



# 'I ALWAYS SAY THAT SHE WAS THE ULTIMATE RACEHORSE'

Mark Johnston On Attraction As The Great Mare Turns 25



Attraction at the National Stud on the eve of her 25th birthday with Solene Jammes | Emma Berry

by Emma Berry

Can you see her still, in your mind's eye, that dark bay filly with a gait so ungainly as to almost belie her brilliance? Almost. But make no mistake, Attraction was brilliant, with a steeliness to match. The Irn Bru of racehorses: made in Scotland from girders.

"People label horses as tough and talk about horses like Double Trigger being tough. Well, he wasn't particularly tough. I've encountered three horses in my career, I would say, that were exceptionally tough and they were all mares." [Cont. p3](#)

## DANTE NONANTAIS HEADLINES ARQANA FEBRUARY SALE TO OTI RACING AT 180K

Recent winner Dante Nonantais will continue his career Down Under after the leading Australian ownership group OTI Racing went to €180,000 to secure the Florian Bellemere-trained son of Hunter's Light on the second and final day of the Arqana Mixed February Sale on Wednesday.

The three-year-old gelding was the most expensive of the 170 horses sold at a clearance rate of 78% on the day. Meanwhile, the clearance rate for the entire sale stood at 70%, for an average price of €13,709 and total turnover of €3,299,750. A wide diversity of buyers attended, coming from Germany, Australia, Belgium, Spain, France, Great Britain, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Morocco, Poland, Romania, the Czech Republic, Serbia, Tunisia and Turkey.

Dante Nonantais, the overall sale-topper, was added to the sale as a wildcard following his debut victory on the all-weather at Deauville. He will now head to the yard of Tony McEvoy, winner of the 2025 Melbourne Cup.

"I've bought him for OTI and he will head to Australia," said the winning bidder Thibault de Seyssel. "He is a superb horse that made a very promising debut and has real potential. His profile should suit Australian racing perfectly."

Just minutes later, the hammer fell at €120,000 in favour of Amy Murphy for Recollect, from the stable of Gavin Hernon. The three-year-old son of Reoletos won on his second start at Chantilly. [Cont. p7](#)

## IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

### THE TDN KY OAKS TOP 10

**Bella Ballerina** (*Street Sense*) is the big mover in the most recent TDN KY Oaks Top 10 charts by Bill Finley.

## TOPGEAR

WOOTTON BASSETT's highest-rated son on Timeform retiring to stud in 2026

"Topgear will certainly be on the right track if he can produce foals that take after himself"

Adam Houghton,  
TDN 13<sup>th</sup> February 2026

 CAPITAL STUD

Contact us for more information  
+353 (0) 86 384 4560 | capitalstudfarm@gmail.com



**PUBLISHER & CEO**

Sue Morris Finley @suefinley  
suefinley@thetdn.com

**SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT**

Gary King @garykingTDN  
garyking@thetdn.com

**European & International Editor**

Emma Berry @collingsberry  
emmaberry@thetdn.com

**Managing Editor**

Heather Anderson @HLAndersonTDN

**Business Development Manager**

Alayna Cullen Birkett @AlaynaCullen  
alaynacullen@thetdn.com

**European Sales Editor**

Brian Sheerin @BrianSheerin91

**Associate European Editor**

Adam Houghton @hought94

**Cafe Racing**

Sean Cronin & Tom Frary  
caferacing@thetdn.com

**Regular Columnist**

John Berry

**ADVERTISING**

tdnadstaff@gmail.com

**Director of Advertising**

Alycia Borer

**Advertising Manager**

Lia Best

**Senior Advertising Designer**

Amanda Crelin

**Advertising Designer**

Amie Newcomb

**Advertising Assistant/Dir. of Distribution**

Liz Fronczek

**Advertising Assistant**

Justin Fowler

60 Broad Street, Suite 105  
Red Bank, NJ 07701  
732-747-8060 | [www.TheTDN.com/europe](http://www.TheTDN.com/europe)

Now more three-year-old winners in 2026 than any other stallion. Have you noticed?

Britain's leading sire of two-year-olds, 2025. The number one sire of Royal Ascot juveniles, 2021-25.

Hiding in plain sight. Call Simon on 07796 174926.

TODAY in TDN EUROPE

Thursday, February 19, 2026



The first foal by unbeaten Group 1-winning two-year-old **Henry Longfellow**--a quality filly out of **Aurora Borealis** bred by **Noralla Stud Farm**. | *Coolmore*

**8 | NORTHWEST PASSAGE TOPS TATTERSALLS ONLINE FEBRUARY SALE**

*The son of Ulysses sold for 31,000gns to Ivan Furtado.*

**8 | MEHMAS COLT WINS AT KEMPTON**

*Silent Strike captured the fifth race at Kempton Park on Wednesday.*

**9 | ANOTHER NEW STAKES WINNER FOR KITASAN BLACK**

*Realize Glint landed the Listed Kumotori Sho at Oi in the middle of the week.*



Attraction with her late owner-breeder the Duke of Roxburghe (trilby) walking in after the 1,000 Guineas | [Racingfotos.com](https://www.racingphotos.com)

**Attraction Cont. from p1**

So says Mark Johnston, the man who knows Attraction better than most, and as the great mare turns 25 on February 19, it is an apposite moment to cast our minds back to the early years of this century, when she was in her pomp.

“I had the two best horses of my career in the yard at the same time in 2004, that's her and Shamardal,” Johnston recalls. “And

the thing they had in common was that they were both explosive out of the stalls, but a child could lead them up at the races.

“She was completely laidback and quiet, never got on her toes, stood like a lamb to be saddled, cantered easily to the start. And the minute the stalls opened, boom, she was out and gone. So in that sense, she was really a joy to train. She didn't give us any difficulties at the race track whatsoever.”

He continues, “I always say that she was the ultimate racehorse, because if you went to look at her in her box, she was either lying down or eating. They always say the good ones just eat, sleep and gallop. But I suppose it's possible that she was always lying down because the knees hurt. I don't know.”

Ah yes, those famously offset knees. How many agents and trainers would have crossed her off their lists at the sales the moment she walked out of her box? As it was, the Duke of Roxburghe's yearling daughter of Efisio and the Pursuit Of Love mare Flirtation wasn't even granted a sales berth.

“Guy Roxburghe, the late Duke, asked me to go and look at this filly in the autumn of her yearling year. He kept saying she was from a great family, but she was from a pretty cold family, and she's by Efisio, who I was a great fan of, but he was a cheap, run-of-the-mill stallion,” Johnston says of the first time he laid eyes on Attraction. [Cont. p4](#)

**“We're big fans of ST MARK'S BASILICA, especially at this price... we've got four mares to go to him this year... Penne has a yearling filly by him who's absolutely gorgeous, just a really classy individual... We've got some seriously smashing younger individuals by him.”**



**Nick Bell, Haras de Meautry**

RACING POST Good Morning Bloodstock 16/2/2026

# ST MARK'S BASILICA

European Champion 2YO & World Champion 3YO by SIYOUNI

COOLMORE

Fee: €40,000

**Attraction Cont.**

“She was very, very offset in front. He tried to put her in the sales and neither Doncaster nor Tatts would take her. And so he asked if I would train her for half of her? And I said, 'No.' He asked if I could find somebody to lease her but generally, to this day, I've never advised people to lease horses.

“As I understand it, he made the same offer to Tim Easterby, who also rejected it. And he then made the same offer to John Hills, who said that not only could he find somebody to lease her, he could find somebody to lease three fillies. So three fillies went to John Hills in the autumn of 2002. And by the spring, John had only found somebody to lease one of them, so Guy said he could train one of the other two for him but one was to come to Mark Johnston, and John sent us Attraction.”

Still unnamed, she arrived in Middleham in February 2003 and was already cantering. She didn't hang about.

“Bobby Elliott galloped her and came back and said to me, 'This isn't half bad, you'd better get it named'. I phoned the Duke and said, 'I think this is ready to run and it goes very well,'” Johnston recalls.

“Guy Roxburghe was a wee bit of a punter at times and I remember him phoning me when she was going to run and saying, 'Will this win? Because Roger Charlton's got one in the race that he thinks is very useful.'”

Attraction, though, was a little bit more useful, and anyone who had tuned in for the Harby Novice Median Auction Stakes at Nottingham on April 29, 2003 would have had the privilege of the first public sighting of a superstar in the making. She beat Charlton's Avid Spell by five lengths and bounced out less than three weeks later to win again, at Thirsk. They were the only two occasions she was not in black-type company. **Cont. p5**



Attraction at the National Stud | Emma Berry

# HELLO YOU MZAIN

by Kodlac



HARAS  
D'ÉTREHAM

2026 PROSPECTS

25.000€ LF



« **Extremely Zain** shouldn't of won like that over 6f... we're looking into a 2000 guineas entry! »  **W. Haggas**

« I'm looking forward to starting **Valasara's** season in the Prix Imprudence Gr.3. She should confirm her quality at the highest level this year. »  **F-H. Graffard**

« **Dostoievsky** won a Listed race at 2 and will make his seasonal reappearance in the Prix Djebel Gr.3. We are very pleased. »  **M. Delcher**

« **Godspeed** has developed significantly from a physical standpoint and now appears truly mature at 4. She will make her seasonal reappearance in April and we are aiming for Gr.1 targets this year. »  **Y. Lerner**

Fernando Laffon Lomba - +33 (0)6 87 62 12 62 - fernando@etreham.com

**Attraction Cont.**

Johnston picks up the story. “Following that Thirsk run, she was already entered for the Hilary Needler, and the late Sheikh Rashid, Sheikh Mohammed's eldest son, tried to buy her. The Duke was going to sell her but they wanted to vet her before the race and he said, 'No, she's entered and we're going to run in this race. You can buy her as she stands or you don't buy her'. So she ran and she won.”

Easy victories in the Queen Mary and the Cherry Hinton followed but as she was being prepared for her first Group 1 mission in the Cheveley Park, Attraction brought about her own temporary downfall by kicking the manger in her stable and fracturing her pedal bone.

“Interestingly, somebody just found me the x-rays of Attraction yesterday,” Johnston notes. “We've been clearing out years of x-rays and I said, 'Don't throw out Attraction's.' There's loads of her pedal bone and, obviously, of her knees. And then there's loads of her hind leg, which was at the end of her career when she went lame behind and we retired her. But after she fractured her pedal bone, we had a meeting of myself, the Duke of Roxburghe, [vets] Nick Wingfield Digby and David Ellis, and John Warren in Newmarket, and the consensus was that the pedal bone wasn't an issue, that it would definitely heal. The question was, would we be able to bring her back from a long layoff and, having been let down, get her fit again?”

“Obviously, we had won the 2,000 Guineas first time up with Mister Baileys but in Attraction's case it was about the fact that at that stage, we didn't know how many races there were in her. So we decided to go for the jackpot first time out because we were never certain how long she would last.”

He continues, “We had a yard man, called Richard Heslop, he used to go and fetch her first thing when he arrived at work in the morning and she would spend first lot on the walker because she had to be loosened up before she could be ridden out. And that was throughout her career – she'd come out shuffling and scraping along.

“And I think it's an interesting thing now with all this interference from the BHA veterinary department and so on. The attitude with Attraction was that she was no more likely than any other horse to have a life-threatening fracture in a race. But we all imagined that one day she would hobble off the track very lame and that would be the end of that, because she had so many changes in her knees.”

The plan worked, and then some. Attraction, partnered by Kevin Darley, became the first filly to win the 1,000 Guineas, Irish 1,000 Guineas and Coronation Stakes, those wonky knees propelling her swiftly down many a course and into many hearts. **Cont. p6**

NEWS  
YOU CAN  
USE

Darley

When choosing a stallion for your mare, it usually pays to follow the market signs...

- 500,000gns**
- 150,000gns**
- 100,000gns**
- 100,000gns**

After all, they're sometimes very clear indicators...

- €150,000**
- €90,000**
- €80,000**
- €80,000**

# NATIVE TRAIL

The best of his generation – and **big numbers** with his **first foals**.



