



GRAMM-McKINNEY STUDY SHOWS CAW ACTIVITY GROWING IN NY POOLS



NYRA betting slip | Sarah Andrew

Editor's note, by Dan Ross:

Despite the New York Racing Association's efforts in recent years to limit Computer Assisted Wagering (CAW) participation in the Win, Late Pick Five, and Pick Six pools, the influence these teams exert in terms of last-cycle betting impacts appears to be growing in several other key pools, according to research conducted by economics professors Marshall Gramm and Nick McKinney, both of Rhodes College in Tennessee.

Indeed, they found that since 2022, the percentage share from CAW players of monies wagered last-minute into the Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta and Early Pick 5 pools (among others), has grown significantly. Why is this a problem for trainers, owners and other industry stakeholders?

With worsening CAW encroachment within these betting pools has come growing attrition from racing's average punters, turned away from the sport by the competitive imbalance. And with the nation's purses fueled primarily by wagering monies, this is placing the economic future of the sport into the hands of fewer and fewer deep-pocketed and influential gamblers.

Their report appears below.

Cont. p3

FILLIES DOMINATE AT OBS WEDNESDAY

by Jessica Martini


A filly by **Frosted** (hip 279)--the first horse on the track Wednesday morning--turned in the co-fastest :9 4/5 furlong time so far at the under-tack show for the Ocala Breeders' Sales Company's June 2-Year-Olds in Training Sale and that mark was equaled later in the session by fillies by **Honest Mischief** (hip 180); **Midshipman** (hip 327); and **Higher Power** (hip 340). Through two of five sessions of the June under-tack show, seven juveniles have now hit the :9 4/5 mark.

The gray filly by **Frosted** is out of graded winner Dixie Serenade (Uptowncharlybrown) and is a half-sister to stakes winner Dixieland Belle (More Than Ready). She is consigned by Robbie Harris's Harris Training Center.

Cont. p5


IN TDN EUROPE TODAY CARL SPACKLER SWAPS AMERICA FOR AUSTRALIA VIA ASCOT

Grade I winner **Carl Spackler (Ire)** (Lope De Vega {Ire}) prepped for a start in the G1 Queen Anne Stakes with a gallop at Newmarket on Wednesday.



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Thursday, June 12, 2025



The globetrotting Carl Spackler warms up for the G1 Queen Anne Stakes at Royal Ascot with Jamie Spencer on Newmarket's July Course. | Emma Berry

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TDN's Dan Ross asks key players in the California breeding industry about what changes would encourage them to breed more Thoroughbreds.

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The latest weekly national rulings were reported through the HISA portal, and the TDN has the complete rundown.

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CAW Study, cont. from p1

Measuring CAW Participation and Growth Through NYRA Pool Restrictions *By Marshall Gramm and Nick McKinney*

Large betting syndicates employing Computer Assisted Wagering (CAW) have become a powerful force in the horse racing industry, contributing significant handle but also disrupting betting pools with large, last-second wagers. These last-cycle bets cause sharp odds fluctuations that frustrate traditional horseplayers and undermine confidence in the game's integrity. Despite growing concern, little public data exists on the scale or growth of CAW activity. Using data from the past four Aqueduct Winter meets, we have estimated the size of CAW participation and how it has grown. Our findings suggest CAW teams now account for a much larger share of wagering than just a few years ago.

Armed with sophisticated wagering models, CAW teams place thousands of individual bets in the final seconds before post time. They use real-time odds to fine-tune their positions while keeping their activity hidden from the broader betting public. Their ability to flood the pools with targeted bets at scale, combined with rebates that often return half the takeout, gives them a significant edge over conventional horseplayers.

A recreational bettor might play dime superfectas at Saratoga

using the box or key functions, spreading across dozens or even hundreds of combinations into a 24% takeout with limited efficiency. CAW teams, on the other hand, submit massive volumes of single-combination, optimally crafted superfecta bets executed with precision and boosted by substantial rebates.

Last-cycle wagering provides a measure of CAW activity, as anecdotal evidence and industry experience suggest that a significant portion of their money enters the pools in the final moments before post-time. We can gain insight into where and how CAW teams participate by examining the share of total handle wagered during this period, particularly by comparing pools where their access is restricted to those where they are free to participate.

The New York Racing Association (NYRA) restricted CAW access to its Win pool to combat sharp odds fluctuations. Additionally, it barred the teams from participating in the Late Pick Five and Pick Six, thereby offering a more level playing field for traditional horseplayers. These restrictions offer a rare opportunity to estimate both the size and growth of CAW wagering activity.

NYRA's Pick Five pools are particularly valuable for this type of analysis because they impose different restrictions within the same race card.

Cont.

HONOR A. P.
Honor Code - Hollywood Story, by Wild Rush

IN LESS THAN 30 DAYS

May 16
MARGIE'S INTENTION →
G2 BLACK-EYED SUSAN S.

June 5
2YO ROMEO
3rd - \$150,000 TREMONT S.

June 7
← **A. P. KID**
\$300,000 PENNINE RIDGE S.

June 8
RANK
3rd - \$100,000 AFFIRMED S.

NYRA racetracks typically offer at least two Pick Fives per card: an Early Pick Five (races 1-5) and a Late Pick Five (last five races). All Pick Fives have a 50-cent minimum and a 15% takeout. Importantly, CAW teams are excluded from the Late Pick Five but may participate freely in the Early Pick Five. Despite often featuring higher-quality races, the Late Pick Five consistently draws lower handle, likely reflecting CAW exclusion.

The table below shows the average share of each pool wagered during the final betting cycle, just before the race begins and the pools close. Over the past four Aqueduct winter meets, the share of last cycle handle in the Early Pick Five rose sharply, from 8.4% in 2022 to 32.0% in 2024 before falling slightly to 28.8% in 2025. The Late Pick Five, by contrast, showed only modest growth over the same period, increasing from 2.2% in 2022 to 9.4% in 2025. The gap between the two pools, those with and without CAW access, serves as an estimate of the share of wagering driven by CAW teams. This gap grew from 6.2 percentage points in 2022 to a peak of 23.0 points in 2024, highlighting the rapid expansion of their participation. While the roughly 20 percentage point difference in recent years supports the view that CAW teams make up around 20% of the Early Pick Five pool (a figure consistent with industry estimates), the pace of growth is more striking than the level itself.

Estimating CAW participation in other pools is less precise, as their betting activity likely varies by pool depending on model strength and the perceived inefficiency of each market. In general, CAW betting volume increases with wager complexity, with heavier involvement in exotics, such as trifectas and superfectas, than in straight bets, like win or place. Still, last-cycle activity offers a useful proxy.

In 2022, 11.0% of Win pool handle was wagered in the final cycle, compared to 17.5% for Exactas and 20.9% for Trifectas. By 2025, those figures had grown to 16.8%, 44.3%, and 47.6%, respectively. The gaps between Win and Exacta or Trifecta pools more than tripled, from 6.5 and 10.9 percentage points in 2022 to 27.5 and 30.8 in 2025. In the most recent meet, more than half of the Superfecta handle was bet in the final cycle. While less definitive than the Pick Five comparisons, these figures suggest that CAW teams now account for at least 30-35% of the Trifecta and Superfecta, up from around 10% just three years ago.

This analysis does not intend to single out NYRA. On the contrary, other racetracks should adopt the same CAW restrictions that NYRA has applied to the Win pool. Significant late odds shifts undermine bettors' confidence in the integrity of the pools and alienate new players accustomed to fixed-odds sports wagering. While exotic pools at other tracks also exhibit significant last-cycle movement, none have experienced as sharp an increase as those at NYRA.

Cont.

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TUESDAY, JULY 8 * LEXINGTON, KY

ENTRIES FOR MAIN CATALOGUE CLOSE TOMORROW

Fasig-Tipton

Proportion Bet in the Last Cycle - Aqueduct Winter

| Wager | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | Change |
|--------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| Win | 11.0% | 11.8% | 19.9% | 16.8% | 5.8% |
| Place | 14.8% | 18.8% | 36.7% | 42.7% | 27.9% |
| Show | 13.8% | 17.2% | 34.3% | 41.0% | 27.2% |
| Exacta | 17.5% | 20.2% | 42.8% | 44.3% | 26.8% |
| Trifecta | 20.9% | 23.7% | 44.4% | 47.6% | 26.7% |
| Superfecta | 20.4% | 24.9% | 47.3% | 50.9% | 30.5% |
| Double | 14.3% | 17.1% | 34.6% | 31.8% | 17.5% |
| Pick 3 | 15.4% | 17.3% | 34.6% | 33.4% | 18.1% |
| Pick 4 | 16.9% | 19.1% | 37.7% | 34.3% | 17.4% |
| Early Pick 5 | 8.4% | 10.9% | 32.0% | 28.8% | 20.4% |
| Late Pick 5 | 2.2% | 2.7% | 9.0% | 9.4% | 7.2% |
| Pick 6 | 2.7% | 3.1% | 8.8% | 10.7% | 8.0% |

Estimating CAW Share

| Wager | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | Measure |
|--------------|------|-------|-------|-------|--------------------------------|
| Early Pick 5 | 6.2% | 8.2% | 23.0% | 19.4% | Early Pick 5 minus Late Pick 5 |
| Exacta | 6.5% | 8.3% | 22.9% | 27.5% | Exacta minus Win |
| Trifecta | 9.8% | 11.9% | 24.5% | 30.8% | Trifecta minus Win |
| Superfecta | 9.4% | 13.0% | 27.4% | 34.1% | Superfecta minus Win |

It's important to remember that last-cycle wagering is only a proxy for estimating CAW involvement. The true scale of CAW participation remains opaque, known only to their ADWs and the racetracks. Not all last cycle money comes from CAW teams, just as some CAW wagers likely enter the pools earlier.

The use of advanced data modeling is a natural progression in the evolution of horse betting, and CAW teams are not inherently problematic in their pursuit of an edge. In a less-than-zero-sum game, once-profitable strategies inevitably become obsolete as better methods and sharper competition increase. The concern lies not with their sophistication but with the speed and concentration of their wagering activity. The flooding of pools in the final seconds destabilizes prices and undermines the parimutuel system.

Pierre Oller's invention was brilliant in its simplicity: the house takes a fixed cut, and winning bettors are paid from the pool rather than from the operator's pocket. Unlike fixed-odds sports betting, a winning horseplayer can continue to wager freely, often increasing handle over time. But the parimutuel system was never designed to accommodate large volumes of money flooding the pools in the final seconds. In the pre-simulcast era, such strategies were logistically impossible when all bets were placed at the window.

Technology has dramatically expanded the capabilities of bettors, but it also demands new safeguards. Restrictions on batch wagering should be extended to all visible pools, including Win, Place, Show, Exacta, and Double, to limit last-second price distortion. Just as critically, the rebate gap between CAW teams and ordinary bettors must be narrowed. Ideally, this would be

achieved through across-the-board takeout reductions, improving fairness and sustainability across the entire wagering ecosystem.

Unfortunately, NYRA's last-cycle betting volume shows that the problem isn't stabilizing; it's worsening.

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OBS Fast Fillies, cont. from p1

"A :9 4/5 surprises everybody, but we knew she was a fast filly," said Harris. "We actually had her in [OBS] April [sale], but we never even got a chance to prep her or breeze her. She came up with a little thing with her foot, so we just gave her time and she rewarded us for it. An old man told me once, you take care of the horse and he will take care of you. And I'm a firm believer in that."

Harris, along with longtime farm manager Carlos Garcia, purchased the Pennsylvania-bred filly for \$30,000 at last year's OBS October sale.

"I just loved her," Harris said of the filly's appeal last fall. "She is a real pretty filly with good balance. I own her with my farm manager, Carlos, who has been with me a long, long time. I am excited for him."

Harris sent out four horses to work over the synthetic surface at OBS Wednesday and the consignor said conditions seemed fairly consistent throughout the session.

"I thought it was pretty solid all the way through," Harris said. "We went all the way through from :9 4/5, :10 flat, :10 1/5, :10 2/5. And that's kind of how those horses came into it. No shockers. The last page kind of hurts some guys when it gets hot at the end. But I think it was pretty fair all morning."

Casey Seaman's Crystal Eclipse Stable sent out a New York-bred filly by **Honest Mischief** to share the furlong bullet Wednesday. Bred by Sequel Stallions NY and Scott Miller, the dark bay filly is out of Blue Hen Madness (Any Given Saturday).

McKathan Bros. Sales sent a filly by **Midshipman** out for her :9 4/5 work shortly after 10 a.m. Wednesday. The bay juvenile is out of multiple stakes-placed Freedom Come (Lit de Justice) and is a half-sister to graded winner Harlem Rocker (Macho Uno). Purchased by Heather Maytham for \$7,000 at last year's Fasig-Tipton Kentucky October sale, the filly RNA'd for \$40,000 following a **:10 flat** work at the OBS March sale.

The next horse on the track, a filly by **Higher Power**, set the bullet mark for Angel Hernandez's Hernandez Stables. The New York-bred bay is out of the unraced Gold Anklet (Lemon Drop Kid) and is a half-sister to stakes-placed Little Daddy (Scat Daddy) and to the dam of graded winner and Grade I-placed Mo Plex (**Complexity**). She was purchased as a weanling for \$10,000 at the Fasig-Tipton New York-bred Mixed sale in 2023.

Cont.



Hip 279 | High Def Equine

A day after sending out bullet workers at a furlong and a quarter-mile, Blue Sapphire Stables had another quarter-mile bullet when a filly by Caravaggio (hip 252) covered the distance in :20 4/5.

The gray is out of Curl the Pearl (Curlin), a half-sister to graded winners Chitu (Henny Hughes) and Beautiful Gift (Medaglia d’Oro). Purchased for \$6,500 at Keeneland last September, she RNA’d for \$9,000 the following month at OBS.

Also sharing the :20 4/5 quarter-mile bullet Wednesday was a filly by Cloud Computing (hip 229) consigned by Omar Ramirez Bloodstock. Bred by Green Lantern Stables, the dark bay is out of stakes winner Clever Beauty (Indian Charlie) and RNA’d for \$18,000 at last year’s Fasig-Tipton July sale.

The under-tack show continues through Saturday with sessions beginning each day at 7:30 a.m. The June sale will be held next Tuesday and Wednesday. Bidding begins both days at 10 a.m.

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WHAT WOULD ENCOURAGE CALIFORNIA'S BREEDERS TO BREED MORE CAL-BREDS?

by Dan Ross

California-breds have long been the backbone of California racing. Since 2014, they've represented between 45% and 50% of all starters at Thoroughbred race meets in the state. Over half of all horses currently stabled in Southern California tracks are understood to be Cal-breds.

A shrinking foal crop in the state, however, means that racing secretaries will have to rely on fewer of them than is currently the case over the next few years. **Cont.**

INVESTMENT INCENTIVE SUMMARY FOR 2025

Attractive investment incentives continue for those in the horse racing industry preparing to purchase two-year-olds in training and other depreciable assets. The NTRA encourages buyers to speak with a tax professional to learn how these incentives can help maximize their buying power.

Bonus Depreciation

- 40% bonus depreciation for qualifying horse, farm equipment and farm depreciable asset (land improvements, fencing, barns) purchases through 2025
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- Property may be new or used
- Bonus depreciation is phased down by 20% per calendar year and will be fully phased out after 2026

Section 179 Expense Deduction

- Expense allowance for horse, farm equipment and farm depreciable asset (land improvements, fencing, barns) purchases is permanent at \$1.25 million for 2025 (having started at \$1 million and indexed for inflation beginning after December 31, 2018)
- Limited to taxable income
- Property must be purchased and placed in service to qualify
- Applies to new or used property
- Reduced by \$1 dollar for each dollar of eligible property purchased that exceeds \$3.13 million in 2025 (having started at \$2.5 million and indexed for inflation beginning after December 31, 2018)



For more information, contact Joe Bacigalupo
joeb@NTRA.com or 859-422-2677.

Modeling performed for the TDN suggests there will be a combined 290 fewer Cal-bred runners competing in California between 2026 through 2028.

This is a tough time for the state's remaining breeders as they attempt to forge a commercial footprint in a region with high training costs and purses that can't compete with states propped up by supplemental purse incomes.

For the current consolidated model to have a healthy future, however, the number of Cal-breds needs to pick up. With all this in mind, the *TDN* recently asked some of the state's smaller breeders and other figures this question:

What key changes would encourage you breed more Cal-Breds?

