

**TDN'S SPECIAL
ECLIPSE EDITION**
...p5-18

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TDN
THOROUGHBRED DAILY NEWS
TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2008

**HEADLINE
NEWS**

HORSE OF THE YEAR CURLIN TO RACE IN 2008

There were few surprises during last night's Eclipse Awards ceremony in Beverly Hills, but there was a bit of welcome news. Making the announcement as he accepted the trophy for the 2007 Horse of the Year, Stonestreet Stables's Jess Jackson revealed that **Curlin** (Smart Strike) will be back in action this year. Jackson bought out partners Padua Stables and George Bolton after the colt's smashing success in the GI Breeders' Cup Classic at Monmouth Park, and now holds an 80-percent interest. The remaining 20 percent, once controlled by Midnight Cry's beleaguered partners Shirley Cunningham Jr. and William Gallion, is now in the hands of the courts. Jackson is confident that he will be free to chart a course for his Eclipse champion, but did caution, "There are provisos: he must be fit and we must work out the ownership issues." He added, "It's very likely that he will race in 2008, because I think those issues can be worked out."



Curlin *Brandon Benson*

TDN Feature Presentation
GRADE 2 PALOS VERDES HANDICAP
brought to you by
LANE'S END
**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL
THE ECLIPSE AWARD WINNERS!**

SUM LIKE IT HOT

In Summation (Put It Back) can take the heat. The five-year-old captured the July 29 GI Bing Crosby H. by a nose and the Aug. 25 Arlington Sprint H. by a neck. He was second after a troubled trip in the GIII Vernon O. Underwood S. Dec. 2, but he rebounded to take the Jan. 1 GIII El Conejo H., and he made it five out of his last six starts in the GII Palos Verdes H. **Cont. p2**

Monday, Santa Anita

PALOS VERDES H.-GII, \$150,000, SAX, 1-21, 4yo/up, 6f (AWT), 1:06 3/5 (NTR), ft.

1--**IN SUMMATION**, 122, h, 5, by Put It Back

1st Dam: **Fiesta Baby**, by Dayjur

2nd Dam: **Fiesta Gal**, by Alleged

3rd Dam: **Proud Pattie**, by Noble Commander

(\$80,000 yrl '04 OBSAUG; \$130,000 2yo '05 OBSMAR). O-Waterford Stable; B-Arthur I Appleton (FL); T-C Clement; J-R Bejarano; \$90,000. Lifetime Record: GISW, 21-10-5-0, \$895,166. *1/2 to Dakota Duke (Stormy Atlantic), SW, \$127,384.

2--**Barbecue Eddie**, 116, g, 4, Stormy Atlantic--The Green Owl, by Carson City. (\$55,000 2yo '06 OBSMAR). O-Brewer Racing Stable & J D & J R Haagsma; B-Margaret Addis (MD); T-Brian J Koriner; \$30,000.

3--**Surf Cat**, 120, h, 6, Sir Cat--Trust Greta, by Centrust. (\$25,000 yrl '03 FTKFEB). O-Aase Headley and Marsha Naify; B-William Taylor Nicholls & Gainsway Farm (KY); T-Bruce Headley; \$18,000.

Margins: NK, 3 3/4, 2 1/4. Odds: 1.80, 2.30, 3.50. Also Ran: Soul City Slew, I didn't do anything, Copa de Plata, Fly Dorcego (Brz).

ECLIPSE AWARD WINNERS FOR 2007

Horse of the Year	Curlin (Smart Strike)
Older Horse	Lawyer Ron (Langfuhr)
2yo Male	War Pass (Cherokee Run)
2yo Female	Indian Blessing (Indian Charlie)
3yo Male	Curlin (Smart Strike)
3yo Female	Rags to Riches (A.P. Indy)
Older Female	Ginger Punch (Awesome Again)
Turf Male	English Channel (Smart Strike)
Turf Female	Lahudood (GB) (Singspiel {Ire})
Male Sprinter	Midnight Lute (Real Quiet)
Female Sprinter	Maryfield (Elusive Quality)
Steeplechase	Good Night Shirt (Concern)
Owner	Shadwell Stable
Breeder	Adena Springs
Trainer	Todd Pletcher
Jockey	Garrett Gomez
App. Jockey	Joe Talamo

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Eclipse Finalist and MG1SW Country Star was one of 3 First-crop
Stakes Winners for Empire Maker in 2007. Country Star & Indian Blessing
were the only MG1SWs among the 2YO Fillies in North America in 2007.*



Palos Verdes cont.

Faux Pas...

In **Summation** is almost unbeatable on artificial surfaces. Second in three straight stakes starts on the grass, the five-year-old was off the board in a pair of turf outings before taking the June 23 Sneakbox S. on the lawn at Monmouth Park. Then he switched to the grass, and took the Bing Crosby at 8-1. He added the Arlington Sprint H. in August, then was beaten less than a length in the Underwood. He opened 2008 with a narrow score over **Barbecue Eddie** in the El Conejo, and had to fight even harder to get the job done here. In **Summation** stalked **Barbecue Eddie** through a half in a blistering :43.18, collared the pacesetter in deep stretch and prevailed to take three ticks off the track record. "I knew my horse was going to finish strong," said jockey Rafael Bejarano. "I knew there was only one speed horse in the race, and I knew he was going very fast, so I saved what I could and let my horse run when it counted." [Click for the brisnet.com chart](#) or the [free brisnet.com catalogue-style pedigree](#). [Video, sponsored by Taylor Made.](#)

CORRECTION: Good Ba Ba (Lear Fan--Elle Meme, by Zilzal) was an \$85,000 KEESEP yearling and a HK\$1,700,000 HKIS juvenile.

TODAY'S VIDEO HIGHLIGHTS

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SIRE OF 10 STAKES WINNERS IN HIS SECOND CROP

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GII Palos Verdes H. In **Summation** (Put It Back) scores again.

PEDIGREE INSIGHTS

BY ANDREW CAULFIELD

SAN MARCOS S.-GII, \$150,000, SAX, 1-19, 4yo/up, 1 1/4mT, 2:00 4/5, fm.

1--**CHAMPS ELYSEES (GB)**, 115, h, 5, by [Danehill](#)

1st Dam: **Hasili (Ire)** (SW-Fr), by **Kahyasi (Ire)**

2nd Dam: **Kerali (GB)**, by **High Line (GB)**

3rd Dam: **Sookera**, by **Roberto**

O/B-Juddmonte Farms (GB); T-R Frankel; J-G Gomez; \$90,000. Lifetime Record: 12-3-4-3, \$333,162. *Full to **Dansili (GB)** Co. Hwt. Older Horse-GB at 7-9.5f, Hwt. Older Horse-Fr at 7-9.5f, MGSW & MG1SP-Fr, G1SP-Eng, GISP-US, \$552,023; **Banks Hill (GB)**, Ch. Turf Mare-US, Ch. 3yo Filly-Eur, Hwt. 3yo-Fr at 9.5-11f, Hwt. 3yo Filly-Eng at 7-9.5f, Hwt. Older Mare-Fr at 7-9.5f, Hwt. Older Mare-Eng at 9.5-11f, G1SW-Fr & Eng, GISW-US, \$1,937,416; **Intercontinental (GB)**, Ch. Turf Mare-US, MGISW-US, SW & G1SP-Fr, G1SP-GB, \$2,052,282; and **Cacique (Ire)**, MGISW-US, MGSW & MG1SP-Fr, \$1,461,949; 3/4 to **Heat Haze (GB)** (Green Desert), MGISW-US, SW-Fr, \$1,183,620.

[Click for the brisnet.com chart](#) or the [free brisnet.com catalogue-style pedigree](#). [Video, sponsored by Taylor Made.](#)

A couple of years ago, when I wanted to take a photograph of **Hasili**, I was reminded of that feeble joke which runs along the lines of:

Question: "What do you feed a 600lb gorilla?"
 Answer: "Anything it wants."

It turned out that the last thing **Hasili** wanted to do at that particular time was to stand still while a bumbling amateur photographer clicked away. Instead, she skillfully eluded all attempts to catch her as she played leader of the pack in her paddock. But then **Hasili** has earned the right to do anything she wants. She could out-diva **Diana Ross**, **Mariah Carey** and **Whitney Houston** and no one in the Juddmonte operation would dream of complaining.



WHYWHYWHY Gets First Crop Breeders' Cup Winner

"If ever a horse had the credentials to make a name for himself as a Freshman Sire, this guy has." Bill Oppenheim, TDN, 1-5-07

- **WHYWHYWHY...G1** winning son of **MR. GREELEY**
- Two-year-old average in 2007 is over \$94,000
- 3yo filly **ORINOQUIA**, by **WHYWHYWHY**, G2 stakes-placed at Gulfstream 1-12-08

2008 Fee: \$10,000 Live Foal

NOWNOWNOW explodes to victory in Breeders' Cup



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Pedigree Insights cont.

While Hasili still has a bit of work to do to match Fall Aspen (eight group/graded winners, including four Grade I winners) and Courtly Dee (seven graded winners, headed by three Grade I scorers), this extraordinary mare has a near-faultless record. Thanks to Champs Elysees's stylish victory in the GII San Marcos S., her first six foals have all scored at Grade I or Grade II levels, with four of them achieving Grade I-winner status. It took the great Dahlia 11 foals to come up with four Grade I winners and a pair of Grade II scorers.

She is one graded winner ahead of Juddmonte's recently retired Toussaud, who also produced four Grade I winners. Coincidentally, Hasili is currently carrying to a late cover by Empire Maker, one of Toussaud's Grade I winners. She also has a three-year-old, Raise The Flag, by Sadler's Wells and a yearling filly by Storm Cat. It was a shame she was barren to Oasis Dream in her last season in Europe. This tremendously speedy son of Green Desert (sire also of Hasili's excellent daughter Heat Haze) sired his first group winner, Visit, from Hasili's younger sister Arrive.

Although Arrive and Hasili share the same parents, Kahyasi and Kerali, they showed very different talents on the racetrack. Hasili was fast enough to make a winning debut over five furlongs at two, before doing all her winning at up to a mile.

Arrive, on the other hand, didn't race at two and set track records over 1 1/2 miles and nearly 1 7/8 miles. The explanation is that Arrive was the more typical daughter of Kahyasi, winner of the Derby and Irish Derby, whereas Hasili clearly inherited more of the precocious speed which made her second dam, Sookera, one of the fastest juvenile fillies of her year.

Pedigree Insights cont. p4

CHAMPS ELYSEES (GB), h, 2003

Danehill	Danzig	Northern Dancer	Nearctic Natalma
		Pas de Nom	Admiral's Voyage Petitioner (GB)
	Razyana	His Majesty	*Ribot Flower Bowl
		Spring Adieu	Buckpasser Natalma
Hasili (Ire) SW-Fr, 17-4-3-1, \$68,186 B'mare of the Year-GB 8Fls, 2Ch, 6GSW	Kahyasi (Ire)	Ile de Bourbon	Nijinsky II Roseliere (Fr)
		Kadissya	Blushing Groom (Fr) Kalkeen (Ire)
	Kerali (GB) Wnr 10Fls, 2SW	High Line (GB)	High Hat (GB) Time Call (GB)
		Sookera 13Fls, 3SW	Roberto Irule

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Sire Averages, 28th Dec. 2007

"I can guarantee you I won't be finding any bigger bargains than Giant's Causeway at \$125,000 for 2008."

Bill Oppenheim, TDN 28th Nov.

Already 3 SW'S in 2008...

Angliana (1st Aqueduct H'cap-L.R. on 19th Jan.) & the potential Classic colts **Cowboy Cal** (1st Tropical Park Derby-Gr.3) & **Giant Moon** (1st Count Fleet Stks-L.R.)

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Pedigree Insights cont.

With a background like this, Hasili was always likely to produce a range of winners, even when mated to Green Desert and Danehill, two Danzig line stallions which made their names as sprinters. Her first foal, Dansili, was straightforward, racing almost exclusively over a mile, but Hasili's subsequent runners have displayed their talents over a variety of distances. Heat Haze and Intercontinental must be considered her fastest offspring, as they became stakes winners over 6 1/2 furlongs and seven furlongs respectively, but they also had enough stamina to win Grade I races over 1 3/16 miles and 1 1/4 miles. Banks Hill was equally effective over a mile and 1 1/4 miles and Cacique was pretty versatile too, gaining a pair of Group successes over a mile in France before becoming a Grade I winner over 1 1/4 and 1 3/8 miles.

