



## BREEDING DIGEST: DIFFERENT SHADES TO DERBY PHOTO



**Mystik Dan (inside) winning last weekend's Kentucky Derby**  
*Coady Media*

*by Chris McGrath*

Before anything else, first and foremost we need to acknowledge the unfathomable legacy of Darling My Darling (Deputy Minister) as second dam of both colts denied in an agonizing three-way finish to the GI Kentucky Derby. The odds of that coincidence, for all her elite blood and performance, are best be left to an actuary. In the meantime, however, we should salvage the contrasting narratives aptly condensed, in what remains the definitive test of the American Thoroughbred, by her two grandsons.

For our collective obsession with first place is such that two fairly momentous scenarios were stifled by their historically narrow failure to retrieve the advantage stolen along the rail by Brian Hernandez.

On the one hand, by their patient cultivation of ostensibly uncommercial genetic assets, the Japanese have reached a point where the fairly random candidature of sophomores diverted from their own domestic Classics can produce Forever Young (Jpn) (Real Steel {Jpn}), arguably the moral winner in view of his buffeting; and the raw T.O. Password (Jpn) (Copano Rickey {Jpn}), who came from nowhere (almost literally, in the race itself, as well as figuratively beforehand) for fifth on only his third start. *Cont. p3*

## SATURDAY SIRE: GOLDENCENTS

*by Jill Williams*

*If you're in this business, chances are you're seeking 'Saturday afternoon horses.' In this new series, we will select a stallion from the previous weekend whose runners particularly impressed. We start with the sire of the most coveted prize of all: this year's GI Kentucky Derby winner.*

Spendthrift Farm has long called Goldencents "Into Mischief's value sire." As a member of the five-time leading sire's first crop, he was conceived on a \$12,500 cover and, while quietly plying his trade with solid runners and numbers that put him at or near the top of all of his respective sire crops, he hadn't come up with a truly big horse. Meanwhile, Into Mischief had flashier sons like Horse of the Year Authentic and triple-digit Beyer sensation **Life Is Good** retire to the breeding shed and quick-success sire sons like **Practical Joke** grab the headlines.

That all changed Saturday. *Cont. p6*

## IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

### GOWRAN PARK BREEZE-UP SALE TO RETURN IN 2025

In 2025, the Gowran Park Breeze-Up Sale will make a reappearance after a break. Brian Sheerin finds out more.



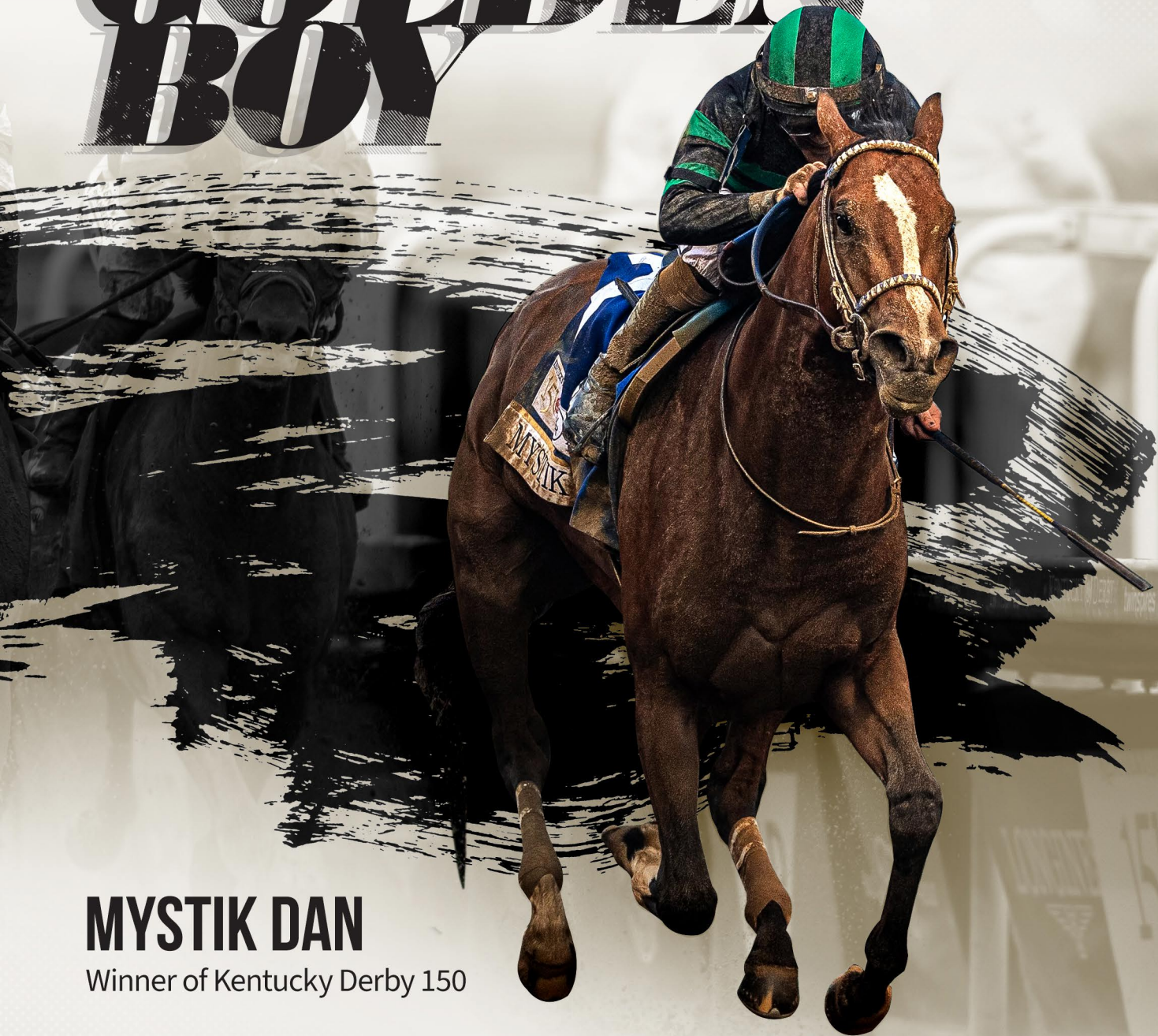
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The breeding program that has produced Kentucky Derby sires **INTO MISCHIEF & GOLDENCENTS.**

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# THE GOLDEN BOY



## MYSTIK DAN

Winner of Kentucky Derby 150

**Congratulations to breeder and owners**

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**GOLDENCENTS**

**INTO MISCHIEF'S DERBY SIRE.**

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**Wednesday, May 8, 2024**



Horses train at Monmouth Park on Tuesday morning. The Oceanport, NJ oval opens for its 79th season of racing on Saturday. | Bill Denver/Equi-Photo

**MCPEEK GIVES MYSTIK DAN UPDATE**

**8**

*Ken McPeek officially remained on the fence regarding Mystic Dan (Goldencents)'s participation in the May 18 GI Preakness S., but said the colt has come out of his Derby win in fine shape.*

**COMMISSION FINES ANOTHER NYRA EMPLOYEE**

**9**

*NYRA Racing Secretary Keith Doleshel has been fined \$2,000 by the New York Gaming Commission for an apparently minor clerical error.*

**OWNER/TRAINER BONUS AT BELMONT STAKES FESTIVAL**

**10**

*The Belmont Stakes Racing Festival at Saratoga will include a participation bonus program for owner and trainers.*

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### Breeding Digest (cont. from p1)

On the other hand, the runner-up came within an ace of the ultimate vindication for the second-highest price paid for an American yearling in 2022, suggesting that the domestic market must still be functioning quite effectively. Giving \$2.3 million for Sierra Leone (**Gun Runner**) left his purchasers a very narrow path to a dividend on their investment. While it proved a vexing day for those partners whose European champion juvenile had earlier bombed out in his own Classic test at Newmarket, in Sierra Leone they successfully identified one of the very few future stallions in his crop to have been offered at auction as yearlings.

The colt who thwarted Sierra Leone, of course, was yet another to extend the long list of homebreds whose collective success, on both sides of the Atlantic, has in recent years implied a very different message about the yearling market. But



Ma'am | Coady

we can't make any sweeping judgements about that (as though we ever should, with horses...) in view of the fact that Mystik Dan's breeders in 2020 chose one of the busiest commercial stallions around for his dam Ma'am.

She was one of 204 partners for Goldencents that spring, when his fee had been doubled to \$25,000 on the back of his second-crop sires' title the previous year. (For more on

Goldencents, read Jill Williams's Saturday Sires.)

Obviously it was a dashing rails move that just enabled Mystik Dan to last out on Saturday, and conceivably he might yet end up trying to emulate his sire, Into Mischief, back in trip for the GI Dirt Mile at the Breeders' Cup. But Ma'am did offer Goldencents one or two stretchy flavors: she's by a son of Tiznow (moreover one out of a Turkoman mare) out of a sister to GI Hollywood Futurity winner Siphonic, their sire Siphon (Brz) being a sturdy repository of

South American stamina and grit.

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- BLOFELD (QUALITY ROAD)
- BOURBON COURAGE (LION HEART)
- CUPID (TAPIT)
- DIVINING ROD (TAPIT)
- ECLIPTICALSPRALINE (ECLIPTICAL)
- ENDORSED (MEDAGLIA D'ORO)
- ENGAGE (INTO MISCHIEF)
- FIRST MONDAYS (CURLIN)
- FRIESAN FIRE (A.P. INDY)
- GALAWI (IRE) (DUBAWI-Ire)
- GOLDEN LAD (MEDAGLIA D'ORO)
- GREAT NOTION (ELUSIVE QUALITY)
- HOLY BOSS (STREET BOSS)
- HOPPERTUNITY (ANY GIVEN SATURDAY)
- IRISH WAR CRY (CURLIN)
- KOBE'S BACK (FLATTER)
- LONG ON VALUE (VALUE PLUS)
- LONG RIVER (A.P. INDY)
- MADEFROMLUCKY (LOOKIN AT LUCKY)
- MOSLER (WAR FRONT)
- NOT ABROAD (NOT FOR LOVE)
- UNCLE LINO (UNCLE MO)
- V. I. P. TICKET (WINDSOR CASTLE)

Bred by the late Lucy Bassett, wife of Keeneland legend Ted, Ma'am was sold privately after failing to meet her yearling reserve (\$9,500 at the September Sale) and dropped to claiming level for three of her four career wins. Nor is there much other distinction behind her until you get to where Rokeby Farms tried to tap into the Indiana-bred matriarch Hillbrook as seventh dam. Luckily for Mystik Dan's breeders, Ma'am never slipped from their grasp under a tag, and they were well counselled by McPeek, whose team even foaled the Derby winner on Magdalena Farm. But one way or another this astounding first foal is yet another blue-collar package in a race that makes a habit (think runner-up **Two Phil's** in 2023, and of course Rich Strike the year before) of maintaining the equilibrium so crucial to our business.

Because we need a horse like Sierra Leone (and indeed elite producers like Darling My Darling) to work out often enough to keep the biggest players in the game; but we also need the Mystik Dans to ensure that the rest of us have a chance, as well.

### McPeek Finds Bargain from Noble Line



Kentucky Oaks winner Thorpedo Anna  
*Coady Media*

Kenny McPeek's historic Classic double last weekend came almost three decades after saddling Derby runner-up Tejano Run. He cost \$20,000 as a yearling, and ever since McPeek has continued similar alchemy with horses rejected by the market. Nowadays, of course, you don't see too many trainers at the sales at all, never mind trainers whose signature on a docket will send the professional agents immediately back to their notes, scratching their heads over just what it was they might have missed.

Actually McPeek was operating as an agent himself-he was taking a break from training to take care of his mother-when finding dual Horse of the Year **Curlin** for just \$57,000, lurking as Hip 2261 at the September Sale.

# CLOSING TODAY

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Four-year-olds and up  
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One way or another, then, Thorpedo Anna (Fast Anna) was all in a day's work when he gave \$40,000 for her at the Fasig-Tipton Fall Yearling Sale in 2022. The sire had died the previous year, which often (instructively of the skewed mindset of many who shape the market) proves equally fatal to the commercial prospects of the stock they leave behind. Moreover, the filly bought by McPeek, one of 46 live foals in Fast Anna's final crop, was out of an **Uncle Mo** mare gifted as a premature foal to Judy Hicks by breeder Sanford Robertson.

Hicks remembers her as "45 inches tall and 60 pounds," but retained a stake in her Fast Anna baby-she'd kept the only previous foal, a **Tourist** filly, a \$5,000 RNA before winning a Belmont maiden on debut-and so, too, did McPeek. That's something he often does, to have skin in the game, and all concerned should get their due reward from the GI Kentucky Oaks winner as a breeding prospect, regardless of Fast Anna's fleeting opportunity and influence.