John and Allegra Ernst

At the height of their breeding venture, the Ernsts had about 13 mares. Now, they have eight mares, four in retirement, while the Ernsts bred only one of the remaining mares this year.

"The other ones we could breed them, but with everything that's going on, we're not doing it," said John.

What would incentivize the Ernsts to breed more Cal-breds, they said, is an idea they first floated the over 10 years ago with the Thoroughbred Owners of California (TOC), giving Cal-bred owners a minimum \$1,000 per-start fee for any race.

"In other words, any owner of any Cal-bred should be able to get \$1,000 for every start they make," said John.

This start-fee money, say the Ernsts, would be deducted from the purse, with the remaining balance split the usual way between the finishers.

The way the Ernsts describe it is as a self-fulfilling prophesy, with greater participation and larger field sizes leading to bigger handle and larger purses.

"And then in the future, we can push it up to \$1,500--maybe even \$2,000 per-start," said John.

"There's incentive for the owners to actually recover some money. And if they can actually run their horse a couple times a month--even if it's not that much--we have a chance of at least recovering some of what we've lost," said John.

"This way, we could see some returns, encourage people that are like us to stay in the business, and encourage other new

owners to say, 'hey, I'll go into this and even though I might lose some money, I won't lose as much,'" he added.

Adrian Gonzalez

As a leading consignor, Gonzalez's business revolves around the sales. As such, he said that changes could be made to the California yearling sale (hosted in September) to make it more appetizing to buyers.

"We have our entire livelihood come down to one day as a commercial breeder, and it couldn't come at a worse time," said Gonzalez, saying that its proximity to the marathon Keeneland sale hurts its success.

"Going after 4,000 some-odd other yearlings selling, I just don't believe there's an appetite among California buyers to bend," he said.

Instead, Gonzalez floated the idea of a yearling sale during the Del Mar meet, during what he described as the "peak of enthusiasm for racing" in the state. "When you're down there for the summer, everybody's excited about it, and what better time to sell yearlings," he said.

Otherwise, "we'd like to build our own sales venue and have a

date that's conducive to working for the California circuit, and not trying to just work around another sale company's calendar," said Gonzalez, who said he has about 60 mares on his farm this year.

The Cal-bred program could also be modified to better cater to turf horses, including the institution of new 2-year-old turf stakes races for Cal-breds, said Gonzalez. As Gonzalez pointed out, there are eight juvenile stakes on the dirt for Cal-breds, and

none on the turf.

"Obviously, they can run in open races, but that's a taller task," said Gonzalez, about smart Cal-bred juvenile turf runners.

"As a stallion owner and manager, the stats were trying to produce are in black type horses, and we have a limited amount of races for those [on the turf for Cal-breds]," he added. **Cont.**



John and Allegra Ernst | *courtesy of the Ernst Family*

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Harris Auerbach

The last mare that Auerbach bred in California was in 2019--this from around 25 mares in the state at the height of his involvement.

A former vice-chair of the CTBA, Auerbach said the industry here in California--as well as nationally--needs to start thinking "less provincially."

What that could mean for California breeders, Auerbach said, is a multi-state breeding program, consolidating what remains of the industries in the nation's Western and South-Western regions.

"California as you know is on an island. Maybe California should pair up with Arizona and New Mexico and Oregon and Washington and British Columbia, and create a regional breeding program that could be of benefit to all the states," said Auerbach.

"We could make it so that all the horses could be eligible to run in races of all different conditions, all different types," Auerbach said, calling the necessary legislative changes to get such a venture off the ground as large but not insurmountable. "It should have happened a decade ago."

Joe Lacombe

San Diego-based Lacombe has six mares, five of them bred this year (and four of them have foaled).

Like Gonzalez, Lacombe sees California's one remaining yearling sale as the key focus of reform to lure more customers, especially local trainers and owners who have migrated to out-of-state sales to fill their stalls.

"We need to get more value at the sales," said Lacombe, who said the median sales price is way too low for it to be viable to commercial breeders. **The**

median at last year's Fasig-Tipton Fall Yearlings and Horses of Racing Age sale was \$15,000.

"No one's going to keep doing this if they lose all the time," he added.

One idea to boost participation at the sale, said Lacombe, could be a tweak to the Cal-bred bonus program for maiden winners, increasing the bonus amount for those who purchase a horse at the sale above that for homebreds.

"Now, somebody who breeds

a homebred should get something for winning that race. But at the same time, you should pay more for someone who brought a horse, so there's a differentiation there, that you can make more if you buy at the sale," said Lacombe.

There could also be better coordination between the racing office and the horsemen's organizations to create better racing opportunities for Cal-breds, said Lacombe.

He says he understands the fix racing secretaries are in--if they write more Cal-bred races, they're going to struggle to fill the open races. "It's a real horse population problem," said Lacombe.

"But look at other state programs--I think there are others that are more in tune with their local-breds," he said. "Racing and breeding needs to work hand-in-hand."

Dr. William Gray

After breeding 27 mares last year, Northern-California based Gray bred 20 mares this year, 16 of which are in foal.

"We don't have a problem with horses--we've got a problem with owners. We don't have enough owners," Gray said.

"The hardest thing for trainers and owners to deal with is that you don't know when a horse is going to get in," he said. "My own personal experience, that's when a horse gets hurt, when you start holding them for a race. And it's very expensive for owners."

Which is why Gray sees the condition book as ground-zero for change. "It all starts in the racing office," he said.

"The biggest change I would make in racing and in the racing office, I would make a rule: if there's a stated race in the condition book and they get five-head in it, they've got to use it," Gray said, adding that extras would be exempt from that mandate.

More generally, the racing office should be "more inventive" about the races it writes, Gray said.

This includes giving more opportunities to horses that haven't won for a period of time, "or that haven't finished first, second or third in, say, six months," he said.

There could also be a mandate on the specific number of Cal-bred races carded per-day, he said.

Cont.



Adrian Gonzalez | courtesy of Adrian Gonzalez



Sonny Pais | courtesy of Sonny Pais

"We used to have a rule that they mandated so many races per-day, strictly for Cal-breds," said Gray. "If we had more mandated Cal-bred races again, that would certainly help."

Shane Easterbrook

Easterbrook this year is standing the only son of red-hot sire **Gun Runner** in California, the former Brad Cox trained Corporal.

Easterbrook said that she and Corporal's other owner have stepped up this year the number and quality of mares they ordinarily keep, in order to support the stallion.

"I think he's got great potential," said Easterbrook, about that decision.

As someone still investing in California breeding, Easterbrook said she'd like to see greater involvement in the sport from younger generations--or as she described it, an influx of bright young minds to an industry in need of fresh ideas.

"Right now, we're seeing the older generation as they exit the sport, there's not a younger generation coming up through behind them," said Easterbrook.

Partly, that's because of the beating the sport has received publicly in the mainstream media, said Easterbrook. "And partly there's the financial aspect to it," she added.

So, what would help turn that around? One would be better promotion of the sport.

"How do you get the younger generation to get excited, to get involved, to get passionate about horse racing?" said Easterbrook.

"What I would like to see is more input, more direction, more leadership as far as trying to get the younger generation involved," said Easterbrook.

"There needs to be leadership to help promote the sport in general in a positive light, rather than what's visualized in the media," she added.

Alfred A. "Sonny" Pais

Owner-breeder Pais struck gold in recent years with Cal-bred meteor Brickyard Ride, who retired to stud last year at Rancho San Miguel.

For Pais, it all comes down to purses.

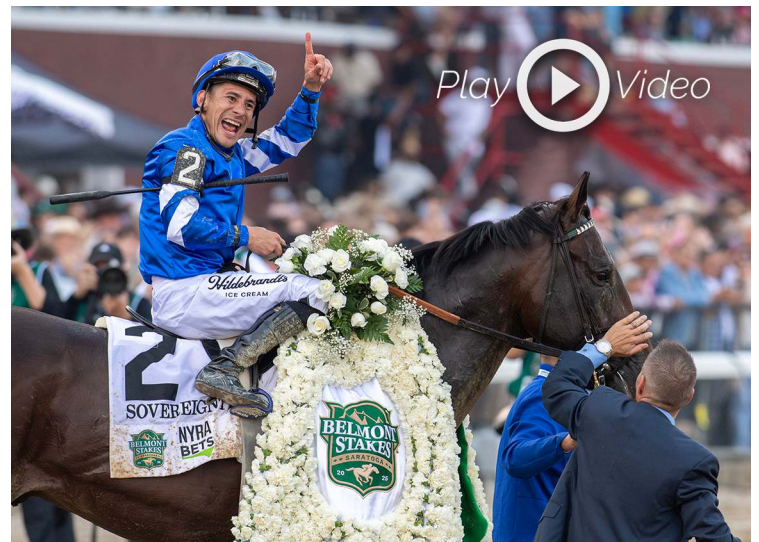
"We do need things to change, obviously," said Pais. "The purses nowadays aren't any better than they were 10 to 15 years ago."

Which underpins why Pais suggested lengthening the racing calendar afforded Del Mar, with its premium purses in the state.

"If we could extend our period, with its purse structure, at Del Mar for another couple of months, that would definitely help," he said. "You need something to aim at."

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JUNIOR ALVARADO JOINS TDN WRITERS' ROOM PODCAST, PRESENTED BY KEENELAND



Junior Alvarado aboard Sovereignty | Sarah Andrew

It's been a magical year so far for jockey Junior Alvarado, who rode **Sovereignty** (Into Mischief) to victories in the GI Kentucky Derby and the GI Belmont Stakes. They were the first wins in the Triple Crown series for the 39-year-old native of Venezuela, but they surely won't be the last. Alvarado now rides regularly for Hall of Fame trainer Bill Mott, whose stable is loaded with talent.

But Alvarado almost missed the Derby assignment. He fractured his shoulder blade in a Mar. 23 spill at Gulfstream. He would definitely miss the GI Florida Derby and doctors warned him he might not be ready to ride in the Derby. Alvarado would hear nothing of that and worked overtime to be ready for the first leg of the Triple Crown.

Cont.

What was it like to think you might have the best 3-year-old in the country but wouldn't be able to ride him in the Derby? That was one of many questions our team asked Alvarado on this week's *Thoroughbred Daily News Writers' Room Podcast* presented by [Keeneland](#). Alvarado was the [Gainesway](#) Guest of the Week.

"I remember laying in the bed right there with my agent next to me," Alvarado said. "I kept telling my agent, 'I think I may have a fracture. I can handle pain. I've been through a lot of injuries and I knew that this one was worse than normal. Then the doctor told us I had a fractured scapula. I asked if I could come back in a week a they said, no, no, no. You have a completely fractured scapula. You will have to probably be out between six to eight weeks. So like right there, just, I remember looking at my agent and I'm like shaking my hand. I thought 'why does this have to happen to me?' Like why these things keep happening to me? Like, God, why? Like, why?'"

He went to see a doctor who had treated him before in Saratoga for a second opinion and got a much different diagnosis. This doctor said that if he followed his instructions he would be back well before the Derby. It worked as Alvarado returned Apr. 16, just 23 days after the accident.

The combination of Bill Mott and Alvarado has worked out nicely for both individuals.

"When I moved to New York, I had Mike Sellitto as my agent," Alvarado said. "He's a very good, close friend to Bill Mott. That's how we started it. I will say probably six, seven, eight years ago now, I used to ride all those nice horses in the morning. Then, the mount in the afternoon would go to guys like Mike Smith or Joel Rosario. I remember my agent telling me, just keep working, keep working. You're going to have your time and when you have your time, then you'll take. By working a lot of his horses in the morning, I came to understand what Bill really likes to do with his horses, with the babies, how he develops the horses. Every trainer has a different mentality and different way to approach their training method. I just fit pretty well with what Bill was doing and I like the way he does it. I started getting more chances and more opportunities from him. I was able to perform well in the afternoon and that's how more opportunities kept coming my way."

Alvarado has won 421 races for Mott, 65 graded stakes and \$51.5 million in purse money.

Sovereignty isn't the first good horse Alvarado has ridden for Mott. No one will ever forget the story of Cody's Wish ([Curlin](#)) and Cody Dorman. Alvarado said he was never more nervous than when he was aboard Cody's Wish.

"That was very special, he said. "It was completely different than riding Sovereignty. With Sovereignty I was always calm. Riding [Cody's Wish](#), I felt lot of pressure every single time I was

Please Join Us!

Tuesday, June 17, 2025
at Limestone Hall
(3rd Floor of the old Courthouse)

for a discussion on

"Raise 'Em Right: How yearlings not sold at auction are managed differently than those slated for the sales. Join us for a confirmation and nutrition analysis."

Door opens at 6:00 P.M.

Dinner and the meeting will begin at 6:45 P.M.

- No RSVPs will be taken after the deadline.
- NO PAYMENT WILL BE ACCEPTED AT THE DOOR.
- We no longer reserve extra seating for walk-ins.
- Failure to cancel before the deadline will result in a non-refundable payment.

Everyone must register & pay online by 5:00 P.M. Friday, June 13.
 Please list the names of **all attendees** when making reservations.



KTFMC
 Kentucky Thoroughbred Farm Managers' Club

Click here to register for the June Membership Meeting

riding him. I didn't want to be the one who made a mistake and be the villain of the beautiful story of that was happening. That was always in my mind, like I cannot make mistakes, I can't do anything wrong, can't overdo it. I can't do anything to get that horse beat because all the eyes are on me and I'm going to look like the bad guy if he got beat. But every time we won I felt so much happiness."

In our "Fastest Horse of the Week," segment, which is sponsored by WinStar, we went over the many reasons there are breed to the [WinStar stallion Cogburn](#). The fastest horse of the week was [Ways and Means \(Practical Joke\)](#), who got a 111 Beyer for winning the GII Bed o' Roses Stakes. The 111 was the highest Beyer number assigned to any horse this year.

Elsewhere on the podcast, which is also sponsored by the [KTOB](#), the [Pennsylvania Horse Breeders' Association](#), [West Point Thoroughbreds](#), [1/ST Racing](#) and [1/ST TV](#), the team of Randy Moss, Zoe Cadman and Bill Finley went over not just the Belmont but all the Grade I stakes action over the weekend at Saratoga. The question was asked, "Would Sovereignty have swept the Triple Crown if he had run in the Preakness?" The consensus was yes.

To watch the Writers' Room, click [here](#). To view the show as a podcast, click [here](#).

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WEEKLY RULINGS



NATIONAL REGULATORY RULINGS, JUNE 5-11, 2025

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's (HIWU) "[pending](#)" and "[resolved](#)" cases portals.

Resolved ADMC Violations

Date: 06/09/2025

Licensee: Victor Barboza, trainer

Penalty: None. Case dismissed.

Explainer: Barboza had faced a medication violation for the use or attempted use of a Class C controlled medication on Gayles Evening during the race period, an event dated 3/2/25.

According to the final ruling of the internal adjudication panel, regulatory veterinarian Dr. Teichner had allegedly witnessed Barboza's assistant administer an oral substance to Gayle's Evening prior to the race Mar. 2. Teichner allegedly observed this while she was "outside of the barn, in her vehicle, looking into the barn," the final ruling states. But the panel dismissed the case because "no physical evidence, investigator testimony, or photographic proof was presented to support this allegation."

Date: 06/06/2025

Licensee: Mike Miceli, trainer

Penalty: Disqualification of Covered Horses' Race results, including forfeiture of all purses and other compensation, prizes, trophies, points, and rankings and repayment or surrender (as applicable); a fine of \$500; imposition of 1.5 Penalty Points; Treated as 1 violation with Pistol Liz Ablazen under 09/08/23 HISA Guidance. Admission.

Explainer: Medication violations for the presence of Dexamethasone--a controlled substance (Class C)--in a sample taken from Wildcat Annie, who won at Aqueduct 2/15/25; and from Piston Liz Ablazen, who finished second at Aqueduct on 2/21/25.

Date: 06/06/2025

Licensee: Mike Miceli, trainer

Penalty: 7-day period of Ineligibility for Covered Person, beginning June 7; Disqualification of Covered Horses' 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; Treated as 1 violation with Montauk Mystique under 09/08/23 HISA Guidance. Admission.
Explainer: Medication violations for the presence of Dexamethasone--a controlled substance (Class C)--in samples taken from Montauk Mystique, who finished second at Aqueduct on 3/28/25, and from Mighty Atlas who won at Aqueduct on 3/21/25.

Date: 06/05/2025

Licensee: Roshan Samsundar, trainer

Penalty: 7-day period of Ineligibility for Covered Person, beginning June 6; 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. Admission.