Champs Elysees, for his part, has already shown himself to be the best stayer of the bunch, as he once



Champs Elysees

Benoit Photo

failed by only a nose to land the G3 Prix Maurice de Nieuil over 1 3/4 miles. However, he doesn't look like a stayer, as he's a strong, robust sort with plenty of substance and, looking at him, you could be forgiven for thinking that he's a miler. He was

once considered the most precocious of Hasili's sons until a bout of coughing forced him to miss the summer meeting at Deauville, where he had been expected to shine.

His performance in the San Marcos suggests that Champs Elysees is well suited by a mile and a quarter - and that he is now ready to fulfil the promise of his immaculate bloodlines. He managed to out-speed the opposition at Santa Anita despite having been held up last in a race in which the commentator said they "couldn't be going any slower--if they did they'd start trotting."

There's a good chance that the firm ground at Santa Anita also suited him. According to the *Racing Post* form, he never encountered ground faster than good during his time in Europe and I wouldn't be at all surprised were he to prove best on ground firm enough to allow him to use his acceleration. Although Dansili could handle very soft going, three of his best efforts came on the few occasions he encountered fast ground, on which he could use his change of gears.

Champs Elysees' victory makes him no less than Danehill's 16th graded winner on American turf tracks, following Artiste Royal, Aussie Rules, Cacique, Landseer, Banks Hill, Intercontinental, Dress To Thrill, Danish, Light Jig, Luas Line, Makderah, Simple Exchange, Spring Star, Chiming and Desert Lady.

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Louise Reimigel

A.P. INDY — URBANE, by CITIDANCER



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The first 10 horses on this list all scored at the Grade I level and it is reportedly Bobby Frankel's ambition to add Champs Elysees' name to this elite list.

Bearing in mind the scale of success enjoyed by Danehill's American turf runners, I find it a little surprising that there is only one stallion son of Danehill in Kentucky, with another in Florida.

However, the Kentucky-based son is the Derby-winning North Light, whose adverts include Frank Stronach's assertion that "we have bred him to quality mares and fully expect his progeny to excel on dirt."

Only time will tell whether North Light can fulfil Stronach's prediction regarding dirt, but there is no reason why a son of Danehill shouldn't excel as a sire of turf and all-weather performers in the USA. Dansili was Britain's champion sire of all-weather performers in 2006 and 2007, as well as being France's champion sire of turf performers in 2006. Danehill took third place behind Dansili among 2007's all-weather stallions, with another son, Danetime, in eighth place, so this tough male line is thriving on the synthetic tracks.

And Champs Elysees is thriving in the USA, to the extent that he could help Hasili become the first mare to produce five Grade I winners.

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

There's Something About **Mary.** And **War Pass,** too!



2008 Eclipse Awards Winner: **Elusive Quality's Maryfield**, Champion Female Sprinter



2008 Eclipse Awards Winner: **Cherokee Run's War Pass**, Champion 2-Year-Old Colt

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The 37th Annual Eclipse Awards



Tuesday, Jan. 22, 2008

TDN
THOROUGHBRED DAILY NEWS

CURLIN RISES TO THE OCCASION

Maybe it's a good thing horses can't read the newspaper. Some of the connections of **Curlin** (Smart Strike) were surrounded by controversy, but, blissfully unaware of any negative headlines, the Horse of the Year maintained his brilliance from February to October. Serious in every start, the three-year-old captured six of his nine appearances, was never off the board and earned a whopping \$5,102,800. He will add to that



Sarah K Andrew

bankroll during his four-year-old campaign. "This couldn't be better," said Jess Jackson, whose Stonestreet Stables now owns 80 percent of the colt. "It's a thrill of a lifetime for all of us. This is a guy who saw Seabiscuit in 1939, saw Swaps and Native Dancer all through Secretariat--and this is a dream come true."

HOW THEY VOTED...

Horse of the Year	Curlin (249) , Rags to Riches (12), Invasor (Arg) (2)
2-Year-Old Male	War Pass (262) , Court Vision, Kodiak Kowboy & Nownownow (1)
2-Year-Old Female	Indian Blessing (250) , Country Star (11), Pure Clan (2)
3-Year-Old Male	Curlin (262) , Street Sense (3), Hard Spun (1)
3-Year-Old Female	Rags to Riches (258) , Octave (4), Panty Raid (2)
Older Male	Lawyer Ron (147) , Invasor (Arg) (94), Corinthian (13)
Older Female	Ginger Punch (247) , Nashoba's Key (18), Take d'Tour (1)
Male Sprinter	Midnight Lute (229) , Hard Spun (18), Fabulous Strike (9)
Female Sprinter	Maryfield (155) , Dream Rush (61), River's Prayer (32)
Male Turf Horse	English Channel (251) , Kip Deville (6), After Market (5)
Female Turf Horse	Lahudood (GB) (188) , Nashoba's Key (43), Precious Kitten (16)
Steeplechase	Good Night Shirt (222) , McDynamo (13)
Owner	Shadwell Stable (144) , Stronach Stables (59), Maggi Moss (18)
Breeder	Adena Springs (203) , Fares Farm Inc (13), Martin & Pam Wygod (12)
Trainer	Todd Pletcher (139) , Steve Asmussen (65), Kiaran McLaughlin (39)
Jockey	Garrett Gomez (248) , Robby Albarado (11), Russell Baze (2)
App. Jockey	Joe Talamo (254) , Carol Cedeno (2), Arnaldo Bocachica (1)



HORSE OF THE YEAR
CH. 3YO COLT
CURLIN

Owner: Stonestreet, Padua, G Bolton & Midnight Cry **Breeder:** Fares Farm (Ky)
Trainer: Steve Asmussen

Curlin, bred by Fares Farm in Kentucky, has skyrocketed in value since being sold to Ken McPeck, agent for Midnight Cry Stable, for just \$57,000 as a KEESEP yearling. Stonestreet Stables, Padua Stables and George Bolton bought into the colt for a figure reported to be around \$3 million after a 12 3/4-length maiden victory at Gulfstream Park in February ([video](#)), and he wore his game face in just about every one of his next seven starts.

"I have to thank John Moynihan, who put us all together; and the brilliant strategy of Steve Asmussen, and the way he arranged the campaign, has to be noted," Jess Jackson of Stonestreet Stables said as he accepted the award. "There is so much to say for Steve's whole team--Scott Blasi and the rest, and for the athleticism of Robby Albarado. A great horse needs a great rider and a great trainer, and we were lucky enough to have them."

Curlin cruised through wins in the GIII Rebel S. and GII Arkansas Derby ([video](#)), and was not disgraced when third in the GI Kentucky Derby. Off at 3-1 in the GI Preakness, he stumbled at the start, but was relentless down the lane, catching Derby hero Street Sense in the final jump for his first Grade I victory ([video](#)).

His stretch drive in the GI Belmont S. was just as impressive, but Rags to Riches was out to make history, and she outgamed Curlin to take the "Test of the Champion" by a head.

It may have taken the colt some time to recover from being beaten by a filly. Curlin was sent off the 9-10 chalk in the GI Haskell Invitational S. two months later, but, after making a tepid bid in the stretch, he flattened out and finished third, beaten 4 1/2 lengths by Any Given Saturday.

Shaking off his two tough defeats, Curlin demonstrated his determination once again as he battled past fellow Eclipse hero Lawyer Ron to take the GI Jockey Club Gold Cup ([video](#)), and his sophomore finale was a tour de force, as he handled the sloppy track and the best in the nation to take the GI Breeders' Cup Classic in a gallop. Most of those behind him that afternoon have headed off to the breeding shed, but Curlin will be back in action this year. Jess Jackson said that the decision to bring the colt back, rather than take the quick dividends available for top stallions, was in large part influenced by the fans.

"I want to encourage everyone to work together to raise racing to a new level of marketing, of ethics, of sincerity, and to give the fans what they need," he said. "That's why we decided to race Curlin this year."

Congratulations
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Eclipse Award Winners

Horse of the Year
Curlin

2005 September Yearling Sale

Two-Year-Old Male
War Pass

2006 September Yearling Sale

Three-Year-Old Male
Curlin

2005 September Yearling Sale

Three-Year-Old Female
Rags to Riches

2005 September Yearling Sale

Female Sprinter
Maryfield

2002 September Yearling Sale

Male Sprinter
Midnight Lute

2004 September Yearling Sale

Male Turf Horse
English Channel

2003 September Yearling Sale



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CH. OLDER MALE LAWYER RON

Owner: Stonewall Farms Racing Div. 1, LLC & Estate of James T. Hines, Jr.
Breeder: James T. Hines Jr. (Ky)
Trainer: Todd Pletcher

Plenty of champions have showcased their brilliance at historic Saratoga Racecourse, and Lawyer Ron added his name to that list with two dominating performances at the upstate New York racetrack last summer.

Following odds-on defeats in the GI Metropolitan H. and the GIII Salvator Mile H., the chestnut rebounded to demolish the nine-furlong track record at Saratoga when he stopped the clock at 1:46 3/5 while posting a 4 3/4-length victory in the GI Whitney H. ([video](#)). Picking up eight pounds in the GI Woodward S. ([video](#)) at the Spa, he was even more dominating, scoring by 8 1/4 lengths.

"It takes a lot of people to make a horse like Lawyer Ron a champion, and at the top of the list is trainer Todd Pletcher and his crew," said attorney Ron Bamberger, for whom the colt is named.

Favored to make it three in a row in the GI Jockey Club Gold Cup S. at Belmont ([video](#)), Lawyer Ron hooked up in an epic battle with Horse of the Year Curlin, and came up just a 1/4 of a length short. Installed as the morning-line favorite in the GI Breeders' Cup Classic, he never got a hold of the sloppy conditions at Monmouth Park and reported home seventh.

Lawyer Ron also posted a victory in the GII Oaklawn H. in April ([video](#)).

"His two races at Saratoga were unbelievable, when you think about setting a track record going a mile and an eighth at Saratoga—they've been running there a long time," Pletcher said. "To me, the Whitney was arguably the most impressive dirt race of any run there last year. He was consistently the best older horse in training last year."

Added Bamberger, "It takes a lot to bring back a horse like Lawyer Ron, after the success he had during his three-year-old campaign, and the fans were significant in making the decision to race him again this year. I think that winning this award is a vindication of that decision."

Lawyer Ron has been retired to Stonewall Stallions in Versailles, Kentucky. He stands for \$30,000.



Coady Photography

LAWYER RON, c, 2003

Langfuhr	Danzig	Northern Dancer	Nearctic Natalma
		Pas de Nom	Admiral's Voyage *Petitioner
	Sweet Briar Too	Briartic	Nearctic Sweet Lady Briar
		Prima Babu Gum	Gummo Princess Babu
Donation 6Fls, 1G1SW	Lord Avie	Lord Gaylord	Sir Gaylord Miss Glamour Gal
		Avie	*Gallant Man Evilone
	Reddy Change SP 4Fls, 3Wnrs	Mr. Redoy	*Grey Dawn II Near Gold
		Coin Changer Wnr, 11Fls, 1SP	Rambunctious Little Mortgage

ECLIPSE AWARD WINNERS FOR 2007 PAST PERFORMANCES

- Horse of the Year Curlin (Smart Strike) ([PPs](#))
- Older Horse Lawyer Ron (Langfuhr) ([PPs](#))
- 2yo Male War Pass (Cherokee Run) ([PPs](#))
- 2yo Female Indian Blessing (Indian Charlie) ([PPs](#))
- 3yo Female Rags to Riches (A.P. Indy) ([PPs](#))
- Older Female Ginger Punch (Awesome Again) ([PPs](#))
- Turf Male English Channel (Smart Strike) ([PPs](#))
- Turf Female Lahudood (GB) (Singspiel {Ire}) ([PPs](#))
- Male Sprinter Midnight Lute (Real Quiet) ([PPs](#))
- Female Sprinter Maryfield (Elusive Quality) ([PPs](#))

THE PEOPLE'S CHOICE LAWYER RON

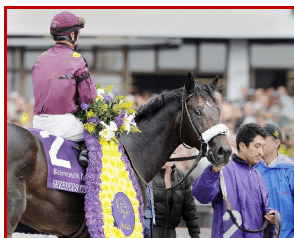
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CH. 2YO MALE WAR PASS

Owner: Robert V LaPenta
Breeder: Cherry Valley Farm LLC (Ky)
Trainer: Nicholas P Zito

Owner Robert LaPenta has accomplished in 10 years in the Thoroughbred business what many cannot do in a career and, last night, he earned his first Eclipse Award when GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile hero War Pass easily outpointed the dynamic duo of **Court Vision** (Gulch) and **Kodiak Kowboy** (Posse) to take the award as top juvenile.

