

LA BREA TO FEATURE 10

The final Grade I race on the calendar for 2008 should be a doozy. Santa Anita's GI La Brea S. has drawn 10 sophomore fillies, topped by two swift Indian Charlie fillies, **Indian Blessing** and **Indyanne**. A multiple



Indyanne Horsephotos

Grade III winner this season, Indyanne was forced to scratch out of the Breeders' Cup F/M Sprint with a fever; in her only appearance since, the grey faced males in the Sausolito S. at Golden Gate Nov. 22 and was caught late by veteran Siren Lure. The La Brea will also feature the return of **Country Star** (Empire Maker), who looked to have

the world at her feet following wins in the GI Darley Alcibiades and GI Hollywood Starlet for breeder Stonerside in 2007. Unplaced in her first two outings this season--the GI Ashland S. and GI Kentucky Oaks--the dark bay won an allowance on the Saratoga lawn in her only subsequent start; she flipped in the starting gate before the Sept. 13 GI Gazelle S. and was scratched. The big filly has posted several solid local drills in recent weeks, including a bullet six furlongs in 1:11 2/5 Dec. 18, as she prepares to run in Darley's colors for the first time.

Saturday, Santa Anita

LA BREA S.-GI, \$250,000, 3yo, f, 7f (AWT)

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	WT
1	Country Star	Empire Maker	Bejarano	117
2	Laureldean Gale	Grand Slam	Talamo	115
3	Never Retreat	Smart Strike	M Baze	119
4	Indian Blessing	Indian Charlie	Velazquez	123
5	Foxy Danseur	Mr. Greeley	Smith	119
6	Indyanne	Indian Charlie	R Baze	123
7	Ginger Pop	El Prado (Ire)	Valdivia Jr	117
8	Accopela Choir	Vicar	Quinonez	117
9	She's Cheeky	Black Minnaloushe	Solis	119
10	Bsharpsonata	Pulpit	Gomez	119



REMINDER:

Due to the Christmas holiday, the TDN office will be closed Wednesday, Dec. 24 and Thursday, Dec. 25.

There will be NO newsletter for Thurs., Dec. 25 or Fri., Dec. 26.

All news and results from Dec. 24 and 25 will appear in the Dec. 27 issue.

Have a wonderful holiday!

TDN Feature Presentation
GRADE 1 MALIBU STAKES

brought to you by
LANE'S END

6 OF THE TOP 22 STALLIONS
STAND AT LANE'S END, INCL.
1 SMART STRIKE # 3 KINGMAMBO

BY GEORGE, HE'S BACK AGAIN

Georgie Boy (Tribal Rule), sidelined for five months following his 2007 GI Del Mar Futurity score, defeated **Into Mischief** (Harlan's Holiday) in the seven-furlong GII San Vicente S. in February and added a narrow decision in the GII San Felipe S. the following month. But George Schwary's homebred came up with a hind-end problem, and missed the spring and summer. Favored in his return, the Damascus S. at Santa Anita on Breeders' Cup day, the Cal-bred pulled early and lacked his usual punch late, settling for fourth behind **Into Mischief** ([video](#)). **Cont. p2**



Georgie Boy Benoit photo

HALF OURS

RECORD-SETTING GRADED STAKES WINNER BY UNBRIDLED'S SONG

FIRST IN FOAL MARES HAVE SOLD FOR UP TO \$510,000

"Half Ours looks exactly like Unbridled's Song did when he arrived to the farm. He brings to stud the same ingredients his sire did and I believe he will develop into a top sire."
-Frank Taylor

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\$11,250 LF 11/1
\$12,500 S & N

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Malibu S. cont.

"[Georgie Boy] was too fresh, too rank, and he came up a little tired," trainer Kathy Walsh told *Daily Racing Form*. The gelding has worked well since then, most recently posting a best-of-62 :58 2/5 drill at Hollywood Dec. 20.

Fab Oak Stable's **Nownownow** (Whywhywhy) is back with trainer Patrick Biancone. After starting his career for the Frenchman, the bay colt captured the inaugural Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf in 2007 when saddled by Francois Parisel and was sent to Ireland. Last of five in the G1 Irish 2000 Guineas, the homebred filled the same spot for Jason Orman upon his repatriation in the GII La Jolla H. Aug. 9, and was beaten just 1 1/2 lengths when fourth in the GII Del Mar Derby Aug. 31. Nownownow was third in an Oak Tree optional claimer Oct. 1, and makes his all-weather debut following an eighth in the GII Oak Tree Derby Oct. 25. "I've had the horse back for about a month," Biancone said. "I know the Malibu is a tough race and he may be a bit short, but he's going to improve very much off this race. We'll just take a shot. If he gets second, we'll be very happy. We're preparing for the [GII] Strub [at 1 1/8 miles Feb. 7], but this is the first step. He'll be more competitive in the Strub."



