

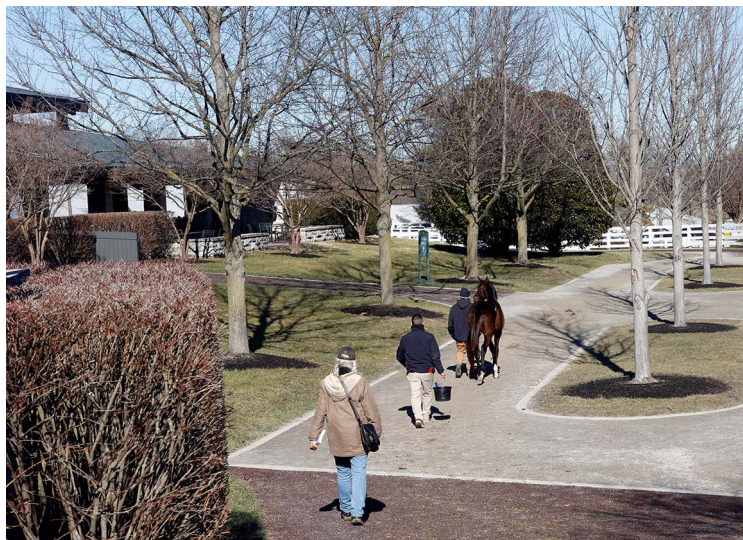


Michael Blowen Joins the
TDN Writers' Room - Jan 10

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'FAIR AND STABLE' KEENELAND JANUARY SALE CONCLUDES



Keeneland

by Jessica Martini & Stefanie Grimm

LEXINGTON, KY - Driven by strong demand at the top—which saw the auction produce its first seven-figure horses in five years—the Keeneland January Horses of All Ages Sale concluded Thursday in Lexington with a fairly steady average, but a double-digit decline in median.

“I think it's been a very fair and stable market,” said Keeneland Director of Sales Tony Lacy. “We saw a lot of stability and a lot of good trade going on. When you look at the fact that we haven't had a \$1-million horse in January since 2019, and we had two through the ring and one sold privately, there was a lot of quality. I think that is what we saw the first day with the increase in gross and average. People are very much focused on the quality and are willing to pay a premium for it. Overall, the numbers were very satisfactory. Speaking to the buyers and speaking to the sellers, everybody found it a fair, competitive market. Nobody had a complaint that there was any sort of perceived weakness or anything that would give us concern for the future.”

Through four sessions, 831 horses grossed \$38,330,300. The average of \$46,126 dipped 2.28% from a year ago, while the median fell 21.05% to \$15,000. The buy back rate remained steady at 22.84%. **Cont. p3**

SAUDI CUP MEETING ATTRACTS ENTRIES FROM 15 COUNTRIES by Alan Carasso

The Jockey Club of Saudi Arabia (JCSA) has released the names of the 1162 entries—including 41 Grade I/Group 1 winners—from no fewer than 15 racing jurisdictions around the world for the US\$33.5 million Saudi Cup meeting to be held at King Abdulaziz Racecourse in Riyadh Saturday, Feb. 23, 2024. Prize money is up by \$2.25 million as compared to the 2023 renewal, reflecting the upgrades of the Neom Turf Cup (2100mT) and 1351 Turf Sprint to international Group 2 status. One of the two races for Purebred Arabians—the Al Mneefah Cup—has been accorded Group 1 status for the first time. **White Abarrio** (Race Day) is chief among the entries for the \$20-million G1 Saudi Cup. The Rick Dutrow, Jr. runner is doing his preparations in California for the 1800-meter test, where he could face **Derma Sotogake (Jpn)** (Mind Your Biscuits), whom he defeated when last seen in the GI Breeders' Cup Classic at Santa Anita in early November.

Cont. p7

IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

BOLGER HIGH ON MAC SWINEY

Brian Sheerin checks in with Jim Bolger who is bullish on new Irish National Stud recruit and Classic winner **Mac Swiney (Ire)** (New Approach (Ire)).

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Friday, January 12, 2024



The Friday cartoon, by Remi Bellocq. To inquire about purchasing prints or ordering commissions, email remibellocqcartoons@gmail.com. Follow Remi on Twitter at [@BellocqRemi](https://twitter.com/BellocqRemi).

KEEPING 'PIMLICO PLUS' ON TRACK

8

Leaders of the Maryland Thoroughbred Racetrack Operating Authority met Thursday in ongoing discussions regarding the 'Pimlico Plus' project.

SECOND CHANCE FOR EARLY VOTING

10

*Alan Carasso catches up with Dr. Padraig O'Casaigh, the chief researcher/inventor behind Chaperonze, the product instrumental in getting **Early Voting** back at work in the breeding shed.*

PLANS FOR NEW TRACKSIDE VENUE AT CANTERBURY




11

Plans filed with the Shakopee Planning Commission for a pair of 'high-end' dining and entertainment venues will not feature wagering.

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▶ LA PREVOYANTE (G3)

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For information regarding invitations, please contact **Mike Lakow: 859-621-8137**

For information regarding nominations, please contact **James Easley: 786-308-7321**

Keeneland January Concludes, cont. from p1

"The median is down 21% from last year, but again the average has really held up," Keeneland Director of Sales Operations Cormac Breathnach said. "It's a sign that the top part of the market is in really good shape. That buoyancy is helping the average. The middle and lower end of the market felt a little spotty in Book 1, but [Wednesday]'s session was better than the corresponding session last year, which I think is a good sign for the market at large."

During the auction's first session Monday, the broodmare prospect **Prank** (Into Mischief) became the sale topper when selling for \$1.6 million to Tom Wachman of Coolmore from the Gainesway consignment. It was the first time since Coolmore spent \$5 million to acquire Abel Tasman (**Quality Road**) at the 2019 sale that a horse had brought seven figures at a January sale. Later in that same session,

Japan's K I Farm purchased Canadian champion **Curlin's Voyage** (**Curlin**) for \$1 million from the Hill 'n' Dale at Xalapa consignment. The 2024 January auction got a third seven-figure

mare when **Star Act** (Street Cry {Ire}) sold post-sale for \$1.2 million.

Star Act's private sale marked the second Keeneland sale at which a post-sale transaction provided a seven-figure result. At the Keeneland November Breeding Stock Sale, **Puca** (Big Brown) brought the auction's unofficial top price when selling post-sale for \$2.9 million.

"Both of those two high-profile horses brought significantly more post-sale than they RNA'd for, which to me is reflective of an active buyer base," said

Breathnach.

As at the November sale, the January sale featured a vibrant post-sale trade. An additional 27 horses sold after initially being unsold in ring for \$2,243,000.



Prank lights up the board on Day 1 | Keeneland



2023 Leading Second-Crop Sires

RK	STALLION (SIRE)	2024 FEE	BTH	WNRS	WINS	EARNINGS
1	JUSTIFY (Scat Daddy)	Private	27	71	104	\$10,023,561
2	Good Magic (Curlin)	\$125,000	18	75	108	\$9,481,828
3	Bolt d'Oro (Medaglia d'Oro)	\$60,000	22	82	122	\$7,375,137
4	MENDELSSOHN (Scat Daddy)	\$15,000	17	103	132	\$6,940,140
5	City of Light (Quality Road)	\$35,000	17	51	74	\$6,023,518

Source: TDN

2023 yearlings sold for up to \$400,000

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"Our RNA-to-sale activity is up on last year," Breathnach said. "We saw that in November, too. So sometimes, the RNA rate can look a little spiky and sometimes it is, but it's also kind of bolstered by the fact that people are here to buy. And that's a good sign for the number of people who are here and actually active. When they really think about what these horses are worth, they are willing to reconsider and give market value and at significantly higher numbers. Maybe that is partly coincidental and only happens this year, but I think it reflects an active buyer base that is determined to buy quality and we are grateful for that."

Lacy added, "When you walk into the ring, in the hope of what something might bring, the market tells you what a horse is worth on the day. And that's a compromise between what someone is willing to spend and what you were hoping to get on the other side. There is a balance. But I think the post-sale trade also shows there is still a

market after the hammer falls. And it's one that we encourage pretty strongly. It's not just in the ring. We feel like that is an important part of the process."



Thursday's topper, a yearling by **Practical Joke** | Keeneland

As it was at the Keeneland November sale, the market for quality weanlings--and now short yearlings--remained strong.

"[The short yearling market] was very competitive," said Breathnach. "The ones that sold well, sold very, very well. I think people were quite surprised by the activity at the top end of the yearling market. There was a lot of money around and for the good horses. That's a great sign for the future."

In 2024, 382 short yearlings sold for \$14,846,700 and an average of \$38,866. A pair of yearlings shared top price of \$430,000, with Cherry Knoll Farm acquiring a colt by **Not This Time** and John Stewart's Resolute Bloodstock purchasing a filly by **Candy Ride (Arg)** for that price.

cont. p5

11 triple-digit Beyer figures in 14 starts

His sire won the **Breeders' Cup Juvenile-Gr.1**

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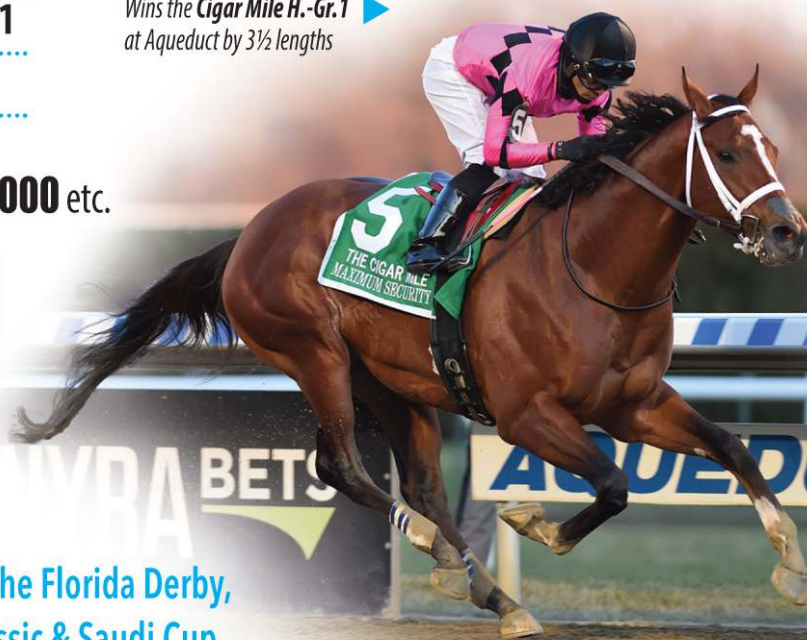
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A colt by **Nyquist** | Keeneland

Three yearlings sold for \$400,000 or over, six sold for \$300,000 or over and 11 sold for \$200,000 or over.

In 2023, 407 short yearlings sold through the ring for a gross of \$18,055,300 and average of \$44,362. A filly by **Quality Road** was the highest-priced yearling last year, selling for \$450,000, and she was one of two to sell for \$400,000 or over and five sold for \$300,000 or over. Sixteen yearling sold for \$200,000 or over.

"I think it's a really good sign for the health of the yearling market for next September that the activity is here in the new tax year with various uncertainties, obviously, around the world and in the economy," Breathnach said. "The economy is in good shape, interest rates are coming down and inflation levels are drastically lower than they were. Still, people have reason to look to the future and make tough decisions, but they are deciding to buy good horses at a very high level."

The January catalogue was diminished by a large number of outs. From a catalogue of 1,487, a total of 410 were withdrawn before going through the ring.

"We saw an elevated number of scratches, especially on session two, I think that was a lot of people who weren't really pressured to sell," said Lacy. "And you saw that in the short yearlings, specifically, where people were happy enough to keep them and point them to September."

The January sale attracted a diverse, and international buying bench, with the top 15 highest-priced horses bought by 13 different entities.

K I Farm's Tomoyuki Nakamura traveled from Japan to attend the January Sale for the first time. Also active was Japan's Shadai Farm, which acquired broodmare prospect Dolce Zel (Fr) (Zelzal {Fr}), a multiple group winner, for \$400,000. In addition to Europe and Japan, buyers also represented Saudi Arabia, the Philippines and Australia.

