

**MATT O'NEIL's
Eclipse Stallions
p. 2-3**

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FRIDAY, JAN. 30, 2004

STATE SHINTO KICKS OFF CARNIVAL

State Shinto (Pleasant Colony) opened the Dubai International Racing Carnival with flair last night, overcoming **Tropical Star (Ire)** (Machiavellian) to take the G3



State Shinto
Dubai Racing Club photo

Sheikh Maktoum bin Rashid al Maktoum Challenge S. In midpack early, the dark bay rallied between rivals to take command with 100 meters remaining, then fended off **Tropical Star** to win by a head. **Victory Moon (SAf)** (Al Mufti), last year's G2 UAE Derby hero, was a luckless third on the rail and missed by just 3/4 of a length. State Shinto wintered in Dubai each of the last three years, finishing sixth in this contest in 2002 and improving to be second last year. Campaigned in the

U.S. last summer, he had not started since running fourth to Horse of the Year Mineshaft in the GI Jockey Club Gold Cup Sept. 27.

Thursday, Nad al Sheba

NAYEF SHEIKH MAKTOUM BIN RASHID AL MAKTOUM CHALLENGE SERIES-ROUND 1-G3, \$150,000, Nad al Sheba, 1-29, 3yo/up, 1600m, 1:37.37, ft.

1--**STATE SHINTO**, 130, h, 8, by Pleasant Colony

1st Dam: **Sha Tha**, by Mr. Prospector

2nd Dam: **Savannah Dancer**, by Northern Dancer

3rd Dam: ***Valoris II**, by *Tiziano II

O-Sh Rashid bin Mohammed al Maktoum; B-Darley Stud Mgmt Ltd; T-M al Kurdi; J-R Moore; \$97,500. Lifetime Record: MGSW-Fr, G1SP-Ger, 31-9-6-2, \$1,058,296.

2--**Tropical Star (Ire)**, 130, g, 4, Machiavellian--Tropical (GB), by Green Desert. O-Sheikh M al Maktoum; B-Gainsborough Stud Management Ltd; \$30,000.

3--**Victory Moon (SAf)**, 130, c, 4, Al Mufti--Dancing Flower (SAf), by Dancing Champ. O-Mad Syndicate; B-Litchfield Stud Close Corp; \$15,000.

Margins: HD, 3/4, 2. Odds: 31-1, 20-1, 3-5.

Also Ran: Dubai Honor (GB), Fabria (Per), Curule, Change The Grange (Aus), Blatant (GB), Walmooh (GB), Al Maali (Ire), Conflict (Fr).

Scratched: Seeking the Prize (GB).

PURSES SLASHED AT SANTA ANITA

Officials at Santa Anita have announced an across-the-board purse decrease, including eight graded stakes, beginning Jan. 31. Following Oak Tree and Hollywood, this is the third consecutive purse cut in southern California. Santa Anita is owned by Magna Entertainment, which announced in December that it was pulling its tracks' signals from many account wagering services in an effort to lure bettors to their XpressBet service. According to the track's Vice President and General Manager Chris McCarron, handle is down in every sector from last year: two percent on-track, seven percent off-track and 17 percent out-of-state. The following stakes have had their purses reduced by \$50,000:

- GII San Juan Capistrano H. - \$300,000 to \$250,000
- GII Frank E. Kilroe Mile - \$400,000 to \$350,000
- GII Santa Barbara H. - \$250,000 to \$200,000
- GII San Carlos H. - \$200,000 to \$150,000
- GII San Luis Rey H. - \$250,000 to \$200,000
- GIII San Bernardino H. - \$150,000 to \$100,000
- La Puente S. - \$150,000 to \$100,000
- Providencia S. - \$150,000 to \$100,000

The following stakes have been reduced by \$25,000:

- GIII Las Flores H. - \$125,000 to \$100,000
- GIII San Simeon H. - \$125,000 to \$100,000

Purse levels of overnight races will be reduced by about 6.5 percent.

UPCOMING MAJOR U.S. STAKES

<u>Date</u>	<u>Race</u>	<u>Track</u>
Jan. 31	GII San Antonio H.	Santa Anita
	GIII Brown Bess H.	Golden Gate
	GIII Canadian Turf H.	Gulfstream
	GIII Suwannee River H.	Gulfstream
Feb. 1	GII Palos Verdes H.	Santa Anita
	GIII Whirlaway H.	Fair Grounds
Feb. 7	GI Donn H.	Gulfstream
	GII Davona Dale S.	Gulfstream
	GII San Vicente S.	Santa Anita
	GII Strub S.	Santa Anita
Feb. 8	GIII Deputy Minister H.	Gulfstream
	GIII Shirley Jones H.	Gulfstream

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☆ PREVIEW ☆

Saturday, Santa Anita

SAN ANTONIO H.-GII, \$250,000, 4yo/up, 1 1/8m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	WT
1	Fleetstreet Dancer	Smart Strike	Court	116
2	Star Cross (Arg)	Southern Halo	Espinoza	113
3	Congaree	Arazi	Bailey	124
4	Pleasantly Perfect	Pleasant Colony	Solis	121
5	Nose the Trade (GB)	Cyrano de Bergerac (Ire)	Flores	113

Seeking his third straight win, **Star Cross** will get an 11-pound pull in the weights from defending champion **Congaree**. "I don't think it's enough, but obviously makes a difference," said trainer Darrell Vienna. "It's significant, but if you look at the relative performances of the horses, **Pleasantly Perfect**, who just won the Breeders' Cup, gets 121 pounds and it doesn't seem like that big a spread for a horse like mine that's just finding his way. But can 11 pounds make a difference? Yes, especially in a close race."