Explainer: Medication violation for the presence of Caffeine--a controlled substance (Class B)--in a sample taken from Carbon, who won at Aqueduct on 3/14/25.

Date: 06/05/2025

Licensee: Carl Cunningham, trainer

Penalty: A fine of \$500; imposition of 1.5 Penalty Points. Final decision of HIWU.

Explainer: Vets' list medication violation for the presence of Phenylbutazone--a controlled substance (Class C)--in a sample taken from Prince Pierre on 4/22/25.

Date: 06/04/2025

Licensee: Eric Reed, trainer

Penalty: 15-day period of Ineligibility for Covered Person, beginning on June 5; 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 \$2,500; imposition of 2 Penalty Points. Admission.

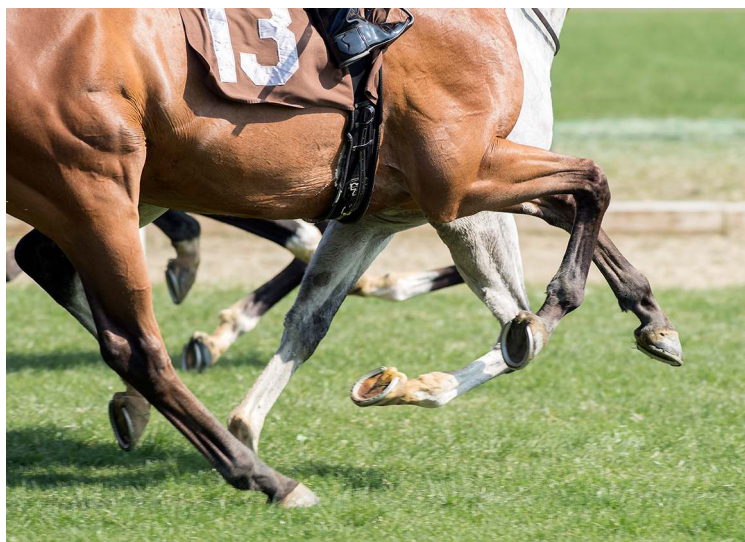
Explainer: Medication violation for the presence of Gabapentin--a controlled substance (Class B)--in a sample taken from She's a Saint, who won at Mahoning Valley on 4/8/25.

Pending ADMC Violations

06/09/2025, Arthur Agostini, trainer: Pending violation for the use or attempted use of a Class C controlled medication on That's My Cat during the race period, an event dated 12/27/24.

06/06/2025, Tanner Tracy, trainer: Pending vets' list medication violation for the presence of Phenylbutazone--a controlled substance (Class C)--in a sample taken from Rockets Sister on 5/8/24.

Cont.



Turf racing | Sarah Andrew

06/05/2025, Dr. Jason Scott, veterinarian: Pending violation for the possession of Pitcher Plant Extract (Adenosine Phosphate)--a banned substances--for an event dated 2/13/25.

06/05/2025, Vance Childers, trainer: Pending out-of-competition medication violation for the presence of Testosterone--a banned substance--in a sample taken from Childersattack on 10/16/24.

Violations of Crop Rule

Penn National

Wesley Ho--violation date June 7; \$250 fine, one-day suspension

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CKRH TO HOLD 'NIGHT OF THE STARS' FUNDRAISER JUNE 21

Central Kentucky Riding for Hope (CKRH)'s 22nd annual 'Night of the Stars' Fundraiser takes place Saturday, June 21, at the Fasig-Tipton sales complex in Lexington.

Some 500 attendees are expected for the event, which will include dinner and drinks, a silent auction and a live auction in the same style as a Thoroughbred auction where the highest bidders will earn a sponsorship of CKRH participants and equine partners.

Bidding is now open for the silent and live auctions and may be accessed by clicking [here](#). Some of the auction items available include:

- Halters from a group of popular Thoroughbreds, including **American Pharoah**, **Gun Runner**, **Justify**, Medaglia d'Oro, Rachel Alexandra, Serena's Song and **Tapit**;

- Meet and greet with the beloved Racing Hall of Famer Zenyatta, the winner of 19 consecutive races who earned \$7.3 million, at Lane's End Farm;

- Painting of Horse of the Year Thoroughbred Cody's Wish by Lisa Palombo with proceeds beyond the reserve to be shared by CKRH and Angels Without Wings for the **Cody's Wish Monument** to be installed at the Kentucky Horse Park;

- A wide selection of Kentucky bourbon, including a set of eight bottles of Blanton's Original Single Barrel Bourbon Whiskey with stoppers that show each stride of a racehorse in action.

Tropical attire is suggested for attendees of 'Night of the Stars', which will feature island-inspired decor and appetizers, signature cocktails, live music, pony meet-and-greets and inspiring riding demonstrations.

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SARATOGA SEASON PASSES ON SALE AT STEWART'S

Saratoga season admission passes for the special July 4th Racing Festival and the 2025 summer meet at Saratoga Race Course are now available for purchase at more than 175 Stewart's Shops throughout the greater Capital (NY) Region.


Saratoga season passes provide fans with general admission access to 44 days of Thoroughbred racing this summer for the equivalent of approximately two dollars per day.

Season passes are available for \$90 at Stewart's Shops through Sunday, July 13, or for \$95 online at NYRA.com/Saratoga.

Passes include admission to the traditional 40-day summer meet, July 10 to Sept. 1, in addition to the July 4th Racing Festival, July 3 to 6, which has been relocated to Saratoga while construction continues on a new Belmont Park.


Saratoga season passes provide access to the apron and the Rivers Casino Backyard, which includes hundreds of free picnic tables available on a first-come, first-served basis.

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Listen to this week's podcast
June 11, 2025

Junior Alvarado on his Belmont win aboard Sovereignty and the long road to the winner's circle



HIWU ISSUES HORSEMEN'S ADVISORY REGARDING ADENOSINE AND HEMO 15

In recent months, the Horseracing Integrity & Welfare Unit (HIWU) has adjudicated several cases under the Anti-Doping and Medication Control (ADMC) Program related to adenosine, a vasodilator, and Hemo 15, a foreign product that lacks FDA approval, according to an advisory from HIWU, which says that neither substance has any valid veterinary use in the racehorse.

"Both substances are categorized as an S0 Non-Approved Banned Substance and therefore are prohibited from Use in a Covered Horse or Possession by a Covered Person at all times," reads the advisory. "Hemo 15 and any compounded product mimicking Hemo 15, as well as any products containing adenosine, adenosine monophosphate (AMP), or adenosine triphosphate (ATP) should be disposed of immediately."

The advisory goes on to remind horsemen that "the Presence, Use, Administration, Possession, or Trafficking of any Banned Substance is subject to a period of Ineligibility of up to two years, a fine of up to \$25,000, the disqualification of race results (as applicable), and public disclosure."

Horsemen or veterinarians with questions are advised to reach out to sciencesupport@hiwu.org.

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CLERK OF SCALES JACK KELLER TO BE INDUCTED INTO FINGER LAKES HALL OF FAME

Longtime Finger Lakes Clerk of Scales Jack Keller will be inducted into the track's Hall of Fame this Friday, the gaming establishment said in a press release on Wednesday.

When Keller arrived at Finger Lakes outside of Farmington, New York in 1967, he figured he would spend a year working as a valet and then move on to another track for his next adventure in the world of racing.

One year, however, became 59.

"As it turned out, I never left," said Keller, who is in his 39th season as the track's Clerk of Scales.

Keller grew up in Ohio and fell in love with racing when he was going to the track with his father. He then landed a job on the backstretch in 1950, becoming a hotwalker at Ascot Park near Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio.

He also rode at Ohio fairs but was too heavy to make weight at parimutuel tracks so transitioned to becoming an outrider and then assistant starter across Ohio, working at Ascot Park, Thistledown, Randall Park and Cranwood Racecourse.

His racing career includes stops at 17 different racetracks, including a winter in the 1960s as an exercise rider at Hialeah Park for the famous Darby Dan Farm.

Keller came to Finger Lakes in 1967 and worked as a valet for



Jack Keller | *courtesy of Finger Lakes*

twenty years, when he transitioned to the race office. He has been Clerk of Scales for 39 years. The Jockey's Room was named in his honor last year.

"Jack has been an institution here at Finger Lakes," said President and General Manager of Finger Lakes Gaming & Racetrack Chris Riegler. "His dedication and knowledge of the sport have allowed him to excel at every one of the many positions he has held here throughout the years."

Keller's induction into the Hall of Fame will take place at Friday's annual HBPA meeting and awards banquet.

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GODOLPHIN RACING AND NOMINATIONS

ASSISTANT KATELYN MORGAN ON BOUNDLESS

Godolphin's Racing and Nominations assistant at Jonabell Farm for Darley America joins Ferrin Peterson on this week's Boundless Podcast to discuss the many ways there are to get into Thoroughbred racing.

The episode is the first episode in the Boundless students series, designed to inspire young people to get involved in racing and to learn how to break into the industry.

Morgan explains that her role is to handle all administrative tasks for the racing side of Godolphin, as well as vaccination and network and HISA paperwork. She also supervises the aftercare of their herd, under the program they call Godolphin Lifetime, where all geldings are found a lifetime home or transitioned into a second career.

Morgan explained that she was not from a racing family, but grew up riding and transferred to the University of Kentucky after two years at a community college near her Maryland home. But she found some barriers to entry, often finding it hard to beat out others with family connections for jobs. **Cont.**



Katelyn Morgan | *Boundless Podcast*

She worked as a waitress, and did one season at a breeding farm, and was driving a friend to her job at Mill Ridge when she passed the gates at Jonabell on Bowman Mill Road. She looked up the contact information, sent in a resume at Jonabell, and landed a job at their yearling division in Paris, Kentucky. She switched to mares and foals at the main farm, and gradually transitioned to this job.

She offers young people advice on how to ask for, and get help, finding a job in the industry. "You have to get yourself out there and push as hard as you can, especially if you don't have a family in the industry," she said.

The podcast is available on Spotify and Apple Podcasts, or is available on YouTube by clicking here.

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Saturday, Delaware #9, post time: 4:51 p.m. EDT

DELAWARE OAKS-GIII, \$300,000, 3yo, f, 1 1/16m

| PP | HORSE | SIRE | OWNER | TRAINER | JOCKEY | WT |
|----|--------------------|---------------|---|---------------|------------|-----|
| 1 | Kinzie Queen 🌿 | McKinzie | John Holleman and Compton Racing, LLC | Compton | Alvarado | 120 |
| 2 | Late Nite Call | Audible | Richard E. Harris | Saville | Conner | 116 |
| 3 | Complexity Jane | Complexity | Golden Lion Racing | Russell | Toledo | 122 |
| 4 | Margie's Intention | Honor A. P. | Baron Stable and WinStar Farm LLC | Cox | Machado | 122 |
| 5 | Paris Lily | City of Light | Godolphin, LLC | Walsh | Rosario | 120 |
| 6 | Cassiar | City of Light | W.S. Farish | McGaughey III | Lezcano | 118 |
| 7 | Fondly | Upstart | Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners and Madaket Stables LLC | Motion | Ortiz, Jr. | 122 |
| 8 | Dyna Soar | Summer Front | Ballybrit Stable LLC | Dini | Centeno | 116 |
| 9 | Whatintheliteral | Lord Nelson | horseOlogy Racing and Craig Steinhart | Antonucci | Hernandez | 116 |

Breeders: 1-Curtis C. Green, 2-R. Larry Johnson, 3-Brereton C. Jones, 4-Coteau Grove Farms, LLC, 5-Godolphin, 6-Calumet Farm, 7-Brereton C. Jones, 8-Ballybrit Stable, LLC, 9-Bella Inizio Farm, LLC

Saturday, Monmouth #10, post time: 4:55 p.m. EDT

SALVATOR MILE S.-GIII, \$150,000, 3yo/up, 1m

| PP | HORSE | SIRE | OWNER | TRAINER | JOCKEY | WT |
|----|----------------|---------------|---|-----------|------------|-----|
| 1 | Antigravity | First Samurai | Brad's Equine Adventure | Ward | - | 118 |
| 2 | Trademark 🌿 | Upstart | BBN Racing LLC | Oliver | Concepcion | 118 |
| 3 | Tuscan Sky | Vino Rosso | Repole Stable | Pletcher | Velazquez | 118 |
| 4 | Offaly Cool 🌿 | Kantharos | Lawrence A. Rebbecchi, Jr. | Solis | Adorno | 118 |
| 5 | Surface to Air | Midshipman | Premier Stable | Synnefias | Marin | 118 |
| 6 | Vitality | Street Boss | Stronach Stables and Joel B. Hunsburger | Orseno | Pennington | 118 |
| 7 | Nelson Avenue | Into Mischief | Photos Finish LLC | Abreu | Camacho | 118 |
| 8 | Awesome Ruta | Mendelssohn | Tri-Star Racing LLC and Cimarron TTT Farms LLC | Ward | Castillo | 118 |
| 9 | Bishops Bay 🌿 | Uncle Mo | Spendthrift Farm LLC, Steve Landers, Martin S. Schwartz, Michael Dubb, Ten Strike Racing, Jim Bakke, Titledown Racing, LLC, Kueber Racing, LLC, Big Easy Racing LLC, Rick Kanter, Michael J. Caruso, and WinStar Farm LLC | Cox | Prat | 124 |

Breeders: 1-Glen Oak Farm & Two Stamps Stables, 2-Brereton C. Jones, 3-Sierra Farm, 4-Juddmonte Farms Inc, 5-Silverton Hill, LLC, 6-Adena Springs, 7-Godolphin, 8-Brian Levings, 9-WinStar Farm, LLC

Bishops Bay (Uncle Mo) jumps off the page here. Will be a heavy favorite, but hard to see him losing. He beat a comparable field in the GIII Westchester S., earning a 102 Beyer. No one else comes close. Flavien Prat accepts the assignment. **Offaly Cool** (Kantharos) doesn't venture into stakes company very often, but when he does he holds his own. Horse never seems to run a bad race. This is the second race off the layoff for **Vitality** (Street Boss), who looked sharp in a Gulfstream allowance. --Bill Finley



Saturday, Monmouth #11, post time: 5:24 p.m. EDT**EATONTOWN S.-GIII, \$150,000, 3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16mT**

| PP | HORSE | SIRE | OWNER | TRAINER | JOCKEY | WT |
|----|--------------------|---------------------|---|----------------|---------|-----|
| 1 | Maggie Go (Arg) | Winning Prize (Arg) | Michael Dubb, Andrew Rosen, John D. Stuart, and Michael J. Caruso | Brown | Prat | 118 |
| 2 | Five Towns (GB) | Lord Kanaloa (Jpn) | Merry Fox Stables | Motion | Ruiz | 118 |
| 3 | Ozara (Ire) | Lope de Vega (Ire) | Cheyenne Stable LLC | Clement | Marin | 122 |
| 4 | Lady Firefoot 🌿 | Temple City | Charles Hallas | Giddings | - | 118 |
| 5 | Delightful Ava | Bucchero | James A. Frangella, Jr. | Frangella, Jr. | Olver | 118 |
| 6 | Damaso 🌿 | Outwork | Perrine Time Thoroughbreds | O'Connell | - | 118 |
| 7 | Whiskey Decision 🌿 | Into Mischief | Frederick Hertrich III and John D. Fielding | Brown | Camacho | 118 |

Breeders: 1-Esposito Horacio Humberto y Porta PiaSRL, 2-Merry Fox Stud Limited, 3-Fleche D'Or Partnership, 4-Athens Woods, LLC, 5-Gregory Kilka, 6-Turnley Farms LA, 7-Fred W. Hertrich III & John D. Fielding

This looks like a starting point for **Maggie Go** (Arg) (Winning Prize {Arg}) who was last seen running in Group I company in Argentina last summer. Owned by a high-profile group of owners and trained by Chad Brown, they'll use this race to get ready for tougher assignments down the road. Flavien Prat to ride. **Ozara** (Ire) (Lope de Vega {Ire}) is coming off a stakes win for the Clement barn. Hasn't proven herself at the graded stakes level, but this is not a tough spot. **Whiskey Decision** (Into Mischief) will make her first start for Chad Brown. Might be good enough to hit the board. --Bill Finley

Saturday, Santa Anita #10, post time: 8:00 p.m. EDT**DAYTONA S.-GIII, \$100,000, 3yo/up, 6 1/2fT**

| PP | HORSE | SIRE | OWNER | TRAINER | JOCKEY | WT |
|----|----------------|------------------|--|----------|-----------|-----|
| 1 | Air Force Red | Air Force Blue | Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners and Holly Golightly | Powell | Ayuso | 126 |
| 2 | Bran (Fr) | Muhaarar (GB) | Hronis Racing LLC | Sadler | Rispoli | 126 |
| 3 | Goliad | War Front | Perry R. Bass II and Ramona S. Bass | Mandella | Smith | 126 |
| 4 | Daniel's Magic | Magician (Ire) | S. J. S. Stables and Lindy S. Diamond | Harty | Frey | 122 |
| 5 | Stay Hot | Summer Front | Burns Racing LLC, Exline-Border Racing LLC, SAF Racing, Estate of Brereton C. Jones and William Dan Hudock | Eurton | Hernandez | 126 |
| 6 | Lovesick Blues | Grazen | Mia Familia Racing Stable | Barocio | Franco | 124 |
| 7 | Motorious (GB) | Muhaarar (GB) | Anthony Fanticola | D'Amato | Fresu | 126 |
| 8 | Watsonville | Jack Milton | Pine Racing Stables and Saints or Sinners | Glatt | Kimura | 126 |

Breeders: 1-Stephen B. Weissman Living Trust, 2-Lordship Stud, 3-Ramona S. Bass, LLC, 4-SJS Stables, 5-Brereton C. Jones, 6-Nick Alexander, 7-Kirtlington Stud & Mrs Mary Taylor, 8-Kings and Queens Farm

Motorious (Muhaarar {GB}) is a pretty obvious choice here. He been off since December, but 2024 included a huge effort in the GI Breeders' Cup Sprint where he was second, beaten just a neck. Came back after that to win the GII Joe Hernandez S. A fast pace up front would help. He's 3-for-5 on the tricky downhill turf course. **Goliad** (**War Front**) hasn't sprinted in two years, but the cutback in distance may be exactly what he needs after fading in the stretch while facing the toughest turf milers in training. **Stay Hot** is another cutting back in distance after facing better going eight or nine furlongs. He last sprinted on Feb. 17, 2024 and picked up the victory that day in the Baffle S. --Bill Finley

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THURSDAY'S RACING INSIGHTS:

by Stefanie Grimm



Southeastern sells at OBS March | OBS Photo

BAFFERT UNVEILS \$900K CURLIN FILLY

2nd-SA, 60K, Msw, 2yo, f, 5f, 4:33 p.m.

