at the Craven Sale. Cont., p8
**Tattersalls Craven, Cont.**

For every Class 4 novice or better, there is an extra £15,000 bonus on top of the prize-money and for any two-year-old who goes on to win at Royal Ascot or indeed in any Group 1 race, there are hefty bonuses to be won as well. That has certainly caught the imagination.

“We have a pretty diverse crew of buyers in attendance, which is great to see. We have purchasers from America, some Japanese interests, representation from the Gulf and Hong Kong and broader Europe.”

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**SETBACK RULES NOSTRUM OUT OF GUINEAS**

Nostrum (GB) (*Kingman* {GB}), one of Juddmonte Farms' Classic hopes for the season, has been ruled out of the QIPCO 2,000 Guineas as well as its Irish and French equivalents.

“Nostrum has had a little setback and he will not run in any of the Guineas,” said Juddmonte's racing manager Barry Mahon.

“He just needs a couple of weeks going easy, then hopefully we will have him back for the middle of the summer.

“We'll just let him tell us. I suppose we will aim for Royal Ascot and if we get there great, but if we don't, then we will just give him more time.”

Trained by Sir Michael Stoute, Nostrum was unbeaten in his first two starts last year, including the G3 Tattersalls S. at Newmarket. He later finished third to fellow Juddmonte-owned Classic contender Chaldean (GB) (*Frankel* {GB}) in the G1 Darley Dewhurst S.
Marshman (GB) (Harry Angel {Ire}--White Rosa {Ire}, by Galileo {Ire}) had twice knocked on the door as a juvenile last year and delivered a first black-type triumph, tackling his third such contest, in Monday’s G3 Prix Sigy at Chantilly. The Karl Burke trainee debuted with a six-furlong maiden win at Ayr in July, doubling up with an 8 1/2-length rout at Thirsk one month later, before running second in York’s Aug. 19 G2 Gimcrack S. and a below-par fifth in Newmarket’s Sept. 24 G1 Middle Park S. when last seen.

The well-backed 6-5 favourite broke sharply and raced on the front end from flagfall in this sophomore bow. Holding sway throughout, he was shaken up approaching the final furlong and kept on strongly under continued coaxing in the closing stages to easily hold the late threat of Irish raider Wodao (Fr) (Showcasing {GB}) by 1 1/4 lengths for a career high.

“I won this race with Quiet Reflection, then she won the Sandy Lane and then won the Commonwealth Cup. Hopefully, this fellow can take the same route.”

**Pedigree Notes**

Marshman, half-brother to a 2-year-old colt by Zoustar (Aus) and a yearling colt by Mehmas (Ire), is the second of three foals and lone scorer produced by a winning daughter of G3 Sirenia S. victrix and G1 Cheveley Park S. second Dhanyata (Ire) (Danetime {Ire}). Dhanyata’s siblings include the stakes-placed Guinea Hunter (Ire) (Pips Pride {GB}), the dam of G2 Gran Criterium third Gerrard’s Quest (GB) (Captain Gerrard {Ire}) and the second dam of G1 Irish 2000 Guineas placegetter Decrypt (GB) (Dark Angel {Ire}). Black-type descendants of another half-sister, Miss Brief (Ire) (Brief Truce), include Listed Prix du Cercle victrix Riskit Fora Biskit (Ire) (Kodiac {GB}), G2 Gimcrack S. second and G2 Mill Reef S. third Crown Prosecutor (Ire) (Exceed And Excel {Aus}) and the Group 3-placed duo Fox Trotter (Ire) (Bushranger {Ire}) and Mur Hiba (Ire) (Helmet {Aus}).

**Monday, Chantilly, France**

PRIX SIGY-G3, €80,000, Chantilly, 4-17, 3yo, 5 1/2fT, 1:04.15, sf.

1--MARSHMAN (GB), 126, c, 3, by Harry Angel (Ire)
   1st Dam: White Rosa (Ire), by Galileo (Ire)
   2nd Dam: Dhanyata (Ire), by Danetime (Ire)
   3rd Dam: Preponderance (Ire), by Cyrano De Bergerac (Ire)
   1ST BLACK-TYPE WIN; 1ST GROUP WIN.
   (5,000gns Ylg ’22 GOFTH; 38,000 2yo >22 GOFTY). O-Nick Bradley Racing 2 & Mrs Elaine Burke; B-Highbank Stud LLP (GB); T-Karl Burke; J-Clifford Lee. €40,000. Lifetime Record: GSP-Eng, 5-3-1-0, 122,829. Werk Nick Rating: A. Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree, or the free Equineline.com catalogue-style pedigree.