☆ NEWS TODAY ☆

DESSERT RETIRED The regally bred **Dessert** (Storm Cat--Windsharp, by Lear Fan), heroine of the GI Del Mar Oaks, has been retired from racing, according to published reports. The half sister to GI Breeders' Cup Turf co-hero Johar was withdrawn from her intended start in the GI Breeders' Cup F/M Turf after suffering from a minor illness. She has not started since finishing seventh in the Avigaition H. at Santa Anita Nov. 9. After beginning her career in England, the blaze-faced bay came to hand quickly at three in the U.S., winning three of six starts with a second and a third. She heads to the breeding shed with earnings of \$259,560. A Thoroughbred Corp. homebred, Dessert was produced by top turf mare Windsharp, who sold for \$6.1 million at Keeneland November. The four-year-old will be bred to Kingmambo.



Dessert Benoit Photo

All horses in the *TDN* are bred in North America, unless otherwise indicated



WRITERS UP

ECLIPSING STALLIONS

by Matt O'Neil

Prior to the Eclipse Awards, two stallions had the opportunity to sire two American champions. **Unbridled**'s Halfbridled had juvenile filly honors all but sewn up and Empire Maker looked like he could defeat Funny Cide one more time for champion three-year-old laurels. **Sadler's Wells** also had a pair of nominees in High Chapparral and Islington in the wide open male and female turf categories.

So when those two were crowned Monday evening, and Empire Maker was not, it was the great Sadler's Wells who became the sire star of the Eclipse Awards season.

It would seem that siring a pair of Eclipse Award winners in the same year would put Sadler's Well in rarified company. But it turns out that eight other stallions have already accomplished that feat.

The first to do it was none other than Mr. Prospector, whose **Conquistador Cielo** took down champion three-year-old and Horse of the Year honors, while Gold Beauty was named champion sprinter in 1982. Two years later, members of Seattle Slew's first two crops, Slew o' Gold and Swale earned Eclipse championships; champion older male for the former and champion three-year-old for the latter. The next year, Life's Magic (champion older filly/mare) and Vanlandingham (champion older male) were named champions for Cox's Ridge. In 1987 Miesque, by **Nureyev**, won the first of her two American championships for turf female and was joined by her paternal half-brother Theatrical, who was named champion turf male. Alydar sired the champions Easy Goer (two-year-old colt) and Alysheba (older male and Horse of the Year) in 1988. Deputy Minister's Go for Wand (two-year-old filly) and Open Mind (three-year-old filly) were both named champions the following year. **Seeking the Gold** sired his two Eclipse winners in 1994, Flanders (two-year-old filly) and Heavenly Prize (three-year-old filly). Cee's Tizzy was the first to do it in the new century with champion older male Tiznow and champion older filly/mare Gourmet Girl in 2001. *Cont. p3*

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Matt O'Neil cont.

Two stallions, [Distorted Humor](#) and [Cape Town](#) sired their first Eclipse winners last year. Not bad, considering that Funny Cide and Bird Town are members of their sires' first crops. By my count they join 15 other stallions that have sired Eclipse champions in their initial crop of runners. Among those are [Danzig](#) (Chief's Crown), Mr. Prospector (It's In The Air), Alydar (Althea), Seeking the Gold (Heavenly Prize), Fappiano (Tasso) and Seattle Slew. Slew is the only stallion to sire two Eclipse winners from his first crop: 1982 champion juvenile filly Landaluce and 1983 champion three-year-old and '84 champion older horse Slew o' Gold. [Honour and Glory](#) (Caressing) was the last to do it before this year and Meadowlake (Meadow Star) and Mt. Livermore (Housebuster), [Woodman](#) (Hansel) and [Quiet American](#) (Hidden Lake) are the other active stallions who can count early champions among their accomplishments. [Dynaformer](#) also had his first Eclipse champion in 2003, in the form of steeplechaser McDynamo.

Sadler's Wells, Kris S. and Unbridled all sired their third new champions Monday night. Northern Spur, High Chapparral, also a champion last year, and now Islington are the champs for Sadler's Wells. Halfbridled joins Anees and Banshee Breeze for Unbridled and Action This Day joins Hollywood Wildcat and Soaring Softly for Kris S. Those three bring the total of stallions that have sired at least three Eclipse champions to 16.

