



Jockey Junior Alvarado Joins the TDN Writers' Room - June 11

Click Here to Watch

The TDN Podcast page features a weekly racing discussion
—the TDN Writers' Room—
Listen to the TDN podcast on Apple Podcasts and Spotify Podcasts.

BOB DUNCAN MAKING THE GATE AN OPEN DOOR



Bob Duncan | Jon Siegel

by Chris McGrath

There's nothing a horse can tell Bob Duncan about the terrors of a confined space. He was already on the gate crew, back in 1968, when he went to visit his parents at Laurel, where his dad was training a small string. After an evening at a nearby bar, his buddy threw him the keys. Different car, different handling. Coming to a railroad bridge, he suddenly realized that he wasn't going to make the turn.

"We hit these cement pilings, plunged over the side," Duncan recalls. "We had waist belts on. No shoulder straps, which turned out to be fortunate. Next thing I know, I'm waking up, somehow stuck under the console--and I can hear running water. I'm upside down, trying to fight my way out. Then I pass out again."

It was a couple of hours before someone spotted them. Next time he returned to consciousness, metal was crunching in the jaws of a winch. He assumed his friend must be dead. But they were both hauled out, stitched up in the hospital and sent home next morning. Duncan will never forget his mother's face when he walked in.

"I looked like I'd been beaten with a bat," Duncan recalls. "We went over to see the car and this guy comes over and says, 'Yeah, there were two kids in that thing last night. Both dead.'"

Cont. p3

SECOND CHANCES: CASSE POINTING WELL-BRED MAIDEN AMERICATHEGREAT TO DEBUTANTE

by Steve Sherack

In this continuing series, TDN's Senior Racing Editor Steve Sherack catches up with the connections of promising maidens to keep on your radar.

The beautifully bred maiden of one career start **Americathegreat** (f, 2, **Curlin**--America, by A.P. Indy) is being aimed at the Debutante Stakes at Churchill Downs June 29, per Hall of Fame trainer Mark Casse.

"She's shown me some things that I haven't seen very many times," Casse said. "Allen Jerkens always told me, 'You don't judge a horse until they run five times.' But I think she's an extremely serious horse."

Casse continued, "I wanted to get a start into her, then give her a little break and get her ready for the Debutante. If she runs her race back, she should be very tough. And now we're getting to go three quarters of a mile, which should be right in her wheelhouse."

Cont. p6

IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

ROYAL ASCOT 2-YEAR-OLDS UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT

Adam Houghton investigates the most likely Royal Ascot-winning juveniles of the upcoming meeting.



Americathegreat brought \$1.2 million from Gary Barber and D. J. Stable as a KEESEP yearling | Keeneland

PUBLISHER & CEO

Sue Morris Finley @suefinley
suefinley@thetdn.com

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

Gary King @garykingTDN
garyking@thetdn.com

EDITORIAL

editor@thetdn.com

Editor-in-Chief

Jessica Martini @JessMartiniTDN

Senior Contributing Editor

Alan Carasso @EquinealTDN

Senior Racing Editor

Steve Sherack @SteveSherackTDN

Senior Editor & Staff Training Supervisor

Christina Bossinakis @CBossTDN

Assistant Editor

Jill Williams @JillWilliamsTDN

Staff Writers

Patrycja Szpyra @QueenOfSuites

Stefanie Grimm @SGrimmTDN

J.N. Campbell @campbellparlay

News and Features Editor

In Memoriam: Ben Massam (1988-2019)

ADVERTISING

tdnadstaff@gmail.com

Director of Advertising

Alycia Borer

Advertising Manager

Lia Best

Senior Advertising Designer

Amanda Crelin

Advertising Designer

Amie Newcomb

Advertising Assistant/Dir. of Distribution

Liz Fronczek

Advertising Assistant

Justin Fowler

Chief Photographer/Photo Editor

Sarah K. Andrew @SarahKAndrew
photos@thetdn.com

Senior Producer

Katie Petrunyak

Social Media Manager

Sara Gordon

Director of Customer Service

Vicki Forbes | customerservice@thetdn.com

Business Development Manager

Alayna Cullen Birkett @AlaynaCullen

Chief Financial Officer

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

WORLDWIDE INFORMATION**European & International Editor**

Emma Berry | emmaberry@thetdn.com

Managing Editor

Heather Anderson @HLAndersonTDN

European Sales Editor

Brian Sheerin @BrianSheerin91

Associate European Editor

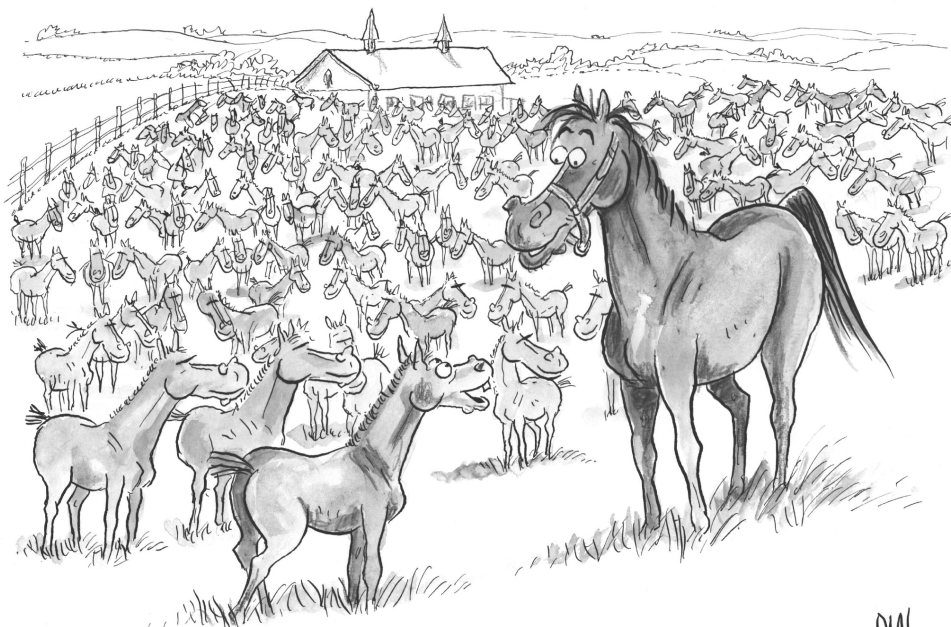
Adam Houghton @hought94

Cafe Racing

Sean Cronin & Tom Frary
caferacing@thetdn.com

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

Friday, June 13, 2025



"ON BEHALF OF ALL OF US - YOUR KIDS -
HAPPY FATHER'S DAY DAD!"

REMI
BELLOCQ

The Friday cartoon, by Remi Bellocq. To inquire about purchasing prints or ordering commissions, visit www.remidraws.com. Follow Remi on Facebook and Instagram @remifrancoisbellocq

7 | ACORN SCRATCH SHRED THE GNAR TO GET 30 DAYS

Flying Dutchmen Breeding and Racing's 'TDN Rising Star' Shred the Gnar (Into Mischief), "a little off" and scratched from last Friday's GI Acorn Stakes at Saratoga, will receive 30 days off.

7 | LEINSTER FILLY SETS THE MARK AT OBS THURSDAY

Amongst a bevy of co-fastest furlong workers, Elenique, a filly from the first crop of multiple graded winner Leinster (hip 412), separated herself from the pack with a bullet quarter-mile work in :20 3/5 during the under-tack show for the OBS June 2-Year-Olds in Training Sale Thursday.



**2025 PA-BRED
STAKES SCHEDULE**

OVER \$1.5 MILLION IN PURSES

CLICK HERE

FOR A FULL LIST OF
2025 STAKES RACES

f t i pabred.com #PABred on social media

Bob Duncan, cont. from p1

A plank was protruding from the back window, immovable under the crushed roof. The headrest, steering wheel, everything above the console was flattened.



Duncan's wrecked car | Courtesy Bob Duncan

Duncan often thinks back to that miraculous escape. He was 19 and what a lot he would have missed, had the path of his life ended there. But perhaps the episode also helps to explain the unusual empathy which has made that life so interesting. For

Duncan is still getting up before dawn, year-round, Palm Beach Downs to Saratoga, to help Thoroughbreds overcome phobias at the gate.

It's the ultimate behind-the-scenes vocation. People on the backside know his work, especially at the Todd Pletcher barn, but all that matters to Duncan is the recognition of the horses themselves.

Any wider celebrity probably traces to **Quality Road**, who notoriously refused the gate in the GI Breeders' Cup Classic.

"He's a dominant horse, and that was what had gotten him in trouble," Duncan recalls. "Because he would get away with stuff. If the van's over there, and the grass over here, he'd drag you over to the grass. 'That's okay,' they'd say, 'it's **Quality Road**.' But it got to the point where he'd do it at the starting gate, they got after him with the buggy whip--and all hell broke loose."

Coming to the barn a few days after the incident, Duncan noted that playfulness. But he could also sense the horse's concentration: he was trying to read Duncan, responding, the rope just dragging along as Duncan walked him round, never a hand laid on him. Duncan looked over at Pletcher. "I don't think we have a problem here," he said.

"We just kept advancing each day," he recalls. "First, into the gate without a rider. Next day, rider on, in and out. Third day, over to the paddock, dressed for a race, into the gate." **Cont.**



DON'T MISS IT!

JUNE 28, 2025

New Vocations
Mereworth Farm | Lexington, KY

OCTOBER 18, 2025

At the MARS Maryland 5 Star
Fair Hill | Elkton, MD

The Real Rider Cup

"Our mission is to promote our sport in a positive light. To show the versatility of Thoroughbreds and to raise money for Thoroughbred retraining and rehoming charities, all while having fun."

The Real Rider Cup is a charity show jumping event that invites racing industry personalities to team up with an off-track Thoroughbred and compete over a course of jumps, while raising funds to benefit Thoroughbred aftercare. Each rider — employees of breeding farms and racing stables, trainers, jockeys, owners, members of racing media, and more — pledges to raise a minimum of \$1,000, which directly supports Real Rider Cup beneficiaries: Beyond the Wire, New Vocations Racehorse Adoption Program, and the Retired Racehorse Project. Since its inception in 2017, the Real Rider Cup has raised over \$600,000 for these organizations.

To Benefit:



therealridercup.com

Bob Duncan, cont

"Finally we shipped him over to Aqueduct with the other horses, put him through everything with them. Not once did he do anything wrong. His next race, he hesitated a step but then walked right in."

Such mastery seemed a remote prospect, the first time Duncan shared a confined space with a nervous Thoroughbred. This was back around the time of his Laurel reprieve, when given the chance to accompany a couple of horses on a transatlantic flight. Some chance! One of them had once got loose and run into the barn. When the outrider found them, the horse had his trainer by the chest. They put a raincoat over his head to pull him clear.

So they gave this horse a tranquilizer, and Duncan a box containing a lethal extra dosage.

"That's all you had if something went wrong," he recalls. "Back then, it was just a plywood box with a rubber mat. He was so nervous: wasn't trying to bite me or anything, just looking for help. As we start rolling, his feet are peeling up that mat. And all of a sudden he's splintering the box, front and back."

They were right under the cockpit. A face appeared atop the ladder: the captain wanted to know whether to abort.

"But I was just a kid and wasn't going to be the one to turn a plane around," Duncan says. "So I'm petting and petting him as he's sliding and falling and jumping. Finally he just collapses. The other horse never turned a hair. Eight hours later, I'm all bloodied walking him out, he's a wreck, mad and sweating, bandages hanging off. These Irish guys who were taking him on couldn't believe their eyes."

Not, on the face of it, an experience calculated to inspire anyone to spend more time than necessary with these animals in a state of high anxiety. On the other hand, gate work now looked a stroll in the park. You don't even need a parachute to vacate the scene. The only problem was that Duncan found

himself haplessly reinforcing collective, ancestral error.

"These last 25 years I've been apologizing for what I did the first 20," he says. "You didn't know any better. You're following tradition, being told what to do, there's peer pressure. I remember trying things and my foreman saying, 'You got to show that horse who's boss.' It was coercion. It put the horse between a rock and a hard place: he doesn't want to be in there, but is even more scared by that buggy whip out back. It's like going into kindergarten and nobody talks your language. And when the teacher yells at you, and you don't understand, they start hitting you."

There had to be a better way and, especially once his son David was old enough to help, Duncan strove to find one. The turning point was a demonstration by Monty Roberts.

"He had this 14-year-old mare they'd always had to drag till her knees buckled to get anywhere near a van," Duncan recalls. "So he has this step-up van backed into the round pen, and he's just standing there talking away, obviously he's a wonderful speaker and storyteller."

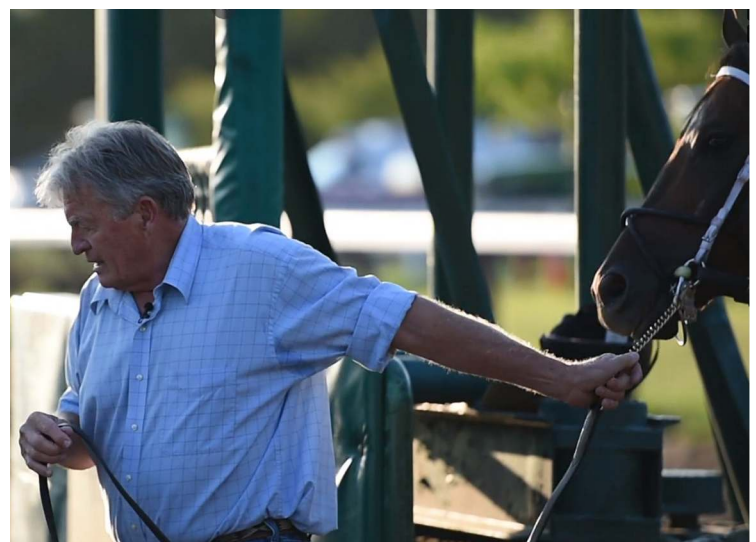
"Meanwhile the filly has one of his halters on, and he has this long lunge-line wrapped in his hands. And even though he's not really looking at her, he's getting her to back up; then asking her forward again."

"After about 15 minutes when he's going one way, so's she. It all starts from his face; she's watching him. With all these people crowded around, she needs a friend. So what he's doing is creating leadership, showing that he knows what her mother taught her about movement."

"Then he drops a good portion of the rope on the ground, turns away, and walks toward the trailer. And, seeing him leaving, she goes jogging after him. He steps in the back of the trailer and she jumps up behind him, turns around and hangs her head over his shoulder, the pair of them just looking out at everyone." **Cont.**



Duncan at Saratoga | TDN



Duncan working the gate | TDN



JOB OPENINGS

A listing of career opportunities in the Thoroughbred industry

LEADING LEXINGTON BASED
EQUINE INSURANCE AGENCY
IS SEEKING A FULL TIME
**CUSTOMER SERVICE
REPRESENTATIVE**

Applicants are preferred to have
experience and/or knowledge of the
Thoroughbred or Sport Horse industries.

Salary will be commensurate with
experience and skill set

Benefits include Health, Dental and Vision Insurance,
Matching 401k and paid time off

Please send resumes to:
horseinsurance1@gmail.com

[Share this job](#) 

Want to list your job?

Standard listing: **\$400**

- One printed ad on this page (date of your choice)
- 30 day listing on our careers page: thetdn.com/careers
- Job promoted through our social media channels

Multi listing: **\$350 each**

- **Two or more** printed ads on this page (dates of your choice)
- 30 day listing on our careers page: thetdn.com/careers
- Job promoted through our social media channels



Contact the TDN Ad Staff: advertising@thetdn.com
for details or to post a job

Bob Duncan, cont

Now obviously a tuned-up Thoroughbred would be a different proposition. But Duncan and his son drove straight down from Massachusetts, parked by the starting gate, took a nap, and promptly tried what they had witnessed on the first two horses to come over. It was probably all a bit clumsy, and maybe they were easy horses, but they left in high excitement. You could get them on your wavelength, just from your demeanor.

"Because they're so acutely attuned to their environment," Duncan explains. "They take all the information in, because it's what keeps them alive. It's an energy they have. You watch a herd run around, it's like a school of fish--and they do it at the gallop.

"So you show them that you have the language, that energy in your shoulders or eyes. It's really very basic. It's about movement. Literally in minutes, you can have that horse moving with you like a dance. Even though he's 1,000lbs, you hardly have to do anything. You just have to be consistent."



Bob Duncan | Diana Pikulski

With other horses milling around, all the people and noise, Duncan says they're relieved just by calm and kindness cutting through. It wasn't only Roberts; priceless lessons were also gleaned from Pat Parelli and Ray Hunt, who had learned from old ranchers out West. But it was never going to be easy, getting this kind of lore past the hard-pressed, hard-headed guys in the gate crew.

"I had some people mad at me for a while, as I was trying things," Duncan admits. "Because it was all new to me. There was a lot of learning out in the middle."

The first public test was a little filly who had a habit of standing meekly in the gate before suddenly flipping out of nowhere. The rest of the crew watched Duncan and his boy with a mixture of concern and derision. She strolls in, no problem; but then the adjacent horse goes berserk, gets hooked on the back and starts thrashing the barrier. "And while all this commotion is going on, she just drops her head right on David's chest," Duncan marvels.

Nobody conceded a syllable of approval, muttering that she sure looked happier loading in the chute today.

"People struggle with change," Duncan observes. "They have a fear of failing at something new. And, just as some people have a natural feeling for it, others have a certain negativity. There's something about them the horse does not buy into, you can see them get aggravated, start looking for the exit.