"Our family has been over the moon since War Pass raced for the first time at Saratoga," LaPenta said at the awards ceremony. "He is an incredible animal, and to be here tonight, with the odds of winning this award--it's overwhelming."

LaPenta has had success not only at the races, but also in sales rings around the country as a yearling-to-juvenile pinhooker. He has routinely bought back horses off high reserves, and that might have been the case with War Pass. But fate intervened.

"We were going to put him in the two-year-old sales and David Scanlon had him evaluated as his top horse," LaPenta recollected. "We were going to put a big reserve on him, but unfortunately he developed some ankle chips and had an operation."

Turned over to trainer Nick Zito, War Pass made his career debut in the first Saturday maiden of the Saratoga meeting, overcoming a sluggish start to ultimately lead at each call en route to a 2 3/4-length victory with the visiting Corey Nakatani aboard. In a decision which would prove crucial to the colt's future success, Zito passed on the GI Hopeful S. in favor of a first-level allowance at the Spa for his next start.

War Pass responded in kind, strolling home 5 1/2 lengths best, with Pyro back in third.

WAR PASS, c, 2005

Cherokee Run	Runaway Groom	Blushing Groom (Fr)	Red God Runaway Bride
		Yonnie Girl	Call the Witness Po'chile
	Cherokee Dame	Silver Saber	Drone Happy Flirt
		Dame Francesca	Francis S. Maid to Rule
Vue MSP, 11Fls, 2G1SW, 1GSP, 1 Ch.	Mr. Prospector	Raise a Native	Native Dancer Raise You
		Gold Digger	Nashua Sequence
	Harbor Flag Wnr 16Fls, 1GSP, 1SW, 1SP	Hoist the Flag	Tom Rolfe Wavy Navy
		Bayou Blue 8Fls, 5 Wnrs	Bold Ruler Bayou

Champali

Glitterman-Radioactivity, by Dixieland Band
\$7,500 live foal due November 15

Millionaire Packed Quite a Punch

GSW at 2 - 112 on
Experimental

4X SW at 3 - From
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"That was a great, great move by Nick," commented LaPenta. "We could have run in the Hopeful, but Nick is great with bringing horses along slowly, and it worked out great."

Faced with the daunting task of taking on the the much-hyped Hopeful top two Majestic Warrior (A.P. Indy) and Ready's Image (More Than Ready) in the GI Champagne S., War Pass proved more than equal to his first Grade I assignment, dominating his rivals from the front end ([video](#)). He employed those same tactics on Breeders' Cup day, a performance which clinched divisional honors beyond a shadow of a doubt.

LaPenta acknowledged that, in trying to live up to the accomplishments of the 2007 sophomore crop, War Pass had his job cut out for him, but, he added, "I give special thanks to Street Sense, because he finally broke the juvenile jinx at the Kentucky Derby, and we can only hope that lightning strikes twice. Go War Pass!"



Equi-Photo



CH. OLDER FEMALE GINGER PUNCH

Owner: Stronach Stables
Breeder: Adena Springs (Fl)
Trainer: Bobby Frankel

Following six starts in 2006--which included maiden and allowance wins--Ginger Punch was put on the shelf and underwent laser surgery to remove growths on her throat. It was very clear from the beginning of her four-year-old campaign that the Stronach homebred had returned a new horse.

But Frank Stronach was quick to give trainer Bobby Frankel a lot of credit for the turnaround. "We can raise a great horse, but it takes a great man to put on the final touches," he said.

Ginger Punch began her championship season with a second-place finish in the GII Vinery Madison S. at Keeneland. Following her stakes debut, she posted a facile allowance win at Churchill. Stepped up to the top level, the Florida-bred rallied to a bang-up second-place finish in the GI Ogden Phipps H.

As the weather began to heat up, so did Ginger Punch. She put together three straight stakes victories following the Phipps--the GII First Flight H. ([video](#)), the GI Go For Wand H. ([video](#)) and the GI Ruffian H. ([video](#)). The winning streak ended with a third-place finish in the GI Beldame S., but Ginger Punch redeemed herself on racing's biggest day with a determined 1/4-length victory over Hystericalady in the GI Breeders' Cup Distaff.

"She had a great season," Frankel said. "I don't know if she's the best [filly or mare that I've ever trained], but she's very good, tries very hard and she got the job done. She has to rate up there with some of the best ones I've had."

Added Stronach, "In the final analysis, Bobby makes the right decisions--thank you, Bobby."

Ginger Punch has been kept in training and will begin her five-year-old season in the Sunshine Millions Distaff at Gulfstream Park Jan. 26.

GINGER PUNCH, f, 2003

Awesome Again	Deputy Minister	Vice Regent	Northern Dancer Victoria Regina
		Mint Copy	Bunty's Flight Shakney
	Primal Force	Blushing Groom (Fr)	Red God Runaway Bride (GB)
		Prime Prospect	Mr. Prospector Square Generation
Nappelon GSW, \$631,139 8FIs, 1G1SW	Bold Revenue	Bold Ruckus	Boldnesian Raise a Ruckus
		More Revenue	I'm For More Royal Debra
	Sally Go Gray 8FIs, 1GSW	Wise Exchange	Promised Land Coastal Trade
		Surreptitious 10FIs, 1GSW	Rambunctious Angelines Choice

ECLIPSE CHAMPION OLDER FILLY/MARE

In the Sales Ring

Horse (Ch. Year)	Post-Racing Career Sale
Ashado (2005)	\$9-million '05 KEENOV
Escena (1998)	\$3.25-million '99 KEEJAN
Hidden Lake (1997)	\$525,000 '05 FTKNOV, i/f Distorted Humor
Jewel Princess (1996)	\$4.9-million '00 KEENOV, i/f Storm Cat
Sky Beauty (1994)	\$2.85-million '99 KEENOV, i/f Gone West
North Sider (1987)	\$1.225-million '87 NSFTK, \$15,500 '02 KEENOV, i/f Lion Cavem
Lady's Secret (1986)	\$5.4-million '87 NSFTK \$3.8-million '89 KEENOV, i/f Alydar
Life's Magic (1985)	\$750,000 '98 KEENOV, i/f Seattle Slew \$5.4-million '86 KEENOV, i/f Mr. Prospector
	\$4.4-million '87 NSFTK, i/f Alydar \$310,000 '97 KEENOV, i/f Unbridled \$75,000 '01 KEENOV, i/f Thunder Gulch

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CH. 3YO FILLY RAGS TO RICHES

Owner: Michael Tabor & Derrick Smith
Breeder: Skara Glen Stables (Ky)
Trainer: Todd Pletcher

Few fillies can boast the kind of season that Rags to Riches enjoyed in 2007. A winner of five of six starts in 2007--all at the Grade I level--the statuesque filly collected her biggest and most important career victory in the GI Belmont S., defeating eventual Horse of the Year and champion three-year-old colt Curlin in the process. In winning the Belmont, the chestnut became only the third filly in 139 runnings of the race--and the first in 102 years--to win the 1 1/2-mile event. Her accomplishments on the race track also helped her trainer, Todd Pletcher, collect a fourth consecutive Eclipse Award in 2007.

"The Belmont win stands out as the strongest victory by any filly we've ever trained," said Pletcher, who also trained two-time champion filly Ashado. "The Belmont was probably the most exciting win of my career."

Rags to Riches kicked off the season with an impressive six-length score in a Santa Anita maiden Jan. 7. Moved up to Grade I company for her next appearance, she rallied late to record a 3/4-length victory in the one-mile GI Las Virgenes S. Feb. 10. Having a much easier time of it next time out, the \$1.9-million KEESEP yearling rolled home 5 1/2 lengths in front in the Mar. 11 GI Santa Anita Oaks ([video](#)). Following a series of minor setbacks, Rags to Riches returned with a vengeance in the May 4 GI Kentucky Oaks ([video](#)), winning by 4 1/4 lengths over stablemate and subsequent GISW Octave.

Pitted against the boys for the first time in the Belmont ([video](#)), she proved to be a force to be reckoned with despite stumbling at the start. In a race for the ages, the filly handed GI Preakness S. winner and GI Kentucky Derby third Curlin a head defeat, becoming the first filly to win a Triple Crown event since Winning Colors triumphed in the Kentucky Derby in 1988.

GI Belmont S. Winning Fillies		
Year	Winner	Sire
2007	Rags to Riches	A.P Indy
1905	Tanya	*Meddler
1867	Ruthless	*Eclipse

"It is quite an accomplishment to win the Belmont, and given that she beat Curlin in the Belmont really adds to the mystique of the race," said Pletcher.

An awkward start may have affected the result in her next start in the GI Gazelle S. at Belmont Sept. 15, but the game filly still gave it her all and came up only a half-length short in what would prove to be her final race of the season.

"She came out of the last race with the injury; my guess is that it started on a microscopic level and manifested itself after she had a stressful race," Pletcher surmised.

"So that kept us from accomplishing some of the things we were hoping for after the Belmont."

A distant second to Curlin in the voting for Horse of the Year, Rags to Riches defeated her Belmont S. rival in their only encounter in 2007, but, according to Pletcher, circumstances may have prevented the filly from getting stronger support in that division.

"So much weight is given to what happens in the Breeders' Cup and what happens in the last couple of months," he said.

"Voters have a tendency to ignore what happens early in the year. Had she raced again and possibly had she won a Breeders' Cup race, I think she could have made a case for herself."

According to Pletcher, the major goal for the 2008 season will be Breeders' Cup day in either the Classic or the Distaff, with a probable stop at Saratoga for the GI Personal Ensign S.

RAGS TO RICHES, f, 2004

A. P. Indy	Seattle Slew	Bold Reasoning	Boldnesian	
		My Charmer	Reason to Earn	
	Weekend Surprise	Secretariat	Poker	
		Lassie Dear	Fair Charmer	
Better Than Honour GSW & MGISP 5 Fls, 1 Ch., 2 GISW	Deputy Minister	Secretariat	Bold Ruler	
		Lassie Dear	Somethingroyal	
	Vice Regent	Buckpasser	Gay Missile	
		Victoria Regina	Shakney	
	Blush With Pride MGISW 14 Fls, 3 GSW, 3GISP	Mint Copy	Bunty's Flight	Red God
		Blushing Groom (Fr)	Shakney	Runaway Bride
	Best In Show 17 Fls, 1 Ch. 1GISW	Traffic Judge	Stolen Hour	

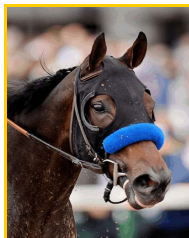
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CH. 2YO FILLY INDIAN BLESSING

Owner: Hal & Patti Earnhardt
Breeder: Hal & Patti Earnhardt (Ky)
Trainer: Bob Baffert

Hal J. Earnhardt III and his wife Patti have had quite a few top runners with Bob Baffert, including GISWs Behaving Badly, El Corredor and Indian Charlie, but they picked up their first Eclipse with Indian Blessing, who capped an unbeaten three-race campaign with a front-running score in the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies.