**Stands at Kildangan Stud, Ireland**

### Attraction Cont.

Her first defeat came at the hands of another top-class mare, the year-old Soviet Song (Marju) in the Falmouth Stakes at Newmarket, and the pair finished in the same top two spots later that year in the Matron Stakes. Attraction's one lacklustre run came in soft ground in the Prix Jacques Le Marois and she was never asked to run in those conditions again. "She really struggled with soft ground, presumably because of the knees and the very scratchy action. She couldn't lift her feet out of it," says Johnston, who opted not to declare her for the Queen Elizabeth II Stakes when he learned that the clerk of the course had been watering. One final hurrah in her three-year-old season came on the same straight mile over which she had first become a Classic heroine. Her victory in the Sun Chariot Stakes ensured that Attraction stood alone in Europe in 2004 as the winner of four Group 1 races.

Mark Johnston has long been renowned at the sales for valuing pedigree and mares' ratings over conformation. Was it perhaps his success with Attraction that emboldened this approach?

"No," he says emphatically. "She won a Cartier Award and the Duke made a speech and he said it was poetic justice that she'd gone to the only trainer that might have bought her if she'd gone through a sale. And that was very flattering but it wasn't really true. I wouldn't have bought her, but some of that would have been because the pedigree wasn't good enough to outweigh the conformation. But what it did teach me – something I always knew and something that sort of led to me having that reputation – I always say conformation doesn't stop at the elbow. Attraction was a really magnificent specimen apart from her front legs. She was a very powerful, strong horse."

Of course conformation is carefully considered by buyers when it comes to broodmares, too. Attraction had reignited her pedigree but would her front legs be replicated in her offspring? According to Johnston, who has inspected them all and has trained five of them, including the two top-rated, Elarqam (Frankel) and Maydanny (Dubawi), this was largely not an issue.

"Huntlaw (Oasis Dream) was gelded before he came to us and that was because of front limb conformation. Not anything as bad as his mother's, but offset knees the same. But he was a very good horse. The Duke sold him in the end. He left us sound

with his top rating, 95. I think he'd have gone on to be a black-type performer as well."

Attraction has four black-type performers and nine winners from her 15 foals of racing age, with two-year-old and yearling colts by Too Darn Hot to come. Elarqam, a treble group winner, including the G2 York Stakes, tops the list and he is at stud in Turkey having started his stallion career in France. Her Group 3-winning sprinter Fountain Of Youth (Oasis Dream) stood at Bearstone Stud until 2020.

Of her four daughters, the Grade 3-placed Cushion (Galileo), who raced for the Duke of Roxburghe and Sue Magnier and died two years ago, produced Hafit (Dubawi), who was placed in the G2 Queen's Vase. Another, Motion (Invincible Spirit), is the dam of last year's Listed Star Stakes winner Hope Queen (Night Of Thunder), a potential Classic prospect this season for Karl Burke and Jaber Abdullah.

"Attraction is not really an influence on the breed, but not far off it," Johnston says. "She produced a couple of stallions. They haven't gone on to do anything great, but she is a bit of an out-cross."

"Every year we see the first-season sires and everybody gets really excited if they have one Group 1 winner, and then a Group 1-winning mare, if she doesn't have a Group 1 winner in the first four foals, they start writing her off. But it's actually amazing how consistently these top race mares do perform in the paddocks."



Attraction at Fittocks Stud with Elarqam as a foal | Emma Berry

Johnston is plainly not a sentimental man and he trained more than 5,000 winners during his record-breaking career. That said, it is easy to detect in the way he speaks of Attraction that she holds a special place in his heart.

"People say to me, 'Who's the best horse you've ever trained?' I say, it was Shamardal. He's the best horse I trained, but I only trained him as a two-year-old and won one Group 1 with him. The best horse for us was Attraction. By a long way, the horse I am most proud of training is Attraction, because, and you can never say for sure, but I feel that probably nobody else would have done the same with her or achieved the same with her, because there's so many opportunities to retire a horse."

Retirement for Attraction came at the end of her four-year-old season, which started with a trip to Hong Kong for the G1 Champions Mile in May, during which she injured a suspensory ligament. [Cont. p7](#)

**Attraction Cont.**

Another period of recovery was required before a return in the G3 Hungerford Stakes three months later.

"The Duke was a fantastic owner to train for," Johnston says. "From the Queen Mary onwards, if he was at the races, he would say to the jockey in the paddock, 'She owes us nothing. Just go out and enjoy yourself. Nothing else matters.'

"When she had that penultimate start at Newbury, she finished fourth of nine. I was a little bit disappointed and I expected the Duke to be very disappointed, but not at all. He said, 'That's a great comeback after what she's been through.' Sure enough, she went and won a Group 1 on her next start. He was a dream to train for."

Guy Innes-Ker, the 10th Duke of Roxburghe and owner of Floors Stud, also served a stint as chairman of the National Stud, where the stallion yard is named in his memory. It is fitting, therefore, that Attraction is now living out her retirement in the paddocks there.

We paid homage to her at the National Stud on the eve of her 25th birthday. Still frisking visitors for Polos, she's as special now as she ever was: a true flower of Scotland. Thanks for the memories, old girl.

[Share this story](#) 

**Arqana February Cont. from p1**

"I've bought him for Henry Dwyer, with whom we have worked for a long time," Murphy said. "He caught his attention and was strongly recommended by his trainer, Gavin Hernon. We are confident he has the potential to succeed in Australia and we look forward to following his progress."




**Total turnover for the Arqana February Sale stood at €3,299,750**  
Zuzanna Lupa

Another wildcard, the Louisa Carberry-trained Highbourne Karisma, sold for €120,000 to JH Bloodstock on behalf of National Hunt trainer Tom Symonds.

In the breeding section, a yearling filly by Earthlight (Lot 239), presented by Haras des Capucines, generated strong interest around the ring before being knocked down at €125,000 to Nicolas de Watrigant of Mandore International Agency. The filly is a half-sister to the top-class Sajir, winner of the G1 Prix Maurice de Gheest last season.

"She is a filly who attracted interest from many buyers," said Nicolas de Watrigant. "She is well put together physically and comes from a very strong family."

[Share this story](#) 



**Tel: 718.978.8200**  
[www.mersant.com](http://www.mersant.com)

**SPONSORS OF THE FOLLOWING STATS FOR THE:**


**ARQANA FEBRUARY MIXED SALE DAY 2**

<b>SESSION TOTALS</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>2025</b>
• Catalogued	205	329
• Number Offered	170	281
• Number Sold	133	225
• Not Sold	37	56
• Clearance Rate	78%	80%
• High Price	€180,000	€110,000
• Gross	€2,036,500	€2,691,500
• Average (% change)	€15,312	€11,962
• Median (% change)	€6,000	€5,000

<b>SESSION TOTALS</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>2025</b>
• Catalogued	400	329
• Number Offered	343	281
• Number Sold	240	225
• Not Sold	103	56
• Clearance Rate	70%	80%
• High Price	€180,000	€110,000
• Gross	€3,290,500 (+22%)	€2,691,500
• Average (% change)	€13,709 (+15%)	€11,962
• Median (% change)	€5,500 (+10%)	€5,000

\*The 2025 sale was held over a single day.



Follow the TDN staff on Twitter  
Thoroughbred Daily News

@garykingTDN

@EquinealTDN

@BrianSheerin91

@CBossTDN

@HLAndersonTDN

@tdncronin

@collingsberry

@AlaynaCullen

@hought94

# SESSION TOPPERS

## ARQANA FEBRUARY MIXED SALE DAY 2

Lot	Name	Status	Price (€)
355	<b>Dante Nonantais (Fr)</b> <i>(c, 3, Hunter's Light {Ire}--Dansili Dutch {Ire}, by Dutch Art {GB})</i> <i>Bred by Marie-Flore Corbiere (Fr)</i> <i>Consigned by Florian Bellemere</i> <i>Purchased by Narvick/OTI Management/ McEvoy Mitchell Racing</i>	Horse-in-Training	180,000
239	<b>Unnamed</b> <i>(f, 1, Earthlight {Ire}--Simple Magic {Ire}, by Invincible Spirit {Ire})</i> <i>Bred by Whisper Wind/Parc Monceau/Guerari &amp; Hazan (Ire)</i> <i>Consigned by Haras des Capucines</i> <i>Purchased by Mandore International Agency</i>	Yearling	125,000
360	<b>Highbourne Karisma (Fr)</b> <i>(m, 5, Doctor Dino {Fr}--Katkobella {Fr}, by Irish Wells {Fr})</i> <i>Bred by Haras d'Idernes, Haras de Saint Fause &amp; SASU Ger (Fr)</i> <i>Consigned by Louisa Carberry</i> <i>Purchased by JH Bloodstock/Tom Symonds</i>	Horse-in-Training	120,000
365	<b>Recollect (Ire)</b> <i>(c, 3, Reoletos {Fr}--Haziyna {Ire}, by Halling)</i> <i>Bred by Rathnee Bloodstock, Ltd. (Ire)</i> <i>Consigned by Gavin Hernon</i> <i>Purchased by Henry Dwyer Racing/Amy Murphy</i>	Horse-in-Training	120,000

thought he might stand out on there and he did. We are really pleased and this platform is a really good way of doing it.”

Changing hands for 30,000gns was **Galia Des Liteaux** (Saddler Maker) (lot 65), who sold to Mountain View Stud post sale. The Lodge Hill Stables-consigned horse-out-of-training has a win each in a point-to-point and a hurdle race, as well as three chasing wins. Her best win was in the G2 Hampton Novices' Chase at Warwick.

Also selling for 30,000gns was **Arclight** (Champs Elysees) (lot 55) from the draft of Seven Barrows. Simon Cox picked up the seven-year-old mare. Listed-placed over hurdles and a multiple listed winner over fences, she is a full-sister to seven-time winner Cote d'Azur (Champs Elysees).

Overall, 62 lots sold (61%) from 102 offered for a gross of 496,300gns. The average was 8,005gns and the median was 4,900gns.

[Share this story](#) 



Northwest Passage | Tattersalls Online

## EUROPEAN NEWS

### NORTHWEST PASSAGE TOPS TATTERSALLS ONLINE FEBRUARY SALE

Stayer **Northwest Passage** topped the Tattersalls Online February Sale at 31,000gns to Ivan Furtado.

Sold as lot 29, the grey son of Ulysses was offered by Crimbourne Bloodstock and sports one win from seven starts. From the family of multiple Group 1-winning sire Tamayuz, the four-year-old gelding has competed on turf, all-weather and hurdles.

Crimbourne Bloodstock's Charlie Parker said, "We were very happy with today. We have been very lucky with Tattersalls Online, much luckier than we have been in the ring! I just

## BRITAIN

### Wednesday's Results:

**5th-Kempton, £10,000, Mdn, 2-18, 3yo/up, 6f (AWT), 1:13.38, st/sl.**

**SILENT STRIKE (IRE) (c, 3, Mehmas {Ire}--Refusetolisten {Ire}, by Clodovil {Ire})**, who ran second over this distance at Lingfield in his Jan. 29 debut last time, was swiftly into stride and led from flagfall here. Nudged along in early straight, the 1-5 lock was not for catching inside the final quarter-mile and powered clear to easily outpoint Caviar Cowboy (Zoustar) by an impressive three lengths.

[Cont. p9](#)

**5th-Kempton Cont.**

Silent Strike is the sixth of seven foals and fourth scorer out of a winning half-sister to Listed Bro Park Sprint Championship victor Lamborghini BF (**Holy Roman Emperor**) and to the dam of G1 Prix Marcel Boussac heroine Tiger Tanaka (Clodovil). The April-foaled chestnut is a half-brother to Listed Flying Fillies victrix Stormy Girl (Night Of Thunder) and a two-year-old filly by **Saxon Warrior**. Sales history: €220,000 Ylg '24 GOFORY. Lifetime Record: 2-1-1-0, \$10,827. O-Tony Bloom & Ian McAleavy; B-Luas Bloodstock; T-Andrew Balding.

**ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:**

**Comic Hero (Ire)**, g, 3, **Saxon Warrior (Jpn)**--Sense Of Humour (GB), by Dark Angel (Ire). Kempton, 2-18, 7f (AWT), 1:26.23. Lifetime Record: 4-1-1-1, \$22,597. B-H V McCalmont Bloodstock & Lawcus Stables. \*€28,000 Ylg '24 TATIRY.

FRANCE

**CONDITIONS RESULTS:**

**8th-Pornichet-La Baule**, €13,700, Cond, 2-18, 4yo, 12f (AWT), 2:36.03, sl.

**DIXMUDE (IRE)** (g, 4, **Sottsass {Fr}**--**Shelter Island {Fr}**, by **Le Havre {Ire}**) Lifetime Record: 4-2-0-0, €16,135. O-Ecurie David R Layani Famille & Stamford Bloodstock; B-White Birch Farm; T-Francis-Henri Graffard. \*€100,000 Ylg '23 ARQAUG.

**3rd-Cagnes-sur-Mer**, €12,800, Cond, 2-18, 4yo/up, 8f (AWT), 1:35.55, st.

**REUX (FR)** (c, 4, **Hello Youmzain {Fr}**--**Restless {Fr}**, by **Le Havre {Ire}**) Lifetime Record: 37-4-3-5, €82,860. O-Mme Christiane Janssen & Ecurie Rogier; B-Benoit Jeffroy, SCEA des Prairies, Mme Audrey Leyval & Sigma Agency; T-Mathieu Boutin. \*€67,000 Wlg '22 ARQDEC; €90,000 Ylg '23 ARQAUG.

**ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:**

**Reveur (Ire)**, g, 3, **Frankel (GB)**--Romantic Song (Ire) (SW-Ger), by Shamardal. Pornichet-La Baule, 2-18, 10 1/2f (AWT), 2:16.54. B-Wertheimer & Frere.

**Westminster Pilot (GB)**, g, 4, **Cracksman (GB)**--Cosmogyril (Ire), by **Camelot (GB)**. Pornichet-La Baule, 2-18, 15 1/2f (AWT), 3:34.05. B-Kingwood Stud Ltd. \*20,000gns Ylg '23 TATDEY.

BOOKMARK

<http://www.thoroughbreddailynews.com/getLatest.php>  
to download the latest edition of the TDN each day.

ASIA

**Wednesday's Result:**

**KUMOTORI SHO-Listed (Jpn-G3-NAR)**, ¥40,800,000, Oi, 2-18, 3yo, 1800m, 1:54.00, gd.

1--**REALIZE GLINT (JPN)**, 123, c, 3, by **Kitasan Black (Jpn)**  
**1st Dam: Madras Check (MSW-Jpn, \$1,210,124),**  
**by Malibu Moon**

**2nd Dam: Gloat, by Mr. Greeley**

**3rd Dam: On Parade, by Storm Cat**

**1ST BLACK-TYPE WIN.** (¥150,000,000 Ylg '24 JRHAJUL).

O-Yosuke Imafuku; B-Oiwake Farm (Jpn); T-Yoshito Yahagi; J-Ryusei Sakai; ¥24,000,000. Lifetime Record: 5-2-3-0, ¥37,500,000.

2--**Triglav Hill (Jpn)**, 126, c, 3, Nadal--Triplite (Jpn), by Wild Rush.

\***1ST BLACK TYPE.** O-Sunday Racing; B-Northern Farm (Jpn); ¥8,400,000.

3--**Mac Lir (Jpn)**, 126, c, 3, Lord Kanaloa (Jpn)--Irish Sea (Ire), by Galileo (Ire). \***1ST BLACK TYPE.** O-Silk Racing; B-Northern Farm (Jpn); ¥4,800,000.

Margins: NK, 6, 1. Odds: 5.90, 1.20, 1.10.

Also Ran: K Two Livre (Jpn), Zelos (Jpn), Ayasan Jotaro (Jpn), Endless Sorrow (Jpn), Loyly (Jpn), Dente Brillante (Jpn), G T Train (Jpn), Nine Fold (Jpn), Pod Festa (Jpn), Road Raising (Jpn), Moko Punch (Jpn), Prorok (Jpn), Justice (Jpn).

Click for the **JRA chart and video.**

Looking for Australian/ New Zealand news?

Click **HERE** to read today's edition of



Catch up with previous editions of **TDN Europe** by visiting our archive [Click Here to View](#)



**Friday, Meydan, UAE, post time: 18:50**

**UAE OAKS SPONSORED BY DEEPAL-G3**, AED800,000, 3yo, f, 1900m

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	1	Labwah	Charlatan	bin Ghadayer	Pinheiro	126
2	5	Tjareed	Yaupon	Cintra/Olascoaga	De Sousa	126
3	3	Dozalla	Upstart	Seemar	Slattery	126
4	2	Yuno	Rock Your World	bin Harmash	Beasley	126
5	4	Pretty And Famous	Known Agenda	Watson	Dobbs	126
6	6	Auntie Fair	Uncle Chuck	Seemar	Barzalona	126
7	7	Dialed To Dubai	Dialed In	bin Harmash	Hitchcott	126

**Breeders:** 1-Calvin Crain, 2-Tuscany Bloodstock, 3-Matthew Davis, 4-Brownstead Farm, 5-Susan Young, 6-Belvedere Farm, 7-Castle Oak.

**Friday, Meydan, UAE, post time: 20:35**

**BALANCHINE SPONSORED BY AL TAYER MOTORS-G2**, AED850,000, 4yo/up, SH 3yo, f/m, 1800mT

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	4	Dubai Beach (Ire)	Blue Point (Ire)	bin Suroor	Shoemark	128
2	6	Dubai Treasure (Ire)	Exceed And Excel (Aus)	bin Suroor	Orr	126
3	2	Fairy Glen (Fr)	Farhh (GB)	S & E Crisford	Barzalona	126
4	5	Capitana Bling (Ire)	Invincible Army {Ire}}	Storen	Martinez	126
5	1	Riyabovka (Fr)	Caulley	Slattery	Slattery	126
6	7	Blue Nazare (Ire)	Dubawi (Ire)	Appleby	Buick	126
7	3	Miss of Change (Fr)	King Of Change (GB)	Nieslanik	Shepherd	126

**Breeders:** 1-Godolphin, 2-Godolphin, 3-Godolphin, 4-Yeomanstown Stud & Cavalier Bloodstock, 5-Alain Jathiere, 6-Godolphin, 7-Stuart McPhee.

**Friday, Meydan, UAE, post time: 18:50**

**NAD AL SHEBA TROPHY SPONSORED BY DEEPAL-G3**, AED700,000, 4yo/up, 2810mT

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	5	Sunway (Fr)	Galiway (GB)	Menuisier	De Sousa	130
2	2	Al Nayyir (GB)	Dubawi (Ire)	Clover	Ryan	130
3	7	By The Book (Ire)	Frankel (GB)	Appleby	Buick	130
4	4	Crystal Black (Ire)	Teofilo (Ire)	Keane	Slattery	130
5	3	Kihavah (GB)	Harbour Watch (Ire)	Keatley	Dobbs	130
6	8	Aeronautic (Ire)	Gleneagles (Ire)	O'Brien	Marquand	130
7	1	Nightwalker (GB)	Frankel (GB)	Spencer	Osborne	126
8	6	Surabad (GB)	Bated Breath (GB)	bin Ghadayer	Pinheiro	126

**Breeders:** 1-Guy Pariente Holding, 2-Godolphin, 3-Woodnook Farm, Pty., Ltd., 4-Moyglare Stud Farms, Ltd., 5-The Roheryn Partnership, 6-Newtown Anner Stud, 7-Juddmonte Farms, Ltd., 8-His Highness The Aga Khan's Stud SC.

Visit **TDN SALES STATISTICS**

to view sires' cumulative annual sales averages, sortable by standing location and crop year. [\[click here\]](#)

**Friday, Meydan, UAE, post time: 21:10**

**DUBAI ROAD TO THE KENTUCKY DERBY SPONSORED BY AL TAYER MOTORS-Listed, AED800,000, 3yo, 1900m**

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	7	Salloom	Authentic	Seemar	O'Shea	126
2	3	Lino Padrino	Uncle Lino	Seemar	Mullen	126
3	6	Brother Love (GB)	Zoustar (Aus)	Osborne	Osborne	126
4	12	Raajehh	Complexity	Costa	Dawson	126
5	4	Al Khawaneej	Honest Mischief	Al Baidhaei	de Vries	126
6	2	Omaha Front	Omaha Beach	Seemar	Slattery	126
7	9	Watch Collector	Medaglia d'Oro	Seemar	Buick	126
8	1	Duke Of Immatin	Gun Runner	Al Mheiri	De Sousa	126
9	5	Knight Of Glory	Knicks Go	Menuisier	Ryan	126
<del>10</del>	<del>14</del>	<del>Rammaas</del>	<del>Speightstown</del>	<del>SCR</del>	<del>SCR</del>	<del>SCR</del>
11	10	Senator Of State (Ire)	Ten Sovereigns (Ire)	Seemar	Paiva	126
12	11	Awesome Fleet (Ire)	US Navy Flag	bin Ghadayer	Pinheiro	126
13	8	Sary Shayan	Constitution	Watson	Dobbs	126
14	13	Fire d'Oro	Bolt d'Oro	bin Harmash	Beasley	126

**Breeders:** 1-Machmer Hall, 2-Gina & Kelly Lupton, 3-David Redvers Bloodstock, 4-Bret Jones, 5-Sequel Stallions New York, LLC & Scott Miller Farms, LLC, 6-Don Alberto Corporation, 7-Amsterdam Two Farm, LLC, 8-Mr. & Mrs. William L. Pape, 9-Fred W. Hertrich III & Robert L. Tribbett, 10-RRR Racing, Inc., 11-Grenane House Stud, 12-Grenane House Stud, 13-Newtownanner Stud Farm, 14-LNJ Foxwoods.

*\*All posts displayed in local time.*



has the best sire lists in the business, including

Crop-Year Reports

Sire of 3yos

Fourth and Fifth-Crop Sires

**And more**

With earnings and black type from particular regions or all over the world.

[\[click here\]](#)



# THE TDN KENTUCKY OAKS TOP 10 FOR FEB. 19: BELLA BALLERINA MAKES A BIG MOVE




Zany | SV photography

by Bill Finley

There was only one graded stakes race on the road to the GI Kentucky Oaks this weekend, but it was a big one. The GI Fasig-Tipton Rachel Alexandra Stakes has produced 12 winners of the Oaks. The list includes last year's Oaks champion Good Cheer (Medaglia d'Oro) and 2023 winner Pretty Mischievous (Into Mischief). So, it meant something when Bella Ballerina (**Street Sense**) scored a game victory to win the race by a half-length, especially when you consider that she is a half-sister to Pretty Mischievous.

So, here goes, your latest Top 10:

-  **1) ZANY (American Pharoah--Mo' Green, by Uncle Mo)**  
O-Repole Stable; B-D.J. Stable (KY); T-Todd Pletcher. Sales history: \$350,000 yrl '24 FTSAUG. Lifetime Record: GSW, 3-3-0-0, \$221,500. Last Start: Won Feb. 7 Suncoast Stakes. Kentucky Oaks Points: 30.

## **TAYLOR MADE FOR YOU!**

As good a race as Bella Ballerina ran in the Rachel Alexandra, Zany remains in the top spot and may stay there until she has her next start, which is scheduled for the Apr. 3 GI Central Bank Ashland Stakes at Keeneland.

**Cont. p5**

## HISA THREATENS 'FREELOADING' CDI WITH CUTTING OFF ABILITY TO RACE OVER ALLEGED NON-PAYMENT OF ASSESSMENT FEES

by Dan Ross and T.D. Thornton

The Horse Racing Integrity and Safety Act (HISA) Authority on Wednesday summoned Churchill Downs Racetrack and its corporate parent, CDI, to a hearing before a panel of HISA board members in an attempt to secure payment of 2025 assessment fees that CDI has allegedly failed to submit on behalf of four racetracks the gaming corporation owns in Kentucky and Pennsylvania, including its flagship track in Louisville.