"In the old days, we were always putting them on the side of the cliff: fight or flight. And in that mindset, the adrenaline goes up, the heart rate, you're hyperventilating, building oxygen for the quarter-mile that you can outrun any four-legged animal in the woods."

To Duncan, moreover, gate work represents a single dimension of overlooked behaviors. One of his few regrets, in fact, is that he has had to specialize: he would love to explore uncharted fields of equine communication. For instance, he feels that horses prefer to warn than harm. It's not good for a herd to contain an injured horse. So if we feel lucky, when a kick just misses us in the shedrow, luck may have little to do with it. Yet Duncan has observed experienced trainers still relying on domination.

He might well have made a trainer himself. When Duncan's father died, Art Rooney of Shamrock Farm wrote that he had never known a better horseman. Duncan was only a kid when first working on the backside, though other growing-up experiences would

follow out in the world: time at college; a draft that fortuitously sent him to pacified Korea, instead of Vietnam; he even did some modeling. (There's an old cigarette advertisement where he resembles Robert Redford's better-looking brother.) But in between he also worked for Eddie Neloy, and learned that rubbing a horse meant something different in a Hall of Fame barn.

"I'd never touched anything beyond an allowance winner, and suddenly here are six of the top horses in the country in one barn," Duncan recalls. "I was put right next to Buckpasser, and an Irishman named Patty Cleary was with Queen Empress on the other side. I'm rubbing my horses one morning, thinking I'm doing a good job, and suddenly here's Mr. Neloy ducking under the rope. And you don't know whether he's looking at you or not, with his one eye. He takes my brushes, works on the horse, hands them back, never a word. So I went to Patty and said, 'What are you doing, to get that shine on the horse?' He said, 'Well, for a start, never wash your rag. Let those oils build up.' And he gave me his rag to feel, and it was so heavy, almost gamey."

If some old school lessons were precisely those he eventually had to unlearn, then Duncan is today proud that in 20 years with Pletcher he hasn't once "tailed" a horse in the gate. **Cont.**

Bob Duncan, cont**Bob Duncan** | *Bob Coglianese*

He doesn't use blindfolds, doesn't even own a buggy whip.

"They're so engaged," he says. "They have curiosity. They're looking for you to give them something to do. Pat Parelli would take off the rope and halter, and say: 'Now the only thing between you and that horse is the truth.'"

And that revelation has been the greatest blessing in a life of privilege. Duncan thinks back to that car wreck, or to contemporaries who never returned from Vietnam.

"How can anyone be so lucky?" he says. "Scary things happen in life, but wonderful things happen too. I've never taken any of it for granted. I didn't do anything special and yet fell into this wonderful work, with these amazing animals. I know what a good run I've had, and just how lucky I am."

[Share this story](#) 

Americathegreat, cont. from p1

Off at odds of 9-2 in her **five-furlong unveiling** beneath the Twin Spires May 15, Americathegreat was off to a slow start and quickly outfooted, trailing the field of eight through an opening quarter in :22.32.

Still at the rear with a ton to do approaching the quarter pole, she was tipped out by Jose Ortiz at the top of the stretch and came rocketing home down the center in a field-best :11.99 to finish three lengths adrift of **'TDN Rising Star' Color Comin' In** (Rock Your World). The final time was :58.14.

"We broke her at our place in Ocala, and right from the beginning, she was amazing," Casse said. "I start 'em early, I never worry about winning first time out. I knew she was ready to run. I wasn't expecting her to win, even though if she breaks a little better, she probably does."

What Americathegreat did *after* the wire caught the eye as well.

"The part I really loved was her gallop out, and that's the way she trains," Casse said. "You would have to know the surrounding area of Louisville, but I read somewhere, and I thought that this was cute, that she galloped out to the Watterson Expressway."

Americathegreat, a full-sister to MGSW & GISP **'TDN Rising Star'** First Captain, brought \$1.2 million as a yearling from Gary Barber and D. J. Stable following a private sale at Keeneland September.

The daughter of GSW & MGISP America was bred in Kentucky by B. Flay Thoroughbreds. The out-of-this-world **Curlin** x A.P. Indy cross has produced champions Malathaat, Nest and Stellar Wind as well as fellow top-level winners Clairiere, **Global Campaign**, **Idol** and Paris Lights.

Celebrity chef Bobby Flay gained access to this family when acquiring Americathegreat's second dam Lacadena (Fasliyev) privately after she was led out unsold on a bid of \$1.4 million at the 2007 Fasig-Tipton November Sale.

This is also the female family of bluehen mare Better Than Honour (Deputy Minister), dam of GI Belmont Stakes winners Rags to Riches (A.P. Indy) and Jazil (Seeking the Gold).

**Mark Casse last weekend** | *Tod Marks*

"I saw her at the yearling sale, graded her and gave her an 'A,' and I hardly give any 'A's,'" Casse said. "I knew she was gonna be expensive. I got a call from (D. J. Stable's) Jon Green afterwards, and he said that she was bought back for \$1.2 million. I said, 'She's worth it,' and they wanted to buy half. So, I made a phone call to Gary Barber and said, 'I have a crazy idea,' and he said, 'You got my attention.'"

Casse continued, "If you know Gary, that's Gary, and he'll always start the conversation that same way. So, this time I had the crazy idea. I told him more about the filly and he actually called Bobby Flay himself. And within about 20 minutes, we owned her." **Cont.**

Americathegreat, cont.

Since launching 'Second Chances' in 2017, 64 maidens have been featured in these pages (through 2024), producing 23% graded stakes winners and 47% stakes horses.

The series has introduced eight future winners at the top level, led by this year's GI Kentucky Derby and GI Belmont Stakes winner **Sovereignty** (Into Mischief), Horse of the Year **Cody's Wish** (Curlin) and fellow two-time Breeders' Cup winner **Golden Pal** (Uncle Mo).

[Share this story](#) 

SECOND CHANCES HONOR ROLL

- **Sovereignty** (Into Mischief), MGISW, \$4,872,800. *Kentucky Derby & Belmont Stakes winner.
- **Cody's Wish** (Curlin), Horse of the Year & Ch. Older Dirt Male, 2x GI Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile winner, MGISW, \$3,106,030. *Standing at Darley's Jonabell Farm.
- **Golden Pal** (Uncle Mo), 2x Breeders' Cup winner, GISW, \$1,825,131. *Standing at Ashford Stud.
- **Locked** (Gun Runner), MGISW, \$1,698,825.
- **Honor A. P.** (Honor Code), GISW, \$532,200. *Standing at Lane's End.
- **Speaker's Corner** (Street Sense), GISW, \$739,963. *Standing at Darley's Jonabell Farm.
- **Paradise Woods** (Union Rags), MGISW, \$1,123,890.
- **A Mo Reay** (Uncle Mo), GISW, \$862,775.
- **First Mission** (Street Sense), MGISW, \$2,060,170.
- **Disarm** (Gun Runner), GSW & MGISP, \$1,439,165.

SCRATCHED FROM ACORN, 30 DAYS OFF FOR 'RISING STAR' SHRED THE GNAR

by Steve Sherack

Flying Dutchmen Breeding and Racing's 'TDN Rising Star' **Shred the Gnar** (Into Mischief), "a little off" and scratched from last Friday's GI Acorn Stakes at Saratoga, will receive 30 days off, according to Hunter Rankin, president of Travis Boersma's operation.

"She's doing fine," Rankin said. "We had Dr. Bramlage (at Rood & Riddle Equine Hospital) go over her, bone scan and everything else. But it turns out, she's just gonna need 30 days. Her front, high-suspensories are bugging her a little bit, but it's nothing that we can't deal with. She'll get 30 days on the farm, then she'll be back and ready to go."

Shred the Gnar looked like a potential star in the making for trainer Brian Lynch heading into the Acorn, which was won in front-running fashion by **La Cara** (Street Sense) over a sloppy-and-sealed track.



Shred the Gnar | Coady Media

A debut second, beaten a neck, sprinting at Gulfstream Feb. 9, the \$610,000 Fasig-Tipton Saratoga graduate and full-sister to millionaire Owendale won her next two starts by a combined 13 1/2 lengths, including a runaway, wire-to-wire victory while making her two-turn debut in an optional claimer at Churchill Downs May 2, good for a 94 Beyer Speed Figure.

"We were so excited to bring her up there and showcase her," Rankin said. "She's really turned into a very nice filly. She's got a lot of talent."

[Share this story](#) 

'A REAL RACEHORSE': LEINSTER FILLY SETS THE MARK AT OBS THURSDAY by Jessica Martini

Amongst a bevy of co-fastest furlong workers, **Elenique**, a filly from the first crop of multiple graded winner Leinster (**hip 412**), separated herself from the pack with a bullet quarter-mile work in :20 3/5 during the under-tack show for the Ocala Breeders' Sales Company's June 2-Year-Olds in Training Sale Thursday. The Florida-bred chestnut is consigned by RiceHorse Stable and was bred by Aldo DeLuca's DeLuca and Sons Stables.

"She always showed us that she was a very fast filly," DeLuca said. "I was preparing her to take her to the races at Gulfstream. She was working some bullet works at Nelson Jones [Training Center], she had a couple of :36s and :35 a change. The trainer told me that he never had such a fast horse there because it's such a deep track. And she wanted to go even further, it was not only speed."

The juvenile is out of Cape Trios (Cape Blanco {Ire}), a mare DeLuca purchased privately. The mare's first foal, Greenfield Cougar (Breaking Lucky), was a debut winner at Gulfstream in March.

Cont.

OBS Thursday, cont.

Of the decision to send Cape Trios to Leinster, De Luca explained, “I have loved Leinster since he came to Florida. I love horses that are from California or New York that are fast. They always hit home runs here in Florida. In my years of breeding, I always see that. Fast over there, but super fast over here.”

So with the filly turning heads with her early training and the success of her half-brother, coupled with her young sire’s immediate success on the racetrack where his daughter Lennilu will go postward at the Royal Ascot meeting next week, DeLuca suddenly needed to reevaluate plans for the 2-year-old he had named Elenique.



Hip 412 | Thorostride

“We decided to sell her because there were too many things happening,” De Luca said. “All the Leinsters are doing good—all of them—there is not one bad one around. There was one yesterday who did :9 4/5 [at OBS]. And the one is going to Royal Ascot, Lennilu. And all that out of a group of only 20 babies. Her super good works, the Leinster, plus the mother’s first baby won a maiden special weight at Gulfstream first time out, we felt we had to sell her.”

He continued, “She has shown us for six months, since working at Nelson Jones and today again, that she is a special horse, a real racehorse. And if she is sold, we have a better shot to see her compete in group races up north and that, as her breeder, would make us proud.”

DeLuca, who has a band of 12 broodmares at his Florida farm, admitted it wasn’t an easy decision to make.

“It is emotional because we have had her since she was born,” he said. “And you don’t get a horse like this every day. She had the best work of the whole week until now. And I took it easy with her. That’s why she’s in June. We weren’t planning on putting her in the sale, so we weren’t rushing her in February or March, so we could bring her to Gulfstream around this time

because she is a May baby. We don’t want to rush our babies. I never in my life put a May baby in a breeze sale. I would never do it, but this filly really needed to talk to tell me, ‘Yes, I need to go into that sale.’ And she did.”

Seven juveniles equaled the :9 4/5 fastest furlong of the week during Thursday’s third session of the under-tack show. First to hit that mark was a colt by **Modernist** (hip 512) consigned by Omar Ramirez Bloodstock, followed quickly by a filly by **Kantharos** (hip 496) who is consigned by Wildheart Thoroughbreds.

Harris Training Center, which sent a filly by **Frosted** out to work the bullet during Wednesday’s second session of the under-tack preview, had a second bullet worker Thursday with a filly by Maximus Mischief (hip 503).

A filly by **Midshipman** (hip 351) earned the bullet for New Hope AB; while Top Line Sales was represented by a filly by **Charlatan** (hip 459). A filly by Uncle Chuck (hip 476) worked the bullet for S G V Thoroughbreds and a colt by Authentic (hip 528) matched the mark for Wavertree Stables.

The under-tack show continues through Saturday with sessions beginning each day at 7:30 a.m.

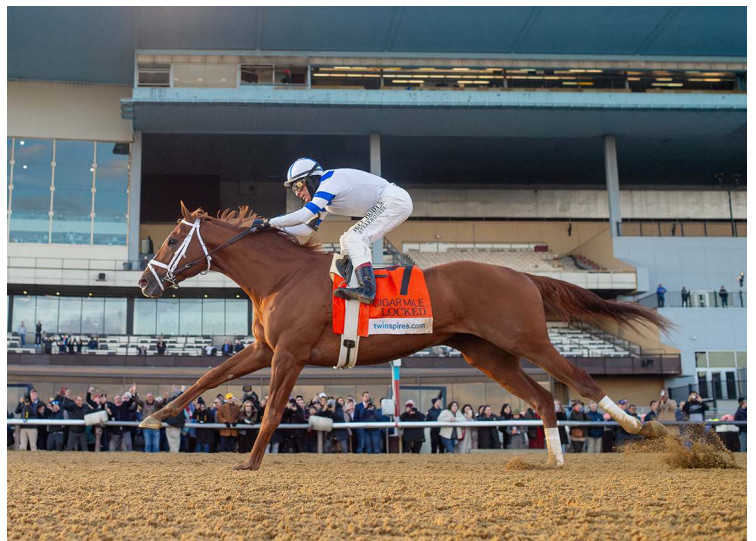
[Share this story](#)

LOCKED FIRES BULLET FOR SUBURBAN

by Steve Sherack

Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners and Walmac Farm’s MGISW and ‘**TDN Rising Star**’ **Locked** (**Gun Runner**) fired a four-furlong bullet in :48.25 (1/21) over Saratoga’s Oklahoma training track Thursday morning.

The GII Suburban Stakes going 1 1/4 miles at Saratoga July 4 will be next for this year’s runaway GI Santa Anita Handicap winner. **Cont.**



Locked winning last year's Cigar Mile | Sarah Andrew

Locked, cont.

Locked was last seen finishing fourth behind his Todd Pletcher-trained stablemate and fellow **'Rising Star' Fierceness (City of Light)**, who set a new track record for 1 1/16 miles in the GII Alysheba Stakes at Churchill Downs on Kentucky Oaks day.

"After the Alysheba, we wanted to get him up to Saratoga to freshen him for the second half of the season and he's responded very favorably," said Aron Wellman, president and founder of Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners. "Our ownership group, which includes Gainesway Farm, who will stand Locked when his racing career concludes, decided we wanted to focus on races at nine furlongs and beyond."

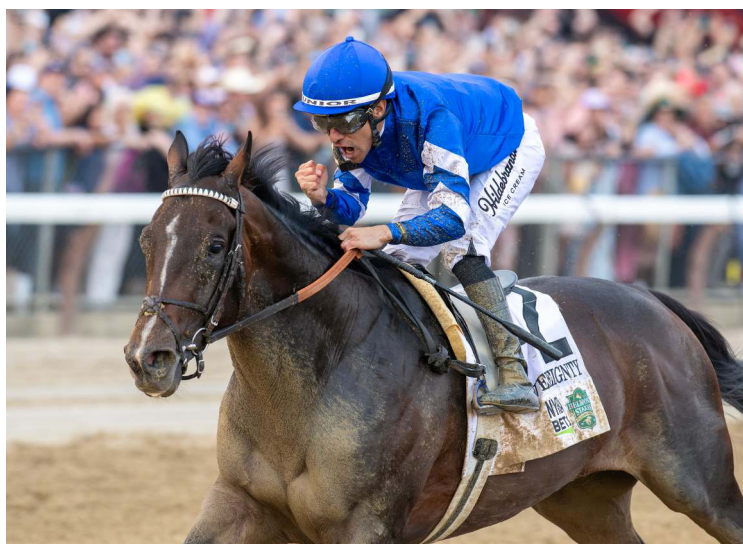
Locked's stacked resume also includes: wins in the GI Claiborne Breeders' Futurity at Keeneland and the GII Cigar Mile Handicap at Aqueduct, a runner-up finish in the GI Pegasus World Cup Invitational Stakes and a third-place finish in the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile.

"If all goes as we anticipate in the Suburban, hopefully we'll be in position to consider races like the (GI) Whitney (at Saratoga Aug. 2) or another trip out west for the (GI) Pacific Classic (at Del Mar Aug. 30)," Wellman said. "For now, our main focus is on posturing Locked for a performance in the Suburban capable of propelling him back into Grade I company. He's an elite colt and we believe he'll be a candidate for the (GI) Breeders' Cup Classic in November."

[Share this story](#) 

SOVEREIGNTY AMONG TOP FIVE IN THE LONGINES WORLD'S BEST RACEHORSE RANKINGS

Godolphin star **Sovereignty** (Into Mischief) has moved up the Longines World's Best Racehorse Rankings (WBRR) to sit in a



Sovereignty wins the Belmont Stakes | Sarah Andrew

joint fourth at 125, after the latest round of rankings were released on Thursday.

Now the highest rated 3-year-old in the world, the colt achieved the distinction when he wrapped up the GI Belmont Stakes at Saratoga last weekend, which capped an impressive Triple Crown run to go along with his GI Kentucky Derby score.

Sovereignty shares the mark with **Danon Decile (Jpn)** (Epiphaneia {Jpn}), who was last seen taking home the G1 Longines Dubai Sheema Classic at Meydan in early April. Japan's **Forever Young (Jpn)** (Real Steel {Jpn}) remains the leader at 127.

Journalism (Curlin)--the runner-up in the Derby and the Belmont--was the winner of the GI Preakness Stakes. After completing the last leg of the Triple Crown, his ranking increased from 119 to 120. Another American runner to move up the list is **Raging Torrent** (Maximus Mischief), who comes in at 120 after he took the GI Hill 'n' Dale Metropolitan Handicap on the Belmont Saturday card.