Fittingly, the dark bay was bred by the Earnhardts. Her dam, Shameful (Flying Chevron), was a \$50,000 KEESEP yearling purchase in 1999. She went on to win four of her 12 starts, including the Pine Tree Lane S., and placed in a pair of graded events while earning \$241,345 under Baffert's tutelage. Bred to Indian Charlie her first two years as a broodmare, the Florida-bred mare produced Indian Blessing as her second foal.

"The mother--she was a nice, fast filly, but [Indian Blessing]'s more like Indian Charlie: he had brilliance, and she has the same thing," said Baffert. But that wasn't readily apparent in her early training.

"She never really made any of the top lists," Baffert recalled. "When we went to nominate to the Hollywood Starlet--it's early--she didn't make the cut." The first nomination for that Grade I event is in May, but several months later, Baffert's opinion changed.

"In August, she started coming around," Baffert continued. "We really hadn't pressed on her. One day, I worked her five-eighths, and I knew I had something really special. I remember calling Hal, telling him that... she was good--like really, really good. He knows that means like Indian Charlie good, El Corredor good, and so that's why we took her to Saratoga."

Bet down to 4-5 for her debut Aug. 30, Indian Blessing flew through 5 1/2 furlongs in 1:03.26 ([video](#)), a tick off the track record, and was tabbed as a *TDN* Rising Star. She continued to train smartly at Belmont and had no trouble coping with a mile at the sweeping oval. The homebred led every step of the GI Frizette S. Oct. 6 ([video](#)), scoring by 4 1/2 lengths at 3-5.

Sent off as the 8-5 favorite in the Juvenile Fillies, she took the lead soon after the start and never looked back, splashing home a 3 1/2-length winner ([video](#)), giving Earnhardt his first winner at the championship event. Indian Blessing is the third champion two-year-old filly conditioned by Baffert, who had Silverbulletday in 1998 and Chilukki in '99. She's the second straight Eclipse Award winner for her sire, who was represented by champion older female Fleet Indian in 2006.

Indian Blessing got an early start to her sophomore campaign, flashing her trademark speed before holding on by a head to set a new track record of 1:19.89 for seven furlongs in the GII Santa Ynez S. Jan. 13 at Santa Anita.

INDIAN CHARLIE 2Years 2Champions



*Airdrie would like to send our deepest
Congratulations and Gratitude to
owner/breeder Hal & Patti Earnhardt,
trainer Bob Baffert and jockey Garret Gomez
on their Champion filly INDIAN BLESSING.*

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"It looked like a gut wrencher--she was tired--but she bounced right out of it," Baffert explained. "Now she's tight; she looks ready to do something."

The filly may hit the road for her next start. "There's the [GIII] Silverbulletday at Fair Grounds [Feb. 9]," her trainer added. "We'll nominate to that. I think that might be the next spot for her."

The Earnhardts have a two-year-old half-brother to Indian Blessing by Candy Ride (Arg) named He's Shameful. Shameful produced a Roman Ruler colt in 2007 before being bred back to that stallion.

INDIAN BLESSING, f, 2005

Indian Charlie	In Excess (Ire)	Siberian Express	Caro (Ire)
		Kantado (Ire)	Indian Call
	Soviet Sojourn	Leo Castelli	Saulingo (GB)
		Political Parfait	Vi (GB)
Shameful SW & MGSP, 12-4-3-2, \$241,345 4Fls, 1Ch, 1G1SW	Flying Chevron	Carson City	Mr. Prospector
		Fly Me First	Blushing Promise
	Lady's Legacy SP, \$22,367 6Fls, 2SW	Matchlite	*Herbager
		Wavering Lady 9Fls, 2SP	Flying Fable
			Clever Trick
			Light Up My Life
		Wavering Monarch	
		Pia's Lady	



**CH. TURF FEMALE
LAHUDDOOD (GB)**

Owner: Shadwell Stable
Breeder: Shadwell Estate Company Limited (GB)
Trainer: Kieran McLaughlin

Last June, trainer Kieran McLaughlin thought he had a top prospect for the GI Breeders 'Cup Filly & Mare Turf in the form of European import Makderah (Ire), a Shadwell Stable homebred who had just won the GI New York S. But McLaughlin was told by Shadwell chief Sheikh Hamdan that, as good as Makderah was, the real star was another import, Lahudood. McLaughlin wasn't sure, but with some late-season heroics, Lahudood convinced both her trainer and the Eclipse voters that she indeed was the top turf mare in the land. Lahudood gave Shadwell, also named leading owner, its second Eclipse Award of the night and its third in two years by a wide 145-vote margin. Shadwell's Invasor (Arg) was named Horse of the Year in 2006. Lahudood secured the championship with 188 first-place votes, well ahead of runner-up Nashoba's Key (43 votes) and Precious Kitten (16 votes).

"We did think that she was Grade I quality [when she was transferred to us], but not as much as we liked Makderah in the early stages," McLaughlin recently explained. "But Sheikh Hamdan insisted that Lahudood was the better of the two. He loved her."

Lahudood got her chance to shine when Makderah was sidelined with an ankle injury in September. An allowance winner at Belmont in her second U.S. start in July, she was coming off a seventh-place finish in the GI Beverly D. when McLaughlin asked and received permission from Belmont racing officials to sub Lahudood for Makderah in the GI Flower Bowl Invitational S. at Belmont in late September. Lahudood was wasn't on the original list of invitees and went off a 21-1 bomb at post time, but proved she was up to the task with a rail-skimming victory that gave both her and jockey Alan Garcia their first Grade I wins ([video](#)).

Sent postward an 11-1 outsider in the Breeders' Cup a month later, Lahudood handled the bog-like conditions at Monmouth Park and skipped home in a champion performance.

"It was so soft and such rough conditions, that no one knew what to expect in the Breeders' Cup," said McLaughlin. "She dug in and ran great and it was very thrilling and very satisfying for Sheikh Hamdan, because he normally retires all of his fillies at the end of their three-year-old year. He believes that they'll produce better foals as young mares, so he doesn't run four-year-old fillies usually. So I'm glad he made that decision, and it worked out great for everybody."



Lahudood & Shadwell's Rick Nichols
Equi-Photo/Sarah K. Andrew

Lahudood now heads to the breeding shed...and with an Eclipse Award in tow. She is reportedly book to Lane's End stallion Kingmambo.

LAHUDDOOD (GB), f, 2003

Singspiel (Ire)	In the Wings (GB)	Sadler's Wells	Northern Dancer
			Fairy Bridge
		High Hawk (Ire)	Shirley Heights (GB)
			Sunbittern (GB)
	Glorious Song	Halo	Hail to Reason
			Cosmah
		Ballade	*Herbager
Rahayeb (GB) 9-1-2-1, \$12,593 5Fls, 1Ch., 1GISW	Arazi	Blushing Groom (Fr)	Red God
			Runaway Bride (GB)
		Danseur Fabuleux	Northern Dancer
			Fabuleux Jane
		Mr. Prospector	Raise a Native
			Gold Digger
	Bashayer SP, 12-2-1-1, \$35,557 7Fls, 5w	Height of Fashion (Fr) 12Fls, 4GSW, 2SW	Bustino (GB)
			Highclere (GB)

GRAY.

Holy Bull's newest SW is Liberty Bull, winner of yesterday's Smarty Jones Stakes.

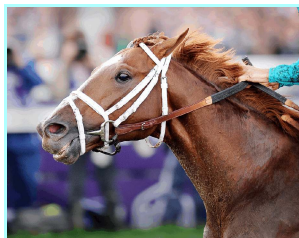
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CH. TURF MALE

ENGLISH CHANNEL

Owner: James T Scatuorchio
Breeder: Keene Ridge Farm (Ky)
Trainer: Todd A Pletcher

Small in stature, but big in heart, English Channel topped off a brilliant career with a seven-length victory in the GI Breeders' Cup Turf, locking up year-end honors at Monmouth Park in front of his owner, Rumson, New Jersey's own Jim Scatuorchio. The chestnut, a close third to Miesque's Approval in last year's balloting, got the nod over GI Breeders' Cup Mile victor **Kip Deville** (Kipling) and **After Market** (Storm Cat).

Purchased for a mere \$50,000 out of the 2003 Keeneland September sale, English Channel doubled his career number of Grade I tallies and his bankroll in 2007. Successful in defense of his title in the GI United Nations S. ([video](#)), he bounced back from a runner-up effort in the GI Sword Dancer Invitational S. to take the GI Joe Hirsch Turf Classic ([video](#)), knifing through the slimmest of openings at the rail en route to the win. His score on Breeders' Cup day came at the hands of former champion Red Rocks (Ire) and Better Talk Now, as well as favored Dylan Thomas (Ire).

Trainer Todd Pletcher was among English Channel's greatest fans. "The Breeders' Cup Turf was his strongest performance, without a doubt," he commented. "He had some great races and none as important as that one, given that it's on such an important day. Being at Monmouth Park for the Scatuorchios, and it being his final race, that made it special."

English Channel is standing his first year at stud at Hurricane Hall near Lexington for \$25,000.



Equi-Photo

ENGLISH CHANNEL, h, 2002

Smart Strike	Mr. Prospector	Raise a Native	Native Dancer Raise You
		Gold Digger	Nashua Sequence
	Classy N' Smart	Smarten	Cyane Smartaire
		No Class	Nodouble Classy Quillo
Belva Unraced, 5Fls, 1G1SW, 1GSP, 1 Ch.	Theatrical (Ire)	Nureyev	Northern Dancer Special
		Tree of Knowledge (Ire)	Sassafras (Fr) Sensibility
	Committed 4x Ch., MG1SW, 11Fls, 2GSW, 1SW	Hagley	Tom Rolfe Wavy Navy
		Minstinguette 14Fls, 6 Wnrs	Boldnesian Royal Warrant



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Macho Uno	3%
Proud Citizen	3%
Whywhywhy	3%
Yankee Gentleman	3%
Flatter	1%
Mineshaft	1%
Vindication	1%
Cactus Ridge	0%
Sky Mesa	0%
Sunday Break (JPN)	0%



Posse



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**CH. FILLY SPRINTER
MARYFIELD**

Owner: M Gorman, N Mestrandrea, J Perry & M Verge
Breeder: Mike Carroll & John Harvey Jr (On)
Trainer: Doug O'Neill

When Maryfield splashed home to a half-length victory in the inaugural Breeders' Cup Filly and Mare Sprint ([video](#)), she also secured the first-ever Eclipse statuette as Filly Sprint Champion.

Maryfield, claimed for \$50,000 from a Santa Anita turf event in January 2006, began 2007 with three off-the-board efforts in Southern California graded-stakes company. But things turned around for the bay mare when she was forced to rate after a slow start in the GII Distaff Breeders' Cup H. ([video](#)) at Aqueduct in March.

"The key was getting her to relax, which happened pretty much by accident after she broke slow in the Distaff Breeders' Cup H., and for that I give a lot of credit to jockey Jorge Chavez," trainer Doug O'Neill said after the Breeders' Cup. "I just wish we'd figured it out sooner."



Equi-Photo/Sarah K Andrew

Maryfield used those stalking tactics to good advantage in the GI Ballerina S. ([video](#)) at Saratoga last August. The mare rated off dueling leaders Indian Flare and Baroness Thatcher and just nailed the latter in the final stride for a narrow victory.

Just a week after her Breeders' Cup win, Maryfield sold to Southern Equine Stables for \$1.25 million at the Fasig-Tipton Selected Mixed Sale. The mare has been retired and, according to Southern Equine's Eric Guillot, she will be bred to Distorted Humor this year.