Leading the way in lifetime Eclipse champions is the incomparable Mr. Prospector. Aldebaran gave Mr. P his 10th champion and he has now sired an Eclipse Award winner in each of the past four decades: It's In the Air, co-champion juvenile filly in 1978, Conquistador Cielo (champion three-year-old and Horse of the Year), Gold Beauty (champion sprinter), Eillo (champion sprinter), Forty Niner (champion two-year-old), [Gulch](#) (champion sprinter) and Rhythm (champion two-year-old) in the 1980s. They were joined by Queena (champion older filly/mare) and Golden Attraction (champion two-year-old filly) in the '90s.

Mineshaft became [A.P. Indy](#)'s second Eclipse winner, following the ill-fated Tempera in 2001, and there will surely be more in the years to come. A.P. Indy is one of 12 active stallions who have sired multiple Eclipse winners. The others are Cee's Tizzy (two), Mt. Livermore (three), [Rahy](#) (two), Phone Trick (two), Danzig (two), Sadler's Wells (three), Deputy Minister (three), [Marquetry](#) (two), Seeking the Gold (two), Woodman (two) and Quiet American (two).

Sire	Eclipse Winners
Mr. Prospector (Raise a Native)	10
Seattle Slew (Bold Reasoning)	7
Alydar (Raise a Native)	5
Buckpasser (Tom Fool)	3
Vaguely Noble (Vienna)	3
Blushing Groom (Red God)	3
Mt. Livermore (Blushing Groom)	3
Nijinsky II (Northern Dancer)	3
Sadler's Wells (Northern Dancer)	3
Deputy Minister (Vice Regent)	3
Fappiano (Mr. Prospector)	3
Unbridled (Fappiano)	3
Exclusive Native (Raise a Native)	3
Cox's Ridge (Best Turn)	3
Halo (Hail to Reason)	3
Kris S. (Roberto)	3

FOALING NEWS:

MISS TOBACCO, 8, Forty Niner--Lisaleen (Northern Dancer)
 Foal born Jan. 26, a colt by Theatrical (Ire).
 Will be bred back to Dynaformer.
 Owned by 6C Stallions Ltd.
 Boarded at Lane's End Farm, Kentucky.
 Accomplishments: GSW-Ger, GSP-Fr & MSP-US,
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HIGH CHAPARRAL

SADLER'S WELLS – KASORA (DARSHAAN)

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 **NORTH AMERICA** 

SWORD DANCE PENSIONED **Sword Dance (Ire)** (Nijinsky II--Rosa Mundi, by Secretariat), who has stood at Stonehedge Farm South in Williston, Florida since 1990, has been pensioned from stallion duties. The 20-year-old began suffering fertility problems last year. "We've had several specialists look at him, but nobody has really found anything," explained Stonehedge Farm manager Larry King. "We thought maybe the summer off would help, but he hasn't improved, so we decided to stop." Sword Dance, winner of the 1988 GI Del Mar Invitational H., is the sire of MGISW Marlin, as well as GSWs Blazing Sword and Dance for Thee. From 12 crops to race, Sword Dance has sired the earners of over \$18 million. He will spend his retirement at Stonehedge Farm.

★ **GULFSTREAM** ★

Yesterday's Results:
8th-GPX, \$40,000, Alw, Opt. Clm. (\$100,000), NW4X, 4yo/up, 1mT, 1:36, fm.
MARCO'S WORD (g, 6, Marco Bay--Sunshine's Word, by Verbatim) paid \$19.40 to win an off-the-turf contest at Calder Dec. 15. He returned to the grass for the first time since mid-summer and went off the 3-1 favorite in his next, but could do no better than third going 7 1/2 furlongs over at Calder Dec. 28. An overlooked 9-1 chance this time adding a bit of ground, he allowed Last Stand (Cherokee Run) to bound clear by five lengths up the backstretch, but began cutting into that margin with a methodical move entering the turn. Still several lengths adrift at the quarter pole, Marco's Word chased down his rival and drew clear late to secure the win by a 2 3/4-length margin. The closing Wild Buddy (Line in the Sand) nosed out Last Stand for the place spot. Lifetime Record: 38-11-8-6, \$247,855. O-Cecilia Dixon. B-Mr & Mrs E R Dixon (FL). T-Robert A Hale.

7th-GPX, \$34,000, Alw, NW1X, 4yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16m, 1:47 1/5, ft.

BAISER D'AMOUR (m, 5, Whitney Tower--Mere Aggression, by Stiff Sentence) was disqualified to fifth after finishing runner-up in a \$16,000 optional claimer at Calder Dec. 28, then gave a good account of herself as a 16-1 outsider when second over course and distance Jan. 11. The \$3,700 OBSOCT weanling and \$7,000 OBSAUG yearling, disregarded at 7-1, commenced her rally leaving the turn and surged past the pacesetter Katy Katers (Roar) in the final strides to win by a half length. Lifetime Record: 19-4-7-1, \$169,250. O-Bruno Schickedanz. B-J D Farms (FL). T-Henry Collazo.