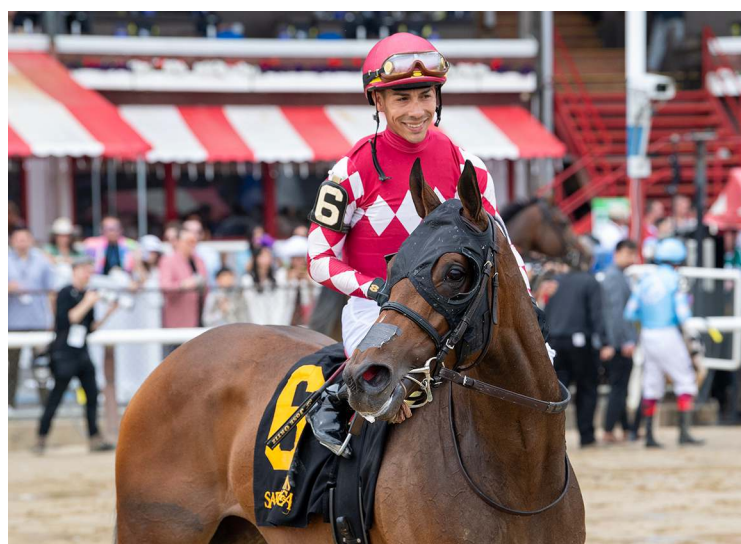
For the complete rankings, please visit the [IFHA website](#).

[Share this story](#) 

BELMONT WEEKEND TURF-TO-DIRT STAKES AT SARATOGA OFFICIALLY DOWNGRADED

After significant rain over the Belmont Stakes Racing Festival held last weekend at Saratoga Race Course, four of the graded races scheduled for the grass were moved to the dirt. The American Graded Stakes Committee automatically downgrades those races by one level--for that edition only--and reviews the runnings for the possibility of each race being restored to its original grade.

None of the four graded races moved off the grass over the weekend at Saratoga had their original grade reinstated after review, according to a release from the American Graded Stakes Committee Thursday afternoon. **Cont.**



Nitrogen after Saturday's Wonder Again | Sarah Andrew

Downgraded stakes, cont.

The races affected last Friday and Saturday included the Belmont Gold Cup Stakes, won by **'TDN Rising Star'** Parchment Party (**Constitution**), and downgraded from Grade II to Grade III, as well as the Wonder Again Stakes, won by Nitrogen (**Medaglia d'Oro**) and also downgraded from Grade II to Grade III. The Pennine Ridge Stakes, won by A. P. Kid (**Honor A. P.**) and the Soaring Softly Stakes, won by Saturday Flight (**Mendelssohn**), have lost graded status and will retain listed status.

[Share this story](#) 

ACTT NATURALLY KICKS OFF SUMMER SEASON WITH NEW EVENT FOR WOMEN VETERANS *by Diana Pikulski*

This summer, Valerie Buck and the off-track Thoroughbreds of ACTT Naturally are increasing the number of American veterans benefitting from its Hearts in Harmony program. On Saturday, June 14, in observance of Women Veterans Recognition Days, the New York State Department of Veterans' Services (NYS DVS), in partnership with ACTT Naturally, will host "Wrap Yourself in Wellness" at Long Shadows Farm in Cambridge, N.Y. Between 30 and 45 women veterans are expected to attend.

In addition to equine-assisted emotional therapy, participants in the day-long retreat will hear from "Patriot Hills of New York" CEO Jeannine Mannarino, focus on healing through movement with Laura Laz, and learn healing through mindfulness with Dr. Rachel Magnel of "Kairos Center for Change". The organizers hope the event will bring more awareness and attention to the resources available to veterans and others suffering from PTS and the positive impact of working with Thoroughbreds.

"Connecting military members and first responders with therapeutic horse programs offers a powerful pathway to healing and reintegration for both the horses and the humans," said Melissa Balan of NYS DVS. "Working with the horses allows the veterans to engage in a calming, non-judgmental environment where trust is built naturally and silently."

"I am thrilled, not just by the interest and enthusiasm from Melissa and the NYS DVS on behalf of women veterans, but also by the unique opportunity to present the horse-centered program together with other healing activities," said Buck. "It deepens and expands awareness of what many of us already know is the special power of Thoroughbreds in emotional healing and how it should become a funded mainstream treatment."

ACTT Naturally Thoroughbreds of all ages and experiences will be participating with the women on Saturday. Veteran therapy horses Three Lions '04 (Hennessy), Traffic Chief '00 (Colonial Affair), Fly Ride '09 (**Street Sense**) and Furious Warrior '12

(Langfuhr) will be joined by newcomers Open Mic Night '22 (**Practical Joke**), Platform Company '20 (Cloud Computing) and Indemnify (FR) '19 (Invincible Spirit). In addition to providing the Hearts in Harmony program, ACTT Naturally focuses on retraining and adoption of sound former racehorses.

Working with the veterans, teens, first responders and other Hearts in Harmony participants has become an integral part of ACTT Naturally's training protocol.

"Connection is the most important part of a horse-human relationship and successful adoption match," said Buck. "The programs teach the horses how to make a positive connection with the person in their presence and these interactions make the Thoroughbreds better partners for their adopters."



The team at ACTT Naturally | courtesy ACTT Naturally

For Buck and Long Shadows Farm, starting the 2025 summer season with a collaborative event--fostered by the NYS DVS and Patriot Hills of New York--is especially exciting because it brings government recognition, as well as new faces, to the well-established program. Launched in 2017, Hearts in Harmony has grown steadily in support and reach, despite losing a year during the COVID-19 pandemic. Buck is striving to help more people and horses.

"With people who have experienced trauma, the challenge has always been to facilitate that first visit," said Buck. "Gaining trust and having the women and men feel comfortable and confident enough to come out and experience the joy is the first step. Partnering with organizations and leaders who have already established the relationship with the veterans needing the program is key to expanding our reach."

Balan understands what the horses have to offer and is in a good position to facilitate program attendance among the veterans that NYS DVS serves.

"The intuitive nature of horses offers immediate feedback, encouraging mindfulness, patience, and a renewed sense of self," said Balan. **Cont.**

ACTT Naturally, cont.

"For veterans who often carry invisible wounds, equine therapy is not just therapeutic--it is transformative."

For more information about ACTT Naturally, including how to sponsor veterans and horses in the program, [click here](#).

[Share this story](#) 



VOTING OPEN FOR RETIRED NEW YORK RACEHORSE OF THE YEAR AWARD

Voted on by the fans, the Down Broadway Retired Racehorse of the Year Award will be presented on New York Thoroughbred Aftercare Day at Saratoga Race Course on Thursday, July 17, the New York Horsemen's Association said in a Thursday release.

Casting a ballot--one per person--is open to the public now through Thursday, June 26. Wristbands for each nominee will be given away on Aftercare Day so that fans can show their support, and the presentation of the award will be made in the Saratoga winner's circle after the first race.

The nominees are:

- Broadway Producer--New Vocations
- Cut of Music--Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation
- Flag Is Flying--Second Chance Thoroughbreds
- Mel's Baby Sister--ReRun, Inc.

Click [here](#) to vote for your favorite nominee.

[Share this story](#) 

TWINSPIRES.COM TO HOLD INAUGURAL ROYAL ASCOT CHALLENGE SERIES

TwinSpires.com will hold an inaugural Royal Ascot Challenge Series, which will offer horseplayers opportunities to compete

for cash prizes as well as potential seats at upcoming tournaments, the company announced Thursday.

The first four tournaments, scheduled for Tuesday, June 17, through Friday, June 20, will serve as Royal Ascot "feeders" for the grand finale, the Royal Ascot Challenge held Saturday, June 21. Prizes for the Royal Ascot Challenge include cash and a potential seat in the upcoming Stephen Foster Betting Challenge June 28.

"Each year American horseplayers have become increasingly interested in the Royal Ascot meet, and at TwinSpires we have seen that enthusiasm reflected in both player engagement and wagering handle on Ascot," said Darin Zoccali, Director of Loyalty and Retention at TwinSpires. "We hope the players are as excited as we are as this has the potential to expand TwinSpires Tournaments even further into the international racing landscape."

For full details and tournament registration, [click here](#).

[Share this story](#) 

Now available on the App store



Version 2.7.4

Including
TDN Podcasts 

Download yours today.

Free Download 

2025 Leading Third-Crop Sires by Graded Stakes Horses

Year-to-Date - Standing NA - Worldwide Earnings - NH Foals

Rank	Stallion	BTW/%strts	BTH/%strts	GSW/%strts	GSH/%strts	G1SW/%strts	G1SH/%strts	Earnings
1	Omaha Beach (2016) by War Front	7/4.38	13/8.13	2/1.25	4/2.5	1/0.63	2/1.25	\$4,594,299 Kopion
2	Maximus Mischief (2016) by Into Mischief	6/4.29	11/7.86	3/2.14	4/2.86	1/0.71	1/0.71	\$3,987,625 Raging Torrent
3	Mitole (2015) by Eskendereya	4/2.34	5/2.92	3/1.75	3/1.75	--/--	--/--	\$3,233,834 Booth
4	Coal Front (2014) by Stay Thirsty	4/8.7	4/8.7	3/6.52	3/6.52	--/--	1/2.17	\$2,381,354 Coal Battle
5	Vino Rosso (2015) by Curlin	2/1.19	7/4.17	--/--	2/1.19	--/--	--/--	\$3,474,531 Sky Vino (Aus)
6	Audible (2015) by Into Mischief	2/1.42	5/3.55	--/--	2/1.42	--/--	1/0.71	\$3,302,208 Passage East
7	Flameaway (2015) by Scat Daddy	3/2.42	6/4.84	1/0.81	1/0.81	1/0.81	1/0.81	\$2,933,212 Dark Saffron
8	Qurbaan (2013) by Speightstown	1/12.5	1/12.5	1/12.5	--/--	--/--	--/--	\$482,213 Aafoor
9	Heart to Heart (2011) by English Channel	--/--	1/3.13	--/--	1/3.13	--/--	--/--	\$397,030 Silent Heart
10	Enticed (2015) by Medaglia d'Oro	--/--	3/3.85	--/--	--/--	--/--	--/--	\$1,177,011 Inveigled
11	Solomini (2015) by Curlin	--/--	3/3.53	--/--	--/--	--/--	--/--	\$1,166,402 National Identity
12	Catholic Boy (2015) by More Than Ready	1/1.16	2/2.33	--/--	--/--	--/--	--/--	\$922,695 Smoken Boy
13	Leofric (2013) by Candy Ride (Arg)	--/--	--/--	--/--	--/--	--/--	--/--	\$755,750 Buttah
14	Om (2012) by Munnings	1/2.56	1/2.56	--/--	--/--	--/--	--/--	\$701,626 Om N Joy
15	Demarchelier (GB) (2016) by Dubawi (Ire)	--/--	1/2	--/--	--/--	--/--	--/--	\$684,790 High Fashion Kate

For All TDN Sire Lists—including Individual Crop-year Reports--visit www.thetdn.com/sire-list/

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

Cassiar (**City of Light**) wasn't ready for the GII Gulfstream Oaks, but that Hall of Fame trainer Shug McGaughey would run her there in just her second lifetime start speaks volumes. She came back with a nice allowance win at Aqueduct May 1. Now with a little more experience, she can handle this assignment. **Margie's Intention** (**Honor A.P.**) beat many of these to win the GII Black-Eyed Susan for Brad Cox. The Louisiana-bred can definitely handle open company. Anything Brittany Russell puts on the racetrack is live. **Complexity Jane** (**Complexity**) is coming off a stakes win in the Weber City Miss and should be ready for this tougher assignment.

--Bill Finley



"It's been awesome... It's good Kentucky hospitality and everything you would expect at the biggest and greatest horse sale in the world."

— JOHN STEWART ON THE 2024 SEPTEMBER SALE

The World's Yearling Sale

KEENELAND SEPTEMBER SALE

Monday, Sept. 8-Saturday, Sept. 20



LEARN MORE

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), who will be a heavy favorite, jumps off the page here. It's 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 Grade I company in Argentina last summer. He is owned by a high-profile group of owners and trained by Chad Brown, and 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), who will make her first start for Chad Brown, might be good enough to hit the board. --*Bill Finley*

**THE SIGN OF SUCCESS**

Look for the 🦿 throughout the TDN graded stakes entries denoting Keeneland Sales Graduates.

KEENELAND

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 has been off since December, but 2024 included a huge effort in the GI Breeders' Cup Sprint where he was second, beaten just a neck. He came back after that to win the GII Joe Hernandez Stakes. 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 Stakes. --Bill Finley

Sunday, Santa Anita #9, post time: 7:30 p.m. EDT**SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO S.-GIII, \$100,000, 3yo/up, 1 3/4mT**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Nitti (Ire)	Make Believe (GB)	Innergy Racing Corp, Zephyr Racing, Pais, Sonny	Powell	Ayuso	122
2	For Arrogate	Arrogate	Augustin Stables	Thomas	Van Dyke	117
3	Time Song	Not This Time	Baron Racing Stables	Thomas	Berrios	122
4	Maltese Falcon (Ire)	Caravaggio	Rockingham Ranch	Barocio	Hernandez	126
5	Santa Barbarian	Bodexpress	Richard Barton	Hanson	Kimura	118
6	Mrs. Astor	Lookin At Lucky	Augustin Stables	Thomas	Rispoli	121
7	Divin Propos (Fr)	George Vancouver	Madaket Stables, Panic Stable, Strauss, William	D'Amato	Gonzalez	122
8	Balladeer	Distorted Humor	Nguyen, Calvin and Tran, Joey C.	Papaprodromou	Desormeaux	126

Breeders: 1-Johnwalsh/Jerryobrien/Makebelievesyn, 2-George Strawbridge Jr., 3-Bill Heiligbrodt & Corinne Heiligbrodt, 4-Sir Robert Ogden, 5-Richard Barton Enterprises, 6-George Strawbridge Jr., 7-EARL Haras Du Puy Bouillard, 8-Bonne Chance Farm, LLC

The hope is that trainer Jonathan Thomas runs **Mrs. Astor** (Lookin at Lucky) in this race against the boys rather than choosing the easier spot--Saturday's Possibly Perfect S. She's on a tear now--winning the Santa Barbara by five lengths--which is part of a nice streak she has put together since netting the GIII Red Carpet S. She's never gone this distance, but neither has anyone else in the field. It's been a while since **Divin Propos** (Fr) (George Vancouver) has won, but he has some nice races on his resume, including a second-place finish in the GIII San Luis Rey S. Will be top pick if Mrs. Astor scratches. There's nothing more dangerous than lone speed in marathon turf races and **Balladeer** (Distorted Humor) will certainly lead them early. Even with a good trip, he's probably not good enough to hang on for the win. --Bill Finley

EXPENSIVE CURLIN FILLY HIMIKA AS ADVERTISED ON SANTA ANITA DEBUT, BECOMES A 'RISING STAR' *by Alan Carasso*



Himika | Benoit photo

Baoma Corp.'s **Himika** (f, 2, **Curlin**--**Motivated Seller**, by **Into Mischief**), a \$900,000 purchase out of this year's OBS April Sale, looked in a bit of trouble through the opening three panels of a five-furlong maiden at Santa Anita Thursday. But when Juan Hernandez was able to push away from the inside and with dead aim on pacesetter **Stuffy Mist** (Maximus Mischief), the athletic bay gathered that one up with ease a few strides later and whistled home to score by a half-dozen eased-down lengths to become a no-brainer **'TDN Rising Star'**.

Drawn the fence, the firming 1-2 chalk was away neatly enough, but couldn't quite go with the early gallop and was forced to sit behind and wait for room on the back of the debuting front-runner. With Hernandez looking to his right for anything resembling an exit sign approaching the stretch, the daylight came as heads were turned for home and Himika had soon built up a massive advantage, then was taken in hand for the better part of the last sixteenth of a mile. She stopped the clock in :57.86--a time that could have been significantly faster had Hernandez chosen to ask his filly for any sort of a finish.

Bred by Klaravich Stable, Himika breezed an eighth in :9 4/5 at the April Sale and caught the eye of Donato Lanni--and, to be fair, those of many others--who signed the winning ticket on behalf of Baoma. The bay had done little wrong in her morning trials locally, and in her final breeze, went heads up with Nothing Like You (Malibu Moon), the 2023 GII Starlet Stakes and 2024 GII Santa Anita Oaks heroine, through four furlongs from the gate in :46 4/5.

Seth Klarman's operation acquired dam **Motivated Seller** for \$160,000 through DeMeric Sales at the 2018 Fasig-Tipton October sale and campaigned her to three wins from six starts, including a runner-up effort in the Fort Springs Stakes at Keeneland. She established a Saratoga course record for 5 1/2 furlongs when clocking 1:02.48 for a rained-off allowance success in 2021, a mark that still holds today. The stakes-winning second dam is a daughter of G1 AJC Oaks runner-up **French Lady**.

Himika is the first produce for **Motivated Seller**, who is also represented by a yearling filly by former Klaravich runner **Complexity** and a colt by **Jack Christopher** foaled this past Mar. 26.

NEW TDN **RISING STAR**

2nd-Santa Anita, \$60,000, Msw, 6-12, 2yo, f, 5f, :57.86, ft, 6 lengths.