MARYFIELD, m, 2001

Elusive Quality	Gone West	Mr. Prospector	Raise a Native
		Secrettame	Gold Digger
	Touch of Greatness	Hero's Honor	Secretariat
		Ivory Wand	Tamerett
Sly Maid 31-5--6-7, \$109,331 6FIs, 1GSW, 1GSP	Desert Wine	Damascus	Northern Dancer
		Anne Campbell	Glowing Tribute
	Sly Charmer 12-4-1-2, \$105,300 13FIs, 10Wnrs, 1SP	Valdez	Sir Ivor
		Miss Pele	Natashka
		13FIs, 1GSW	Sea Hawk (Fr)
			Mama Ocollo (GB)



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**Earnings per foal of Top 15
'07 KY Sires**

Posse	\$28,026	POSSE % greater than
Whywhywhy	\$18,826	49%
Harlan's Holiday	\$17,862	57%
Proud Citizen	\$16,296	72%
Macho Uno	\$16,201	73%
Van Nistelrooy	\$11,705	139%
Empire Maker	\$11,340	147%
Yankee Gentleman	\$10,582	165%
Kafwain	\$10,577	165%
Vindication	\$8,857	216%
Mineshaft	\$8,090	246%
Cactus Ridge	\$7,793	260%
Flatter	\$7,296	284%
Sunday Break (JPN)	\$6,730	316%
Sky Mesa	\$6,000	367%



Posse



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CH. SPRINTER MIDNIGHT LUTE

Owner: Watson & Weitman Perf & Pegram
Breeder: Evans/Macon Wilmil Eq/Marjac Fm (Ky)
Trainer: Bob Baffert

Mike Pegram has several Eclipse Awards in his trophy case, doubling up with champion filly Silverbulletday in 1998 and 1999, and his Real Quiet nailed the three-year-old colt title in 1998 with his heroics in the Triple Crown. Fittingly, Pegram gets to share another one this year with partners Carl Watson and Paul Weitman, as Real Quiet's son Midnight Lute turned in pair of dominating performances to be crowned champion sprinter.

Midnight Lute's bottom line is sprinkled with a series of solid turf performers--his second dam is 1984 GII La Prevoyante H. heroine Bolt From the Blue--but his speed has carried the day so far. A \$70,000 KEESEP yearling, he RNA'd for \$290,000 at OBSMAR in 2005 from the draft of Eddie Woods, and found his way to Pegram and partners. The nearly black colt has been carefully managed by trainer Bob Baffert.

"You never really know how good they are until you work them five-eighths, that's when you realize what you have," he said. "I had high hopes for him as a two-year-old, [but] he had throat issues."

Midnight Lute made one appearance in 2005, rallying to win at Del Mar in July, but didn't face the starter again for 368 days. He came back at three to win two of his four starts, including a victory in the GIII Perryville S. over Keeneland's Polytrack, before finishing the year with a third in the GI Malibu S.

Second by a nose in the GII San Fernando BC S. last January, Midnight Lute finished a close fourth in the GII Strub S. the following month.



Equi-Photo

"He just started coming around in the winter last year," Baffert said. "He had a lot of bad luck--I think his throat was bothering him. We redid the throat, and he started training a lot different."

Midnight Lute ran fourth in the GII Commonwealth BC S. at Keeneland Apr. 14, and Baffert began charting his course with an eye to later races.

"He was training really well at Del Mar--he looked fantastic," Baffert said. "I worked him at Saratoga and he was fantastic there again."

Midnight Lute made his next appearance in the GI Forego H. Sept. 1 at the Spa and turned in a tour de force ([video](#)). That effort earned him a 124 Beyer Speed Figure, the highest since Ghostzapper's 128 in 2004.

"You never know until you put them in a race," said Baffert, "but I knew when he got away and he made that big move around that turn, it was like, wow, he's a pretty amazing horse when he puts it all together."

Midnight Lute went postward as the 5-2 favorite in his next outing, the GI Breeders' Cup Sprint at Monmouth Oct. 27. Well back in the early stages, he rallied boldly through the slop, dashed by the swift Idiot Proof inside the eighth pole and went on to score by 4 3/4 lengths. He had one more start, the GI Cigar Mile at Aqueduct Nov. 24, but couldn't quite catch the streaking Daaher and settled for second; the final time was 1:33.79.

While Midnight Lute's worktab is riddled with bullets, Baffert opted to skip his proposed seasonal opener in yesterday's GII Palos Verdes H. "It's going to be a long year," he said. "I just want to keep him fresh. I want him ready for a summer/fall campaign."



CH. STEEPLECHASER GOOD NIGHT SHIRT

(Concern--Hot Story, by Two Punch)

Owner: Sonny & Ann Via
Breeder: Dr. & Mrs. T. Bowman
Trainer: Jack Fisher
2007 Record: 5-3-1-0, \$314,163

Good Night Shirt kicked off the season with a close second to Mixed Up in the GI Royal Chase at Keeneland Apr. 20. In against the big boys for the GI Iroquois Steeplechase at Percy Warner Park in Nashville, the chestnut was much the best, scoring by 5 1/4 lengths over Sur la Tete, who was trying to collect his third renewal of the three-mile test; multiple champion McDynamo weakened to be a well-beaten fourth. On top again despite stumbling late in Belmont's GI Lonesome Glory Sept. 22, the Maryland-bred tired over the soft turf to be fourth behind McDynamo in the GI Breeders' Cup Grand National at Far Hills Oct. 20. But, looking to close out the season on a high note in the Nov. 18 GI Colonial Cup at Springdale Race Course in Camden, the gelding was on the front end throughout and powered home a 2 1/4-length winner. With the victory, Good Night Shirt set a single-season steeplechase earnings record of \$314,163.

MIDNIGHT LUTE, h, 2003

Real Quiet	Quiet American	Fappiano	Mr. Prospector
		Demure	Killaloe
	Really Blue	Believe It	Dr. Fager
		Meadow Blue	Quiet Charm
Candytuft Unraced 6FIs, 1Ch, 1GISW	Dehere	Deputy Minister	In Reality
		Sister Dot	Breakfast Bell
	Bolt From the Blue GSW, \$125,834 13FIs, 2SP	Blue Times	Raise a Native
		Berkut 6FIs, 2GSW, 1SW	Sword Game
			*Sea-Bird
		*Feria II	



CHAMPION OWNER SHADWELL STABLE

2007 Stats: 140-28-18-20, \$3,449,878
Top Horses: Daaher, Invasor (Arg),
 Lahudood (GB)

Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid al Maktoum's Shadwell Farm started strong in 2007, with reigning Horse of the Year **Invasor (Arg)** (Candy Stripes) returning with a dramatic win in the GI Donn H. before traveling to Dubai for an authoritative win in the G1 World Cup.

"Invasor winning the World Cup--well, it doesn't get any better for our outfit than that," explained the champion's trainer Kieran McLaughlin.

"It just doesn't get any better than that. I understand winning the Kentucky Derby would be great for me personally--being born and raised in Lexington--and great for an outfit and owner in America, but the World Cup is equally important to the Maktoums. And to go back there and win that race with them sitting in the stands in their home town, it doesn't get any better than that."

The stable suffered a setback when Invasor was forced into retirement by injury, but rebounded with the



Kieran McLaughlin & Invasor *Horsephotos*

late-season heroics of **Daaher** (Awesome Again) and **Lahudood (GB)** (Singspiel {Ire}).

Daaher, who served notice with a 13 3/4-length allowance win at Saratoga in August, officially arrived with a win in the Oct. 7 GII Jerome Breeders' Cup H. He solidified his position as a force to be reckoned with when defeating sprint champion Midnight Lute in the Nov. 24



Daaher *A Coglianese*

GI Hill 'n' Dale Cigar Mile H. ([video](#))

Lahudood captured the GI Flower Bowl Invitational S. at Belmont in September. The Shadwell Stable homebred earned the distaff turf championship with a 3/4-length victory in the GI Breeders' Cup F/M Turf at Monmouth Park.

"I went to Dubai in 1993 and worked in Dubai for most of 10 years, and I had the privilege of being around Sheikh Hamdan daily there in the winter," McLaughlin said of his boss.

"He's a great horseman, a great person, and he is just a wonderful owner and a great guy. He deserves [the Eclipse]. It's a great outfit to work for. They deal with quality horses and they let me do my job."



Lahudood *Horsephotos*



CHAMPION BREEDER ADENA SPRINGS

2007 Stats: 3,479-538-539-449, \$18,055,772.
Top Horses: Ginger Punch, Citronnade,
 Sugar Shake, Cobalt Blue,
 Going Ballistic, Wicked Style.

For the fifth consecutive year, Frank Stronach's Adena Springs led all individual breeders in wins and purse money won and, once again, it wasn't even close. Boasting 564 starters who made 3,479 starts in 2007, Adena Springs racked up 538 wins, 539 seconds and 449 thirds and a staggering \$18,055,772 in earn-



Adena homebred Ginger Punch after the BC Distaff
Equi-photo/Sarah K. Andrew

ings. By way of comparison, the runner-up on the earnings list, Sez Who Thoroughbreds, had 267 starters make 2,059 starts last year, with 291 finding the winner's circle and with earnings of \$7,856,427--nearly \$10.2 million less than Adena.

In a lopsided tally that reflected those numbers, Eclipse voters handed Adena's breeding program its fourth consecutive Eclipse Award and its fifth overall. Adena received 203 first-place votes, followed by Fares Farm Inc (13 votes)

and Pam and Marty Wygod (12 votes). Adena Springs hasn't finished worse than second on the earnings list since 1999.

The star of the show for Adena was homebred Ginger Punch, a daughter of Adena stallion Awesome Again, who won a trio of Grade I races in 2007, including the GI Breeders' Cup Distaff. Last night, Ginger Punch was honored in her own right, earning an Eclipse as champion older mare. Adena also bred 2007 Grade I winners Wicked Style, Citronnade and Sugar Shake, and Grade II winners Cobalt Blue and Going Ballistic. Only Citronnade, by Lemon Drop Kid, is by a stallion that doesn't now stand, or once stood, at Adena Springs. Wicked Style is by last year's freshman Macho Uno. Sugar Shake, like Ginger Punch, is by Awesome Again. Cobalt Blue is by Golden Missile, who has since been moved to New York, while Going Ballistic's sire Lite the Fuse, once an Adena resident, now stands in Pennsylvania.

Adena Springs has bred no fewer than 11 champions in both America and Canada, including Horse of the Year Ghostzapper and champion juvenile Macho Uno.

Stronach, who earned his first Eclipse as outstanding breeder in 2000, is also a three-time Eclipse Award winner as outstanding owner (1998-2000). He finished second to Shadwell in the category last night.



**CHAMPION TRAINER
TODD PLETCHER**

2007 Stats: 1228-289-180-180, \$28,111,697
Top Horses: Any Given Saturday, Circular Quay, English Channel, Honey Ryder, Octave, Panty Raid, Rags to Riches, Wait a While, Scat Daddy, Unbridled Belle

The Todd Pletcher juggernaut continued to roll in 2007 when the 40-year-old scaled new heights with yet another single-season earnings record left in the dust. Pletcher, who also collected the title for outstanding trainer in 2004, 2005 and 2006, landed his first victory in a Triple Crown race in 2007 with Rags to Riches.

“We arguably had our strongest year, yet I think sometimes you get compared to your own statistics, so it becomes increasingly tougher each year,” said Pletcher.

In addition to champion three-year-old filly Rags to Riches, Pletcher was blessed with a strong group of female competitors, including the other two Eclipse finalists in that category: GI Coaching Club American Oaks and GI Mother Goose S. heroine Octave and Panty Raid, victorious in the GI American Oaks and GI Spinster S. Also under the Dallas, Texas native’s tutelage was Cotton Blossom, who landed the GI Acorn S.; and GI Beldame S. winner Unbridled Belle. Not to be outdone by his fillies, Pletcher also boasted an impressive roster of colts in 2007. Leading the fray was the quirky yet talented English Channel, who culminated a remarkable season with a scintillating victory in the GI Breeders’ Cup Turf and an Eclipse Award as the outstanding male turf horse. Another headstrong pupil, Lawyer Ron bagged the GI Whitney/GI Woodward double at the Spa last summer, netting him a champion older horse title. Scat Daddy, winner of the GI Florida Derby, and GI Haskell Invitational hero Any Given Saturday were also among notables trained by Pletcher.

“What I really try to focus on is the horses,” explained Pletcher. “Any time we have the favorites to be champions, that’s more important than the individual awards. If we keep putting our horses in the position to be champions, all the other stuff will fall into place.”