★ **NEW YORK** ★

Yesterday's Results:

8th-AQU, \$47,000, Alw, NW3X, 4/up, 6f, 1:09 4/5, ft.

1--SECRET RUN, 120, c, 4, End Sweep--Secret Lady, by Runaway Groom. O-Laz K Chapman, Avers Wexler and Michael Stiegel; B-De La Pomme (FL); T-Frank Labocchetta Jr. Lifetime Record: 17-6-2-1, \$146,700.
2--Black Silk (GB), 115, h, 8, Zafonic--Mademoiselle Chloe (GB), by Night Shift.
3--Trial Prep, 115, h, 5, Ormsby--I Fooled Em, by Broad Brush. (\$40,000 2yo '01 OBSAPR). Margins: 2 1/4, 7HF, 1. Odds: 0.60, 2.70, 7.10.

Secret Run took his main-track skein to five with this win. The streak began in September, when he captured a \$35,000 claimer at Belmont by open lengths. Off the board in his next, a five-furlong turf try at the Meadowlands Oct. 3, he was claimed for \$40,000 in his victorious return to the dirt at Belmont Oct. 17. Moved up to an entry-level allowance at the Big A Nov. 28, the gray wired the field by 9 3/4 lengths while earning a sharp 106 Beyer. He shared the win honors in a dead-heat effort in his latest over this trip Jan. 1 and was odds-on to get his picture taken once again. The quickest into stride under jockey Noberto Arroyo, he blazed clear by five after a half and was ridden out to win by daylight.

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New York Report cont.

6th-AQU, \$42,000, Msw, 3yo, f, a1m70yd, 1:44 3/5, ft. TEN TREASURES (f, 3, Coronado's Quest--Tenski {GISW, \$524,710}, by Polish Numbers), fifth over a sloppy Big A track sprinting six furlongs in mid-November, received a brief two-month freshening before running a game third in her route debut Jan. 11. The public's tepid 5-2 pick joined with Pam's Ruckus (Brief Ruckus) to set a dawdling early pace, then opened up on the field as that foe packed it in after three quarters. Challenged by a determined After the Tone (Stormin Fever) through the lane, Ten Treasures dug in on the inside and got the nose victory. Lifetime Record: 4-1-0-1, \$33,450. O-Richard L Golden. B-Sycamore Hall Farm, LLC (MD). T-Linda Rice.

★ CENTRAL ★

Yesterday's Results:

9th-FGX, \$34,000, Alw, Opt. Clm. (\$62,500), NW3X, 4yo/up, 1 1/16mT, 1:45 4/5, fm. HERCULATED (c, 4, Louis Quatorze--Theriot's Treasure, by Mac Diarmida), winner of his first two career efforts at Fair Grounds last winter, ran third when the June 8 Awad S. at Arlington was moved to the main track. Given a shot against graded foes in the grassy GII Arlington Classic 20 days later, he didn't embarrass himself when eighth by four lengths. On holiday for six months, the Oak Crest homebred made his triumphant return to Fair Grounds Dec. 27 against allowance rivals and was bet down to 6-5 favoritism to make a winning 2004 bow. Content to race near the back of the pack through three-quarters, he launched an impressive late rally and nabbed Astrologist (Skywalker) by 3/4-lengths on the line. Lifetime Record: SP, 6-4-0-1, \$77,214. O/B-Oak Crest Farm (KY). T-Michael Stidham.

Wednesday Night's Results:

8th-TPX, \$28,500, 1-28, NW1X, 3yo, f, 6f, 1:11 1/5, ft. TARRAH TRICK (f, 3, Blare of Trumpets--Easy But Tricky, by Sovereign Dancer) romped wire-to-wire by 9 1/4 lengths in her debut versus \$15,000 maiden claimers Jan. 11 and one-upped herself this time in a stiff class jump. The homebred, sent postward as the crowd's 8-5 choice, dueled through the opening quarter, opened up by daylight soon after and cruised home a confident 10-length victress. You Can't Hide (Alphabet Soup) was second best. Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, \$23,775. O/B-Harold Coyle (KY). T-S Joseph Cain.

 **SOPHOMORE SPOTLIGHT**

First-time starters/stakes runners: Friday, Jan. 30

Sire (Sire's Sire), Farm, 2000 Fee, #foals of racing age/Winners/SW Race #-track, race type, distance, runner, odds (if available)