For Thorpedo Anna extends one of the very best families in the book, tracing to none other than Almahmoud as eighth dam. That's via Almahmoud's great daughter Cosmah and her Ribot filly Queen Sucree, who produced Derby winner Cannonade (Bold Bidder). The latter's half-sister by Northern Dancer, Stellar Odyssey, is fifth dam of Thorpedo Anna as well as third dam of GI Wood Memorial winner Eskendereya (Giant's Causeway) and GI Middle Park S. winner Balmont (Stravinsky).

Don't forget that Fast Anna himself had aristocratic genes as a son of champion Dreaming of Anna, a multiple graded stakes scorer on turf who also won the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies. Dreaming of Anna's aptitude for grass was unsurprising, as a daughter of Rahy out of a half-sister to Kitten's Joy. Throw in the versatility imparted by **Medaglia d'Oro**, in terms both of discipline and surface, and Fast Anna was able to sprint on both grass and dirt (beaten a neck in the GI King's Bishop S.).



**Dreaming of Anna**  
*Horsephotos*

To me, Almahmoud is THE cornerstone of the modern Thoroughbred and it's wonderful to find Cosmah directly in a Classic female line. In noting Japan's role in the Derby above, we might have reiterated the impact of Cosmah's son Halo through Sunday Silence, responsible for the respective grandsires of both Forever Young and T.O. Password, in Deep Impact and Gold Allure.

### Messier Refreshing Sam-Son Legacy

When Messier lined up for the GIII Westchester S. last Friday, it was beginning to feel as though he was living up to the name of his dam, Checkered Past. Having won the GIII Robert B. Lewis S. by 15 lengths in 2022, he had to switch barns to overcome his trainer's prohibition from Churchill but disappointed in the GI Kentucky Derby and this time last year seemed to have lost the thread sufficiently to be offered at Keeneland's HRA Sale in April. But he stalled at \$475,000 and his powerful ownership group have instead made two further trainer switches, latterly to Rick Dutrow Jr.

The man who achieved such a remarkable rejuvenation in White Abarrio (Race Day) appeared to have begun that process with Messier in an Aqueduct stakes in March, only to see him relegated for interference. In the Westchester, however, Messier held off thriving GII Carter H. winner Post Time (**Frosted**) and, having posted some big numbers in the process, he may now join White Abarrio in the GI Met Mile.

Messier represents a fifth generation of breeding by Sam-Son,

CONGRATULATIONS



## Candy Overload

Reload-Mini Candy

THORNCLIFFE STAKES  
AT WOODBINE RACE TRACK

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Pantofel Stable  
LLC,  
Wachtel Stable

**TRAINER:** Mark E. Casse

**JOCKEY:** Patrick Husbands

**BREEDER:** Northern Dawn  
Stables Inc &  
Denny Andrews




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the iconic Canadian farm that accumulated 84 Sovereign Awards, 14 Grade I winners and four Eclipse Awards under Ernie Samuel and his heirs. Its disbandment, poignant as it was, allowed other breeders to tap into a special legacy. A case in point was Silesia Farm, whose advisers Hunter Simms and Kitty Day of Warrendale were drawn to Checkered Past at the 2021 Keeneland January Sale, not least because her son from the penultimate crop of Empire Maker had been sold for \$470,000 in the same ring the previous September.



**Messier** | *Susie Raisher*



# OSCAR PERFORMANCE

Kitten's Joy – Devine Actress, by Theatrical (IRE)

#1

## Over ALL SIREES

by % of starters in 2024, 100 + named foals

- #1 Graded Stakes Winners
- #1 Graded Stakes Horses
- #1 Black-Type Winners

Including: Into Mischief, Curlin, Gun Runner,  
Quality Road, Justify and on ...

*Congratulations:*

**TRIKARI** - (G2) American Turf S. winner

Their clients covered a \$290,000 play in one hit when selling the **Candy Ride (Arg)** filly Checkered Past was carrying that day as a Saratoga yearling for \$500,000. The **Candy Ride** filly has yet to break her maiden in five attempts but is another whose connections will be enthused by Messier's revival. Even as it is, Checkered Past is out of an unraced sister to Catch the Thrill, a top 2-year-old filly in Canada and herself daughter of a domestic champion in Catch the Ring. The next dam Radiant Ring was 2003 Canadian Broodmare of the Year, responsible overall for eight stakes performers and/or producers. And she, to continue a theme, was by none other than Halo.

### Gun Firing on Both Barrels

He just missed out on the big one, but it was still another monster Saturday for **Gun Runner**. By this stage we're all running out of things to say about the Three Chimneys top gun, but it's kind of fun that his latest Grade I double, courtesy of Vahva and Gun Pilot, conforms to the profile most of us had in mind when he started out. For here are a pair of 4-year-olds, duly reaching fresh peaks with maturity.

And we have to remind ourselves that these guys are from only his second crop. If it's still Into Mischief who sets standards, among the many different indices where he again leads the field this year is by sheer volume: the perennial champion has already fielded over 300 starters in 2024, nearly double **Gun Runner's** 161. From these, both have three Grade I scorers already.

His own fee having obviously gone through the roof, **Gun Runner** has seen his debut crop generate frantic competition for the status of value alternative, with Cyberknife, **Gunite**, Taiba and Pappacap now again having to deal with Early Voting after his early hitch.



Gun Pilot | Coady Media

The homebred Gun Pilot will be a particular joy to the Three Chimneys team, his unraced dam Bush Pilot having been picked out as an eligible partner at \$425,000 from the Keeneland November Sale of 2018. It was some weekend for the late damsire, incidentally, daughters of Smart Strike also producing Seize the Grey to win the GII Pat Day Mile on the same card, besides Messier in New York the previous day as noted above. There may have been contrasting sentiments for the breeders of Vahva, her stakes-winning dam Holiday Soiree having been cashed out for \$160,000 at the Keeneland November Sale in 2021, a couple of months after they had sold Vahva as a yearling in the same ring for \$280,000. The mare's then purchasers were presumably happy to sell her on for \$300,000 back at the equivalent sale last November, after getting \$400,000 for her **City of Light** filly in September. But kudos to Wimberley Bloodstock for keeping the faith with a mare rising 15, carrying another **City of Light** foal. Holiday Soiree was herself placed in the GI Distaff back in 2013--and now her daughter has won the same race.

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### Saturday Sires (cont. from p1)

Mystik Dan captured a thrilling rendition of the Derby, catapulting Goldencents into the rarefied air of sire of a Kentucky Derby winner. If Goldencents was somewhat in the background among an ever-growing smorgasbord of Into Mischief sons at stud, he won't be any more.

"I think it just adds that much more to the legacy that Into Mischief is building as a sire, first having sired two Derby winners of his own and now to have a son sire one, it cements his legacy as a sire of sires," said Ned Toffey, general manager of Spendthrift Farm. "When you talk to the public, no one ever asks you if you won a Breeders' Cup. Everyone always asks if you have a Kentucky Derby winner."

Goldencents was a \$62,000 purchase by Dennis O'Neill at the 2012 OBS June Sale of 2-Year-Olds after working a quarter in :21 1/5. He broke his maiden first time out in September that year over 5 1/2 furlongs on what was then Del Mar's all-weather surface. Trainer Doug O'Neill--whose assistant Leandro Mora was sometimes listed as conditioner--thought enough of him to ship to Belmont for the GI Champagne S., where he finished second, before shipping again and capturing the GIII Delta Downs Jackpot S.

That Delta Downs win would mark Into Mischief's first graded win as a sire. Goldencents would go on to win five more graded races, including back-to-back editions of the GI Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile and a stretch out to nine furlongs in the GI Santa Anita Derby. He retired after his second Breeders' Cup victory at the end of 2014 with a record of 18-7-7-0 and earnings of \$3,044,000.



Goldencents was one of just 41 named foals in Into Mischief's first crop. That number would drop to 26 in his second year, numbers that seem preposterous now with the hindsight of Into Mischief's prowess as a sire. He's had unprecedented success since, has led the North American sire lists for the past five consecutive years, and now stands for \$250,000.

"It's very special because, when we brought Into Mischief and Goldencents to the farm, they were both offered on a program that B. Wayne Hughes developed called 'Share the Upside,'" said Toffey. "Both of these horses were offered at a very, very low price. Now Into Mischief stands for \$250,000 and he started at \$12,500."



**Goldencents** | Sarah Andrew

The late Spendthrift owner B. Wayne Hughes pioneered the innovative 'Share the Upside' program. In short, breeders who use new stallions selected to participate in the program for two consecutive years receive a free lifetime breeding right. Not every stallion pans out--that's just the nature of the game--but Into Mischief and Goldencents certainly have.

Like almost all young sires, Goldencents's fee has fluctuated depending on the season. When Spendthrift acquired his breeding rights, approximately five months before his second Breeders' Cup win in 2014, the farm announced he would start at \$15,000. While he's been in demand in the breeding shed and has 27 black-type winners with his seventh crop headed to the races this year, he hadn't had that breakthrough horse a stallion needs to propel him into the next stratosphere. Until now, that is.

"Mystik Dan was bred on the year that Goldencents was \$20,000," continued Toffey. "It just fits with something we're trying to do, which is to offer breeders value at all levels. I think it really shows the value and quality we offer doesn't necessarily always mean more expensive. That very much fits with our legacy and with what Wayne Hughes tried to do."

Breeders recognized that value, sending Goldencents 179 mares in his initial crop and 204 in the year Mystik Dan was conceived. It paid off, too, as Goldencents came up with runners like Going to Vegas, back-to-back victress of the 2021-22 GI Rodeo Drive S. at 1 1/4 miles on the grass. Then there was By My Standards, winner of the GII Louisiana Derby and three other graded races, who also placed in the GI Met Mile and GI Whitney S. while banking over \$2 million. Mr. Money was a MGSW & GISP, Wildman Jack won graded stakes in both the U.S. and Dubai, and the list continues.

Goldencents's seven graded winners have been split evenly between dirt and turf (three on each, plus one on both surfaces) and while his overall runners average sprint wins, his graded winners have trended more on the routing side (five of the seven at nine furlongs or greater).

"He gets hard-knocking, good, useful racehorses that are like Goldencents himself," said Toffey. "He was a very good sprinter and miler who also stretched his speed into a win in the Santa Anita Derby. We've certainly seen his offspring have that toughness and that tractability. They're honest horses and they also have good minds."



**Mystik Dan wears the roses** | Renee Torbit/Coady Media

Goldencents was sent 144 mares in 2023. His fee was listed at \$10,000 this year. Without Mystik Dan, who also won the GIII Southwest S. and placed in the GI Arkansas Derby, he would currently still be ranked 20th among all 2024 North American sires by combined North American and European earnings. But he does have Mystik Dan, and that puts him third by that same metric, behind only his own sire and the mighty **Gun Runner**. The latter finished second in this year's Derby with Sierra Leone, while the former finished sixth with Resilience.

"During the Derby," said Toffey, "my eye was on Resilience, a son of Into Mischief, who was making a move on the outside at the same time Mystik Dan was on the inside. My eye was drawn there."

Toffey continued, “But Mystik Dan--what a gutsy horse! What a ride by [Brian] Hernandez [Jr.]. You can have a courageous jockey, but you also have to have a courageous horse. Mystik Dan is a gritty racehorse, because there was no hole. They made the hole. He had the tactical speed to put himself in that position.

“You have to give the horse credit; he was tactical enough to put himself off the fast pace and take the opportunity. It was a really remarkable race. We’re very happy for all of the connections and it’s an honor for us to be a small part of it.”

It isn't lost on Toffey what ramifications another Kentucky Derby win for one of the Spendthrift sires means. Hughes had bought the historic farm in 2004. No one, except perhaps the visionary Hughes himself, could have foreseen what has been accomplished a mere two decades in. Into Mischief was the first stallion Hughes offered through the 'Share the Upside' program and, along with Giant's Causeway, has become the sport's greatest conduit of the Storm Cat sire line. In addition to all of his other achievements, Into Mischief became the first sire in the 150-year history of the Kentucky Derby to have back-to-back winners with Authentic (2020) and **Mandaloun** (2021). Now, at 19, he has cemented Goldencents as the latest rung on Spendthrift's ladder of success.

“It's a credit to what Wayne Hughes started for three of the last five Derby winners to be by a Spendthrift sire,” said Toffey. “We feel very fortunate.”

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## MCPEEK GIVES UPDATE ON MYSTIK DAN'S PREAKNESS STATUS *by Bill Finley*

While still officially remaining on the fence when it comes to whether or not he will run his GI Kentucky Derby winner **Mystik Dan** (Goldencents) in the May 18 GI Preakness S., trainer Kenny McPeek confirmed that an appearance in the middle jewel of the Triple Crown is a distinct possibility.

“Who wouldn't want to?” he replied when asked if he is leaning toward running in the Preakness. “You only get so many of these windows of opportunity. It would give him a chance to prove himself again and maybe make amends for his loss in the GI Arkansas Derby. We wouldn't run him just for those reasons. But if he's well and he's ready and we feel like he can win it, we will go. We have a few days. There's no rush to make a decision.”

McPeek explained why he is being deliberate about the decision.