A former assistant to Hall of Fame trainer D. Wayne Lukas, Pletcher, who broke his mentor’s stakes-winning record in 2006 with 95, failed to surpass that mark in 2007, but did come close with 94 stakes victories in 2007. He also just missed tying his 2006 record tally of 57 graded stakes wins with 56 this term, but did rack up an impressive 17 Grade I victories in 2007. Among trainers, Pletcher, who was sixth overall in career earnings last year, rose to fourth at the conclusion of 2007, with over \$143 million in the coffers.

“We are very fortunate to get some good horses to train and we try to work hard, capitalizing on those opportunities,” he added. “We try to figure out what each horse wants to do and what they do best, and we take a common sense approach to it.”



**CHAMPION JOCKEY
GARRETT GOMEZ**

2007 Stats: 1258-265-216-186, \$22,800,074
Top Horses: Any Given Saturday, Georgie Boy, Indian Blessing, Majestic Warrior, Midnight Lute, Panty Raid, Pussycat Doll, Rags to Riches, Shakespeare, Wait a While

Talk about making the most of a second chance. Battling substance abuse problems, Arizona native Garrett Gomez was once out of action for 21 months, but, since making his return in 2005, he has not looked back. Two years to the day after he entered a rehab clinic, Gomez was at the ‘05 Breeders’ Cup, scoring with Mile hero Artie Schiller and Juvenile winner Stevie Wonderboy. The 36-year-old led the country in earnings in 2006, finishing second in the voting for the Eclipse Award, and he topped the North American standings once again in 2007 with more than \$22 million in purses. He added his first Eclipse to his impressive roster of success last night.

In addition to thanking his family and his friends, Gomez said, “I’d like to thank the horses--without them, I wouldn’t be standing up here. And there is somebody else who deserves a very special award--that’s my agent, Ron Anderson.”



**CHAMPION
APPRENTICE JOCKEY
JOE TALAMO**

2006 Stats: 1472-249-205-216, \$10,705,403
Top Horses: Artiste Royale (Ire), Ashley’s Kitty, Bilo, Bushwacker, Nashoba’s Key

It’s fitting that jockey Joe Talamo won the first race back at Fair Grounds after the track was closed by Hurricane Katrina. Talamo grew up in Marrero, a suburb of New Orleans, and spent his childhood Thanksgivings at Fair Grounds. He recorded the memorable victory aboard Clouds on the Walk on Thanksgiving, 2006, and has been riding high ever since. Now 18, Talamo was just seven when he started tagging along to the track with his dad, Joseph Talamo Jr., who was an assistant trainer at Fair Grounds. At the tender age of 11, he started galloping horses at a Louisiana training center, and he left high school during his junior year to become a jockey. The young rider picked up his first victory at Louisiana Downs in June of 2006, and went on to become the first apprentice to take the Fair Grounds title with 119 wins. Talamo then headed west, where he earned his first Grade I score with Nashoba’s Key in the July 7 Vanity H. at Hollywood, and added a second success at the highest level with Bilo in the Triple Bend H. on the same card. He lost the bug just a couple of weeks later, but continues to hold his own on the circuit, finishing fifth at the Hollywood fall meet and currently sitting tied for fourth at Santa Anita.

TUESDAY,
JANUARY 22, 2008

TDN
THOROUGHBRED DAILY NEWS



**AROUND
THE WORLD**



ANOTHER EXTENSION FOR NYRA The long-term franchise has yet to be awarded, but the New York Racing Association has reached an agreement with the Oversight Board and the State that will allow racing to continue at Aqueduct through Feb. 13. NYRA signed a similar agreement on Dec. 31, 2007, giving it the right to hold racing at the Big A through Jan. 23. "While we are disappointed that a final resolution has not been reached, we appreciate the diligent efforts of the Spitzer administration," said NYRA Chairman C. Steven Duncker. "The latest temporary agreement provides the necessary time to enact legislation granting a long-term racing franchise."

JIMMY WINKFIELD S., \$81,725, AQU, 1-21, 3yo, 6f, 1:10, ft.

1--**#GO GO SHOOT, 116, g, 3, [Songandaprayer](#)--Sailor Pluto, by You and I.** O-Robert E Hurley; B-Devil Eleven Stable (FL); T-James T Ryerson; J-Alan Garcia; \$49,035. Lifetime Record: 3-2-0-0, \$73,273.

2--**Law N Dora, 118, c, 3, Silver Deputy--Lady Dora, by Lord At War (Arg).** (\$45,000 2yo 2007 KEEJAN). O-David Simon. \$16,345.

3--**Accredit, 116, c, 3, E Dubai--Pocketbrook, by Montbrook.** (\$32,000 wlng '05 OBSOCT; \$160,000 yrl '06 KEESEP). O-Darley Stable. \$8,174.

Margins: 3HF, 2, NK. Odds: 9.90, 1.60, 2.15.

Go Go Shoot earned a good 86 Beyer winning his unveiling by four lengths in the slop at the Meadowlands in November. The gelding pressed the pace in his next start, the Dec. 12 Capote S. at Aqueduct, but couldn't keep up and faded to be a well-beaten fourth. Handicappers held that race against him and sent Go Go Shoot off as the longest price in the six-horse field here. Paying no mind to the tote, the gray bounded out under Alan Garcia and set uncontested :22 2/5 and :45 2/5 splits. He turned for home with a full head of steam and was always looking like the winner down the lane. Previously undefeated Law N Dora, making his first start in stakes company, completed the exacta. "He ran big as a maiden in the slop," winning trainer James Ryerson said after the win. "I don't know if he was really right the last time. It looked like we were going to be second in deep stretch and he finished fourth, so it wasn't that bad a performance. This was a pleasant surprise. We'll talk with [owner] Bobby Hurley and see what will be next for him. Hopefully, it will be here."

[Video, sponsored by Taylor Made.](#) Click for the [brisnet.com chart.](#)

PROMONROE S., \$67,500, AQU, 1-21, (S), 4yo/up, 6f, 1:09 2/5, ft.

1--**BUSTIN STONES, 118, c, 4, [City Zip](#)--Shesasurething, by Prospectors Gamble.** O/B-Roddy J Valente (NY); T-Bruce N Levine; J-Ramon A Dominguez; \$40,500. Lifetime Record: 4-4-0-0, \$165,150.

2--**Whistlin', 121, h, 5, Five Star Day--Apostle Island, by Tejano.** (\$29,000 wlng '03 FTMDEC; \$19,000 yrl '04 FTKOCT; \$38,000 2yo '05 FTMMAY). O-Ted Taylor. \$13,500.

3--**Gold and Roses, 123, g, 6, Gold Token--Won Perfect Rose, by Air Forbes Won.** O-Henry C Gregory. \$6,750.

Margins: 1HF, 5HF, 1 3/4. Odds: 0.85, 3.75, 3.15.

TODAY'S VIDEO HIGHLIGHTS

★ OFFICER ★

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[Promonroe S. \(3rd-AQU\)](#) Bustin Stones (City Zip), returning from an extended break, remains unbeaten.

[Jimmy Winkfield S. \(8th-AQU\)](#) Go Go Shoot (Songandaprayer) earns his first stakes win.

[5th-GPX \(Msw\)](#) Lookalike (Dynaformer) registers the win for Lael Stables and trainer Michael Matz.

[6th-GPX \(Msw\)](#) Kentucky Bear (Mr. Greeley), a 10-1 shot at first asking, wins by 6 1/2 lengths.

[8th-GPX \(Alw\)](#) Fierce Wind (Dixie Union) blows 'em away by 5 1/4 lengths.

[5th-FGX \(Alw\)](#) Eight Belles (Unbridled's Song) rings up a big 15-length win.

[Smarty Jones S. \(8th-OPX\)](#) Liberty Bull (Holy Bull) beats Isabull (Holy Bull) by a hard-fought neck.

[3rd-SAX \(Alw\)](#) Rather Be Lucky (Aptitude) rallies to a 1 3/4-length win.

STAKES CLOSINGS

TOMORROW, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23:
02-02 \$500,000 **Donn H.-I, GP, 4yo/up, 9f**
(500)

02-02 \$150,000 **Swale-II, GP, 3yo, 7f (150)**
www.stakesdigestweekly.com





PROMONROE S. cont.

The returning Bustin Stones picked up right where he left off last spring: running foes into the ground with an admirable display of front-running fortitude. The Roddy Valente homebred debuted with a seven-length tally facing Empire-breds over trip and track last March and the winning margin was 4 1/4 when he captured the Times Square division of the New York Stallion Series a month later. He kept his record perfect with a facile win in Belmont's restricted Screenland S., but went missing soon after and underwent surgery on both knees. Showing few cobwebs here, Bustin Stones hooked up with Whistlin' shortly after the break and sped through a half in :44 4/5. Whistlin', to the inside, remained game in the stretch, but could not quite match strides late. [Video, sponsored by Taylor Made.](#) [Click for the brisnet.com chart.](#)

★ GULFSTREAM ★

Yesterday's Results:

8th-GPX, \$41,500, Alw, NW1X, 3yo, 1 1/8m, 1:52 1/5, ft.

FIERCE WIND (c, 3, Dixie Union--Post Parade, by A.P. Indy), a full to Rebel Yeller, SW, was purchased for \$90,000 as 2006 KEESEP yearling. The dark bay didn't make much of an impact in two starts at Saratoga and Delaware last summer and fall, but turned the corner in his route debut, blitzing a Calder maiden special weight by 10 1/4 lengths Dec. 16. Many in the betting public were confident of a repeat and sent him postward as the 8-5 second pick, and Fierce Wind came through for those backers. Employing the same tactics used in his maiden win, Fierce Wind jumped out to lead the way, setting sensible fractions despite the ominous presence of odds-on favorite Southern Terminus (More Than Ready). It was those two into the stretch, with Fierce Wind drawing away to post the 5 1/4-length tally. Lifetime Record: 4-2-0-0, \$41,200. [Video, sponsored by Taylor Made.](#)

O-Four Roses Thoroughbreds. B-W S Farish, Hilbert Thoroughbreds, Inc & Menard Thoroughbreds, Inc (KY). T-Nicholas P Zito.

★ ON THE WORKTAB ★

GULFSTREAM

BIRDBIRDISTHEWORD (Pure Prize), 4f, :48.40, 11/39

EINSTEIN (BRZ) (Spend a Buck), 5f, 1:01.40, 6/25

PALM BEACH

KEYED ENTRY (Honour and Glory), 4f, :49.40, 5/9

MONBA (Maria's Mon), 4f, :52.00, 8/9

SHAMDINAN (FR) (Dr Fong), 4fT, :50.40, 11/20

WHY TONTO (Indian Charlie), 4f, :52.00, 8/9

9th-GPX, \$41,500, Alw, NW1X, 4yo/up, 1 1/16mT, 1:41 4/5, yl.

JUSTIN RULES (c, 4, Mr. Greeley--Victorious Vice, by Vice Regent), who began his career with trainer Todd Pletcher, returned from a nine-month break with Eddie Plesa, Jr. and immediately dispatched of his maiden by two lengths in a grassy Calder event Nov. 17. Fifth--beaten three lengths--in allowance race at Calder Dec. 22, Justin Rules was an 8-1 shot shipping across town. The chestnut dwelt briefly at the start and was near the back of the pack as the rounded the first turn, but began to pick it up and was in good striking position three furlongs out. He was able to find room inside of Amwaal (Seeking the Gold) in upper stretch and had two lengths on that rival on the line. Justin Rules, a \$110,000 FTKJUL yearling and \$525,000 FTMMAY juvenile, is a half to Forest Princess (Hansel), SW, \$302,812. Lifetime Record: 6-2-1-0, \$41,797. O-Helene and Stephen Weizcholz. B-Dr & Mrs A C Asbury & Chet Blackey (KY). T-Edward Plesa, Jr.

5th-GPX, \$42,000, Msw, 3yo, f, 1mT, 1:36 1/5, yl.