- COMIC STRIP** (Red Ransom), Special T, \$8K, 75/4/0 4-SA, Msw, 1mT, Starship Stripper, \$20K BAR MAR 2yo
- DIAMOND** (Mr. Prospector), Northview, \$5K, 93/7/1 5-LRL, Msw, 7f, Del Mar Diamond, 7-2
- EPIC HONOR** (Honor Grades), Blooming Hill, \$2K, 36/4/0 5-GG, Str, 6f, Sunday's Honor, \$2K AES AUG yrl
- FORESTRY** (Storm Cat), Taylor Made, \$50K, 136/12/2 3-LRL, Msw, 1 1/16m, Forest Kitty, 2-1
- MAZEL TRICK** (Phone Trick), Airdrie, \$13K, 150/15/1 4-SA, Msw, 1mT, No Minimum, \$4K KEE SEP yrl
- PARADE GROUND** (Kingmambo), Lane's End, \$5K, 91/6/1 7-TP, Msw, 6 1/2f, Brittany's Battle, \$2K KEE SEP yrl
- RELAGATE** (Elkman), Scarlett Hill, \$2K, 6/0/0 4-SUN, Alw, , Express Fee, 10-1

★ AMERICAN-BRED WINNERS ★

IN FRANCE:

Coalfield, c, 3, Mt. Livermore. See "France."

★ SO. CALIFORNIA ★

Halfbridled Breezes:

Last year's nearly unanimous champion two-year-old filly **Halfbridled** (Unbridled) outworked her stablemate yesterday at Santa Anita, covering six furlongs in 1:14.40 under jockey Alex Solis, while Rhythm King finished up in 1:15.20. The big filly is scheduled to return to action in the one-mile GI Las Virgenes S. Feb. 15. "She just went beautiful," said trainer Richard Mandella. "She went seven-eighths in :26 and change. She went very slow the first half mile, and then picked it up a little. Then she went a nice :23 and change the last quarter. She's on course, but we've got to pray she doesn't get sick or something. We think we dodged the bullet...she had a little coughing bout, but this [Las Virgenes] will be a test." Awaiting Halfbridled will be another impressive unbeaten filly, **A.P. Adventure** (A.P. Indy), the GIII Santa Ysabel S. heroine who worked in a bullet 1:11.40 Wednesday at Hollywood. "She's brilliant," said trainer Wally Dollase. "It was a great work. I put her behind another horse, she got a ton of dirt in her face, she made a little run down the stretch and did the same thing she did in the race here [closing with a rush to win the Santa Ysabel]. She kicked in big time."

★★ A FOUR STAR SLAM DUNK ★★

FIRE SLAM, a \$230,000 graduate of Four Star's first Fasig-Tipton consignment, easily won the Lecomte S. (G3) on Jan. 24. Congratulations to his connections Stan Fulton ★ Tim McMurry ★ David Carroll ★ Julie Jones Mogge
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SoCalifornia Report cont.

Yesterday's Results:

7th-SAX, \$60,000, Alw, Opt. Clm. (\$62,500), NW2X, 4yo/up, 1 1/8mT, 1:46 4/5, fm.

HELMS DEEP (GB) (c, 4, Royal Applause {GB}--Ayunli {GB}, by Chief Singer {GB}), a 78,000gns DONSEP yearling, sold for 44,000gns at TATAUT after failing to win in three starts at two. The bay broke through in his stateside bow last February, but failed to make a serious impact in a trio of stakes outings before wiring allowance foes at Del Mar July 25. He didn't start again until Halloween, finishing third in a 10-furlong contest over this course, then weakened to be fifth in a similar heat at Hollywood Nov. 26. Dismissed at 16-1 in his first start since, Helms Deep tracked the pacesetter intently from second and moved up to his throatlatch turning for home. He straightened away with a narrow advantage and resolutely fended off a slew of challengers to win by a half-length. Eyad (Ire) (Desert Prince {Ire}) had a nose over an on-rushing King of Happiness (Spinning World) for second. Alberto Giacometti (Ire) (Sadler's Wells) was shut off on the rail before settling for fifth. Lifetime Record: 15-3-2-2, \$127,682.

O-Warren B Williamson. B-I A Southcott (GB). T-Carla Gaines.

2nd-SAX, \$49,294, Alw, Opt. Clm. (\$40,000), NW1X, 4yo/up, f/m, 1 1/4mT, 2:01 2/5, fm.

STAGE SHY (f, 4, Theatrical {Ire}--Garimpeiro, by Mr. Prospector), a full to the smart dual-surface performer Geri, MGISW, \$1,707,980, won a Sandown Park maiden in England last June for trainer John Golden, but a pair of seventh-place finishes against stakes competition over the summer prompted a change of scenery. The pricey \$725,000 KEESEP yearling entered this contest with a stellar work tab under her belt and was a well-supported 8-5 chalk in her U.S. bow. Settled into a stalking position as part of a small five-horse field, the Neil Drysdale trainee moved wide leaving the far turn, took charge a furlong out and finished two lengths to the good Vale of Wings (In the Wings {GB}) with something in reserve. Lifetime Record: 5-2-0-0, \$38,821. O-Robert E Sangster. B-Allen E Paulson (KY). T-Neil D Drysdale.

