



## BREEDING DIGEST: PUTTING THE 'RUN' INTO 'VRON'



**The Chosen Vron | Benoit**

by *Chris McGrath*

Last weekend represented a staging post on the Derby trail, a chance not only to reflect on some rather puzzling sophomore skirmishes, to this point, but also to celebrate fulfillments that remain far more pertinent to the vast majority of Thoroughbreds.

After all, very few get anywhere near testing their eligibility for the Classics and few others, certainly among the male of the species, will contrive a second career from such opportunities as remain once they have missed that one. That's why purses are so important. Otherwise racehorse ownership would depend entirely on an ancillary industry that annually divides access to a bare handful of colts and a contrasting surfeit of mares, many of them only marginally qualified.

First and foremost, all these horses are born--and bought--to run. Hats off, then, to a 6-year-old gelding whose popularity now extends far beyond the local theater he has long dominated. Following a 16th success in 21 starts, in the Gill San Carlos S., **The Chosen Vron** (Vronsky) has now banked a few cents short of \$1.3 million. Trained by the former private detective Eric Kruljac, he's a great story, and surely making new fans on a circuit that has done a fabulous job in enabling our community to go back out and face Main Street with a clear conscience. **Cont. p3**

## JOSE ORTIZ TO RIDE IN KENTUCKY THIS SPRING

Jockey Jose Ortiz is named to ride eight races Saturday at Turfway Park and, after Jeff Ruby Steaks Day, fans in Kentucky will begin to see his name regularly in the program as he's slated to ride full-time this spring at Keeneland and Churchill Downs.

For many years the 2017 Eclipse Award-winning jockey has been a regular rider on the New York circuit during the spring and summer, but this will be the first time he'll remain in Kentucky. Agent Steve Rushing, who also take the calls for his Eclipse Award-winning brother Irad Ortiz, Jr., will continue to have his book in Kentucky. (In a text, Rushing said Jose Ortiz is moving permanently to Kentucky, but will ride at Saratoga in the summer before returning for Kentucky Downs, where he won the 2018 and 2019 titles.) **Cont. p7**

## IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

### NASHWA RETURNS TO THE RACES; HER DAM RETURNS TO FRANKEL

Classic heroine **Nashwa (GB)** (**Frankel (GB)**) returns for her 5-year-old campaign and her dam returns to **Frankel**. Emma Berry also has an update on the rest of the European-based Blue Diamond Stud mares.

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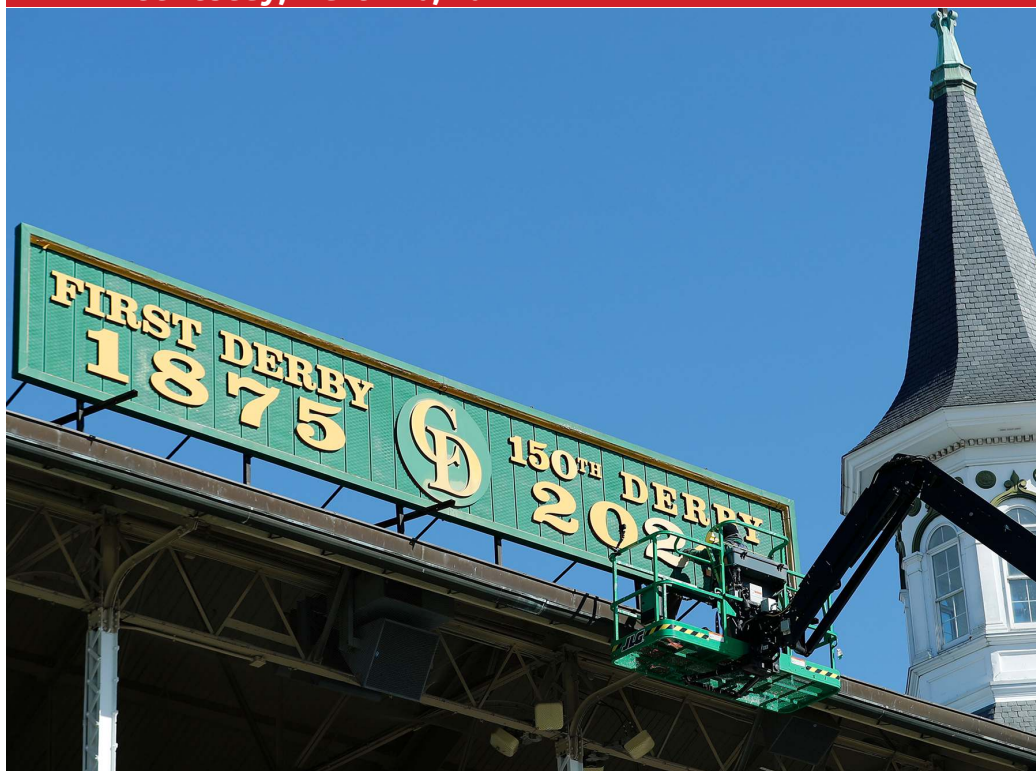
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**Wednesday, March 20, 2024**



The Kentucky Derby sign at Churchill Downs gets updated in anticipation of the 150<sup>th</sup> running of the race, which will be held on Saturday, May 4. | Coady Photography

**ILLINOIS DERBY HIGHLIGHTS HAWTHORNE MEET 7**

The \$200,000 Illinois Derby will return for Hawthorne's spring/summer Thoroughbred meet, which begins Saturday, Mar. 23. The racing season will extend six weeks longer in comparison to the 2023 year as racing concludes Sunday, Oct. 23. "We were able to learn from last year and made some adjustments to both the racing schedule as well as the races we are offering," Hawthorne Director of Racing Jim Miller said.

**BLOWEN, HATFIELD TO LEAD LEGENDS TOUR 7**

Old Friends founder Michael Blowen and longtime Three Chimneys Farm stallion manager Sandy Hatfield will join together for a special tour of the Old Friends retirement facility in Georgetown Apr. 9.

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**Breeding Digest cont. from p1**

But perhaps this horse can also remind those who treat the racetrack as a means, rather than an end, that precocity is too often conflated by commercial breeders with elite speed. Sure, he romped on his juvenile debut (albeit on Dec. 27). But it's actually in maturity, as in his own Grade I breakout last summer, that speed validly signposts class.

Classic racing is itself considered instructive for breeders precisely because it requires the adolescent Thoroughbred to carry speed into tasks only within the compass of a strengthening physique. And, even round a single turn, we've just awarded yet another Horse of the Year trophy to one that was anything but precocious.

In that context, it's a shame that The Chosen Vron can't recycle his exceptional dash, character and soundness. True, he would never have introduced us to those qualities but for the discovery that a displaced testicle was interfering with his athleticism. But his late sire Vronsky, who died three years ago, deserved to leave a male heir.

That's not just because Vronsky had a proven ability to pass on wholesome genes: his 2018 crop, comprising no more than 43 live foals, includes not only The Chosen Vron but another indefatigable millionaire in four-time Grade II winner Closing Remarks; while his first Grade I winner, What a View, spread his

eight-for-31 career across six campaigns. It's also because there's no mystery whatsoever where Vronsky found such prowess.

With only a modestly competent track career, featuring a maiden and a couple of allowance wins, he instead owed his chance at stud to pedigree and physique. Consigned by co-breeder Arthur Hancock of Stone Farm, he'd been a seven-figure Keeneland September yearling in 2000, his inherent appeal--as a son of Danzig out of multiple turf stakes scorer Words of War (Lord At War {Arg})--having been enhanced just days previously by the GI Del Mar Oaks success of his half-sister No Matter What (Nureyev). But his family tree would subsequently go into full bloom.

First the foal between No Matter What and Vronsky, a \$1.35-million yearling by Mr. Prospector, as E Dubai ran second in the GI Travers S. and won the GII Suburban H. Then a full-sister to Words of War, the graded stakes winner Ascutney, became dam of GI Breeders' Cup Classic winner Raven's Pass, while No Matter What produced Rainbow View (Dynaformer) to become a dual Group 1 winner in Europe, besides three other graded/group winners.

On paper Vronsky didn't have much to work with in The Chosen Vron's dam, Tiz Molly (Tiz Wonderful). She had cost Kruljac \$25,000 as a yearling and was retained at just \$1,200

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- GALAWI (IRE) (DUBAWI-Ire)
- GOLDEN LAD (MEDAGLIA D'ORO)
- GREAT NOTION (ELUSIVE QUALITY)
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- KOBE'S BACK (FLATTER)
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Anne Litz Photo

when offered at a breeding stock sale, despite having meanwhile won twice in a career cut short by injury. But she did have some blood behind her, her mother being half-sister to Canadian champion Delightful Mary (Limehouse) and GII Ohio Derby winner Delightful Kiss (Kissin Kris), as well as to the dam of Wilson Tesoro (Jpn) (Kitasan Black {Jpn}), a Group 1 runner-up in Japan last year.