HIMIKA, f, 2, by Curlin

1st Dam: Motivated Seller (SP, \$157,400), by Into Mischief

2nd Dam: Coup, by Empire Maker

3rd Dam: French Lady (NZ), by Entrepreneur (GB)

Sales history: \$900,000 2yo '25 OBSAPR. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$36,000. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV. Click for the free Equineline.com catalogue-style pedigree.**

O-Baoma Corp; B-Klaravich Stables Inc (KY); T-Bob Baffert.



de Meric Graduate



[Share this story](#) 

OBLITERATION RUNS TO HIS NAME IN

'RISING STAR'-WORTH BOW *by Alan Carasso*

Obliteration (c, 2, **Violence**--**I'mclassyandsassy**, by **Master Command**), one of a debuting pair available at double digits for the reliable Steve Asmussen stable, ran away from a very promising group of 2-year-old males to become the afternoon's second **'TDN Rising Star'**, this one at Churchill Downs.

A \$200,000 purchase at this year's OBS March Sale--**one of four horses bought out of the auction by the re-engaging Leland Ackerley**--the bay colt was in front not long after the start and led for just short of a furlong before being displaced on the business end by **She's On A Roll** (**Charlatan**), the 8-5 post-time favorite. **Cont. p2**

2nd-Churchill Downs, cont.

Deftly eased back by Erik Asmussen to chase from second into the turn, Obliteration was after the front-runner in earnest and collared his rival with just less than a quarter-mile to travel. Quickly putting pay to that one, Obliteration opened up a sizeable advantage entering the final furlong and went on to take it by 7 1/2 powerful lengths at odds of 10-1 in the slick time of 1:03.32 for the 5 1/2 furlongs.



Obliteration | Coady Media

I'mclassyandsassy, stakes-placed as a juvenile, has now bred eight winners from nine to the races, including Pure Class (The Big Beast), SW, \$265,313; Big and Classy (The Big Beast), GSP, \$356,490; Sassy Beast (The Big Beast), SW, \$297,110; and Family Biz (Fed Biz), SP, \$452,878. The O'Farrell Family's Ocala Stud parted with \$85,000 for the mare carrying the colt that would become Obliteration at the 2022 Keeneland November Sale and they were straight into the black after the colt went through the ring in Central Florida in early March.

A half-sister to SW Fairway Road (Cuvee)--herself the dam of Grade III winner Just Grazed Me (Grazen)--I'mclassyandsassy is responsible for a yearling filly by the former Ocala Stud resident **Girvin** and a colt by **Elite Power** that was produced Apr. 23. Asmussen also trained **Violence's** Grade I-winning son **Volatile**.

NEW TDN RISING STAR

2nd-Churchill Downs, \$108,136, Msw, 6-12, 2yo, 5 1/2f, 1:03.32, ft, 7 1/2 lengths.

OBLITERATION, c, 2, by Violence

1st Dam: I'mclassyandsassy (SP), by Master Command

2nd Dam: Launch Site, by Relaunch

3rd Dam: Insight to Cope, by Copelan

Sales history: \$200,000 2yo '25 OBSMAR. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$69,300. [Click for the Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#), sponsored by [FanDuel TV](#). [Click for the free Equineline.com catalogue-style pedigree.](#)

O-Leland Ackerley Racing LLC; B-Ocala Stud (KY); T-Steven M Asmussen.

[Share this story](#)

ALLOWANCE WINNERS

brought to you by

MUIRFIELD INSURANCE

SECURITY • SOLUTIONS • SERVICE

Michael T. Levy • Bryce Burton • Del Pearson • Julie Moses • 859.253.1114

www.muirfieldinsurance.com

IN ORDER OF PURSE:

1st-Churchill Downs, \$121,015, Alw, 6-12, (NW1X), 3yo/up, f/m, 1 3/8mT, 2:11.73, fm, 4 lengths.

STELLIFY (f, 4, **Justify**--Savvy Star, by **Medaglia d'Oro**) showed steady improvement in her first three starts beginning with a third on Feb. 22, and then a second on Mar. 23, both at Fair Grounds. It wasn't until a ship up north right here to Churchill Downs on May 1 that she finally got her picture taken. In her first start against winners, jockey Florent Geroux took the filly straight to the lead from the inside draw, leading the field in splits of :23.88, :47.12, and 1:11.61. Around the far turn, she started to quicken things up front in attempt to get away from this field, while Indy's Halo (Lord Nelson) took aim at this pacesetter. The leader cornered beautifully turning for home, and opened her lead up once again, geared down under the wire as the 4-5 favorite.

Cont. p3



Stellify | Coady Media

1st-Churchill Downs, cont.

Savvy Star is a half-sibling to GI Haskell Stakes winner and GI Kentucky Derby runner-up Bluegrass Cat (Storm Cat), as well as MGSW Lord of the Game (Saint Ballado) and GSW Dramedy (Distorted Humor). The mare foaled a juvenile filly by Speightstown named Movie Night and was bred to both **Two Phil's** and **Life is Good** in 2025. Sales history: \$140,000 Ylg '22 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 4-2-1-1, \$158,404. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV.** O-Elements Racing LLC, George Messina and Michael Lee; B-WinStar Farm, LLC (KY); T-Brad H. Cox.



5th-Santa Anita, \$61,740, Alw (NW2\$X), Opt. Clm (\$80,000), 6-12, 3yo/up, 1m, 1:36.21, ft, 4 1/4 lengths.

MIRAHMADI (c, 4, Into Mischief--More Chocolate {GSW & MGISP, \$373,892}, by Malibu Moon), second in the 2023 GI Del Mar Futurity as a maiden, graduated by 10 lengths some six starts later with a 99 Beyer Speed Figure last October. A low-odds sixth to Skinner (**Curlin**) in the Nov. 23 GIII Native Diver Stakes at Del Mar, he defeated **'TDN Rising Star'** Eagles Flight (**Curlin**) in a course-and-distance allowance Jan. 4 and was making his first start since finishing well down the field in the GI Santa Anita Handicap Mar. 1. Favored at 1-2 off the brief layoff and with his namesake back in the booth following the Belmont Stakes Racing Festival, the \$1.05-million KEESEP yearling found the front with relative ease, took them along at a comfortable clip and despite some wayward ways late, proved an easy winner. Mirahmadi has an unraced 3-year-old half-sister named Chocolate Truffle (**McKinzie**), a juvenile half-sister by the same stallion and **Good Magic** half-sister born Apr. 6. Sales history: \$1,050,000 Ylg '22 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: GISP, 13-3-4-2, \$242,040. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV.**

O-SF Racing LLC, Starlight Racing, Madaket Stables LLC, Dianne Bashor, Robert E Masterson, Waves Edge Capital LLC, Catherine Donovan & Tom J Ryan; B-Gainesway Thoroughbreds Ltd (KY); T-Bob Baffert.

© Copyright THOROUGHBRED DAILY NEWS.

This newspaper may not be reproduced in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, without prior written permission of the copyright owner, Thoroughbred Daily News, LLC. Information as to the American races, race results and earnings was obtained from results charts published by The Jockey Club Information Services and utilized here with their permission.

MAIDEN WINNERS
IN ORDER OF PURSE:

1st-Belmont The Big A, \$85,000, Msw, 6-12, 2yo, f, 6ft, 1:08.34, fm, 3 lengths.

NONNA'S LOVE (f, 2, Caravaggio--Nonna Bella, by Stay Thirsty) was the lone previously raced member of the seven-strong field that loaded the stalls for the first race back down at the Belmont at the Big A meeting Thursday afternoon and made the most of her experience advantage, leading past every pole to get the program off on a high note for the favorite backers. Drawn two, the 5-4 chalk--making her first start on the grass after finishing third on the Keeneland dirt Apr. 23--was quickly away but soon had company to her outside in the form of Flaxman Stables' well-meant Chrysalism (**Liam's Map** x Pachattack) and the duo matched motors through an opening quarter in :21.80. More or less inseparable for the run around the turn, Nonna's Love began to get the better of the battle in upper stretch, was clear into the final furlong and easily held sway to take it by three lengths. Maiora (Speightstown) was difficult to load, rearing twice pre-start and nearly unseating Joel Rosario before ultimately acquiescing. Slowly away once the gates flew, she raced in the second half of the field, was steered out for the drive and finished with interest for second. Nonna's Love is the half-sister to **'TDN Rising Star'** and Eclipse Award winner Fierceness (**City of Light**), MGISW, \$4,515,320; and to Mentee (**City of Light**), GSW, \$148,000, who took the GIII Futurity Stakes over this course and distance last fall. The winner's dam is a daughter of GI Frizette Stakes third Nonna Mia (Empire Maker), whose four winners from five to race include GI Wood Memorial Stakes hero Outwork (Uncle Mo) and MSP Nonna's Boy (Distorted Humor). The SW & GSP third dam Holy Bubbette (Holy Bull) produced MGSW sire **Cairo Prince** (Pioneer of the Nile) as well as the dam of recent Mike Lee Stakes winner Train the Trainer (**Dialed In**). Nonna Bella is also responsible for a yearling by the late Uncle Mo and a **Curlin** filly foaled this past Apr. 1. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-1, \$55,188. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV.** O/B-Repole Stable Inc (KY); T-Todd A Pletcher.

Share this story



Nonna's Love | Coglianese

2nd-Belmont The Big A, \$77,600, (R), Msw, 6-12, 2yo, 5 1/2f, 1:04.73, ft, neck.

RESIDE (c, 2, Vino Rosso--More Glitter, by More Than Ready) lacked early speed to keep up with the rest of the group of first-time starters, but was urged to improve position and got within striking range on the far turn. With a wide and sustained bid, the 7-2 third choice looked to be dangerous, drawing alongside pacesetter Sweetnessthrtyfour (**Honest Mischief**), and the juveniles battled with one another until Reside got the upper hand in the late stages. Half-sister to SW Carameway (Lawyer Ron), More Glitter was purchased by the same ownership in Repole Stable for \$340,000 at the KEESEP sale in 2018. This year, the mare--who is also the dam of a yearling filly by **Idol**--changed hands to Natalie Montgomery for \$2,500 when offered not pregnant to the Repole part-owned **Up to the Mark** at this year's Keeneland January Sale. Sales history: \$45,000 RNA Ylg '24 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$44,000. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV.**

O/B-Repole Stable, Inc. (NY); T-Todd A. Pletcher.



1st-Delaware, \$46,000, Msw, 6-12, 3yo/up, 1m 70y, 1:41.36, ft, 4 1/2 lengths.

ENERGIZE (g, 3, Medaglia d'Oro--Enliven {GSP}, by Ghostzapper) came into his third career start with a sixth going six panels on Apr. 19 at Oaklawn and a third-place finish in his two-turn debut on May 17 at Pimlico. With an alert beginning from the inside post, the gelding secured rail positioning past the wire the first time and settled right of the pace set in :23.70 and :47.22. While the front-running duo began to tire, the 5-2 second choice was guided to the three path, took over the lead around the far turn, and continued to widen his margin through

the lane, increasing it to 4 1/2 lengths in the end. Enliven, second in the GIII Tempted Stakes in 2018, is a daughter of three-time Grade I winner It's Tricky (**Mineshaft**), who is also the dam of MGSW & GISP sire Enticed (**Medaglia d'Oro**). The winner has a 2-year-old full-sister named Ambiance and a yearling half-sister by **Quality Road**. Enliven was not covered for 2025.

Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-1, \$33,117. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV.**

O/B-Godolphin, LLC; T-Michael Stidham.

6th-Horseshoe Indianapolis, \$32,000, Msw, 6-12, 3yo, f, 1mT, 1:37.36, fm, 2 1/2 lengths.

AMBAYA (f, 3, Ghostzapper--Kundray, by Distorted Humor) was sent straight to the rail after breaking with no intention of showing early speed. Jockey Gavin Ashton was content to keep this filly settled well behind the pacesetters, and didn't ask for her best until midway around the far turn. Kept toward the inside, the 12-1 shot was crying out for a place to run, finally finding a seam in the two path and flashing a wicked kick that got her to the lead in only a handful of strides as she powered home, upsetting by a convincing 2 1/2 lengths. Kundray, half-sister to SW General Jack (Giant's Causeway) and daughter of MGSW J'Ray (Distant View), foaled a full-brother to Ambaya back in 2020. In 2024, Kundray was sold at the KEEJAN sale for \$52,000 while pregnant with her filly by **Liam's Map**. The mare was bred to Collusion Illusion in 2025. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$19,200. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV.**

O-Augustin Stables; B-George Strawbridge (KY); T-Jonathan Thomas.



FIRST-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: FRIDAY, JUNE 13

2025 Stud Fees Listed

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

63 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners

5-Laurel, 2:20 p.m. EDT, Msw 5 1/2f, lxxchel, 3-1

\$15,000 KEE NOV wnl; \$25,000 RNA FTK JUL yrl

Galawi (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}), Northview Stallion Station, \$2,000

18 foals of racing age/1 winner/0 black-type winners

5-Laurel, 2:20 p.m. EDT, Msw 5 1/2f, Ginger Snap, 8-1

First-Crop Starters cont.

Lexitonian (Speightstown), Calumet Farm, \$7,500
59 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners
6-Gulfstream, 3:31 p.m. EDT, Msw 5f, Inordinary, 5-2
\$30,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$130,000 OBS MAR 2yo

Raging Bull (Fr) (Dark Angel {Ire}), Gainesway Farm, \$10,000
88 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners
2-Santa Anita, 4:30 p.m. EDT, Msw 5f, Proletariat, 5-1
\$50,000 FTK OCT yrl; \$200,000 OBS MAR 2yo

Rock Your World (Candy Ride {Arg}), Spendthrift Farm, \$5,000
145 foals of racing age/1 winner/0 black-type winners
6-Gulfstream, 3:31 p.m. EDT, Msw 5f, Khon Han, 20-1
\$15,000 OBS WIN wnl
6-Gulfstream, 3:31 p.m. EDT, Msw 5f, Smols, 20-1

Tacitus (Tapit), Taylor Made Farm, \$5,000
124 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners
5-Laurel, 2:20 p.m. EDT, Msw 5 1/2f, Tacit Value, 15-1

Uncle Chuck (Uncle Mo), Journeyman Stud
78 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners
6-Gulfstream, 3:31 p.m. EDT, Msw 5f, Juansinmiedo, 30-1

Yaupon (Uncle Mo), Spendthrift Farm, \$25,000
174 foals of racing age/1 winner/1 black-type winner
2-Santa Anita, 4:30 p.m. EDT, Msw 5f, Bella's Bro, 8-1
\$60,000 FTK JUL yrl; \$110,000 OBS APR 2yo

SECOND-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: FRIDAY, JUNE 13

2025 Stud Fees Listed

Bravazo (Awesome Again), Calumet Farm, \$5,000
19 foals of racing age/5 winners/0 black-type winners
3-Lone Star, 8:29 p.m. EDT, \$75K Texas Stallion Staunch Avenger
Division S., 5f, Tuff Biz, 9-2
\$16,000 TTA YRL yrl

McKinzie (Street Sense), Gainesway Farm, \$75,000
301 foals of racing age/38 winners/4 black-type winners
6-Gulfstream, 3:31 p.m. EDT, Msw 5f, Azam, 4-1
\$100,000 KEE NOV wnl; \$165,000 KEE SEP yrl

Name Changer (Uncle Mo), Kaz Hill Farm, \$2,500
29 foals of racing age/2 winners/1 black-type winner
3-Belmontthe Big A, 2:05 p.m. EDT, Msw 1 1/8m, Kaz Oil
Changer, 6-1



U.S.-BRED/SIRED RUNNERS IN JAPAN



In this continuing series, Alan Carasso takes a look ahead at US-bred and/or conceived runners entered for the upcoming weekend at the tracks on the Japan Racing Association circuit, with a focus on pedigree and/or performance in the sales ring. Here are a trio of debuting 2-year-olds of interest for this Saturday running at Hanshin and Tokyo Racecourses:



Jolie Olimpica | Benoit photo

Saturday, June 14, 2025

5th-HSN, ¥14,250,000 (\$99k), Newcomers, 2yo, 1200mT
SATONO VOYAGE (JPN) (c, 2, Into Mischief--Jolie Olimpica {Brz}, by Drosselmeyer) is the first foal for her dam, the 2019 Horse of the Year and winner of the G1 GP Jockey Club Brasileiro in her home country before annexing a pair of graded stakes and finishing runner-up in the GI Jenny Wiley Stakes in this country for Fox Hill Farms and Richard Mandella. Her victory in the GI Nassau Stakes earned her a Sovereign Award as Canada's champion turf female of 2021. **Cont. p6**

US-Bred & -Sired Runners in Japan cont.

Shimokobe Farm purchased Jolie Olimpica for \$675,000 at the 2021 Fasig-Tipton November Sale and exported the mare with this colt in utero the following season. Satono Voyage is bred on a similar cross to Grade I winners **Life Is Good**, **Practical Joke**, champion Citizen Bull and GI **Curlin** Florida Derby winner Tappan Street. *O-Hajime Satomi; B-Shimokobe Farm; T-Hiroyasu Tanaka*

GO GO SHACHO (f, 2, Speightstown--Pianist, by More Than Ready) looks to become the second winner from her two-time Grade III-winning dam, who was purchased by this breeder for \$36,000 at the 2021 Keeneland January Sale having not been mated the year prior. The May 21 foal, bred in Ontario, was hammered down for \$150,000 at last year's Keeneland September Sale to trainer Hideyuki Mori, whose success with North American-sourced horses include Group 1 winner Matera Sky and Saudi Derby hero Full Flat, both sons of Speightstown. *O-Miki House HK Service Co Ltd; B-Dr B Van Arem (ON); T-Hideyuki Mori*

6th-TOK, ¥14,250,000 (\$99k), Newcomers, 2yo, 1400mT

ENVY ME (f, 2, Munnings--Seattle Slang, by Tapit), a \$275,000 Fasig-Tipton Saratoga acquisition by the North Hills team, is out of a mare who cost Phoenix Thoroughbreds \$600,000 as a 2-year-old at the 2019 Fasig-Tipton Florida Sale and went on to finish third to hot favorite Envoutante (Uncle Mo) in the GIII Remington Park Oaks in 2020. The April foal's second dam is Seattle Smooth (Quiet American), popular winner of the GI Ogden Phipps Handicap in 2009 and also the dam of Seattle Slang's stakes-placed full-brother Gunfire. *O-Kodai Maeda; B-Phoenix Thoroughbreds (III) Ltd (KY); T-Hideyuki Mori*

[Share this story](#) 

**STAKES RESULTS:**

HOOSIER BREEDERS SOPHOMORE H., (NB) \$100,000, Horseshoe Indianapolis, 6-11, (S), 3yo, 6f, 1:10.43, ft.