HISA wants Churchill to pay \$2,408,501 in allegedly overdue 2025 fees (plus \$93,998 in interest) to the Authority within 10 days of any order by the HISA board that results from the just-scheduled Mar. 11 hearing.

If not, according the Feb. 18 notice of hearing, "for each day the payment is late, Churchill [will] be prohibited from conducting any Covered Horserace, to be applied immediately on the next scheduled race day(s) at Churchill." **Cont. p3**

## IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

### 'SHE WAS THE ULTIMATE RACEHORSE'

Emma Berry speaks with trainer Mark Johnston on **Attraction (GB)** (Efizio {GB}), who is now 25.



# LEXITONIAN

Speightstown - Riviera Romper, by Tapit



(G1) WINNING SON OF SPEIGHTSTOWN  
FIRST CROP 3YO IN 2026  
SIRE OF 12% STAKES WINNERS / RUNNERS

---

Eddie Kane | Eddie@CalumetFarm.com | 859.621.0467



**NEW**

# THERE'S FAST AND THERE'S FIRST

He's the **fastest freshman to stand at \$10k or less** in the past five years. Of all the top stallions standing at fees at \$125k or more, only two – Curlin and Gun Runner, since you ask – ran a bigger Beyer than **First Mission**.

His 109 is higher than any figure run by Into Mischief, Not This Time, Justify and even our own Nyquist.

In other words, **he's got the speed to truly excel...** like them.

**\$10,000** S&N

**Darley**

**PUBLISHER & CEO**

Sue Morris Finley @suefinley  
suefinley@thetdn.com

**SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT**

Gary King @garykingTDN  
garyking@thetdn.com

**EDITORIAL**

editor@thetdn.com

**Editor-in-Chief**

Jessica Martini @JessMartiniTDN

**Senior Contributing Editor**

Alan Carasso @EquinealTDN

**Senior Racing Editor**

Steve Sherack @SteveSherackTDN

**Senior Editor & Staff Training Supervisor**

Christina Bossinakis @CBossTDN

**Assistant Editor**

Jill Williams @JillWilliamsTDN

**Staff Writers**

Patrycja Szpyra @QueenOfSuites

Stefanie Grimm @SGrimmTDN

J.N. Campbell @campbellparlay

**News and Features Editor**

In Memoriam: Ben Massam (1988-2019)

**ADVERTISING**

tdnadstaff@gmail.com

**Director of Advertising**

Alycia Borer

**Advertising Manager**

Lia Best

**Senior Advertising Designer**

Amanda Crelin

**Advertising Designer**

Amie Newcomb

**Advertising Assistant/Dir. of Distribution**

Liz Fronczek

**Advertising Assistant**

Justin Fowler

**Chief Photographer/Photo Editor**

Sarah K. Andrew @SarahKAndrew  
photos@thetdn.com

**Senior Producer**

Katie Petrunyak

**Social Media Manager**

Sara Gordon

**Director of Customer Service**

Vicki Forbes | customerservice@thetdn.com

**Business Development Manager**

Alayna Cullen Birkett @AlaynaCullen

**Chief Financial Officer**

Ray Villa  
rayvilla@thetdn.com | accounting@thetdn.com

**WORLDWIDE INFORMATION**

**European & International Editor**

Emma Berry | emmaberry@thetdn.com

**Managing Editor**

Heather Anderson @HLAndersonTDN

**European Sales Editor**

Brian Sheerin @BrianSheerin91

**Associate European Editor**

Adam Houghton @hought94

**Cafe Racing**

Sean Cronin & Tom Frary  
caferacing@thetdn.com

60 Broad Street, Suite 105 | Red Bank, NJ 07701  
732-747-8060 | www.TheTDN.com

**Thursday, February 19, 2026**



Following her win in Saturday's GII Fasig-Tipton Rachel Alexandra Stakes, 'TDN Rising Star,' presented by Hagyard' Bella Ballerina (*Street Sense*) dances her way up this week's Kentucky Oaks TDN Top 10 list. | Amanada Hodges Weir/Hodges Photography

**9 | FIVE FLEET FILLIES OF THE WEEK, FEB. 9-15**

This week's rankings are topped by the fastest Beyer for any female thus far in 2026: Eclatant (*Into Mischief*) got a 104 in a Gulfstream allowance.

**10 | BRENDAN WALSH JOINS THE TDN WRITERS' ROOM PODCAST**

It was a big weekend for Brendan Walsh, whose Bella Ballerina (*Street Sense*) was a game winner of the GII Rachel Alexandra Stakes. The trainer is hoping to win the GI Kentucky Oaks twice within four years with half-siblings.

**11 | WHITE ABARRIO TO TARGET OAKLAWN HANDICAP**

The Saffie Joseph, Jr.-trained White Abarrio (*Race Day*) will ship to Arkansas to target the GII Oaklawn Handicap April 18, a race also possible for Horse of the Year Sovereignty (*Into Mischief*).

**PA PAYS!**

**\$23 MILLION**  
**IN BREEDER INCENTIVES**  
PAID IN 2025

WARRIOR'S REWARD LLC  
**\$891,519.50**

UPTOWNCHARLYBROWN STUD LLC  
**\$699,777.85**

**PENNSYLVANIA**  
HORSE BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

PABRED.COM     
#PABRED ON SOCIAL MEDIA

**HISA vs. CDI, cont. from p1**

"CDI has not fulfilled Churchill's obligation to remit Churchill's and the horsemen's group share of allocated and assessed fees for calendar year 2025 in violation of HISA Rule 8100(i), HISA Rule 8520(e), and 15 U.S.C. § 3052(f)(3)," the hearing notice stated.

"In fact, CDI has refused to pay one cent of the 2025 HISA assessments allocated to Churchill, Turfway Park, Ellis Park, and Presque Isle Downs," the notice continued.

"CDI even refuses to pay what it believes it owes for the CDI Racetracks under its own [assessment formula] that is based solely on racing starts. The CDI Racetracks stand alone among Covered Racetracks in refusing to make any HISA assessment payments whatsoever for 2025," the hearing notice stated.

The notice was served Wednesday via email and certified mail to Gary Palmisano, Jr., CDI's executive director of racing.



Churchill Downs | Coady Media

TDN asked Palmisano via email if he'd like to comment or explain CDI's side of the story, but did not receive any reply prior to deadline for this article.

In addition to the alleged non-payment of 2025 fees, the

notice of hearing details allegations that because of the above-referenced disagreement over assessment methodologies, CDI has also not paid all of the fees that HISA claims the corporation owes for 2023 and 2024, either.

"In 2023 and 2024, CDI calculated and paid full year assessments using its own assessment formula, based solely on the number of racing starts, in an amount less than would be due under the Original Methodology Rule," the notice of hearing

stated.

"The total difference that remains currently due and owing from racetracks operated by CDI for the 2023 and 2024 Assessments is \$1,708,475." **Cont.**

**CITY OF LIGHT**  
Quality Road - Paris Notion, by Dehere

**LEADING HIS CROP BY 2026 BTWs**

**2/14 FRENCH FRICTION**  
The 3YO filly remained undefeated dominating the field by 5 1/2 lengths in the \$150,000 DIXIE BELLE S.

**2/7 LIGHT WON UP**  
Sweet Life S.

**1/3 BOURBON BASH**  
Commodore Overnight S.

*Also in 2026:*  
6 BTHs & 3YO filly Imperatrice on the Kentucky Oaks trail



Fee: \$35,000  
lanesend.com  
t: 859.873.7300

**HISA vs. CDI, cont.**

But because that dispute over 2023 and 2024 assessments is still being litigated in federal court, "issuance of the Board panel's decision in the 2023/2024 Enforcement Action is currently stayed per the agreement of the parties," the Authority's hearing notice explained.

In CDI's original complaint in that lawsuit, filed Dec. 4, 2024, CDI argued that the HISA Authority couldn't threaten "to prohibit them from conducting any horseraces until the fees due under the Authority's illegal assessment methodology are paid in full" because the HISA Act "does not empower the private Authority to adjudicate fee-collection disputes in-house."

Rather, the lawsuit explained, the HISA Act "envisions that the Authority would exercise its statutory power to bring a civil action in federal court to compel payment of any legitimate fee assessments."

The CDI complaint (initially joined by co-plaintiff the New York Racing Association, which settled with HISA a month after the litigation was filed), stated that HISA demanding fee payments and threatening penalization based on its own findings "would violate the Act and Article III of the Constitution, which require that such disputes between private entities be adjudicated in federal courts--not within administrative agencies and certainly not within private, unaccountable corporations.

"And it would also violate the fundamental due-process principle that no person may serve as a judge in his own case," the CDI suit alleged.

Wednesday's hearing notice stated that, "In this enforcement action, the Authority is seeking payment only based on the CDI Formula endorsed by CDI in the CDI Lawsuit.

"If the United States District Court for the Western District of Kentucky concludes in the CDI Lawsuit that the Original Methodology Rule is valid, the Authority will initiate a separate enforcement action or civil action--if necessary--to collect the difference between the amount owed by CDI under the CDI Formula and the Original Methodology Rule for 2025.

"If the District Court adopts the legal arguments made by CDI and concludes that the Original Methodology Rule is invalid, then CDI would still owe the exact amount sought in this proceeding, i.e., the racing-starts only amount due under the 'Alternative Calculation' that CDI endorses and advocates," the hearing notice stated.

"In other words, CDI owes at least the amount sought here regardless of the outcome of the pending litigation," the hearing notice stated. **Cont.**



Bookmark this tab  
<http://www.thoroughbreddailynews.com/getLatest.php>  
 to download the latest edition of the TDN each day.

# BREED PROVEN

## #2 KENTUCKY SIRE

by % of winners to runners in 2025

Sire	2026 Fee	% Winners/Runners
Vekoma	\$100,000	62.23%
<b>Take Charge Indy</b>	<b>\$7,500</b>	<b>61.95%</b>
Army Mule	\$25,000	59.86%
Midshipman	\$15,000	57.63%
Upstart	\$25,000	55.70%

\*Statistics based off stallions in Kentucky with 100 runners or more, TDN 2/16/26

PROVEN SIRE BY A.P. INDY

# TAKE CHARGE INDY

Fee: \$7,500 S&N  
A.P. Indy - Take Charge Lady, by Dehere

www.winstarfarm.com  
859-873-1717



*Domestic*

# PRODUCT REVIEWS ARE IN...

“She looks just like **Domestic Product** - really nice and strong”

J.B. Orem, Woodline Farm/Beau Lane Bloodstock, on the filly ex PAIXAO

“It's the mare's first foal. He has good bone and the substance is there. Very happy with him” Sergio De Sousa, Hidden Brook Farm, on the colt ex SHE CAUGHT MY EYE

“Nice foal, well put together, good hip, good size” Mike Callanan, Greenfield Farm, on the colt ex OBIA STAR

“Really good-looking colt, good bone, good size, good hip and shoulder. Hopefully indicative of what **Domestic Product** will produce”

Carl McEntee, Ballysax, on the colt ex LAOBANONAPRAYER

“She's a pretty fantastic baby so far. Very strong all the way around and over all just fantastic.”

John Gray, Manager at Jackpot Farm, on the filly ex AS THE SNOW FLIES

COOLMORE  
A M E R I C A

**HISA vs. CDI, cont.**

The hearing notice described CDI as allegedly "freeloading" by availing itself of HISA's services related to drug testing, results management from intra-articular injection violations, track surface inspections from the Racing Surfaces Testing Laboratory, and technology platforms that promote the safety of horses and jockeys.

Despite CDI allegedly not paying into the regulatory system, "the CDI Racetracks continue to receive millions of dollars in services from the Authority," the hearing notice stated.

"CDI promotes the benefits of HISA with its investors while at the same time failing to pay its fair share--or any share at all," the notice of hearing stated.