“The colt is doing fine,” he said. “We're going to get him back to the track [Wednesday]. He's been in the feed tub the last couple of days, so I'm not overly worried about that. An old guy told me years ago, don't make a decision until you absolutely,

positively have to. We just want to get him back out on the racetrack and make sure he is moving good and that his energy level is fine. Right now, I can't tell you one way or another. The owners and I will discuss it and ultimately we'll do the right thing. I actually told [co-owner and breeder] Lance [Gasaway] before the Kentucky Derby that because we skipped the Rebel, I felt pretty good that, if we needed to, we could run back in the Preakness. At this stage, I am optimistic. But right now we don't need to make a call.”

When asked about the spacing between the races in the Triple Crown, McPeek had a number of opinions, but said, “I don't think the two weeks is that big of a deal.”

“I've run horses back in two weeks plenty of times in my career,” he said. “But if they made me commissioner or whatever and I could rearrange the Triple Crown, I would have it run on the first Saturday in May, the first Saturday in June and the first Saturday in July. But you'd have to get three huge organizations to agree to that. I think the uniqueness of the Triple Crown is the two weeks, three weeks. That's why it is such a test.

“The fact that we've removed Lasix from the conversation makes it an even better test. Horses recover quicker without the Lasix. Lasix was a detriment. I know there are guys that will hear me say that and scream, 'I need Lasix.' No, you don't need Lasix. Maybe there are certain horses that do and, yes, we do have bleeders. But they shouldn't be the ones running in the Grade I, Grade II, Grade III races. The two weeks is easier without the Lasix because the Lasix would dehydrate a horse and then you'd have to recoup that fluid within the two weeks.

“I'm not scared of the two weeks at all. I just want to make sure my horse is right.”

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## MUGATU CONFIRMED FOR PREAKNESS

Average Joe Racing Stables Ltd. and Dan Wells' **Mugatu** (Blofeld), an also-eligible entrant in the GI Kentucky Derby and most recently fifth in the Apr. 6 GI Toyota Blue Grass S., will make his next start in the May 18 GI Preakness S., trainer Jeff Engler confirmed Tuesday.

“He's getting better. He really moved up on the dirt. His numbers proved it. Seize the Grey (Arrogate), who won the [GII] Pat Day Mile, we finished in front of him in the Blue Grass. I heard Seize the Grey is going in the Preakness, so it's a logical spot,” Engler said. “We were a little frustrated we didn't get into the Derby. We feel the more distance the better for this horse. I do like the 1 3/16 miles, so we're going to head up.”

A maiden winner over the Tapeta at Gulfstream last November, Mugatu opened 2024 with a pair of third-place efforts going one mile over the synthetic at Turfway over the winter.

He was fourth in the Mar. 2 John Battaglia Memorial S. and eighth in the Mar. 23 Rushaway S. before making his third start over the dirt in the Blue Grass.



**Mugatu** | *Lauren King*

Mugatu is scheduled to breeze five furlongs Saturday before shipping to Pimlico.

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## NY GAMING COMMISSION FINES ANOTHER NYRA EMPLOYEE *by Bill Finley*

For what appears to have been nothing more than a minor clerical error, the New York Gaming Commission and its head steward Braulio Baeza, Jr. has fined NYRA Racing Secretary Keith Doleshel \$2,000 for “failing to conduct business in a professional manner.”

Doleshel has appealed the decision and has the backing of NYRA management.

Under Baeza, the Gaming Commission has been quick to fine NYRA employees for what can be argued are nothing more than honest and inadvertent mistakes. Among those who have been sanctioned with fines are clocker Richard Gazer, the former Senior Vice President of Racing Operations Frank Gabriel, Jr. and Assistant Racing Secretary Rob MacLennan.

Doleshel personally accepted the entry of the first time starter **Sassy Allie** (Coal Front) for a maiden special weight race carded for May 2. The entry was made by trainer Robert Falcone, Jr., who provided NYRA with the information concerning the ownership of the horse. The ownership details provided by Falcone matched those in The Jockey Club registry, which is how the racing office reviews the accuracy of ownership details. However, a mistake was made somewhere along the line as the entry did not accurately reflect a recent change in ownership. Following the entry being accepted, the trainer alerted NYRA of the issue.

NYRA informed all relevant parties so that the ownership details could be updated and corrected in the program. However, Baeza ordered that the horse had to be scratched.

“Mr. Doleshel took an entry from Robert Falcone and the ownership was misstated by the trainer,” said Doleshel’s attorney Drew Mollica. “At the end of the day, it was a minor administrative error. Keith did everything according to Hoyle. The trainer gave him the information. He crossed referenced it. There was no impropriety. There was no effort to conceal. It was strictly a bookkeeping error. Those sort of things happen every day and in every walk of life.

“Once it was discovered by due diligence, it could have easily been corrected. All it would have taken was a simple announcement that would have corrected the information regarding the ownership. That’s the type of thing all of us have heard over the public address system a thousand times. The horse should have been allowed to run and Keith should not have been fined. Instead of solving problems, the Gaming Commission decided to create a problem where there was none.

“Not only did they scratch the horse to the detriment of everybody involved, the owner, the trainer, the association, the betting public, now they double down and fine Mr. Doleshel. This rule, not tending to business in a proper manner, is unconstitutionally vague. Everyone has a different opinion of what that means. This is insanity to its highest level.”

NYRA Vice President of Communications Pat McKenna confirmed that Doleshel has the full support of track management.

“This is but the latest example of the New York State Gaming Commission leveling significant financial penalties to individual NYRA employees for inadvertent, and sometimes unavoidable, clerical errors,” McKenna said. “Keith Doleshel is a valued and talented NYRA employee who always conducts himself professionally. As we explore separate avenues of recourse, NYRA will take every step to support an appeal should Doleshel pursue that option. These kinds of formal sanctions are a departure from standard business practices and have the effect of discouraging self-reporting and decreasing NYRA’s ability to recruit and retain top talent.”




This is the second time the Gaming Commission has fined Doleshel for “failing to conduct business in a professional manner.” Doleshel was fined on Oct. 20, 2022. That ruling stemmed from an incident at Saratoga in which an unauthorized agent was allowed to claim a horse. After the claim, NYRA officials informed the Gaming Commission of the error. Doleshel agreed to a settlement with the Gaming Commission and the offense was expunged from his record.

According to Mollica, fines of more than \$250 become part of a racing official's permanent record.

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	EU+UK	187	\$590,468
	AUS	178	\$394,885

## SHE'S EXTREME

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“Those fines have to be reported every time a licensee applies for another license,” Mollica said. “That’s a scarlet letter. Any time you apply for a license or a job in the racing industry, you have to disclose these. Why would anyone want to work at NYRA under these circumstances where your entire career could be ruined over a clerical error that was nobody’s fault?”

Baeza, regarded as the most powerful of the three stewards working at the NYRA tracks, has had to deal with controversies of his own. The stewards disqualified **Brick Ambush** (Laoban) after he crossed the wire second in the \$500,000 Great White Way division of the New York Stallion Series at Aqueduct last December. Brick Ambush did not appear to do anything in the race to warrant being disqualified and many expressed an opinion that Baeza and the other two stewards disqualified the wrong horse by accident.

Asked for comment, Gaming Commission spokesman Brad Maione said, “We have no additional information to provide beyond what’s in the ruling.”

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## OWNER/TRAINER BONUS PROGRAM SET FOR BELMONT STAKES RACING FESTIVAL

A participation bonus program for owner and trainers at the four-day 2024 Belmont Stakes Racing Festival at Saratoga, which runs from June 6 through June 9, was announced by The New York Racing Association Tuesday.

Highlighted by the June 8 GI Belmont S., the four-day Belmont Stakes Racing Festival will include 24 stakes races with purses totaling \$10.25 million, the highest purse levels and number of stakes offered since the launch of the multi-day Festival in 2014.

Owners will be eligible for a starter bonus for horses finishing fourth through last at the 2024 Belmont Stakes Racing Festival at Saratoga with \$1,500 awarded for stakes starters and \$1,000 awarded to owners of starters in overnight races.

Trainers whose horses start in stakes races at the Belmont Stakes Racing Festival will receive a \$750 bonus, while a \$500 bonus will be awarded to trainers for starters in all overnight races.

“The bonus program along with a lucrative purse schedule should incentivize participation in what is sure to be a unique and special edition of the Festival,” said Andrew Offerman, NYRA Senior Vice President of Racing and Operations.

Eligible horses must be declared an official starter and must not be placed on the poor performance list or veterinarian list. Trainers must comply with all NYRA and regulatory race and safety rules. NYRA reserves the right to determine eligibility for qualified starters. Steeplechase participants are not eligible.

The Belmont Stakes Racing Festival will offer open maiden special weights competing for a purse of \$100,000 and New York-bred

maiden special weights competing for a purse of \$85,000.

Additionally, the open non-winners of two category will offer an increased purse of \$115,000, while the non-winners of one category [\$110,000] and New York-bred non-winners of one category [\$90,000] are also boosted at the Festival.

For the condition book and complete purse schedule, please visit <https://www.nyra.com/saratoga/horsemen/>.

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## COLONIAL RELEASES '24 STAKES SCHEDULE

Headed by a quartet of graded races, Colonial Downs unveiled its 2024 stakes program consisting of 27 races worth \$5.7 million for the 27-day season which runs from July 11 through Sept. 7. The Colonial Downs Festival of Racing, slated for Aug. 10, is highlighted by the GI Arlington Million, the GII Beverly D. S. and the GII Secretariat S. The Beverly D. returns as a 'Breeders' Cup Challenge Win and You're In' race for the GI Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Turf to be held at Del Mar Nov. 2.

The 2024 Festival Day will also include four additional stakes races--the one-mile Petramalo Mile for 3-year-olds, and its sister race, the seven-furlong Penny Chenery S.; the 5 1/2-panel Van Clief S. for 3yo/up on the turf and its distaff equivalent, the Andy Guest S.


Opening weekend includes three new turf stakes--the \$125,000 Million Prep at 1 1/8 miles; the \$125,000 Beverly D. prep over 1 1/16 miles; and the \$125,000 Boston S. at one mile, which will serve as a prep for the Secretariat.

The \$500,000 GIII New Kent County Virginia Derby will be held on closing day, Sept. 7. The 1 1/8-miles grass race headlines a \$1.3-million card, including the \$250,000 Virginia Oaks for 3-year-old fillies at 1 1/16 miles; the \$150,000 Da Hoss S. for older horses at 5 1/2 furlongs; the \$150,000 Colonial Cup, a 1 1/2-mile test for 3yo/up; the \$125,000 Rosie's S. for 2-year-olds going 5 1/2 furlongs and the \$125,000 Kitten's Joy S. for 2-year-olds over a two-turn 1 1/16 miles on turf.

A pair of 2-year-old races for Virginia-restricted runners--the \$150,000 Hickory Tree S. and the \$150,000 Keswick S.--head the Aug. 3 program. Both races have been lengthened to 5 1/2 furlongs on the dirt.

Condition books and stall applications are available online at [www.colonialdowns.com](http://www.colonialdowns.com). Stall applications are due May 21.

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Listen to this week's podcast  
April 30, 2024

**The Writers' Room team breaks down the field for the 2024 Kentucky Derby**





## NEW JERSEY OWNER/BREEDER JOHN BOWERS JR. NAMED 2024 VIRGIL 'BUDDY' RAINES AWARD RECIPIENT



John Bowers Jr. | *Equi-Photo*

New Jersey owner and breeder John Bowers, Jr. of Roseland Farm Stable has been named the 2024 recipient of the Virgil "Buddy" Raines Distinguished Achievement Award, Monmouth Park announced Tuesday. The Raines Award, in its 29th year, honors men and women who have demonstrated a continuing commitment to the sport of Thoroughbred racing as an owner, trainer or administrator, and whose conduct has been exemplary for professionalism, integrity and service to the sport.

Bowers has twice been honored by the state's Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association as the Breeder of the Year in New Jersey (2020 and 2021). He bred and owned He'spuregold, the state's champion older male in 2022, as well as New Jersey-bred performers Pickin' Time, Royal Urn and Thistyranthasclass. Pickin' Time won the GIII Nashua S. in 2020; Royal Urn was the state's champion male sprinter and older horse in 2021 and Thistyranthasclass was a multiple stakes winner. Bowers also bred Grade III winner Smart N Classy, who has a stakes race named for her at Monmouth Park. Stay Smart, a daughter of Smart N Classy, who was bred and owned by Bowers and his long-time advisor Ed Rosen, won the race in 2020.

"John Bowers, Jr. has been synonymous with New Jersey-breds for over 40 years," said Michael Campbell, executive director of the Thoroughbred Breeders' Association of New Jersey. "His breeding operation has produced horses that can compete in

the biggest races, and I am proud they are New Jersey-breds. He is a worthy recipient of the Buddy Raines Award, considering his impact on the New Jersey breeding and racing programs."

Bowers and his wife Joan established Roseland Farm Stable in nearby Colts Neck in 1974.