1--SIR BAHJY, 120, g, 3, Bahjatty--Proud Dreamer, by Proud Citizen. O-Southwest Racing Stables, Inc., Bruce and Lori Murphy; B-Bruce Murphy & Lori Murphy (IN); T-Genaro Garcia; J-Marcelino Pedroza, Jr.. \$59,400. Lifetime Record: MSP, 8-3-1-2, \$147,786.

2--Sleepy, 118, g, 3, Keen Ice--Aldorable Debbie, by Aldebaran. O/B-Reese Ranch (IN); T-Randy L. Klopp. \$19,800.

3--Special Creed, 118, g, 3, Jimmy Creed--Special Talent, by Talent Search. O-Larry Godwin and Elliott Racing, LLC; B-Larry Goodwin (IN); T-Michelle L. Elliott. \$10,890. Margins: 1, NK, 1 1/4. Odds: 21.60, 9.70, 6.20.

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

7th-Belmont The Big A, \$81,000, (S), 6-12, (NW1\$X), 3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16mT, time: n/a, fm, nose.

TRAIL OF GOLD (f, 3, Solomini--Bene Pista, by Bernardini) Lifetime Record: 8-2-0-1, \$143,910. O-David G. Donk, John T. Behrendt, Charles K. Marquis, Gerald L. Donk, William J. Punk Jr., Philip DiLeo, Peter Hayes and Suzanne K. Haslup; B-Spruce Lane Farm, America's Pastime Stable, Copper Beech Stable et al. (NY); T-David G. Donk. *\$15,000 Ylg '23 KEEJAN; \$100,000 Ylg '23 SARAUG. **1/2 to Mano Dura (Keen Ice), SW, \$160,680.

McMAHON of Saratoga
THOROUGHBREDS
Yearling recommendation by Marette Farrell

 **VINERY SALES GRADUATE** 

 **Hip 163 : Half-bro sells OBS June with de Meric Sales**

4th-Woodbine, C\$52,924, (NW2L)/Opt. Clm (\$29,257), 6-12, 3yo/up, f/m, 6f (AWT), 1:11.62, ft, 1 3/4 lengths.

HOODLESS (f, 3, Frac Daddy--Rockyroadto Dublin, by Giant Gizmo) Lifetime Record: 4-2-1-0, \$52,191. O-Canuck Racing Club; B-Richard Moylan (ON); T-Kevin Attard.

7th-Delaware, \$52,200, (NW2\$X)/Opt. Clm (\$32,000), 6-12, 3yo/up, 5f (off turf), :57.54, ft, 3 1/2 lengths.

TAKE A HINT (g, 5, Bandbox--Fancy Diamond {SW, \$276,695}, by Eastern Echo) Lifetime Record: SP, 21-6-7-5, \$282,084. O-Paul L Fowler Jr & John Hazard; B-Charles McGinnes (MD); T-Gary Capuano. *\$22,000 Ylg '21 EASOCT.

5th-Gulfstream, \$42,700, (S), (NW1X)/Opt. Clm (\$20,000), 6-12, 3yo/up, f/m, 5fT, :55.78, fm, neck.

FREE TO ROAM (m, 5, Uncaptured--Sequoyah Hills, by Hear No Evil) Lifetime Record: 23-3-4-5, \$149,124. O-Poppa Dukes Stable; B-Jacks or Better Farm Inc. (FL); T-Steve Klesaris.

3rd-Horseshoe Indianapolis, \$41,000, (S), 6-12, (NW1X), 3yo/up, f/m, 5 1/2f, 1:04.67, ft, nose.

FOXY JUSTICE (f, 3, Lantana Mob--Alegra, by Exchange Rate) Lifetime Record: 7-2-2-1, \$69,260. O-Melissa E. Lockwood; B-Justice Farm, Greg Justice (IN); T-Aaron M. West. *\$15,000 RNA Ylg '23 INDMIX. **1/2 to Too Bad Justice (Harry's Holiday), SP, \$253,163.

4th-Penn National, \$39,000, (S), 6-11, (NW1BX), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:09.32, ft, 4 lengths.

PICTURE THIS (g, 5, Munnings--Construe, by Hard Spun)

Lifetime Record: SP, 18-3-3-2, \$132,060. O-Lowell W. Kinch; B-Gregory and Caroline Bentley Breeders (PA); T-Steve Klesaris.

5th-Horseshoe Indianapolis, \$38,000, (S), 6-12, (NW1X), 3yo/up, f/m, 1m 70y, 1:43.36, ft, neck.

SEEUINABIT (f, 3, Bahjatty--Strapless, by Forestry) Lifetime Record: 6-2-0-2, \$55,865. O-Southwest Racing Stables, Inc., Bruce and Lori Murphy; B-Bruce & Lori Murphy (IN); T-G Garcia.

5th-Penn National, \$37,713, 6-11, (NW1X), 3yo/up, 1m 70y, 1:41.06, ft, 2 1/2 lengths.

TOWN'S WARRIOR (g, 5, Speightstown--Code Warrior {MSW-Can, MSW & GSP-USA, \$410,315}, by Society's Chairman) Lifetime Record: 35-4-7-5, \$179,290. O-Bush Racing Stable; B-Robert Marzilli & Speightstown Syndicate (ON); T-Timothy C. Kreiser. *\$175,000 Wlg '20 FTKNOV; \$340,000 RNA Ylg '21 FTSAUG.

3rd-Hawthorne, \$32,000, (S), 6-12, (NW1BX), 3yo/up, 5 1/2fT, 1:02.24, fm, 6 1/2 lengths.

SAWYER FOX (g, 5, Hit It a Bomb--One Other Than, by Forestry) Lifetime Record: 4-2-1-0, \$53,524. O-Catalano Thoroughbreds, Inc. and LAZ Racing Stable, LLC; B-Catalano Thoroughbreds Inc. (IL); T-Wayne M. Catalano.

6th-Thistledown, \$28,000, 6-12, (NW16M), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:11.38, ft, 1 1/2 lengths.

TIME TO SHOOT (g, 8, Elusive Hour--Charlies Fire {MSW, \$128,642}, by Fire Blitz) Lifetime Record: 32-7-8-7, \$179,619. O-Emerson Equistions LLC and Brian Bestard; B-Felicia Campbell (MI); T-Richard J. Rettele. *\$1,300 Ylg '18 OHIOCT.

2nd-Belterra, \$26,200, (S), 6-12, (NW3L), 3yo/up, 1m 70y, 1:46.50, ft, 3 lengths.

DREAMINGABOUTTIME (g, 4, Dreamliner--Showtime Girl, by Discreetly Mine) Lifetime Record: 22-3-2-2, \$81,951. O/B-Jack Cannon (OH); T-Alejandro Olais Mendieta.

6th-Canterbury, \$26,150, (NW2X)/Opt. Clm (\$20,000), 6-11, 3yo/up, f/m, 1mT, 1:35.93, fm, 1 length.

GO LEE ANN GO (f, 4, Race Day--Lee Ann W, by Mr. Greeley) Lifetime Record: SP, 14-4-1-4, \$114,651. O-Three Times a Charm; B-Chesapeake Farm & Three Times A Charm (MN); T-Joel Berndt. *\$20,000 Wlg '21 KEENOV; \$48,000 3yo '24 FTDAPR. **1/2 to Peruvian Boy (Tapiture), MSP, \$252,539.



TAYLOR MADE FOR YOU!

7th-Canterbury, \$23,500, (S), 6-11, (NW2L), 3yo/up, f/m, 5 1/2f, 1:05.89, ft, 4 lengths.

FLATTER ME BABY (f, 3, Cinco Charlie--Flatter Me Not, by Flatter) Lifetime Record: SP, 8-2-3-1, \$63,215. O/B-Dennis Strohkirch (MN); T-Troy A. Bethke. *\$2,700 RNA Ylg '23 MNSAUG.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Sushi Man, g, 3, Astern (Aus)--Kitty Boo (GB), by Invincible Spirit (Ire). Canterbury, 6-11, (S), 7 1/2fT, 1:29.12. Lifetime Record: 5-1-2-0, \$28,657. B-One Bid Stable LLP (MN).

Gold Delight, f, 3, Goldcents--Shades of Light, by Arch. Horseshoe Indianapolis, 6-12, (S), 1mT, 1:39.46. Lifetime Record: 5-1-0-1, \$27,720. B-Mast Thoroughbreds LLC & Robert M Gorham (IN).

Wagstaff, g, 3, Yorkton--Spring Island, by Spring At Last. Woodbine, 6-12, (C), 1 1/16mT, 1:42.11. Lifetime Record: 6-1-1-0, \$34,149. B-Ledglands, LLC (Shelley Ritter) & Andrew C Ritter (KY). *\$27,000 RNA Ylg '23 KEESEP.



Bred, Raised and Sold by LEDGELANDS LLC

Devious Dennis, g, 4, Pass the Buck--Big City Woman, by Thunderello. Fair Meadows, 6-11, (S), 6f, 1:15.45. Lifetime Record: SP, 11-1-2-4, \$49,205. B-Beth Caster (OK).

Seeing
RED?

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

TODAY'S FEATURED REPLAY



Himika (Curlin) airs at first asking to become a 'TDN Rising Star'
(click to watch)

TDN RACE CRITERIA

The races covered in the TDN are as follows:

- Stakes: purses of \$40,000/up
- Allowance: purses of \$20,000/up
- Optional Claiming Races: purses of \$20,000/up
- Maiden Special Weight: purses of \$18,000/up
- Maiden Claiming: purses of \$18,000/up & a minimum claiming price of \$40,000

ALL TDN WINNERS BY SIRE

sponsored by

IRT  **Your Horse.
Our Passion.**
IRT USA: Tel +1 630 377 2300

Tel +44 1638 668 003

www.irt.com  

Astern (Aus), Sushi Man, g, 3, o/o Kitty Boo (GB), by Invincible Spirit (Ire). MSW, 6-11, Canterbury

Bahjatty, Seeyouinabit, f, 3, o/o Strapless, by Forestry. ALW, 6-12, Horseshoe Indianapolis

Bahjatty, Sir Bahjy, g, 3, o/o Proud Dreamer, by Proud Citizen. Hoosier Breeders Sophomore H., 6-11, Horseshoe Indianapolis

Bandbox, Take a Hint, g, 5, o/o Fancy Diamond, by Eastern Echo. AOC, 6-12, Delaware

Caravaggio, Nonna's Love, f, 2, o/o Nonna Bella, by Stay Thirsty. MSW, 6-12, Belmont The Big A

Cinco Charlie, Flatter Me Baby, f, 3, o/o Flatter Me Not, by Flatter. ALW, 6-11, Canterbury

Curlin, Himika, f, 2, o/o Motivated Seller, by Into Mischief. MSW, 6-12, Santa Anita

Dreamliner, Dreamingabouttime, g, 4, o/o Showtime Girl, by Discreetly Mine. ALW, 6-12, Belterra

Elusive Hour, Time to Shoot, g, 8, o/o Charlies Fire, by Fire Blitz. ALW, 6-12, Thistledown

Frac Daddy, Hoodless, f, 3, o/o Rockyroadto Dublin, by Giant Gizmo. OCL, 6-12, Woodbine

Ghostzapper, Ambaya, f, 3, o/o Kundray, by Distorted Humor. MSW, 6-12, Horseshoe Indianapolis

Goldencents, Gold Delight, f, 3, o/o Shades of Light, by Arch. MSW, 6-12, Horseshoe Indianapolis

Hit It a Bomb, Sawyer Fox, g, 5, o/o One Other Than, by Forestry. ALW, 6-12, Hawthorne

Into Mischief, Mirahmadi, c, 4, o/o More Chocolate, by Malibu Moon. AOC, 6-12, Santa Anita

Justify, Stellify, f, 4, o/o Savvy Star, by **Medaglia d'Oro**. ALW, 6-12, Churchill Downs

Lantana Mob, Foxy Justice, f, 3, o/o Alegra, by Exchange Rate. ALW, 6-12, Horseshoe Indianapolis

Medaglia d'Oro, Energize, g, 3, o/o Enliven, by Ghostzapper. MSW, 6-12, Delaware

Munnings, Picture This, g, 5, o/o Construe, by **Hard Spun**. ALW, 6-11, Penn National

Pass the Buck, Devious Dennis, g, 4, o/o Big City Woman, by Thunderello. MSW, 6-11, Fair Meadows

Race Day, Go Lee Ann Go, f, 4, o/o Lee Ann W, by Mr. Greeley. AOC, 6-11, Canterbury

Solomini, Trail of Gold, f, 3, o/o Bene Pista, by Bernardini. ALW, 6-12, Belmont The Big A

Speightstown, Town's Warrior, g, 5, o/o Code Warrior, by Society's Chairman. ALW, 6-11, Penn National

Street Boss, Street View, f, 4, o/o View, by Birdstone. STR, 6-12, Belmont The Big A

Uncaptured, Free to Roam, m, 5, o/o Sequoyah Hills, by Hear No Evil. AOC, 6-12, Gulfstream

Vino Rosso, Reside, c, 2, o/o More Glitter, by More Than Ready. MSW, 6-12, Belmont The Big A

Violence, Obliteration, c, 2, o/o I'mclassyandsassy, by Master Command. MSW, 6-12, Churchill Downs

Yorkton, Wagstaff, g, 3, o/o Spring Island, by Spring At Last. MOC, 6-12, Woodbine

Want to send a **"LETTER TO THE EDITOR"** of the Thoroughbred Daily News?

Send an e-mail to editor@thetdn.com

Now available on the App store



Version 2.7.4

Including
TDN Podcasts 

Download yours today.

Free Download 

ROYAL ASCOT TWO-YEAR-OLDS UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT



'TDN Rising Star' Charles Darwin with Christy Grassick, David Keegan, Ryan Moore, Sarmite Loca, Pat Keating, Aidan O'Brien, Mick and Ivor Flanagan. | [Racingfotos.com](https://www.racingphotos.com)

By Adam Houghton

The furore surrounding the changes to the Listed Windsor Castle Stakes shows no signs of abating, but for this year at least the six two-year-old races at Royal Ascot remain much as they've always been, which is beneficial for trends followers studying the data in an attempt to find winners next week.

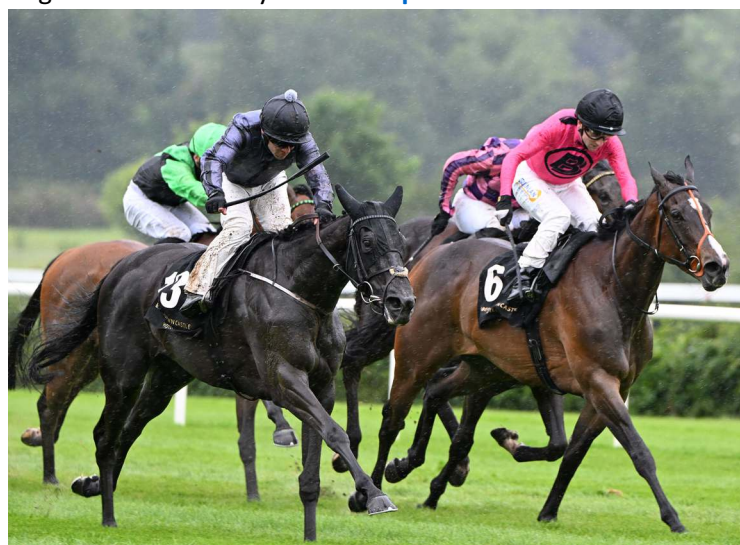
We lost one of the so-called bankers when Albert Einstein, last seen winning the G3 Marble Hill Stakes at the Curragh, was ruled out of the meeting due to a sprained joint, but his absence shouldn't detract too much from the top-class action in store for us. After all, the son of **Wootton Bassett** is just one of 13 two-year-olds who have earned 'TDN Rising Star' status with their performances on European racecourses in 2025, with many of the others set to be in action in the coming days.

Here, we have a spin through the key members of that group, whilst pinpointing the trainers and sires you need to bear in mind when it comes to compiling a shortlist of potential Royal Ascot-winning juveniles in 2025. [Cont. p3](#)

COPACABANA SANDS BEST IN THE BALLYCORUS by Tom Frary

Building on her black-type breakthrough in the Listed Owenstown Stud Stakes, Sands Of Mali's **Copacabana Sands** made her first start in the Barbara Keller silks a winning one in Thursday's G3 Barberstown Castle Stakes at Leopardstown. Sent off at 11-2 for the seven-furlong test, which is registered as the Ballycorus, the Michael O'Callaghan trainee who had broken her maiden in that Naas contest last month was anchored towards rear early by Wayne Lordan. Delivered in the centre of the track to swoop inside the final furlong, she was able to secure a 1 3/4-length verdict over **Easy** (Kodiac) with a degree of superiority.