We'll never know whether The Chosen Vron might have been an effective conduit for genes that have functioned so well on the track. But even his "page" won't ever be his sire's best-- because that will always be found among those that make Count Vronsky's dramatic steeplechase scene, in Anna Karenina, one of the most famous in Russian literature.

### Another Noble Family Denied an Outlet



Improbable wins the Whitney | Sarah Andrew

In a horrible shock, last weekend also reduced a young stallion to a legacy only marginally beyond that available to the gelding whose more cheerful headlines we've just been celebrating. And the loss of Improbable felt all the more poignant because he, too, represented a family loaded with just the kind of genetic assets that the modern breed most requires.

For it can hardly be a coincidence that a page with **Hard Spun** front and center should have given us a horse whose juvenile Grade I success turned out only to be a downpayment for what he would achieve in maturity, when a hat-trick of elite scores qualified Improbable as champion older horse.

**Hard Spun** is half-brother to the second dam of Improbable, their mother Turkish Tryst (Turkoman) in turn being out of Darbyvail, a Roberto half-sister to champion Little Current (Sea-Bird {Fr}). Can't miss the Darby Dan flavors here and, sure enough, the next dam is the farm's matriarch Banquet Bell (Polynesian), who delivered two champions by Swaps in Primonetta and Chateaugay.

## CONGRATULATIONS



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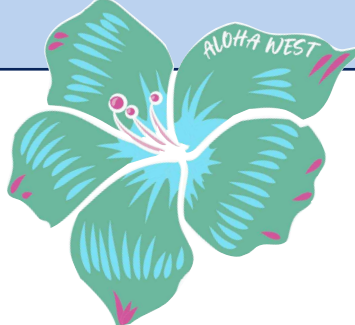
MICHAEL BURNS



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Primonetta proceeded to become a Broodmare of the Year, as dam of two Grade I winners and another pair at Grade II/Group 2 level. Yet her branch of the dynasty has faded, while Darbyvail's modest record both on the track and in the paddocks would instead be relieved by a daughter of Turkoman, of all horses. In much the same way, **Hard Spun's** brilliance found little reflection in his siblings. A filly by Stravinsky named Our Rite of Spring did win a stakes race, however, earning her early chances with top stallions including A.P. Indy. By the time the latter's daughter had produced Improbable, however, Our Rite of Spring had been sold for just \$5,000 to finish her career in Colorado. Obviously his damsire A.P. Indy can only have contributed usefully to Improbable, and likewise his own late sire, City Zip-- whose prospects of salvaging the Carson City line now appear to be divided between the very promising **Collected** (three Grade II winners from his first sophomores last year, and now a leading GI Kentucky Oaks prospect in Lemon Muffin) and the three crops granted to poor Improbable.

His imminent first runners will represent a crop of 127 live foals; the next comprised 99; and presumably the last full one will be rather less. Overall that gives Improbable only a fleeting window of opportunity, and our hearts go out to the WinStar team, who first committed to the horse all the way back as a Keeneland September yearling.



# ALOHA WEST

Hard Spun – Island Bound, by Speightstown



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**MILL RIDGE**  
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Thankfully the royal Darby Dan genes that brand his family still have a priceless outlet through Danzig's parting gift, **Hard Spun**. Except he's not priceless, of course. At \$35,000, **Hard Spun** remains among the very best value in Kentucky--where he now has four young sons (**Silver State**, **Aloha West**, **Two Phil's** and **Spun to Run**) competing to redress this weekend's tragic loss to a family that has condensed toughness as well as brilliance.

**...And Another Hardy Perennial**

On 15 April 2018, barely two weeks after The Chosen Vron was foaled in California, on the opposite coast a colt by **Munnings** slithered into the straw on a small Maryland farm. His mother, Listen Boy (After Market), had been stakes-placed in a fairly light career for her breeders at neighboring Sagamore, but was culled from that program for just \$25,000 at the 2015 Keeneland November Sale. Earlier that year she had delivered her first foal, a son of First Defence (whose purchasers showed macabre humor--remember the mare is called Listen Boy--in naming him Nuclear Option) who would go on to prove a hardy 11-for-59 campaigner.

A couple of years later the mare's purchasers, Leonard and Patricia Pineau of Three Pines Farm, shrewdly sent her to **Munnings** who was then still building his reputation at \$25,000. (The Ashford sire, albeit seemingly in perennial vogue, stands on

the brink of fresh momentum with his forthcoming yearlings conceived at \$85,000, more than double the previous crop.) The resulting colt was sold at Keeneland September for \$80,000, proving a solid pinhook for Grassroots Training & Sales at \$140,000 at OBS the following April. Named Jaxon Traveler by purchasers West Point Thoroughbreds, he was precocious enough to be an unbeaten stakes winner at two, but his GIII Whitmore S. success confirms him to be better than ever in his fifth campaign. That makes him an apt winner of the race honoring an evergreen sprinter who, in his own career, similarly reminded us that Thoroughbreds tend not to approach their physical prime until long after the age when the best are often retired.

The big difference between Jaxon Traveler and Whitmore or The Chosen Vron, of course, is that he retains the equipment required for a second career. So perhaps he'll emulate his grandsire Speightstown as a late starter at stud somewhere. For a dual Grade I winner by a sire of sires out of Tranquility Lake (Rahy), After Market was a disappointing stallion and ended up in Turkey. But his daughter has here been skilfully managed to produce some very sound stock by modern standards, an aspiration that has turned out to be very much our theme of the week.

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### Heard the Buzz?

The group of sires about to send a third crop of juveniles into the fray is proving a very competitive one, among others featuring **Justify**, **Good Magic** and Bolt d'Oro, plus several who appear to be seizing a much narrower chance. The busiest sires in the intake, studmates **Mendelssohn** and **Justify**, have so far had 262 and 216 starters, respectively, whereas **Army Mule**, **Girvin** and **Oscar Performance** have muscled into the top 10 (by cumulative earnings) with between 112 and 115 starters apiece. But not even these can match the ratio of stakes winners quietly assembled by **Bee Jersey**, whose son Beeline became his sixth black-type scorer from just 48 starters in the Hutcheson S. last weekend.



**Beeline** | *Ryan Thompson*

Beeline is typical of the atypical program that bred him. His third dam is one of its foundation mares, a twice-raced daughter of Secretariat named Ball Chairman, whose foals included Canadian champion Perfect Soul (Ire) (Sadler's Wells). Their owner Chuck Fipke runs an extraordinary stable, largely comprising not only homebreds, but homebreds by homebred stallions. He sends valuable mares to sires that you or I can hire at bargain fees. And it keeps paying off.

Jersey Town admittedly arrived in utero, with his \$700,000 dam, and went on to win the GI Cigar Mile. Retired to stud, Fipke sent him a mare whose fourth dam is matriarch Lassie Dear (Buckpasser), and the result was **Bee Jersey**, lightning-fast winner of the stallion-making GI Met Mile.

**Bee Jersey's** first sophomores last year included three runners-up in graded stakes, all naturally bred by Fipke. Perhaps Beeline, sold as a 2-year-old at OBS last June to Bradley Thoroughbreds for \$70,000, can give his sire a breakout score at that level. It's plainly only a matter of time, and you can't say that of too many \$5,000 covers.

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**3** Stakes-winning 3YOs already in 2024,  
no other sire has more!



**GHALIA PRINCESS**,  
won the **Cicada Stakes**  
at Aqueduct by 6 lengths  
for Brad Cox



**WASKESIU**, won the **Florida Oaks-Gr.3** at Tampa Bay Downs for Bill Mott



**JODY'S PRIDE**, runner-up in the **Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies-Gr.1**, won the **Busher Stakes** at Aqueduct for Jorge Abreu

Other March winners include TDN Rising Star **SWEET REBECCA**, since purchased privately by Resolute Racing who also bought a **\$525,000** American Pharoah filly at OBS March

# AMERICAN PHAROAH

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## Jose Ortiz cont. from p1

Among his many mounts Saturday is GIII Sam F. Davis S. runner-up **Agate Road** (**Quality Road**) in the GIII Jeff Ruby Steaks for Hall of Fame trainer Todd Pletcher. Listed at 4-1 on the morning-line odds, Agate Road was cross-entered in Saturday's GII TwinSpires.com Louisiana Derby at Fair Grounds but Pletcher said that he's, "leaning towards" running the bay at Turfway. Other notable mounts for Ortiz Saturday at Turfway include **Wolfie's Dynaghost** (**Ghostzapper**) in the GIII TwinSpires Kentucky Cup Classic and **Blue Eyed George** (**Flameaway**) in the Rushaway S.