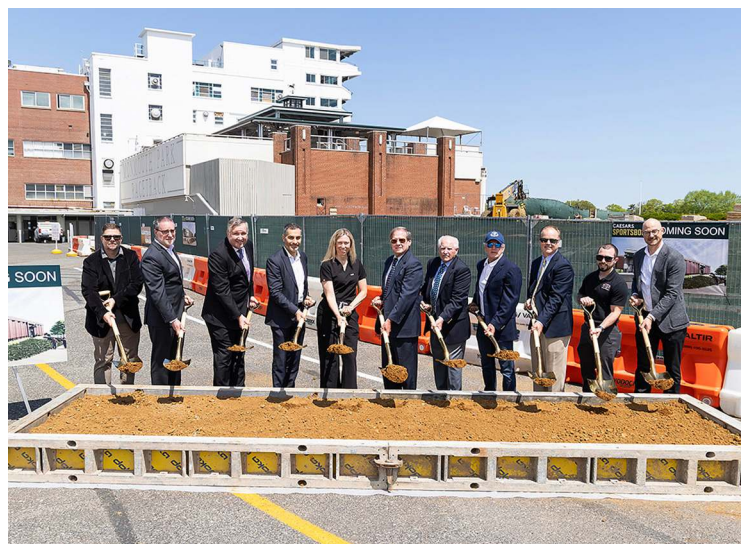
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## MONMOUTH, CAESARS CELEBRATE SPORTSBOOK GROUNDBREAKING

Construction on a trackside sportsbook and entertainment complex began with a ceremonial groundbreaking at Monmouth Park Tuesday which featured representatives from the New Jersey racetrack, Caesars Sportsbook, and local dignitaries who planted golden shovels in the ground to mark the occasion.

The state-of-the-art facility and full-service restaurant combo is set to open in 2025, featuring 16,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor sports viewing with wall-to-wall flat screen televisions, food from nationally known restaurant partner Shake Shack, and more than 25 self-service betting kiosks.

"We are proud to continue investing in Monmouth Park to elevate the sports betting experience for New Jersey sports fans," said Dan Shapiro, Senior Vice President and Chief Development Officer at Caesars Digital. "The sportsbook at Monmouth Park has been a success since Gov. Phil Murphy placed the state's first legal sports bet in 2018 and continues to be an outstanding complement to our online businesses.



Sportsbook groundbreaking at Monmouth Park | *Equi-Photo*

"We look forward to continuing our support for horse racing in New Jersey and bringing sports fans and racing fans to this historic racetrack."

Dennis Drazin, Chairman and CEO of Darby Development, LLC, operator of Monmouth Park, praised the ongoing relationship between the track and Caesars.

“We’re extremely excited to begin this next chapter with the upcoming opening of the new Caesars Sportsbook at Monmouth Park,” Drazin said. “This facility will be state-of-the-art with all the amenities that a first-class sportsbook can offer to patrons. As we start our sixth year of sports betting, we continue to see the growth and expansion we knew would eventually happen. This will be a magnificent addition to the Monmouth Park facility as our partnership with Caesars continues to evolve.”

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## THOROUGHBRED EXPORTS BY AGE ADDED TO FACT BOOK

New statistics, Exports by Age, have been added to the Fact Book, according to a The Jockey Club release Tuesday.

Exports by Age lists registered Thoroughbreds exported from the U.S., Canada, and Puerto Rico and are categorized by country. The age groups included in the Fact Book range from weanlings through 11-year-olds and older. Statistics, available from 2002 through 2023, are updated daily. Each year can be broken down by age group by clicking on a table row.

The Jockey Club fact book is available in the Resources section of [www.jockeyclub.com](http://www.jockeyclub.com).

Any ideas to enhance the Fact Book may be relayed to Shannon Luce, vice president, Communications, at [sluce@jockeyclub.com](mailto:sluce@jockeyclub.com).

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## INCREASED KENTUCKY DERBY WAGERING VIA FANDUEL SPORTSBOOK

In its second year as an official partner of the Kentucky Derby, FanDuel experienced increases in key metrics across the board on the first Saturday in May.

Highlights include:

- Double digit year-over-year growth for active account holders, a record for the Kentucky Derby and the biggest day of racing ever for FanDuel Group.
- Peak bets on Saturday were at Super Bowl levels and the wagering platform performed without interruption.
- More than 700k customers bet the Kentucky Derby with FanDuel Group (last year was ~500k).
- Estimated over 200k customers bet on racing for the first time via FanDuel Sportsbook.
- Kentucky FanDuel Sportsbook customers over-indexed other states with very high rates of play
- Derby Day was FanDuel TV+'s biggest day in actives in its history, beating last year's actives by 37%.

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## NY TRAINERS HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM INCREASES

The New York Trainers Health Insurance Program (NYTHIP) has seen rising participation each year since being signed into law in October 2021. Trainers who compete on the New York Racing Association circuit over the course of a calendar year are eligible to enroll in the program for the following year, provided they meet two criteria:

- Minimum of 43 starts at NYRA tracks (Aqueduct, Belmont & Saratoga)
- Minimum of 60% of all starts must be at NYRA tracks

Legislation was originally proposed by the New York Thoroughbred Horsemen’s Association and its lobbyists in 2020.

In NYTHIP’s pilot season, just over 50% of eligible trainers participated in the program. The rate has increased to 64% of those eligible for 2024.

“It’s gratifying to see the success of this program,” said NYTHA President Tina Marie Bond. “Our goal is to make certain that every eligible trainer considers this option. Some trainers can secure healthcare through Medicare or through a spouse, but this is a benefit we can offer members who support racing here in New York.”

The program covers the equivalent of a silver-level healthcare plan. Trainers submit their health expenditure receipts monthly and are reimbursed.

Added trainer David Donk, “I’m a husband and father, and health insurance is of utmost importance to me. When you’re starting a family or getting to middle age, the savings costs achieved are substantial.”

For more information about NYTHA’s Benevolence Programs, visit [www.nytha.com/at-work/](http://www.nytha.com/at-work/). For details about NYTHIP, contact Abigail Klima at [aklima@nytha.com](mailto:aklima@nytha.com).

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# NORTH AMERICAN RACING



## SECOND-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: WEDNESDAY, MAY 8 2024 Stud Fees Listed



**Copper Bullet** | Matt Goins

### **Big Time Player** (Candy Ride {Arg})

17 foals of racing age/2 winners/0 black-type winners  
6-Horseshoe Indianapolis, 4:45 p.m. EDT, Msw 6f, Fancy Streak, 15-1  
6-Horseshoe Indianapolis, 4:45 p.m. EDT, Msw 6f, Heza Rig, 8-1

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

81 foals of racing age/16 winners/2 black-type winners  
3-Evangeline Downs, 7:24 p.m. EDT, Alw 5 1/2f, Front and Silver, 5-1  
\$3,000 LTB SYM yrl; \$10,000 OBS OPN 2yo



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**Copper Bullet** (More Than Ready), Darby Dan Farm, \$7,500  
53 foals of racing age/12 winners/1 black-type winner  
6-Horseshoe Indianapolis, 4:45 p.m. EDT, Msw 6f,  
Thiscatsabullet, 20-1  
\$6,000 FTK FEB wnl; \$21,000 IND MIX yrl

**Flameaway** (Scat Daddy), Darby Dan Farm, \$15,000  
200 foals of racing age/36 winners/4 black-type winners  
6-Horseshoe Indianapolis, 4:45 p.m. EDT, Msw 6f, Jammin  
Justice, 8-1  
\$22,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$11,000 OBS OPN 2yo

**Omaha Beach** (War Front), Spendthrift Farm, \$40,000  
291 foals of racing age/38 winners/4 black-type winners  
7-Horseshoe Indianapolis, 5:16 p.m. EDT, Msw 1mT, Napatree,  
10-1

**Shagaf** (Bernardini), Indiana Stallion Station  
15 foals of racing age/3 winners/0 black-type winners  
1-Horseshoe Indianapolis, 2:10 p.m. EDT, Msw 6f, Shaggy Kitty,  
1-1

### **Take Charge Tapit** (Tapit)

5 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners  
1-Horseshoe Indianapolis, 2:10 p.m. EDT, Msw 6f, C V Cinnamon  
Rose, 20-1



## STAKES RESULTS:

**CLASICO DERBY PUERTORRIQUENO S.**, \$79,680, Camarero, 5-5,  
(S), 3yo, 1 1/16m, 1:46.63, my.

1--**COMBATIVA**, 117, f, 3, by **Maximus Mischief--Sister Mary B**,  
by **Tiznow**. 1ST BLACK TYPE WIN. O-E.R.V. Enterprises, Inc.;  
B-Hacienda Los Nietos, Inc. (PR); T-Eduardo Falcon; J-Axel  
Concepcion. \$46,214. Lifetime Record: 4-3-1-0, \$69,774.  
2--**Centinel**, 118, f, 3, Console--Metro Gal, by **Afleet Alex**.  
O-Sonata Stable; B-Potrero Los Llanos Inc. (PR); T-Ramon  
Morales. \$15,936.

3--**El Conde**, 118, c, 3, Moon Over a Beauty--La Criticon, by Just  
Typical. O-Denian Stable; B-Productos Agricolas del Sur, Inc.  
(PR); T-Eric A. Betancourt. \$7,968.

Margins: HD, 2 1/4, 3 3/4. Odds: 1.55, 2.85, 8.00.



**MORE THAN EVEN S.**, \$55,000, Will Rogers Downs, 5-7, (S), 3yo/up, f/m, 1m, 1:37.96, ft.

1--**TAKE ME SERIOUS, 123, m, 5, Munnings--Southern Equity (SP), by After Market.** O-Bryan Hawk; B-Bryan Leo Hawk (OK); T-Joe S. Offolter; J-Alfredo Triana Jr. \$33,000. Lifetime Record: 10-5-2-2, \$154,313.

2--**Tom's Girl, 123, f, 4, Liaison--Wild Karen, by Wild Tale.** O-Kester, John A. & Sharp, Leroy; B-Center Hills Farm (OK); T-Mark W. Buehrer. \$11,000.

3--**Gospel Fabulous, 120, f, 4, Gospel Tiz Key--Gospel Arrow, by Purim. 1ST BLACK TYPE.** O/B-Steve Williams (OK); T-Steve F. Williams. \$6,050.

Margins: 3 3/4, 1, 1. Odds: 0.10, 25.70, 23.30.

#### HANDIAP RESULTS:

**8th-Will Rogers Downs, \$50,000, (S), 5-6, 3yo/up, 1m, 1:38.30,** gd, nose.

**NUMBER ONE DUDE (g, 6, American Lion--Ebony Uno, by Macho Uno)** Lifetime Record: MSW, 29-10-9-2, \$536,585. O/B-Terry J. Westemeir (OK); T-Scott E. Young. \*1/2 to Doudoudouwanadance (Magna Graduate), MSW, \$147,011.

#### ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

**9th-Parx Racing, \$66,920, (C)/Opt. Clm (\$50,000), 5-7, 3yo/up, 1 1/16m, 1:45.12, ft, 4 1/2 lengths.**

**MOVISITOR (c, 4, Uncle Mo--Ristretto, by Medaglia d'Oro)** Lifetime Record: SW, 15-6-0-1, \$301,685. O-Waldorf Racing Stables LLC; B-Forgotten Land Investment Inc (PA); T-Marya K. Montoya. \*\$135,000 RNA Ylg '21 FTKOCT; \$120,000 3yo '23 FTKHRA.



**3rd-Horseshoe Indianapolis, \$41,000, (S), 5-7, (NW2L), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:12.45, ft, 8 lengths.**

**EYE SHADOW (f, 3, Storm's Eye--Perfect List, by Peaks and Valleys)** Lifetime Record: 8-2-1-0, \$61,083. O-Haran Thoroughbreds, LLC; B-Triple D Partners LLC (IN); T-John Haran.

**4th-Horseshoe Indianapolis, \$40,000, (S), 5-7, (NW3LX), 3yo/up, f/m, 1m, 1:41.18, ft, neck.**

**FOREVER PINK (f, 4, Forever d'Oro--Pinking of You, by Pink Viper)** Lifetime Record: 6-3-2-1, \$106,860. O/B-Liz Squyres (IN); T-Joel Delacruz Mejia.

**8th-Horseshoe Indianapolis, \$36,000, (NW2X)/Opt. Clm (\$40,000), 5-6, 3yo/up, f/m, 1mT, 1:36.15, fm, head.**

**HONEY HAULER (f, 4, Creative Cause--Honey Talk, by Distorted**

**Humor)** Lifetime Record: 16-4-2-1, \$106,366. O-Novogratz Racing Stables Inc.; B-Brereton C. Jones (KY); T-Glenn S. Wismer. \*\$37,000 Ylg '21 KEESSEP.

**7th-Thistledown, \$29,700, 5-7, (NW3L), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:11.02, ft, 3 1/4 lengths.**

**RAINBOW'S PRIDE (g, 4, Uncaptured--Circular Rainbow, by Circular Quay)** Lifetime Record: 15-3-4-1, \$87,279. O/B-Thomas K. Equels (FL); T-Timothy E. Hamm.