2--Wodao (Fr), 126, c, 3, Showcasing (GB)–Dadao (GB), by Intello (Ire). 1ST GROUP BLACK TYPE. (€150,000 Wlg ’20 ARQDEC; €260,000 Ylg ’21 GOFOR). O-Atlantic Thoroughbreds; B-SCEA Elevage d’Yllone (FR); T-Donnacha O’Brien. €16,000.

3--Vicious Harry (Fr), 126, c, 3, Harry Angel (Ire)–Umneeyatee (Aus), by Encosta De Lago (Aus). (€28,000 Ylg ’21 ARQOCT). O-Cuadra Mediterraneo; B-Medya SARL & Tarik Tekce (FR); T-Mauricio Delcher Sanchez. €12,000.

Margins: 1 1/4, 4, 1 1/4. Odds: 1.20, 3.60, 3.10.

Also Ran: *Denver Chop (Fr), *I Am Incredible (Fr), Whistle And Flute (Ire), Ciao Pa’ (Fr), Disillusion (Ire). Video, sponsored by TVG.

*I Dead-heated for 4th.
Monday’s Results:

3rd-Royal Windsor, £8,000, Nov, 4-17, 3yo, 10fT, 2:22.53, sf.
Clever Relation (GB) (g, 3, Intello (Ger)--Sweet Selection (GB) [GSW-Eng, £303,377], by Stimulation (Ire)) settled into a smooth rhythm behind the leaders in fifth and improved to go third at halfway. Nudged along approaching the quarter-mile marker, the 12-1 chance went to the front with 1 1/2 furlongs remaining and was ridden out thereafter to defeat El Jasor (Ire) (Le Havre (Ire)) by 1 1/4 lengths. Clever Relation, the second of remaining, was ridden out thereafter to defeat El Jasor (Ire) (Dandy Man (Ire)) by an impressive 6 1/2 lengths, becoming the second winner for his first-crop sire (by Shamardal).

Valour And Swagger, half to a yearling filly by No Nay Never, is the fifth of six foals and third scorer from as many runners produced by G3 UAE Oaks and Listed UAE 1000 Guineas third Music Chart (Exchange Rate). Descendants of the January-foaled bay’s second dam Conchita (Cozzene), herself a half-sister to G1 Fillies’ Mile heroine White Moonstone (Dynafarmer), include MGSW G1 Prix de Diane third Homeric (Exchange Rate) and G3 Los Alamitos Derby victor Classier (Empire Maker). Sales history: 45,000gns Wlg v21 TATOC; £80,000 Ylg ‘22 GOFFUK. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, $4,556.

O-Victorious Racing & Fawzi Nass; B-Framont Ltd (IRE); T-Karl Burke.

3rd-Kempton, £7,000, Nov, 4-17, 3yo/HP, 7f (AWT), 1:25.23, st/sl.
ONIGHT (GB) (c, 3, Oasis Dream (GB)--Surchingle, by Empire Maker) graduated over this distance at Newcastle in February when last in action and stole a march on his rivals with a sharp getaway here. Untroubled on the front end for the most part, the 3-1 second choice came under pressure passing the two pole and was driven out inside the final furlong to hold the late rush of Alsakib (GB) (Kingman (GB)) by a half-length. Onight is the fifth of seven foals and one of three scorers out of a half-sister to stakes-winning G1 Sun Chariot S. runner-up Laurel (GB) (Kingman (GB)). The February-foaled bay is a full-brother to the unraced 2-year-old colt Surrey Fire (GB) (Masar (Ire)). Sales history: 70,000gns Ylg ‘21 TATOC. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, $5,360.

O-M Hankin, C Noell & K Stuzin; B-Paul & Catriona Brocklehurst Bloodstock (GB); T-Hugh Morrison.