Ortiz will make a brief return to Florida following Jeff Ruby Steaks Day, but will be back to Kentucky when Keeneland's Spring Meet begins Friday, Apr. 5.

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## RETURN OF ILLINOIS DERBY HIGHLIGHTS HAWTHORNE MEET

The \$200,000 Illinois Derby will return for Hawthorne's spring/summer Thoroughbred meet, which begins Saturday, Mar. 23. The racing season will extend six weeks longer in comparison to the 2023 year as racing concludes Sunday, Oct. 23.

The Illinois Derby, scheduled for Sunday, Apr. 21, will serve as an official prep for this year's GI Preakness S. Hawthorne Race Course will pay for the Illinois Derby winner's entry fee into the Preakness if they choose to run. The Illinois Derby, previously a Grade III, was most recently contested in 2017.

"We were able to learn from last year and made some adjustments to both the racing schedule as well as the races we are offering," Hawthorne Director of Racing Jim Miller said. "This schedule provides a good circuit for those horsemen who race in warmer destinations during the winter to be able to have a summer location that fluidly fits their schedule. We have seen a large increase in stall applications and have noticed a rise in 2-year-olds on the stall applications."

He continued, "We have also added four starter series this meet that will have increasing purses throughout the series. Horsemen who want to protect a good claim will now have an option to race each month for four months straight. When our meet ended last September, our crew conducted all of their turf preparation work before the winter months. This will allow for an earlier grass start the first week of May as well as an additional six weeks of turf racing through the end of the meet compared to last season."

Click [here](#) for more on Hawthorne's stakes schedule.

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## BLOWEN, HATFIELD TO LEAD LEGENDS TOUR OF OLD FRIENDS



**Michael Blowen and Sandy Hatfield with Silver Charm in 2014**

*Rick Capone*

Old Friends founder Michael Blowen and longtime Three Chimneys Farm stallion manager Sandy Hatfield will join together for a special tour of the Old Friends retirement facility in Georgetown Apr. 9. The tour, with a \$150 per person cost, will be limited to 20 people.

"Old Friends is blessed with, not only legendary horses, but with legendary people within our family," said John Nicholson, president and CEO of Old Friends. "Our founder Michael Blowen, and longtime Three Chimneys' stallion manager Sandy Hatfield are just such legends. I can't wait for their tour, which is a rare opportunity to have these legends take you on a special journey with many of the equine heroes at Old Friends."

"Old Friends is proud to be a part of Thoroughbred racing and these Legend Tours are just the latest way we celebrate the great horses and people in the sport we love," continued Nicholson. "We look forward to introducing new and different ways, like these Legend Tours, of sharing the story and heritage of horse racing with, not only our sport's old friends, but sharing it with new friends as well."

Blowen, who founded Old Friends in 2003, and recently stepped down as president of the farm, will tell visitors the stories of some of his favorite Thoroughbred retirees on the farm.

Hatfield, who has spent most of her life working with stallions, in particular, Kentucky Derby winner and Old Friends retiree,

Silver Charm, will share her stories of some of her famous old friends.

To reserve a spot on the tour, call the Old Friends office at (502) 863-1775.

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## BLUE GRASS STAKES EXHIBIT OPENS AT KEENELAND LIBRARY IN APRIL

*A Rite of Spring: the 100th Running of the Blue Grass Stakes* will open at the Keeneland Library Apr. 1. The exhibit features photographs that capture race highlights over the decades, as well as memorabilia from notable jockeys Bill Shoemaker, Mike Manganello and Chris Antley and celebrated runners such as Whirlaway, Riva Ridge, Spectacular Bid and Strike the Gold. The exhibit's photographs, curated from Keeneland Library collections and public submissions from professional and amateur photographers, spotlight some of the greatest moments of the time-honored spring stakes.

"We are fortunate to have rich resources in the Library's collections to celebrate this historic running," Keeneland Library Director Roda Ferraro said. "The exhibit features never-before-published photographs alongside iconic shots that capture some of racing's greatest equine athletes and their connections spanning more than 100 years. The public submission call for photographs was a welcomed boon to the exhibit's curation process, and we are pleased to spotlight the work of photographers in concert with images from the Library's collections."

The free exhibit is open to the public Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Library.

The 100th GI Toyota Blue Grass S. will be run Apr. 6.

Other Spring events at the Keeneland Library include tours titled, "From Keeneland to the Kentucky Derby" the week of Apr. 29. Each tour will include a visit to the track to watch racehorses train, spotlight Keeneland sales graduates who made their mark in the Kentucky Derby and provide an exclusive tour of Keeneland Library's latest exhibit.

Turf writer Tom Law will be at the library for a night of handicapping the 2024 Kentucky Derby May 1 and, beginning May 11, Starting Gate Storytime will combine a reading of a children's book centered on horses with a literacy, art, history, industry awareness or STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) activity. Keeneland Kids Club mascot Buckles will be on hand to brush up on his reading and spend time with young racing fans and horse lovers. The series is ideal for learners ages four through eight.

For information on all the spring events at the Keeneland Library, visit [keeneland.com/library](https://www.keeneland.com/library).

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## FOALING NEWS

**ZEEZEE ZOOMZOOM**, 12, Congrats--Zee Zee, by Exchange Rate Foal born Mar. 3, a colt by **Justify**. Will be bred back to **Nyquist**. Owned by Elizabeth Merryman. Accomplishments: Dam of Caravel (Mizzen Mast), MGISW, \$1,983,327; Witty (Great Notion), MSW, \$505,260.



**Justify--Zeezee Zoomzoom**



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### Call for Special Pricing and Incentives



**Saturday, Fair Grounds #12, post time: 6:42 p.m. EDT**

**TWINSPIRES.COM LOUISIANA DERBY-GII, \$1,000,000, 3yo, 1 3/16m**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Triple Espresso 🍀	Omaha Beach	Repole Stable and St. Elias Stables LLC	Pletcher	Saez	122
2	Hall of Fame	<b>Gun Runner</b>	Mrs John Magnier, Michael B. Tabor, Derrick Smith, Asmussen Westerberg, Gandharvi LLC and Brook T. Smith		Santana, Jr.	122
3	Antiquarian 🍀	<b>Preservationist</b>	Centennial Farms	Pletcher	Velazquez	122
4	Agate Road 🍀	<b>Quality Road</b>	Repole Stable and St. Elias Stables LLC	Pletcher	Ortiz, Jr.	122
5	Catching Freedom 🍀	<b>Constitution</b>	Albaugh Family Stables LLC	Cox	Prat	122
6	Awesome Ruta	<b>Mendelssohn</b>	Tri-Star Racing, LLC and Cimarron TTT Farms LLC	Foster	Murrill	122
7	Honor Marie 🍀	Honor Code	Ribble Farms LLC, Michael H. Eiserman, Earl Silver, Kenneth E. and Daniel Fishbein	Beckman	Curtis	122
8	Next Level 🍀	Vino Rosso	Don't Tell My Wife Stables	Desormeaux	Riquelme	122
9	Real Men Violin 🍀	<b>Mendelssohn</b>	Tilted Shamrock Stables	McPeek	Lanerie	122
10	Common Defense 🍀	<b>Karakontie (Jpn)</b>	Tony Holmes	McPeek	Hernandez, Jr.	122
11	Tuscan Gold 🍀	<b>Medaglia d'Oro</b>	William Lawrence, Walmac Farm and Stonestreet	Brown	Gaffalione	122
12	Track Phantom 🍀	<b>Quality Road</b>	L and N Racing LLC, Clark Brewster, Jerry Caroom and Breeze Easy, LLC	Asmussen	Rosario	122

**Breeders:** 1-Ashview Farm & Colts Neck Stables, 2-Earle I. Mack LLC, 3-Brereton C. Jones, 4-CHC, Inc., 5-WinStar Farm, LLC, 6-Brian Levings, 7-Royce Pulliam, 8-White Fox Farm, 9-Newtown Anner Stud, 10-Tony Holmes, Norevale Farm & Union Dale, 11-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC, 12-Breeze Easy, LLC