"She won her Listed race on good ground the last day, but Wayne felt she probably improved for this ground," O'Callaghan said. "We'll probably plan an autumn campaign for her. The ground would be a factor and she's also been on the go from early in the spring. She tries very hard, so she leaves nothing behind and deserves a break. She was bought since the last day by Barbara Keller, a lady that I know about ten years or maybe more. I sold her a filly years ago and she left it with me and I also sold her Night Sparkle who she had good fun with and it's great to get her back in the yard." [Cont. p6](#)



Copacabana Sands | [Racingfotos.com](https://www.racingfotos.com)

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

BOB DUNCAN MAKING THE GATE AN OPEN DOOR

Chris McGrath chats with Bob Duncan, who has aided thoroughbreds to overcome their gate troubles for years.

PUBLISHER & CEO

Sue Morris Finley @suefinley
suefinley@thetdn.com

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

Gary King @garykingTDN
garyking@thetdn.com

European & International Editor

Emma Berry @collingsberry
emmaberry@thetdn.com

Managing Editor

Heather Anderson @HLAndersonTDN

Business Development Manager

Alayna Cullen Birkett @AlaynaCullen
alaynacullen@thetdn.com

European Sales Editor

Brian Sheerin @BrianSheerin91

Associate European Editor

Adam Houghton @hought94

Cafe Racing

Sean Cronin & Tom Frary
caferacing@thetdn.com

Contributing Editors

Alan Carasso
Christina Bossinakis

Regular Columnists

Chris McGrath | John Berry | Paul Hayward

ADVERTISING

tdnadstaff@gmail.com

Director of Advertising

Alycia Borer

Advertising Manager

Lia Best

Senior Advertising Designer

Amanda Crelin

Advertising Designer

Amie Newcomb

Advertising Assistant/Dir. of Distribution

Liz Fronczek

Advertising Assistant

Justin Fowler

60 Broad Street, Suite 105

Red Bank, NJ 07701

732-747-8060 | www.TheTDN.com/europe

TODAY in TDN EUROPE

Friday, June 13, 2025



IRT founder Quentin Wallace has died at the age of 77. He is credited with revolutionising the horse transport industry. See page 12 for more. | IRT

6 | ONE DOZEN DECLARED FOR DIANE

G1 Poule d'Essai des Pouliches second and third Shes Perfect and Mandanaba head the G1 Prix de Diane Longines.

10 | FIRST WINNER FOR KEANE AFTER ACCEPTING JUDDMONTE RETAINER

In his very first ride in his new role, Colin Keane returned a winner aboard Blue Bolt (Blue Point) in the Juddmonte colours.

Don't Miss!

Breaking News • Featured Videos
Podcasts & Features • Sire Lists & TDN Rising Stars
TDN Archives

thetdn.com/europe

O'Brien Runners The Obvious Place to Start

If you're on the hunt for a Royal Ascot-winning two-year-old, then those trained by Aidan O'Brien is an obvious place to start. In the last 10 years alone, O'Brien is responsible for 16 winners in this division, from a total of 60 races, which essentially means that horses from Ballydoyle are winning one in every four.

O'Brien has been even more dominant than that in the Listed Chesham Stakes, having won five of the last 10 renewals, while the only juvenile contest he hasn't won in that time is the G2 Queen Mary Stakes. His remaining tally is made up of three wins in each of the G2 Coventry Stakes, G3 Albany Stakes and Windsor Castle, plus a pair of victories in the G2 Norfolk Stakes.

Typically, O'Brien has assembled a strong team of two-year-olds to go to war with next week, even in the absence

of the highly-touted Albert Einstein. The stable is responsible for four other 'TDN Rising Stars', headed by Charles Darwin who, with a Timeform rating of 109p, is tied with Albert Einstein as the highest-rated two-year-old colt in training.

Charles Darwin hasn't looked back since being beaten on his debut at the Curragh, winning both of his subsequent starts at Navan and Naas, and he looks a leading contender to follow in the footsteps of Caravaggio (2016), Arizona (2019) and River Tiber (2023), O'Brien's three winners of the Coventry in the last decade. In total, O'Brien has won that Group 2 on 10 occasions.

O'Brien has four other colts entered in the Coventry, including another 'TDN Rising Star' in Curragh debut scorer Brussels (89p), plus fellow

once-raced winners Gstaad (98p), Flushing Meadows (95p) and Warsaw (89p). [Cont. p4](#)



Brussels | Tattersalls

LAST ROLL OF THE DICE

JULY STORE SALE

23 - 24 JULY

ENTER NOW

tattersalls.ie +353 1 8864 300



Top Prices achieved
€65,000 **€60,000**
€55,000 **€54,000**


Tattersalls Ireland



LONGINES

WORLD RANKINGS

Measuring Racing Greatness THE LONGINES WORLD'S BEST RACEHORSE RANKINGS

for 3yos and upward that raced between 1st January 2025 to 8th June 2025

RANK	RATING	HORSE	TRAINED IN
1	127	Forever Young (JPN)	JPN
2	126	Ka Ying Rising (NZ)	HK
2	126	Romantic Warrior (IRE)	HK
4	125	Danon Decile (JPN)	JPN
4	125	Sovereignty (USA)	USA



Sovereignty © Racingfotos.com



Royal Ascot 2yos Cont.

All but Gstaad, a **Starspangledbanner** half-brother to dual Group 1-winning juvenile Vandeeek, are by Coolmore's sire sensation **Wootton Bassett**, who is also responsible for the other pair of **'TDN Rising Stars'** from Ballydoyle, namely Italy (94P) and Simply Astounding (90p).

Italy appears an unlikely runner at Royal Ascot—he was missing from the Coventry entries and isn't qualified for the Chesham—but Simply Astounding is worth looking out for when the Albany entries are published on Saturday. A daughter of the seven-time Group 1 winner Minding, she clearly wasn't herself when following a striking debut win at Naas with a poor effort in the G3 Fillies Sprint Stakes over the same course and distance.

Whatever happens next week, the fact that **Wootton Bassett** has already produced four **'TDN Rising Stars'** from his second Irish-bred crop is a rare achievement. Indeed, **No Nay Never** is the only sire to have previously matched that tally pre-Royal Ascot, back in 2022, when his juveniles included the Windsor Castle hero **Little Big Bear**—one of his **'TDN Rising Stars'**—and Albany winner Meditate.

This year those two Coolmore powerhouses will be pitted against one another in the Coventry, with **No Nay Never's** Charles Darwin—a full-brother to **Blackbeard**—set to come up against Military Code (93p), the son of **Wootton Bassett** who is unbeaten in two starts for Charlie Appleby.



Zelaina | Alison Murphy Photography

Breeze-up Buys On The March

Karl Burke has sent out more Royal Ascot-winning two-year-olds in the last decade than every other trainer bar O'Brien, with his five-strong tally putting him one ahead of Wesley Ward, who is set to be without a runner at the meeting this year for the first time since 2012.

In the last 10 years, Burke has registered solitary wins in the Albany, Chesham and Norfolk, while next week he will bid for a third success in the Queen Mary with **'TDN Rising Star'** Zelaina (90P). The Wathnan Racing-owned filly, a £650,000 purchase at the Goffs UK Doncaster Breeze-up Sale, created an excellent impression when making a successful start to her career at Nottingham earlier this month, skipping clear in the closing stages to come home unchallenged by two and three-quarter lengths.

Burke was winning that Nottingham contest with a breeze-up

graduate for the third consecutive year, having struck in 2023 with Beautiful Diamond, who was subsequently third in the Queen Mary, and last year with Wathnan's Leovanni, before she went on to win the same Royal Ascot Group 2. Burke and Wathnan also teamed up 12 months ago to win the Norfolk with Shareholder, who was an expensive breeze-up buy himself when fetching €460,000 at Arqana.

In total, nine Royal Ascot-winning juveniles in the last decade were offered at a breeze-up sale, including five of the last 10 winners of the Norfolk, with Shareholder being joined on that roll of honour by Prince Of Lir (£170,000 at Doncaster) in 2016, Shang Shang Shang (\$200,000 at Ocala) in 2018, A'Ali (£135,000 at Doncaster) in 2019 and Perfect Power (£110,000 at Doncaster) in 2021.

This year, Burke and Wathnan could again team up in the Norfolk with Naval Light, a 360,000gns buy at the Tattersalls Craven Breeze-up Sale, who caught the eye in second when

making his debut in a conditions race at Beverley last month.

Big-Name Sires and the Freshman Looking for a Breakthrough

Two of the most notable absentees from the Coventry entries are trained by Appleby at Moulton Paddocks, namely Treanmor (95P) and Maximized (93p), both of whom are also **'TDN Rising Stars'**. **Frankel's** Treanmor, who cost Godolphin €2 million as a yearling, is more than likely Chesham-bound,

while Maximized, a £720,000 purchase at the Doncaster Breeze-up Sale, seems set to miss the meeting altogether after his Woodcote victory at Epsom.

Despite the absence of Maximized, leading two-year-old sire Mehmas is still blessed with plenty of strength in depth in this division as he tries to tick off a surprising omission on his CV, having failed to come up with a Royal Ascot-winning juvenile since he himself finished second in the 2016 Coventry won by Caravaggio.

Zelaina looks to be the Tally-Ho Stud stallion's most obvious chance of making the breakthrough next week, while Appleby's Wise Approach (93p), another **'TDN Rising Star'** following his debut victory at Ascot, is one to look out for wherever he goes, having so far been given entries in the Coventry and the Windsor Castle, with the possible runners for the Norfolk not released until Friday. [Cont. p5](#)

Royal Ascot 2yos Cont.

In total, Mehmas is responsible for four Coventry contenders, with the others including the Listed National Stakes runner-up First Legion (91p) and Ayr debut winner Underwriter (84p).

Havana Grey is another well-established sire for whom a Royal Ascot-winning two-year-old has thus far proved elusive, but he too will have plenty of chances to right that wrong next week. As well as Naval Light, he is the sire of Resolute Racing's big-money buy Rogue Legend (105p), who is ranked behind only Albert Einstein and Charles Darwin among Timeform's highest-rated juveniles, following back-to-back wins at Cork and Tipperary. Yarmouth scorer Staya (91p) deserves a mention, too, ahead of her potential appearance in the Queen Mary for George Scott and KHK Racing.

That Yarmouth card also witnessed a 'TDN Rising Star' performance from Wathnan's Postmodern (91p), who is challenging both Charles Darwin and Military Code for Coventry favouritism with the majority of bookmakers. He is by Too Darn Hot, one of the leading first-season stallions of 2023 but still on the hunt for a breakthrough with his juvenile runners at this meeting.

As for the 2025 crop of freshman sires, Starman has more than one good chance of opening his Royal Ascot account at the first opportunity, with Burke's Carlisle winner Venetian Sun (85p) likely to be joined in the Albany by the Joseph O'Brien-trained Green Sense (97p), who was last seen filling the runner-up spot in the Fillies Sprint Stakes won by Lady Iman (100p).

Incidentally, the unbeaten Lady Iman, also by Starman, is Timeform's highest-rated two-year-old filly in training, but trainer Ger Lyons has reported to her be an unlikely runner at Royal Ascot.

Space Blues is another first-season sire who has already come up with a black-type performer in Power Blue (103), runner-up to Albert Einstein in the Marble Hill. Beaten less than a length on that occasion, Power Blue looks potentially overpriced at 25/1 for the Coventry, where his potential rivals include **St Mark's Basilica's** first-crop son Rogue Supremacy (88p), a dominant

debut winner at Wetherby.

US Sires Punching Above Their Weight

Another interesting angle at Royal Ascot in recent years has been the success of US-based sires with their two-year-old runners. All told, they have provided 10 of the 60 winners in that category in the last decade, consistently punching above their weight given the lesser representation they're always going to have compared to their European counterparts.

The much-missed Scat Daddy was responsible for four of those winners, identifying him as the joint-most successful stallion in the juvenile races at Royal Ascot in the last 10 years. He shares that title with the Tally-Ho stalwart Kodiak and another late Coolmore stallion in Zoffany, with the aforementioned **No Nay Never** best of the rest with three winners.

In a share of fifth with two winners is another US-based stallion in **War Front**, while Malibu Moon, **Not This Time**, **Nyquist** and Shanghai Bobby have all sired one Royal Ascot-winning juvenile apiece.

Interestingly, seven of those 10 victories for US sires were achieved in the races run over five furlongs, and yet, the progeny of all but Malibu Moon would be eligible to run in the new-look Windsor Castle from next year, when it will be

restricted to juveniles whose sire won at least once over seven furlongs-plus at two, or a mile-plus at three and above.

That demonstrates the way these US sires seem able to produce fast and precocious juveniles, even when their own race record suggests they had more than a bit of staying power themselves.

As for this year, with no Wesley Ward runners, Lennilu could be the one to fly the American flag when she lines up in the Queen Mary, having earned her spot in the field with victory in last month's Royal Palm Juvenile Fillies Stakes at Gulfstream Park. A daughter of Leinster, she's following the same path to Ascot as Crimson Advocate, the daughter of **Nyquist** who won the Queen Mary two years ago.



Postmodern | Tattersalls

G3 Ballycorus Stakes Cont. from p1

Pedigree Notes

Copacabana Sands is out of the Cheveley Park Stud-bred Montjeu mare Buttonhole, a daughter of the G3 Prestige Stakes winner and G1 Poule d'Essai des Poulisches-placed Red Camellia (Polar Falcon) whose progeny list is headed by Selkirk's G1 Fillies' Mile heroine Red Bloom. She is in turn the dam of Frankel's G3 January Cup winner and G1 Champions Mile third Senator, while this family of Teleprompter also features the G3 Princess Elizabeth Stakes winner Epsom Icon by Sixties Icon. Buttonhole's 2023 colt and 2024 filly are both by Nando Parrado, with the former named Brixton.

Thursday, Leopardstown, Ireland

BARBERSTOWN CASTLE STAKES (REGISTERED AS THE BALLYCORUS STAKES)-G3, €60,000, Leopardstown, 6-12, 3yo/up, 7f 47yT, 1:34.64, sf.

1--**COPACABANA SANDS (IRE)**, 122, f, 3, by Sands Of Mali (Fr)

1st Dam: Buttonhole (GB), by Montjeu (Ire)

2nd Dam: Red Camellia (GB), by Polar Falcon

3rd Dam: Cerise Bouquet (GB), by Mummy's Pet (GB)

1ST GROUP WIN. (€7,000 Ylg '23 TATIRY). O-Barbara M.

Keller; B-Peter & Hugh McCutcheon; T-Michael O'Callaghan; J-Wayne Lordan. €36,000. Lifetime Record: 9-2-1-1, \$88,780.

Werk Nick Rating: F. Click for the

eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree, or the free Equineline.com catalogue-style pedigree.

2--**Easy (Ire)**, 132, m, 5, Kodiak (GB)--Gharaaneej (Ire), by Pivotal (GB). **1ST GROUP BLACK TYPE.** (€48,000 Ylg '21 GOAUTY). O-Team Valor International LLC & Gary Barber; B-Shadwell Estate Company Limited; T-Andrew Slattery. €12,000.

3--**Zodiac Bear (Ire)**, 125, g, 3, Kodi Bear (Ire)--Tut (Ire), by Intikhab. **1ST BLACK TYPE, 1ST GROUP BLACK TYPE.** (€35,000 Ylg '23 TATIRY). O-McPeake Investments (NI) Ltd; B-Jean Brennan; T-Johnny Murtagh. €6,000.

Margins: 1 3/4, NK, 2 3/4. Odds: 5.50, 7.00, 10.00.

Also Ran: East Hampton (GB), Mataariki (Fr), Norwalk Havoc (GB), Mutasarref (GB), Bluedrum (Ire), Cowardofthecounty (Ire), Royal Zabeel (Ire), Valiant Force. Scratched: Comanche Brave (Ire), One Smack Mac (Ire).

© Copyright Thoroughbred Daily News.

This newspaper may not be reproduced in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, without prior written permission of the copyright owner, Thoroughbred Daily News, LLC.

Information as to the American races, race results and earnings was obtained from results charts published by The Jockey Club Information Services and utilized here with their permission.

EUROPEAN NEWS

SHES PERFECT AND MANDANABA HEAD ONE DOZEN PRIX DE DIANE DECLARATIONS



Shes Perfect | Emma Berry

Last month's G1 Poule d'Essai des Poulisches demotee **Shes Perfect** (**Sioux Nation**) heads a field of one dozen contenders for Sunday's G1 Prix de Diane Longines after Thursday morning's final declarations were announced for the €1-million Chantilly Classic. Basher Watts Racing's Charlie Fellowes trainee, who has drawn stall seven, will be reopposed by Princess Zahra Aga Khan's **TDN Rising Star** and Poulisches third **Mandanaba** (Ghaiyyath), who will emerge from stall 10. Mandanaba will be accompanied by Francis Graffard stablemates **Cankoura** (Persian King) and G2 Prix Saint-Alary victrix **Gezora** (Almanzor), who have been allocated stalls 11 and one.

Aidan O'Brien is set to saddle a team of two, with Poulisches also-rans **Bedtime Story** (**Frankel**) and **Merrily** (**No Nay Never**) drawn apart in stalls 12 and three.

Andre Fabre already has four editions in the books and will be represented by Juddmonte's Poulisches fifth **Better Together** (**Oasis Dream**), who will bid to become the veteran maestro's first winner since Golden Lilac in 2011 from stall nine. She will be partnered by Colin Keane.