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KEENELAND JANUARY

THURSDAY'S TOP SHORT YEARLINGS

HIP	SEX	SIRE DAM	PRICE (\$)
1179	filly	Practical Joke --Mezah, by Tapit	120,000
Breeder: James G. Doyle (NY)			
Consigner: Buck Pond Farm (Douglas S. Arnold), Agent			
Purchaser: Sycamore Hall Farm/David Wade, Agent			
1249	colt	Nyquist --Slimey, by Quality Road	95,000
Breeder: Gage Hill Stable II, W. S. Farish, & K Langone (KY)			
Consigner: Lane's End, Agent			
Purchaser: Knockgriffin Farm & Stoney Pointe Bloodstock			
1390	colt	Practical Joke --Fancy Bluff, by Unified	90,000
(\$35,000 I/u FTMIX '22)			
Breeder: Keithshire Farm (NY)			
Consigner: Indian Creek, Agent			
Purchaser: HMC Ltd			
1483	colt	Yaupon --Kinsey, by Delaware Township	80,000
Breeder: Royal Oak Farm (KY)			
Consigner: Royal Oak Farm (Damian & Braxton Lynch)			
Purchaser: Anthony Tate			

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THURSDAY'S TOP MARES

Hip	Name	Status	Price (\$)
1308	American Starlet	Racing/B'mare Prospect	50,000
	(5, <i>Twirling Candy</i> --Boldy, by Forest Wildcat)		
	Consigned by Paramount Sales, Agent XXIX		
	Purchased by Frosty Bloodstock		
1199	Omaha Queen	Broodmare Prospect	45,000
	(3, <i>Omaha Beach</i> --Half A.P., by Pulpit)		
	Consigned by Bluegrass Thoroughbred Services Inc.,		
	Agent for Meribelle Stable LLC		
	Purchased by Ashview Farm		
1486	Disruption	Racing/B'mare Prospect	40,000
	(4, <i>Practical Joke</i> --Orient Moon, by Malibu Moon)		
	Consigned by Lane's End, Agent		
	Purchased by Paul Jackson/Equine Futures LLC		

Cont.

"There was very broad-based, global attention focused on this sale," Lacy said. "Our sales team has been aggressive in traveling around the world, meeting people in person in their home countries to make sure they understand Keeneland is an international marketplace. We've had correspondence from people around the world during this sale in addition to the great buyer base who were here."

Taylor Made Sales Agency was the leading consignor by gross at the January sale for the 21st time since 2001. Taylor Made sold 100 head for \$5,080,200. Bloodstock agent Steve Young, who purchased four mares on behalf of Ramona Bass to support Bass's recently retired stallion *Annapolis*, was the auction's leading buyer.

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Hip 1390, a colt by *Practical Joke* | Keeneland



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KEENELAND JANUARY SALE

SESSION TOTALS	2024	2023
• Catalogued	316	371
• No. Offered	238	300
• No. Sold	204	241
• RNAs	34	59
• % RNAs	14.29%	19.67%
• High Price	\$120,000	\$200,000
• No. Over \$100k	1	5
• Gross	\$2,358,700	\$3,675,700
• Average (% change)	\$11,562 (-24.19%)	\$15,252
• Median (% change)	\$6,750 (-15.63%)	\$8,000
CUMULATIVE TOTALS	2024	2023
• Catalogued	1487	1618
• No. Offered	1077	1248
• No. Sold	831	962
• RNAs	246	286
• % RNAs	22.84%	22.92%
• Gross	\$38,339,300	\$45,408,300
• Average (% change)	\$46,126 (-2.28%)	\$47,202
• Median (% change)	\$15,000 (-21.05%)	\$19,000

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Cont. from p1

The Japanese--which have 110 entries across the races--could also be represented by reigning G1 Dubai World Cup winner and Breeders' Cup Classic fifth **Ushba Tesoro (Jpn)** (Orfevre {Jpn}) as well as Godolphin's Japanese champion dirt horse **Lemon Pop** (Lemon Drop Kid), who earned a spot in the Saudi Cup field when winning the G1 Champions Cup in December.

National Treasure (Quality Road), victorious in last year's G1 Preakness S., is one of five entries for trainer Bob Baffert, who has also nominated G1 Malibu S. winner **Speed Boat Beach** (Bayern) and Zedan Racing Stable's **Hejazi** (Bernardini), runner-up in that seven-furlong test Dec. 26. The Brad Cox barn could be represented by Saudi-owned G1 Pennsylvania Derby winner **Saudi Crown (Always Dreaming)**, while **Scotland Yard (Quality Road)** is among the chief local chances. Aidan O'Brien has entered **Luxembourg (Ire) (Camelot {GB})** and **Point Lonsdale (Ire) (Australia {GB})** for what would be their dirt debuts in the Saudi Cup.

Japan's **Silver Sonic (Jpn)** (Orfevre {Jpn}) carried 125 pounds to victory in last year's G3 Longines Red Sea Turf Cup H., but if he is to defend his title in the \$2.5-million contest, he will need to tote 134 against a field in which G1 Grosser Preis von Berlin winner **Simca Mille (Ire)** (Tamayuz {GB}) is top-weighted at 136 pounds. The 3000-meter staying test has also attracted G2 Yorkshire Cup hero **Giavellotto (Ire)** (Mastercraftsman {Ire}, 133), Godolphin's group/graded winner **Siskany (GB)** (Dubawi {Ire}, 133), the Dermot Weld-trained 9-year-old G3 Loughbrown S. winner **Falcon Eight (Ire)** (Galileo {Ire}, 129), **Enemy (GB)** (Muhaarar {GB}, 126) and G3 Bahrain Trophy second **Tower of London (Ire)** (Galileo {Ire}) for Ballydoyle.

The connections of Simca Mille could opt for the G2 Neom Turf Cup, a \$2-million race over an extended mile and a quarter. John and Thady Gosden sent out Mostahdaf (GB) (**Frankel {GB}**) to a barnstorming win in last year's race and the father-and-son partnership has Tattersalls Autumn Horses in Training acquisition **Jack Darcy (Ire) (Gleneagles {Ire})** engaged.

Luxembourg holds a Neom Turf Cup entry, while narrow G1 Breeders' Cup Mile runner-up **Mawj (Ire)** (Exceed and Excel {Aus}) has also been handed this stamina-stretching option by Saeed bin Suroor. **Spirit Dancer (GB) (Frankel {GB})** could try to make it consecutive wins in the race for his sire, having most recently defeated the Gosdens' **Israr (GB)** (Muhaarar {GB}) and Point Lonsdale in the G2 Bahrain International Trophy back in November. American entries include **Missed the Cut (Quality Road)**, unplaced when well-fancied last year, and the consistent **Webslinger (Constitution)**.



White Abarrio tops the entries for the Saudi Cup
Horsephotos

America's **Casa Creed** (Jimmy Creed) has endured a pair of excruciating defeats in the 1351 Turf Cup and could return for a third attempt at the race, as he remains in training into an 8-year-old campaign in 2024. The globetrotting **Bathrat Leon (Jpn)** (Kizuna {Jpn}) dropped his head down on the line first in last year's race for trainer Yoshito Yahagi and could be back to defend his title against a group that could also include Saudi Arabia's **Raaed (Ire)** (Dark Angel {Ire}), a cracking third last year, Godolphin's **Real World (Ire)**

(Dark Angel {Ire}), Amo Racing's **Walbank (Ire)** (Kodiac {GB}), an impressive handicap winner over 1200 metres at Meydan for George Boughey Jan. 5, and **Forbidden Kingdom (American Pharoah)**, all-the-way winner of the GII Joe Hernandez S. for MyRacehorse and Spendthrift Farm at Santa Anita Dec. 30.

Japanese runners have proved formidable in the G3 Riyadh Dirt Sprint and a strong team includes **Remake (Jpn)** (Lani), who was a good third to the now-retired top American sprinters **Elite Power (Curlin)** and **Gunite (Gun Runner)** in the 1200-meter test last February. The North Hills homebred was last seen finishing runner-up to **Igniter (Jpn)** (Espoir City {Jpn}) in the valuable Listed JBC Sprint at Ohi Racecourse in November, and he also hold an entry. Speed Boat Beach could be re-routed for this shorter option, while other entries from the US include reigning G1 Dubai Golden Shaheen hero **Sibelius (Not This Time)**, the in-form **Bold Journey (Hard Spun)** for 2023 winning conditioner Bill Mott, Forbidden Kingdom, Hejazi and recent Oaklawn allowance winner **Skelly (Practical Joke)**. Last year's Saudi Derby winner **Commissioner King** (Commissioner) features among the local Sprint contingent.



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Over 200 entries were taken for the G3 Saudi Derby going a metric mile on the dirt. Zedan Racing's **'TDN Rising Star' Muth (Good Magic)**, recent winner of the GII San Vicente S. for Bob Baffert, has been given an entry as has his Grade I-placed stable companion **Wine Me Up** (Vino Rosso) and San Vicente runner-up **Pilot Commander (Justify)**. Yahagi's Group 3 winner and Group 1-placed **Shin Emperor (Fr) (Siyouni {Fr})** holds an entry as does his stablemate **Forever Young (Jpn) (Real Steel {Jpn})**, who appears set to make the journey to the desert after convincingly defeating **Aigle Noir (Jpn) (Bricks and Mortar)** in the Listed Zen-Nippon Nisai Yushun at Kawasaki last month. An intriguing possibility from the Weld yard is **Taraj (Ire) (Churchill {Ire})**, placed in one of two starts on the turf and a latest maiden winner going a mile over the Dundalk all-weather Nov. 24. Among the locals, **Saudi Neom (Connect)** is among the possibles, having run his record to two wins and a second from three runs with a victory over the Derby course and distance Jan. 6.

Top Qatari galloper **Bolthole (Ire) (Free Eagle {Ire})**, third in last year's Listed H. H. The Amir Trophy and winner of a Class 2 conditions race over 2000 metres at Al Rayyan Jan. 4 for Wathnan Racing and Alban de Mieulle, is the joint-highweight for the \$500,000 Saudi International H. (90-110) over 2100 metres on the grass.

Click [here](#) for the full list of entries.

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DIFFERENCES OVER 'PIMLICO PLUS' PROJECT, BUT PROPONENTS SAY 'WE CAN'T LET PERFECT GET IN THE WAY OF GOOD'

by T.D. Thornton

Acknowledging that there are differences of opinion about specifics of the "Pimlico Plus" plan that envisions a publicly funded future of racing at a state-owned, modernized track in Baltimore, the construction of a new training facility elsewhere, and a non-profit operator taking over day-to-day racing, the leaders of the Maryland Thoroughbred Racetrack Operating Authority (MTROA) on Thursday asked stakeholders not to let quibbling over details derail the larger goal of getting the ambitious plan approved by the legislature so that horsemen can control their own destiny.

"There are a lot of skeptics," said Alan Foreman, who is the general counsel for the Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association (MTHA) and is also that group's representative on the MTROA. "Some of the critics have already come out very quickly without letting us continue to do our work. My own personal perspective is the status quo in racing is simply not going to survive going forward. We have a once-in-lifetime opportunity here. This will not present itself again. And we can't

let the perfect get in the way of the good."

The MTROA's vision for the \$400-million makeover, which was made public in a [Jan. 5 report](#), has a number of key components coming into alignment right now, Foreman said.

There is support from the Maryland governor, the speaker of the House, and the president of the Senate, Foreman said.

In addition, The Stronach Group (AKA 1/ST Racing and Gaming), which owns Pimlico Race Course and Laurel Park, has agreed in principle to an exit strategy that would turn over ownership of Pimlico to the state and cede control of daily Thoroughbred racing operations to an entity that would function similarly to the New York Racing Association (NYRA).



Pimlico | CBoss

In exchange, The Stronach Group would be allowed to eventually sell or redevelop Laurel while retaining rights for Maryland's two signature --the Preakness S. and the Black-Eyed Susan S. Those rights would then be leased back to the new operating entity.

Despite the momentum the project seemingly has going for it, Gregory Cross, the MTROA's chair, warned that getting Pimlico Plus signed into law is far from a slam-dunk.

"It's an extremely, extremely difficult budget year," Cross said. "We're lucky to be preserving what we have [and] fitting it [into] what has been allocated--very lucky."

Foreman agreed: "We're really threading the needle here, folks."

Added Cross, "While we have been given some support, it's far from an assurance of passage, so we've got a lot of work to do."