Baoma Corp went to \$900,000 to acquire **HIMIKA (Curlin)** just two months ago at OBS April after the filly worked in a co-fastest :9.4. Bred by Klaravich Stables, she is the first foal out of stakes-placed Motivated Seller (Into Mischief), who set a new track record at Saratoga in 2021 going 5 1/2 furlongs in 1:02.48. Himika signaled her readiness with a near-bullet four-furlong work June 7 in :46 4/5 (2/74). **TJCIS PPS**

2nd-CD, 120K, Msw, 2yo, 5 1/2f, 5:29 p.m.

First-crop stallion **Charlatan** will be represented Thursday by **Southeastern**, also an OBS grad from the March sale when he brought \$660,000. Stakes-winning first dam Miss Interpret, who sold with Southeastern in utero for \$400,000 at KEENOV in 2022, is a half-sister to the dam of GISP '**TDN Rising Star**' River Thames (**Maclean's Music**). This is the family of MGISW Paulassilverlining (Ghostzapper) and MGISW Dads Cap (Discreet Cat). **TJCIS PPS**

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TODAY'S FEATURED REPLAY



Mae Town (Mo Town) handles allowance runners at Churchill
([click to watch](#))



IN ORDER OF PURSE:

HOOSIER BREEDERS SOPHOMORE H., \$100,000, Horseshoe Indianapolis, 6-11, (S), 3yo, f, 6f, 1:10.87, ft.

1--**HOT MIDDLES, 122, f, 3, by Klimt**

1st Dam: Pretty Miss Trippi (SP, \$300,014), by Trippi

2nd Dam: Passionate Terri, by Unzipped

3rd Dam: Passionate Baby, by Full Pocket

1ST BLACK TYPE WIN. O-Thirstyacres Racing, LLC; B/T-Richardville Tianna (IN); J-Hannah Leahey. \$58,200. Lifetime Record: 8-4-2-2, \$166,991. *1/2 to Aggregator (Graydar), SP, \$158,072.

2--**G Force Jimmi, 118, f, 3, Jimmy Creed--Ethel G, by Uncle Mo.**

1ST BLACK TYPE. O/B-Pamela Brickley Hann (IN); T-Anthony F. Cunningham. \$19,400.

3--**Wicked Vette, 120, f, 3, Country House--Bud's Little Edge,** by Valid Expectations. (\$15,000 Ylg '23 KEEJAN; \$15,000 Ylg '23 FTKOCT; \$14,000 RNA 2yo '24 EASMAY; \$35,000 2yo '24 FTJUN). **1ST BLACK TYPE.** O-Terry L. Stephens; B-Randy Alderson (IN); T-Aaron M. West. \$10,670.

Margins: HD, HF, 1. Odds: 0.20, 16.80, 6.50.

Also Ran: Miss Candela, Temple Paynter, Don't Miss Out, Charming Talisman, Elegant Justice. Scratched: Cloudy Star. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#).**

Hot Middles picked up her third win in a row and her first stakes win Wednesday, taking the Hoosier Breeders Sophomore Handicap and capping a hot stretch for sire Klimt at odds of 1-5. Wide across the track behind a runaway leader in Wicked Vette, the favorite was still stuck between horses in a line stretched four across the track midway around the far turn. Needing running room at the quarter pole as she was boxed in behind the pacesetter, Hot Middles forged through a gap against the fence and just got by in the final strides in a driving photo finish with G Force Jimmi coming on late.

The fourth winner for Klimt in the last 24 hours (with two coming late Tuesday evening), Hot Middles is the eighth stakes winner for the GI Del Mar Futurity victor. Pretty Miss Trippi, stakes-placed in her own racing career, sold for \$12,000 with the winner in utero at KEENOV in 2021 and has already produced another stakes-placed runner in Aggregator (Graydar). She produced a Looking Cool colt last year and returned to that stallion for 2025.



Hot Middles (inside) | Coady Media

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IN ORDER OF PURSE:

8th-Churchill Downs, \$130,772, Alw, 6-11, (NW1X), 3yo/up, 5 1/2fT, 1:01.84, fm, 1 length.

MAE TOWN (f, 3, Mo Town--Latest Thinking, by Tale of the Cat) found her friends in her third straight try sprinting the five furlongs when breaking her maiden on the local course May 9 as the 3-1 favorite. Not nearly as supported facing winners Wednesday, the 7-1 shot added the extra furlong and kept close to the pace in a clear third through fractions of :22.28 and :44.57. Making up ground on pacesetter Rojo Rita (**Volatile**) off the turn, she pulled clear of that rival close to home and put a length on her on the line. A half-sister to Rustler (Dominus), SW, \$235,720, Mae Town is now the sixth winner from six to race for Latest Thinking whose **McKinzie** filly brought \$180,000 as a yearling at Keeneland last September. She was served by **Loggins** for 2025. Lifetime Record: 4-2-1-1, \$161,560. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV.** O/B-Cave Brook Farm (KY); T-Brian A. Lynch.

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IN ORDER OF PURSE:

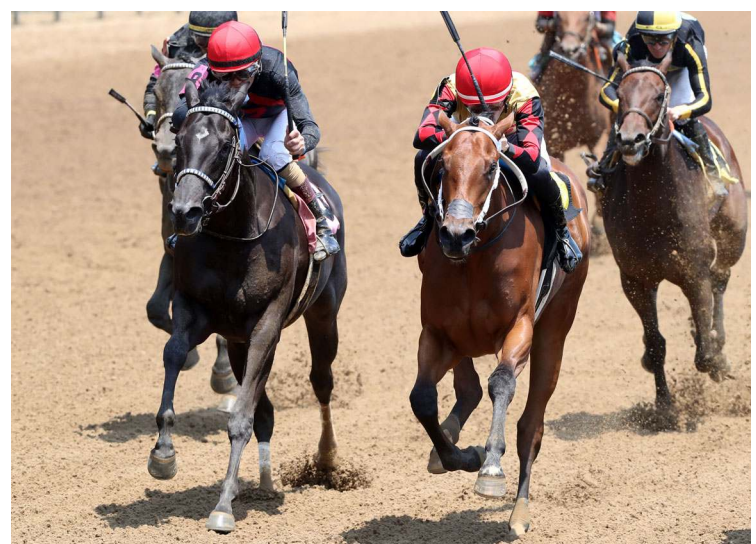
3rd-Churchill Downs, \$115,500, Msw, 6-11, 2yo, f, 5 1/2f, 1:03.99, ft, neck.

SMELL THE LILIES (f, 2, Justify--Up At Dawn, by Uncle Mo) flashed good early speed and pressed the early pace set in 22.56 by fellow firster Late Night Text (Into Mischief). The front-runner opened up that leading margin to about a length at the top of the stretch, but Smell the Lilies wouldn't let her get far, drawing alongside her target at the eighth pole. With the stubborn foe to her inside and a green Best Friend (**Girvin**) charging to her outside, the 2-1 favorite was able to establish herself as a neck-long victor in a three-way photo. Up at Dawn, half-sister to MGSW & MGISP Mr. Freeze (To Honor and Serve) and to the dam of GSW & MGISP Point of Honor (**Curlin**) and GISW Wicked Whisper (**Liam's Map**), was acquired by Smell the Lilies's owner Jackpot Farm for \$110,000 at Keeneland November last fall and produced a filly by **Cody's Wish** this season.. Sales history: \$200,000 Ylg '24 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$69,000.

Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV.

O-Jackpot Farm; B-Siena Farms LLC (KY); T-Steven M. Asmussen.

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Smell the Lilies (inside) | Coady Media

7th-Delaware, \$47,000, Msw, 6-11, 3yo/up, f/m, 5f (off turf), :58.77, ft, 1 length.

LEVIGATA (f, 3, Jimmy Creed--Seattle Sass, by Chief Seattle) showed a great deal of early speed from her outside post and found herself pressing the pace. As an inside rival began to fade, the filly began to improve her position and struck the lead at the top of the stretch. Code Name Willow (Peace and Justice) and La Portada (**Maclean's Music**) came with late rallies, but weren't able to get to the 5.5-1 winner. Seattle Sass reported a filly by Greatest Honour this year who is her first foal since Levigata. Sales history: \$37,000 Ylg '23 FTKOCT; \$67,000 2yo '24 OBSAPR. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$27,000. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV.**

O-OMB Stables and Sabres Racing; B-Dawn Jones, Joe Hoffman, Carol Hoffman & Sherman Mitchell (KY); T-Kerri Raven.

| | | |
|--|--|--------------------------------|
|  | 2-year-old in training purchase by Franklin Ave. Equine, LLC | Brian DiDonato 860.508.6527 |
|--|--|--------------------------------|

1st-Horseshoe Indianapolis, \$32,000, Msw, 6-11, 3yo, f, 1m, 1:39.21, ft, 2 lengths.

PAINTED DESERT (f, 3, Medaglia d'Oro--Sky Painter {GSP, \$169,755}, by Street Cry {Ire}) debuted on the Tapeta at Turfway but wound up the beaten favorite in both attempts earlier this spring before hitting the board again over course and distance last out May 3. Wednesday's 4-5 favorite got off to a rough beginning with contact at the break from the inside but quickly got her feet under her to put pressure on Toolbelt (Raison d'Etat) up front. Gradually eating into that rival's advantage, Painted Desert came alongside past the quarter pole and finished up well to lead in Clay Basket (**Dialed In**) by two lengths. Sky Painter, who has already produced Wet Paint (**Blame**), GISW, \$1,304,925, has a 2-year-old **Not This Time** filly named Infinite Sky on the work tab at Keeneland. She was barren back to **Not This Time** for 2025. Lifetime Record: 4-1-2-0, \$45,345. **Click for the Equibase.com chart.** O/B-Godolphin (KY); T-Brad H. Cox.



FIRST & SECOND-CROP
RUNNERS
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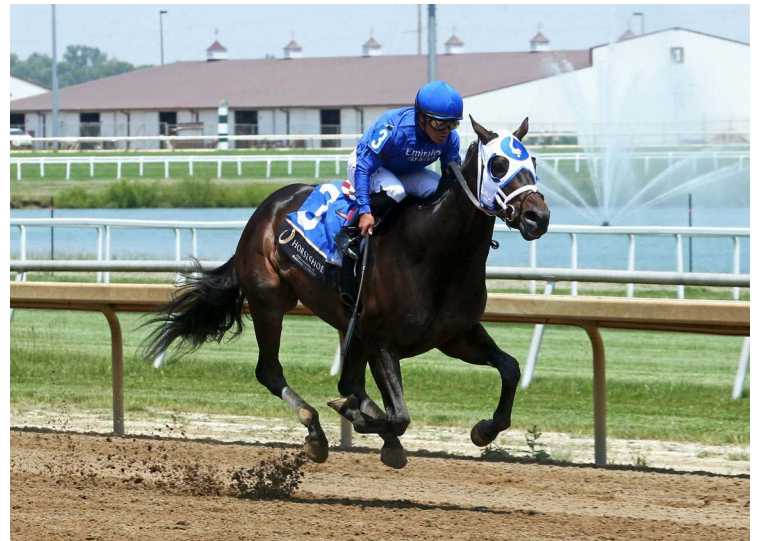
FIRST-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: THURSDAY, JUNE 12

2025 Stud Fees Listed

Beau Liam (Liam's Map), Airdrie Stud, \$6,000
114 foals of racing age/3 winners/0 black-type winners
2-Santa Anita, 4:33 p.m. EDT, Msw 5f, Glassheart, 4-1
\$37,000 KEE NOV wnl; \$39,000 RNA KEE SEP yrl

Charlatan (Speightstown), Hill 'n' Dale at Xalapa, \$50,000
162 foals of racing age/2 winners/0 black-type winners
2-Churchill Downs, 5:29 p.m. EDT, Msw 5 1/2f, She's On a Roll, 2-1
\$280,000 KEE NOV wnl; \$200,000 RNA KEE SEP yrl; \$250,000 FTK OCT yrl
2-Churchill Downs, 5:29 p.m. EDT, Msw 5 1/2f, Southeastern, 5-2
\$275,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$660,000 OBS MAR 2yo

Engage (Into Mischief), Northview Stallion Station, \$5,000
41 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners
2-Belmontthe Big A, 1:37 p.m. EDT, Msw 5 1/2f, Joe G Twentythree, 12-1
\$14,000 RNA EAS OCT yrl



Painted Desert | Coady Media

Independence Hall (Constitution), WinStar Farm, \$7,500
121 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners
2-Churchill Downs, 5:29 p.m. EDT, Msw 5 1/2f, Hyperlink, 8-1
\$85,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$150,000 OBS MAR 2yo

Raging Bull (Fr) (Dark Angel {Ire}), Gainesway Farm, \$10,000
88 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners
1-Belmontthe Big A, 1:10 p.m. EDT, Msw 6f, Matadora, 3-1
\$6,000 FTK OCT yrl; \$50,000 OBS MAR 2yo

Waiting (American Pharoah), Irish Hill & Dutchess Views Stallions, \$2,500
12 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners
2-Belmontthe Big A, 1:37 p.m. EDT, Msw 5 1/2f, Genie, 5-2

SECOND-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: THURSDAY, JUNE 12

2025 Stud Fees Listed

Authentic (Into Mischief), Spendthrift Farm, \$15,000

295 foals of racing age/46 winners/3 black-type winners
2-Belmontthe Big A, 1:37 p.m. EDT, Msw 5 1/2f, One Time Frankie, 7-2 \$120,000 SAR AUG yrl

Country House (Lookin At Lucky), Darby Dan Farm, \$5,000

54 foals of racing age/11 winners/1 black-type winner
2-Horseshoe Turf Pick 3, 4:46 p.m, Msw 1mT, Marina's Charge

Honest Mischief (Into Mischief), Sequel New York, \$7,500

136 foals of racing age/19 winners/2 black-type winners
2-Belmontthe Big A, 1:37 p.m. EDT, Msw 5 1/2f, Sweetnessthrtyfour, 12-1 \$15,000 EAS OCT yrl

King for a Day (Uncle Mo), Irish Hill & Dutchess Views Stallions, \$5,000

83 foals of racing age/10 winners/2 black-type winners
2-Belmontthe Big A, 1:37 p.m, Msw 5 1/2f, Dinner Royale, 5-1

Tiz the Law (Constitution), Coolmore Ashford, \$30,000

248 foals of racing age/40 winners/6 black-type winners
2-Churchill Downs, 5:29 p.m. EDT, Msw 5 1/2f, Curtain Call, 3-1 \$115,000 FTK JUL yrl; \$325,000 OBS MAR 2yo



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ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

6th-Delaware, \$45,200, (NW2L)/Opt. Clm (\$45,000), 6-11, 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:10.56, ft, 2 lengths.