1st-Redcar, £6,800, Nov, 4-17, 2yo, f, 5fT, 1:03.10, sf.
Komat (GB) (f, 2, Cable Bay (IRE)--Tamok (IRE), by Australia (GB)) broke well to race along the far-side fence in a close-up fourth for most of this debut. Rowed along with a quarter-mile remaining, the 7-2 chance was untroubled thereafter and lengthened clear under mild coaxing inside the final furlong to defeat Vitarli (Ire) (Adaay (Ire)). Komat, half-sister to a yearling filly by Mohaather (GB), is the first of two foals produced by a full-sister to GIII Endurance Stakes’ third Conchita (Cozzene), whose quartet of black-type performers is headed by GI Canadian International heroine Sarah Lynx (IRE) (Montjeu (Ire)). Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, $4,556.

O/B-Amo Racing Ltd (GB); T-Dominic Ffrench Davis.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Dubai Crystal (IRE) (f, 3, Fastnet Rock (AUS)--Lady Of Dubai (GB) (SW & G1SP-Eng, £154,122), by Dubawi (IRE). Redcar, 4-17, 10f 1yT, 2:17.57. Lifetime Record: 3-1-1-0, £7,400. B-Sheikh Mohammed Obaid Al Maktoum (IRE).

Wallop (IRE) (c, 3, Harry Angel (IRE)--Samaah (IRE), by Cape Cross (IRE). Kempton, 4-17, 6f (AWT), 1:12.24. Lifetime Record: 4-1-1-1, $14,034. B-Yeomanstown Stud (IRE). *150,000gns Ylg ‘21 TATOC. **1/2 to Huraiz (AUS) (Sepoy (AUS)), GSP-Eng.
OBSERVATIONS
on the European racing scene

TDN RISING STAR RETURNS IN NEWMARKET OPENER

13.50 Newmarket, Cond, £30,000, 3yo, 7fT
Jaber Abdullah’s 3-year-old colt HI ROYAL (IRE) (Kodiac (GB)), a half-brother to MGSW G1 Prix Jacques Le Marois fourth Noor Al Hawa (Fr) (Makfi (GB)) out of G1 Falmouth S. heroine Majestic Roi (Street Cry (Ire)), makes his sophomore debut coming back off a 215-day break in Newmarket’s opening event of 2023. The March-foaled bay garnered a ‘TDN Rising Star’ badge at Ayr in September when last on duty and he encounters eight rivals, all winners, in a contest annexed four times in the last six years by subsequent pattern-race scorers. Hi Royal’s opposition is headed by the Godolphin pair Majestic Pride (GB) (Shamardal) and City Of Kings (GB) (Kingman (GB)). The former is a half to MG1SW sire Farhh (GB) (Pivotal (GB)) produced by dual Group 1 heroine Gonborda (Ger) (Lando (Ger)), while the latter is a son of G2 Lancashire Oaks victrix and G1 Oaks and G1 Yorkshire Oaks fourth Horseplay (GB) (Cape Cross (Ire)).

How They Fared

15.10 Windsor, Nov, £8,000, 3yo, 10fT
KHK Racing’s Apolo (GB) (Kingman (GB)), a son of MG1SW G1 1000 Guineas heroine Sky Lantern (Ire) (Red Clubs (Ire)) and thus a 625,000gns Tattersalls Book 1 half to G1 Falmouth S. victrix Snow Lantern (GB) (Frankel (GB)), was fitted with a tongue tie and cheekpieces in this debut for the John and Thady Gosden stable. Racing in rear after a dawdling start, the 5-1 chance made headway in the straight to finish just under three lengths off the winner in fourth.

FRANCE

Monday’s Results:
6th-Chantilly, €18,000, Cond, 4-17, 4yo, 7fT, 1:29.97, sf.
TOPGEAR (FR) (c, 4, Wootton Bassett (GB)–Miss Lech, by Giant’s Causeway), on sabbatical since annexing 2021’s G3 Prix Eclipse over six furlongs at this venue, was swiftly into stride and asserted for an early lead in this belated comeback. In command throughout, the 7-10 favourite was unleashed with 300 metres remaining and quickened clear in taking style inside the final furlong to easily outpoint Sea Of Ash (Fr) (Wootton Bassett (GB)) by an impressive three lengths.