That work, Foreman, said, includes not just the passage of legislation, but acquiring and beginning development on a training center, engaging a design consultant to flesh out the reimagined Pimlico beyond the broad concept that is currently on paper, signing off on negotiations with The Stronach Group, and putting together the non-profit operating team.

Cont.

The MTROA would like all of that done by Jan. 1, 2025.

"There are only two states in the country where there is any forward-thinking development going on," Foreman said. "NYRA, which is rebuilding Belmont, and now it's going to be Maryland racing. We have a very unique opportunity to position Maryland racing for the future. Through this project, I think we guarantee at least a portion of our funding base with the General Assembly. [But if] we didn't do this, we wouldn't be protected going forward."

The MTROA envisions between 140 and 160 racing dates per year at Pimlico.

Foreman said the alternative, based on a presentation The Stronach Group made to the MTHA, would nearly slice that number in half.

"The Stronach Group's vision of the future is a maximum of 80 live racing dates in Maryland," Foreman said. "Two 40-day boutique meets, with a shift of [gaming] revenue from the horsemen and breeders to them, to make them profitable. Under the current scenario, they do not see a way in which they would invest any money into the Maryland tracks. So we would be essentially at the status quo if we don't do any of this."

Foreman continued: "Can you sustain live racing, and can you sustain a breeding industry, on 80 live racing days with vastly inflated purses, which is going to squeeze out the middle and the small horsemen, and bring probably large, out-of-state outfits into the state of Maryland? Where [else] do we think we can do something where we can control our own destiny and make this work?"

Foreman said he "firmly believes" Pimlico Plus is feasible. He further noted that the MTHA currently pays "\$11-plus million" in subsidies to the Stronach Group just to conduct basic operations that keep the sport running at Laurel (which has been besieged by main-track safety issues for years) and Pimlico (which is outdated and hosts racing only for brief meets in the spring and September).

Still, the horsemen in attendance for the Jan. 11 videoconference had no shortage of concerns. Chief among them was housing for stable workers.

Last week's report stated there would be no housing actually on the backstretch at Pimlico. It would be nearby, in a neighborhood widely considered to be dangerous.

The report also identified three top candidates for training centers (Shamrock Farm in Woodbine, Mitchell Farm in Aberdeen, and the former Bowie Race Track in Bowie), but none of them would include dormitories for workers.

Trainer Ferris Allen put it this way: "I think the [MTROA] needs to understand that a lot of our employees are on foot or on bicycles. They don't drive. They work on H-2B visas and things like that. So on-site housing is a very essential part of running our business."

As for Pimlico, Foreman said, "Working with the city, the plan is to incorporate backstretch housing into the community, contiguous to the racetrack. But that's all going to be part of a much more complete and dynamic redeveloped area, and not what you see in that area right now. It is a unique concept, one that we think will work, and one that will have to be fleshed out as we go forward."

Regarding the training centers, Cross said, "At this time there's no money for that. It's a \$25- to \$30-million cost. And the zoning is very questionable as to whether it would be allowed."

David Richardson, the executive director of the MTHA, who was moderating questions as they came in during the video conference, added that, "I will say I'm getting inundated with texts and comments about the need for backstretch housing at the training facility. If there's any feedback from horsemen, it's how crucial [the housing] component is."

Foreman and Cross both indicated the MTROA would take into account the horsemen's concerns about housing going forward.


Other questions from horsemen included wanting to know specifics about the Preakness and Black-Eyed Susan licensing deals, but the MTROA didn't disclose many specifics.

"I don't want to get into too many details on that, but essentially we would be paying an annual fee [in exchange for] full control over the Black-Eyed Susan, the Preakness, and we would have full control over all revenue streams," Cross said. "They're going to donate Pimlico to this new operating authority. We're going to license the Preakness. That's the essence of the deal."

Asked if there was any consideration given to pushing back the proposed construction by a few months so Pimlico could capitalize off the 150th running of the Preakness at Pimlico in 2025, Cross said that idea would be too costly in terms of money and time.

"At the end of the day, we decided to model after Belmont, which is closing for two years and then coming back. And that is going to allow us to complete the construction on a timely basis," Cross said.

But even though the plan calls for Pimlico to reopen in 2027, no deadlines are etched in stone at this early stage of the project.




TDN
Writers'
Room

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January 10, 2024

Michael Blowen on
Stepping Down at Old Friends



Foreman said that even if Pimlico wasn't completely renovated in time for a grand reopening in May 2027, he expected it would be "at least in [a] phase [of partial usage] that we would still be able to accommodate the Preakness."

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THE CURIOUS CASE OF EARLY VOTING AND THE VET WHO HELPED CURE HIM *by Alan Carasso*



Dr. Paddy O'Casaigh | Courtesy Chaperonze.com

To many horsepeople and fans, the news that 2022 GI Preakness S. winner **Early Voting** (**Gun Runner**) had been cured of a syndrome that initially--apparently--**spelled doom to his stud career** was a complete surprise. To New Zealand-born veterinarian and scientist Dr. Padraig (Paddy) O'Casaigh, it was just another day at the office

O'Casaigh, the 'brain and chief researcher/inventor' behind the 'unique' product **Chaperonze** (his birthplace a contributor to this intentional misspell), has treated 'about 100' stallions with breeding problems.

"My experience in my 35 years," he said, "is that I've never had one go back and never had one that couldn't be fixed. You find with these horses, once you've turned him around, you've turned them around."

Consider his record intact.

It wasn't that **Early Voting** was lacking in fertility--**as was reported in Thursday's TDN**, the stallion successfully got 120 mares from his first book in foal at Coolmore in his first year in 2023 (though it is uncertain how many mares in total were covered). But it was later discovered that **Early Voting** was suffering from Anejaculatory Syndrome--simply put, an inability to ejaculate.

O'Casaigh, 56, has by his own accounting has flown upwards of four million miles in his lifetime and maintains offices from Lexington to Bangkok. He attended Massey University in

Palmerston North, New Zealand, did an internship at Hagyard/Davidson/McGee in Lexington and then spent the better part of six years at the University of California, Davis, completing a residency in equine reproduction from 1989-1992 and a Ph. D. in comparative pathology. He was a post-doctoral fellow in the school's Department of Veterinary Medical Population Health and Reproduction from 1992-1995.

Having worked with the likes of Nureyev and El Gran Senor and given his success in helping cure horses of problems similar to that of **Early Voting**, it wasn't a complete surprise when his services were requested by the consortium of owners that took over from Coolmore late last year.

O'Casaigh makes use of a product Chaperonze manufactures that contains **chaperone proteins**. The process involves using emu oil sourced from FDA distributors to create a protein transfer oil that can carry the chaperone proteins across the skin barrier and into the bloodstream. The process calls for the admixing of freeze-dried, stable Chaperonze powder, extracted from ovine placenta, with the oil.

Applied topically, chaperone proteins can find their way to damaged and injured cells that are in need of repair and once Chaperonze has entered the cells, it causes repair, rejuvenation and regeneration. And it seems to have done the trick for the now 5-year-old stallion.

O'Casaigh said **Early Voting** has been at his new home at Taylor Made for 'about a month.'

"The Coolmore group have been fantastic about everything and the only reason to taking him over [to Taylor Made] is because I have an association with them and they have a much-smaller, family-run operation, and with something like this, it's going to be a different environment for the horse and for me."

O'Casaigh reports that **Early Voting** was first bred to test mares and more recently to outside mares and that he has done so successfully in terms of his ability to ejaculate. His first Taylor Made-bred mares are due to be scanned in about a week's time.

And it's clear the work he has done to date has been impactful and he hopes will continue to be.

"It's not just species-specific," O'Casaigh said. "If we can help endangered species or humans, alleviate disease, help horses, that's what science is, right?"

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NEW TRACKSIDE VENUE AT CANTERBURY WON'T HAVE BETTING, WILL ELIMINATE 6.5- FURLONG RACES



Name of Horse | Photographer

by T.D. Thornton

A proposed entertainment complex to be built outside the first turn at Canterbury Park will feature a "high-end" restaurant, a music venue, and an outdoor bar and patio with a games area and fire pit, according to plans filed with the Shakopee, Minnesota, planning commission.

The two facilities on the 15-acre site, to be known as "Boardwalk Kitchen & Bar" and "Stables," will be right up against the outer rail with an up-close view of the action when Canterbury's season runs between May and September.

But despite the desirable location and the name choices that are evocative of gaming and horses, neither facility will be wired into the track's pari-mutuel system, and customers won't have direct access to tellers or self-service terminals so they can bet on the races.

"We're not anticipating any gaming," Jason Haugen, Canterbury's vice president of real estate, told the Shakopee Planning Commission at a Jan. 4 meeting, at which board members specifically asked whether there would be wagering the proposed site.

"There's no betting," Haugen said.

The planning commission did raise a concern that people might use cell phones while at Boardwalk or Stables to place wagers on the races through an advance-deposit wagering platform.

But after briefly discussing the difficulty of establishing geo-fencing to prohibit such wireless access, board members agreed there was no simple way to "legislate" against mobile betting.

The planning commission ended up voting 5-0 to advance the overall proposal to the city council.

Over time, according to the documents submitted to the commission, development in that area is expected to include other entertainment and recreational venues, such as more restaurants, a hotel, pickleball courts, or a bowling alley.

Boardwalk and Stables are just the first phase.

After the meeting, TDN asked Jeff Maday, Canterbury's media relations manager, to explain the reasoning behind not having wagering at such a prime trackside location. He replied that it has to do with a developer taking over control of that parcel of land.

"Minnesota law does not allow wagering on Canterbury races outside the confines of the two racetracks," Maday wrote.

"Because the land will be sold to a third-party developer, it is necessary to remove the parcel from the Class A license. We are currently looking at potential solutions as we do believe this is a great fit in our development plan and will be a gathering place for race fans."

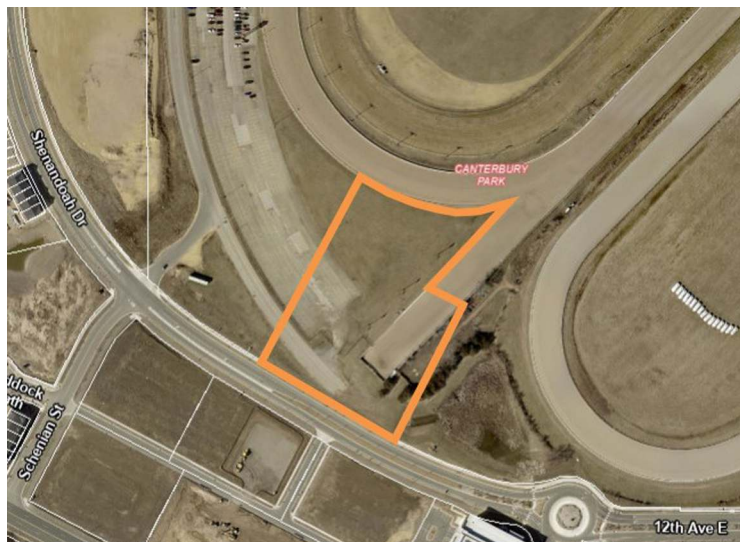
A map of the track overlaid with the proposed development shows that the parcel will take over a portion of the dirt chute where Canterbury's sprints start, and this will eliminate the track's ability to run 6 1/2-furlong races.

"Provided our request to remove the property from the Class A license is approved by the Minnesota Racing Commission, and we expect it will be, then there will no longer be races at 6.5 furlongs in 2024," Maday wrote.

Maday confirmed that the starting point for six-furlong races will be unaffected, and that the track "likely will run more of those."

According to a count provided by Maday, Canterbury ran 45 races at 6 1/2 furlongs in 2023, compared to 74 at six furlongs.

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Shakopee, MN, Planning Commission

FIRST FOAL REPORTED FOR JACK CHRISTOPHER



Jack Christopher | Sara Gordon

Ashford Stud's three-time Grade I winner **Jack Christopher** (**Munnings**) was represented by his first reported foal when a filly was born Jan. 11 at River Valley Farm in New York.

The filly is the first produce from the unraced She's a Go Go Girl (**Union Rags**), who was acquired by Whitecloud Bloodstock for \$30,000 at last year's Keeneland November. The deeper female family includes Grade II-winning juvenile filly Magicalmysterycat (Storm Cat).