Christopher Head celebrated a maiden victory in the contest with Yeguada Centurion's Blue Rose Cen in 2023 and relies on **Rosa Salvaje** (**Maximum Security**) this time around. She has drawn stall five.

The line-up is completed by **D'Ores Et Deja** (**Zarak**), **American Gal** (Kameko), **Zia Agnese** (Romanised) and **Sand Gazelle** (**Frankel**). **Cont. p7**

Diane Declarations Cont.

Ballydoyle duo **January** (**Kingman**) and **TDN Rising Star Ecstatic** (Lord Kanaloa) were the only overnight entries not declared.

[Share this story](#) 

MISS YECHANCE SELLS FOR 250,000GNS VIA TATTERSALLS ONLINE



Miss Yechance | Tattersalls

Royal Ascot entry and recent Redcar winner **Miss Yechance** sold for 250,000gns at the Tattersalls Online June Pop-up Sale to Royal Chance Bloodstock, understood to be the guise in which bloodstock agent Alessandro Marconi was signing for on behalf of unnamed clients.

An impressive winner over five furlongs on debut at Redcar two weeks ago for trainer Jack Morland and owners Derek Lovatt and Colin Bacon, the daughter of Cotai Glory was offered by EMW Equine with entries in the G2 Queen Mary Stakes and the Listed Windsor Castle Stakes at Royal Ascot.

Miss Yechance was a £32,000 yearling purchase for EMW Equine before going unsold at £48,000 at the Goffs Breeze-up Sale earlier in the spring despite posting one of the fastest times in the breeze. With Royal Ascot aspirations ignited following her debut win at Redcar, connections elected to offer the filly on the Tattersalls Online platform.

Whitaker commented, "I'm ecstatic. I am lucky to have two very good owners in Derek Lovatt and Colin Bacon who have believed in not only me but in my team and most importantly in the filly. Unfortunately, things did not fall into place at the breeze ups but we've always had faith in her and she repaid us by winning as she did on debut. It's a big relief but I believe she will progress into a very nice filly and she will only get better. I wish her new connections the very best of luck."

[Share this story](#) 

HALF-SISTER TO DERBY SECOND LAZY GRIFF JOINS ARQANA SUMMER SALE

A quartet of wildcards, including **Love Affair** (Study Of Man) (lot 520), have been added to the Arqana Summer Sale set for Deauville from June 30-July 3.

The 4-year-old filly is in foal to Good Guess, and she is a half-sister to group winners Lazy Griff (Protectionist) who was second in the G1 Betfred Derby on Saturday, and Lambo (Protectionist).

The other three wildcards are as follows: listed winner **Maturlo** (**Starspangledbanner**) (lot 397); the 89-rated winner **Motion** (Lope De Vega) (lot 398); and the stakes-placed **Alanya** (Le Havre) (lot 519), who is in foal to Persian King.

For the catalogue, please visit the [Arqana website](#).

[Share this story](#) 

NAOMI MELLOR APPOINTED AS CEO OF THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION

Naomi Mellor has been appointed chief executive officer at the Thoroughbred Breeders' Association (TBA). A qualified veterinary surgeon, Mellor brings over 17 years of equine veterinary experience across the UK, Australia, and the South Pacific, including Thoroughbred stud work.

As well as working in racing, stud and general practice as a vet, she previously served as a veterinary officer at the British Horseracing Authority, where she played a role in regulatory compliance and animal welfare at major racing events, including Royal Ascot and the Cheltenham Festival.

Mellor succeeds Claire Sheppard, who will step down after the TBA AGM on September 1, 2025 following a comprehensive handover process. [Cont. p8](#)



Naomi Mellor | TBA

Naomi Mellor Cont.

Mellor said, "I am thrilled to be taking up the role of CEO of the TBA and look forward to working with both the team at Stanstead House and others across the industry to secure a sustainable future for the British Thoroughbred.

"The breeding sector is fundamental to the success of the sport, in which the TBA plays a central role. We will continue to actively support our current members, ensure productive working relationships within the industry and look to grow a new pipeline of breeders in the future."

Philip Newton, Chairman of the TBA commented, "We are absolutely delighted to welcome Naomi as our new Chief Executive. It is rare to find someone with such a diverse and accomplished background—combining extensive veterinary expertise with global experience, stakeholder engagement, and a proven track record in advocacy.

"Naomi's appointment comes at a pivotal time for the industry, and we are confident she will be a powerful voice for our members, British breeders and the future of British Thoroughbred breeding.

"I would also like to once again thank Claire Sheppard for her exceptional contribution to the TBA over the past eight years."

[Share this story](#) 

HKJC "DELIGHTED" WITH BETFRED DERBY WORLD POOL TURNOVER INCREASE



Lambourn | Focus On Racing

Saturday's G1 Betfred Derby at Epsom accrued turnover on World Pool bet types of HK\$54,403,320 (£5,101,629) up on 2024's figure of HK\$51,760,276 (£4,853,780) (+5%). The 18-runner Classic was won by Lambourn (Australia).

Over 28 jurisdictions were able to bet into the Hong Kong Jockey Club (HKJC)'s World Pool on Saturday across the eight

races at Epsom, while an additional four races from South Africa were also internationally commingled. Turnover for the full eight-race meeting at Epsom also increased to HK\$267.1m from HK\$264.5m.

For the first time, the Listed Hopeful Stakes and an additional race at Newmarket will be on the **World Pool schedule** on Aug. 22, the same day as Nunthorpe Stakes Day at York, which is a full World Pool card.

Sam Nati, head of commingling at the HKJC, said, "Given the unsettled weather and a significant non-runner on the day in the shape of Ruling Court, we're delighted to see World Pool turnover figures up on last year and would like to thank Epsom Racecourse and The Jockey Club for all their hard work. Punters were treated to good field sizes throughout the day, and in particular for the Derby, which is always great to see."

Jim Allen, general manager at Epsom Downs Racecourse, said, "It's fantastic to see the World Pool turnover figures up on last year, with the biggest Derby field since 2017. Lambourn was a great winner, and having such a large field was fantastic for the race and turnover. More broadly, The Jockey Club looks forward to partnering with World Pool for additional races in 2025 and beyond."

[Share this story](#) 

GOFFS ARKLE PART 2 CONCLUDES WITH €70K CRYSTAL OCEAN TOPPER

A son of Crystal Ocean (lot 703) took pride of place during Part 2 of the Goffs Arkle Sale on Thursday.

The gelding, from the Woodhouse Stud draft, caught the eye of Gerry Hogan Bloodstock and Paul Nolan Racing and was secured for €70,000. Out of a full-sister to Grade 3 hurdle winner Cup Final (Presenting), the 3-year-old store is a grandson of multiple Grade 1-winning hurdler Asian Maz (Anshan).

Of the 229 horses offered, 176 (77%) sold for an aggregate of €3,192,500 (+42%). The average rose 20% to €18,140 and the median increased 14% to €16,000.

"Following a sensational Arkle Part 1 we were hopeful that today would return a vibrant trade and are pleased to have delivered a set of results that show improvement in every area," said Goffs Group chief executive Henry Beeby. "Arkle Part 2 is a viable and attractive alternative to the last two days and, of course, also has a strong record in the point-to-point field. An upswing in turnover, average, median and clearance rate is encouraging albeit these returns are at a lower level and a 77% clearance rate, whilst much better than last year, continues to point to a selectivity in places that has been increasingly evident away from the top in recent times."

[Share this story](#) 

FIRST-SEASON SIRES WITH RUNNERS

Friday, June 13, 2025:

FRANCE

A'Ali (Ire) (Society Rock {Ire}), Newsells Park Stud
75 foals of racing age/4 winners/0 black-type winners
1-MAR.BORELY, 1200m, **Amazing Grace (Fr)**
€20,000 Arqana Deauville October Yearlings 2024

UNITED KINGDOM

A'Ali (Ire) (Society Rock {Ire}), Newsells Park Stud
75 foals of racing age/4 winners/0 black-type winners
14:25-YORK, 6f, **Spartacus Warrior (GB)**
8,000gns Tattersalls December Foal Sale 2023; 1,600gns RNA
Tattersalls October Yearling Sale (Book 4) 2024

Alkumait (GB) (Showcasing {GB}), Capital Stud
61 foals of racing age/1 winner/0 black-type winners
14:50-CHESTER, 7f, **Crystal Aurora (Ire)**
€8,000 Goffs November Foal Sale 2023; €19,000 Goffs Orby
Yearling Sale (Book 2) 2024

Lope Y Fernandez (Ire) (Lope de Vega {Ire}), The National Stud
99 foals of racing age/2 winners/0 black-type winners
14:25-YORK, 6f, **Woody Y Fernandez (GB)**
8,500gns Tattersalls December Foal Sale 2023; 8,000gns RNA
Tattersalls Somerville Yearling Sale 2024; 15,000gns RNA
Tattersalls Guineas Breeze Up & HIT Sale 2025

Lucky Vega (Ire) (Lope de Vega {Ire}), Irish National Stud
101 foals of racing age/2 winners/0 black-type winners
14:05-SANDOWN PARK, 7f, **Boiling Over (Ire)**
€120,000 Arqana Deauville August Yrlg Sale 2024

Nando Parrado (GB) (Kodiac {GB}), Irish National Stud
95 foals of racing age/6 winners/0 black-type winners
14:50-CHESTER, 7f, **Imso Friendly (Ire)**
€120,000 Goffs UK Premier Yearling Sale 2024

Space Blues (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}), Kildangan Stud
113 foals of racing age/3 winners/0 black-type winners
17:30-GOODWOOD, 6f, **Kuiama (Ire)**
15,000gns Tattersalls December Yearling Sale 2024

Starman (GB) (Dutch Art {GB}), Tally-Ho Stud
211 foals of racing age/9 winners/1 black-type winner
15:35-YORK, 5f, **Soca Star (Ire)**
£40,000 Goffs UK Premier Yearling Sale 2024

Ubettabelieveit (Ire) (Kodiac {GB}), Mickley Stud
80 foals of racing age/3 winners/0 black-type winners
14:50-CHESTER, 7f, **Believeinthisone (GB)**
14:50-CHESTER, 7f, **Ubetterseethis (GB)**
8,000gns Tattersalls December Foal Sale 2023; £18,000 Goffs UK
Premier Yearling Sale 2024

Victor Ludorum (GB) (Shamardal), Haras d'Etreham
104 foals of racing age/2 winners/0 black-type winners
14:05-SANDOWN PARK, 7f, **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-FAIRYHOUSE, 6f, **Cortina d'Amprezzo (Ire)**
€26,000 Goffs Autumn Yearling Sale 2024

St Mark's Basilica (Fr) (Siyouni {Fr}), Coolmore Stud
133 foals of racing age/1 winner/0 black-type winners
1-CORK, 6f, **Fleur de Rose (Ire)**
1-CORK, 6f, **War Saint (Ire)**

Starman (GB) (Dutch Art {GB}), Tally-Ho Stud
211 foals of racing age/9 winners/1 black-type winner
1-FAIRYHOUSE, 6f, **Quiet Mutiny (Ire)**
22,000gns Tattersalls October Yearling Sale (Book 3) 2024



Alkumait has a runner at Chester | Capital Stud

OBSERVATIONS

on the European racing scene

STARLUST'S SISTER DEBUTS AT YORK

3.35 York, Novice, 2yo, f, 5fT

STARGAZED (GB) (Zoustar {Aus}) is a full-sister to last year's GI Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint hero Starlust who debuts for Clipper Logistics and the Karl Burke stable. Out of the G3 Prix de Saint-Georges winner and G2 Lowther Stakes runner-up Beyond Desire (Invincible Spirit), she faces seven in this speed test.

4.52 Cork, Mdn, 2yo, f, 6fT

SKYDANCE (GB) (Night Of Thunder {Ire}) was a €1 million purchase by Al Shira'aa Racing at last year's Arqana August Sale who debuts for the Willie McCreery stable in the maiden won 12 months ago by the future luminary Babouche. A daughter of the G3 Prix de Lutece winner Paix (Muhaarar) connected to a host of stars including Magic Wand and Chicquita, she faces a tough task taking on Ballydoyle's experience **Beautify (Ire) (Wootton Bassett {GB})**, a daughter of the G3 Munster Oaks winner Words (Dansili).

HOW THEY FARED

3.50 Newbury, Novice, 3yo, f, 8fT

Dreamasar (Ire) (Masar {Ire}), a half-sister to Dreamloper (Lope De Vega), stayed on into third in an encouraging debut.

4.40 Leopardstown, Mdn, 2yo, f, 7f 47T

Dancing Saxon (Ire) (Saxon Warrior {Jpn}), the half-sister to Dancing Gemini (Camelot), started favourite but faded late to be 10th.

[Share this story](#) 

BRITAIN

Thursday's Results:

5th-Newbury, £40,000, Novice, 6-12, 3yo, f, 8fT, 1:36.62, gd.

BLUE BOLT (IRE) (f, 3, Blue Point {Ire}--Mayhem {Ire} {GSW-Fr, \$232,796}, by Whipper), penalised for his four-length debut win at Windsor last month, shadowed the early leader under Colin Keane, who was having his first ride for Juddmonte since gaining the retainer on Monday. Sent to the front approaching two out, the 6-4 second favourite was soon beyond recall and only needed to be pushed out to record a 1 1/4-length success from Shadwell's Majaz (Dubawi). "It's the perfect start--I'm very privileged to be asked to wear these colours and they are iconic

in racing," Kean said. "I have grown up looking at them and their farm is only up the road, so I'm in a very privileged position. She is a nice filly who was a good winner the last day and seems to have stepped forward again. She's very uncomplicated, she just gallops on. It felt very easy for her in the first half of the race--I was trying to take her back a little bit and she just got a bit lonely once she had quickened away from them." The winner is the fifth foal out of the talented dam, who was successful in the G3 Prix Allez France and was second in the G2 Prix de Royallieu. Two of them have been Dark Angel's G2 German 1,000 Guineas runner-up Sky Angel and the triple Listed scorer Sea Theme by **Sea The Stars**. A full-sister to the G2 Prix Daniel Wildenstein winner and G1 Hong Kong Mile runner-up Royal Bench, she is a daughter of the G1 Prix Saint-Alary heroine Cerulean Sky (Darshaan) which ties her to the likes of Moonstone (Dalakhani) et al. Her unraced 2-year-old Heureuse is a full-sister to Sky Angel. Sales history: €400,000 Ylg '23 ARAUG. Lifetime Record: 3-2-0-0, \$55,299.

O-Juddmonte; B-C-Squared Investments; T-Andrew Balding.

[Share this story](#) 

2nd-Newbury, £12,000, Nov, 6-12, 2yo, 6 1/2fT, 1:18.48, gd.

MOONFALL (IRE) (c, 2, Starman {GB}--Lealas Daughter {Ire}, by Excelebration {Ire}), who placed in five-furlong starts at Newmarket in April and last month, broke on the lead and remained there throughout this first try at 6 1/2 furlongs. Shaken up with a quarter-mile remaining, the 8-11 favourite came under sterner urging thereafter and was ridden out inside the final furlong to defeat New Monarch (Acclamation) by two lengths, becoming the ninth winner for his freshman sire (by Dutch Art). Moonfall is the second foal and scorer produced by an unraced half-sister to GI Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint and dual GI Shoemaker Mile hero Obviously (Choisir). The March-foaled bay is a half-brother to Group 3-winning G1 Matron Stakes and GI Queen Elizabeth II Challenge Cup placegetter Soprano (**Starspangledbanner**) and a yearling filly by Mehmas. Sales history: €120,000 Wlg '23 GOFNOF; 200,000gns Ylg '24 TATOCT. Lifetime Record: 3-1-1-1, \$18,399.

O-Sheikh Mohammed Obaid Al Maktoum; B-Empire Bloodstock Ltd; T-George Boughey.

3rd-Newbury, £12,000, Nov, 6-12, 2yo, 6 1/2fT, 1:18.64, gd.

A BIT OF SPIRIT (IRE) (c, 2, Palace Pier {GB}--Tanaaghom {Ire}, by Dubawi {Ire}), broke well from the stands' side stall and raced on the lead after the initial strides of this debut. Pressed by 4-9 favourite Time To Turn (Dark Angel) throughout, the 28-1 outsider was headed by that rival entering the final furlong and rallied in game fashion to prevail by a head in a bobbing finish, with the pair 4 3/4 lengths clear of the remainder. [Cont. p11](#)



A Bit Of Spirit | de Burgh Productions

3rd-Newbury Cont.

A Bit Of Spirit, who becomes the second winner for his freshman sire (by **Kingman**), is the first foal and scorer produced by a daughter of Listed Hurry Harriet Stakes victrix and G3 Meld Stakes third Adool (Teofilo), herself out of G3 Nell Gwyn Stakes winner Khulood (Storm Cat). The January-foaled bay, whose fourth dam is G2 Prix d'Astarte-winning matriarch Elle Seule (Exclusive Native), is half to a yearling colt by St Mark's Basilica. Sales history: 75,000gns Ylg '24 TATSOM. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$8,779. O-Paul & Clare Rooney; B-J Hanly, A Stroud & Ed's Stud; T-Clive Cox.

2nd-Great Yarmouth, £8,000, Nov, 6-12, 3yo/up, 6f 3yT, 1:10.89, g/f.