The Mar. 11 board hearing will be chaired by Joe De Francis. Bill Thomason and Terri Mazur will also adjudicate on that panel.

CDI may file a pre-hearing brief setting forth any objections to the enforcement action by Feb. 27, and HISA's enforcement counsel may file a response by Mar. 6.

[Share this story](#) 



TDN THOROUGHBRED DAILY NEWS | TOP KENTUCKY OAKS CONTENDERS  
BROUGHT TO YOU BY Fasig-Tipton

**Cont. from p1**

Zany was not ultra-impressive when winning the Suncoast Stakes at Tampa Bay Downs, but you can count on her being an improved horse in the Ashland. It was notable in the Suncoast that she lugged in.

Here's what Todd Pletcher had to say about her failure to keep a straight course: "We will not try to overthink it since she's three-for-three. But we will continue to focus on keeping her straight when she changes leads."

She showed tremendous talent when romping in last year's GII Demoiselle Stakes. If that horse shows up on Kentucky Oaks Day, all the rest may be running for second money.



Bella Ballerina | Hodges Photography

**2) BELLA BALLERINA (Street Sense--Pretty City Dancer, by Tapit)** O/B-Godolphin (KY); T-Brendan P Walsh. Lifetime Record: MGSW, 3-3-0-0, \$301,525. **'TDN Rising Star, presented by Hagyard.'** Last Start: Won Feb. 14 GII Rachel Alexandra Stakes. Kentucky Oaks Points: 60.

As well-bred as they come and from the powerful Godolphin team, Bella Ballerina still had something to prove in the Rachel Alexandra.

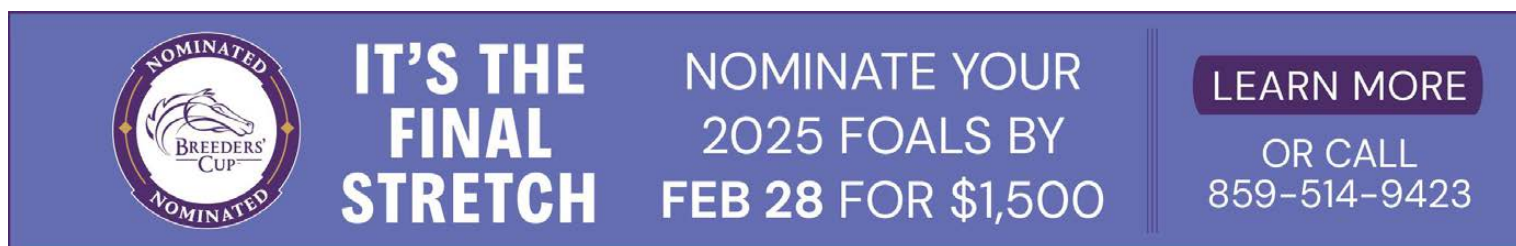
In her only other stakes appearance, last year's GII Golden Rod Stakes at Churchill Downs, she did win, but nearly squandered a 3 1/2-length lead in the stretch. The final margin of victory was a half-length.

She didn't blow them away this time, either. In fact, she lost the lead in mid-stretch, but battled back to win in a professional effort.

"I thought it was a very game performance," trainer Brendan Walsh said. "When she was coming down the stretch, it looked like she was beaten. I thought to myself, 'You know, she's run well. We've got what we needed to get out of it. She'll improve a ton the next time she starts back up again.' I thought, 'Well, OK, we'll take that.' But yes, it was just a game performance on her part. It's the first time she's ever been headed."

Her winning Beyer number Saturday was an 84. The March 21 GII Fasig-Tipton Fair Grounds Oaks will likely be next for her.

**Cont.**



NOMINATED BREEDERS CUP NOMINATED  
**IT'S THE FINAL STRETCH**  
NOMINATE YOUR 2025 FOALS BY FEB 28 FOR \$1,500  
**LEARN MORE**  
OR CALL 859-514-9423

**TDN Kentucky Oaks Top 10, cont.**



Meaning | Benoit

**3) MEANING (Gun Runner--Figure of Speech, by Into Mischief)** O-Bridlewood Farm & Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners; B-Stonehaven Steadings (KY); T-Michael McCarthy. Sales history: \$440,000 yrl '24 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: SW, 3-2-0-0, \$187,000. Last Start: Won Feb. 8 Las Virgenes Stakes. Kentucky Oaks Points: 26.



The good news: she beat two pretty tough customers in Explora (**Blame**) and Super Corredora (**Gun Runner**) in the Las Virgenes Stakes. The bad news: she had a perfect trip behind battling leaders. It was her first start since she was a non-threatening fourth in the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies, but there's no reason why she couldn't have improved over the winter. As of now, the California-based fillies don't look like a strong group. Meaning may be the best of that bunch. Trainer Michael McCarthy has said that the April 4 GII Santa Anita Oaks Presented by Surfside will be next for his filly.

**4) LUV YOUR NEIGHBOR (Constitution--Disobedient, by Into Mischief)** O-Lael Stables; B-Anderson Farms Ont Inc & 552727 Ontario Ltd (ON); T-Michael Stidham. Sales history: \$350,000 Ylg '24 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 6-1-4-0, \$164,071. Last Start: 2nd Feb. 14 GII Fasig-Tipton Rachel Alexandra Stakes. Kentucky Oaks Points: 40.



If you liked Bella Ballerina's race in the Rachel Alexandra, you probably had to like the effort turned in by Luv Your Neighbor. She gave the 4-5 favorite fits the entire length of the stretch and looked like she had the race won. Was Bella Ballerina that game or did Luv Your Neighbor lack fight when it counted? **Cont.**

Gun Runner - Paradise Woods filly

Into Mischief - Stellar Sound colt

Last year, Fasig-Tipton sold America's highest-priced yearling colt *and* filly at our **selected yearling sales.**

NOMINATE NOW

TO OUR 2026 SELECTED YEARLING SALES

The July SALE

July 14 • Lexington, KY

THE 105<sup>TH</sup> SARATOGA SALE

SARATOGA SALE

Aug. 10-11 • Saratoga Springs, NY

NY Bred YEARLINGS

Aug. 16-17 • Saratoga Springs, NY

Nominations Recommended by **March 6**

VIEW FLIPBOOK

**TDN Kentucky Oaks Top 10, cont.**

It's an important question, as she has now run second in four straight starts, losing each time by less than a length. In her lone victory, she won by just a nose. Trainer Michael Stidham needs to figure out how to get a little something extra out of her, but, if he does, she might just prove to be among the upper echelon of this division.



**5) TAKEN BY THE WIND (Rock Your World--Up for Grabs, by First Samurai)** O-Magdalena Racing, Terry Bradshaw, Graham Leveston, Raasi Stable; B-Courtney L. Meagher (FL); T-Kenneth G McPeek. Sales History: \$70,000 yrl '24 FTKJUL; \$20,000 yrl '24 FTKOCT. Lifetime Record: GSW, 3-3-0-0, \$270,710. Last Start: Won Jan. 17 Silverbulletday Stakes. Kentucky Oaks Points: 30.

Consigned by GAINESWAY

**TAYLOR MADE FOR YOU!**

If not for the Kenny McPeek factor, this horse would be rated lower. Yes, she won the Silverbulletday Stakes by only a neck in her 3-year-old debut. But McPeek, who has had so much success with fillies of late, sees something in her. "You watch," he said. "She'll win the next one, and I think she has a very good chance of winning the Oaks. This is a very good filly. She does



Taken by the Wind | Sarah Andrew

everything right." McPeek reports that Taken by the Wind will have her next start in the March 1 GIII Honeybee Stakes at Oaklawn. It would be "good for the game" to see her prosper as NFL Hall of Famer Terry Bradshaw is a part owner and would no doubt be an entertaining part of an entourage come Oaks Day.



Find us on Instagram  
[@thoroughbred\\_daily\\_news](https://www.instagram.com/thoroughbred_daily_news)

# CONTRIBUTE

## NTRA ¼% CHECK-OFF PROGRAM

Help us get off to a strong start in 2026 by contributing to the ¼% Check-off Program when paying for your purchase from the Fasig-Tipton Kentucky Winter Mixed Sale.

Contributions to the Program equal \$2.50 for every \$1,000 in sale price. By contributing, you become eligible to save on products and services from NTRA Equine Discounts partners like John Deere, Sherwin-Williams, Big Ass Fans, Farmers Insurance, Pets Best pet health insurance and more.

Your participation in the ¼% Check-off Program helps get results on Capitol Hill, like the reinstatement of 100% bonus depreciation.

Thank you for your consideration and congratulations on your purchase.

**HELP US HELP HORSE RACING IN D.C.**



For more information, contact Joe Bacigalupo at [joeb@ntra.com](mailto:joeb@ntra.com)



Fasig-Tipton



ARABIAN KNIGHT  
Uncle Mo - Borealis Night by Astrology

2026 Stud Fee: \$30,000 LFSN

**"THIS IS A NAME TO REMEMBER,  
ARABIAN KNIGHT"  
- NBC**

TDN  Rising Star

"When you go back in time and you start looking at Breeders' Cup days,  
sometimes the biggest star of the day is on the undercard."

- NBC

Arabián Knight



  
**HILL 'N' DALE**  
[www.hillndalefarms.com](http://www.hillndalefarms.com)

\$2,300,000

LFSN © 2025. Photo credit: Hill 'N' Dale

**TDN Kentucky Oaks Top 10, cont.**

**6) LIFE OF JOY (Gun Runner--Jordan's Leo, by Malibu Moon)**

O-Will Stroud, Andrew Farm, Mountmellick Farm & For the People Racing Stable LLC; B-Springhouse Farm (KY); T-Brad H Cox. Sales history: \$375,000 yrl '24 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: SW, 4-2-1-0, \$180,260. Last Start: Second in Feb. 7 Suncoast Stakes. Kentucky Oaks Points: 22.

Congratulations to all the connections from Paramout Sales  
**Scanlon Training Graduate**

The Brad Cox-trained filly turned in a strong effort behind Zany in the Suncoast, finishing second. She also held her own against Bella Ballerina when fourth in the Golden Rod. Before that, she was a 2 1/4-length winner of the Rags to Riches Stakes. Like McPeek, Cox has done some of his best work with fillies. It's not a coincidence that he has won the Oaks three times in a short stretch of just seven years. The Fair Grounds Oaks will be next for her.

**7) EXPLORA (Blame--Collections Choice, by Bernardini)**

O-Michael Pegram, Karl Watson & Paul Weitman; B-Mesingw Farm (KY); T-Bob Baffert. Sales History: \$22,000 yrl '24 KEESEP; \$350,000 2yo '25 FTMMAY. **'TDN Rising Star, presented by Hagyard.'** Lifetime Record: GSW & MGISP, 5-3-2-0, \$628,000. Last Start: Second Feb. 8 Las Virgenes Stakes. Kentucky Oaks Points: 45.

**WARRENDALE GRADUATE**  
 MESINGW FARM — BRED & RAISED

Don't ever give up on Bob Baffert. He has won the Oaks three times, and no one in the history of the sport is better at having horses peak for the biggest races. Her 3-year-old debut in the Las Virgenes didn't go as planned. She got caught up in a speed duel with rival Super Corredora and didn't have enough left in the tank to hold off Meaning. The positive is that she held in there a lot better than Super Corredora, who finished last. She far from embarrassed herself and could easily rebound next out with a better trip.

**8) SEARCH PARTY (Gun Runner--Devious Charm, by Into Mischief)**

O/B-Tracy Farmer (KY); T-Mark Casse. Lifetime Record: 6-2-1-2, \$276,211. Last Start: Won Feb. 6 Martha Washington Stakes. Kentucky Oaks Points: 20.