"We couldn't be happier with this filly," said Dr. Scott Ahschwede who bred her along with his wife Dr. Patricia Ahschwede and fellow veterinarian Dr. Scott Pierce. "A pretty first foal with leg and size. A great start to our season."

Winner of the GI Champagne S. as a juvenile, **Jack Christopher** won the GI Woody Stephens S. and GI H. Allen Jerkens S. over seven furlongs at three.

"Jack Christopher was an exceptional talent," said his trainer Chad Brown. "I've never had a dirt horse with such brilliance. He never disappointed us in a workout or a race and was just a pleasure to train."

Jack Christopher is one of 73 stakes winners for his sire, who also stands at Ashford.

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NTWAB ANNOUNCES THREE RECIPIENTS OF INTERNSHIP FUNDING ASSISTANCE *Edited Press Release*

Three outlets will receive internship funding assistance for 2024, according to the National Turf Writers and Broadcasters. The organization will assist in funding internship expenses for positions with Thoroughbred Daily News, XBTv and the New York Racing Association. The organization had planned to award \$5,000 to two outlets, but was met with a number of quality applications and decided to commit a total of \$6,000 to three.

"Last year we were happy to support two print media-based internship positions, and this year NTWAB is thrilled to assist media outlets in providing broadcast experience to interested students or industry newcomers," said Natalie Voss, chair of NTWAB's internship committee. "NTWAB is committed to sustaining the future of our profession by encouraging the creation of learning opportunities in racing media."

The Thoroughbred Daily News' internship position is already filled and underway, allowing a student from the University of Kentucky to gain experience in producing video and written content, as well as social media marketing.

XBTv is currently searching for an intern to work at Santa Anita Park, assisting with morning and afternoon broadcast production, copywriting, social media and scheduling. The internship will begin Feb. 22. To apply by Jan. 15, click [here](#).

The NTWAB will also support a broadcast production internship with the New York Racing Association, which runs its summer broadcasts in partnership with FOX Sports. The internship would include assistance with scheduling guests, shooting video content, research for stories and some shooting and editing for the right candidate. The position will take place at Saratoga Race Course over the summer of 2024. For more info., click [here](#).

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2	Honey Pants 	Cairo Prince	Bakster Farm LLC and Isbister, Gerald	D'Amato	Frey	120
3	Nadette (Fr) 	Outstrip (GB)	Team Valor International, LLC	Drysdale	Berrios	122
4	Fast and Shiny 	Bernardini	Pegram, Michael E., Watson, Karl and Weitman, Paul	Baffert	Van Dyke	122
5	Kissed by Fire	Friesan Fire	Exline-Border Racing LLC, Commonwealth Thoroughbreds, LLC	Eurton	Smith	120
6	Lexington Humor 	Practical Joke	Ocean Reef Racing and Kennedy, Aaron A. Jason Hall Stables, Custom Truck Accessories, Shake and Bake Racing, LLC and Hehnke, Monte	Jauregui	Ayuso	120
7	Wakanaka (Ire) 	Power (GB)	Team Valor International and Barber, Gary	McCarthy	Rosario	124
8	Benedict Canyon 	Midnight Lute	Little Red Feather Racing	D'Amato	Fresu	120
9	Elm Drive	Mohaymen	Little Red Feather Racing	D'Amato	Prat	124
10	Anthony's Cleopatra	Constitution	Cacchiotti Ranch	McCanna	Alvarado	122
11	Graceland Gray	Goldencents	Gravenslund, John and Gravenslund, Kelley	Eurton	Hernandez	122
12	Adaay In Asia (GB)	Adaay (Ire)	Reeves Thoroughbred Racing and MyRacehorse	D'Amato	Kimura	120

Breeders: 1-Nirvana Farm, 2-Betz/Lamantia/J. Betz, 3-Mr. Herve Dardenne, 4-Douglas Scharbauer, 5-Barak Farm & Sharon Dodgen, 6-Jose Luis Espinoza, 7-Mrs Jean Brennan, 8-Mitch Haynes, 9-Kenneth D'Oyen, 10-Cacchiotti Ranch, 11-Calumet Farm, 12-W. H. R. John and Partners



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IN ORDER OF PURSE:

INSIGHT *Outcomes*

6th-Gulfstream, \$72,000, Alw (NW1X)/Opt. Clm (\$75,000), 1-11, 3yo, f, 7f, 1:23.36, gd, 1 length.

LESLIE'S ROSE (f, 3, Into Mischief--Wildwood Rose {Ire}, by Galileo {Ire}) earned 'TDN Rising Star' honors when she won by 9 1/4 lengths in her first start at Aqueduct Nov. 19. The \$1.15 million Keeneland September graduate made her 3-year-old debut with Lasix and was well-backed as the heavy 1-5 favorite here.

She allowed Gun Song (**Gun Runner**) to take the lead up the backstretch. Ranging up on the pacesetter around the far turn, the Todd Pletcher trainee cranked up the pressure into the stretch, fought her rival gamely and finally put her away in the final jumps to win by a healthy length.

"She [Leslie's Rose] was very impressive in her debut, and she's trained well since then," said trainer Todd Pletcher. "She has natural speed, but I think she'll run further. I couldn't be more pleased with her. That's a pretty nice filly that got beat. It looked like they had good separation."

Leslie's Rose is out of an unraced dam who is also responsible for a 2-year-old filly by **Good Magic** and she was bred to **Not This Time** for this year. Wildwood Rose is a half-sister to 'TDN Rising Star' Materiality (Afleet Alex) and GI Kentucky Oaks runner-up My Miss Sofia (Unbridled's Song), the dam of 'TDN Rising Star' and new sire **Annapolis (War Front)**.

The winner's third dam produced SP Expanse (Distant View)--dam of GI Travers S. hero Afleet Express (Afleet Alex) and GI Alabama S. heroine Embellish the Lace (Super Saver). Sales History: \$1,150,000 Ylg '22 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, \$89,950. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV.**

O-Whisper Hill Farm, LLC; B-John D. Gunther & Eurowest Bloodstock Services (KY); T-Todd A. Pletcher.

Bred **Raised** **Consigned @** **glennwood**

 Owned by **Whisper Hill Farm** 

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Leslie's Rose | Lauren King

8th-Turfway, \$72,000, Alw, 1-10, (NW1\$X), 4yo/up, f/m, 6 1/2f (AWT), 1:18.68, ft, neck.

PUMPKIN SCONE (f, 4, Into Mischief--Embellish the Lace {GISW, \$441,540}, by Super Saver) never finished out of the money in all six of her starts as a 3-year-old with her most impressive effort coming when she broke her maiden at third asking by 7 1/2 lengths at Ellis Park back in mid-August. Looking to clear the allowance ranks here, the also-eligible drew in as the even-money favorite here. Breaking alertly from the outside stall, the bay relaxed midfield up the backstretch. The \$1.25 million Keeneland September yearling grad (seventh highest overall) launched her bid around the far turn, took over the lead at the eighth pole and outlasted Nursekringledances (Klimt) by a neck. A \$2.4 million '16 Fasig-Tipton Fall Mixed Sale purchase (fifth highest) by China Horse Club International, the winner's dam produced 5-year-old Tap the Faith (**Tapit**), who went to Claiborne Farm for \$1.25 million as the fifth highest return during Keeneland September. A half-sister to GISW Afleet Express (Afleet Alex), Embellish the Lace is also responsible for a yearling filly by **Quality Road**, and she visited **Life Is Good** and **Constitution** for this spring. Pumpkin Scone's second dam is a half-sister to the dam of GISW My Miss Sophia (Unbridled's Song) and GISW Materiality (Afleet Alex). Sales History: \$1,250,000 Ylg '21 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 7-2-3-2, \$170,629. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV.** O-Spendthrift Farm LLC; B-Chc Inc. (KY); T-Brad H. Cox.

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IN ORDER OF PURSE:

INSIGHT *Outcomes*

5th-Gulfstream, \$70,000, Msw, 1-11, 3yo, f, 5f (AWT) (off turf), :55.37, ft, 3 3/4 lengths.

PRETTY LIAM (f, 3, *Liam's Map*--*Sylphide*, by *Blame*) debuted as the 7-2 second choice with Lasix here. The homebred tracked just to the inside of favorite Beanpot (*Into Mischief*) as the leader clocked a quarter in :21.77. Cutting to the outside just before the top of the lane, the 3-year-old unleashed a barrage down the center of the course and won by 3 3/4 lengths.

The winner is a half-sister to Danse Macabre (*Army Mule*), GSW, \$957,090. A half-sister to MGSW/MGISP Cambodia (*War Front*), *Sylphide* produced a 2-year-old filly by *Always Dreaming* and a yearling filly by *Army Mule*. She was bred back to the latter for this spring. Under the third dam we find South African champion Overarching (Arch) and the dam of GISW Abscond (*Blame*). Sales History: \$240,000 RNA Ylg '22 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$42,000. **Click for the [Equibase.com](#) chart or VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV.**

O/B-St. Elias Stables, LLC (KY); T-Todd A. Pletcher.

LANE'S END FOALLED & RAISED

SBM (Susan Montanye) Graduate

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Pretty Liam | Lauren King



Shiloh's Mistress | Coady Photography

5th-Turfway, \$69,890, Msw, 1-10, 3yo, f, 1m (AWT), 1:40.95, ft, 3 1/2 lengths.

SHILOH'S MISTRESS (f, 3, *Vino Rosso*--*Ahh*, by *Saint Liam*) was the runner-up by 3 1/4 lengths as the favorite in her second career race at Churchill Downs Nov. 25. Racing with Lasix for the first time and off as the 8-5 chalk here, the bay was shuffled to the middle of the pack along the rail into the first turn. The 3-year-old looked for running room heading into the far turn, tipped to the outside at the quarter pole and blew by the leaders to win by 3 1/2 lengths over Playback (*Into Mischief*). The winner is a half-sister to Ahh Chocolate (*Candy Ride {Arg}*), MGSW, \$403,017, who was purchased for \$300,000 by the Yushun Company at the '21 Keeneland November Sale while in-foal to *Tiz the Law*; and Andesite (*The Factor*), MGSP, \$112,445. A half-sister to GSW Lone Star Sky (*Conquistador Cielo*) and GISP Rahystrada (Rahy), her dam is also responsible for a yearling filly by *Game Winner*. Sales History: \$235,000 Ylg '22 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 3-1-1-0, \$66,223. **Click for the [Equibase.com](#) chart or VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV.**

O-Blue Grouper Racing; B-Stoneway Farm (KY); T-Michael W. McCarthy.

7th-Fair Grounds, \$52,000, Msw, 1-11, 3yo/up, 5 1/2ft, 1:05.08, gd, 1 1/2 lengths.

COACHES MEETING (c, 4, *Twirling Candy*--*Miss Sammy*, by *Tale of Ekati*) hadn't been seen since last March when in his lone start as a 3-year-old at second asking he was a well-beaten fifth on the main track in New Orleans. Returning to the races as a 6-1 shot here, the colt dropped towards the middle of the field. After switching to the center of the course at the top of the lane, Coaches Meeting mounted a charge and rolled home by 1 1/2 lengths over One True Gentleman (*Society's Chairman*). A half-sister to the stakes-winning dam of MGSW Strike Charmer

(Smart Strike), the winner's dam is responsible for a 2-year-old colt by **Liam's Map** and a yearling colt by **Good Magic**. She was covered by **Upstart** for this season. Sales History: \$150,000 Ylg '21 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-0, \$36,450. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV.**

O-Michael Levin; B-Nursery Place, Donaldson & Broadbent (KY); T-W. Bret Calhoun.

 **Pick View LLC Graduate**



IN SAUDI ARABIA:

Labeh, c, 3, **Street Boss**--Reflected, by Elusive Quality. King Abdulaziz, 1-11, Maiden, 1800m. B-Joe Parker (KY). *1ST-TIME STARTER. **\$75,000 Ylg '22 KEESEP. **VIDEO (SC 18)**

 **TAYLOR MADE FOR YOU!**

Alshahim, c, 3, **Union Rags**--Lady **Tapit** (GSP), by **Tapit**. King Abdulaziz, 1-11, Maiden, 2000m. B-Parks Investment Group LLC (KY). *Won by 6 1/2 lengths. **1/2 to Kingsbarns (**Uncle Mo**), GSW, \$687,300. ***\$22,000 Ylg '22 KEESEP. **VIDEO (SC 7)**



IN AUSTRALIA:

Justaboom (Aus), f, 3, **Justify**--Kononkop (Arg) (Ch. 2yo Filly & MG1SP-Arg, \$161,593), by Pure Prize. Pakenham, 1-11, Maiden, 1600mT, 1:40.94. B-Morning Rise Stud (Vic). *A\$150,000 Ylg '22 INGEAS.