**5th-Will Rogers Downs, \$29,100, 5-7, (NW26MX), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:10.54, ft, 1/2 length.**

**SINNIN N GRINNIN (m, 5, Kantharos--Sue's Sweet Sioux, by Indian Charlie)** Lifetime Record: SP, 20-5-6-3, \$155,037. O/B-Cres Ran, LLC (OK); T-Kari Craddock.

**7th-Mountaineer Casino & Resort, \$27,170, 5-6, 3yo/up, 1m, 1:40.32, ft, 6 1/4 lengths.**

**O'CONNER SUNSET (c, 4, Curlin--Miss Sunset {GSW & GISP, \$891,895}, by Into Mischief)** Lifetime Record: 21-5-5-5, \$181,512. O-Arkofa Farm; B-Breeze Easy, LLC (KY); T-Michael E. Jones, Jr. \*1/2 to Track Phantom (Quality Road), GSW, \$405,000.

**3rd-Finger Lakes, \$26,500, 5-7, (NW13M), 3yo/up, f/m, 4 1/2f, :52.11, ft, head.**

**GOLDEN MOONLIGHT (f, 4, Golddigger's Boy--Working At Night {SP}, by Tiznow)** Lifetime Record: 11-5-3-1, \$105,440. O-Oh Happy Days Stable & River Card Stable; B-Mary Katherine Haire (PA); T-James S. Acquilano.

**6th-Louisiana Downs, \$26,000, (S), 5-6, (NW2L), 3yo/up, f/m, 1m 70y (off turf), 1:43.26, ft, 5 lengths.**

**CERTIFIED GEM (f, 4, Gemologist--True Breeze, by Yes It's True)** Lifetime Record: 8-2-1-3, \$53,000. O-Tri-Star Racing, LLC and Joey Foster Racing & Farm, LLC; B-Morning Line Thoroughbreds LLC (LA); T-Joseph M. Foster. \*\$2,500 Ylg '21 TTAYHR. \*\*Full to Extirpator, MSP, \$299,035.

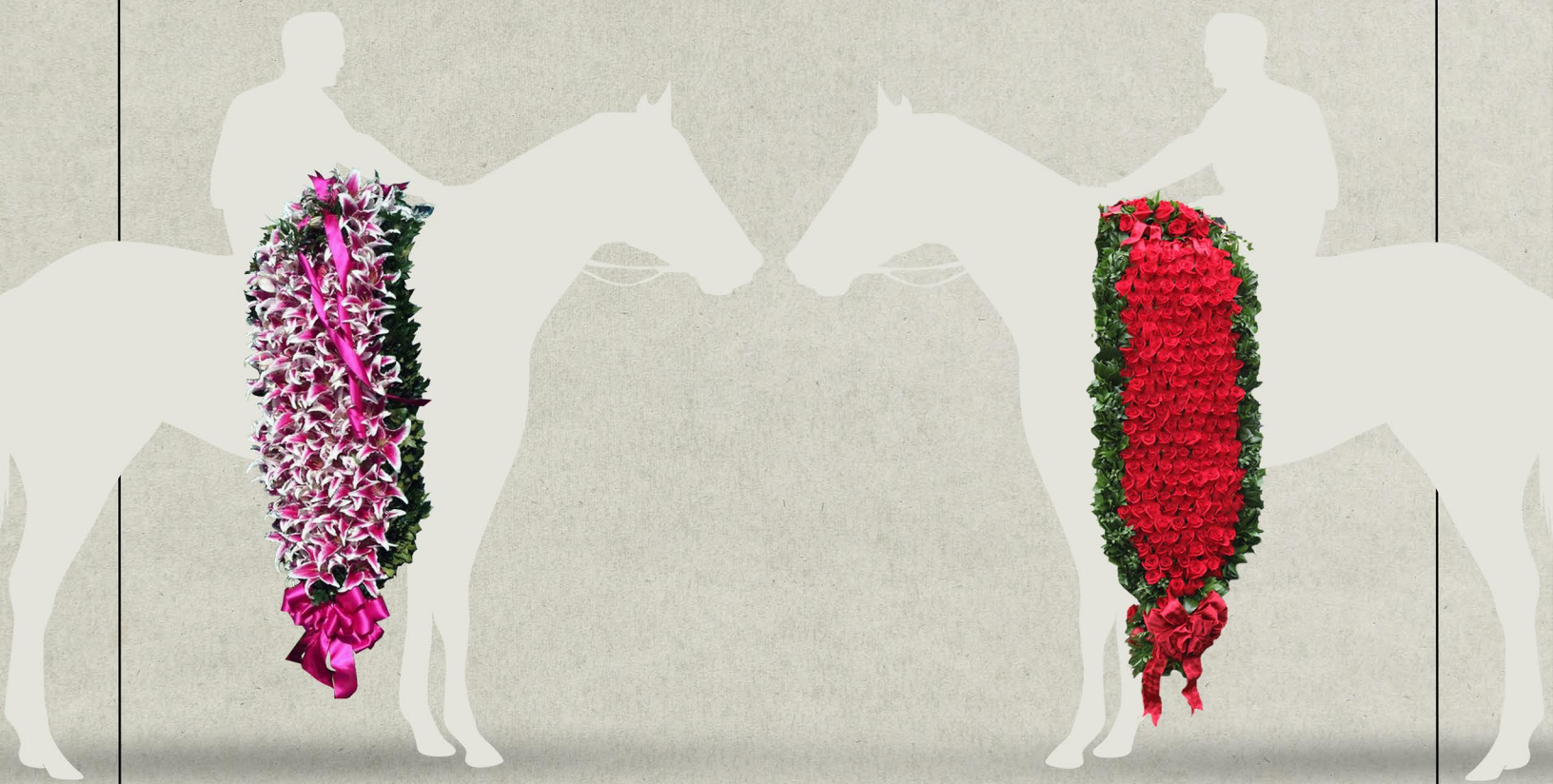
**7th-Finger Lakes, \$24,500, (S), 5-7, (NW1BX), 3yo/up, 5 1/2f, 1:05.33, ft, 2 1/2 lengths.**

**PERSISTENT DANGER (g, 5, Speightster--Leigha Renee, by Mizzen Mast)** Lifetime Record: 29-5-6-8, \$146,728. O-Sells, Rachel and Manfredi, Linda; B-Hilltop Stables (NY); T-Rachel Sells.

#### ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

**Theo's Promise, g, 3, Holiday Promise--G Gs Got the Goods, by Goods.** Horseshoe Indianapolis, 5-7, (S), 1m, 1:42.91. Lifetime Record: 6-1-1-1, \$37,345. B-TC Racing Stable (IN).

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FEEDS

**Breakable Code**, g, 4, **Code West**--Honorable Break, by Broken Vow. Will Rogers Downs, 5-7, 6f, 1:10.18. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$13,104. B-Bryan Hawk (OK). \*1ST-TIME STARTER.  
**The Mighty Don**, g, 4, **Freud**--Barrel of Dreams, by Not For Love. Finger Lakes, 5-7, 5f, :59.98. Lifetime Record: 6-1-0-1, \$29,213. B-Newman Racing (NY).

**Kantharos**, Sinnin N Grinnin, m, 5, o/o Sue's Sweet Sioux, by Indian Charlie. ALW, 5-7, Will Rogers  
**Maximus Mischief**, Combativa, f, 3, o/o Sister Mary B, by Tiznow. GI Clasico Derby Puertorriqueno S., 5-5, Camarero  
**Munnings**, Take Me Serious, m, 5, o/o Southern Equity, by After Market. More Than Even S., 5-7, Will Rogers  
**Speightster**, Persistent Danger, g, 5, o/o Leigha Renee, by Mizzen Mast. ALW, 5-7, Finger Lakes  
**Storm's Eye**, Eye Shadow, f, 3, o/o Perfect List, by Peaks and Valleys. ALW, 5-7, Horseshoe Indianapolis  
**Uncaptured**, Rainbow's Pride, g, 4, o/o Circular Rainbow, by Circular Quay. ALW, 5-7, Thistledown  
**Uncle Mo**, Movisitor, c, 4, o/o Ristretto, by **Medaglia d'Oro**. AOC, 5-7, Parx Racing

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**American Lion**, Number One Dude, g, 6, o/o Ebony Uno, by Macho Uno. HCP, 5-6, Will Rogers  
**Code West**, Breakable Code, g, 4, o/o Honorable Break, by Broken Vow. MSW, 5-7, Will Rogers  
**Creative Cause**, Honey Hauler, f, 4, o/o Honey Talk, by Distorted Humor. AOC, 5-6, Horseshoe Indianapolis  
**Curlin**, O'Conner Sunset, c, 4, o/o Miss Sunset, by Into Mischief. ALW, 5-6, Mountaineer  
**Forever d'Oro**, Forever Pink, f, 4, o/o Pinking of You, by Pink Viper. ALW, 5-7, Horseshoe Indianapolis  
**Freud**, The Mighty Don, g, 4, o/o Barrel of Dreams, by Not For Love. MSW, 5-7, Finger Lakes  
**Gemologist**, Certified Gem, f, 4, o/o True Breeze, by Yes It's True. ALW, 5-6, Louisiana Downs  
**Golddigger's Boy**, Golden Moonlight, f, 4, o/o Working At Night, by Tiznow. ALW, 5-7, Finger Lakes  
**Holiday Promise**, Theo's Promise, g, 3, o/o G Gs Got the Goods, by Goods. MSW, 5-7, Horseshoe Indianapolis

### THIS DATE IN HISTORY...

**May 3, 2001...**Garden State Park conducted its last day of racing. Peg Rushton and jockey Nick Santagata became footnotes in history when they captured the final race held at the Cherry Hill, New Jersey, racetrack.

**May 4, 1996...**Trainer D. Wayne Lukas saddled his record sixth consecutive Triple Crown winner when he won the Kentucky Derby with Grindstone.

**May 5, 2006...**Lemons Forever posted the largest upset in the history of the GI Kentucky Oaks when she scored at 47-1.

**May 6, 1971...**Calder Racecourse opens for the first time.

**May 7, 2003...**Najran equaled Dr. Fager's world record for one mile on dirt when he won the GIII Westchester S. at Belmont by 4 1/2 lengths in 1:32.24.

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## ‘A VERY SPECIAL PLACE’ - GOWRAN PARK BREEZE-UP SALE TO RETURN IN 2025



Ed Donohoe | Aoife Kavanagh

By Brian Sheerin

The Gowran Park Breeze-Up Sale is set to make its return in 2025 with powerhouse consignors Willie Browne, Con Marnane and Roger O'Callaghan pledging to support what was formerly known as the Goresbridge Breeze-Up Sale.

The Goresbridge Breeze-Up Sale was relocated to Fairyhouse and run by Tattersalls Ireland back in 2019. However, this year marks the first time that Tattersalls Ireland will run the sale away from the banner of Goresbridge.

After a four-year hiatus, Goresbridge Horse Sales returned to the point-to-point and horses-in-training market last month under the leadership of Ed Donohoe, who says the decision to re-enter the breeze-up market for the first time since 2018 follows extensive discussions with handlers.

Donohoe explained, "We've had a lot of positive feedback from vendors about this and, following on from the hugely successful point-to-point sale staged here last month, we felt there was a space to re-enter the breeze-up market."

He added, "From speaking with vendors, they struggled to get a lot of horses into the breeze-up sales this year. Not only that, but we all know that costs have gone up substantially in recent years." **Cont. p3**

## ALL EYES ON CHESTER WITH EPSOM CLASSICS UP FOR GRABS by Tom Frary

After the shell-shock of City Of Troy's performance in Saturday's 2000 Guineas still reverberating, the Derby has a much more open look than it did last week and so the focus on Chester's May Festival will be even keener than usual. Wednesday's G3 Boodles Chester Vase has supplied the Blue Riband hero twice since 2013 and with a record 10 successes it is clear that Aidan O'Brien has come to prioritise the trial for his Epsom hopefuls. Ryan Moore had the pick of a duo this time and has opted for the form choice **Grosvenor Square (Ire)** (Galileo {Ire}), as tailor-made a Derby candidate as can be found anywhere being from the family of Urban Sea and therefore Galileo himself.

Dynamic with his all-the-way *tour de force* when last seen in Leopardstown's G3 Eyrefield S. in October, the half-brother to the G1 Irish Derby winner Santiago (Ire) (Authorized {Ire}) is joined by the Dylan Browne McMonagle-ridden **Agenda (Ire)**.

**Cont. p5**

## IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

### BREEDING DIGEST: DIFFERENT SHADES TO DERBY PHOTO

Chris McGrath takes a look at the week that was, including G1 Kentucky Derby Day, from a breeding standpoint.

Contact the Thoroughbred Office. Tel: +44 (0) 1488 73 456 or visit [www.saracenhorsefeeds.com/thoroughbred](http://www.saracenhorsefeeds.com/thoroughbred)



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**Wednesday, May 8, 2024**



**Allee De Bercy (Hello Youmzain) winning on debut at Chantilly on Tuesday.**

**Replay.** | Scoop Dyga

**41 ENTRIES REMAIN IN DERBY**

**6**

Colts City Of Troy (*Justify*) and Arabian Crown (Fr) (Dubawi {Ire}) are favoured for the G1 Derby in less than a month.