**Saturday, Fair Grounds #9, post time: 5:04 p.m. EDT**

**NEW ORLEANS CLASSIC S. PRESENTED BY RELYNE GI BY HAGYARD-GII, \$500,000, 4yo/up, 1 1/8m**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Red Route One	<b>Gun Runner</b>	Winchell Thoroughbreds LLC	Asmussen	Rosario	118
2	Gasoline	<b>Curlin</b>	Harrell Ventures, LLC and CHC INC.	Pletcher	Velazquez	120
3	Touchuponastar	Star Guitar	Set-Hut LLC	Delhomme	Thornton	122
4	Black Belt	<b>Not This Time</b>	EKB Stables LLC and P&L Thoroughbred Racing	Walder	Hernandez, Jr.	118
5	Money Supply 🍀	<b>Practical Joke</b>	Jordan V. Wycoff	Sharp	Gaffalione	122
6	Happy American 🍀	<b>Runhappy</b>	Neil L. Pessin	Pessin	Lanerie	118
7	Super Corinto (Arg)	Super Saver	Jet Set Racing Stable	Correas, IV	Ortiz, Jr.	118
8	Velocitor	Mor Spirit	Ulwelling, Al and Bill	Scherer	Cohen	118
9	Best Actor 🍀	Flatter	Steve Moger	Cox	Prat	120
10	Lure Him In	Khozan	C2 Racing Stable LLC, Double B Racing Stables, Paul Braverman, Timothy Pinch and Mach 1Stables	Joseph, Jr.	Gonzalez	122

**Breeders:** 1-Winchell Thoroughbreds, LLC, 2-China Horse Club International, LTD., 3-Coteau Grove Farms, 4-Springland Farm & Duncan Taylor, 5-Jeff Little, Teresa Little, Marilyn Little & William Lynn, 6-Claiborne Farm, 7-Firmamento, 8-Al Ulwelling & Bill Ulwelling, 9-E. H. Beau Lane, Gail McMichael Lane, J. B. Lane Orem & Michael Orem, 10-Stonehedge LLC



**Saturday, Fair Grounds #11, post time: 6:08 p.m. EDT****FAIR GROUNDS OAKS PRESENTED BY FASIG-TIPTON-GII, \$400,000, 3yo, f, 1 1/16m**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	V V's Dream 🌿	Mitole	MJM Racing and Magdalena Racing	McPeek	Hernandez, Jr.	122
2	Midsummer March 🌿	Mendelssohn	Walking L Thoroughbreds, LLC	McPeek	Gutierrez	122
3	Alpine Princess 🌿	Classic Empire	Full of Run Racing II, LLC and Madaket Stables LLC	Cox	Geroux	122
4	Lucy Got Game 🌿	Vino Rosso	Gregory Tramontin	Amoss	Morales	122
5	Tarifa	Bernardini	Godolphin, LLC	Cox	Prat	122
6	Intricate 🌿	Gun Runner	Bradley Thoroughbreds, Laura Leigh Stable, Scott Estes and Cambron Equine, LLC	Walsh	Gaffalione	122
7	Our Pretty Woman 🌿	Medaglia d'Oro	Courtlandt Farms	Asmussen	Rosario	122
8	Accommodate Eva 🌿	Munnings	Valene Farms LLC	Stewart	Lanerie	122

**Breeders:** 1-Mark Stansell, 2-Mountmellick Farm, LLC, 3-Betz/DJ Stables/Peter V.Lamantia/Classic Empire Syndicate, 4-Milfer Farm Inc., 5-Godolphin, 6-LBD Stable, LLC, 7-Woods Edge Farm, LLC & Godolphin, 8-Brad King & Todd Fincher

**Saturday, Fair Grounds #10, post time: 5:36 p.m. EDT****MUNIZ MEMORIAL CLASSIC S. PRESENTED BY HORSE RACING NATION-GII, \$300,000, 4yo/up, 1 1/8mT**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Adhamo (Ire)	Intello (Ger)	Michael Dubb, Madaket Stables & Louis Lazzinnaro	Brown	Gaffalione	118
2	Strong Quality	Quality Road	Gary Barber and Kinsman Stable	Casse	Velazquez	122
3	Webslinger 🌿	Constitution	D. J. Stable LLC	Casse	Prat	118
4	Beatbox 🌿	Pioneerof the Nile	Rob Comestro and Jeff Ganje	DeVaux	Rosario	122
5	Irish Aces 🌿	Mshawish	Pocket Aces Racing LLC	Walsh	Hernandez, Jr.	120
6	Palazzi 🌿	Pioneerof the Nile	Gary Barber	Casse	Loveberry	118
7	Gigante 🌿	Not This Time	Diamond T Racing LLC and Iapetus Racing LLC	Asmussen	Morales	122
8	Point Proven 🌿	Gun Runner	Norman C. Miller IV	Cohn	Lanerie	118
9	Johny's Fireball 🌿	Tonalist	AJ Suited Racing Stable, LLC, D C Racing and Brilliant Racing, LLC	Casse	Santana, Jr.	120
10	Rising Empire 🌿	Empire Maker	Russell Welch and Ran M. Leonard	Walsh	Graham	118
11	Risk Manager	Lookin At Lucky	Case Chambers	Maker	Gutierrez	118
12	Woods N Water	Palace	Painter, Richard and Dewberry Farm	Thomas	Green	118
13	I'm Very Busy	Cloud Computing	Team Hanley, R. Schermerhorn & P Braverman	Brown	Ortiz, Jr.	120

**Breeders:** 1-Wertheimer et Frere, 2-Kinsman Farm, 3-Kenneth L. Ramsey & Sarah K. Ramsey, 4-Three Chimneys Farm, LLC, 5-Lynch Bages LTD, 6-HnR Nothhaft Horseracing LLC & Pioneerof the Nile Syndicate, 7-Ann Mudge Backer & Smitten Farm, 8-Three Chimneys Farm, LLC, 9-R. S. Evans, 10-Gainesway Thoroughbreds LTD., 11-Kenneth L. Ramsey & Sarah K. Ramsey, 12-Orange Grove Thoroughbreds, Inc. & Richard Painter, 13-Glenn E. Brok LLC & Mark Toothaker

**Saturday, Turfway #12, post time: 6:25 p.m. EDT****JEFF RUBY STEAKS-GIII, \$700,000, 3yo, 1 1/8m**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Freedom Principle 🌿	Flameaway	Echo Papa Racing Corp.	Garoffalo	Beschizza	123
2	Dancing Groom 🌿	Vino Rosso	Alexandres, LLC	Sano	Dettori	123
3	Lucky Jeremy 🌿	Lookin At Lucky	Jeremy Ramsland	Morey	Corrales	123
4	Noted 🌿	Cairo Prince	Repole Stable	Pletcher	Saez	123
5	Agate Road 🌿	Quality Road	Repole Stable and St. Elias Stables LLC	Pletcher	Ortiz	123
6	Northern Flame	Flameaway	Jack Oxley, Harold Lerner LLC, AWC Stables and Magdalena Racing	McPeek	Leparoux	123
7	Woodcourt 🌿	Ransom the Moon	Contreras Stable Inc.	Contreras	Machado	123
8	Otello	Curlin	Siena Farm LLC and WinStar Farm LLC	Clement	Castellano	123
9	Seize the Grey	Arrogate	MyRacehorse	Lukas	Juarez	123
10	Endlessly	Oscar Performance	Amerman Racing LLC	McCarthy	Rispoli	123

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—John McCormack

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- ❖ AS A 2YO WON THE GRADE 1 DEL MAR FUTURITY AFTER BREAKING HIS MAIDEN BY 5  $\frac{3}{4}$  LENGTHS
- ❖ WON THE GRADE 1 BING CROSBY AS A 3YO DEFEATING OLDER HORSES
- ❖ 2ND GRADE 1 BREEDERS' CUP SPRINT AS A 3YO
- ❖ IN THE MONEY 12 OF 15 STARTS DEFEATING 13 GRADE 1 WINNERS

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11	Baytown Chatterbox 🌿	Street Sense	Baytown Partnership and Resolute Racing Alliance	McEntee	Jimenez	123
12	West Saratoga 🌿	Exaggerator	Harry L. Veruchi	Demeritte	Castanon	123
13	Circle P 🌿	Speightster	DeSales 85 LLC	Stites	Conner	123
14	Triple Espresso 🌿	Omaha Beach	Repole Stable and St. Elias Stables LLC	Pletcher	Ortiz	123