SECOND-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: FRIDAY, JANUARY 12

2024 Stud Fees Listed

Audible (Into Mischief), WinStar Farm, \$15,000
261 foals of racing age/22 winners/2 black-type winners
3-Aqu, 1:47 p.m. EST, Msw 1m, Calling an **Audible**, 8-5 \$165,000
FTKFEB wnl; \$85,000 KEESEP yrl; \$115,000 RNA OBS MAR 2yo

Candygram (Candy Ride {Arg})

27 foals of racing age/1 winner/0 black-type winners
8-Charles Town, 10:32 p.m. EST, Msw 4 1/2f, Candy Tricks, 12-1

Catholic Boy (More Than Ready), Claiborne Farm, \$10,000

159 foals of racing age/15 winners/0 black-type winners
7-Fair Grounds, 4:45 p.m. EST, Msw 5 1/2fT, Patriarchal, 6-1

Coal Front (Stay Thirsty), Spendthrift Farm, \$5,000

79 foals of racing age/10 winners/2 black-type winners
5-Oaklawn, 3:25 p.m. EST, Msw 6f, Haulin Ice, 15-1

Copper Bullet (More Than Ready), Darby Dan Farm, \$7,500

53 foals of racing age/7 winners/1 black-type winner
9-Oaklawn, 5:22 p.m. EST, Msw 1m, Contour, 15-1
\$75,000 TTA APR 2yo

Demarchelier (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}), Claiborne Farm, \$7,500

99 foals of racing age/13 winners/0 black-type winners
6-Gulfstream, 2:39 p.m. EST, Aoc 5fT, Double Your Money, 5-2
\$10,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$90,000 RNA OBS MAR 2yo; \$42,000 OBS
OPN 2yo

Enticed (Medaglia d'Oro), Darley, \$5,000

156 foals of racing age/24 winners/1 black-type winner
8-Gulfstream, 3:37 p.m. EST, Aoc 1 1/16mT, Simply Striking, 30-1
\$52,000 OBS OCT yrl; \$140,000 OBS APR 2yo

Flameaway (Scat Daddy), Darby Dan Farm, \$15,000

200 foals of racing age/21 winners/4 black-type winners
7-Fair Grounds, 4:45 p.m. EST, Msw 5 1/2fT, Bear River, 8-1
\$67,000 KEE NOV wnl; \$65,000 RNA KEE SEP yrl; \$50,000 OBS
OPN 2yo
8-Gulfstream, 3:37 p.m. EST, Aoc 1 1/16mT, Good Bright Flames,
30-1
\$17,000 RNA KEE NOV wnl; \$3,500 FTK OCT yrl
1-Sunland, 2:25 p.m. EST, Msw 5 1/2f, Lindysnotobnoxious, 3-1
\$6,500 KEE JAN wnl; \$23,000 RNA FTC AYR yrl

Heart to Heart (English Channel), Crestwood Farm

60 foals of racing age/4 winners/0 black-type winners
7-Fair Grounds, 4:45 p.m. EST, Msw 5 1/2fT, Baltimore Heart,
20-1
6-Gulfstream, 2:39 p.m. EST, Aoc 5fT, Silent Heart, 8-5

Maximus Mischief (Into Mischief), Spendthrift Farm, \$25,000

231 foals of racing age/33 winners/3 black-type winners
8-Gulfstream, 3:37 p.m. EST, Aoc 1 1/16mT, Escape Room, 12-1
\$45,000 FTK NOV wnl; \$35,000 KEE SEP yrl

8-Gulfstream, 3:37 p.m. EST, Aoc 1 1/16mT, Madness, 15-1
\$15,000 KEE NOV wnl; \$75,000 OBS OCT yrl
6-Gulfstream, 2:39 p.m. EST, Aoc 5fT, Soze, 12-1
\$27,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$75,000 OBS MAR 2yo

Mitole (Eskendereya), Spendthrift Farm, \$15,000
293 foals of racing age/37 winners/2 black-type winners
5-Turfway, 7:55 p.m. EST, Msw 1m, Promissio, 6-1
\$190,000 KEE SEP yrl

Omaha Beach (War Front), Spendthrift Farm, \$40,000
291 foals of racing age/25 winners/3 black-type winners
8-Gulfstream, 3:37 p.m. EST, Aoc 1 1/16mT, Bourbon Breeze, 12-1
\$200,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$200,000 OBS APR 2yo
5-Turfway, 7:55 p.m. EST, Msw 1m, Danner, 15-1
\$50,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$60,000 OBS OPN 2yo
7-Fair Grounds, 4:45 p.m. EST, Msw 5 1/2fT, Redeposit, 7-2
\$30,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$200,000 FTK OCT yrl

Pavel (Creative Cause), Ocean Breeze Ranch
29 foals of racing age/5 winners/1 black-type winner
1-Sunland, 2:25 p.m. EST, Msw 5 1/2f, Lupita, 4-1
\$3,000 FTC AYR yrl; RNA ARZ NOV yrl

Preservationist (Arch), Airdrie Stud, \$5,000
103 foals of racing age/15 winners/0 black-type winners
9-Oaklawn, 5:22 p.m. EST, Msw 1m, Princess Is Olivia, 7-2
\$15,000 FTK OCT yrl

Solomini (Curlin), McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds, \$7,500
142 foals of racing age/14 winners/3 black-type winners
3-Aqueduct, 1:47 p.m. EST, Msw 1m, Holder Close, 20-1
\$24,000 RNA SAR AUG yrl

Vino Rosso (Curlin), Spendthrift Farm, \$20,000
309 foals of racing age/27 winners/2 black-type winners
9-Oaklawn, 5:22 p.m. EST, Msw 1m, Business as Usual,
9-2\$110,000 FTK JUL yrl; \$180,000 OBS MAR 2yo



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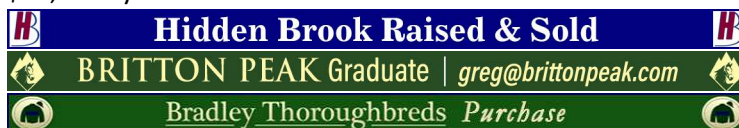
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ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

5th-Aqueduct, \$72,000, (S), 1-11, (NW1\$X), 4yo/up, 1m,
1:38.86, ft, 3 1/4 lengths.

MORETHANAFEELING (c, 4, **Blame**--Blithely {SP, \$310,410}, by
Exchange Rate) Lifetime Record: 12-2-5-2, \$159,193. O-Vintage
Thoroughbreds LLC & Carguys Racing LLC; B-William Parsons &
David Howe (NY); T-J. Tyler Servis. *\$35,000 Ylg '21 FTKOCT;
\$70,000 2yo '22 OBSOPN.



6th-Fair Grounds, \$54,000, (S), 1-11, (NW3L), 4yo/up, f/m, 6f,
1:11.17, ft, 6 1/2 lengths.

CAJUN NINJA (f, 4, **Custom for Carlos**--Holy Moly Susan, by
Holy Bull) Lifetime Record: 9-3-2-1, \$85,767. O-Thumbs Up
Racing, LLC; B-David L Cobb (LA); T-Miguel Angel Silva.

2nd-Gulfstream, \$50,100, (S), (NW1X)/Opt. Clm (\$20,000), 1-11,
4yo/up, 1 1/16m (AWT) (off turf), 1:41.21, ft, 1 1/4 lengths.

BACKCHAT (g, 6, **Will Take Charge**--My Best Ten, by **Hard Spun**)
Lifetime Record: 24-3-6-4, \$145,845. O/B-Rustlewood Farm, Inc.
(FL); T-Julie Stormfelt. *1/2 to Vow to Recover (Broken Vow),
MSW, \$184,625.

8th-Mahoning Valley, \$36,200, (S), 1-11, (NW4L), 3yo/up, 1m,
1:41.44, gd, 3 lengths.

SWING STATE (g, 4, **Super Saver**--South Bay Cove {MSW,
\$259,732}, by Fusaichi Pegasus) Lifetime Record: 24-4-4-6,
\$135,978. O-Jacobo Ibanez; B-Smokin C LLC & Super Saver
Syndicate (OH); T-Stephen G. Trevino. *\$3,000 Wlg '20
OTBOMX. **1/2 to Free Judgement (Vindication), MGSW &
G1SP-Ire, \$975,775.

7th-Sunland, \$35,100, 1-11, (NW3L), 4yo/up, 1m, 1:38.64, ft,
neck.

CAPITAL JOKE (g, 4, **Alternation**--Joke {MSW, \$121,674}, by
Phone Trick) Lifetime Record: 19-3-2-3, \$84,299. O-Utt, Christa,
Green, Greg, M.C.M Stables, LLC & O'Connor, Corie; B-Claiborne
Farm (KY); T-Greg Green. *\$20,000 Ylg '21 KEESEP. **1/2 to
Zensational (Unbridled's Song), MGISW, \$669,300.



7th-Mahoning Valley, \$33,400, 1-11, (NW2X), 3yo/up, f/m, 1m, 1:41.47, gd, head.

SHE'S CRAFTY (m, 7, Flat Out--Crafty Tigress, by Hold That Tiger) Lifetime Record: SP, 51-8-9-10, \$308,229. O-Poe and 8&3 Racing; B-Poe & Wynn Blanton (OH); T-Rob Guciardo. *\$29,000 RNA Ylg '18 KEESEP.

4th-Charles Town, \$31,300, (S), 1-10, 3yo/up, f/m, 6 1/2f, 1:19.51, ft, 3 1/4 lengths.

AZZURRA (m, 8, Capo Bastone--Wild in Manila, by Wild Rush) Lifetime Record: MSP, 56-12-7-13, \$322,665. O-Timothy Freitag; B-Antonio Scotto Di Carlo (WV); T-Donald C. Barber.

7th-Charles Town, \$28,400, (S), 1-10, (NW3L), 3yo/up, f/m, 4 1/2f, :52.62, ft, 4 1/2 lengths.

DREAMY SONDE (f, 4, Fiber Sonde--Some Say, by Chelsey Cat) Lifetime Record: 7-3-2-0, \$69,027. O-Pascal and Harding; B-Deb Rhodes (WV); T-Jeff Runco. *\$28,000 RNA Ylg '21 EASOCT.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Countess Colette, f, 3, **Medal Count**--Mobil Bonnet, by Mobil. MVR, 1-11, (S), 6f, 1:14.90. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$19,080. B-Mapleton (OH). *\$2,000 Ylg '22 OTBOMX. **1ST-TIME STR.

Corkage Fee, f, 3, **Vino Rosso**--Hassler (Ire), by **War Front**. Turfway, 1-10, (C), 1m (AWT), 1:42.26. Lifetime Record: 4-1-0-0, \$30,354. B-Jim & Donna Daniell (KY).

Risk Free, f, 4, **American Freedom**--Keep Crossing (MSW, \$213,920), by Istan. Aqueduct, 1-11, 7f, 1:26.20. Lifetime Record: SP, 21-1-10-6, \$309,220. B-Brereton C. Jones (KY). *\$40,000 Ylg '21 KEESEP. **Full to Good Skate, SP, \$296,730.

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Tiz Eternal, g, 5, **Tiznow**--Eternal Grace (SP), by Gilded Time. Gulfstream, 1-11, 1 1/8m (AWT) (off turf), 1:47.53. Lifetime Record: 3-1-1-0, \$57,000. B-Barry R. Ostrager (NY). *\$120,000 Wlg '19 KEENOV; \$300,000 Ylg '20 FTKSEL. **1/2 to Bye Bye Bernie (Bernstein), GSW-Can, MSP-USA, \$376,149; Joe Franklin (Bernstein), GSP, \$229,952.