**JUDDMONTE FILLIES GIVEN SPRING TARGETS**

**8**

Kalpana (GB) (Study Of Man {Ire}) is likely for the G2 Ribblesdale S.

**DATE WITH DESTINY DIES AT 16**

**8**

Date With Destiny (Ire) (George Washington {Ire}) has died from complications following colic surgery.

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**Gowan Park Breeze-Up Sale Cont. from p1**

He said, "Wouldn't it be great for vendors to have a viable outlet here in Ireland rather than having to travel to England with their middle market horses? We'll be limiting our sale from 100 to 120 lots and we are confident that there's an appetite for the sale. We're really looking forward to it."

Falling clearance rates has been one of the main talking points from the breeze-up sales that have already taken place in Britain this year. Donohoe says that he hopes Goresbridge can attract a broader cohort of buyers who don't have to deal with the red tape that comes with Brexit when exporting a horse from Britain.

BBA Ireland's Mick Donohoe is better versed on the market than most, and while he admits a certain bias, says that he is convinced that the breeze-up sale at Gowran Park could thrive once again.

He explained, "There is definitely a market for another breeze-up sale in Ireland and, speaking as an agent, a lot of good horses have come out of the Gowran Breeze-Up Sale. A lot of my clients like to buy in Ireland and, the beauty about this sale going back down through the years was that there was something for everybody with every kind of a budget. Ninety per cent of the breeze-up horses in a given year are produced in Ireland so it makes sense to hold another breeze-up sale here

and to go closer to the source."

He added, "I bought a number of horses from the middle market at the breeze-up sales this year. Three of those were for Irish clients. By the time they got them back home and paid the VAT and then the transport, it added quite a lot onto the hammer price. The same can be said for the consignors. We all know that the vendors are feeling the costs involved now more so than ever before so staging another breeze-up sale in Ireland is a no-brainer for everybody concerned."

Marnane agrees that there is space for another breeze-up sale in Ireland but admitted that he would have preferred Donohoe and his team to be bold by going earlier in the calendar than the middle of May next year.

The Bansha House boss explained, "Goresbridge is a very special place and I will be delighted to see business returning there next year. They have been very good to us down through the years. The one thing I would say is that, in an ideal world, the dates would be earlier. There's definitely a market for an earlier breeze-up sale in Ireland."

He added, "But there's no question that some of the breeze-up sales in England have been hurting in recent weeks because of Brexit. You'd be hoping that Goresbridge could attract plenty of buyers at the middle market and that the sale can be a success."

**Cont. p4**



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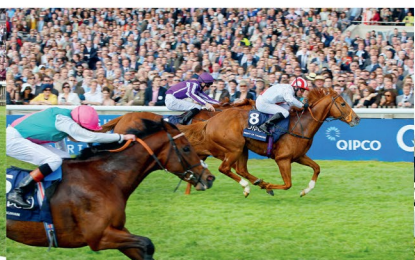




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**Gowan Park Breeze-Up Sale Cont.**

The news that Goresbridge Horse Sales is set to re-enter the breeze-up market comes just a few weeks after Goffs announced that it would be staging a new breeze-up sale at Naas racecourse in 2025.

Browne, renowned as the breeze-up king, describes Goresbridge as "a charming location" but concedes that there is only a finite number of horses that can be sold at the breeze-ups every year.

He said, "It was a special sale because it took place at the end of the year when the heavy pressure was off. Everybody loved going there because it is a charming location. We miss that sale and will be happy to see it returning."

Asked if he felt Brexit was the driving force behind the shakiness to the middle market in Britain in recent weeks and

whether he expected to see stronger trade at Arqana and Tattersalls Ireland in the coming weeks, Browne replied, "That might be a factor but that question probably can't be answered properly until the breeze-up at Tattersalls Ireland is over. We

have been missing the volumes of Italians and Scandinavians at the breeze-up sales in Britain in the past few weeks. It will be interesting to see if Brexit affects where people from those countries buy their horses. That won't be proven until Tattersalls Ireland. Wouldn't it be great for everyone in Ireland if that was the case? We'll definitely support Goresbridge next year. There was always something lovely about the place--a bit of a holiday atmosphere. It was a great sale, for sure, and we all benefited from it with some

good prices there down through the years."

**Cont. p5**



Gowran Park | Getty Images

*and already in 2024*

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<b>WITCH HUNTER</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Gr.2 Hungerford Stakes
<b>CARLA'S WAY</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Gr.2 Rockfel Stakes
<b>ANGERS</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Gr.2 German 2000 Guineas
<b>INDESTRUCTIBLE</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Gr.3 Craven Stakes
<b>BELIEVING</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Gr.3 Prix Texanita
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**Gowan Park Breeze-Up Sale Cont.**

Like Marnane and Browne, O'Callaghan has sold many high-class horses from his family-run Tally-Ho Stud at the sales house, and expects to be represented back at the County Kilkenny venue next year.

He said, "We've nothing but great memories of the breeze-up sale at Goresbridge and, truth be told, never wanted it to go in the first place. It was an amazing place and we've sold a lot of very good horses down through the years there. We'll be supporting it next year and hope to continue selling good horses there."

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**RACE PREVIEWS** 

**Wednesday Preview Cont. from p1**

Another son of Galileo, he earned **TDN Rising Star** status when taking the same Dundalk maiden in March won by the yard's 2022 Chester Vase scorer Changingoftheguard (Ire).

"He looks the clear form choice on his form at two. I didn't ride him in any of his three starts last year, but he followed up a good third in the Beresford when an impressive winner of a group three at Leopardstown on deep ground," Moore said of Grosvenor Square. "He promises to be well suited to this trip and there is no reason to think he won't be as least as effective on a decent surface. In fact, he will probably improve for it. He's a good prospect, but our other Galileo colt, Agenda, is far from out of this, either."

This select affair could easily shake up the Derby market, with Juddmonte's **Cadogan Place (GB) (Frankel {GB})**, a full-brother to Quadrilateral (GB), re-opposed by Godolphin's **Hidden Law (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire})**, a son of the Oaks runner-up Secret Gesture (GB) (Galileo {Ire}) who he beat by a short head on debut at Southwell in March. Hidden Law has since won impressively at Newbury and could bolster Charlie Appleby's already-solid Epsom hand.

"He's a nice colt who has just taken a bit of time which is why he started so late, he's a big horse," Juddmonte's European racing manager Barry Mahon said of Cadogan Place. "I suppose we're going to find out what we have and we didn't have the Derby on our minds, simply as in he didn't make it to the track at two. He's a fine, big, well-bred horse and very nice physically. He's taken his time to mature, but he passed his first test and we're stepping up to the next level and if he passes that then there's all the conversations to be had."

Also in the mix is Rachel Hood's imposing Wolverhampton novice winner **Pappano (GB) (Nathaniel {Ire})**, who represents the Gosdens successful 12 months ago. "He won well at Wolverhampton first time out this year and has come forward for that run," Thady Gosden said. "He is stepping up in grade significantly, but he is a horse we have always liked. He is obviously still inexperienced and he's stepping into a solid race where Grosvenor Square sets the standard off 109, but the race looks a good fit for him." **Cont. p6**



Grosvenor Square | [Racingfotos.com](https://www.racingphotos.com)

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## Fillies Take Their Turn In The Cheshire Oaks...

Also on the card is the Listed Cheshire Oaks, where the key pointer looks to be the 10-furlong Leopardstown maiden won by the Joseph O'Brien-trained **Galileo Dame (Ire)** (Galileo Gold {GB}). She is re-opposed by Ballydoyle's runner-up **Rubies Are Red (Ire)** (Galileo {Ire}), the daughter of Red Evie (Ire) (Intikhab) who was in turn in front of the stable's Listed Victor McCalmont Memorial S. runner Flight Of Fancy (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}). This was the maiden in which Above The Curve (**American Pharoah**) and Thoughts Of June (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}) filled the first two places two years ago only for the form to be turned around here, while 12 months ago Savethelastdance (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}) also got off the mark in that before delivering her stunning performance in this trial.

"She won really nicely at Leopardstown and now steps up slightly in trip which we think she will handle fine," Joseph O'Brien said of Galileo Dame. "Her two runs so far have been on soft ground, so getting on better ground will be a slight unknown for her. However, we think she is a nice filly who will be able to hold her own in listed company going forward."

Ryan Moore has passed over the ride on Rubies Are Red for the Dundalk maiden winner **Port Fairy (Ire)** (**Australia** {GB}) and he rarely gets it wrong, particularly in this which he boasts five successes during the last 10 years. "I have been on board both for their runs this year and Port Fairy showed a good attitude to win at Dundalk, where she probably did it a bit snugly," he said. "Rubies Are Red is a sister to Found among others and I think she probably finished second to a very good filly in Galileo Dame, who she meets again here. Improvement is needed from both, but of course the potential is there after just the two starts."

One who could yet become a leading British Oaks contender is the impressive Wolverhampton debut winner **Forest Fairy (Ire)** (Waldgeist {GB}), a certain stayer descended from Gestut Ammerland's ground-breaking Borgia (Ger) (Acatenango {Ger}). "It was a good effort first time and I don't think we were expecting it," trainer Ralph Beckett said. "She has done well for the time she has been given in between. She's a tall, well-balanced filly who has worked well on the grass at home and we're looking forward to it. This is the right place for her and she's been training well in the run up to it."

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## EUROPEAN NEWS

### CITY OF TROY AND ARABIAN CROWN ANCHOR DERBY ENTRIES AT LATEST SCRATCHING STAGE



City Of Troy | [Racingfotos.com](https://www.racingphotos.com)

**City Of Troy (Justify)** and **Arabian Crown (Fr)** (Dubawi {Ire}) head the betting for the G1 Derby after the latest entries were released on Tuesday. Of the 69 set to run in late April, just 41 remain after the latest scratching deadline for the Classic, which will be run at Epsom on Saturday, June 1.

A baker's dozen haven been entered by Aidan O'Brien for the Coolmore partners, anchored by City Of Troy, despite his puzzling ninth-place finish in last Saturday's G1 QIPCO 2000 Guineas. Last season's G1 Dewhurst S. winner is joined by G1 National S. hero **Henry Longfellow (Ire)** (Dubawi {Ire}), Group 2 winner **Diego Velazquez (Ire)** (**Frankel** {GB}) and G3 Eyrefield S. scorer **Grosvenor Square (Ire)** (Galileo {Ire}) among others.

Godolphin is represented by three colts from the Charlie Appleby yard, with dual Group 3 winner Arabian Crown the headliner. The rest of the trio are **Hidden Law (Ire)** (Dubawi {Ire}) and G1 Futurity Trophy S. victor **Ancient Wisdom (Fr)** (Dubawi {Ire}).

Kia Joorabchian's Amo Racing also fields three, **late supplement Dallas Star (Fr)** (Cloth Of Stars {Ire}) who won the G3 Ballysax S. for Adrian Murray, **Mr Hampstead** (Galileo {Ire}) for Roger Varian, and **Padesha (Fr)** (**Wootton Bassett** {GB}) for Dominic Ffrench Davis. [Cont. p7](#)



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### Derby Entries Cont.

Sheikh Mohamed Obaid, who celebrated a trio of stakes winners on the weekend has four entered, among them **Matsuri (GB)** ([Sea The Stars {Ire}](#)), trained by Roger Varian. The other three--**Arabic Legend (Ire)** (Dubawi {Ire}), listed winner **Caviar Heights (Ire)** ([Sea The Stars {Ire}](#)) and **Golden West (GB)** (Masar {Ire}) are trained by Karl Burke, who is also enjoying a good season with his runners.

### Coronation Cup Taking Shape

Held on the eve of the Derby, the G1 Coronation Cup features a who's who of older horses from all corners of Europe. Ballydoyle heavy hitters number eight of the 20 entries after the latest scratching deadline. Last year's dual Derby winner and G1 Breeders' Cup Turf scorer **Auguste Rodin (Ire)** (Deep Impact {Jpn}) looms large here, as do classy older horses **Kyprios (Ire)** (Galileo {Ire}), **Point Lonsdale (Ire)** ([Australia {GB}](#)), and **Tower Of London (Ire)** (Galileo {Ire}), while last year's G1 St Leger victor **Continuous (Jpn)** (Heart's Cry {Jpn}) is also signed on.

Three Amo Racing luminaries have their marching orders, with **King Of Steel (Wootton Bassett {GB})** the main danger to the Coolmore partners' brigade. The hulking grey, second to Auguste Rodin in the Derby, took the G2 King Edward VII S., as well as the G1 Champion S. last term and will be making his 4-year-old bow.