6th-SAX, \$51,940, Msw, 4yo/up, 1m, 1:37 1/5, ft. TARKOVSKY (c, 4, Quiet American--Lem's Peace {GSP-Ire}, by L'Emigrant) was well-supported in four starts last spring, but made just one start after June, finishing ninth in a Saratoga maiden Aug. 2. Favored at 2-1 in his return to action, the bay was caught four wide on the far turn before putting in a nice late run to graduate by a half-length over Thanks Hajji (Cari Jill Hajji). Tarkovsky was a \$170,000 KEESEP yearling purchase. Lifetime Record: 7-1-2-1, \$53,440.

O-Michael B Tabor. B-Mill Ridge Farm (KY). T-Patrick L Biancone.



EUROPE



DIAMOND LINED UP FOR STEVENS Trainer Andre Fabre will look to provide retained jockey Gary Stevens with an early chance of European Classic glory as he revealed that the unbeaten **Diamond Green (Fr)** (Green Desert) is on course for the G1 2000 Guineas at Newmarket May 1. Last year's impressive G3 Prix La Rochette winner will avoid a clash with Bago (Fr) and American Post (GB) in the G1 Poule d'Essai des Poulains (French 2000 Guineas), allowing Stevens the opportunity to chase his first British Classic. Describing the new relationship with the Hall of Famer as "very exciting," Fabre outlined his plans to the *Racing Post*. "I've admired Gary very much for a long time, both as a jockey and as a person, and I felt recently he may not have been as committed to the U.S. as before," he explained. "He'll be based full-time in France from April and will ride all my horses." Fabre will free Stevens for the major meetings in Britain when he is not required to ride in France, and Newmarket will be the venue for the return of the exciting Diamond Green. "There's a very good chance that you will see Diamond Green go for the Guineas," Fabre told the *Post*. "It looks like being a pretty decent year in France with Bago and American Post, and I also think that Diamond Green will be suited by Newmarket."

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★ BRITAIN ★

ATTHE RACES TO END AGREEMENT

Attheraces yesterday served notice to terminate their existing media rights deal with 49 of Britain's racecourses, while stating that it "remains committed to the future of U.K. horse racing." Before the existing deal expires Mar. 29, the consortium made up of Arena Leisure, B SkyB and Channel 4 will enter into separate negotiations with individual racecourses, in a bid to satisfy the Office of Fair Trading. The termination of the agreement with the Racecourse Association Limited (RCA), which has generated over £95 million in rights payments to the industry, comes as a result of commercial pressures. "The reduced Tote take-out rate has had a significant adverse impact on attheraces' revenues," Ian Hogg, managing director of attheraces, explained yesterday. "We regret that we have been forced to give notice to terminate, but remain committed to negotiating a new rights deal and firmly believe that securing the long-term viability of attheraces will also benefit the racing industry as a whole." He added, "I'm very optimistic that we will be here in 12 months time."

TATTS YEARLING SALE REVERTS TO ORIGINAL WEEK

Tattersalls Ireland announced yesterday that the September Yearling Sale will revert back to its original week in 2004. The sale, which features candidates for the €300,000 Tattersalls Sales S., will take place Sept. 21-22, with the Open Yearling Sale to be held Sept. 23. "This will ensure we avoid clashing with the popular Ayr Western meeting," said Tattersalls (Ireland) Chairman Edmond Mahony. "Despite the move to an earlier week, last year's sale achieved a record average, aggregate and median in addition to two lots making over €100,000."

Yesterday's Results:

Southwell, 2.40, Mdn, £4,640, 3-4yo, 1m(AWT), 1:46.87, slow/std.

NORWEGIAN (GB) (c, 3, Halling--Chicarica {GSW-Eng & GSP-Ire, \$112,692}, by The Minstrel), fifth in a maiden at Wolverhampton on his debut Jan. 23, was sent off the 11-4 second favorite. Breaking well, he disputed the early lead and responded to strong driving to get on top of Monte Major (Ire) (Docksider) at the eighth-pole, before asserting for a two-length score. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, £3,248.

O-Jumeirah Racing; B-Darley; T-David Loder.

★ FRANCE ★

Yesterday's Results:

Cagnes sur Mer, 2.35, Cond, €19,000, 3yo, c/g, 1m(AWT), 1:40.40, std.

COALFIELD (c, 3, Mt. Livermore--Empress Club {Arg} {Ch. 2yo, 3yo, Older Mare, Horse of the Year & Broodmare of the Year-SAf, MG1SW-SAf & GSW-US}, by Farnesio {Arg}), fourth in a hot debutantes event at this track Jan. 16, was sent off the 5-2 second choice. Settled in a stalking second throughout the early stages, the \$130,000 KEESEP yearling took command with quarter of a mile remaining before stretching clear of New Bere (Fr) (Verglas {Ire}) to win by four lengths. Lifetime Record: 2 starts, 1 win, 1 place, €10,900. O-R B Newton; B-L Jaffee; T-Carlos Laffon-Parias.