**Breeders:** 1-Lantern Hill Farm LLC, 2-Don Alberto Corporation, 3-Mr. & Mrs. Craig L Minten, 4-Brereton C. Jones, 5-CHC, Inc., 6-Debby M Oxley, 7-Michelle Lovell, 8-Siena Farms LLC, 9-Jamm, LTD., 10-Mrs. Jerry Amerman, 11-Alpha Delta Stables, LLC, 12-Two Hearts Farm II LLC, 13-Marathon Farms, Inc., 14-Ashview Farm & Colts Neck Stables

**Saturday, Oaklawn #9, post time: 5:55 p.m. EDT**

**ESSEX H.-GIII, \$600,000, 4yo/up, 1 1/8m**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Ain't Life Grand	Not This Time	RPM Thoroughbreds	Von Hemel	Garcia	117
2	Lure Him In	Khozan	C2 Racing Stable LLC, Double B Racing Stables, Braverman, Paul, Pinch, Timothy & Mach 1 Stables	Joseph, Jr.	Gonzalez	118
3	Wizard of Westwood 🌿	Tu Brutus (Chi)	Warren, Andrew N. and Warren, Rania	McCarthy	Vazquez	117
4	Great Escape 🌿	Midnight Storm	Bennewith, Arnold, Wiest, Rick, Clayton & Lana, Howg, R, R6 Stables, Kropp, Gary & Tremblay, N	Diodoro	Hernandez	118
5	Magic Tap 🌿	Tapit	Winchell Thoroughbreds LLC	Asmussen	Asmussen	118
6	War Campaign	Declaration of War	Jerry Namy	Sims	Esquivel	119
7	Time for Trouble 🌿	English Channel	Thorndale Stable LLC and Hiles, Jeff A.	Hiles	Bejarano	117
8	Seize the Night 🌿	Carpe Diem	Willis Horton Racing LLC	Milligan, Jr.	Torres	118
9	First Mission	Street Sense	Godolphin, LLC	Cox	Geroux	121

**Breeders:** 1-RPM Thoroughbreds, 2-Stonehedge LLC, 3-Pope McLean, 4-Usquebaugh Stables, LLC, 5-Don Alberto Corporation, 6-Jerry Namy, 7-Calumet Farm, 8-Cove Springs Farm LLC, 9-Godolphin

**Saturday, Turfway #10, post time: 5:13 p.m. EDT**

**TWINSPIRES KENTUCKY CUP CLASSIC S.-GIII, \$300,000, 4yo/up, 1 1/8m**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Surly Furious	Upstart	Novogratz Racing Stables Inc.	Wisner	Cedillo	124
2	Verstappen 🌿	War Front	Andrew Farm, For the People Racing Stable LLC and Windmill Manor Farm	Walsh	Cannon	120
3	Wolfie's Dynaghost	Ghostzapper	Woodslane Farm	Thomas	Ortiz	120
4	Harlan Estate 🌿	Kantharos	Graham Grace Stable	Beckman	Loveberry	120
5	Cellist	Big Blue Kitten	Calumet Farm	Arnold, II	Saez	120
6	Wentru 🌿	Tourist	Frank Taylor, BlackRidge Stables, Deters Company, James B. Keogh and Michael McCabe	Walden	Concepcion	120
7	Curlin's Malibu 🌿	Curlin	William Earl Atkins	Atkins	Lagunes	120
8	Atone	Into Mischief	Three Diamonds Farm	Maker	Castellano	120
9	Tio Magico	Uncle Mo	Agave Racing Stable and Sam-Son Farm	D'Amato	Machado	120
10	County Final 🌿	Oxbow	Ken Copenhaver	Joseph, Jr.	Dettori	120
11	Kitodan 🌿	Point of Entry	Foster Family Racing, Douglas Miller & W. Wargel	Foster	Rodriguez	120
12	Funtastic Again 🌿	Funtastic	Three Chimneys Farm	Ward	Corrales	120

**Breeders:** 1-Brereton C. Jones, 2-Frank Hutchinson, 3-Woodslane Farm, 4-Tall Oaks Farm, 5-Calumet Farm, 6-Don Alberto Corporation, 7-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC, 8-Godolphin, 9-Sam-Son Farm, 10-Calumet Farm, 11-Flaxman Holdings Limited, 12-BHMFR, LLC



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# NORTH AMERICAN RACING



## SECOND-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20 2024 Stud Fees Listed

**Calyx (GB) (Kingman {GB})**, Coolmore Stud, \$12,500  
164 foals of racing age/29 winners/3 black-type winners  
5-Fair Grounds, 3:45 p.m. EDT, Aoc 5 1/2fT, Imaboutago (Ire), 4-1  
€12,000 GOF NO1 wnl; 105,000gns TAT OCT yrl

**Candygram (Candy Ride {Arg})**  
27 foals of racing age/1 winner/0 black-type winners  
5-Charles Town, 8:53 p.m. EDT, Msw 4 1/2f, Candy Tricks, 4-1

**Copper Bullet (More Than Ready)**, Darby Dan Farm, \$7,500  
53 foals of racing age/10 winners/1 black-type winner  
5-Fair Grounds, 3:45 p.m. EDT, Aoc 5 1/2fT, Copper Em, 9-2  
\$8,000 KEE NOV wnl; \$48,000 FTK JUL yrl

**Dreamliner (More Than Ready)**, Cl-The Speedhorse Farm  
9 foals of racing age/2 winners/0 black-type winners  
1-Penn National, 6:00 p.m. EDT, Msw 5 1/2f,  
Dreamingabouttime, 10-1

**Enticed (Medaglia d'Oro)**, Darley, \$5,000  
157 foals of racing age/30 winners/1 black-type winner  
5-Fair Grounds, 3:45 p.m. EDT, Aoc 5 1/2fT, Blue Heavenly, 20-1

**Flameaway (Scat Daddy)**, Darby Dan Farm, \$15,000  
200 foals of racing age/32 winners/4 black-type winners  
8-Tampa Bay Downs, 4:25 p.m. EDT, Msw 6f, Paez, 10-1  
\$45,000 KEE NOV wnl; \$65,000 RNA KEE SEP yrl  
5-Fair Grounds, 3:45 p.m. EDT, Aoc 5 1/2fT, Reagan's Flame, 4-1  
\$37,000 KEEJAN wnl; \$35,000 KEESEP yrl; \$185,000 OBSAPR 2yo

**Force the Pass (Speightstown)**, Sau  
37 foals of racing age/5 winners/0 black-type winners  
8-Tampa Bay Downs, 4:25 p.m. EDT, Msw 6f, Findaname, 8-1

**Omaha Beach (War Front)**, Spendthrift Farm, \$40,000  
291 foals of racing age/32 winners/4 black-type winners  
8-Tampa Bay Downs, 4:25 p.m. EDT, Msw 6f, Dunkin' Run, 12-1  
\$37,000 RNA KEE NOV wnl; \$40,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$70,000 OBS  
APR 2yo  
5-Fair Grounds, 3:45 p.m. EDT, Aoc 5 1/2fT, Topsy Runner, 7-2  
\$50,000 KEE NOV wnl; \$155,000 KEE SEP yrl

**One Sided (Quality Road)**, R. A. Rowe Farms  
14 foals of racing age/3 winners/0 black-type winners  
8-Mahoning Valley, 4:12 p.m. EDT, Msw 6f, Angie's Dear One,  
12-1  
\$1,200 OTB OMX yrl

**Qafeef (Ghostzapper)**, Patrick Farm  
13 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners  
3-Mahoning Valley, 1:50 p.m. EDT, Msw 6f, Qadira, 10-1  
\$3,000 OTB OMX yrl

**St Patrick's Day (Pioneerof the Nile)**, Journeyman Stud, \$3,500  
92 foals of racing age/13 winners/1 black-type winner  
4-Penn National, 7:28 p.m. EDT, Msw 5 1/2f, Jolenes Ecliptical,  
12-1



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## STAKES RESULTS:

**ATBA THREE YEAR OLD SALES FINAL S.**, (NB) \$50,852, Turf  
Paradise, 3-18, 3yo, c/g, 6f, 1:10.01, ft.

1--**U CAN DO U, 122, g, 3, Lotsa Mischief--Saint's Crown, by Tiznow.** (\$9,000 Ylg '22 ARZNOV). O-J. Lloyd Yother, Reunion Racing Stables LLC, Ann Gessmann, and Elk Ranch LLC; B-Fleming Thoroughbred Farm LLC (AZ); T-Kevin Eikleberry; J-Glenn W. Corbett. \$28,495. Lifetime Record: 6-3-0-0, \$81,677.