DRINK THIS CUP (f, 3, Stay Thirsty--Black Bird Rock {MSP, \$486,769}, by Flower Alley) Lifetime Record: 3-2-0-0, \$52,100. O-Battle Born Racing Stable and William A. Branch; B-Terry C. Lovingier (CA); T-Michael Stidham. *\$6,000 Ylg '23 NCAAU; \$15,000 2yo '24 OBSOPN.



4th-Horseshoe Indianapolis, \$38,000, (S), 6-11, (NW1X), 3yo/up, 1m 70y, 1:40.97, ft, 12 1/2 lengths.

LITTLE JAKE (g, 4, Cloud Computing--Embracing, by Bernardini) Lifetime Record: 11-2-7-0, \$99,360. O-514 Racing LLC; B-Chris Brent Seaman (IN); T-Tim Eggleston. *\$35,000 2yo '23 OBSOPN.

2nd-Horseshoe Indianapolis, \$34,000, 6-11, (NW1\$X), 3yo/up, 1m 70y, 1:41.83, ft, 3 1/4 lengths.

FRIAR NEWTON (g, 4, Always Dreaming--Summerly {GISW, \$907,652}, by Summer Squall) Lifetime Record: 9-3-0-0, \$67,187. O-Las Monjitas Stable; B-WinStar Farm, LLC (KY); T-Paulo H. Lobo. *\$115,000 Ylg '22 KEESEP.



6th-Horseshoe Indianapolis, \$34,000, 6-11, (NW1\$X), 3yo/up, f/m, 5fT, :56.11, gd, 5 lengths.

PONDERING (f, 3, Hard Spun--Always Thinking {SW, \$162,638}, by Street Sense) Lifetime Record: 8-2-0-0, \$80,540. O/B-Godolphin (KY); T-Brendan P. Walsh. *1/2 to Think Big (Twirling Candy), MGSW, \$712,785.



7th-Thistledown, \$33,400, (NW3X)/Opt. Clm (\$25,000), 6-11, 3yo/up, 1m, 1:38.58, ft, 1 1/4 lengths.

CAPO LUCA (c, 3, Laoban--Better Not Cry, by Street Cry {Ire}) Lifetime Record: 12-4-0-2, \$111,802. O/T-Kim A. Puhl; B-Cypress Creek Equine, LLC (KY).

1st-Presque Isle Downs, \$31,680, (S), 6-11, (NW1BX), 3yo/up, 6f (AWT), 1:10.31, ft, nose.

THORN OF HEARTS (g, 4, Dominus--Goodforyourheart, by Forest Danger) Lifetime Record: 10-3-1-0, \$59,330. O-Lady Smith Stable, LLC; B-Trudy A Smith (PA); T-Henry D. Miller, Jr.

6th-Thistledown, \$28,000, 6-11, (C), 3yo/up, f/m, 5 1/2f, 1:05.51, ft, head.

LUCKY COUGAR (f, 4, Madefromlucky--Another Cougar, by With Distinction) Lifetime Record: 15-6-2-3, \$137,560. O-Jason DaCosta and Calypso Stable; B-Maria Haire (MD); T-Jason DaCosta. *\$6,000 Wlg '21 FTIDEC; \$27,000 Ylg '22 EASOCT.

4th-Finger Lakes, \$26,900, 6-11, (NW3L), 3yo/up, f/m, 5 1/2f, 1:05.15, ft, 1 3/4 lengths.

UNICORN CAKE (f, 4, Cloud Computing--Party Like Grandma {SW, \$149,805}, by Desert Party) Lifetime Record: MSP, 13-3-1-4, \$131,971. O/B-Flower City Racing LLC, Christopher J Meyer & Spiesman Rich (NY); T-Jeremiah C. Englehart.



7th-Finger Lakes, \$26,235, (C)/Opt. Clm (\$30,000), 6-11, 3yo/up, 6f, 1:10.85, ft, 5 1/2 lengths.

JAK N BURNY (g, 5, Destin--Betty's Chance, by Duckhorn)
Lifetime Record: SW, 10-7-2-0, \$154,180. O/B-Sherry Washburn (NY); T-Debra A. Breed. *1/2 to Winston's Chance (Roaring Fever), MSW, \$495,264.

3rd-Finger Lakes, \$25,000, (S), (NW2BX)/Opt. Clm (\$10,000), 6-11, 3yo/up, 5 1/2f, 1:04.57, ft, neck.

BUSTIN AWAY (g, 4, Bustin Stones--La Rignana, by Galileo {Ire})
Lifetime Record: SP, 8-6-1-1, \$150,020. O-Michael R. Di Tomasso; B-Hibiscus Stables (NY); T-M. Anthony Ferraro. *\$8,000 Ylg '22 EASOCT.

4th-Assiniboia Downs, C\$20,340, (C)/Opt. Clm (\$16,423), 6-10, 3yo/up, 7 1/2f, 1:35.62, ft, nose.

CORREDOR (g, 4, Klimt--My Foolish Heart, by Sky Mesa)
Lifetime Record: 17-5-4-1, \$74,485. O-Norbert and Norma Keshane; B-Ehris Stables (KY); T-Norbert Keshane. *\$12,000 Ylg '22 FTKOCT.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Cowgirl Chic, f, 3, Klimt--Portend, by Sky Mesa. Churchill Downs, 6-11, (C), 6 1/2f, 1:17.23. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$37,868. B-Allan & Lori Chappell (KY). *1ST-TIME STARTER.

Thatswhathesaid, f, 3, Klimt--Archers Post, by Smart Strike. Assiniboia Downs, 6-10, 5 1/2f, 1:08.92. Lifetime Record: 3-1-1-1, \$13,106. B-Carol M. Ricker (KY). *\$1,000 Ylg '23 FTKOCT.

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Brilliant Disguise, f, 3, Quality Road--Ellan Vannin (SW, \$120,021), by Spring At Last. Fort Erie, 6-10, 6 1/2f (off turf), 1:18.40. Lifetime Record: 5-1-2-0, \$32,967. B-Hill 'N' Dale Farms, M. Serrani and W. S. Farish (ON). *\$40,000 Ylg '23 KEESEP.

Co-Bred by 

Whiskey Tryst, g, 4, Commissioner--Weekend Tryst, by Any Given Saturday. Horseshoe Indianapolis, 6-10, (S), 1 1/16m (off turf), 1:46.85. Lifetime Record: 6-1-0-1, \$30,240. B-Kimberly A. Kritzer (IN).

Mabel Sue Jolene, f, 4, Elnaawi--Ms. Cat Princess (SW, \$161,320), by Cat Doctor. Horseshoe Indianapolis, 6-11, (S), 1mT, 1:39.46. Lifetime Record: 5-1-0-0, \$25,195. B-TC Racing Stable & B & B Stables, LLC (IN).

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Always Dreaming, Friar Newton, g, 4, o/o Summerly, by Summer Squall. ALW, 6-11, Horseshoe Indianapolis

Bustin Stones, Bustin Away, g, 4, o/o La Rignana, by Galileo (Ire). AOC, 6-11, Finger Lakes

Cloud Computing, Little Jake, g, 4, o/o Embracing, by Bernardini. ALW, 6-11, Horseshoe Indianapolis

Cloud Computing, Unicorn Cake, f, 4, o/o Party Like Grandma, by Desert Party. ALW, 6-11, Finger Lakes

Commissioner, Whiskey Tryst, g, 4, o/o Weekend Tryst, by Any Given Saturday. MSW, 6-10, Horseshoe Indianapolis

Destin, Jak N Burny, g, 5, o/o Betty's Chance, by Duckhorn. AOC, 6-11, Finger Lakes

Dominus, Thorn of Hearts, g, 4, o/o Goodforyourheart, by Forest Danger. ALW, 6-11, Presque Isle Downs

Hard Spun, Pondering, f, 3, o/o Always Thinking, by Street Sense. ALW, 6-11, Horseshoe Indianapolis

Jimmy Creed, Levigata, f, 3, o/o Seattle Sass, by Chief Seattle. MSW, 6-11, Delaware

Justify, Smell the Lilies, f, 2, o/o Up At Dawn, by Uncle Mo. MSW, 6-11, Churchill Downs

Klimt, Corredor, g, 4, o/o My Foolish Heart, by Sky Mesa. AOC, 6-10, Assiniboia

Klimt, Cowgirl Chic, f, 3, o/o Portend, by Sky Mesa. MCL, 6-11, Churchill Downs

Klimt, Hot Middles, f, 3, o/o Pretty Miss Trippi, by Trippi. Hoosier Breeders Sophomore H., 6-11, Horseshoe Indianapolis

Klimt, Thatswhathesaid, f, 3, o/o Archers Post, by Smart Strike. MSW, 6-10, Assiniboia

Laoban, Capo Luca, c, 3, o/o Better Not Cry, by Street Cry (Ire). AOC, 6-11, Thistledown

Medaglia d'Oro, Painted Desert, f, 3, o/o Sky Painter, by Street Cry (Ire). MSW, 6-11, Horseshoe Indianapolis

Mo Town, Mae Town, f, 3, o/o Latest Thinking, by Tale of the Cat. ALW, 6-11, Churchill Downs

Quality Road, Brilliant Disguise, f, 3, o/o Ellan Vannin, by Spring At Last. MSW, 6-10, Fort Erie

Stay Thirsty, Drink This Cup, f, 3, o/o Black Bird Rock, by Flower Alley. AOC, 6-11, Delaware



'ABSOLUTE DUDE' CARL SPACKLER SWAPS AMERICA FOR AUSTRALIA VIA ASCOT



Carl Spackler (Jamie Spencer) and Harry Did (Kaiya Fraser) alongside trainer Harry Eustace | Emma Berry

By Emma Berry

NEWMARKET, UK — It's that time of year again, when Newmarket welcomes the international visitors ahead of Royal Ascot, and there are few with a more international profile than Carl Spackler.

The son of Lope De Vega was bred in Ireland and has visited Newmarket before when offered at Book 1 of the Tattersalls October Yearling Sale, but the treble Grade I winner has thus far spent his entire racing career in the United States with Chad Brown. From one of America's leading trainers he now passes to the care of one of Australia's and, following his purchase by Yulong Investments, the stallion is now with Ciaron Maher as he takes aim at the Queen Anne Stakes before heading down under.

The chestnut with the striking blaze was hard to miss on the July Course just after 6am on Wednesday as he worked under Jamie Spencer. New Zealander James McDonald will be in the saddle at Ascot.

Maher's head of bloodstock, Will Bourne, said, "We came here wanting to have a hit out and this was Carl Spackler's second gallop since arriving in Newmarket." [Cont. p3](#)

LOCKINGE WINNER LEAD ARTIST PRIMED FOR 'HUMDINGER' OF A QUEEN ANNE

By Adam Houghton

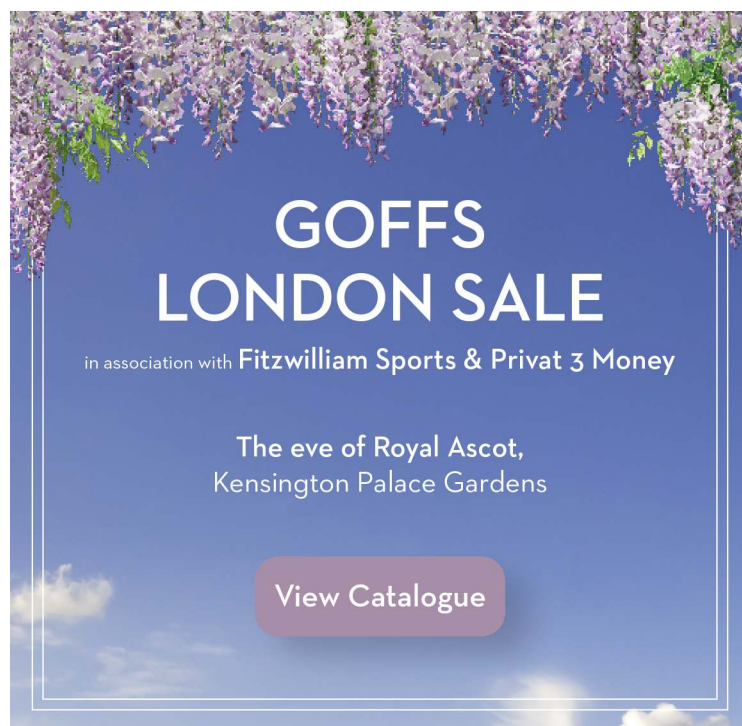
NEWMARKET, UK--In the words of John Gosden, a "humdinger" of a Queen Anne Stakes awaits those in attendance for the opening day of Royal Ascot, with Lead Artist appearing primed to spearhead a two-pronged attack from Clarehaven Stables after the son of Dubawi enjoyed a getting-to-know-you exercise with Colin Keane at the July Course on Wednesday morning.

With the trainer no longer having to ruminate on jockey arrangements for the Juddmonte bluebloods in his care, the attentions of the press pack swiftly switched to challenges outside of Gosden's control, specifically those which will be posed by the likes of Roger Teal, Richard Hannon and Charlie Appleby when the traditional Royal Ascot curtain-raiser gets underway at 2.30pm on Tuesday. [Cont. p4](#)

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

CAW IN CALIFORNIA: RATE HIKES AND ONE DOMINANT PLAYER

Dan Ross has an update on the Computer Assisted Wagering (CAW) players and how they are affecting California racing.



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Thursday, June 12, 2025



Leading Japanese sprinter Satono Reve gallops with Ryan Moore on Newmarket's July Course ahead of Royal Ascot. | Emma Berry

5 | KEANE DESCRIBES HIS 'PINCH YOURSELF MOMENT'

Emma Berry chats with Colin Keane on his new role as first-call rider for Juddmonte.

7 | TDN CONVERSATIONS PODCAST: WILLIE BROWNE

Brian Sheerin speaks with breeze-up consignor and trainer Willie Browne, who enjoyed a pair of seven-figure sales during the breeze-up sales.

13 | SNITZEL EUTHANISED AT 22 IN AUSTRALIA

The son of Redoute's Choice was euthanised at Arrowfield Stud on Wednesday morning due to liver damage.

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James Eustace, Will Bourne & Harry Eustace | Emma Berry

Internationals Prep For Royal Ascot Cont. from p1

Bourne added, "He came over here in good condition from Chad Brown, weighing about 525kg. After the feedback from Jamie Spencer from his first gallop, we came here today and achieved exactly what we wanted. Jamie said when he gave him a squeeze late, he really exploded, and Jamie was really impressed by how much he has switched on since the first gallop."

Bourne added, "A stiff mile at Ascot is a big ask coming from America, although his times out there really stack up and, thanks to his temperament, he is the perfect horse to travel. He is an absolute dude, like a kid's pony."

The Cox Plate, won last year by Yulong's Via Sistina, is the longer-term aim for the five-year-old, who may yet run at Glorious Goodwood after Royal Ascot.

Carl Spackler may be on his way to becoming an assimilated Aussie but one who can claim birthright is Asfoora, who has returned to the UK to defend her crown in the King Charles III Stakes, also on the Tuesday of the royal meeting.

Now six, the daughter of Flying Artie has been accompanied by her regular rider Chenelle Ellis and trainer Henry Dwyer, who has been unable to give Asfoora a prep run in Europe, as he did ahead of last year's meeting.

He said, "We couldn't get a flight, it's as simple as that. In an ideal world, we would have been over here earlier. We were thinking of going to France and having a prep in the Group 3 sprint two weeks ago, but we couldn't get here in time. As it turns out, we had to do the work at home, travel, and give her a really quiet time here before hopefully going there all guns blazing next Tuesday."

Dwyer added, "Oisin [Murphy] galloped her on Monday on the July Course. She had a lead horse and they went an easy furlong from the five to the four before running a really sharp 600

metres in around 33 seconds. She was steaming through the line with the blinkers on and pulled up like she hadn't had a gallop, so I think her fitness is good. She seems in a good place and Oisin is very confident, probably more than me, but I hope he is right."

Dwyer, based in Ballarat, described his victory at Royal Ascot last year as "completely bonkers".