Topgear, kin to a yearling colt by Lawman (Fr), is the third foal and scorer out of a winning half-sister to GII Strub S.-winning sire Guilt Trip (Pulpit) and to the dam of the stakes-placed Roberta Mia (Tur) (Goken (Fr)). The April-foaled dark bay’s Listed Hopeful S.-winning third dam Rose Indien (Fr) (Crystal Glitters) produced the stakes-winning sire Salty Sea (Siberian Express) and the stakes-placed duo War Tempo (Quiet American) and Darkwood (Fit To Fight). Rose Indien, who is also the second dam of G2 Superlative S. victor Silver Grecian (GB) (Haafhd (GB)), is kin to G2 Prix du Conseil de Paris-winning sire Majorien (GB) (Machiavellian) and MGSW G2 Prix de Malleret victrix America (Ire) (Arazi). The latter being the dam of G1 Melbourne Cup hero Americain (Dynaformer). Sales history: €200,000 Ylg ’20 ARQSEP. Lifetime Record: GSW-Fr, 4-4-0-0, €79,500. Video, sponsored by TVG.

O-Hisaaki Saito; B-SNIG Elevage (FR); T-Fabrice Chappet.
ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Vidisha (Fr), f, 3, Awtaad (Ire)--Visoriyna (Fr) (SW & MGSP-Fr, $139,138), by Dansili (GB). Auch, 4-16, 13 1/4fT, 2:58.30. B-H H The Aga Khan’s Studs SC (FR).

Sysko (Fr), g, 3, Bathyrhon (Ger)--Pogirl (Fr), by Poliglote (GB). Nort-sur-Erdre, 4-16, 16fT, time: n/a. B-EARL Haras du Luy (FR). *€10,000 2yo ‘22 ARQAUG.

Shelbylandor (Fr), f, 3, De Treville (GB)--Sirma Traou Land (Fr), by Soul City (Ire). Angouleme, 4-16, 5fT, 1:00.60. B-Ecurie Senator (FR).

Dschingis King (Fr), c, 3, Dschingis Secret (Ger)--Donna Philippa (Ger), by Sternkonig (Ire). Nort-sur-Erdre, 4-16, 12 1/2fT, time: n/a. B-Avatara SA (FR).

Teoumamou (Fr), c, 3, Prince Gibraltar (Fr)--Ziride (Fr) (SP-Fr, $135,271), by Valanour (Ire). Angouleme, 4-16, 11fT, 2:19.30. B-Ecurie Gribomont (FR). *€1,000 RNA Ylg ‘21 ARQFEB; €8,000 RNA Ylg ‘21 ARQNOV.

IN BRITAIN:

Blue Point (Ire) (Shamardal), Kildangan Stud
161 foals of racing age
16:45--NEWMARKET, 5f, Blue Storm (GB)
£75,000 Goffs UK Premier & Silver Yearlings 2022

Le Brivido (Fr) (Siyouni {Fr}), Haras de la Haie Neuve
39 foals of racing age
16:45--NEWMARKET, 5f, Fullofbrightideas (GB)
2,000gns Tattersalls October Yearling Sale (Book 3) 2022

IN JAPAN:

Mad Cool (Ire), c, 4, Dark Angel (Ire)--Mad About You (Ire) (GSW & MG1SP-Ire, G1SP-Fr, $495,023), by Indian Ridge (Ire). Nakayama, 4-16, Shunraii S-.Listed, 1200mT, 1:08.8. Lifetime Record: 8-5-0-3, $676,940. O-Sunday Racing; B-Moyglare Stud Farm Ltd; T-Manabu Ikezoe. *GSP-Jpn. **1/2 to A Ma Chere (Ire) (Kodiac (GB)), GSP-Ire. ***1ST STAKES WIN.