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Leslie's Rose (Into Mischief) stars at Gulfstream Park
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Alternation, Capital Joke, g, 4, o/o Joke, by Phone Trick. ALW, 1-11, Sunland

American Freedom, Risk Free, f, 4, o/o Keep Crossing, by Istan. MSW, 1-11, Aqueduct

Blame, Morethanafeeling, c, 4, o/o Blithely, by Exchange Rate. ALW, 1-11, Aqueduct

Capo Bastone, Azzurra, m, 8, o/o Wild in Manila, by Wild Rush. ALW, 1-10, Charles Town

Custom for Carlos, Cajun Ninja, f, 4, o/o Holy Moly Susan, by Holy Bull. ALW, 1-11, Fair Grounds

Fiber Sonde, Dreamy Sonde, f, 4, o/o Some Say, by Chelsey Cat. ALW, 1-10, Charles Town

Flat Out, She's Crafty, m, 7, o/o Crafty Tigress, by Hold That Tiger. ALW, 1-11, Mahoning Valley

Into Mischief, Leslie's Rose, f, 3, o/o Wildwood Rose (Ire), by Galileo (Ire). AOC, 1-11, Gulfstream

Into Mischief, Pumpkin Scone, f, 4, o/o Embellish the Lace, by Super Saver. ALW, 1-10, Turfway

Liam's Map, Pretty Liam, f, 3, o/o Sylphide, by **Blame**. MSW, 1-11, Gulfstream

Medal Count, Countess Colette, f, 3, o/o Mobil Bonnet, by Mobil. MSW, 1-11, Mahoning Valley

Super Saver, Swing State, g, 4, o/o South Bay Cove, by Fusaichi Pegasus. ALW, 1-11, Mahoning Valley

Tiznow, Tiz Eternal, g, 5, o/o Eternal Grace, by Gilded Time. MSW, 1-11, Gulfstream

Twirling Candy, Coaches Meeting, c, 4, o/o Miss Sammy, by **Tale of Ekati**. MSW, 1-11, Fair Grounds

Vino Rosso, Corkage Fee, f, 3, o/o Hassler (Ire), by **War Front**. MCL, 1-10, Turfway

Vino Rosso, Shiloh's Mistress, f, 3, o/o Ahh, by Saint Liam. MSW, 1-10, Turfway

Will Take Charge, Backchat, g, 6, o/o My Best Ten, by **Hard Spun**. AOC, 1-11, Gulfstream



'HE'S THE NEW KID ON THE BLOCK' - BOLGER BACKS MAC SWINEY TO BE A HIT



Mac Swiney | *Racingfotos.com*

Jim Bolger has encouraged breeders and racing fans alike to pay a visit to his Classic-winning homebred Mac Swiney (Ire) (New Approach {Ire}) at the Irish National Stud and promised 'they won't be disappointed' by what they see.

The two-day Irish Stallion Trail kicks off on Friday and Bolger is backing Mac Swiney to go down a bomb. The legendary trainer also revealed that he plans on supporting the Group 1-winning two-year-old and Irish 2,000 Guineas hero with 20 mares in his first season at stud.

Bolger said, "He's the new kid on the block and he'll be a big attraction. Anybody who goes and sees him on the Irish Stallion Trail, they definitely won't be disappointed."

He added, "I've 20 mares lined up for Mac Swiney. He's a very meaningful horse to us. We knew from the time he arrived here first that he was special. He's such a good looker. He looked like a real one even from the time he was foaled. Looks-wise, he never disappointed and I'd be very disappointed if he didn't go down well."

Mac Swiney showed top-class form as a juvenile by taking out the G1 Futurity S. on his final start at two. He built on that promise at three when taking the scalp of his stablemate Poetic Flare (Ire) (Dawn Approach {Ire}) in the Irish 2,000 Guineas before finishing an honourable third in the G1 British Champion S. over 10 furlongs later that season. [Cont. p3](#)

DAVID ELLIS BUYS WOOTTON BASSETT FILLY FOR \$2.1 MILLION

by *Lewis Lesbirel & Jesse Dart/TTR AusNZ*

The Magic Millions Gold Coast Yearling Sale had a distinct European flavour to it on Day 3, with **Wootton Bassett (GB)** and **Frankel (GB)** heavily represented amongst some of the highest purchase prices.

At A Glance:

- A further five horses fetched seven-figure sums on Day 3 of the Magic Millions Gold Coast Yearling Sale, spearheaded by a pair of yearlings from the first crop of Coolmore stallion **Wootton Bassett**.

- The average dropped fractionally from Wednesday to A\$289,810, which is below the A\$306,240 average at the same point during last year's sale. The median also held steady at A\$220,000, A\$10,000 below last year's corresponding figure at the same stage. [Cont. p10](#)

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

CURTAIN LOWERS AT KEENELAND JANUARY

The four-day Keeneland January Sale concluded on Thursday. There were a trio of millionaires anchored by **Prank** (Into Mischief).

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TODAY in TDN EUROPE

Friday, January 12, 2024



Julia Ellis, Karyn Fenton-Ellis, and David Ellis at Magic Millions. Te Akau purchased a **Wootton Bassett** filly for AU\$2.1 million to top proceedings on Thursday. | Magic Millions

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: IRISH DERBY DEBATE

4

The call to shorten the 1 1/2-mile G1 Irish Derby is met with fierce resistance from several parties, as another Letter To The Editor is drafted.

TIM DONWORTH IS IN THE HOT SEAT

5

The TDN series continues with Chantilly trainer Tim Donworth.

FEBRUARY CATALOGUE ANNOUNCED BY TATTERSALLS

7

The Tattersalls February Sale is less than a month away, and the catalogue was unveiled on Thursday.

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"THE SPRINT/MILER TYPES ARE THE ONES THAT ARE MOST SOUGHT AFTER IN THE SALES RING AND MAC SWINEY FALLS INTO THAT CATEGORY BEING A GROUP 1 WINNER AT TWO AND A CLASSIC-WINNING MILER AT THREE. I'D BE CONFIDENT THAT THAT'S THE WAY HE WILL BE VIEWED."

--Jim Bolger

Mac Swiney Cont. from p1

With that in mind, Bolger says he is confident that Mac Swiney can appeal to every facet of the market and that he is fairly priced at an opening fee of €8,000.

Bolger explained, "The sprinter/miler types are the ones that are most sought after in the sales ring and Mac Swiney falls into that category being a Group 1 winner at two and a Classic-winning miler at three. I'd be confident that that's the way he will be viewed. If that is the case, I think he'll go very well at stud. I think he's great value and I wouldn't have it otherwise because breeders, now more so than ever, deserve a break. I think he's proper value at that money."



Jim Bolger | Alayna Cullen Birkett

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He added, "Along with his top performances at two and three, he's a great looker with the most wonderful temperament. They are going to find it very easy to manage him at the Irish National Stud."

It didn't always appear likely that Mac Swiney would be available for Irish or even European breeders. Bolger revealed that there were offers, one in particular to abroad which piqued interests, but in the end, a deal was brokered with the Irish National Stud where Mac Swiney will stand alongside fellow Irish 2,000 Guineas winner Phoenix Of Spain (Ire), Invincible Spirit (Ire), Lucky Vega (Ire), Nando Parado (GB), Equiano (Fr) and Elusive Pimpernel.

Bolger said, "I got a very good offer from abroad and he nearly went away but I wasn't happy about it. Ken [Bolger], my nephew who runs Redmonstown Stud, approached the Irish National Stud and they had a deal wrapped up fairly quickly."

Mac Swiney's dam Halle Na Saoire (Ire) (Teofilo {Ire}) is a full-sister to the Group 2 winner Light Heavy (Ire) and he represents a family that Bolger has been involved with since 1994. Amoura (Northfields), then an 11-year-old mare who had produced seven foals and just one winner at the time, was snapped up by Bolger for just \$5,000 at Keeneland. [Cont. p4](#)

'A MOST UNBELIEVABLE PHYSICAL'

“I remember him vividly as a yearling...a most unbelievable physical and obviously what he did on the racetrack was phenomenal. I'm a huge fan of the Scat Daddy line”

Alex Elliott



“Very taking... a good head and a particularly athletic horse – plenty of scope”

Luke Lillingston



“I distinctly remember Little Big Bear at Arqana...he was a most beautiful-looking yearling – size, strength, quality - all the attributes to make an outstanding racehorse.”

Mark McStay



“He's stunning, a very easy horse to like. I came here with one particular mare in mind for him, but I'm now trying to find a second mare for him!”

Luke Barry



“He was always a good foal and he matured into a very nice horse; very strong with a lot of quality. He had an awful lot of speed and he was built for speed. I should think he'll be a very easy horse to breed to because of his physicality and his quality.”

Co-breeder Timmy Hyde



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Mac Swiney Cont.

She would go on to breed Siamsa (Quest For Fame {GB}), the dam of Light Heavy, but more importantly, Halla Na Saoire (Ire), who went on to produce Mac Swiney.

Not only that, but Halla Na Saoire is also by one of Bolger's most famous homebreds, Teofilo (Ire), so you could say this latest Classic-winning stallion prospect is a Bolger special in every sense of the word.

He concluded, "It's a family that started out with the Aga Khan followed by Prince Khalid Abdullah and now it's the Irish National Stud and myself. It's very exciting to see him off to stud and I'm confident that he will go down very well."

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To reply to Patrick Cooper's call to reduce the distance of the Irish Derby ([TDN January 8, 2023](#)), this is absolutely the wrong action to take.

I am not involved in the Thoroughbred industry, but I am writing as a 'follower' of nearly 60 years, and also from a

background in PR, having been headhunted by local government to lead international promotion for a major tourism destination (it worked).

The solution (albeit in the longer term) is not a shorter distance, but a more prestigious race, a race which owners will clamour to enter.

I haven't been to any meeting at the Curragh, but I am sure there are ways to turn the day into an event, into a party to supplement the racing. Make it the Irish Arc for three-year-olds. Increase the purse and provide incentives so that international owners cannot bear to pass it over. Provide riches for breeders in the form of supplements.

Since the rush for faster horses is a growing concern for all races of a mile and a half (except the Derby and the Arc - so far, but Adayar went to Japan as well), create some sort of 'Super League' for races at the distance, with a Kentucky Derby buzz attached to it, to appeal outside the racing industry. Perhaps an early- and mid-summer 'Triple Crown' comprising the Epsom and Irish Derbys and the King George, with points for placing going back to, say, sixth (with older horses excluded from the points). Get the general population interested in picking their own competitor, or more than one, for potential prizes.

[Cont. p4](#)



Mac Swiney (Ire) (New Approach {Ire}) is new to the Irish National Stud this year. [Click above to find out more.](#) | TDNtv

Letter To The Editor Cont.

Promote this as a good-time story in the mainstream media.

Similar ideas are needed to encourage owners and breeders to return to genuine middle-distance pedigrees, if they are rewarded, if interest and excitement are generated in the non-racing community so that middle-distance sires become celebrated again. So that breeders will be proud to stand one.

What would happen today to a Hyperion, winner of the St Leger and third in the Ascot Gold Cup in addition to his Derby? Discarded for National Hunt duties, instead of becoming one of the greatest sires of all time?

And what happens if you reduce distances to ten furlongs, and then owners and breeders demand MORE speed and LESS distance? Will you pander to them down the line? Will seven furlongs become the benchmark for a top European racehorse?

Fortunately, the Japanese are taking a different path. How long will it be before Europe is obliged to raid their bloodlines?

--Hilary Whitton Paipeti

Do you agree or disagree with this view? Please let us know your thoughts by emailing emmaberry@thetdn.com.



A statue of the late star galloper and sire Hyperion | [Racingfotos.com](https://www.racingphotos.com)

IN THE HOT SEAT | Tim Donworth

Chantilly trainer **Tim Donworth** is the latest to face the TDN question master.

What are your goals for 2024?

To train more winners than 2023. More winners each year while maintaining the strike-rate has to be the goal really.

Cont. p6

DARK ANGEL

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LEADING SIRES IN GB & IRE 2023

by prizemoney

Sire	Wnrs	BT Wnrs	GP Wnrs	Total £
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2 DARK ANGEL	109	11	7	4,192,404
3 DUBAWI	81	20	14	4,114,799
4 SEA THE STARS	78	10	8	3,939,379
5 GALILEO	55	15	8	3,923,038

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Tim Donworth | Emma Berry

In The Hot Seat Cont.

Give us a horse to follow...

Fathom (Ire) (Almanzor {Fr}), a big, tall filly who got black type for me last year I think she will be nice three-year-old.

And a young person in the industry to keep an eye on...

Joe Callan of Whitsbury Manor Stud.

Who do you think will be champion first-season sire in 2024?

Earthlight (Ire).