He added, "I didn't care if she won or lost as long as she didn't embarrass herself or us. We were stood in the grandstand and, when she came past us and was clearly going to win, that was the last I saw of the race as I had 30 people jumping on top of me, cheering. I still don't think it has sunk in."

Ascot won't be the last time Asfoora is seen on British turf, as Dwyer outlined plans to run the mare at Goodwood and York, in the King George Stakes and Nunthorpe Stakes, as she did in 2024.

"Then we would like to go to Ireland and France, but it depends on her," he said. "If she is in good order, we will be doing that."

Completing a star-studded morning on Newmarket's July Course, which returns to official action a week on Friday, was the appearance of top Japanese sprinter Satono Reve.

A son of Lord Kanaloa, the six-year-old won the G1 Takamatsunomiya Kinen in his home country at the end of March before chasing home Hong Kong star Ka Ying Rising to be second in the G1 Chairman's Sprint Prize at Sha Tin a month later.

Trainer Noriyuki Horii is making his Royal Ascot debut but he has previously spent time in Newmarket, notably while working for Sir Michael Stoute in the days when his team included the Japan Cup winners Singspiel and Pilsudski. He will be familiar with Beech Hurst Stables, where Satono Reve is based, as the yard now used by James Horton previously housed Stoute's horses. [Cont. p4](#)



Asfoora with Chenelle Ellis | Emma Berry

Internationals Prep For Royal Ascot Cont.

Hori called on another Stoute ally Ryan Moore to take the reins while Satono Reve put in a visually impressive piece of work on the turf on Wednesday morning.

Hori said, "After arriving from Hong Kong, Satono Reve had some time to recover before steadily building up his training. Today, we completed his final gallop before the race.

"Although it's a different environment from what he's used to, he's been coming along well thanks to the warm support of James Horton, his team and everyone involved."

With Moore likely to be aboard Storm Boy for Aidan O'Brien in the Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Stakes on the final day of the meeting, Satono Reve will be reunited with Joao Moreira as he bids to become the first Japanese winner at Royal Ascot.

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John Gosden with Lead Artist and Colin Keane | Emma Berry



Ryan Moore on Satono Reve, trainer Noriyuki Hori third right
Emma Berry

Lead Artist Cont. from p1

Lead Artist might have landed the first meaningful blow in the battle to be crowned leading older miler, with his victory in last month's G1 Lockinge Stakes, but Gosden is taking nothing for granted as the son of Dubawi prepares for the opportunity to confirm his Newbury superiority over the likes of Dancing Gemini, Rosallion and Notable Speech in the Queen Anne.

"It's a wonderful race," said Gosden. "From the line-up in the Lockinge, you've got the first four again, all turning up. Will they finish in the same order? That's the exciting thing--they're all fabulous horses.

"Rosallion and Notable Speech, both of them, they're going to come on, aren't they? I think it's as good a Queen Anne as I've seen for a long time. We said that about the Lockinge but, now that they've got a race under their belt, it's quite a humdinger to start the meeting with."

The ante-post betting for that "humdinger" is headed at a general 5/2 by Rosallion, last year's Irish 2,000 Guineas and St James's Palace Stakes winner who was having his first start for 11 months at Newbury.

Lead Artist, on the other hand, had the benefit of a previous run this season, albeit a disappointing one when he finished last of eight runners in the G2 Mile won by Dancing Gemini. According to Gosden, it was the combination of a lack of fitness and the rain-softened ground which derailed that Sandown effort, but the demands of Tuesday's contest are expected to hold no fears for the 9/2 fancy.

"I think it will suit him [running over a stiff mile], rather than a slick mile," said the trainer who, along with son Thady, will also saddle last month's G1 Prix d'Ispahan runner-up Sardinian Warrior as the stable seeks a second Queen Anne success after that of Palace Pier in 2021."

He added, "He got stuck in the ground [at Sandown]. It was good to soft and he doesn't like that, but he likes what we're going to get at Ascot, all being well. He was in need of the race as well [at Sandown]. He came there nicely and then it looked to me like he struggled on that ground. He turned it around [at Newbury], but it wasn't a surprise. Did I think he'd go and win? Not necessarily. I thought he'd run a huge race, though, which he did.

"We were pleased with him there. He's had a nice blow and that should set him up nicely for Tuesday. I think the idea was to come here so that Colin can have a feel of the horse and he knows him when he goes to Ascot. You don't want to be seeing them for the first time in the paddock," Gosden added of Wednesday's exercise, before sharing his thoughts on Keane's recent appointment as Juddmonte's retained jockey." [Cont. p5](#)



Lead Artist and Colin Keane (left) and Torito with Kieran O'Neill in the irons | Emma Berry

Lead Artist Cont.

He said, "It's an exciting opportunity for him. He's a very talented jockey, a talented horseman, and he's an extremely nice fellow. The travelling is demanding on a jockey, but I'm sure he'll fit in very well once he gets to know all of the horses. I think, if you're on Ryanair, you might be seeing him. He'll be over riding work and things, like he's done today."

"He's a very classy jockey, obviously, or he wouldn't be a six-time champion in Ireland. The riding over there is tough--nobody gives a quarter to anyone."

In another star-studded contest on day one of Royal Ascot, Keane will continue his association with Field Of Gold for Juddmonte and the Gosdens, having recently partnered the son of **Kingman** to victory in the Irish 2,000 Guineas on the jockey's home patch.

The G1 St James's Palace Stakes is Field Of Gold's target on Tuesday as he tries to avenge his Newmarket defeat at the hands of Ruling Court. When you also throw into the mix a third Classic winner in Henri Matisse, successful in the Poule d'Essai des Poulains, then it has all the makings of a race to savour.

"It's exciting, isn't it?" said Gosden. "It's what Ascot is all about. It looks like there will be a fabulous line-up of horses in a lot of the races, starting with the Queen Anne.

"There was no need for him [Field Of Gold] to come over here today. He obviously just ran in the Irish Guineas not that long ago. For these horses it's been a month--and one of them [Torito] a year--between races. He's fine and pointing towards the St James's Palace."

Devil's Advocate, ridden by Tyler Heard, and Sweet William, with his devoted Rab Havlin aboard, made up the quartet of gallopers from Clarehaven in a separate exercise to that of Lead Artist and Listed Wolferton Stakes contender Torito.

Devil's Advocate is being targeted at the G3 Queen's Vase, according to Gosden, who also spoke fondly of Sweet William as he prepares to join stable-mate Trawlerman in the G1 Gold Cup.

"That was a great run [when third in the Yorkshire Cup], because a mile and six [furlongs] is on the sharp side for him," the trainer said of Sweet William. "He enjoys the climb at Ascot and he's solid at two and a quarter [miles]. Two and a half [miles] takes you a little bit into no man's land, but we're very pleased with his preparation. He's worked well there and he's a wonderful character. He does everything in his own time, but I think the work here will just sharpen him up.

"Trawlerman won the Henry II, so he's pointing that way as well. They're different types of horses. One bowls along and the other tends to come with a strong late run. To that extent, they sort of suit each rather well because they're not both trying to do the same job."

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Sweet William & Rab Havlin | Emma Berry

KEANE DESCRIBES HIS 'PINCH YOURSELF MOMENT' *By Emma Berry*

NEWMARKET, UK -- Colin Keane, Juddmonte's newly retained jockey, has wasted no time in familiarising himself with one of his leading mounts for Royal Ascot and was in Newmarket on Wednesday morning to ride Lead Artist for the first time ahead of Tuesday's Queen Anne Stakes.

The four-year-old son of Dubawi, last seen winning the Lockinge Stakes at Newbury, stretched out on the July Course in company with Wathnan Racing's Torito (**Kingman**) and Kieran O'Neill. The latter is an intended runner in the Wolferton Stakes.

"He was very good in the Lockinge," Keane said after debriefing trainers John and Thady Gosden on the morning's exercise. "He feels like a very straightforward horse, a good mover who feels fit and well. I'm looking forward to next week."

Colin Keane Cont.

There will be no easing-in period for Keane at this high point in the season, with Juddmonte's team for Royal Ascot set to include the Irish 2,000 Guineas winner Field Of Gold (Kingman), who could take on fellow Juddmonte runners Jonquil (Lope De Vega) and Windlord (Dubawi) in a tantalising line-up for the St James's Palace Stakes which could see a rematch with Ruling Court (Justify). Group 1 winners Kalpana (Study Of Man) and Babouche (Kodiac) are also entered for the Prince Of Wales's Stakes and Commonwealth Cup, respectively.

Keane has the mental boost of having already won a Classic on the Gosden-trained Field Of Gold. "A stiff mile will suit him well," he said. "He's growing up in his races and feels very relaxed. I couldn't have been more happy with what he did."

The six-time champion jockey in Ireland, Keane describes hearing the news that he was to be offered the job as a "pinch yourself moment".

He added, "When the call came, I had to double-check that it was Barry [Mahon] on the other end of the phone! When you get those opportunities, you have to take them.

"I'll be over and back from Ireland and maybe having the odd day in France. I'll be kept busy, that's for sure.

"I'm going to have to get around the place and get to know people, get to know the horses and get used to them."

Keane has long been attached to Ger Lyons's Glenburnie Stables, which has provided him with Classic victories aboard Siskin (for Juddmonte) and Even So, as well as a Breeders' Cup

triumph last season with Magnum Force.

"If it wasn't for him, I wouldn't be on the stage we've got to," he says of Lyons, a vocal champion of Keane's talents. "I was with him from when I was an apprentice, I went straight there from my father's. Look, he has backed me 100 per cent. He's never hidden that and I'm very fortunate. I wouldn't be where I am without him."

Pride of place in the family album, however, may well go to the winner's photo from last year's Duke of Edinburgh Stakes at the royal meeting, after Keane had stormed to success on Crystal Black (Teofilo), trained by his father, Gerry.

"That was a massive day, absolutely massive," he recalls.

"We'd bought him for not much money from the

Horses-in-Training Sale for a great bunch of people. It was fairytale stuff for everyone involved."

For Keane, the fairytale has evolved into one of the most

prized jobs in racing, following such names as Pat Eddery and Richard Hughes as Juddmonte's number one jockey. He first wrested the Irish title from the former nine-time champion Pat Smullen in 2017 and, since 2020, it has been Keane's alone. Whether he can ever match the 13 championships accrued by Mick Kinane remains to be seen, and the modest Keane laughs off the idea that he has been dubbed 'Baby Kinane'.

"I think Pat and Ger [Lyons] came up with it – ah sure, it's

not a bad nickname to have. But we try to keep it relaxed as possible and get the job done."

Words to live by, especially when it comes to the pressure cooker that is Royal Ascot.



Colin Keane on Lead Artist in Newmarket | Emma Berry



Colin Keane on Wednesday morning | Emma Berry

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TDN CONVERSATIONS WITH “BREEZE-UP KING” WILLIE BROWNE



Brian Sheerin chats with Willie Browne in the latest TDN Conversations Podcast. | Tattersalls

It was another memorable year on the breeze-up circuit for Willie Browne. The 79-year-old broke his own long-standing record at the Tattersalls Craven Breeze-Up by selling an Acclamation colt to Godolphin for 1.4 million gns. Roll on to Arqana and the Mocklershill maestro was at it again when selling a **Siyouni** colt to Coolmore for €1 million.

Such results were welcome, according to Browne, who joked with Brian Sheerin on this month's edition of the TDN Conversations Podcast that 'it will be the first time in a few years where I have to give the tax man a few quid!'

A man who has been breezing horses from the very beginning, Browne proves a fascinating guest as he recounts how he first got into breezing, the huge change he has overseen in that industry and how this year's exploits provided him with a huge lift personally.

Browne also touched on his love for training, the clock at the breeze-ups and what personality traits have helped sustain him in business. Rightly regarded as the breeze-up king, Browne makes for a fascinating guest.

TDN Conversations are sponsored by **Saracen Horse Feeds**, the British-based feed company which has this week been acknowledged with a King's Award for Enterprise.

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EUROPEAN NEWS

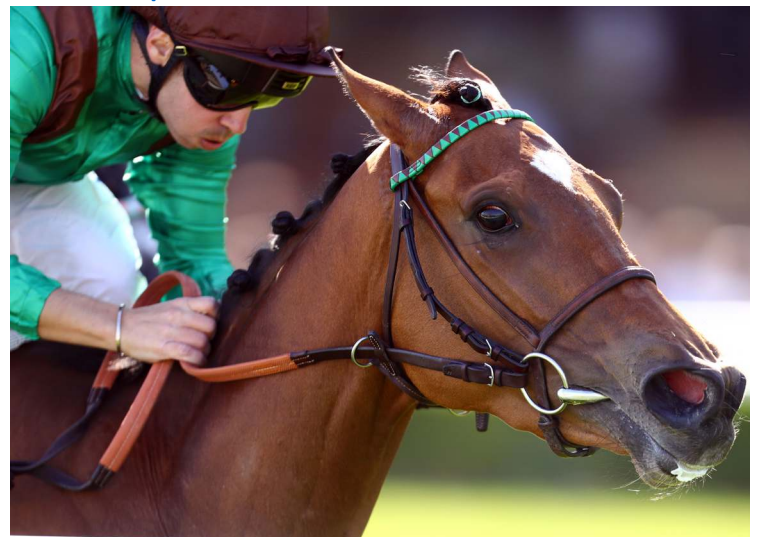
HISTORY ON THE LINE AS MANDANABA AND CANKOURA PREP FOR DIANE; ZARIGANA HEADED FOR CORONATION

The late Prince Aga Khan IV is the most successful owner in the history of the G1 Prix de Diane Longines with seven wins, and two fillies will carry the family's famous silks in Sunday's affair. Representing his daughter Princess Zahra Aga Khan is **Mandanaba** (Ghaiyyath), while **Cankoura** (Persian King) will race in the Aga Khan Studs' colours.

Both fillies are trained by Francis-Henri Graffard, with Mandanaba coming off a third in the Prix d'Essai des Pouliches. Mandanaba carries further distinction as the final foal out of Princess Zahra's champion and three-time Group 1 winner Mandesha (Desert Style). The Diane will be her fourth lifetime start.

"We hesitated for a long time between the Saint-Alary and the Poule d'Essai des Pouliches," said Aga Khan racing manager Nemone Routh. "The Poule, being a Classic and a Group 1, was ultimately the preferred choice. Her performance there was very good. She has speed, but her pedigree suggests she can stay 2000 metres.

"Mandanaba is a very generous filly. She likes to race up near the pace, which is an advantage at Chantilly when the ground is good. Mandanaba also has a lovely backstory. Her dam, Mandesha, was a champion for Princess Zahra, but did not produce particularly well at stud. She has now retired and is enjoying life with Zarkava and her companions. Mandanaba is her final foal, and the best she's ever produced. That's quite rare." [Cont. p8](#)



Mandanaba | Scoop Dyga

Aga Khan Fillies Cont.

Listed winner Cankoura won the Prix Finland at ParisLongchamp on May 22 after running fourth in the Listed Prix des Lilas earlier in the month.

Added Routh, “In the Prix des Lilas, she was really unlucky. Mickael Barzalona didn’t ask too much of her. We had expected a more striking performance [in the Finlande], but she needed the run, as she hadn’t done much work between the Lilas and the Finlande. Also, the ground was a little too soft for her.

“She’s honest, willing, and we’re hoping for good ground. We believe she still has more to offer. Both Mandanaba and Cankoura have speed and can race prominently, which is a plus at Chantilly in good conditions. Cankoura will be partnered by Clement Lecoeuvre.”

Reflecting on the Aga Khan’s success in the Diane she added, “The Diane was a race very dear to the Prince. For many years, one of the stable’s key aims each season has been to field runners with genuine chances in this Classic. This year, both family silks will be represented, which is particularly special. The Aga Khan Studs are above all breeders, and having fillies capable of excelling in this race is central to the identity of our colours. These fillies will then return to the stud, where we hope they will go on to produce more top-class horses.”

Royal Ascot Bid For Zarigana

G1 Prix d’Essai des Pouliches heroine **Zarigana (Siyouni)** will skip the Diane and step forward for the G1 Coronation Stakes at Royal Ascot next week. A winner of three of her four starts, the Francis-Henri Graffard-trained filly will miss a rematch with Shes Perfect (**Sioux Nation**), who is on target for the Diane.

“The trainer was very keen to run Zarigana in Ascot. We obviously did consider the Prix de Diane because I think she relaxed a lot more last time and she seems to be gaining maturity in her races, so it did become more of an option to consider the Diane for her.