****€225,000 Wlg ‘19 GOFINOV.

Click HERE to read today’s edition of Highlights Include:
Darley Fees, Harry Angel On The Rise
Waller: TDN AusNZ Trainer Of The Month
Waterhouse/Bott Golf Day Raises Awareness
Hu Appointed Executive Officer For TBV
Giga May Yet Kick On To Queensland

Catch up with previous editions of TDN Europe by visiting our archive Click Here to View

Progeny PPs is now Stallions’ Top Runners

Click here to view a detailed report of all the races contained in the TDN, plus selected additional maiden winners from around the U.S. and Europe from the previous 13 months sorted by stallion.
**Tuesday, Newmarket, Britain, post time: 15:35**

**BET365 EARL OF SEFTON S.-G3**, £80,000, 4yo/up, 9f 0y

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SC</th>
<th>HORSE</th>
<th>SIRE</th>
<th>OWNER</th>
<th>TRAINER</th>
<th>JOCKEY</th>
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<td>Blue Trail (Ire)</td>
<td>Teofilo (Ire)</td>
<td>Godolphin</td>
<td>Charlie Appleby</td>
<td>James Doyle</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Epic Poet (Ire)</td>
<td>Lope De Vega (Ire)</td>
<td>White Birch Farm &amp; Mr Brook Johnson</td>
<td>Freddie &amp; Martyn Meade</td>
<td>Tom Marquand</td>
<td>128</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Intellogent (Ire)</td>
<td>Intello (Ger)</td>
<td>Mrs Fiona Carmichael</td>
<td>Jane Chapple-Hyam</td>
<td>David Egan</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Masekela (Ire)</td>
<td>El Kabeir</td>
<td>Mick and Janice Mariscotti</td>
<td>Andrew Balding</td>
<td>David Probert</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Ottoman Fleet (GB)</td>
<td>Sea The Stars (Ire)</td>
<td>Godolphin</td>
<td>Charlie Appleby</td>
<td>William Buick</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Poker Face (Ire)</td>
<td>Fastnet Rock (Aus)</td>
<td>Mr Edward J. Ware</td>
<td>Simon &amp; Ed Crisford</td>
<td>Ryan Moore</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Raadobarg (Ire)</td>
<td>Night Of Thunder (Ire)</td>
<td>Amo Racing Limited</td>
<td>George Boughey</td>
<td>Kevin Stott</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Reach For The Moon (GB)</td>
<td>Sea The Stars (Ire)</td>
<td>HM The King &amp; HM The Queen Consort</td>
<td>John &amp; Thady Gosden</td>
<td>Frankie Dettori</td>
<td>128</td>
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</table>

**Breeders:** 1-Godolphin, 2-George Kent, 3-Ecurie des Monceaux, 4-Coolawn Stud, 5-SCEA Marmion Vauville & Alain Jathiere, 6-Rockhart Trading Ltd, 7-Pier House Stud, 8-The Queen

*All posts displayed in local time.*
## PINHOOKING TABLE

**Tattersalls Craven Breeze Up**  
**Day One**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lot</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Pedigree</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Previous Sale</th>
<th>Buyer</th>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Havana Grey x On Route</td>
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<td>MC BS</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>El Kabeir x Paper Dreams</td>
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<td>Robson Aguiar</td>
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<td>Oasis Dream x Teikei</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>GOFORB</td>
<td>Vendor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lot</td>
<td>Sex</td>
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<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Exaggerator x Temptation Bound</td>
<td>57,000</td>
<td>FTOCT</td>
<td>Robson Aguiar</td>
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<tr>
<td>71</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Havana Grey x Think Snow</td>
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<td>Lacka BS</td>
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<td>C</td>
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<td>Havana Grey x Tongue Twista</td>
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<td>77</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Havana Grey x Tranquil Flight</td>
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<td>F</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Exceed And Excel x Victory Wave</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>91</td>
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<td>Wootton Bassett x Accalmie</td>
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<td>Conor Cornelius O'Donnell</td>
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<td>Starspangledbanner x Addictedtoprogress</td>
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<td>Aclaim x Alliseeisnibras</td>
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<td>GOFSP O</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>96</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Inns of Court x Amthal</td>
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<td>GUKPRE</td>
<td>Church Farm/Horse Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>97</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Zoustar x An Ghalanta</td>
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<td>Longways Stables</td>
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<tr>
<td>98</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Sioux Nation x Any Little Rhyme</td>
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<td>Kilonan</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>101</td>
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<td>Cotai Glory x Asrafairy</td>
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<td>TATIRESEP</td>
<td>Gary Halpin/Sean Davis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Information sourced from Weatherbys. **Price is in currency of sale sold at.