It took this Mark Casse-trained filly four starts to break her maiden, but since the light bulb went off, she's been good. She won an Oaklawn maiden by six lengths and came right back to win the Martha Washington Stakes by a neck. By **Gun Runner** out of an Into Mischief mare, she certainly has the pedigree. "Irad (Ortiz, Jr.) rode her in two of the races she lost and he

came back both times and apologized," Casse said. "He said, 'I was the best.' She was breaking just a little slow and then got herself in some trouble. When she broke her maiden at Oaklawn, I thought she was very impressive. In the Martha Washington, she got in a little trouble again, but I thought it was a good performance. I'm not sure it was a great performance, but it was a good performance. If she's going to be an Oaks filly down the road, she's going to have to improve. Her pedigree and her physique say she should get better."



Search Party | Coady Media

**9) DAZZLING DAME (Girvin--Awesome Dama, by Corinthian)**

O-Respect the Valleys LLC; B-Maria M Haire (MD); T-Brittany T Russell. Sales History: \$50,000 RNA wlg '23 KEENOV; \$65,000 yrl '24 OBSJAN; \$45,000 2yo '25 OBSMAR. Lifetime Record: MSW, 5-4-0-0, \$240,525. Last Start: Won Jan. 3 Busanda Stakes. Kentucky Oaks Points: 22.

**TAYLOR MADE FOR YOU!**

Her 91 Beyer she earned when winning the Busanda Stakes at Aqueduct remains the fastest number turned in so far this year by any 3-year-old filly. She didn't have a published workout from Jan. 23 to Feb. 12, but trainer Brittany Russell reports that the filly is still on track for the Mar. 14 Virginia Oaks at Colonial Downs. Russell has won only six graded stakes in her career, but she's a force in Maryland and is not to be underestimated.

**10) SUPER CORREDORA (Gun Runner--Super Simple, by Super Saver)**

O-Spartan Equine Racing LLC, West Point Thoroughbreds, Robert Gardiner & Michael Olszewski; B-Woodford Thoroughbreds (KY); T-John Sadler. Sales History: \$400,000 yrl '24 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: Ch. 2yo Filly, GISW, 5-2-1-0, \$1,099,600. Last Start: Fourth Feb. 8 Las Virgenes Stakes. Kentucky Oaks Points: 34.

**Sold by Denali**  
**Arrived & Thrived at Woodstock Farm**

**TDN Kentucky Oaks Top 10, cont.**

Probably too early to give up on a filly that was a GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies winner and an Eclipse Award winner, but her return effort in the Las Virgenes was just not good. She'll get her chance to show that that race was a fluke in her next start, which will likely be in the Mar. 1 GIII Santa Ysabel Stakes. If she doesn't fare well there, it might be time to consider a sprinting career for her.

[Share this story](#) 

**FIVE FLEET FILLIES OF THE WEEK, FEB. 9-15**

by Randy Moss

This week's rankings are topped by the fastest Beyer for any female thus far in 2026.



**5) PASSAGE EAST, LRL, 2-14, Barbara Fritchie S., 7f, VIDEO**

**Beyer Speed Figure: 92**

**(f, 4, Audible--Salten Sapity, by Congrats)**

O-Larry Rabold; B-Don Alberto Corporation (Ky); T-Hugh McMahon; J-Sheldon Russell.

**Scanlon Training and Sales Graduate**

Consigned by **HILL 'N' DALE** Sales Agency

Trainer Hugh McMahon has won 1,227 races, but few could have given him more excitement than Passage East's gritty nostril victory after a spirited battle against odds-on favorite Takethemoneyhoney. McMahon claimed the filly for \$30k out of her second lifetime start, and after a trio of runner-up maiden finishes, she now has taken eight of nine, with this being her first stakes score. The \$20,000 Fasig-Tipton May 2yo wants to win.

**4) MAJESTIC OOPS, OP, 2-13, American Beauty S., 6f, VIDEO**

**Beyer Speed Figure: 92**



**Majestic Oops** | Kara West/Coady Media

**(m, 6, Majestic Harbor--Miss Oops, by Olmodavor)**

O-Medallion Racing, Evan Trommer, Agave Racing Stable and Sheila Regan; B-William and Sandy Dory, and Gary and Janet Kropp (Ca); T-Dan Ward. J-Francisco Arrieta.

**MEDALLIONRACING.COM** | *Congrats to our partners!*

Her GI Breeders' Cup Distaff start may have been overly ambitious, but coming back to start 2026 in an ungraded stakes was taking an edge. Returning to the scene of her first stakes score last April, she completely dominated a decent Oaklawn field and the Grade I-placed mare has more lucrative purses squarely in her sights, whether sprinting or going a little farther.

**3) EXPENSIVE QUEEN (IRE), FG, 2-14, Albert M. Stall Memorial S., 1 1/16mT, VIDEO**

**Beyer Speed Figure: 93**

**(m, 5, Lope de Vega {Ire}--Witches Brew {Ire}, by Duke of Marmalade {Ire})**

O-Farfellow Farms; B-Fermeoir (Ire); T-Brendan Walsh; J-Luis Saez.

**PURCHASED PRIVATELY BY KERN/LILLINGSTON**

She didn't set the world on fire in England, so it's unclear how expensive the pricetag was when Paris, Ky.-based Farfellow Farms bought her from previous owner Jaber Abdullah, but whatever they paid, she's worth more now. The Irish-bred mare is now three-for-four in the U.S. and her decisive win in the Stall Memorial was her first in a stakes. Her only loss on these shores was a fourth in the GI Gamely last May, followed by "issues" that kept her sidelined for almost eight months and from which she has clearly recovered nicely.

**2) NIC'S STYLE, GP-10, 2-15, Alw, 6 1/2f, VIDEO**

**Beyer Speed Figure: 98 (2nd)**

**(m, 6, Uncaptured--Sense When, by Street Sense)**

O-Rousseau Racing; B-D'Oyen Thoroughbreds (Fl); T-Bill Mott; J-John Velazquez.

The mare Mott once referred to as a "win machine" after seven victories in her first eight starts came into this race off a surprising three-race losing streak perhaps foreshadowed by slightly declining figures. But even though she couldn't quite match strides with the brilliant performance of Eclatant (below), she bounced back to match her career-best Beyer. **Cont.**

Can't Wait to Get Your TDN Breaking News and Race Results?

**CLICK HERE**  
to Sign Up for TDN Alerts



**Five Fleet Fillies, cont.**



**Eclatant** | *Lauren King*

**1) ECLATANT, GP-10, 2-15, Alw, 6 1/2f, VIDEO**

**Beyer Speed Figure: 104**

**(f, 4, Into Mischief--Downside Scenario, by Scat Daddy)**

O/B-Stonestreet Stables/Thoroughbred Holdings (Ky). T-Brad Cox. J-Javier Castellano.

Eclatant has been a curious case. Sure, she became a Grade III winner in the Forward Gal a year ago, but even so, her afternoons never lived up to her mornings--until now. Cox picked a nice allowance spot for her comeback from 8+ months on the bench, and she erupted with a 104 Beyer that marked a 23-point figure top. Whether this becomes her new normal is a legitimate question, but perhaps that latent talent has been unlocked.

[Share this story](#)

Courtesy of  [CLICK HERE](#) to buy additional Beyer numbers

**BRENDAN WALSH JOINS THE TDN WRITERS' ROOM PODCAST PRESENTED BY KEENELAND**

It was a big weekend for trainer Brendan Walsh, whose Bella Ballerina (*Street Sense*) was a game winner of the GII Rachel Alexandra Stakes. A half-sister to Pretty Mischievous (Into Mischief), the 2023 GI Kentucky Oaks winner, who was also trained by Walsh, the trainer is hoping to pull off what would be a unique daily double--winning the Oaks twice within four years with half-siblings.

To discuss the Rachel Alexandra win, his take on Bella Ballerina and what he has planned on the way to the Oaks, Walsh joined this week's TDN Writers' Room Podcast presented by Keeneland. He was the *Gainesway* Guest of the Week.

It was not an easy victory for Bella Ballerina, who was passed in the stretch by Luv Your Neighbor (*Constitution*), but battled back in deep stretch to win by a half-length under Tyler Gaffalione.

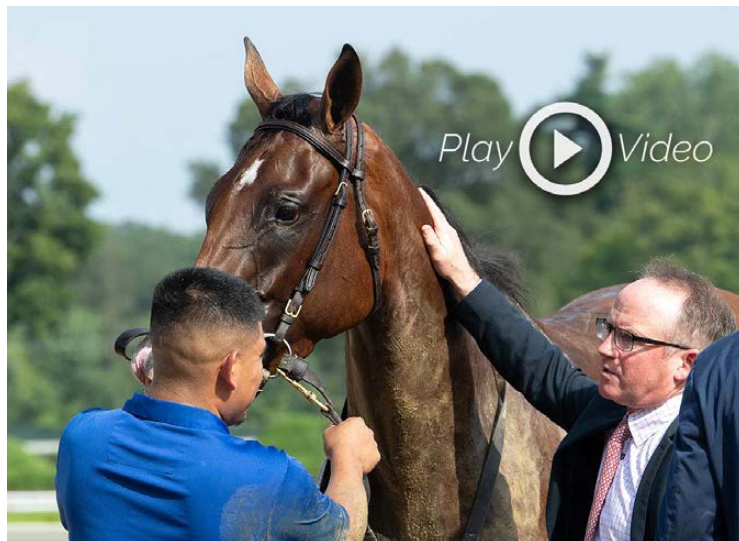
"I thought it was a very game performance," Walsh said. "When she was coming down the stretch, it looked like she was beaten. I thought to myself, 'You know, she's run well. We've got what we needed to get out of it. She'll improve a ton the next time she starts back up again.' I thought, 'Well, OK, we'll take that.' But yes, it was just a game performance on her part. It's the first time she's ever been headed."

The similarities between Pretty Mischievous and Bella Ballerina go beyond the fact that they are half-sisters, as both were named 'TDN Rising Stars, presented by Hagyard' and both won the Rachel Alexandra. Bella Ballerina will start next in the March 21 GII Fair Grounds Oaks. Pretty Mischievous was second in that race before going on to win the Kentucky Oaks.

"(Bella Ballerina) was a little trickier when she was a baby," Walsh said. "She had her own ideas about certain things. But all credit goes to the team. They got her straightened out. We worked on her last year. She was just a little bit of a play girl at the time. She'd try and get up to a few little tricks, but nothing horrible."

Walsh liked what he saw Saturday.

"Tyler came in and he worked her a bunch of times last year and more this year," he said. "He got to know her. She behaved very well on Saturday. She behaved very well before the race. She behaved very well in the race, and I think that had a lot to do with Tyler." **Cont.**