AUSTRALASIA



★ NEW ZEALAND ★

STRAVINSKY LEADS DAY 2 OF NZ SELECT SALE

A pair of colts by sophomore sire Stravinsky brought top bid of NZ\$150,000 at Thursday's second session of the New Zealand Bloodstock National Select Yearling Sale in Karaka. [Lot 735](#), a chestnut colt out of the winning Snippets (Aus) mare Rare Bits (Aus) was purchased by New South Wales trainer Paul Perry from the draft of Belvedere Farm. The co-sale topper, [Lot 788](#), was produced by the Zabeel (NZ) mare Shariat (NZ). Consigned by Rich Hill Stud, the bay colt was purchased by Paul Moroney Bloodstock. The average at the end of day 2 was NZ\$31,330, a 12-percent increase over last year's figure of \$27,952, while the median also rose from NZ\$22,500 last term to NZ\$26,000. The aggregate figure through the first two days of the sale stood at NZ\$7,300,000. The select portion of the sale concludes today and the Festival Yearling Sale begins its two-day run Sunday.

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MIDDLE EAST



ASIA



TEAM VALOR STRIKES AGAIN IN DUBAI Just a year after Ipi Tombe (Zim) developed into one of the best turf mares in the world while wintering in Dubai, Team Valor has another potential star in the form of **Crimson Palace (SAf)** (Elliodor {Fr}), who scored an



Crimson Palace
Team Valor.com photo

impressive victory in a conditions event last night at Nad al Sheba. In defeating MGSW Gateman (GB) (Owington {GB}) by 4 3/4 lengths, the attractive bay filly broke the previous course record held by Ipi Tombe. "I'm flabbergasted," said Team Valor President Barry Irwin after watching her victory. "She's an incredible looking filly, very powerful. She's been doing very well in Dubai." A maiden

winner at first asking in her country of birth, the filly was sidelined after being involved in a freak incident. "After she broke her maiden, she ran into a pole and caused serious damage to her neck," Irwin explained. "We didn't buy her at first, but in the spring of her three-year-old year, she beat older females in the Group 1 [Cape of Good Hope Paddock S.]. That's unheard of over here, so we bought her. We originally planned on racing her in South Africa [last year], but she wasn't doing very good, so this was her first start for us." Settled towards the back of the pack, Crimson Palace lacked room in the stretch, but showed tremendous acceleration to punch through one off the rail and drew clear to the victory. Trainer Mike de Kock, who also conditioned Ipi Tombe, hinted to Irwin that such an effort was in the offing. "Mike told me, 'I don't want to scare you, but she's giving me the same vibe as Ipi Tombe,'" Irwin said. Crimson Palace could make her next start in the G3 Al Fahidi Fort Feb. 7, a race won last year by Ipi Tombe.

★ HONG KONG ★

STRONG ENTRY FOR DERBY

A total of 42 nominations have been received by the Hong Kong Jockey Club at the close of first-stage entries for the HK\$14-million G1 Hong Kong Derby. The list is headed by **Lucky Owners (NZ)** (Danehill), winner of five of his last six starts, including the G1 Hong Kong Mile Dec. 14. With an official domestic rating of 129, he is the highest-rated Derby entry in history. **Super Kid (NZ)** (Gaius {Ire}) and **Hidden Dragon (Aus)** (Danehill), first and second, respectively, in the G1 Stewards' Cup Jan. 18 could also line up for the 2000-meter event and may be joined by any of a number of recent imports to the SAR. **Roosevelt (Ire)** (Danehill), third in last year's G1 Irish Derby, has made just two starts in Hong Kong and stamped himself a legitimate Derby contender with his close fourth-place finish in the G1 Hong Kong Vase Dec. 14. Trainer David Hayes, who saddled Elegant Fashion (Aus) to victory in the 2003 Derby, has seven horses entered, as does leading trainer John Size.

ROAD TO THE CLASSICS		
Date	Race	Track
Jan. 31	WEBN S.	Turfway
Feb. 7	Whirlaway S. Turf Paradise Derby	Aqueduct Turf Paradise
Feb. 8	Sham S. Golden State Mile	Santa Anita Golden Gate
Feb. 14	GII Fountain of Youth S.	Gulfstream
Feb. 15	GIII Risen Star S.	Fair Grounds
Feb. 28	Southwest S. John Battaglia Memorial S.	Oaklawn Turfway



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BREEDERS' EDITION AMERICA

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

7th-AQU, \$46,000, NW2X, (S), 4yo/up, f/m, 1 1/8m, 1:52 2/5, ft.

ESTHER'S STAR (f, 4, Star Gallant--Wait Aminute Angie, by Northrop) Lifetime Record: 10-3-1-1, \$98,770. O/B-Pond View Stud Farm (NY). T-John Candlin.

5th-DED, \$35,200, 1-28, NW3L, (S), 4yo/up, f/m, 5f, 1:00 4/5, ft.

QUACKED BAG (f, 4, Bag--Doe Rae Me, by Quack) Lifetime Record: 7-4-0-1, \$75,655. O-Chances Are Racing Stable. B-Joe Adcock (LA). T-Doris Hebert.

4th-LRL, \$31,360, Opt. Clm. (\$40,000-\$35,000), C, 4yo/up, f/m, 5 1/2f, 1:04, ft.