“But I think Francis has trained her more to race over a mile in this first part of the season, that doesn’t mean that we wouldn’t stretch her out later in the year. I think he felt it was always part of the programme that he had set aside for her that she would go to Royal Ascot after the Pouliches, especially as we had other fillies for the Diane.

“Zarigana is due to have her last piece of work tomorrow [Thursday] morning. She worked last week and is in good form, so provided all goes well tomorrow, I imagine it’s all systems go for Royal Ascot.”

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PRIX JACQUES LE MAROIS ENTRIES INCLUDE JAPANESE TRIO



Jantar Mantar | JRA

Sprinkled among the 42 entries for the Aug. 17 G1 Aga Khan Studs Prix Jacques le Marois are a trio from Japan for the first time.

Sunday’s G1 Yasuda Kinen hero **Jantar Mantar** (Palace Malice) anchors that trio, with fellow Group 1 winner **Ascoli Piceno** (Daiwa Major) signed on, as well as longshot **Go To First** (Rulership).

Hailing from the stable of the sponsor is G1 Poule d’Essai des Pouliches heroine **Zarigana (Siyouni)**, **Zabiari (Wootton Bassett)**, and G1 Poule d’Essai des Poulains fifth **Ridari** (Churchill). The late Aga Khan IV won the Deauville showpiece in 1973 with Kalamoun.

Across the English Channel, Godolphin and Juddmonte have five entries apiece, including G1 2000 Guineas one-two **Ruling Court (Justify)**, for Godolphin, and **Field Of Gold (Kingman)** flying the flag for Juddmonte, respectively. Ireland is also in on the action, with Aidan O’Brien sending Poulains hero **Henri Matisse (Wootton Bassett)**, G1 Prix du Jockey Club victor **Camille Pissarro (Wootton Bassett)** and G1 Prix Morny winner **Whistlejacket (No Nay Never)**.

In 2024, Sumbe stallion Charyn won the Marois, one of a trio of Group 1s for the son of Dark Angel last year before he retired to Haras de Montfort et Preaux.

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ALI SHUFFLE, BONE MARRA AND GREEN STORM ADDED TO GOFFS LONDON SALE

The **catalogue** for the Goffs London Sale, held in association with Fitzwilliam Sports and Privat 3 Money, has grown to 27 lots after late additions, which include **Ali Shuffle**, **Bone Marra** and **Green Storm**.

Lily Agnes Stakes winner Ali Shuffle is one of 18 lots set to be sold with engagements at Royal Ascot which begins the day after the sale on Tuesday, June 17. Trained by Karl Burke and unbeaten in three starts, the daughter of A'Ali is set for the G2 Queen Mary Stakes.

Joining her are Wolverhampton debut winner Bone Marra. He is pointing to either the G2 Coventry Stakes or the Listed Windsor Castle stakes and is by Starman. Charlie Johnston sends Green Storm, by Circus Maximus, to the sale off a seventh-place finish in last Saturday's G1 Betfred Derby. He was Group 1-placed as a juvenile. Other lots added to the sale in recent days are the Curragh maiden winner **Bonus Time** (Too Darn Hot) who is pointing for the G3 Jersey Stakes, and **Mo Chroi** (Galiway), who won a 10-furlong Fairyhouse maiden.

Goffs Group chief executive Henry Beeby said, "We're thrilled with the catalogue for this year's London Sale. It features a superb selection of horses, from Group 1 performer Ghostwriter to high-class French and German prospects and a host of Royal Ascot contenders, as well as two exciting stallion shares. With major owners from around the world set to attend, we're preparing for fireworks in the ring on Monday."

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ROGER DEVLIN APPOINTED AS HBLB CHAIR



Roger Devlin [right]: co-owner-breeder of Pyledriver

Racingfotos.com

Roger Devlin has been appointed by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport as the Chair of HBLB for four years from 1 July 2025.

Devlin is currently Chair of Persimmon, the FTSE housebuilder, as well as a Director of the Sutton Trust, the leading social mobility charity. He also co-owned and co-bred multiple Group 1 scorer Pyledriver.

He commented, "I am honoured to be invited to chair the Levy Board at a time of considerable challenge, but also opportunity, for racing. My focus will be consistent with the Levy's key objectives – to promote investment and employment in racing; to enhance racehorse welfare wherever possible; to improve the reputation of the sport and thereby generate increased interest. I look forward to working with my fellow Board members and the wider team, as well as racing and betting organisations, in pursuit of these goals.

"I am very mindful of building on Paul Darling's considerable legacy to the Levy Board and would also like to thank Anne Lambert for her good work as Interim Chair."

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WALK IN THE PARK COLT TOPS THE PART 1 FINALE OF THE GOFFS ARKLE SALE

A 2-year-old store by Walk In The Park made €230,000 on the bid of Gerry Aherne to top the Goffs Arkle Sale on Wednesday.

Sold as lot 457 from the Glenwood Stud draft, the colt is out of G2 Warfield Mares Hurdle heroine Sparky May (Midnight Legend), who ran third in the G1 Sefton Novices' Hurdle. Her best produce is Grade 1-winning hurdler and chaser Stage Star (Fame And Glory). He sold for €110,000 to Richard Frisby during the 2023 Goffs December National Hunt Sale.

Leading the 3-year-old stores was a gelding by Nathaniel (lot 389), who sold to Tom Malone and Owen Daley for €200,000. Consigned by Oaks Farm Stables, the bay is a half-brother to Grade 1-winning hurdler Santini (Milan) and Grade 2 victor Rockpoint (Shirocco).

Another 14 lots made or exceeded €100,000 on Wednesday, bringing the total over the first two days to 29. The gross was €18,752,000 (+13%) for 349 lots sold from 415 offered (84%). The average was €53,731 (+11%) and the median was €45,000 (+7%).

Regarding the 2-year-old portion of Wednesday's session, 16 sold from 23 offered (70%) for an aggregate of €838,500. The average and median in this category was €52,407 and €39,000, respectively.

Part 2 of the sale continues on Thursday.

[Cont. p10](#)

Goffs Arkle Sale Cont.

“The Arkle Sale makes the Goffs team especially proud as it is now the first choice for so many of the best 3-year-olds offered each year which, in turn, drives all the leading buyers to the sale,” said Goffs Group chief executive Henry Beeby. “The two days have returned a mighty trade of sustained demand especially at the top of the market with 29 six-figure lots comparing very favourably with the 16 to pass that milestone last year so clearly demonstrating the quality of the catalogue and the hunger for the best. In addition, the average of €53,731 is a record for the sale whilst an 84% clearance rate underlines the depth of the market.

“Sales ring success has driven vendor support but equally key has been the racecourse performances of Arkle graduates whether at the major festivals or in the point-to-point field.”

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FIRST-SEASON SIRES WITH RUNNERS

Thursday, June 12, 2025:

UNITED KINGDOM

A'Ali (Ire) (Society Rock {Ire}), Newsells Park Stud
75 foals of racing age/4 winners/0 black-type winners
18:30-CHELMSFORD CITY, 6f, **Diamond Ali (GB)**
5,000gns Tattersalls Somerville Yearling Sale 2024

Lope Y Fernandez (Ire) (Lope de Vega {Ire}), The National Stud
99 foals of racing age/2 winners/0 black-type winners
14:05-NEWBURY, 6.5f, **Yachtsman (GB)**
125,000gns Tattersalls October Yearling Sale (Book 2) 2024

Lucky Vega (Ire) (Lope de Vega {Ire}), Irish National Stud
101 foals of racing age/2 winners/0 black-type winners
14:05-NEWBURY, 6.5f, **Silver State (Ire)**
42,000gns Tattersalls October Yearling Sale (Book 2) 2024

Palace Pier (GB) (**Kingman (GB)**), Dalham Hall Stud
113 foals of racing age/1 winner/0 black-type winners
14:40-NEWBURY, 6.5f, **A Bit of Spirit (Ire)**
75,000gns Tattersalls Somerville Yearling Sale 2024

Space Blues (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}), Kildangan Stud
113 foals of racing age/3 winners/0 black-type winners
14:05-NEWBURY, 6.5f, **Blues And Royals (Ire)**
120,000gns Tattersalls October Yearling Sale (Book 2) 2024

Starman (GB) (Dutch Art {GB}), Tally-Ho Stud
211 foals of racing age/8 winners/1 black-type winner
14:05-NEWBURY, 6.5f, **Moonfall (Ire)**
€120,000 Goffs November Foal Sale 2023; 200,000gns
Tattersalls October Yearling Sale 2024

Ubettabelieveit (Ire) (Kodiac {GB}), Mickley Stud
80 foals of racing age/3 winners/0 black-type winners
18:30-CHELMSFORD CITY, 6f, **Rai Rogers (GB)**
27,000gns Tattersalls December Foal Sale 2023; £10,000 RNA
Goffs UK 2yo Breeze Up Sale 2025

Victor Ludorum (GB) (Shamardal), Haras d'Etream
104 foals of racing age/2 winners/0 black-type winners
14:05-NEWBURY, 6.5f, **Dodge City (Fr)**
€10,000 Arqana December Breeding Stock Sale 2023 (English
Version); £38,000 Goffs UK Premier Yearling Sale 2024

IRELAND

Lucky Vega (Ire) (Lope de Vega {Ire}), Irish National Stud
101 foals of racing age/2 winners/0 black-type winners
1-LEOPARDSTOWN, 7.25f, **Bellamano (Ire)**
€30,000 Tattersalls Ireland September Yearling 2024



Palace Pier | Darley



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OBSERVATIONS

on the European racing scene

HALF-SISTER TO DUAL GROUP 1 WINNER DREAMLOPER SET FOR NEWBURY DEBUT

15.50 Newbury, £40,000, Nov, 3yo, f, 8fT

In-form trainer Ed Walker is represented here by **DREAMASAR (IRE) (Masar {Ire})**, a half-sister to the stable's G1 Prix d'Ispahan and G1 Prix du Moulin heroine Dreamloper (Ire) (Lope De Vega {Ire}). She is the lone debutante in an eight-strong field and her opponents include Cheveley Park Stud's Listed Michael Seely Memorial fourth **Consecrated (GB) (Frankel {GB})**, herself a half-sister to G1 Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Stakes runner-up Sacred (GB) (Exceed And Excel {Aus}).

16.40 Leopardstown, €25,000, Mdn, 2yo, f, 7f 47T

Fishdance's **DANCING SAXON (IRE) (Saxon Warrior {Jpn})**, is a Joseph O'Brien-trained half-sister to recent G2 Sandown Mile victor Dancing Gemini (Ire) (**Camelot {GB}**), who also ran second in last year's G1 Poule d'Essai des Poulains and last month's G1 Lockinge Stakes. The May-foaled homebred bay encounters 17 rivals in this debut.

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BRITAIN

Wednesday's Results:

2nd-Hamilton, £10,000, Mdn, 6-11, 2yo, 6f 6yT, 1:10.25, gd.

BETTER AND BETTER (IRE) (c, 2, Acclamation {GB}--Petalite {GB}, by Kingman {GB}), who was denied by a neck when a May 30 debut runner-up going five furlongs at Carlisle last time, was swiftly into stride and stalked the pace in second from flagfall in this return. Nudged along approaching the quarter-mile marker, the 11-8 favourite hooked up with Study Of Man's sibling Try Storm Cat (**Saxon Warrior**) entering the final furlong and was ridden out to deny that rival by a head after a ding-dong tussle. Better And Better, half to a yearling colt by Blue Point, is the first of two foals out of a half-sister to stakes-winning G1 Doncaster Mile and G1 C F Orr Stakes third Nugget (**Siyouni**) and Listed Newmarket Stakes victor UAE Jewel (Dubawi). The February-foaled bay's second dam is stakes-winning G3 Park Express Stakes second Gemstone (Galileo), herself a half-sister to Argentinian Group 3 winner Karamela (Mastercraftsman), G1 Jebel Hatta third Ursa Minor (**Sea The Stars**) and to the dam of

G1 Irish St Leger hero Sonnyboyliston (Power). Gemstone is also a full-sister to the dam of stakes-winning G3 Prix Cleopatre runner-up Fun With Flags (Zoffany). Sales history: €75,000 Ylg '24 GOFORY; £19,000 2yo '25 GOUKB. Lifetime Record: 2-1-1-0, \$13,274.

O-Keatley Racing Owners Group; B-Mark & Stephanie Hanly; T-Adrian Keatley.

2nd-Kempton, £8,000, Mdn, 6-11, 2yo, f, 7f (AWT), 1:28.64, st/sl.

MISS HONEY (IRE) (f, 2, Too Darn Hot {GB}--Spring Of Love {GB}, by Invincible Spirit {Ire}) dwelt at the break and tracked the leaders in fifth for most of this unveiling. Inching closer off the home turn, the 8-11 favourite was rowed along approaching the quarter-mile marker and kept on strongly under whipless cajoling in the closing stages to deny Brighlee (Persian King) by a neck nearing the line. Miss Honey is the second foal and scorer produced by a winning half-sister to stakes-winning G3 Prix Bertrand de Tarragon and G3 Atalanta Stakes runner-up Duneflower (Dubawi). The February-foaled homebred bay, whose second dam is G2 Rockfel Stakes third Desert Blossom (Shamardal), is half to a yearling filly by Dark Angel. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$5,831.

O/B-Godolphin; T-John & Thady Gosden.

3rd-Hamilton, £8,000, Mdn, 6-11, 3yo/up, 11f 15yT, 2:23.01, gd.

VALIANCY (IRE) (g, 3, Cracksman {GB}--Dromana {Ire}, by Dutch Art {GB}), his trainer's 100th runner at this venue, lined up as the 1-7 favourite coming back off a May 30 second at Haydock and rewarded short-odds backers with a smooth victory in this third start. [Cont. p12](#)



Valiancy as a yearling | de Burgh Productions

3rd-Hamilton Cont.

Settled off the tempo through halfway, he eased forward in the straight to seize control with 1 1/2 furlongs remaining and coasted to the line in hand to easily outclass the overmatched Elsass (Sottsass) by 2 1/2 lengths. Valiancy is the third of four foals and second scorer out of a dual-winning half-sister to G3 Henry II Stakes winner Lismore (Zoffany), Listed Prix de la Cochere victrix Testa (Acclamation) and G3 Sirenia Stakes third Malrescia (Acclamation). The April-foaled bay is a half-brother to dual Group 3-winning G1 Phoenix Stakes third Givemethebeatboys (Bungle Inthejungle) and a yearling filly by **Sioux Nation**. Sales history: €48,000 Wlg '22 GOFNO1; 410,000gns Ylg '23 TATOCT. Lifetime Record: 3-1-1-0, \$9,251. O-Wathnan Racing; B-Airlie Stud & Mrs S M Rogers; T-W Haggas.

3rd-Kempton, £8,000, Mdn, 6-11, 3yo/up, f, 10f 219y (AWT), 2:20.82, st/sl.

SILENT LOVE (IRE) (f, 3, Dubawi {Ire}--Hadith {Ire} {SW-Eng}, by New Approach {Ire}), who hit the board in 10-furlong starts at Newmarket and Haydock last month, settled several lengths behind the clear leader in third for most of this all-weather bow. Inching into second on the home turn, the 8-11 favourite eased to the front approaching the two pole and was ridden out inside the final furlong to hold the late bid of Favorite Memory (**Frankel**) by 3/4-of-a-length. Silent Love is the second foal and scorer produced by Listed Montrose Fillies' Stakes winner Hadith (New Approach), herself a daughter of G3 Sweet Solera Stakes victrix Discourse (Street Cry). Discourse, who is a half-sister to G1 Blue Grass Stakes-winning sire Bandini (Fusaichi Pegasus), is also the dam of G3 Jebel Ali Mile winner Blown By Wind (Invincible Spirit) and Listed Grosser Preis der Metallbau Burckhardt victrix Discursus (Dubawi), with the latter being the dam of the stakes-winning Nano Nagle (**Frankel**). Discourse is also the second dam of three-time G1 Dubai Turf hero Lord North (Dubawi). Silent Love is kin to an unraced 2-year-old filly by **Wootton Bassett**. Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-2, \$13,954. O/B-Godolphin; T-Charlie Appleby.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Wateen (Ire), f, 2, **Profitable (Ire)**--Maine Island (Ire), by Shamardal. Lingfield, 6-11, 4f 217yT, :58.27. Lifetime Record: 3-1-2-0, \$11,005. B-Thomas Hassett. *\$32,000gns Ylg '24 TATSOM.