LOOKALIKE (f, 3, Dynaformer--Hard to Copy, by Mr. Prospector) came home second in her first two starts, going a mile at Presque Isle Sept. 27 and 1 1/8 miles at Keeneland Oct. 24. Trainer Michael Matz moved her from synthetics to the grass for her next start, the Selima S. at Laurel Nov. 24. Though Lookalike could do no better than 10th that day, Gulfstream fans took note of the typically conservative Matz's confidence in his filly and sent her off as the 2-1 favorite in her seasonal debut. Settled in eighth through an opening three-quarters in 1:12 3/5, the dark bay rallied stoutly down the center of the course and was up in plenty of time. Some Broad (Uncommon Valor) was second. Insights horses Harpeth (Sadler's Wells) was sixth while La Diva (Vindication) set the pace and tired to 10th. Lookalike, a three-parts sister to Andover Lady (Kris S.), GSP, \$130,729, was a \$475,000 KEENOV weanling. She hails from the connections of Barbaro and is similarly bred to that one, being by Dynaformer out of a Mr. Prospector-line mare. Lifetime Record: 4-1-2-0, \$53,200. [Video, sponsored by Taylor Made.](#) O-Lael Stables. B-Joanne Nor (KY). T-Michael R Matz.

6th-GPX, \$42,000, Msw, 3yo, 1m, 1:36 4/5, ft.

+ KENTUCKY BEAR (c, 3, Mr. Greeley--Tate {MSW & GSP, \$199,787}, by Afleet) put together a nice-looking first effort here. An astute \$42,000 KEESEP purchase in 2006, Kentucky Bear was never far back as longshot Samba Rooster (Songandaprayer) set an easy lead. The pacesetter began to tire in upper stretch, and Kentucky Bear, a 10-1 shot, was there to pick up the pieces. He powering to a clear advantage in the stretch which grew to 6 1/2 lengths at the wire. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$25,200. [Video, sponsored by Taylor Made.](#) [Click for the brisnet.com chart.](#)

O-Bear Stables, Ltd. B-Alexander Valley Breeders (KY). T-Reade Baker.



★ CENTRAL ★

Yesterday's Results:

SMARTY JONES S., \$50,000, OPX, 1-21, 3yo, 1m, 1:38, ft.

1--#**LIBERTY BULL**, 118, c, 3, **Holy Bull--Lasting Sensation, by Dehere.** (\$37,000 yrl '06 FTKOCT; \$30,000 2yo '07 OBSAPR). O-Kenneth Maier; B-Lawrence A & Janis L Levin (KY); T-Thomas M Amoss; J-Eusebio Razo, Jr; \$30,000. Lifetime Record: 4-2-2-0, \$84,842.

2--**Isabull**, 114, c, 3, Holy Bull--Ms. Isadora, by Miswaki. (\$55,000 yrl '06 KEESEP; \$190,000 2yo '07 OBSMAR). O-Alex and JoAnn Lieblong. \$10,000.

3--**Rich Young Ruler**, 114, c, 3, Victory Gallop--Scratch Paper, by Notebook. (\$110,000 yrl '06 OBSAUG). O-Greg Norman. \$5,000.

Margins: NK, 3 1/4, 1HF. Odds: 2.00, 6.10, 16.10.

Liberty Bull led home the exacta for his sire in a game effort over Isabull. Liberty Bull was second at big odds in his debut sprinting at Calder in October for trainer Chad Stewart. He joined Tom Amoss's barn shortly thereafter and shipped north to win a Churchill maiden in the mud Nov. 14. That was followed by a well-beaten runner-up effort to Sok Sok in the Sugar Bowl S. at Fair Grounds Dec. 22, but Liberty Bull returned to his winning ways in his second stakes effort. The gray was never far back and ranged up to vie for the lead on the second turn. He put a narrow head in front two furlongs from home, drifted out a bit and bumped Isabull, but righted the ship and dug in determinedly to post the neck victory. The stewards took a look into the contact in the stretch, but made no change. [Video, sponsored by Taylor Made.](#) [Click for the brisnet.com chart.](#)

5th-FGX, \$40,500, Alw, NW2L, 3yo, f, 1m40y, 1:40 2/5, ft.

EIGHT BELLES (f, 3, Unbridled's Song--Away {SW & MGSP, \$277,550}, by Dixieland Band) was 10 lengths clear when she broke her maiden at Delaware in late October, her second test around two turns. Seventh and then second in local allowance races Nov. 30 and Dec. 23, respectively, the \$375,000 KEESEP yearling was offered a 5-2 chance in this seemingly evenly matched affair. The race proved anything but, however, as Eight Belles forged to the lead on the far turn and sailed home a 15-length victress. Overbrook homebred High Surf (Storm Cat--Surfside) completed the exacta. Lifetime Record: 6-2-2-1, \$68,650. [Video, sponsored by Taylor Made.](#) [Click for the brisnet.com chart.](#)

O-Fox Hill Farms, Inc. B-Robert N Clay & Serengeti Stable (KY). T-J Larry Jones.

★ ON THE WORKTAB ★
FAIR GROUNDS

PROUD SPELL (Proud Citizen), 7f, 1:29.20, 1/1
Z FORTUNE (Siphon {Brz}), 4f, :52.00, 143/165

9th-FGX, \$40,250, Alw, NW1X, 3yo, 6f, 1:10 4/5, ft. DEVEREUX (c, 3, Forestry--Born Perfect, by Mr. Prospector) broke his maiden in his second career start at Belmont in September. He couldn't come through as the favorite in his first synthetic test, running fourth at Keeneland Oct. 6, and was third in his latest sprinting in a Churchill allowance Nov. 24. Here, the crowd's slight 6-5 favorite dueled a rival into submission and shook clear in mid-stretch to win by two lengths. The 7-5 Iron Works Pike (Five Star Day) rallied for place honors. Lifetime Record: 5-2-0-2, \$67,650. O/B-Padua Stables (FL). T-Steven M Asmussen.

6th-FGX, \$40,000, Msw, 4&5yo, a5 1/2fT, 1:06 1/5, gd.

MY VINTAGE SPORT (g, 4, Porto Foricos--My Intended, by Bold Ruckus), a full to My Vintage Port, Ch. 2yo Filly-Can, MSW, \$734,353, had made just one prior start, finishing a solid third in a grassy Fair Grounds maiden last March. Well-supported as the tepid 5-2 pick returning from the extended break, My Vintage Sport was kept in a good stalking position under jockey Corey Lanerie. Lanerie asked the gelding to pick it up in the stretch and got a favorable response, as the pair rallied to beat House of Words (Chester House) by half a length. My Vintage Sport, who races for breeder Kuehne Racing, is listed as a C\$80,000 ONTSEP yearling. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-1, \$29,725.

O/B-Kuehne Racing (ON). T-Michael Mareina.

9th-OPX, \$34,000, Alw, NW1X, 4yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:10, ft.

GINGER BAY (f, 4, Golden Missile--Prior Park, by Silver Deputy), a maiden winner at Keeneland in early October, returned to be second sprinting over that course Oct. 24. Second once again in a seven-furlong allowance at Woodbine Nov. 24, Ginger Bay was trying conventional dirt for the first time here as the 2-1 second choice. The bay showed good speed breaking from post five and was in front through :21 4/5 and :45 1/5 fractions. Let out a notch rounding into the stretch, Ginger Bay lengthened clear impressively to win by 5 3/4 lengths. Longshot Garden Gloves (Stormy Atlantic) was second. The even-money chalk Upcoming Story (Tale of the Cat) showed little and caboosed the field home. Lifetime Record: 5-2-2-0, \$76,262.

O-Melnyk Racing Stables, Inc. B-Eugene Melnyk (KY). T-Anthony L Reinstedler.

★ ON THE WORKTAB ★
PALM MEADOWS

BEL AIR BEAUTY (Smart Strike), 6fT, 1:13.40, 1/1
BUFFALO MAN (El Prado {Ire}), 4fT, •:48.00, 1/20
DIAMOND STRIPES (Notebook), 6f, 1:14.00, 1/1
JEDI CODE (Empire Maker), 4f, :49.40, 9/23
SHOWING UP (Strategic Mission), 5fT, 1:02.00, 6/10
ZANN (Dynaformer), 4fT, :49.80, 6/20



Central Report cont.

7th-OPX, \$33,000, Msw, 3yo, f, 6f, 1:11 3/5, ft.
+ EUPHONY (f, 3, [Forest Wildcat](#)--Strike It Up {MSW, \$201,484}, by Smart Strike) readied for this debut at Remington Park and took a bit of play as a 7-1 shot. Her backers must have been worried when a fractious Euphony fell in the post parade while "attempting to run off," according to the chart, but she gathered herself and proved best. Showing a measure of professionalism in the race that she lacked in the post parade, Euphony sat off the leaders, then rallied powerfully to hand Pompeii City (Carson City) the 2 14-length defeat. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$19,800.
 O-Pin Oak Stable. B-Pin Oak Stud LLC (KY). T-Donnie K Von Hemel.

★ **SO. CALIFORNIA** ★

Yesterday's Results:

3rd-SAX, \$56,200, Alw, Opt. Clm. (\$40,000), NW1X, 4yo/up, 1 1/4mT, 2:00 1/5, fm.

RATHER BE LUCKY (c, 4, [Aptitude](#)--Radioactivity, by Dixieland Band), a half to Drexel Monorail (Glitterman), MSW, \$269,145; and Champali (Glitterman), MGSW, \$1,073,794, broke his maiden in his second try on the turf at Hollywood Nov. 21. Tried once more on the main track in a NW1X at that track Dec. 22, Rather Be Lucky was returned to the grass as a 9-2 chance in this stretch out to 10 furlongs. Under jockey David Flores, he track a reasonably sharp pace set by Stylin Cat (Western Cat), reeled in that foe and asserted to win by 1 3/4 lengths. Lifetime Record: 7-2-1-0, \$70,560.

[Video, sponsored by Taylor Made.](#)

O-Columbine Stable. B-McKee Stables Inc (KY). T-C Beau Greely.

6th-SAX, \$50,400, Msw, 3yo, f, 6f (AWT), 1:08 2/5, ft.

STATELY APPEAL (f, 3, [Successful Appeal](#)--Stateliness {SP}, by Silver Deputy) took advantage of an experience edge over her rivals and came home here a 5-1 winner. The bay filly made her last three starts in maiden claiming company, including a pair of runner-up efforts facing \$62,500 claimers at Hollywood Nov. 18 and then against \$80,000 claimers there Dec. 9. The only member of the field with more than two starts, the \$150,000 KEESEP yearling was content to track early as the leaders ripped through a half in :43 4/5. Angled out, she charged home a two-length victress. Mini Do (Hold for Gold), part of an entry, was second. Lifetime Record: 5-1-2-0, \$40,600.

O-Michael Talla. B-McKathan Bros (FL). T-John Sadler.

1st-SAX, \$49,600, Msw, 4yo/up, a6 1/2fT, 1:13, fm.
BLACK ASTOR (g, 4, [Black Minnaloushe](#)--Bagasse, by Sunshine Forever) was the longest shot on the tote, given the fact he'd never hit the board in four previous starts and was coming off a well-beaten effort against \$50,000 maiden claimers Jan. 3 on the Cushion Track. Returning to the sod--where he made his first three starts--Black Astor shadowed the leaders, came out for the drive and was up to post the upset over Ron Bob and Dave (Touch Gold) by a half-length. British Median (Storm Cat), a half to Malibu Moon, was third, while King Cugat's half-brother Game A.P. (A.P. Indy) filled the superfecta. Insights horse Rodolpho (Royal Academy), a 4-1 chance, never got involved and ran next to last. Lifetime Record: 5-1-0-0, \$30,324.
 O-A Breed Apart LLC and Steven R Humphrey. B-CHO, LLC (KY). T-Lisa L Lewis.

★ **AMERICAN-BRED WINNERS** ★

IN FRANCE:

Estrela Brage, g, 5, [Silic \(Fr\)](#)--Devine Blade, by Blade. Cagnes-sur-Mer, 1-21, Hcp, 5yo/up, 10f 165ydsT. B-Gavin Murphy & Catherine Donovan. *\$5,000 wnlg '03 KEENOV; €48,000 HIT '07 DEAFEB.

IN JAPAN:

Blue Love, c, 3, [Elusive Quality](#)--Radu Cool (GSW, \$572,218), by Carnivalay. Kokura, 1-19, Novice Race, 5f. Lifetime Record: 5-1-2-1, \$110,748. O-Blue Management; B-Dell Ridge Farm; T-Hideyuki Mori.