SEARCH FOR A CURE (f, 4, In Case--Lordie Miss Green, by Lord Gaylord) Lifetime Record: SW, 14-6-1-1, \$127,830. O-Louis J Ulman. B-Gretchen B Mobberley (MD). T-Dale Capuano. *\$7,000 yrl '01 FTMOCT.

7th-FGX, \$30,000, NW1X, 4yo/up, 1 1/8mT, 1:52 2/5, fm.

HIZZONER (h, 5, Miesque's Son--Nusweetheart {SW}, by Well Decorated) Lifetime Record: 15-2-2-4, \$70,891. O/B-Centaur Farms Inc (KY). T-Merrill R Scherer.

8th-LRL, \$30,000, Opt. Clm. (\$32,000-\$28,000), NW3X, 4yo/up, 1 1/16m, 1:43 3/5, ft.

STREET LIFE (h, 5, Afternoon Deelites--Madeleine's Gift, by Blushing John) Lifetime Record: 18-4-4-5, \$149,745. O-Michael W Jester. B-Madeleine A Paulson (KY). T-Anthony W Dutrow. *\$24,000 yrl '00 KEESEP.

7th-LRL, \$27,000, Opt. Clm. (\$25,000-\$20,000), NW2X, 4yo/up, 7f, 1:23 3/5, ft.

UPTURN (c, 4, Distorted Humor--Dance Up Stream, by Slew o' Gold) Lifetime Record: 21-5-2-8, \$119,180. O-Noreen Carpenito. B-Tee N Jay Farm (NJ). T-Timothy Salzman. *\$8,000 yrl '01 KEESEP. **1/2 to Seattle Select (Ocean Crest), SP-Tur.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Alpha Capo, g, 3, Alphabet Soup--Miners Mirage (SW, \$204,308), by Mining. FGX, 1-29, 1mT, 1:40 1/5. B-Adena Springs (Ky). *\$15,000 yrl '02 OBSAUG; \$55,000 2yo '03 ADNMAR.

Snub the Devil, c, 3, Devil's Bag--Snubs, by Valid Appeal. AQU, 1-29, (C), 6f, 1:12. B-Mike Simpson (Ky). *\$72,000 yrl '02 KEESEP; \$67,000 2yo '03 OBSFEB.

+ Intrueflight, f, 3, Is It True--Inmusicalflight, by Temperance Hill. GPX, 1-29, (C), 6f, 1:11 3/5. B-Dee Jannise (Fl). *\$25,000 wlng '01 OBSOCT; \$47,000 yrl '02 OBSAUG; \$45,000 2yo '03 OBSMAR. **Won by 7 3/4 lengths.

Polonia, f, 4, Claramount--Three Two One, by Polish Numbers. AQU, 1-29, (S), 6f, 1:13 2/5. B-Edwin Wachtel (NY).

Royal Prophet, c, 4, Gold Legend--Miss Exchange, by Miswaki. TPX, 1-29, 1m, 1:39 3/5. B-J Mack Robinson (Ky).

Eviction Notice, c, 4, Imperial Falcon--Win the Gold, by Fortunate Prospect. DED, 1-28, 5f, 1:00 3/5. B-R Bar S Thoroughbreds LLP (La).

BREEDERS' EDITION EUROPE

CONDITIONS RESULTS:

FRANCE, Cagnes sur Mer, 3.05, Cond, €19,000, 3yo, f, 1m(AWT), 1:41.20, std.

DISSIDENTE (FR) (f, 3, Double Bed {Fr}--Coyote Davis {Ire}, by Kaldoun {Fr}) Lifetime Record: 11 starts, 2 wins, 4 places, €21,100. O-N Forgeard; B-J Beres; T-Jean-Claude Rouget.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Exning (Fr), f, 4, Take Risks (Fr)--Eloura (Fr), by Top Ville (Ire). Cagnes sur Mer, France, 1-29, Cond, 4yo, 1 5/16mT. B-F A Waugh. *1/2 to Marriage d'Amour (Groom Dancer), GSP-Jpn, \$919,986. **FF220,000 yrl '01 DEAAUG.

SO. HEMISPHERE WINNERS BY EUROPEAN SIRES:

Flying Anabaa (Aus), g, 3, Anabaa--National Colours (Aus), by Marscaj (Aus). Canterbury (Sydney), 1-28, Hcp, 3yo, c/g, Hcp, 5 1/2fT. B-Toorak Park Stud Pty Ltd.

Avadance (Aus), f, 3, Danehill Dancer (Ire)--Overbid (Aus), by Pre Emptive Strike. Canterbury (Sydney), 1-28, Mdn, 3yo, f, 5 1/2fT. B-Middlebrook Valley Lodge.

Tempo (Aus), g, 3, Danehill Dancer (Ire)--Salacious (Aus), by Covetous (Aus). Canterbury (Sydney), 1-28, Hcp, 3yo, 6f 55ydsT. B-Dr S M Miller.

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