Chinkara (Ire), f, 3, **Night Of Thunder (Ire)**--Lady Rasha (GB), by Dansili (GB). Great Yarmouth, 6-11, 7f 3yT, 1:25.34. Lifetime Record: 4-1-0-1, \$14,419. B-Blue Diamond Stud Farm (UK) Ltd.

Bred and Raised at

Blue Diamond Stud

Abundance (GB), g, 3, **Zoustar (Aus)**--Bounty Box (GB)

(MSW-Eng, \$162,307), by Bahamian Bounty (GB). Lingfield,

6-11, 7f 135yT, 1:31.18. Lifetime Record: 4-1-0-2, \$9,133. B-Farmers Hill Stud. *10,000gns Ylg '23 TADEY. **1/2 to Fuente (GB) (Havana Gold {Ire}), GSP-Eng, \$131,822.

IRELAND**ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:**

Valorous Power (Ger), c, 3, **Frankel (GB)**--Vagabonde (Ire), by Acclamation (GB). Limerick, 6-11, 8fT, 1:42.23. Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-0, \$12,792. B-Power Thoroughbreds Germany GmbH. *€320,000 RNA Ylg '23 BBAGS. **1/2 to Comic Book (GB), GSP-Eng.

FRANCE**CONDITIONS RESULTS:**

1st-Bordeaux-Le Bouscat, €22,000, Cond, 6-11, 3yo, 8fT, 1:39.51, gd.

ROMANCE CERTAINE (FR) (f, 3, Le Havre {Ire}--Private Romance {Ire} {SP-Fr}, by Siyouni {Fr}) Lifetime Record: 5-2-1-0, €32,100. O-Ecurie Antonio Caro & Gerard Augustin-Normand; B-Mme Hilary Erculiani; T-Jean-Claude Rouget. *€130,000 Ylg '23 ARQAUG.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Royal Bay Cen (Ire), f, 2, **New Bay (GB)**--Royal Razalma (Ire) (GSW-Eng, \$103,354), by Lope De Vega (Ire). Craon, 6-11, 6 1/2fT, 1:14.65. B-Yeguada Centurion SLU.

Kraskhov (Fr), g, 3, **Goken (Fr)**--Tadaabeer (GB), by Dubawi (Ire). Craon, 6-11, 8fT, 1:43.23. B-Haras des Pyrenees. *€60,000 Ylg '23 ARQOCT.

La Ceiba (Fr), f, 3, **Make Believe (GB)**--Octavine (Ire), by Montjeu (Ire). Craon, 6-11, 8fT, 1:43.16. B-Comte Guillaume de Saint-Seine.

**IN HONG KONG:**

Nordic Dragon (Ire), g, 6, **Starspangledbanner (Aus)**--Rely On Me (Ire), by Kyllachy (GB). Happy Valley, 6-11, Hcp. (C3), 1200mT, 1:09.39. B-E. Smith & Coneymore Farm (Ire). *€88,000 Wlg '19 GOFNOV; £130,000 Ylg '20 GOF OCT; HK\$7,000,000 HRA '22 HKJCJUL. **Full to Mythology (Ire) (**Starspangledbanner {Aus}**), GSP-Fr, \$285,820. **VIDEO.**

WORLDWIDE NEWS

ARROWFIELD MOURNS THE LOSS OF CHAMPION SIRE SNITZEL

by Kit Gow/TTR AusNZ

A true titan amongst thoroughbreds left us on Wednesday with the death of Arrowfield Stud's four-time champion sire **Snitzel**. In an exceptional stud career spanning nearly two decades, the G1 Oakleigh Plate winner has cultivated a powerful legacy that has sent deep ripples through Australia's racing landscape.

The most prolific son of the great Redoute's Choice, Snitzel was humanely euthanised at Arrowfield Stud on Wednesday morning due to liver damage. The 22-year-old is to date the sire of 160 stakes winners, including 23 Group 1 winners, and over 1,280 individual winners.

An outpouring of heartfelt tributes to the stallion have filled social media throughout the day as the industry remembered a true legend of the breed. It is fair to say that the loss is felt most keenly by Arrowfield Stud director John Messara.

"He touched a lot of people," Messara shared with *The Thoroughbred Report*. "I've been very lucky to have had his father and his grandfather Danehill, to have three champion sires directly descended one from the other, all at Arrowfield.

"He was a lovely horse to have around, and that makes it harder to take."

Bred by Francois Naude from his dual listed winner Snippets' Lass (Snippets), Snitzel captured the attention of Gerald Ryan at the Magic Millions Gold Coast Yearling Sale in 2004 and was knocked down to the trainer for A\$260,000, before embarking on an electric racing career that would foreshadow the heights he would reach at stud.

Unbeaten in his first three starts as a juvenile and the winner of seven of his 15 starts, Snitzel attracted the interest of Messara and the Arrowfield team, who bought into the horse at the end of his 2-year-old campaign. They sensed that greatness was yet to come.

"Gerald Ryan was always bullish about him," Messara said. "He always thought he was a great racehorse, so it came as no surprise to Gerald when he won the Oakleigh Plate.

"He was a little unlucky in a couple of races [as a juvenile], but we could see that. We thought that, with a bit of luck as a 3-year-old, he could make amends - and he did." [Cont. p14](#)



Tanya Bartlett's statue of Snitzel with Arrowfield stallion manager Joe Hickey. | Arrowfield/Joan Faras

Vale Snitzel Cont.

The zenith of Snitzel's racing career came as a 3-year-old in the 2006 G1 Oakleigh Plate, where he ploughed through a Heavy 10 track to defeat an elite field containing the likes of Takeover Target (Celtic Swing), Miss Andretti (Ihtiram), and Stratum. On Wednesday, Ryan described it as an "honour" to have been part of Snitzel's journey.

Snitzel earned the right to join his father Redoute's Choice at Arrowfield in the spring of 2006, where he was immediately popular; his first crop would produce the G1 BTC Cup winner Hot Snitzel, G2 Pago Pago Stakes winner Salade, and multiple stakeswinner Malavio. It would be his only racing crop to date - aside from his current juveniles - that would produce less than 11 stakes winners.

"He started a bit slowly [at stud]," Messara said. "We didn't know what we had for a while. And then in his third crop, they just started coming, and he's never looked back.

"He wasn't a big horse, but that never counted against him. He was very fertile and very agreeable, he just went with you. He was the perfect stallion."



Snitzel | Bronwen Healy

Among his stakes winners are 12 champions, a G1 Cox Plate winner, a G1 Oakleigh Plate winner, three G1 Galaxy Handicap winners, two G1 Australian Guineas winners, and his daughter Marhoona delivered his third G1 Golden Slipper Stakes winner earlier this year.

He is on track to receive his fifth Leading 2-Year-Old Sire title this season with the timely arrival of Job Done as his 20th juvenile winner on Tuesday.

Since he last held the champion sire accolade in 2019/20, Snitzel has never sat further down than fifth in the premiership, and landed his 20th stakes winner of the season on Saturday courtesy of Listed Spear Chief Handicap winner Transatlantic.

From Chance Bye's victory in the G2 Silver Slipper Stakes in 2010 to the present day, he has incredibly averaged one stakes winner every 19 days.

Such was his prowess that Snitzel's fee had risen to a career best A\$247,500 (inc GST) across the last two seasons; Messara shared that Arrowfield's 40% share in his stallion syndicate has underpinned much of the stud's results and activities in recent years.

He has been an immensely important horse financially to a number of people, particularly the breeders and vendors of his 71 yearlings to make A\$1 million or more through the sales ring. The best may still be yet to come, with 107 weanlings on the ground and 114 mares covered in his final season at stud.

Like his father and grandfather before him, Snitzel has already left an indelible mark on Australasian racing and breeding. No less than 17 of Snitzel's sons have sired stakes winners at stud - six have sired Group 1 winners - and his daughters have delivered 46 stakes winners, several of whom are now forging their own careers at stud. Currently, he sits in third, just below his illustrious father, in the broodmare sire rankings.

Snitzel has been the bedrock for Arrowfield Stud's continued success across the past two decades, and his statue stands beside that of Redoute's Choice to welcome visitors to the stud.

"He had a great temperament," Messara said. "That made him a good racehorse as well. The staff loved him, and he was active but nice in the breeding shed. He was a horse that caused no trouble whatsoever, and yet he gave us such great outcomes, so many good results and championships.

"What he did, it's just nonsensical."

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JAMES CUMMINGS TO SWAP AUSTRALIA FOR TRAINING IN HONG KONG

James Cummings is set to depart Australian racing to take up a position as trainer in Hong Kong. The appointment was announced by the Hong Kong Jockey Club at a press conference at Sha Tin on Wednesday morning, with Cummings the guest of honour in attendance.

Cummings has trained 52 Group 1 winners in his career and managed the careers of Anamoe, Bivouac and Broadsiding in his tenure as Godolphin's private trainer in Australia.

The news of Cummings's departure for Hong Kong came not long after Godolphin had announced that they were changing to a public training model for the upcoming season, where Cummings had been slated to become one of a number of trainers on the roster.

Cummings will be eligible to have runners at Sha Tin and Happy Valley as of September 2026 and joins the Hong Kong training ranks at a time of regeneration. [Cont. p15](#)



James Cummings | Bronwen Healy

James Cummings Cont.

"This wasn't a decision I made lightly. With the upcoming conclusion of my exclusive role at Godolphin, I have carefully considered the right path forward," Cummings said.

"While continuing to train in Australia was my intention, the opportunity in Hong Kong presented a unique and respected environment to challenge myself and grow further as a trainer. This is a progression to the next stage of my career in a new jurisdiction."

He added, "I want to acknowledge the dedication of my staff over the years. I've been privileged to lead a talented and committed team whose contribution has been integral to the success of the stable.

"In deciding not to train next season, I also wanted to be fair to my staff by giving them the opportunity to commit to a long-term role with another stable.

"To the owners who had already been forthcoming in their support, I want to express my sincerest appreciation. I felt it would be unfair to continue, only to step away and leave the team and yearlings without guidance during a pivotal stage in their development.

"I also want to take this opportunity to thank Godolphin for entrusting me with the responsibility and leadership of their team over the past eight years."

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INTERNATIONAL JOCKEYS' CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER

The International Conference for the Health, Safety and Welfare of Jockeys (ICHSWJ) will take place in Hong Kong on Dec. 11-12.

The conference, which is being organised by the Jockeys

Health and Wellbeing Committee (JHWC) of the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities (IFHA), and is proudly supported by The Hong Kong Jockey Club (HKJC), will take place between the International Jockeys' Championship (IJC) and the Longines Hong Kong International Races (HKIR).

"Jockey health, safety and welfare are all non-negotiable aspects of our sport," said JHWC chair Darragh O'Loughlin. "This year's conference will take a deep dive into a wide range of topics that play a crucial role in improving the lives of jockeys, while also facilitating meaningful networking opportunities between attendees from around the world."

The 2025 conference, themed Performance Medicine in Racing – Developing and Protecting the Jockey, will take an applied, evidence-based approach featuring impactful presentations followed by dynamic panel discussions with leading experts in the field.

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

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ASIA

Wednesday's Result:

TOKYO DERBY-Listed (Jpn-G1), ¥170,000,000, Oi, 6-11, 3yo, 2000m, 2:03.80, sy.

1--**NATURAL RISE (JPN), 126, c, 3, Kizuna (Jpn)**

1st Dam: Lady Madonna (Jpn), by Distorted Humor

2nd Dam: Dreamwriter, by Tale of the Cat

3rd Dam: Rebridled Dreams, by Unbridled's Song

1ST BLACK-TYPE WIN. (¥33,000,000 Wlg '22 JRHAJUL).

O-Hiroyuki Yoshioka; B-Grand Farm (Jpn); T-Keizo Ito; J-Takeshi Yokoyama; ¥100,000,000. Lifetime Record: 6-5-0-0, ¥207,743,000.

Narvick International

2--**Clay King (Jpn), 126, c, 3, Nadal--Queen Amaranthus (Jpn), by King Kamehameha (Jpn).** O-Silk Racing; B-Northern Farm (Jpn); ¥35,000,000.

3--**Seesaw Game, 126, c, 3, Daaher--Bear Now, by Tiznow.** (\$21,000 Ylg '23 BSLSEP; \$35,000 2yo '24 OBSAPR).

***1ST BLACK TYPE.** O-Kazutaka Hosaka; B-Chrislin LLC (Jpn); ¥20,000,000.

GRASSROOTS Training & Sales

Margins: 2HF, 2HF, 2. Odds: 0.50, 2.90, 72.30.

Also Ran: Night of Fire (Jpn), Canal Beagle (Jpn), Friend Roma (Jpn), Kenshi Rainbow (Jpn), Smile Mambo (Jpn), Amazing (Jpn), Premium Hand, Kaseno Tiger (Jpn), Myvatn (Jpn), Will Aureole (Jpn), Prolatio (Jpn), Scallop (Jpn), Teddy Jewelry (Jpn).

Click for the [NAR chart and video](#).

Thursday, Leopardstown, Ireland, post time: 18:20

BARBERSTOWN CASTLE STAKES (BALLYCORUS STAKES)-G3, €60,000, 3yo/up, 7f 47y

| SC HORSE | SIRE | OWNER | TRAINER | JOCKEY | WT |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--|---------------------|---------------|-----|
| 1 Mutasarref (GB) | Dark Angel (Ire) | Eleanora Kennedy | Ger Lyons | G F Carroll | 138 |
| 2 Norwalk Havoc (GB) | Showcasing (GB) | Flaxman Stables Ireland Ltd | Jessica Harrington | S Foley | 135 |
| 3 Royal Zabeel (Ire) | Mastercraftsman (Ire) | The Horse Watchers 9 | Michael Appleby | W J Lee | 135 |
| 4 Valiant Force | Malibu Moon | Amo Racing Ltd & Giselle De Aguiar | Adrian Murray | D Egan | 135 |
| 5 Bluedrum (Ire) | Blue Point (Ire) | Stonethorn Stud Farms Ltd | Jessica Harrington | S McCullagh | 132 |
| 6 Easy (Ire) | Kodiac (GB) | Team Valor International LLC & Gary Barber | Andrew Slattery | A J Slattery | 132 |
| 7 Mataariki (Fr) | Cracksman (GB) | Eric Long | Joseph O'Brien | D P McDonogh | 132 |
| 8 Cowardofthecounty (Ire) | Kodi Bear (Ire) | Stonestreet Stables LLC, John C Oxley & Tracy Farmer | Joseph O'Brien | D McMonagle | 128 |
| 9 Comanche Brave (Ire) | Wootton Bassett (GB) | Mrs John Magnier & Mrs A M O'Brien | Donnacha O'Brien | R L Moore | 125 |
| 10 East Hampton (GB) | Cracksman (GB) | MRC International | David Marnane | L T McAteer | 125 |
| 11 One Smack Mac (Ire) | Kodiac (GB) | A K Whelan | Ger Lyons | J J G Ryan | 125 |
| 12 Zodiac Bear (Ire) | Kodi Bear (Ire) | McPeake Investments Ltd | Johnny Murtagh | J A Heffernan | 125 |
| 13 Copacabana Sands (Ire) | Sands Of Mali (Fr) | Mrs Barbara M Keller | Michael O'Callaghan | W M Lordan | 122 |

Breeders: 1-Shadwell Estate Company Ltd, 2-Flaxman Stables Ireland Ltd, 3-Rabbah Bloodstock Ltd, 4-Ramon Horta Rangel & Spendthrift Farm, 5-Stonethorn Stud Farm Ltd, 6-Shadwell Estate Company Ltd, 7-Dieter Burkle, 8-Lismacue Stud, 9-Whisperview Trading Ltd, 10-Manor Farm Stud & J E Rose, 11-Tally-Ho Stud, 12-Mrs Jean Brennan, 13-Peter & Hugh McCutcheon. All posts displayed in local time.

Donnacha O'Brien representative **Comanche Brave** benefits from the assistance of Ryan Moore here and is back in action after posting a commendable fifth in last month's G1 Irish 2000 Guineas. Last term's G3 Prix Francois Boutin victor **Cowardofthecounty** will seek to provide Joseph O'Brien a second triumph in this contest while last year's winner and 2023 fourth **Mutasarref** is back to defend his title for the Ger Lyons stable. Amo Racing's **Valiant Force**, successful in 2023's G2 Norfolk Stakes and runner-up in that year's G1 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf Sprint, has failed to hit those heights in his second stint with the Adrian Murray yard, but has enjoyed two wide-margin Dundalk wins this year and should not be discounted. [Sean Cronin].

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