A Song For, f, 3, [More Than Ready](#)--Miss Garland (SP, \$149,196), by Palace Music. Kyoto, 1-20, Kobai Stakes, 7fT. Lifetime Record: 4-2-1-0, \$298,131. O-Yoshio Oda; B-Robert Spiegel; T-Hideyuki Mori. *\$65,000 yrl '06 KEESEP; \$150,000 2yo '07 FTFEB.

Under Counter, c, 3, [Stravinsky](#)--Counter Cat, by Hennessy. Kyoto, 1-19, NoviceRace, 7f. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, \$46,729. O-Hisae Kato; B-Mr & Mrs Wayne L Morrus Sr.; T-Kazuya Nakatake. *\$150,000 yrl '06 FTKJUL.

Double Dance City, c, 4, [Commendable](#)--Do the Hustle, by Known Fact. Kyoto, 1-20, Plate Race, 9f. Lifetime Record: 13-2-2-0, \$193,458. O-Yushun Horse Club; B-Chad Schumer; T-Shozo Sasaki.

★ **ON THE WORKTAB** ★

HOLLYWOOD

IN EXCELSIS (Fusaichi Pegasus), 3f, :37.00, 14/17
NOTIONAL (In Excess {Ire}), 5f, 1:02.60, 40/55
SHAGGY MANE (Bertrando), 6f, •1:12.00, 1/23

SANTA ANITA

INDIAN BLESSING (Indian Charlie), 4f, :46.80, 8/51
INTO MISCHIEF (Harlan's Holiday), 4f, :51.80, 46/51
IZARRA (Distorted Humor), 4f, :47.40, 14/51
PUSSYCAT DOLL (Real Quiet), 5f, 1:00.60, 17/48
WILLOW O WISP (Misnomer), 5fT, 1:03.20, 4/5

TDN TODAY

Around the World. 6 pages



WINNERS IN JAPAN BY U.S. SIRES:

Bright Logic (Jpn), g, 4, **Fusaichi Pegasus**--Primaly (Ch. 2yo Filly-Can, MSW & GISP, \$381,770), by Alydeed. Kyoto, 1-20, Plate Race, 7f. Lifetime Record: 12-2-2-3, \$240,280. O-Makoto Kaneko Holdings; B-Oiwake Farm; T-Kunihide Matsuda.

Wonder Hennessy (Jpn), h, 6, **Hennessy**--Apprecier Apprecier, by Cacoethes. Kokura, 1-19, Plate Race, 5f. Lifetime Record: 17-1-2-0, \$138,879. O-Nobuyuki Yamamoto; B-Nobuyoshi Hiwatari; T-Takemi Kaga.

First & Second-crop starters to watch: Tues., Jan. 22

Sire (Sire's Sire), Farm, 2004 Fee, #foals of racing age/Winners/SW Race #-track, race type, distance, runner, odds (if available)

FULL MANDATE (A.P. Indy), Hartley, 173/17/1

6-TAM, Msw, 7f, Bonnistar, \$37K OBS AUG yrl, 4-1

LIGHTNIN N THUNDER (Storm Cat), Bridlewood, \$4K, 89/4/0

6-TAM, Msw, 7f, Red Sky At Dawn, \$10K OBS AUG yrl, 30-1

PAYNES BAY (Mr. Prospector), Norse Ridge, \$3K, 82/4/0

6-TAM, Msw, 7f, Fearless Friend, \$3K KEE JAN yrl, 20-1



YOUNG TRAINERS IN LINE FOR AGA KHAN'S HORSES

Trainers Mikel Delzangles and Richard Gibson will be among the trainers to receive horses from the Aga Khan's stables after his split with trainer Andre Fabre, according to *Jour de Galop*. The size of their future strings are not yet known, but the paper reports that the horses will be shipped to their yards shortly. It will not be the first association with the Aga Khan for the 36-year-old Delzangles. The native of Biarritz is a former assistant to trainer Alain de Royer Dupre, working for the trainer for eight years when he had the Aga Khan's horses. He obtained his trainer's license in November, 2000 and currently trains about 40 horses. He won the 2006 G1 Prix Ganay with Corre Caminos (Fr) (Montjeu {Ire}). The 38-year-old Gibson, a former assistant to trainer Alex Pantall, took out his license in 1996 and scored his first Group 1 in 1999 with Lady of Chad (Ire) (Last Tycoon {Ire}) in the Prix Marcel Boussac. He is also the trainer of Doctor Dino (Fr) (Muhtathir {GB}), winner of the GI Man o'War S. at Belmont and the G1 Hong Kong Vase.

★ BRITAIN ★

Yesterday's Result:

Kempton Park, 2.50, Mdn, £4,000, 3yo, 7f (AWT), 1:26.64, stn.

+ **LADDIES POKER TWO (IRE)** (f, 3, **Choisir {Aus}**--**Break of Day, by Favorite Trick**), a €56,000 GOFNOV foal and €110,000 GOFORB yearling, raced in sixth through the early stages, but took closer order rounding the home turn. Easing to the front at the quarter-mile marker, the 11-4 chance was pushed out in the losing stages to score by an easy six lengths from Ocean Legend (Ire) (Night Shift). Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, £2,591.

O-Ladbrokes International Ltd; B-Jerry O'Sullivan; T-Jeremy Nosedá.

★ EUROPEAN-BRED WINNERS ★

IN JAPAN:

+ **Cape Emarati (GB)**, c, 3, **Cape Cross (Ire)**--

Anotheranniversary (GB) (MSP-Eng), by Emarati. Kokura, 1-19, Maiden Race, 6fT. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$65,421. O-Katsuhiko Kishida; B-Capt. A L Smith-Maxwell; T-Hitoshi Matoba. *46,000gns wnlg '05 TATDEC.

BREEDERS' EDITION
AMERICA

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

5th-SAX, \$57,832, NW1X, 4yo/up, a6 1/2fT, 1:12 2/5, fm.

CONGO KING (h, 5, **Horse Chestnut {SAf}**--**Sweet Nostalgia {MSW & GSP, \$211,577}**, by Mr. Redoy) Lifetime Record: MGSP, 16-2-2-1, \$123,730. O-Red Storm Stable. B-Whisperwood Farms (KY). T-John W Sadler. *\$55,000 yrl '04 KEESEP; \$175,000 2yo '05 OBSFEB. **1/2 to Added Edge (Smart Strike), Ch. 2yo Colt-Can, MGSW, \$552,326; Gold Memory (Crafty Prospector), MSW & GSP, \$252,151.

8th-PHA, \$45,360, NW1X, 3yo, 6f, 1:10 1/5, ft.
COPELAN'S RIDGE (c, 3, **Snow Ridge--Future Question, by Copelan**) Lifetime Record: 4-2-0-1, \$41,040. O-Randolph Thoroughbreds. B-Richard E Wilson (FL). T-Ryan Beattie. *\$7,500 yrl '06 OBSAUG.

9th-PHA, \$44,000, NW2X, 4yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:08 3/5, ft.
WHAT TIME IT IS (f, 4, **Partner's Hero--Star Kell, by Star de Naskra**) Lifetime Record: SP, 9-3-3-0, \$97,850. O/B-R Larry Johnson (MD). T-Michael J Trombetta.



American Breeders' Edition cont.

7th-FGX, \$42,000, Alw, NW1X, (S), 4yo/up, 6f, 1:11, ft.

DYNAMIC INDUSTRIES (g, 5, [Five Star Day](#)--All Too Well, by Track Barron) Lifetime Record: 9-2-3-1, \$79,055. O/B-Southern Equine Stables, LLC (LA). T-Wesley E Hawley. *1/2 to Sweep Well (End Sweep), MSW, \$232,252; Ending Well (End Sweep), SP, \$272,370.

8th-LRL, \$32,000, Opt. Clm. (\$25,000-\$20,000), NW2X, 4yo/up, 7f, 1:23 2/5, ft.

CHASIN TIGER (g, 6, [Jade Hunter](#)--Eliza Donner, by Oh Say) Lifetime Record: 23-10-4-0, \$166,684. O-PTK, LLC. B-Sharon A Maloney (KY). T-Rodney Jenkins. *3/4 to For Rubies (Not For Love), GSW, \$354,743.

10th-SUN, \$30,500, 1-20, NW2L, (S), 4yo/up, f/m, 5 1/2f, 1:02 3/5, ft.

BOSSY BUSH (f, 4, [Parentheses](#)--Brassy Jill, by W. D. Jacks) Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, \$27,180. O/B-Richard H Hall Jr (NM). T-Michael K Barber.

6th-LRL, \$30,000, NW1X, 3yo, 7f, 1:23 2/5, ft.

GATTOPARDO (c, 3, [Johannesburg](#)--Senza Paura {SW & GSP, \$150,141}, by Fly Till Dawn) Lifetime Record: 5-2-3-0, \$54,540. O/B-Germania Farm (KY). T-Timothy J Tullock Jr.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Nitro Active, g, 3, [Capsized](#)--That's Mine, by Pirate's Bounty. SAX, 1-21, (S), (C), 6 1/2f (AWT), 1:15 1/5. B-B n D Chase Thoroughbreds Inc (CA).

Stone Bird, c, 3, [Grindstone](#)--Bird Cage, by Kris S. OPX, 1-21, 1m, 1:39 3/5. B-Marylou Whitney Stables (KY).

Uncertain Heights, g, 3, [High Demand](#)--Limbo Rock, by Thunder Gulch. GGX, 1-21, 1m (AWT), 1:39 3/5. B-Betty L & Larry Mabee (CA).

Tricky Start, c, 3, [Jump Start](#)--Golden Trick, by Phone Trick. LRL, 1-21, 5 1/2f, 1:05 2/5. B-Dr J K & Linda Griggs (KY).

King's Silver Son, c, 3, [Mizzen Mast](#)--River Dyna, by Dynaformer. FGX, 1-21, 1m, 1:39 4/5. B-Totier Creek Farm (KY). *\$13,000 wlng '05 KEENOV; \$320,000 2yo '07 OBSAPR.

Autism Awareness, c, 3, [Tannersmyman](#)--Lady Essex, by Sharp Victor. GGX, 1-21, 1m (AWT), 1:37 2/5. B-Jim Eaton, Paul Arndt, Dave Marabela & Mr & Mrs Terry Smith (CA). *\$1,000 yrl '06 NCASEP.

BREEDERS' EDITION
EUROPE

CONDITIONS RESULTS:

FRANCE, Cagnes-sur-Mer, 2.50, 1-21, €25,000, 5yo/up, 1 1/2mT, 2:49.07, hy.

ORION STAR (FR) (g, 6, [Sternkonig {Ire}](#)--Okocha {Ger}, by Platini {Ger}) Lifetime Record: SW & G1SP-Fr, 10 starts, 5 wins, 4 places, €152,750. O-Horst Rapp; B-Chevrolet de la Hauquerie; T-Henri-Alex Pantall.

ITALY, Pisa, 2.50, 1-20, €10,800, 3yo, 7 1/2fT, 1:32.60, hy.

SHUTTERFLY (ITY) (c, 3, [Medecis {GB}](#)--Tintara {Ire}, by Caerleon) Lifetime Record: 13-2-3-3, €22,508. O/T-Rosario Pecoraro; B-Francesca Blasi. *€10,000 yrl '06 ITYSEP.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

+ **Adelar (Ger)**, c, 3, [Samum \(Ger\)](#)--Arpista (Ger) (SP-Ger), by Chief Singer (Ire). Cagnes-sur-Mer, France, 1-21, Mdn, unraced 3yo, 10f 165ydsT. B-Gestut Karlshof. *€32,000 yrl '06 BBAOCT. **1/2 to Armand (Ger) (Winged Love {Ire}), SW-Swi, SP-Ger.

EUROPEAN-SIRED WINNER IN JAPAN:

High Kakku (Jpn), f, 3, [High Chaparral \(Ire\)](#)--Observant, by Capote. 1-19, Novice Race, 9f. Lifetime Record: 6-1-1-2, \$99,065. O/B-Sakurai Farm; T-Yasuhiro Suzuki.

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