John and Thady Gosden saddle both last year's G1 Coronation Cup heroine **Emily Upjohn (GB)** ([Sea The Stars {Ire}](#)) and multiple group winner **Free Wind (Ire)** (Galileo {Ire}). Their Majesties The King and Queen are represented by the lightly raced **Desert Hero (GB)** ([Sea The Stars {Ire}](#)) from the William Haggas stable. The 2022 National S. winner **Al Riffa (Fr)** ([Wootton Bassett {GB}](#)) will line up for Joseph O'Brien.

### Clash Of Generations Looms In Coral-Eclipse

Whilst the Derby features the pick of the Classic crop and the Coronation Cup is restricted to older horses, the £750,000 G1 Coral-Eclipse S. at Sandown is another prestigious contest to look forward to as the first big clash of the generations in the middle-distance division.

The 2024 edition of the Eclipse, due to be run on Saturday, July

6, has attracted 55 horses at the first entry stage. They include leading Derby contenders such as City Of Troy and Arabian Crown, while the cast of older horses is headed by the first two from last year's blue riband, Auguste Rodin and King Of Steel, plus Emily Upjohn, who filled the runner-up spot in the Eclipse after winning the Coronation Cup in 2023.

Others with the potential to make an impact if lining up at Sandown include Emily Upjohn's stablemate **Inspirial (GB)** ([Frankel {GB}](#)), last seen gaining her sixth top-level victory in the

Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Turf at Santa Anita in November, as well as **Haatem (Ire)** (Phoenix Of Spain {Ire}) and **Ghostwriter (Ire)** (Invincible Spirit {Ire}), who finished third and fourth, respectively, in the G1 2,000 Guineas won by Notable Speech (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}) at Newmarket on Saturday.

Coral's David Stevens said of the entries, "In what will be the 49th year of our sponsorship of this historic race, the initial list of entries for this year's Coral-Eclipse is as star-studded as we can recall, with proven

Group 1 winners of both sexes sitting alongside potential stars like the current Derby favourite, Arabian Crown.

"King Of Steel is our early favourite following his Champion Stakes win over this distance last season, with Emily Upjohn next in the betting as she looks to go one place better than last year."

### Big Evs Stars In Temple Entries

The current entries for the G2 Temple S. at Haydock Park were also released on Tuesday. Set for May 25, the five-furlong sprint has attracted 22 horses in this prep for Royal Ascot.

**Big Evs (Ire)** (Blue Point {Ire}), who stamped his authority on the G1 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf Sprint will return for Mick Appleby, while G3 Palace House S. one-two **Seven Questions (Ire)** (Kodiac {GB}) and **Vadream (GB)** (Brazen Beau {Aus}) also step forward.

Recent listed victor **Givemethebeatboys (Ire)** (Bungle Inthejungle {GB}) for Jessica Harrington is one of two Irish entries alongside the Coolmore partners' **Aesop's Fables (Ire)** ([No Nay Never](#)). From Australia, the smart multiple Group 2 winner **Asfoora (Aus)** (Flying Artie {Aus}) will make her first foray versus Northern Hemisphere sprinters for Henry Dwyer.



Big Evs winning at the Breeders' Cup | Benoit Photo

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## PLANS TAKING SHAPE FOR JUDDMONTE'S TEAM OF THREE-YEAR-OLD FILLIES



**Kalpana (left) chases home Friendly Soul in the Pretty Polly**  
*Racingfotos.com*

**Kalpana (GB)** (Study Of Man {Ire}), runner-up in Sunday's Listed Pretty Polly S. at Newmarket, is unlikely to be supplemented for the G1 Oaks at Epsom, with connections instead leaning towards a tilt at the G2 Ribblesdale S. at Royal Ascot on Thursday, June 20.

Trained by Andrew Balding, the Juddmonte-owned Kalpana was sent off the 4/6 favourite for the Pretty Polly having been the 10-length winner of a handicap over the same course and distance on her previous start.

In the event, she found the once-raced Friendly Soul (GB) (**Kingman {GB}**) too strong on her return to the Rowley Mile, but it was a performance from which Barry Mahon, Juddmonte's European racing manager, still took plenty of encouragement.

"I would say her and the winner looked two very good fillies to pull 12 lengths clear of the third and to win her race by 10 lengths the last day indicates she has a good level of ability," said Mahon.

"She's exciting and we'll discuss plans over the next 10 days, but we will probably wait for the Ribblesdale at Ascot, I would imagine. That would be the initial plans we were thinking. She's had four runs since January and has to have a break at some stage. This would seem a logical time."

Juddmonte could still be represented in the Oaks by the John and Thady Gosden-trained **Siyola (Ire)**, who created an excellent impression when recently making a winning debut at Sandown.

That victory earned the daughter of **Siyouni (Fr)** an automatic berth in the Epsom Classic and a run in the G3 Musidora S. at York on Wednesday, May 15 is now on the cards to find out whether she's up to that sort of level.

"She looked a nice filly and she's a very well-bred,

good-looking filly," said Mahon. "She took a little bit of time to come to hand and I think John and Thady have been pretty sweet on her for quite a while.

"At the back of our minds we are thinking to go to York for the Musidora. We weren't in the Oaks and initially you are thinking we're not in it so we don't have to point that way. But we have the 'win and you're in' now and she needs to run again, so it makes logical sense to go to the Musidora and we will find out if we're good enough to hold that engagement."

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## NEWSSELLS PARK ANNOUNCE DEATH OF UNIQUE MARE DATE WITH DESTINY

**Date With Destiny (Ire)**, the sole offspring of the brilliant G1 2,000 Guineas winner George Washington (Ire), has died due to complications following colic surgery, Newsells Park Stud announced on Tuesday.

In a statement posted on X, formerly Twitter, Newsells Park said, "Very sad to report that we lost Date With Destiny over the weekend, due to complications following colic surgery. She was 16.

"Date With Destiny was the only progeny of George Washington and the dam of Group winner Beautiful Morning. A Diva. She will be missed by us all here."

Trained by Aidan O'Brien, George Washington's arrival at Coolmore Stud in 2006 was eagerly anticipated following a glittering career in which he also won the G1 Phoenix S. and G1 National S. as a juvenile, as well as the G1 Queen Elizabeth II S. later in his three-year-old campaign. However, he was soon back in training at Ballydoyle having been found to be infertile and later suffered a fatal injury as a four-year-old when running in the GI Breeders' Cup Classic at Monmouth Park. [Cont. p9](#)



**Date With Destiny** | *Racingfotos.com*

## Date With Destiny Obituary Cont.

George Washington managed to impregnate just one mare in his time at Coolmore Stud, namely the Rainbow Quest mare Flawlessly (Fr). Bred by Azienda Agricola Loreto Luciani, the resulting filly first went through the ring at the Goffs November Foal Sale when selling to Glidawn Stud for €280,000. She was later named Date With Destiny by owner Julie Wood, having been bought for 320,000gns at Book 1 of the Tattersalls October Yearling Sale.

Sent into training with Richard Hannon, Date With Destiny made a stylish winning debut as a two-year-old at Newbury but failed to add to her tally in six subsequent starts. She did gain valuable black type when finishing third in the Listed Oaks Trial S. at Lingfield, however, before being bought by Jake Warren Bloodstock for 185,000gns at the Tattersalls December Mares Sale later that year.

As a broodmare Date With Destiny has produced three winners, headed by the G3 Royal Whip S. heroine Beautiful Morning (GB) (Galileo {Ire}). She is also responsible for the four-year-old Classic (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}), a dual winner for the Hannon yard in the familiar Wood silks, plus Chantilly maiden winner La Gloire (GB) (**Churchill {Ire}**).

Truly one of a kind, Date With Destiny has a yearling colt by Night Of Thunder (Ire) and a filly foal by Ghaiyyath (Ire) still to come.

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## ADRIAN HESKIN CALLS TIME ON HIS CAREER IN THE SADDLE



Adrian Heskin | PA Media

Adrian Heskin, who became the youngest winning rider at the

Cheltenham Festival when steering A New Story (Ire) (Fourstars Allstar) to victory in the 2010 Glenfarclas Chase as a 17-year-old, has announced his retirement from race-riding at the age of 32.

The County Cork native went on to become retained rider for prominent owner Barry Connell, for whom he partnered Martello Tower to Grade 1 success in the 2015 Albert Bartlett Novices' Hurdle, before later moving to Britain to take up the same position with Max McNeill. Together the pair enjoyed several big-race victories, most notably with The Worlds End (Ire) (Stowaway {GB}), who struck at the top level in the 2017 Sefton Novices' Hurdle at Aintree and the 2019 Long Walk Hurdle at Ascot.

After parting company with McNeill last year, Heskin made the decision to return to Ireland where he enjoyed a notable victory at Limerick over Christmas when winning a Grade 2 aboard the Willie Mullins-trained Hauturiere (Fr) (No Risk At All {Fr}). However, that was one of only four winners for Heskin in Ireland last season and he has now taken the decision to call time on his career in the saddle.

In a statement posted on X, formerly Twitter, Heskin said, "After 15 years of race riding I've decided to call an end to my career.

"I'm very proud of my career and achieved far more than I could have imagined as a kid. I rode for the best of trainers on both sides of the Irish Sea and some fantastic owners along the way. Of course, some amazing horses too.

"My love for horses is stronger than ever and I owe everything I have to them. Here's to the future."

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## NEW BHA POLICY TO ALLOW SURFACE SWITCH ON RACEDAY

A new policy which will permit an on-the-day switch between Flat turf and all-weather tracks where the original racing surface is deemed unraceable and the fixture would otherwise need to be abandoned was announced by the British Horseracing Authority (BHA) on Tuesday.

The policy will apply where a change of surface may be possible on the day of the fixture due to a deterioration in the ground conditions, when horses, participants and paying customers will have already arrived at or be travelling to the racecourse. It will only be relevant for racecourses that have both an all-weather and Flat turf surface--at present only Lingfield Park.

Where a surface switch has been approved, trainers will have the opportunity to withdraw their horses without incurring a penalty. Any horses that remain in the race will run as advertised in the racecard, with race weight and conditions remaining as originally published. **Cont. p10**

**BHA Policy Cont.**

Tom Byrne, BHA head of racing and betting, said, "Following the abandonment of a Lingfield turf fixture in 2022, questions were raised by connections as to whether there could be a process in place to allow the affected races to simply transfer to the all-weather course for those still willing to race, especially with participants and racegoers having already travelled to the course.

"By introducing this new policy, we hope that if we are faced with a similar situation again, a switch of race surface on the day of the race would be permitted, allowing the fixture to continue, rather than being abandoned.

"We expect that any such instance will be very rare, with an on-the-day switch only be permitted in the most exceptional circumstances. However, if the need does arise, then we give ourselves the chance to try and fairly deliver races for participants who want to run, as well as offering racing for customers both on and off-course."

The full policy is available to view [here](#).

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Racing at Lingfield | [Racingfotos.com](#)

**COOLMORE NEW SPONSOR OF GERMAN 2000 GUINEAS**

Coolmore is the new sponsor of the G2 Coolmore St Mark's Basilica German 2000 Guineas, which will be held at Cologne on Monday, May 20, the organisation announced on Tuesday.

"German breeders have been great supporters of Coolmore over the years and we have been long-time race sponsors in the country," said Coolmore's Joe Hernon. "We were more than happy to get involved on this occasion."

Three of the past 10 renewals of the German Classic have

featured winners by Coolmore sires, including the late Zoffany (Ire)'s Knife Edge (Ire) for Marco Botti and the Coolmore partners in 2016.

"We feel very honored by the commitment and are pleased to have found a top international partner in Coolmore for this year's German 2000 Guineas," said Philipp Hein, general manager of Cologne Racecourse. "Our thanks go to everyone involved."

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**FIRST EDITION OF THE TIMEFORM JUMPS AWARDS ANNOUNCED**

The first edition of the inaugural Timeform Jumps Awards will be held on Monday, May 20, the racehorse ratings organisation announced on Tuesday.

Celebrating the leading performers of the 2023/2024 National Hunt season, the awards will be announced digitally across Timeform's social media channels. The eight award categories are as follows: Race of the Season, Biggest Improver, Top Mare, Top Novice Hurdler, Top Novice Chaser, Top Hurdler, Top Chaser, Horse of the Season. The Top Mare, Top Chaser, Top Hurdler, Top Novice Chaser and Top Novice Hurdler categories will be decided according to their Timeform end-of-season ratings, while the Biggest Improver award will be given to the horse whose Timeform rating increased most over the course of the season. The Race Of The Season award will be determined using an average of the Timeform ratings of the first three finishers. Finally, the Horse of the Season award will be determined by a Timeform panel from the following shortlist: Fastorslow (Fr) (Saint Des Saints {Fr}), Galopin Des Champs (Fr) (Timos {Ger}), I Am Maximus (Fr) (Authorized {Ire}), Jonbon (Fr) (Walk In The Park {Ire}), State Man (Fr) (Doctor Dino {Fr}), and Teahupoo (Fr) (Masked Marvel {GB}).