2--**Surroundedbyangels, 122, c, 3, Smiling Tiger--Angel of Battle, by Dunkirk.** (\$5,000 Ylg '22 FTCAZR). O-Jeremy Ramsland; B-Willow Tree Farm & G. W. Thomas (CA); T-Bart G. Hone. \$10,978.

3--**Caution Cardinal, 122, g, 3, Stanford--Ms. Caution, by Mr. Greeley.** O-Barro Racing LLC & Joe Frey; B-Regan John Wright & Allan Chatham (AZ); T-Chad K. Story. \$5,439.

Margins: 2 1/4, 2, HF. Odds: 3.20, 0.90, 32.00.

# BUZZWORTHY RESULTS

“He’s excellent value in Kentucky for a young horse at \$5,000, and breeders should be queuing up to get to him at that price.”

- Sid Fernando

Third-Crop Stallion      % BTW to Starters

<b>Bee Jersey</b>	<b>12.5</b>
Good Magic	10.06
Justify	9.72
Girvin	8.7
Bolt d’Oro	5.35
Oscar Performance	5.26
City of Light	5.04



SIRE OF **BEELINE**,  
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**WELDER S.**, (NB) \$75,000, Will Rogers Downs, 3-19, (S), 3yo, 6f, 1:11.26, ft.

1--**LAKE BEE, 122, g, 3, by Bee Jersey--Lake Piru (SP), by Salt Lake.** O-Silva Racing LLC; B-Miguel Silva (OK); T-Miguel Angel Silva; J-Jose L. Alvarez. \$44,904. Lifetime Record: 9-4-2-2, \$116,227.

2--**Power Slam, 122, g, 3, Dialed In--Bristles, by Unbridled's Song.** O/B-Dream Walkin Farms Inc (OK); T-Federico Villafranco. \$14,968.

3--**Okie Smoke, 122, g, 3, Caleb's Posse--Okie Smokey, by Cavvy.** O/T-Juan Padilla; B-Richter Family Trust (OK). \$8,233.

Margins: HF, 2 3/4, HF. Odds: 1.00, 5.70, 4.10.

#### ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

**5th-Will Rogers Downs, \$27,600, (S), Alw, 3-19, (NW2L), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:11.26, ft, 2 lengths.**

**BROWN TOWN (g, 4, Maimonides--Tappin 'n Preachin, by Tapit)** Lifetime Record: 6-2-0-1, \$40,827. O-Greg Hunter; B-Don Trett (OK); T-Orrin Cogburn.

**7th-Mahoning Valley, \$27,500, (NW3X)/Opt. Clm (\$25,000), 3-19, 3yo/up, 1m, 1:40.77, ft, 3/4 length.**

**FIVEFIVE SIX CHAMP (g, 5, First Dude--Home in Time, by Came Home)** Lifetime Record: 21-5-1-4, \$96,110. O-Jay P. Bernardini; B-Tom McCrocklin (FL); T-Jay P. Bernardini. \*\$165,000 2yo '21 OBSMAR.

**8th-Mahoning Valley, \$26,400, 3-19, (NW3L), 3yo/up, 5 1/2f, 1:06.21, ft, neck.**

**POKER PARTNER (g, 3, Weigelia--Justgimmeakiss, by Congrats)** Lifetime Record: SP, 10-3-2-1, \$84,128. O-Calypto Stable; B-Wasabi Ventures Stables LLC & Greenspring Mares LLC (PA); T-Jason DaCosta. \*\$12,000 Ylg '22 EASOCT.

#### ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

**Hot Princess, f, 3, Bold Red--Done Goose, by Mongoose.** Mahoning Valley, 3-19, (S), 6f, 1:15.28. Lifetime Record: 5-1-1-1, \$30,528. B-Debra Schaber (OH).

Seeing  
**RED?**

Click on a **stallion's name** to learn more about them on their page on the farm's website.

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**Bee Jersey,** Lake Bee, g, 3, o/o Lake Piru, by Salt Lake. Welder S., 3-19, Will Rogers

**Bold Red,** Hot Princess, f, 3, o/o Done Goose, by Mongoose. MSW, 3-19, Mahoning Valley

**First Dude,** Fivefive Six Champ, g, 5, o/o Home in Time, by Came Home. AOC, 3-19, Mahoning Valley

**Lotsa Mischief,** U Can Do U, g, 3, o/o Saint's Crown, by Tiznow. ATBA Three Year Old Sales Final S., 3-18, Turf Paradise

**Maimonides,** Brown Town, g, 4, o/o Tappin 'n Preachin, by Tapit. ALW, 3-19, Will Rogers

**Weigelia,** Poker Partner, g, 3, o/o Justgimmeakiss, by Congrats. ALW, 3-19, Mahoning Valley

## FOALING NEWS

**SILENT JOY,** 16, Kitten's Joy--Silent Emotion, by Ghazi  
Foal born Feb. 11, a filly by Win Win Win.

Will be bred back to **Happy Saver**.

Owned by the Estate of Brereton C. Jones.

Boarded at Airdrie Stud.

Accomplishments: Dam of Night Time (Majesticperfection), SW, \$592,914.

**SHE'S THE BERRIES,** 19, Badge of Silver--Just Like Daddy, by The Daddy

Foal born Feb. 18, a filly by **Upstart**.

Will be bred back to **Mage**.

Owned by the Estate of Brereton C. Jones.

Boarded at Airdrie Stud

Accomplishments: MSW & GSP, \$336,580.

**KITTERY POINT,** 20, Include--Lucy Sims, by Northjet (Ire)

Foal born Feb. 29, a filly by **Girvin**.

Will be bred back to **Mage**.

Owned by the Estate of Brereton C. Jones.

Boarded at Airdrie Stud.

Accomplishments: Dam of Sam's Sister (Brother Derek), GISW, \$472,710; Sensitive (Divine Park), SW, \$245,936.

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## NASHWA RETURNS TO THE RACES; HER DAM RETURNS TO FRANKEL



Imad Al Sagar, right, with Nashwa, Hollie Doyle and Ben de Paiva  
*Racingfotos.com*

By Emma Berry

We may bemoan the fact that Flat horses come and go in what feels like the blink of an eye, but this season we are fortunate to be welcoming back not just the Derby winner Auguste Rodin (Ire) but the four best fillies and mares in the world last year: Liberty Island (Jpn), Inspiral (GB), Emily Upjohn (GB) and Nashwa (GB). The last three named are all trained at John and Thady Gosden's Clarehaven Stables and both Emily Upjohn and Nashwa will make their return to the track next weekend in Dubai.

For three seasons now, Nashwa, a daughter of Frankel (GB) and the Group 1-placed and Listed winner Princess Loulou (GB) (Pivotal {GB}), has been the pride of her owner Imad Al Sagar's Blue Diamond Stud, becoming his first homebred Classic winner in the G1 Prix de Diane of 2022 after finishing third in the Oaks. To that success she added the G1 Nassau S. and G1 Falmouth S. along with another four Group 1 placings.

Of Nashwa remaining in training at five rather than joining her mother in the broodmare band, Al Sagar says, "It was a difficult decision, but I think that a filly of that calibre is entitled to have another chance as a five-year-old. Especially as, when you go back through the family, they thrive with age." **Cont. p3**

## SPACE TRAVELLER AND SANDS OF MALI RELOCATED TO STARFIELD STUD

Exciting young sires **Space Traveller (GB)** and **Sands Of Mali (Fr)** have been transferred from Ballyhane Stud to Micheal Orlandi's Starfield Stud for the remainder of the 2024 breeding season.

A statement released by Dullingham Park on Tuesday read, "Due to unforeseen circumstances, Space Traveller and Sands Of Mali, formerly at Ballyhane Stud, have been relocated to stand the remainder of the 2024 season at Micheal Orlandi's Starfield Stud in Mullingar [County Westmeath].

"Space Traveller is in his second season covering and reports of his first foals are exceptional. His fee remains at €6,500. Sands Of Mali has his first crop of runners this year and his fee remains at €5,000."

**Cont. p5**

## IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

### BREEDING DIGEST: PUTTING THE 'RUN' INTO 'VRON'

Chris McGrath pays accolades to tough gelding **The Chosen Vron** (Vronsky), who has now won 16 of his 21 starts.