**Pretty Mischievous and Brendan Walsh** | *Sarah Andrew*

# LOGGINS

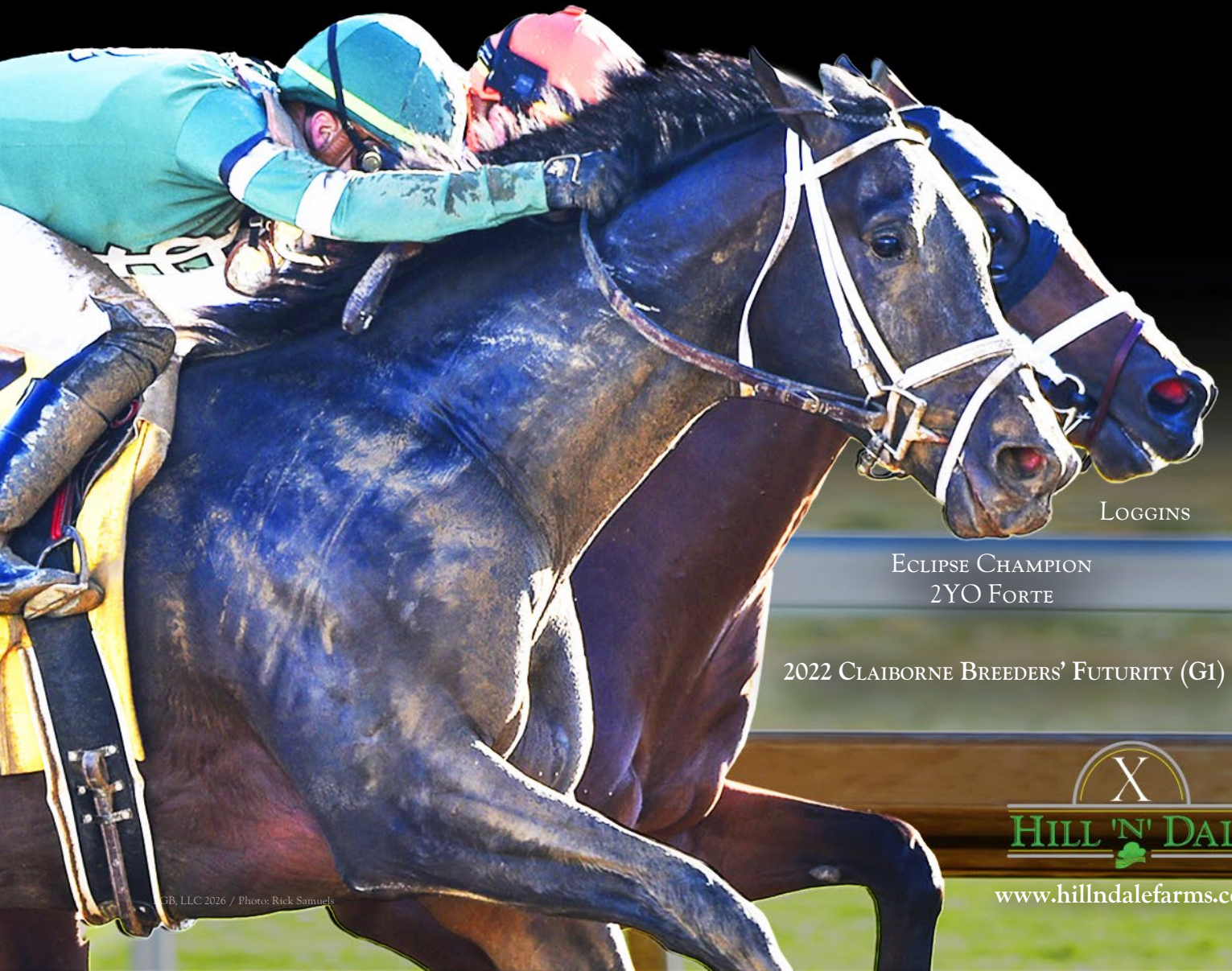
Ghostzapper - Beyond Blame, by Blame

2026 Stud Fee: \$5,000 LFSN

**LOGGINS** WAS WELL RECEIVED AT THE  
**NOVEMBER SALES** WITH **WEANLINGS** SELLING FOR  
UP TO **\$150,000**, 30X HIS STUD FEE.

IN THE 2022 CLAIBORNE BREEDERS' FUTURITY (G1), **LOGGINS** POSTED A  
**102 SPEED FIGURE**

IN 2022, THE **HOPEFUL STAKES (G1)** WINNER POSTED A  
**95 SPEED FIGURE**



LOGGINS

ECLIPSE CHAMPION  
2YO FORTE

2022 CLAIBORNE BREEDERS' FUTURITY (G1)



[www.hillndalefarms.com](http://www.hillndalefarms.com)

**Brendan Walsh on TDN Writers' Room, cont.**

“There are a lot of similarities between the two horses. (Bella Ballerina) is getting stronger and, physically, she looks more like Pretty Mischievous did at this point. The good ones, they all have that class, and she seems to have an abundance of it. She's got a very good mind, and I think that's going to be super important going forward.”

Walsh has come a long way from the young man who began his career with the powerful Godolphin team galloping horses.

“It's unbelievable,” he said. “It's like the stuff you dream of. I spent years in Dubai and around all those good horses that they had at Al Quoz. Did I ever think I was going to actually be in a position where I would be training for them? Absolutely not. It is a dream come true. It's unbelievable to have access to that standard of a horse every year and to get to work with these horses and these people. They're just the most fantastic people to work with. You wake up in the morning and you pinch yourself. Believe me, I'm under no illusions. It's a privileged position and it's great to be there.”



**Brendan Walsh** | Sarah Andrew

Walsh also spoke of his mentor in the U.S., trainer Eddie Kenneally. Walsh served as his assistant before going out on his own in 2012.

“Learning to train in the U.S., it was a huge adjustment,” he said. “It's a completely different ball game. You're dealing with a different type of horse. Dubai was very turf-orientated. That was one thing with Eddie. I really got to learn how to get down to the nitty gritty of it with him. Even when riding horses, dirt horses are different than grass horses. Turf horses have this turn of foot, and when you work them you see that they have a serious turn of foot. Dirt horses tend to be more constant. They cruise along, cruise along, cruise along. It's just completely different, and that's just to name a couple of things. There are thousands of other different angles when you start training over

here. Eddie taught me so much. He's a fantastic trainer.”

The “Fastest Horse of the Week” was Grande (**Curlin**), who earned a 105 Beyer figure when winning a Feb. 14 allowance race at Gulfstream. It was his first start since he finished second in the GII Wood Memorial Stakes. The Fastest Horse of the Week segment is sponsored by **WinStar, which stands the fast sire Nashville.**

Elsewhere on the podcast, which is also sponsored by the **PHBA, 1/ST TV, and West Point Thoroughbreds**, Randy Moss, Bill Finley, and Zoe Cadman discussed the solid performance from Forever Young (Jpn) (Real Steel {Jpn}) in the \$20-million G1 Saudi Cup and the terrific rail-skimming ride he got from jockey Ryusei Sakai. The team also discussed the wins in Saudi Arabia by the American-based sprinters Imagination (Into Mischief) and Reef Runner (The Big Beast). Recapping the rest of the weekend's action, the win by Paladin (**Gun Runner**) in the GII Risen Star Stakes was given high marks by the panel.

[Click here to listen](#) to the podcast or [click here to watch](#).

[Share this story](#)

**WHITE ABARRIO TO TARGET OAKLAWN HANDICAP**

The Saffie Joseph, Jr.-trained White Abarrio (Race Day) will ship to Oaklawn to target the GII Oaklawn Handicap April 18, his trainer said Wednesday.

Detailing next starts for his stable stars, Joseph said, “White Abarrio is going to come for the Oaklawn Handicap. That's the plan. Dubai is still in play for Skippy, but we haven't come up with a plan yet.”

Last seen finishing runner-up to stablemate Skippylongstocking (Exaggerator) in the GI Pegasus World Cup at Gulfstream Park last month, White Abarrio also owns a win in the 2023 GI Breeders' Cup Classic.

While the race is still two months away, last year's Champion 3-year-old and Horse of the Year Sovereignty (Into Mischief) is also possible for the Oaklawn Handicap.

[Share this story](#)



Follow the TDN staff on Twitter [@theTDN](#)

- [@SGrimmTDN](#)      [@SteveSherackTDN](#)      [@JessMartiniTDN](#)
- [@suefinley](#)      [@CBossTDN](#)      [@EquinealTDN](#)
- [@HLAndersonTDN](#)      [@garykingTDN](#)      [@JillWilliamsTDN](#)
- [@thorntontd](#)      [@SarahKAndrew](#)      [@campbellparlay](#)

## WEEKLY RULINGS



### WEEKLY RULINGS: FEB 12-18; CHURCHILL FACES HISA PANEL HEARING FOR NON-PAYMENT OF 2025 FEES

Every week, the *TDN* posts a roundup of the relevant Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act (HISA)-related rulings from around the country.

The following rulings were reported on HISA's "rulings" portal and through the Horseracing Integrity and Welfare Unit (HIWU)'s "pending" and "resolved" cases portals.

Among this week's rulings, the Horse Racing Integrity and Safety Authority has issued to Churchill Downs Incorporated four notices for non-payment of its 2025 fees related to federal regulatory oversight of its Churchill Downs, Turfway Park, Ellis Park and Presque Isle Downs racetracks.

The matter will go before a panel of three HISA board members--Joe De Francis, Bill Thomason, and Terri Mazur--on March 11.

This is separate from pending litigation between the two parties for Churchill Downs's refusal to pay HISA's assessed fees for 2023 and 2024.

These are the years HISA's assessment model was calculated through a formula based on racing starts and purses. Last year, HISA started using a new assessment formula based on projected number of starts only.

In its litigation with HISA, Churchill Downs challenges the legality of the original assessment formula, and instead contends it owes the federal body an amount based solely on starts. Churchill Downs submitted payments to HISA for 2023 and 2024 using their own formula, leaving an alleged unpaid deficit of around \$1.7 million.

The corporation has so far paid nothing for 2025, according to the notices the HISA Authority issued to Churchill Downs on Feb. 18.

The amounts that HISA seeks from Churchill Downs for its unpaid 2025 assessments are based on the original formula (calculated using starts and purses) for Turfway Park, Elis Park and Presque Isle Downs. For Churchill Downs, the HISA Authority has used a number based purely on starts.

The amounts (including accrued interest) HISA requests for each track are as follows: Churchill Downs, \$2.5 million; Turfway Park, \$1.49 million; Presque Isle Downs, \$761k; and Ellis Park, \$465k.

According to the notices, the HISA Authority asks the board panel to require Churchill Downs to pay these amounts within

10 days of the board's order.

If not, Churchill Downs would be prohibited from conducting horseracing under HISA's federal regulatory oversight, meaning it wouldn't be allowed to simulcast its races outside of the state (if indeed it carried on with its operations).

See more on the story [here](#).

### Resolved ADMC Violations

**Dates:** 02/17/2026

**Licensee:** Bruno Tessore, trainer

**Penalty:** 15-day period of Ineligibility for Covered Person, beginning on February 18, 2026; Disqualification of Covered Horse's Race results, including forfeiture of all purses and other compensation, prizes, trophies, points, and rankings and repayment or surrender (as applicable); a fine of \$1,000; imposition of 1.5 Penalty Points.

**Explainer:** Medication violation for the presence of Dexamethasone--a class C controlled substance--in a sample taken from Tom S, who finished second at Laurel Park on 10/19/25.

**Dates:** 02/16/2026

**Licensee:** Anna Meah, trainer

**Penalty:** 7-day period of Ineligibility for Covered Person, beginning on February 17, 2026; Disqualification of Covered Horse's Race results, including forfeiture of all purses and other compensation, prizes, trophies, points, and rankings and repayment or surrender (as applicable); a fine of \$1,000; imposition of 2 Penalty Points.

**Explainer:** Medication violation for the presence of Gabapentin--a class B controlled substance--in a sample taken from Showers, who won at Churchill Downs on 11/6/25.

**Dates:** 02/11/2026

**Licensee:** Darien Rodriguez, trainer

**Penalty:** A written Reprimand (per 9/26/23 HISA Guidance).

**Explainer:** Vets' list medication violation for the presence of Omeprazole (Gastrogard)--a class C controlled substance--in a sample taken from Jimmy's Kid on 1/3/26.

### Pending ADMC Violations

**02/16/2026, Eric Reed, trainer:** Pending vets' list medication violation for the presence of Flunixin--a class C controlled substance--in a sample taken from Sexarito on 1/17/26.

**02/16/2026, Dallas Stewart, trainer:** Pending vets' list medication violation for the presence of Tramadol--a class B controlled substance--in a sample taken from Have Faith on 11/20/25. **Cont.**

**2/16/2026, Linda Rice, trainer:** Pending medication violation for the presence of Methylprednisolone--a class C controlled substance--in a sample taken from Sweet Rhythm, **who is reported by Equibase** to have been euthanized after sustaining a severe injury to her left front leg mid-race in the fifth at Aqueduct on 11/8/25.

**02/13/2026, Jose Puentes, trainer:** Pending vets' list medication violation for the presence of Phenylbutazone--a class C controlled substance--in a sample taken from Whisky My God on 1/14/26.

**02/13/2026, William E. Merch, trainer:** Pending medication violation for the presence of Phenylbutazone--a class C controlled substance--in a sample taken from Protest, who won at Tampa Bay on 1/14/26.

**02/13/2026, Angela Maria Aquinano, trainer:** Pending medication violation for the presence of Phenylbutazone--a class C controlled substance--in a sample taken from Golf Drama, who won at Los Alamitos on 1/11/26.