SPY CHIEF (GB) (g, 3, **Kingman {GB}--Shirocco Star {GB} {MG1SP-Ire, G1SP-Eng & GSP-Fr, \$485,970}, by Shirocco {Ger}),** a 750,000gns Book 1 graduate who was denied by a head going seven furlongs at Kempton last time, broke sharply and seized an immediate lead in this turf bow. Comfortably clear of his seven rivals throughout, the 7-5 second favourite was asked to stretch passing the quarter-mile marker and lengthened further clear inside the final furlong to easily outpoint Almeraq (Dark Angel) by an impressive 5 1/2 lengths. Spy Chief is the sixth foal and scorer produced by G1 Oaks and G1 Irish Oaks runner-up and G1 Pretty Polly Stakes third Shirocco Star (Shirocco), herself out of a winning half-sister to Group 3-winning G1 Irish 2000 Guineas runner-up France (Desert Prince). The February-foaled bay is a half-brother to dual Group 2-winning G1 Al Quoz Sprint and G1 Jebel Hatta third Al Suhail (Dubawi), multiple Group-winning sire Telecaster (New Approach), stakes-winning G1 Prix de Royallieu third Mistral Star (**Frankel**), the stakes-winning Starcaster (Dansili) and an unraced 2-year-old colt by Dubawi.

Lifetime Record: 3-1-1-0, \$9,619.

O-Godolphin; B-Meon Valley Stud; T-John & Thady Gosden.

2nd-Chelmsford City, £8,000, Novice, 6-12, 2yo, 6f (AWT), 1:12.72, st.

TIMEFORSHOWCASING (GB) (f, 2, Showcasing {GB}--Gloryette {GB}, by Raven's Pass), sent off at 9-2, tracked the early pace set by the 4-7 favourite Somebody. Overhauling that son of Kuroshio inside the final furlong, the newcomer stayed on to score by two lengths. The dam, who is responsible for the winner's Listed-placed full-sister Show Of Stars, also has a colt foal by Too Darn Hot. She is a half to Elusive Quality's G3 Craven Stakes winner and G1 Racing Post Trophy runner-up Elusive Pimpernel and the G3 Strensall Stakes scorer Palavicini by Giant's Causeway. Sales history: 15,000gns Ylg '24 TATOCT. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$5,672.

O-Jaber Abdullah; B-Lofts Hall Stud; T-Charlie Johnston.

1st-Nottingham, £6,899, Nov, 6-12, 2yo, 5f 8yT, :59.47, gd.

LIL BROTHER (GB) (c, 2, Showcasing {GB}--Blank Verse {GB}, by Dubawi {Ire}), a May 23 debut runner-up over this trip at Bath last time, broke sharply and raced in a prominent second from the outset of this one. Rowed along passing the two pole, the 6-1 chance inched ahead approaching the final furlong and was driven out in the closing stages to prevail by a half-length from Schrodinger's Cat (Ardad). "It's nice to have a winner on the card and it's Royal Ascot next week," said winning trainer Paul Attwater. "He's in the [Listed] Windsor Castle and we'll have a go at that. It'll be a nice day out for everybody." Lil Brother is the latest of three foals and first scorer produced by an unraced daughter of G3 Derrinstown Stud 1000 Guineas Trial and G3 Concorde Stakes victrix Yellow Rosebud (Jeremy). The February-foaled bay's second dam is kin stakes-winning G3 Athasi Stakes third Seeharn (Pivotal) and Listed Criterium de Vitesse third Megan Lily (Dragon Pulse). Lifetime Record: 2-1-1-0, \$7,359. O-Gary Gillies; B-J H R Horses Ltd; T-Paul Attwater.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Champion Island (Ire), c, 2, **Starspangledbanner**

(Aus)--Greenisland (Ire) (MSP-Eng, SP-Ger), by Fasliyev.

Chelmsford City, 6-12, 7f (AWT), 1:26.35. Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-0, \$7,884. B-Stonethorn Stud Farm Ltd. *€45,000 Ylg '24 TATIRY. **1/2 to Shamshon (Ire) (Invincible Spirit {Ire}), SW-Fr, \$299,403.

The Pouncing Lion (Ire), g, 3, **Ghaiyyath (Ire)--Northeast Moon (Ire), by Sea The Moon (Ger).** Chelmsford City, 6-12, 10f (AWT), 2:02.93. Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-1, £8,292. B-McCracken Farms. *92,000gns Wlg '22 TATFOA; 140,000gns Ylg '23 TATOCT.

Sea Force (Ire), c, 3, **Sea The Stars (Ire)**--Pretty Baby (Ire) (MGSW-Eng, \$167,631), by Orpen. Nottingham, 6-12, 8f 75yT, 1:45.11. Lifetime Record: 4-1-2-0, \$14,367. B-Rabbah Bloodstock Limited. *1/2 to Pretty Crystal (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}), GSW-Eng.

IRELAND

Thursday's Results:

1st-Leopardstown, €25,000, Mdn, 6-12, 2yo, 7f 47yT, 1:36.32, sf. BROWNSTOWN (GB) (f, 2, Cracksman {GB}--Worship {Ire}, by Havana Gold {Ire}), sent off the 3-1 second favourite, tracked the leader throughout the early stages. Left in front turning for home, the newcomer stayed on to score by half a length from Flawless Fusion (**Dawn Approach**). The dam, a daughter of the GII San Clemente Handicap winner Up In Time (Noverre) and half to the Listed scorer Beauty Crescent (Acclamation), also has a yearling full-sister to the winner. Sales history: 48,000gns Wlg '23 TADEWE; €95,000 Ylg '24 GOFORY. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$17,233. O-Alymer Stud; B-The Worship Partnership; T-Gavin Cromwell.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Sindria (Ire), f, 3, **Kodiac (GB)**--Miss Liguria (GB), by Galileo (Ire). Leopardstown, 6-12, 7f 47yT, 1:36.03. Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-0, \$10,340. B-Ringfort Stud Ltd. *37,000gns Ylg '23 TATOCT; 75,000gns RNA 2yo '24 TATOCT.

FRANCE

CONDITIONS RESULTS:

5th-ParisLongchamp, €20,000, 6-12, 3yo, f, 8fT, 1:41.61, gs. CLOSEFIELD BELLE (IRE) (f, 3, Starspangledbanner {Aus}--Zvarkhova {Fr} {MSP-Fr}, by Makfi {GB}) Lifetime Record: 6-3-1-0, €29,900. O-Helena Burns; B-Loughtown Stud; T-Jerome Reynier. *18,000gns RNA Ylg '23 TATYEA.

3rd-ParisLongchamp, €16,000, 6-12, 4yo/up, 10 1/2fT, 2:13.70, gs.

SEA GARDENS (FR) (g, 5, Siyouni {Fr}--Bal De La Rose {Ire}) {GSW-Fr, \$130,289}, by Cadeaux Genereux {GB}) Lifetime Record: 15-2-3-1, €32,425. O-Seamus Hennessy & Gavin Hernon; B-M Berend Van Dalfsen; T-Gavin Hernon. *170,000gns Ylg '21 TATOCT; 12,000gns HRA '23 TATAUT. **1/2 to Danceteria (Fr) (Redoute's Choice), G1SW-Ger, GSW-Fr, GSP-Eng, \$338,741.

WORLDWIDE NEWS

'END OF AN ERA' - DEATH OF IRT FOUNDER QUENTIN WALLACE AT 77



Quentin Wallace | IRT

IRT Managing Director Chris Burke has paid an emotional tribute to Quentin Wallace, the founder of the international horse transport company and a pioneer within the equine travel business, who died at the age of 77.

Burke said, "It's the end of an era. Sometimes people miss the fact the whole shuttle stallion business and introduction of Northern Hemisphere stallions to the Southern Hemisphere was all down to the innovation he put into the industry. I think people take it for granted a little. He was well ahead of his time and, to think he was doing this in 1972, it says it all. When I look at the pedigrees of horses in Australia, in many ways, he's touched every page. He leaves an extraordinary legacy."

Wallace built IRT into the global presence that it is now with offices in Australia, New Zealand, USA, UK and Germany.

A tribute posted by IRT on Thursday read, "A pioneer and a visionary, and a true gentleman, Wallace was more than the creator of one of the world's most trusted names in equine transport. He was a man who built bridges across continents, always with horses at heart and excellence as his guide."

"Quentin's story began in the UK, but it was his first trip to Australia in 1966 that would set the course for a lifetime of innovation and adventure. After a brief stint as a jackaroo in western Victoria, he returned home with a clear vision and a pioneering spirit. Recognising a growing demand for horses in Australia, he began shipping them by sea, forging the first links in what would become a truly global enterprise." [Cont. p13](#)

Vale Quentin Wallace Cont.

The statement continued, "Like many great stories, Quentin's path wasn't without challenge. In 1972, equine disease halted sea transport, seemingly closing a door. However Quentin saw opportunity. With determination and foresight, he turned to the skies, becoming involved in the airborne transport of horses between the Northern and Southern Hemispheres, in doing so, pioneering the shuttle stallion business. This was not just a new chapter - it was the beginning of a revolution in the industry."

It added, "To those who knew Quentin personally, he was a mentor and a friend. His passion for logistics, horses and the people who care for them was evident in every decision he made."

"Wallace lived a life with purpose, pursued a vision with courage, and was a man whose work changed an industry forever. He leaves behind not just a global company, but a global equine community, one that will carry his vision forward with pride."

[Share this story](#) 

O'ROURKE JOINS MAGIC MILLIONS AS MARKETING AND BLOODSTOCK SALES CONSULTANT



Annie O'Rourke | Magic Millions

Godolphin Flying Start graduate Annie O'Rourke has joined Magic Millions in the role of marketing/bloodstock sales consultant.

Prior to completing the Godolphin Flying Start O'Rourke also undertook the Irish National Stud Breeding Course in Ireland and received a certificate in Thoroughbred Management and High Achievement Award. She also has an Honours degree in Psychology from Heriot-Watt University in Scotland.

O'Rourke also gained global experience with Stroud Coleman Bloodstock, Malcolm Bastard Bloodstock, Ecurie Pantall (France), Clement Racing Stable (US) and Highclere Thoroughbred Racing.

"We are thrilled to welcome Annie O'Rourke as a permanent member of our team," Magic Millions managing director Barry Bowditch said.

"Annie made a great impression on us during an internship on the Gold Coast as part of her Godolphin Flying Start adventure and we look forward to adding another dimension to our wonderful team.

"A key focus of Annie's role will involve growing participation and investment from Europe and the Middle East regions at our sales, as well as being an integral part of the bloodstock sales team here domestically."

O'Rourke said, "I am thrilled to be joining Magic Millions as a marketing/bloodstock sales consultant, based on the Gold Coast. Renowned for its excellence, innovation, and dynamic team culture, Magic Millions presents an exceptional opportunity.

"I look forward to embracing new challenges, working closely with vendors and purchasers, and contributing meaningfully to the company's continued success."

[Share this story](#) 

Looking for Australian/ New Zealand news?

Click [HERE](#) to read today's edition of

THE
THOROUGHBRED
REPORT
AUSTRALIA | NEW ZEALAND

TDN Rising Stars

A signature TDN product. [\[click here\]](#) to view the designated Rising Stars

Friday, Cork, post time: 19:44

DARLEY MUNSTER OAKS STAKES-G3, €36,000, 3yo/up, f/m, 12fT

SC	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Ameerat Jumaira (GB)	Australia (GB)	Isa Bin Haider	Jack W Davison	J Kearney	135
2	Bubble Gum (Fr)	Cloth Of Stars (Ire)	Australian Bloodstock	P Twomey	W J Lee	135
3	Elizabeth Jane (Ire)	Dubawi (Ire)	Moyglare Stud Farm	D K Weld	C D Hayes	135
4	Enfranchise (Ire)	Invincible Spirit (Ire)	Mrs A F Mee	W McCreery	N M Crosse	135
5	Lemsairbat (Fr)	Bated Breath (GB)	Sights On Gold Partnership	Joseph Patrick O'Brien	D P McDonogh	135
6	Magical Hope (GB)	Frankel (GB)	Steven I Weston & Ballylinch Stud & Mrs Paul Shanahan & P J O'Brien	P Twomey	C T Keane	135
7	Satin (GB)	Australia (GB)	Mrs S Kelly	Mrs J Harrington	K G Kennedy	135
8	Sea The Boss (GB)	Sea The Moon (Ger)	John G Hennessy & C Acheson	Mrs J Harrington	S Foley	135
9	Soft Winds (Ire)	Night Of Thunder (Ire)	Sights On Gold Two Partnership	Joseph Patrick O'Brien	R P Whelan	135
10	Uluru (Ire)	Zoffany (Ire)	Team Valor International LLC	Joseph Patrick O'Brien	B M Coen	135
11	Butterfly Wings	Justify	Mrs John Magnier & Michael Tabor & Derrick Smith	A P O'Brien	W M Lordan	120
12	Gotomylovely (Ire)	Camelot (GB)	Mrs M V Magnier & Mrs Paul Shanahan	J A Stack	A J Slattery	120
13	Medici Venus	Tiz The Law	Michael Tabor & Derrick Smith & Mrs John Magnier	A P O'Brien	G M Ryan	120

Breeders: 1-Ahmed Aldubali, 2-Rashit Shaykhutdinov, 3-Moyglare Stud Farm Ltd, 4-Godolphin, 5-2 0 Al Shaqab Racing, 6-Godolphin, 7-Crimbourne Bloodstock Ltd, 8-Mr E. Cantillon, 9-Godolphin, 10-Stonecross Stud, 11-Orpendale/Chelston/Wynatt, 12-Lynch Bages & Rhinestone B/Stock, 13-Ashview Farm & Old Oak Farm.

Elizabeth Jane signed off in 2024 with a win in the Listed Trigo Stakes and being a daughter of Sapphire is bred to progress again at four. Australian Bloodstock Stable's **Bubble Gum** took the course-and-distance Listed Noblesse Stakes in April and has presumably had this on her agenda for a while. [Tom Frary].

Sunday, Chantilly, France, post time: 16:05

PRIX DE DIANE LONGINES-G1, €1,000,000, 3yo, f, 10 1/2fT

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	11	Cankoura (Fr)	Persian King (Ire)	Graffard	Lecoeuvre	126
2	10	Mandanaba (Fr)	Ghaiyyath (Ire)	Graffard	Barzalona	126
3	2	D'Ores Et Deja (Fr)	Zarak (Fr)	Chappet	Demuro	126
4	7	Shes Perfect (Ire)	Sioux Nation	Fellowes	Shoemark	126
5	12	Bedtime Story (Ire)	Frankel (GB)	A O'Brien	Moore	126
6	3	Merrily	No Nay Never	A O'Brien	Lordan	126
7	5	Rosa Salvaje (Ire)	Maximum Security	C Head	Pasquier	126
8	9	Better Together (GB)	Oasis Dream (GB)	Fabre	Keane	126
9	8	American Gal (GB)	Kameko	Walker	Marquand	126
10	6	Zia Agnese (Fr)	Romanised (Ire)	Bietolini	Thomas	126
11	4	Sand Gazelle (GB)	Frankel (GB)	J&T Gosden	O Murphy	126
12	1	Gezora (Fr)	Almanzor (Fr)	Graffard	Soumillon	126

Sunday, Hanshin, Japan, post time: 15:40



CHALLENGE SERIES WIN AND YOU'RE IN.™

TAKARAZUKA KINEN-G1, ¥570,000,000, 3yo/up, 2200mT

SC	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Bellagio Opera (Jpn)	Lord Kanaloa (Jpn)	Uemura	K Yokoyama	128
2	Durezza (Jpn)	Duramente (Jpn)	Ozeki	T Yokoyama	128
3	Rousham Park (Jpn)	Harbinger (GB)	Tanaka	Ikezoe	128
4	Pradaria (Jpn)	Deep Impact (Jpn)	Ikezoe	Takasugi	128
5	Chuck Nate (Jpn)	Heart's Cry (Jpn)	Hori	Lane	128
6	Boldog Hos (Jpn)	Screen Hero (Jpn)	Miyamoto	Uchida	128
7	Justin Palace (Jpn)	Deep Impact (Jpn)	Sugiyama	Dee	128
8	Chevalier Rose (Jpn)	Deep Impact (Jpn)	Shimizu	Kitamura	128
9	Yoho Lake (Jpn)	Deep Impact (Jpn)	Tomomichi	Iwata	128
10	Libyan Glass (Jpn)	Kizuna (Jpn)	Yahagi	Sakai	128
11	Sol Oriens (Jpn)	Kitasan Black (Jpn)	Tezuka	Matsuyama	128
12	Meisho Tabaru (Jpn)	Gold Ship (Jpn)	Ishibashi	Take	128
13	Urban Chic (Jpn)	Suave Richard (Jpn)	Takei	Lemaire	128
14	June Take (Jpn)	Kizuna (Jpn)	Take	Fujioka	128
15	Lord Del Rey (Jpn)	Lord Kanaloa (Jpn)	Nakauchida	Kawada	128
16	Shonan La Punta (Jpn)	Kizuna (Jpn)	Takano	Miyuki	128
17	Regaleira (Jpn)	Suave Richard (Jpn)	Kimura	Tosaki	123

Breeders: 1-Tsunebumi Yoshihara, 2-Northern Racing, 3-Northern Racing, 4-Nagoyayuhu Co., Ltd., 5-Shadai Farm, 6-Shadai Farm, 7-Northern Racing, 8-Northern Farm, 9-Kaneko Makoto Holdings Inc., 10-North Hills Co., Ltd., 11-Shadai Farm, 12-Mishima Bokujo, 13-Shunsuke Yoshida, 14-Yoshikawa Holdings, 15-K.I. Farm, 16-Shadai Farm, 17-Northern Farm.

**All posts are displayed in local time.*



has the best sire lists in the business, including

Crop-Year Reports

Sire of 3yos

Fourth and Fifth-Crop Sires

And more

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

[\[click here\]](#)