And the best value stallion in Ireland, England, and France?

Sealiway (Fr) for me looks good value for his profile.

Your best buy of 2023?

I guess we won't know until I get them to the races. However, I got a lovely Galiway (GB) filly at Arqana October called Galway Bay (Fr) that seems nice.

The best yearling/weanling you saw at the 2023 sales (that someone else bought)?

The **Sottsass (Fr)** filly out of Up in Time (GB) was was a nice buy (bought by Howson & Houldsworth Bloodstock for Chris Stedman for 110,000gns). She had a lot of class.

Who is or was the perfect Thoroughbred?

Frankel (GB)

Your biggest professional regret?

Too young and not enough time for regrets yet. I just keep going forward and try to always take the positives. [Cont. p7](#)

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Take out the guesswork...

In The Hot Seat Cont.

If you could be someone else in the industry for a day who would it be, and why?

Ah, I'm not sure who but a day with a big breeze-up operation or a big stud would be interesting as something different, but I'm pretty happy being me.

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EUROPEAN NEWS

'QUALITY AND DIVERSITY' ON OFFER AS FEBRUARY SALE CATALOGUE RELEASED BY TATTERSALLS

A total of 376 lots have been **catalogued** for the two-day Tattersalls February Sale at Park Paddocks on Feb. 1-2.

Divided between 146 fillies and mares in/out of training, 27 broodmares, 172 colts and geldings in/out of training, 22 yearlings and nine 2-year-olds, the sale will begin on Feb. 1 after the Thoroughbred Breeders' Association Flat Stallion Parade. The second session will take place at 10 a.m.

Among the lots on offer are Grade III winner **Angel Terrace** (**Ghostzapper**) (lot 67), herself a half-sister to crack stayer Order Of St George (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}) in foal to New Bay (GB); Peeping Fawn (Danehill)'s half-sister **Crimson Rock** (Fastnet Rock {Aus}) (lot 66) who is a granddaughter of Blush With Pride (Blushing Groom {Fr}) in foal to **Saxon Warrior** (Jpn); **Taqareed** (Ire) (**Sea The Stars** {Ire}) (lot 107) is in foal to Pinatubo (Ire) and is a full-sister to champion Taghrooda (GB) (**Sea The Stars** {Ire}); Classic winner Galileo Gold (GB) (Paco Boy {Ire})'s full-sister **Choumicha** (GB) (Paco Boy {Ire}) will sell in foal to Ardad (Ire); G1 Irish Derby third **Covent Garden** (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}) (lot 330) who is a full-brother to Group 1 winner Johannes Vermeer (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}) is set to sell; as is **Composite** (GB) (Cracksman {GB}) (lot 326), a half-brother to Group 3 winner **Shutter Speed** (GB) (Dansili {GB}); and **Retort** (Ire) (**Frankel** {GB}) (lot 129), a full-brother to the 87-rated Group 2 winner Obligate (GB) (**Frankel** {GB}).

Tattersalls chairman Edmond Mahony said, "Last year was another banner year for the Tattersalls February Sale with the dams of Melbourne Cup winner Without A Fight (Ire) (Teofilo {Ire}), German Oaks winner Muskoka (Ger) (Sea The Moon {Ger}) and Criterium de Saint-Cloud winner Los Angeles (Ire) (**Camelot** {GB}), all purchased at previous February Sales for a combined total of 78,200 guineas." **Cont. p8**

... could it be any clearer?

Sierra
Oscar
Lima
Delta
India
Echo
Romeo
Sierra

Charlie
Alpha
Lima
Lima

2024 Fee
£8,500



Dullingham
PARK

Ollie Fowlston **Mobile:** +44 (0)7879 421006

Office: +44 (0)1638 555059 **Email:** ofowlston@dullinghampark.com

www.dullinghampark.com

Tattersalls February Sale Cont.

He added, "As well as international Group 1 producers the February Sale is a prolific and consistent source of high-class horses in training with the 40,000 guineas February purchase Missed The Cut (GB) (Zebedee {GB}) flying the flag in California with a recent Grade III win and Grade II placing at Santa Anita. The hallmark of Europe's premier midwinter sale is quality and diversity and as ever the catalogue features a combination of horses in training, breeding stock and young stock as well as consignments from many of the world's leading owner/breeders, all of which make the Tattersalls February Sale such a popular fixture with both domestic and international buyers."

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Missed The Cut | Benoit Photo

BREEDING RIGHT TO HAVANA GREY ANCHORS TATTERSALLS ONLINE JANUARY CATALOGUE

Of the 95 lots catalogued for the Tattersalls Online January Sale from Jan. 17-18, the highlight is undoubtedly a breeding right in sire-on-the-rise **Havana Grey (GB)** (lot 95), who stands at Whitsbury Manor Stud.

The grey is now the sire of the dual Group 1-winning juvenile Vandeeke (GB) and other group winners Jasour (GB), Elite Status (GB), Mammass Girl (GB), Rumstar (GB), Eddie's Boy (GB), and Lady Hollywood (GB) among his best runners.

There are also breeding rights in **Cracksman (GB)** (lot 92), the sire of the undefeated G1 Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe hero Ace Impact (Ire); and Group 1 wire **Harry Angel (Ire)** (lot 94) catalogued. Of the 57 horses in/out of training, one of the choicest lots is the 120-rated hurdler **Level Neverending (Ire)** (Flemensfirth) (lot 34). [Cont. p9](#)

11 Group 1 winners to date including...



LUXEMBOURG won the **Tattersalls Gold Cup-Gr.1** defeating 2022 Champion Stakes winner Bay Bridge. Also a Group 1 winner at both 2 and 3 years.



LOS ANGELES, winner of the **Criterium de Saint-Cloud-Gr.1** for Aidan O'Brien to remain unbeaten.

“rocketed up the European 2YO sire table thanks to his youngsters coming to hand later in the season, just as Montjeu's did every year from 2004 to 2015”

Martin Stevens, RACING POST BLOODSTOCK, 25th Oct

CAMELOT

Yearlings in 2023 sold for **€850,000** (to Godolphin), **€520,000** (to Sackville Donald for Juddmonte), **€320,000**, **€300,000**, **250,000gns**, **250,000gns**, **€250,000** etc.

COOLMORE

Fee: €50,000

Contact: **Coolmore Stud** Tel: +353-52-6131298.

Castlehyde Stud Tel: +353-25-31966.

E-mail: sales@coolmore.ie www.coolmore.com



Havana Grey | Tattersalls

Tattersalls Online Cont.

In foal to Cracksman is **Renzia (Ger)** (Sea The Stars {Ire}), a half-sister to the Group 1-placed Stormy Len (Harlan's Holiday).

The sale begins at noon on Wednesday, Jan. 17 and ends at noon the following day.

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BRITAIN

Thursday's Results:

3rd-Southwell, £10,500, Nov, 1-11, 3yo/up, f, 6f 16y (AWT), 1:13.88, st.

PANDORA'S GIFT (IRE) (f, 3, **Churchill {Ire}**--**Amthaal {GB}**, by **Exceed And Excel {Aus}**), who registered a Dec. 21 breakthrough over six furlongs at Chelmsford last time, broke sharply and was positioned third along the rail racing under a four-pound penalty here. Urged forward in the straight to lead passing the two pole, the 9-4 second choice was not for catching thereafter and kept on strongly under a late drive to hold Blue Virtue (Ire) (Blue Point {Ire}) by a half-length in ultimately snug fashion. Pandora's Gift is the second of three foals and lone scorer produced by a winning daughter G3 Cornwallis S. third Darajaat (Elusive Quality), herself half to stakes-winning G3 Oak Tree S. third Shabiba (Seeking the Gold) out of G3 Nell Gwyn S. victrix Misterah (GB) (Alhaarth {Ire}). The March-foaled bay is kin to a yearling filly by **Arizona (Ire)**. Sales history: €28,000 Ylg '22 GOFSP. Lifetime Record: 3-2-1-0, \$17,228.

O-James Parry & Partners; B-Rossenarra Bloodstock Ltd (IRE); T-Stuart Williams.

CONDITIONS RESULTS:

5th-Chelmsford City, £9,650, Cond, 1-11, 4yo/up, 10f (AWT),

2:05.76, st.

CALCUTTA DREAM (IRE) (g, 6, **Iffraaj {GB}**--**Short Affair {GB}** {**GSP-Ity**, \$103,334}, by **Singspiel {Ire}**) Lifetime Record: 28-4-2-4, \$31,523. O-Calcutta Dream Partnership; B-Aston House Stud (IRE); T-Michael & David Easterby. *30,000gns Wlg '18 TATFOA; 10,000gns Ylg '19 TAOCT; 6,500gns 5yo '23 TATFEB. **1/2 to Rodaballo (GB) (Lope De Vega {Ire}), GSW-Ger & SP-Fr, \$275,845.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Dyrholaey (Fr), c, 3, **City Light (Fr)**--**Agua De Mar (Fr)**, by Myboycharlie (Ire). Chelmsford City, 1-11, 6f (AWT), 1:10.85. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$5,669. B-Mme Isabelle Mauger & Guy Benachour (FR). *€16,000 Ylg '22 ADSY22; €55,000 2yo '23 TATGOR.

Due Date (GB), g, 4, **Due Diligence**--**Harryana To (GB)**, by Compton Place (GB). Chelmsford City, 1-11, 6f (AWT), 1:11.67. Lifetime Record: 14-1-1-0, \$8,683. B-Whitsbury Manor Stud (GB). *£55,000 Ylg '21 GOFFUK; 13,500gns 3yo '23 TATJUL. **Full to Diligent Harry (GB), MGSP-Eng, \$262,754; and 1/2 to Harry Three (GB) (Adaay {Ire}), SW-Fr, \$159,537.

FRANCE

CONDITIONS RESULTS:

6th-Lyon La Soie, €16,000, Cond, 1-11, 4yo/up, 9f (AWT), 1:52.07, st.

BURATTINA (IRE) (m, 6, **Buratino {Ire}**--**Nonna Iole {GB}** {**SP-Ity**, by **Tobougg {Ire}**) Lifetime Record: 42-7-7-9, €92,775. O-Eric Wisser; B-Allevamento Le.Gi. SRL Societa' Agricola di Massimo Parri (IRE); T-Alexis Acker. *€0 RNA Wlg '18 GOFNOV; €16,000 Ylg '19 SGASEP.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Princesse Columbia (Fr), f, 3, **Dream Ahead**--**Serendipite (Fr)**, by Le Havre (Ire). Lyon La Soie, 1-11, 9f (AWT), 1:58.01. B-Boris Batchourine & Ludovic Clabaux (FR).

Cape Cannon (Fr), g, 3, **Siyouni (Fr)**--**Passing Parade (GB)**, by Cape Cross (Ire). Lyon La Soie, 1-11, 9f (AWT), 1:57.77. B-Merry Fox Stud Ltd (FR). *€120,000 RNA Ylg '22 ARQOCT.

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Arabian Tale (GB), g, 5, **Dubawi (Ire)**--Monday Show (SP-Ger), by Maria's Mon. Abu Dhabi, 1-11, Mdn., 1600mT, 1:37.02. O-The Chopra Family. B-Godolphin (GB). *1/2 to Usherette (Ire) (Shamardal), Hwt. Older Mare-Eur at 7-9 1/2f, Hwt. Older Mare-Fr at 7-9 1/2f, Hwt. Older Mare-Eng at 7-9 1/2f, SW & G1SP-Fr, MGSW-Eng, \$405,084; Show Day (Ire) (Shamardal), SW-Ger, GSP-Itly; and Magnetic Charm (GB) (Exceed And Excel {Aus}), SW-Eng, GSP-Can, \$118,512. **AED320,000 HRA '22 ERASEP. **VIDEO**.