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**FIRST-SEASON SIRES WITH RUNNERS**

**Wednesday, May 8, 2024:**

**UNITED KINGDOM**

**Earthlight (Ire)** (Shamardal), Kildangan Stud

112 foals of racing age/2 winners/0 black-type winners

14:05-CHESTER, 5f, **Lady Lightning (GB)**

30,000gns Tattersalls December Foal Sale 2022; 30,000gns

Tattersalls October Yearling Sale (Book 1) 2023

**Sergei Prokofiev** (Scat Daddy), Whitsbury Manor Stud  
 121 foals of racing age/4 winners/0 black-type winners  
 14:05-CHESTER, 5f, **Flicka's Girl (GB)**  
 22,000gns Tattersalls December Foal Sale 2022; £32,000 Goffs  
 UK Premier Yearling Sale 2023  
 14:05-CHESTER, 5f, **Seraphim Angel (GB)**  
 16,000gns Tattersalls December Foal Sale 2022; 24,000gns  
 Tattersalls October Yearling Sale (Book 3) 2023

**FRANCE**

**Stunning Spirit (GB)** (Invincible Spirit {Ire}), Haras de Beaumont  
 16 foals of racing age/1 winner/0 black-type winners  
 1-LYON PARILLY, 1200m, **Stunning Angel (Fr)**



Earthlight | Darley

IRELAND

**Tuesday's Results:**

**1st-Navan, €25,000, Mdn, 5-7, 2yo, 5fT, 1:03.42, yl.**  
**UNEXPECTED ISSUES (IRE) (f, 2, Starspangledbanner {Aus}--**  
**Awohaam {Ire}, by Iffraaj {GB})** recovered from a hesitant start  
 to race in a close-up second after the initial strides of this debut.  
 Stirred into action approaching the quarter-mile marker, the  
 well-backed 2-1 favourite inched ahead entering the final  
 furlong and kept on strongly under continued urging to hold the  
 rallying pacesetter Heavens Gate (Ire) (**Churchill {Ire}**) by a half-  
 length. "She's going to be an early 2-year-old, so I suppose we'll  
 run maybe once more and think about something in [Royal]  
 Ascot for her," commented trainer Fozzy Stack. "Her brother  
 [Castle Star] was a very good horse, but got beaten first time  
 out, so she's done better than him. She was a little bit green, a  
 little bit slow away and then ran around a bit. She should come

forward for that as she's only worked once on grass and should  
 improve. If you get five [furlongs] here, you'll get six most  
 places. We might look for a winners' race, we'll see what's there  
 and how she comes out of it." Unexpected Issues is the fifth of  
 six foals and fourth scorer produced by a dual-winning half-sister  
 to G3 Pinnacle S. victrix and GI E. P. Taylor S. third Moment In  
 Time (Ire) (Tiger Hill {Ire}) and the multiple stakes-placed Fontley  
 (GB) (Sadler's Wells). Descendants of her second dam, Gill  
 Vinery Matchmaker S. Horatia (Ire) (Machiavellian), include G1  
 2000 Guineas and G1 Dewhurst S. hero **Chaldean (GB) (Frankel**  
**{GB})**. The April-foaled chestnut is a full-sister to G3 Marble Hill  
 S. victor and G1 Middle Park S. runner-up Castle Star (Ire) and a  
 yearling filly. Sales history: 90,000gns Ylg '23 TATOCT. Lifetime  
 Record: 1-1-0-0, \$16,155.  
 O/T-Fozzy Stack; B-Churchtown Bloodstock, Grouseridge &  
 Carhue (IRE).

**ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:**

**Air Force One (Ire), c, 3, Starspangledbanner (Aus)--**Great Dame  
 (Ire), by Dandy Man (Ire). Navan, 5-7, 5fT, 1:02.24. Lifetime  
 Record: 3-1-0-0, \$8,561. B-The Great Dame Partnership (IRE).  
 \*600,000gns Ylg '22 TATOCT.

**Concluding Call (Ire), f, 4, Holy Roman Emperor (Ire)--**Incoming  
 Call, by Red Ransom. Navan, 5-7, 8fT, 1:45.05. Lifetime Record:  
 4-1-0-1, \$9,729. B-Macha Bloodstock & Ptn (IRE). \*1/2 to  
 Missed Call (Ire) (Authorized {Ire}), SW & GSP-Eng, \$124,815.

FRANCE

**Tuesday's Results:**

**FIRST WINNER FOR SIRE**

**5th-Chantilly, €50,000, Debutantes, 5-7, 2yo, f, 5fT, 0:59.68, sf.**  
**ALLEE DE BERCY (FR) (f, 2, Hello Youmzain {Fr}--Dehia {Ire}, by**  
**Mastercraftsman {Ire})**, only the second runner for her Haras  
 d'Etreham-based first-season sire (by Kodiak {GB}), raced behind  
 the leading pair early. Finding her way to the front inside the last  
 150 metres, the 16-1 shot was driven out from there to record a  
 short-neck success from Cendre (GB) (Goken {Fr}). The winner is  
 so far the only foal out of a daughter of the listed-placed Gyrella  
 (Ire) (**Oasis Dream {GB}**) responsible for the G2 Prix Greffulhe  
 winner Baby Rider (Fr) (**Gleneagles {Ire}**). This is the family of the  
 Derby hero Wings Of Eagles (Fr) (Pour Moi {Ire}) and the G1 Prix  
 Saint-Alary heroine Belle Et Celebre (Fr) (Peintre Celebre). Sales  
 history: €28,000 RNA Ylg '23 ARQOCT. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0,  
 €25,000. **Video, sponsored by FanDuel TV.**  
 O-Ecurie X; B-Mme G Forien & G Forien (FR); T-Alessandro and  
 Giuseppe Botti.

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**3rd-Chantilly, €50,000, Mdn, 5-7, unraced 2yo, c/g, 5fT, 1:00.25, sf.**

**FLY HALF (FR) (c, 2, No Nay Never--Fact Finding {Ire}, by Zoffany {Ire})** broke smartly from the outside stall and soon held sway in this debut. Stoked up passing the quarter-mile marker, the 71-10 chance refused to buckle and was ridden out in the latter stages to prevail by 3/4-of-a-length from Detonate (Fr) (Siyouni {Fr}). Fly Half is the lone reported foal produced by a granddaughter of Listed Prix de la Seine winner Prudenzia (Ire) (Dansili {GB}). Prudenzia is the dam of five black-type performers including G1 Irish Oaks heroine Chicquita (Ire) (Montjeu {Ire}), G1 MacKinnon S. victrix Magic Wand (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}) and G3 Prix Penelope-winning G1 Prix de Diane runner-up Philomene (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}). Chicquita, in turn, is the dam of dual Group-winning G1 Goodwood Cup runner-up Emily Dickinson (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}), G1 Irish Oaks and G1 American Oaks placegetter Nicest (Ire) (American Pharoah) and G3 Silver Flash S. third Secret Thoughts (War Front). Sales history: €65,000 RNA Ylg '23 ARQAUG. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, €25,000. **Video, sponsored by FanDuel TV.**

O-Guy Heald, Mikel Delzangles & Ecurie des Monceaux; B-GB Partnership, Ecurie des Monceaux & Beauregard Bloodstock (FR); T-Mikel Delzangles.

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Fly Half (blue and pink silks) wins on debut | Scoop Dyga

**Wednesday, Chester, Britain, post time: 15:40**

**BOODLES CHESTER VASE S.-G3**, £140,000, 3yo, c/g, 12f 63y

SC	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Agenda (Ire)	Galileo (Ire)	M Tabor, D Smith, Mrs J Magnier, P Brant	Aidan O'Brien	Dylan Browne McMonagle	128
2	Cadogan Place (GB)	Frankel (GB)	Juddmonte	Andrew Balding	Oisin Murphy	128
3	Golden West (GB)	Masar (Ire)	Sheikh Mohammed Obaid Al Maktoum	Karl Burke	Clifford Lee	128
4	Grosvenor Square (Ire)	Galileo (Ire)	M Tabor, D Smith, Mrs J Magnier, Westerberg	Aidan O'Brien	Ryan Moore	128
5	Hidden Law (Ire)	Dubawi (Ire)	Godolphin	Charlie Appleby	William Buick	128
6	Pappano (GB)	Nathaniel (Ire)	Rachel D S Hood	John & Thady Gosden	Kieran Shoemark	128

**Breeders:** 1-Coolmore & White Birch Farm SC, 2-Juddmonte Farms Ltd, 3-Crimbourne Bloodstock Ltd, 4-Lynch Bages Ltd, 5-Godolphin, 6-Rachel D S Hood

**Thursday, Chester, Britain, post time: 15:40**

**TOTE.CO.UK SUPPORTING RACING ORMONDE S.-G3**, £140,000, 4yo/up, 13f 84y

SC	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Alsakib (GB)	Kingman (GB)	Al Wasmiyah Stud	Andrew Balding	Oisin Murphy	128
2	Arrest (Ire)	Frankel (GB)	Juddmonte	John & Thady Gosden	Kieran Shoemark	128
3	Deauville Legend (Ire)	Sea The Stars (Ire)	Boniface Ho Ka Kui	James Ferguson	Daniel Muscutt	128
4	Enemy (GB)	Muhaarar (GB)	Tracey Bell & Caroline Lyons	Ian Williams	Richard Kingscote	128
5	L'Astronome (GB)	Frankel (GB)	Al Asayl Bloodstock Ltd	Hugo Palmer	Jason Hart	128
6	Point Lonsdale (Ire)	Australia (GB)	D Smith, Mrs J Magnier, M Tabor, Westerberg	Aidan O'Brien	Ryan Moore	128
7	Wynter Wildes (GB)	Tamayuz (GB)	Paul Wildes	Charlie Fellowes	Hayley Turner	125

**Breeders:** 1-Al Wasmiyah Farm, 2-Swordlestown Little, 3-GB Partnership, 4-Ecurie des Monceaux & Skymarc Farm Inc, 5-Al Asayl France, 6-Epona Bloodstock Ltd, 7-Shadwell Estate Company Ltd

*\*All posts displayed in local time.*

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**Undeafated Ace Impact takes up residence at Haras de Beaumont**

**Wednesday, Chester, Britain, post time: 15:05**

**WEATHERBYS EPASSPORT CHESHIRE OAKS-Listed**, £120,000, 3yo, f, 11f 75y

SC HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1 Ambiente Amigo (GB)	Postponed (Ire)	The Gredley Family	James Owen	Callum Shepherd	128
2 Beeley (GB)	Camelot (GB)	Duke of Devonshire	John & Thady Gosden	Kieran Shoemark	128
3 Flying Finn (Ire)	Phoenix Of Spain (Ire)	Keatley Owners Group & A Finneran	Adrian Keatley	Tom Marquand	128
4 Forest Fairy (Ire)	Waldgeist (GB)	Forest Fairy Partnership	Ralph Beckett	Rossa Ryan	128
5 Galileo Dame (Ire)	Galileo Gold (GB)	Annus Mirabilis, S O'Driscoll, Middle Cow	Joseph O'Brien	Dylan Browne McMonagle	128
6 Lasting Love (GB)	Lope De Vega (Ire)	Mrs Doreen Tabor	Andrew Balding	Oisin Murphy	128
7 Port Fairy (Ire)	Australia (GB)	M Tabor, D Smith, Mrs J Magnier, Westerberg	Aidan O'Brien	Ryan Moore	128
8 Rubies Are Red (Ire)	Galileo (Ire)	D Smith, Mrs J Magnier, M Tabor, Westerberg	Aidan O'Brien	William Buick	128
9 Seaward (Ire)	Sea The Stars (Ire)	Seaward Syndicate	Ralph Beckett	Hector Crouch	128

**Breeders:** 1-Stetchworth & Middle Park Studs Ltd, 2-The Duke of Devonshire, 3-Piercetown Stud, 4-Philip & Orla Hore, 5-Tally-Ho Stud, 6-Stone Roses Bloodstock, 7-Whisperview Trading Ltd, 8-Coolmore, 9-Loughtown Stud

**Thursday, Chester, Britain, post time: 15:05**

**BOODLES RAINDANCE DEE S.-Listed**, £100,000, 3yo, c/g, 10f 70y

SC HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1 Jayarebe (Fr)	Zoffany (Ire)	Iraj Parvizi	Brian Meehan	Sean Levey	131
2 Bracken's Laugh (Ire)	Zoffany (Ire)	Bernardine & Sean Mulryan	Richard Hughes	Finley Marsh	128
3 Capulet	Justify	Mrs J Magnier, M Tabor & D Smith	Aidan O'Brien	Ryan Moore	128
4 God's Window (GB)	Dubawi (Ire)	Cayton Park Stud Ltd	John & Thady Gosden	Kieran Shoemark	128
5 Harper's Ferry (GB)	Lope De Vega (Ire)	M H Dixon & J L Rowsell	Ed Walker	Saffie Osborne	128

**Breeders:** 1-Oliver Pawle, 2-Guardia Partnership, 3-Orpendale, Wynatt & Chelston, 4-Cayton Park Stud Ltd, 5-Ashbrittle Stud & M H Dixon

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