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**Wednesday, March 20, 2024**



**Cheltenham Gold Cup winner Galopin Des Champs parading through Leighlinbridge, County Carlow with owners Audrey and Greg Turley, Paul Townend and Willie Mullins. [Video.](#) | [racingfotos.com](http://racingfotos.com)**

**BALLYMOUNT BOY READY TO GO**

**6**

*Adrian Keatley's Ballymount Boy (Ire) (Camacho {GB}) is showing all of the right signs as he embarks on his 3-year-old season.*

**NEW SPONSOR FOR LEOPARDSTOWN'S DERBY TRIAL**

**6**

*Cashel Palace Hotel is the new sponsor for the G3 Derby Trial S. at Leopardstown.*

**LADY OF SPAIN REMAINS UNDEFEATED**

**7**

*The Phoenix Of Spain (Ire) filly took her record to a perfect two-for-two after winning a novice at Wolverhampton on Tuesday.*

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**Nashwa & Blue Diamond Cont. from p1**

He says, "I think she will be competitive at five. She is a very good traveller and very straightforward. Horses like this don't come around every day, that's for sure."

He adds of her progress towards the G1 Dubai Turf on Saturday, March 30, "She didn't stop over the winter; she was trotting just to keep her weight and a level of fitness. She had some very tough races at the end of the season, especially the Juddmonte and the Irish Champion and the Queen Elizabeth II, so she was entitled to have a break. Now, we are very happy about her physical condition and fitness."

Princess Loulou, whose first foal, the seven-year-old Louganini (GB) (Zoffany {Ire}), recently won his fourth race in Saudi Arabia having already won three in the UK, is now back in foal to **Frankel**. Her three-year-old, by Al Sagar's homebred Group 1-winning stallion Decorated Knight (GB), is named Mesmerising (GB) and, like the mare's two-year-old colt by Dubawi (Ire), is also in training at Clarehaven.

"The Dubawi two-year-old half-brother is cantering and we're very excited to see his progress. He's a very correct horse and gorgeous. John knows the family and he has done very well with Nashwa so we don't need to fix something that is working," says the breeder.

Al Sagar has already celebrated a winner this year. Last week,

the four-year-old Intinso (GB) (**Siyouni** {Ire}) returned to the track for the first time since August to score emphatically at Wolverhampton.

"Intinso was a big disappointment last year with a number of physical issues but that is all behind us," he says. "John and Thady Gosden have done tremendously with him. He showed great signs of ability last year and was entered in the Guineas, the Dante and the Derby but he didn't live up to expectations. His last run was very promising after 206 days off and, with the physical changes that he has made, he is now a very strong animal and I am very excited about him for this year."

Intinso's dam, the homebred Rose Of Miracles (GB) (Dalakhani {Ire}), is out of Neartica (Fr) (Sadler's Wells), a half-sister to the great Goldikova (Ire) and, with a foal by **No Nay Never** on the way she is booked to Pinatubo (Ire) this year.

Princess Loulou is not the only visitor to **Frankel** from Blue Diamond Stud, which is also sending the 10-year-old Tisa River (Ire) (Equiano {Fr}), the half-sister to Group/Grade 1 winners to Order Of Australia (Ire), Iridessa (Ire) and Santa Barbara (Ire), as well as Abscond.

"She is a **Blame** filly that we purchased in America last year," says Al Sagar of the GI Natalma S. winner Abscond. "She has just foaled a colt by **Not This Time** and she is visiting **Frankel** this year." [Cont. p4](#)



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**Size, bone and a nice shape.'**

Fiona Denniff  
Denniff Farms

Breeders hail the first **PERFECT POWER** foals... and are sending mares straight back. [Click to read](#) the story.

**Nashwa & Blue Diamond Cont.**

When the breeder names a mare Blue Diamond (Ire) it is easy to guess that she is rather special, and that is indeed the case when it comes to the full-sister to Decorated Knight. By Galileo, her dam is Pearling (Storm Cat), a full-sister to Giant's Causeway and the celebrated matriarch You'resothrilling.

"She was covered three days ago by **Siyouni**," says Al Sagar of the six-year-old mare. "Her first foal, a yearling colt, is also by **Siyouni**. She was in foal to Dubawi but unfortunately the foal died."



I'm Wonderful and a colt foal by **Blame** | Jenn Laidlaw

Another of the elite mares on Dubawi's list this year is Zotilla (Ire). "She's a Zamindar mare and the dam of the French Guineas winner Mangoustine (Fr)," says Al Sagar. "She is already in foal to Dubawi and she has a two-year-old named Sandirella (GB) by his son Too Darn Hot (GB), and we have great confidence in him."

Among the young stallions on the rise in Britain, Al Sagar cites Blue Point (Ire) and Havana Grey (GB) as being of particular interest.

"I have a breeding right in Havana Grey and we are sending him Breath Of Joy (Ire), who is a very nice Kodiak (GB) mare," he adds.

"Then in America there is also a number of young stallions we are keen on. **Not This Time** is one of them, and I used Bolt d'Oro on a mare I purchased from Keeneland, Angle Of Attack (**Maclean's Music**), and I have a beautiful filly from her. We're also using Juddmonte's first-season stallion **Elite Power**."

Princess Nadia (GB) (**Sea The Stars {Ire}**), a daughter of the Group 3 winner Princess Noor (Ire) (**Holy Roman Emperor {Ire}**), is named in honour of Al Sagar's wife and his granddaughter and she is among the first group of mares to be visiting the Arc winner Ace Impact (Ire) at Haras de Beaumont this season. **Cont. p5**

**A big year ahead...**

**BRILLIANT** defeated her elders to win the **Park Express Stakes-Gr.3** at the Curragh on Monday for Aidan O'Brien



"That will be her trial and she'll go into one of the Guineas now after that. She might end up going to Newmarket and back here."

Aidan O'Brien



**Other Classic prospects include...**

**ONE LOOK** (Paddy Twomey): 1,000 Guineas, Irish 1,000 Guineas, French 1,000 Guineas, Irish Oaks

**GALEN** (Joseph O'Brien): Irish 2,000 Guineas, Epsom Derby, Irish Derby, French Derby

**AMBIENTE FRIENDLY** (James Fanshawe): Epsom Derby

**ARROW EAGLE** (Jean-Claude Rouget): French Derby

**HAWK POWER** (Andre Fabre): French 2,000 Guineas, French Derby

**FREVILLE** (Christopher Head): French Oaks

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Dawn Of Hope with her Lope De Vega colt | Jenn Laidlaw

**Nashwa & Blue Diamond Cont.**

Sophie (GB) (Farhh {GB}), a half-sister to 1,000 Guineas winner Cachet (Ire), is visiting New Bay (GB). The six-year-old mare has an Oasis Dream colt foal and a yearling filly by Cachet's sire Aclaim (Ire).

Another recent purchase, this time from Australia, is the Camelot (GB) mare Countessa (Fr) who hails from a family synonymous with the Niarchos operation. "Her second dam is the dam of Alpha Centauri (Ire)," says Al Sagar. "She's a winner and she is now in foal to Siyouni."

While Al Sagar has long been associated with Blue Diamond Stud, which operates across two sites just outside Newmarket, a diversification over the last year has seen his purchase of Stonereath Farm in Kentucky. A recent overview of the mating plans for the America mares was published in the US edition of TDN.

"We now have 15 mares in America and I'm going there in early April with Ted Voute, my CEO," he says.

"The theory I am working on is the Roberto bloodline. It has done wonders through the years but unfortunately, after Arch and Dynaformer, there are only a few living stallions from that line, such as Blame and Temple City. Blame in particular is proving to be a very good broodmare sire.

"A few days ago I read an article in TDN about him being the best young broodmare sire in America. I noticed this some years back and have sent a number of mares to Blame--Star Of Bristol (Speightstown) last year and again this year; I'm Wonderful, a Giant's Causeway mare, has a colt by Blame. This year we are sending Manasarova (More Than Ready) to him. She just foaled this week to Not The Time. I am trying hard to get fillies from the Roberto bloodline."

Floret (Ire), a Galileo (Ire) half-sister to Moonlight Cloud (GB) (Invincible Spirit {Ire}), has blessed the breeder with a longed-for Blame filly foal and is now heading to Justify.

He says, "Justify has exploded with that cross of Scat Daddy and Galileo, on the evidence of City Of Troy, Statuette--you name it. I have two mares going to him this year as we are also sending Dawn Of Hope (GB) who has recently foaled a colt by Lope De Vega (Ire).

"I saw most of the stallions in America and with each visit to any country--whether it's Ireland, England, France or America--I make sure to go to see the stallions. That way I can develop good ideas for our matings plans and decide what mares we want to send them, that will suit them physically."

Al Sagar is aided in his mating plans by the aforementioned Ted Voute and also by Nancy Sexton.

"I take the opinion of my team--I am proud of my team, of their experience and knowledge--and their opinions are highly regarded by me. Nancy has very deep knowledge when it comes to pedigrees and she has a very good memory of the bloodlines and the progeny. It is a very difficult process but I make the final decision," he says.