WORLDWIDE NEWS

Magic Millions Cont. from p1

- The current gross of A\$155,338,000 at the close of play on Day 3 is up marginally on the same figure at this stage 12 months ago, while the clearance rate of 85.21% is fractionally below last year's 87.05% at the end of Day 3.
- Te Akau's David Ellis CNZM (BANZ) continues to lead the buying bench, helped by his purchase of the current sale-topping **Wootton Bassett** filly out of the nine-time Group 1 winner **Avantage (Aus)**, who was purchased by Ellis as a yearling. Ellis has signed for 10 yearlings outright for a total gross of A\$6,965,000 thus far.
- Newgate continues to lead the leading vendor standings, but Segenhoe Stud is hot on its heels after another stellar day for leviathan owner-breeder John Camilleri, who sold the second most expensive horse through the ring on Thursday, a A\$1.6 million **Wootton Bassett** colt. Segenhoe is the leading vendor by average, with an incredible figure of A\$659,750 from 20 lots sold.
- Yarraman Park Stud's reigning champion sire I Am Invincible (Aus) jumped to the head of affairs in the leading sire standings by gross, almost A\$3 million clear of his nearest pursuer Snitzel (Aus), while **Frankel** leads the same standings by the average metric.

- After a landmark day for the rags to riches stallion, **Wootton Bassett** is comfortably ahead in the leading first-season sire standings by both gross and average. His average of A\$471,000 is A\$138,273 ahead of the average posted by last year's leading first-season sire at the same juncture.

Lot 454 - **Wootton Bassett (GB)** x **Avantage (Aus)** (**Fastnet Rock {Aus}**), filly, A\$2.1 million

Across the first two days, Te Akau Racing supremo David Ellis CNZM (BANZ) has been willing to open the cheque book for a number of colts he hopes can establish the brand in Australia with a bang, but on Thursday he went back to the well of the superstar mare **Avantage (Aus)** (**Fastnet Rock {Aus}**) to purchase her first foal from Coolmore Stud for A\$2.1 million.

By one of the most exciting stallions to stand in Australia in contemporary times, **Wootton Bassett (GB)**, there was plenty of excitement as attendees streamed into the complex, and they didn't have to wait long to see fireworks, with the current sale topper being offered in the first 10 minutes of bidding on Thursday.

Ellis, who knows the dam extremely well owing to her racing in the famous tangerine and blue Te Akau colours, fought off interest from across the floor and online to buy her, going beyond the A\$2 million barrier for the first time so far in the sale. In almost perfect synergy, the first foal of the star mare sold by Te Akau to Coolmore, is sold by Coolmore to Te Akau, and if she could go on to emanate her mother's success, it would be no surprise to see the back-and-forth continue for her breeding career.

One of the finest racemares in recent Australasian racing, **Avantage** ruled the New Zealand roost in the latter part of the 2010s, recording 16 victories, nine of which came at Group 1 level.

She was a brilliant 2-year-old, winning five races in her juvenile year, including the G1 Sires' Produce S. at Manawatu. One of the best progeny of **Fastnet Rock**, a title that has its fair share of talented gallopers queuing up to be claiming it, **Avantage** sold to Tom Magnier for an incredible NZ\$4.1 million in a Gavelhouse Plus online auction following her racing career concluding in 2021.

Also present on this filly's page is the brilliant Hong Kong sprinter D B Pin (NZ) (Darci Brahma {NZ}), who took out the G1 Centenary Sprint Cup, as well as hearty stayer **Asathought (Aus)** (So You Think {NZ}), who found the winning post first on seven occasions, including the Listed Riverton Cup.

Speaking to *The Thoroughbred Report* after the purchase, Ellis lauded the quality of **Avantage**, and shared his excitement over what his expensive new acquisition could become down the track. **Cont. p11**



Top lot by **Wootton Bassett** | *Magic Millions*

Magic Millions Cont.

He said, “We’re just over the moon to have a filly of her quality to train. A lot of people don’t realise that she [Avantage] had her first start as a 2-year-old in September and she won that well.

“She raced again in October, she won the (R. Listed) Karaka Million. She won a Group 1 as a 2-year-old. She won a Group 1 at 1200 metres, 1400 metres, 1600 (metres) and 2000 metres.

“We’ll take her back to New Zealand. We’ll break her in [race educate], assess her and have her ready to race in November/December.

“This filly has terrific residual value and she’d be an asset for any stud farm (even) if she never races.

“She was the complete racehorse and I’ve seen her foal at the stud this year. She is a cracker and the mare is back in foal to I Am Invincible so it has got so much upside and we’re just so proud to have her in the stable to train.”

Lot 666 - Wootton Bassett (GB) x Fiera Vista (Aus) (Exceed And Excel {Aus}), colt, A\$1.6 million

Late in a day that had announced **Wootton Bassett** as one of the most extraordinary first-season sires seen in this country, his extraordinary run continued with another big-money purchase, this time at the hands of Tom Magnier, who parted with A\$1.6 million to purchase the royally bred colt, giving his sire the two most expensive lots sold across the day.

With the glamorous colt safely secured, Magnier told *The Thoroughbred Report* of his delight of the support **Wootton Bassett** has been met with since standing in the Southern Hemisphere, and the liking he has for this colt.

“It is great to see it [the support for **Wootton Bassett**]. The best breeders around the country have gone to this horse.

“We’ll need a bit of luck, but in fairness to the stallion, he is kicking amazing goals and the market seems to have the confidence that he is going to do the same here [Southern

Hemisphere].

“Just a real quality horse (Lot 666). Very athletic and loads of quality. In fairness all the team really liked this horse and it is a credit to Peter and John Camilleri.

“There are that many as 2-year-olds in Europe [performing well], it is very exciting.”

Based on pedigree alone, you can certainly see why there was feverish interest amongst bidders, with his dam being the Listed Morphettville Guineas winner Fiera Vista (Aus), a talented daughter of top stallion Exceed And Excel (Aus).

She is a half-sister to the G2 Kewney S. winner Empress Rock (Aus) (Fastnet Rock {Aus}), who has gotten her career as a producer off to a good start, with Dynasties (Aus) (Sebring {Aus}) coming out on top in the Listed Gold Coast Bracelet.

Also present on his page is the legendary Hong Kong iron-horse Silent Witness (Aus) (El Moxie {USA}), who won an incredible 17 races in succession as he carved out one of the greatest careers ever seen in the jurisdiction, as well as the G2 Salinger S. victress Sister Madly (Aus) (Redoute’s Choice {Aus}) and the G3 Quizette S. heroine Bound For Home (Aus) (Rubick {Aus}).

Lot 644 - Extreme Choice (Aus) x Euroboss (Street Boss), colt, A\$1.45 million

With intense competition for high-class colts, a conglomerate of racing royalty, comprising of Rosemont Stud, Suman Hedge Bloodstock (FBAA), Gai Waterhouse & Adrian Bott and Dermot Farrington Bloodstock combined to secure a striking son of Extreme Choice (Aus) at a cost of A\$1.45 million.

With action from across the floor, bidding reached a frenzy as the A\$1 million threshold was met and exceeded, with the end result of interest from multiple parties being a purchase price amongst the highest seen in the first three days of selling. **Cont. p12**



Peter O'Brien, Tom Magnier, John Camilleri | *Magic Millions*



Adrian Bott, Suman Hedge, Ryan McEvoy and Anthony Mithen
Magic Millions

Magic Millions Cont.

Speaking to *The Thoroughbred Report* after coming out victorious, bloodstock agent Suman Hedge emphasised just how keen the partnership was to ensure that they had their names listed as the winning bidders.

“He was a horse that through the week that there was a lot of talk amongst my colleagues and trainers, so we were really just hopeful more than anything to get him.

“Obviously, we had to push ourselves to the limit, but we’re really happy to secure him. There’s obviously a limited number of them [progeny of Extreme Choice] that are available.

“The horse has done an incredible job at stud and I think also as the sale progresses and you see other colts going through, it sets some benchmarks for the ones that you like.

“With the one going through yesterday really well (Lot 349), we knew this one was going to be quite a challenge to get, but we’re really happy to get him.”

Out of a winning daughter of Street Boss, Euroboss, who picked up three victories when racing, and a black type placing in the GIII Woodbine Whimsical S., she has produced one foal to race so far, High Class (Into Mischief).

The latter has already tasted success on the racetrack in strong company, winning the Listed Poinsettia S., a win that gave this lot a valuable pedigree update.

This colt has a page stacked with talent all throughout his damline, including the GI Santa Anita H. champion Combatant (Scat Daddy), who was an elite performer in the United States beyond 1600 metres, and the G3 Sweet Solera S. winner Long Lashes (Rock Hard Ten).

Lot 623 - I Am Invincible (Aus) x Eloping (Aus) (Choisir {Aus}), filly, A\$1.15 million

Plenty of bidders were salivating at the thought of taking ownership of a full-sister to In Secret (Aus) (I Am Invincible {Aus}), but it was renowned bloodstock agent Damon Gabbedy who came out on top of a spirited battle across the auditorium

with a A\$1.15 million bid to secure her from Segenhoe Stud.

To be trained by Ciaron Maher, the dashing filly commanded attention as she waltzed around the ring with a sense of authority, with interest running hot as the price ticked over the seven-figure threshold.

With an enviable page, it’s certainly evident why the bidspotters were kept on their toes, with the full relation to In Secret being supplemented with a number of other strong relations.

Her dam, Eloping (Aus) (Choisir {Aus}), was no slouch herself, a seven-time winner, four of which came in her 2-year-old season, including crowing victories in the G3 Royal Randwick S. and the G3 Champagne S.

With more 2-year-old speed, through the like of the Blue Diamond Prelude Colts and Geldings Prelude winner Of The Brave (Aus) (**Starspangledbanner {Aus}**), who is a three-quarter brother to Eloping, and the G3 Carbine Club S. winner All Courage (Aus) (Danzero {Aus}), who won two races in his juvenile year.

Following the sale, Gabbedy, who operates the buyer Belmont Bloodstock Agency (FBAA) told *The Thoroughbred Report*, “We loved her. She’s obviously got a heap of residual value. Full-sister to the champion filly (In Secret).

“She’s from a fast-running mare and she comes from an amazing farm. (I’m) Thrilled to get her. She’s been a standout from day one. A standout from the farm tours and she’s handled herself beautifully all the way through. Her temperament back here was unbelievable.

“A really cool dude, she is. She really handled everything really well. She was a bit bigger [than] In Secret. In Secret cost A\$900,000 and she’s won two Group 1s and this is a full-sister to her so she’s always worth a lot of money as a broodmare down the track.” **Cont. p13**



Damon Gabbedy | *Magic Millions*

Magic Millions Cont.

He added, "She's going to a nice man who breeds later on."

Gabbedy revealed he was approaching the brink of his budget, saying, "We were out on our feet. I thought she'd go for a million dollars, one or !1.2 million."

Lot 513 - **Frankel (GB) x Cercele D'Or (Ire)** **(Acclamation {GB}), filly, A\$1 million**

Gai Waterhouse and Adrian Bott are no strangers to buying at the pointy end of the market, and despite waiting until the early morning of Day 3, they found themselves a flashy filly to break the seven-figure barrier with, out of the world-renowned stallion **Frankel (GB)**.

Offered by Yarraman Park, the bidding started high and continued to tick along, but there was no denying Waterhouse and Bott, who went to A\$1 million alongside Matt Houldsworth to ensure she went into their care.

She is out of the 2-year-old winner Cercle D'or (Ire) (Acclamation {GB}), who showed her best at 1400 metres. There is plenty of quality around her, being a half-sister to superstar racehorse and stallion Golden Horn (GB), who recorded success in the G1 Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe when racing.


Lot 513 herself is a half-sister to Ozara (Ire) (Lope De Vega {Ire}), who enjoyed recent success in the Listed Ginger Brew S. at Gulfstream Park in the United States. Also represented on her page is the G1 Coronation S. winner Rebecca Sharp (GB)

(Machiavellian) and the G2 Ribbensdale S. victress Frankly Darling (GB) (**Frankel {GB}**).

Speaking to *The Thoroughbred Report*, Waterhouse was glowing in her appraisal of the filly, insisting there is a big future ahead of her.

"She's got an immaculate pedigree, physically she's one of the loveliest fillies in the sale. We identified her a long time before the sale--several months before--and we had a group of people and an agent also, Matt Houldsworth, who was very keen that one of his owners would become involved as well, so we are able to make a marriage, we believe, in heaven.

"She's by **Frankel**, she's a Classic filly, you'd imagine her being able to run over 1400 and 1600 metres and he is the champion stallion in the world, so we feel very privileged to be training her."

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Question: Which Stallion Would You Bring Back?
First Winner For I Am Immortal
Amelia's Jewel In The Quokka
Cummings Has Faith In Godolphin's Parkour



The Star Gold Coast Magic Millions Raceday will be held on Saturday, Jan. 13. | *Magic Millions*