**02/13/2026, Benjamin Feliciano, Jr., trainer:** Pending medication violation for the presence of Gabapentin--a class B controlled substance--in a sample taken from Plenty on Tap, who finished second at Laurel Park on 1/10/26.

## Crop Violations

### **Aqueduct**

Sahin Civaci – violation date February 16; \$250 fine, one-day suspension

### **Mahoning Valley**

Rocco Bowen – violation date February 14; \$500 fine, two-day suspension

### **Oaklawn Park**

Francisco Arrieta – violation date February 15; \$250 fine, one-day suspension

David Cabrera – violation date February 14; \$250 fine, one-day suspension

Emmanuel Esquivel – violation date February 14; \$250 fine, one-day suspension

Rafael Bejerano – violation date February 13; \$250 fine, one-day suspension

### **Santa Anita**

Kyle Frey – violation date February 14; \$500 fine, one-day suspension

### **Turf Paradise**

Cerapio Figueroa – violation date February 12; \$250 fine, one-day suspension

### **Turfway Park**

Jose Ramos Gutierrez – violation date February 13; \$500 fine, two-day suspension

[Share this story](#) 



## **NYRA LAUNCHES BELMONT PARK MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM**

The Belmont Park membership program, a new hospitality offering, will be available to fans when the new Belmont Park opens later this year, the New York Racing Association announced Wednesday. Created to provide guests with an elevated race day experience, the membership combines the traditional ambience of box seats with a variety of benefits and amenities, including access to The Overlook, complimentary food and beverage options, preferred parking, priority entrances and personalized concierge services.

Located on Belmont's second floor, The Overlook is a year-round dining and social space providing expansive sightlines of the finish line and paddock area, and a centralized bar with lounge seating.

Belmont Park membership is included with the purchase of annual reserved box seating, which are available in various sizes and locations to accommodate parties of four or more.

For additional information on the currently available inventory of Belmont Park hospitality options, visit [nyra.com/belmont/](https://nyra.com/belmont/).

[Share this story](#) 

## **EARLIER FRIDAY POST TIMES AT DEL MAR THIS SUMMER**

First post time on Fridays at Del Mar this summer will be 2 p.m. PT, two hours earlier than the day's 4 p.m. start time in recent years, and in line with first post times the rest of the week. In announcing the change Wednesday, the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club said it was made to provide fans, horsemen and women, and industry partners with a streamlined schedule.

Del Mar's 2026 summer meet begins July 17 and runs through Labor Day, Sept. 7. Closing weekend--Sept. 5 through 7--will be the only deviation from the 2 p.m. post time, with races kicking off at 1:30 p.m. each day.

[Share this story](#) 

### KING'S PLATE SET FOR AUGUST 15

The 167th running of the King's Plate will be held Aug. 15 at Woodbine Racetrack, Woodbine Entertainment announced Wednesday. The first leg of the Canadian Triple Crown, the King's Plate is North America's oldest continuously run stakes race and will carry a purse of \$1 million this year.

Tickets for the King's Plate will go on sale Mar. 6. More event information, including ticket types, will be available at [KingsPlate.com](http://KingsPlate.com) the week tickets go on sale.

[Share this story](#) 

### FOUR RACING HALTERS PART OF CASA CHARITY AUCTION

Halters worn by **Storm Cat**, **Sovereignty**, **Good Cheer** and **Gun Runner** will feature as part of the Bourbon & Bayou silent auction held by the nonprofit child advocacy organization CASA of Lexington.

Each halter comes with a certificate of authenticity and is valued at \$1,000. Bidding [available here](#) opened Wednesday and continues until 9:45 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 27.

Also included with **Gun Runner's** halter is an exclusive VIP tour for up to 10 people of Three Chimneys Stallion Complex.

The silent auction is part of CASA of Lexington's annual fundraiser, Bourbon & the Bayou, which raises funds that provide advocacy for abused and neglected children in Central Kentucky each year.

[Share this story](#) 





**THE TRUSTED EXPERT  
FOR QUALITY  
KENTUCKY REAL ESTATE  
SINCE 1994**

Tom Biederman  
Cell: 859.312.0606  
Office: 859.277.2030  
[BiedermanRealEstate.com](http://BiedermanRealEstate.com)





Listen to this week's podcast  
*February 18, 2026*

**Brendan Walsh talks undefeated Bella Ballerina and shares stories of the filly's Oaks-winning sister, Pretty Mischievous**





**SECRETARIAT CENTER**  
THE GOLD STANDARD IN THOROUGHBRED RESCHOOLING

**DONATE TODAY**

4155 Walt Robertson Road, Lexington, KY 40511  
(859) 246-3080 | [secretariatcenter.org](http://secretariatcenter.org)  
*Photo by ©Alys Emson*



Find us on Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/thoroughbreddailynews](http://www.facebook.com/thoroughbreddailynews)

ALLOWANCE WINNERS

brought to you by  
**MUIRFIELD INSURANCE**  
 SECURITY • SOLUTIONS • SERVICE  
 Michael T. Levy • Bryce Burton • Del Pearson • Julie Moses • 859.253.1114  
 www.muirfieldinsurance.com

**IN ORDER OF PURSE:**

**2nd-Mahoning Valley, \$25,900, Alw, 2-18, (NW2L), 3yo/up, f/m, 1m, 1:42.52, my, 7 lengths.**

**KRISSYS STAR (f, 3, Authentic--Krissys Manicure, by Twirling Candy)** debuted a big winner by 11 lengths at Belterra Park in early September. The filly served as the runner-up at Presque Isle Downs versus the boys in an optional claimers Oct. 16 and was last seen finishing a well-beaten fifth at the same level facing females once again at Turfway Park Jan. 9.

The 60 cents on the dollar favorite here settled to the outside of the speed heading into the first turn. Poised to pounce up the backstretch, the filly made her move around the far turn to take the lead. The hooded 3-year-old set sail for home and cleared the condition by seven lengths over Supersonic Agenda (Known Agenda).

The second to the races for her dam, the winner's dam is responsible for a 2-year-old colt by **Munnings**. She visited **Hard Spun** for this term. Sales History: \$40,000 Ylg '24 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 4-2-1-0, \$35,766. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV.**

O-Joseph P. Morey, Jr.; B-Scott Dilworth and Evan Dilworth & Randy Andrews (KY); T-William E. Morey.

MAIDEN WINNERS

**Why Legacy?** LEGACY Bloodstock  
 Sales Grads have earned over  
**\$184 MILLION!**

**IN ORDER OF PURSE:**

**8th-Mahoning Valley, \$24,300, Msw, 2-18, 3yo, f, 6f, 1:15.14, my, 1 1/2 lengths.**

**ACADEMIC FREEDOM (f, 3, Union Rags--Cafe Night, by California Chrome)**, who began her career in the care of trainer Riley Mott, finished well-beaten going two turns on the turf at Churchill Downs in late October and at Turfway Park Dec. 21.

Making the switch to Andrew McKeever's shedrow, the filly was tabbed as a 4-1 shot here. The 3-year-old settled midpack up the backstretch, but she began to engage with a sweeping move to the outside around the far turn. Hitting the accelerator down the lane, the homebred collared Run On Candy (Unified) at the sixteenth pole and splashed home to get her picture taken by 1 1/2 lengths.

The first foal for her unraced dam, Academic Freedom has a 2-year-old half-sister named Own the Game (Game Winner) and a yearling half-sister by **Gunite** who was in utero when Cafe Night (California Chrome) was purchased by Pin Oak Stud for \$30,000 during the recent Keeneland January Sale. The winner's dam was bred to **American Pharoah** for this current season, but was unable to produce a foal. As for Academic Freedom's unraced second dam, she is a full-sister to deceased GI Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile hero Battle of Midway (Smart Strike) and a half-sister to MSW Moretti (Medaglia d'Oro). Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-0, \$16,451. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV.**

O/B-Thor-Bred Stables, LLC (KY); T-Andrew McKeever.

Sponsored by  
  
**JONES-NOUVELLET**  
 FARM REAL ESTATE

FIRST & SECOND-CROP  
**RUNNERS**

**SECOND-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19**

*2026 Stud Fees Listed*

**Basin (Liam's Map)**, Spendthrift Farm, \$5,000

94 foals of racing age/16 winners/2 black-type winners

10-Turfway, 10:25 p.m. EST, Msw 6f, Upside Collateral, 15-1

\$14,000 RNA FTK FEB wnl

**Beau Liam (Liam's Map)**, Airdrie Stud, \$7,500

144 foals of racing age/23 winners/3 black-type winners

10-Turfway, 10:25 p.m. EST, Msw 6f, Yes Chef, 12-1

\$90,000 FTK OCT yrl; \$120,000 RNA EAS MAY 2yo; \$30,000 OBS

OPN 2yo

**Essential Quality (Tapit)**, Darley, \$25,000

218 foals of racing age/25 winners/3 black-type winners

3-Oaklawn, 2:32 p.m. EST, Msw 6f, Biloba, 9-2

\$325,000 RNA KEE SEP yrl

TODAY'S FEATURED REPLAY



**FANUEL TV**  
THE ONLY NETWORK THAT SHOWS RACING  
**365 DAYS A YEAR**

**Krissys Star** (by Authentic) clears an allowance in the second race at Mahoning Valley on Wednesday  
[\(click to watch\)](#)



Stephanie Jones-Nouvellet  
Principal Broker  
Lexington, KY

**JONES-NOUVELLET**  
FARM REAL ESTATE

[jonesnouvelletrealestate.com](http://jonesnouvelletrealestate.com) +1(859).512.8812



**Lexitonian** (Speightstown), Calumet Farm  
93 foals of racing age/14 winners/3 black-type winners  
7-Delta Downs, 8:33 p.m. EST, Msw 6 1/2f, Lee Street, 5-1  
\$14,000 RNA TTA YRL yrl  
5-Turfway, 7:55 p.m. EST, Msw 6 1/2f, Lexi's Melody, 12-1  
\$55,000 KEE NOV wnl; \$85,000 RNA FTK JUL yrl; \$38,000 FTK OCT yrl

**Oak Room** (Into Mischief), Buckeye Stallion Station  
2 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners  
10-Mahoning Valley, 4:27 p.m. EST, Msw 6f, Oak Mirna, 15-1  
\$5,500 RNA OTB OMX 2yo

**Raging Bull (Fr)** (Dark Angel {Ire}), Gainesway Farm, \$7,500  
126 foals of racing age/10 winners/0 black-type winners  
5-Turfway, 7:55 p.m. EST, Msw 6 1/2f, Second City Saint, 5-1  
\$35,000 FTK OCT yrl; \$37,000 OBS APR 2yo

**Tacitus (Tapit)**, Taylor Made Farm, \$5,000  
197 foals of racing age/14 winners/1 black-type winner  
10-Turfway, 10:25 p.m. EST, Msw 6f, The Hund, 8-1  
\$35,000 FTK NOV wnl; \$75,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$40,000 OBS APR 2yo  
8-Charles Town, 10:17 p.m. EST, Msw 6 1/2f, My Brothers Angel, 5-2

**Yaupon** (Uncle Mo), Spendthrift Farm, \$60,000  
324 foals of racing age/37 winners/8 black-type winners  
5-Turfway, 7:55 p.m. EST, Msw 6 1/2f, Cafe Culture, 10-1  
\$200,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$25,000 E '25 KEE NOV



ALL **TDN** WINNERS  
**BY SIRE**

**Authentic**, Krissys Star, f, 3, o/o Krissys Manicure, by **Twirling Candy**. ALW, 2-18, Mahoning Valley  
**Union Rags**, Academic Freedom, f, 3, o/o Cafe Night, by California Chrome. MSW, 2-18, Mahoning Valley



**Authentic** | Sarah Andrew



**THOROSTRIDE**

lucas marquardt (917) 826-9603 or [thorostride@gmail.com](mailto:thorostride@gmail.com)

- photography
- videography
- virtual inspections
- promotion