"Our strategy at Blue Diamond is not numbers. We would like to have the quality and we are trying to create a proper outcross for the stallions that are in our target range. These purchases are a true demonstration of our thinking."

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**Sands Of Mali & Space Traveller Cont. from p1**

The statement continued, "All enquiries and covering bookings must be made to Micheal Orlandi - 083 8092299 or [micheal@compasequine.co.uk](mailto:micheal@compasequine.co.uk)."

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Sands Of Mali has first juveniles this year | Racingfotos.com

## GREENHAM STAKES RETURN AN OPTION FOR ADRIAN KEATLEY'S BALLYMOUNT BOY



Adrian Keatley | Tattersalls

Adrian Keatley is exploring the idea of stepping **Ballymount Boy (Ire)** (Camacho {GB}) out in trip this season.

A classy juvenile last year, Ballymount Boy was snapped up mid-season by Wathnan Racing after he finished second to unbeaten star Vandeeek (GB) (Havana Grey {GB}) in the G2 Richmond S. at Goodwood.

The Greenham S. and the Craven S. have been put forward as possible targets by Keatley, who reported his charge to be raring to go for the new season.

Keatley said, "James Doyle is going to come and sit on him next week and we will finalise plans closer to the time, but the Greenham is a possibility I think, or he could end up going to Newmarket in April."

The trainer added, "He's a fine horse, he looks more like a seven-furlong horse or a miler this year. Last year he was built like a big, strong, sprinting two-year-old--I think he's leaner this time around and hopefully he can keep progressing from where he is now.

"We were happy to finish off the season how we did with him last year and we're hoping he can pick up where he left off."

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## CASHEL PALACE HOTEL TO SPONSOR G3 DERBY TRIAL AT LEOPARDSTOWN

The Cashel Palace Hotel has stepped in to sponsor the G3 Derby Trial S. at Leopardstown on Sunday, May 12.

The three-year-old contest, which is run over 10f, has served as an important stepping stone for many Classic aspirants down through the years but had been run without a sponsor after Derrinstown Stud ended its long association with the race in

2021.

Leopardstown chief Tim Husbands commented, "We are delighted to welcome Cashel Palace Hotel as the sponsor of the Derby Trial Stakes. Their support and partnership will add a new dimension to this event and further enhance the experience for participants and spectators alike. We would also like to congratulate them for their recently received Michelin Star."

The Derby Trial S. was won last year by the Jessica Harrington-trained Sprewell (Ire). Prior to that, horses like Sinndar (Ire), Galileo (Ire), High Chaparral (Ire), Yeats (Ire), Dylan Thomas (Ire) and Fame And Glory (GB) have landed the race.

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The G3 Derby Trial has a new sponsor | Leopardstown

## FIRST-SEASON SIRE WITH RUNNERS

Wednesday, Mar. 20, 2024:

**FRANCE**

**Hey Gaman (GB)** (New Approach {Ire}), Haras du Taillis  
 8 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners  
 1-MAR.BORELY, 1000m, Eagle Gate (Fr)  
 €8,000 Osarus September Yearling Sale 2023

**Romanised (Ire)** (Holy Roman Emperor {Ire}), Haras de Bouquetot

83 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners  
 1-MAR.BORELY, 1000m, Sissi Imperatrice (Fr)  
 €15,000 Arqana December Breeding Stock Sale 2022; €25,000 RNA Arqana Deauville October Yearlings 2023  
 1-MAR.BORELY, 1000m, Young and Proud (Fr)  
 €15,000 Arqana Deauville October Yearlings 2023

**Stunning Spirit (GB)** (Invincible Spirit {Ire}), Haras de Beaumont  
 15 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners  
 1-MAR.BORELY, 1000m, Pastisse (Fr)

**Yafta (GB)** (Dark Angel {Ire}), Haras de la Haie Neuve  
 24 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners  
 1-MAR.BORELY, 1000m, Spanish Rose (Fr)  
 €10,000 RNA Osarus September Yearling Sale 2023



Romanised | Haras de Bouquetot

## OBSERVATIONS

on the European racing scene

### HOW THEY FARED

**15.05 Compiègne, Mdn, €27,000, 3yo, f, 7fT**  
**Montemesola (Fr) (Kingman {GB})**, the half-sister to Territories (Ire), was the 5-2 favourite taking on experienced rivals and shaped with distinct promise, making up ground from rear to be third, beaten a head and a short neck.

## BRITAIN

#### Tuesday's Results:

**1st-Wolverhampton, £11,400, Novice, 3-19, 3yo, 8f 142y**  
 (AWT), 1:49.65, st.

**LADY OF SPAIN (IRE) (f, 3, Phoenix Of Spain {Ire}--Navette {Ire}, by Invincible Spirit {Ire})**, off the mark over this course and

distance in December, was keen early trapped wide behind the leaders. Reeling in Approval (GB) (Le Havre {Ire}) inside the final 100 yards, the 8-13 favourite asserted to score by a neck. The dam, who also has the 2-year-old colt Sopran Vivaldi (Ire) (Dark Angel {Ire}) and a yearling son of Mehmas (Ire), is kin to Dark Angel's G2 Prix Daniel Wildenstein winner and G1 Queen Anne S. and G1 Lockinge S. runner-up Real World (Ire) and to the Listed Cheshire Oaks scorer and G2 May Hill S. runner-up Dubai Fountain (Ire) (Teofilo {Ire}). This is also the family of the crack milers and sires Librettist and Dubai Destination. Sales history: 16,000gns Wlg '21 TADEWE; 40,000gns Ylg '22 TATOCT. Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, \$14,673.

O-L Boros, R & S Marchant & Partner; B-Littlejohn Bloodstock Ltd (IRE); T-Roger Varian.

#### CONDITIONS RESULT:

**3rd-Wolverhampton, £11,400, 3-19, 3-5yo, 7f 36y (AWT),**  
 1:27.64, st.

**ARCTURIAN (IRE) (g, 3, Cotai Glory {GB}--Star of Malta {GB}, by Kyllachy {GB})** Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, \$12,449. O-Mr John Henwood & Miss Sally M Howes; B-Kangyu International Racing (IRE); T-Richard Hughes. \*€16,000 Wlg '21 GOFNO1; £40,000 Ylg '22 GOFFUK.

## FRANCE

#### Tuesday's Results:

**3rd-Compiègne, €27,000, Mdn, 3-19, 3yo, f, 7fT, 1:35.75,**  
 hy.

**QUALIXIA (GER) (f, 3, Blue Point {Ire}--Quariana {Ger}, by Lomitas {GB})**, runner-up on debut at Dortmund in September, shadowed the early leader. Cajoled to the front approaching the furlong pole, the 14-5 second favourite stuck to the task gamely to deny Vivawood (Fr) (Ivawood {Ire}) by a short head. The winner is currently the last known foal out of the unraced dam, a full-sister to the G3 Prix de Psyche scorer Quilanga (Ger) (Lomitas {GB}) who is in turn the second dam of the Listed Pipalong S. winner and G2 Duke Of Cambridge S. runner-up Thunder Beauty (Ire) (Night Of Thunder {Ire}). The winner shares her second dam, the G2 German 1000 Guineas scorer Quebrada (Ire) (Devil's Bag), with the GII Ballston Spa S. and GII Canadian S. winner Quidura (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}) and the international star Spirit Dancer (GB) (Frankel {GB}). Sales history: €30,000 Ylg '22 BBASEP. Lifetime Record: 2-1-1-0, €27,500. **Video, sponsored by FanDuel TV.**

O-Ecurie Skymarc Farm, Ecurie de Maleissye & P Decouz; B-Gestut Fahrhof (GER); T-Philippe Decouz.

## WORLDWIDE NEWS

### MIXED ONLINE SALE ANNOUNCED BY BLOODSTOCK SOUTH AFRICA

A dedicated Broodmare, Fillies For Stud & Weanling Online Auction was announced by Bloodstock South Africa (BSA) on Tuesday.

The sale will be held from May 7-8, and will carry no entry fee and no commission will be charged. The closing date for entries will be Apr. 23. Already scheduled is the BSA May Online Auction, which will consist of yearlings and horses-in-training. In 2024, the remaining BSA sales are as follows: the July 4 KZN Yearling Sale in Durban, and the National 2-Year-Old Sale in Johannesburg on Aug. 22-23.

For more information, please visit the [BSA website](#).

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# Stallions' Top Runners

Type Sire Name:

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