Biancone
Horsephotos

Trainer Bob Baffert, still looking for his first win in this contest, will saddle **Guns on the Table** (Carson City) for owners John and Anita Connelly of Stetson Land & Cattle LP. The chestnut hasn't faced the starter since scoring in optional-claiming company over this strip Oct. 24. "It's a little step up--like a gigantic one," said Baffert. As for how the colt was named, Baffert offered, "John and Anita named him after an episode with their grandson. They gave him a western gun set, and he came in one day and told his grandfather, 'I'm going to put my guns on the table,' and that's how they got the name."




MALIBU S. - RECENT WINNERS

Yr	Winner	Sire	Trainer	Time
'07	Johnny Eves	Skimming	Robbins	1:21.08
'06	Latent Heat	Maria's Mon	Frankel	1:21.39
'05	Proud Tower Too	Proud Irish	Gonzalez	1:21.62
'04	Rock Hard Ten	Kris S.	Mandella	1:21.89
'03	Southern Image	Halo's Image	Machowsky	1:22.65
'02	Debonair Joe	Ole	Silva	1:22.40
'01	Mizzen Mast	Cozzene	Frankel	1:22.13
'00	Dixie Union	Dixieland Band	Mandella	1:21.62

**Friday, Santa Anita, post time: 6:52 p.m. EDT
MALIBU S.-GI, \$250,000, 3yo, 7f (AWT)**


PP	HORSE	OWNER	BREEDER	TRAINER/JOCKEY	ODDS
1	Into Mischief <i>(c, Harlan's Holiday--Leslie's Lady, by Tricky Creek)</i>	B Wayne Hughes	James T Hines Jr-KY	R Mandella Espinoza	2-1
2	Colonel John <i>(c, Tiznow--Sweet Damsel, by Turkoman)</i>	WinStar Farms LLC	WinStar Farm LLC-KY	Harty Gomez	5-2
3	Bob Black Jack <i>(c, Stormy Jack--Molly's Prospector, by Native Prospector)</i>	Harmon & Kasparoff	Howard, Howard & Dunmore-CA	Kasparoff Flores	9-2
4	Golden Spikes <i>(c, Seeking the Gold---A.P. Interest, by A.P. Indy)</i>	M375 T'breds & Suarez Racing	R S Evans-KY	Ma Wolfson Rosario	10-1
5	Nownownow <i>(c, Whywhywhy--Here and Now {Fr}, by Exit to Nowhere)</i>	Fab Oak Stable LLC	Fab Oak Stable-KY	Biancone Talamo	20-1
6	Guns on the Table <i>(c, Carson City--Cherie Yvonne, by Vice Regent)</i>	Stetson Land & Cattle LLP	Bruce Hundley-KY	Baffert Bejarano	12-1
7	Georgie Boy <i>(g, Tribal Rule--Ippodamia, by Peterhof)</i>	George Schwary	George Schwary-CA	Walsh Prado	3-1





**FROM THE DESK
OF...**

Bill Oppenheim



2009 RULES: 'VALUE' EQUALS QUALITY

They say 'value' is a relative term, and never has that been more evident than it must be this year to breeders budgeting for their 2009 matings. Breeders are entitled to think nothing is good value this year, and if 2011 prices haven't rebounded from this year's levels, when you could count yourself fortunate if a yearling brought more than the retail stud fee, they would be right. But here is one iron-clad guarantee: whatever prices do in the next three years, they will not be the same as they are in 2008. They may be lower, though I doubt it; if prices fall again, that will be next year. By the time next year's matings come to market as yearlings, there's a good chance the yearling market will be showing some semblance of recovery.

That's small--or no--consolation to breeders faced with signing contracts that mean sooner or later they'll be writing a check, and knowing that breeding horses is, after all, a longer-term investment. No matter how good times have been, if you got drubbed at the sales this year, the cost of credit, if you can even get it, is almost prohibitive. So it's no wonder those breeders who choose to persevere will be looking for big price cuts and generous payment terms from studmasters.

At the same time, the one thing all market breeders know now is that in tough times what demand there is focuses on quality. The top tier of the market held up far better than the rest, and not because you might be able to get the two titans, Darley and Coolmore, interested, but because even forking out \$200,000 on a horse is a lot of money. Plus, as demand shrinks, the bar--what the buyers will actually bid on--gets higher. You may not be able to afford the six-figure stud fees for the top sires, but whatever the level of your investment, the horse you breed to in 2009 better have some pretensions to quality at his level. There were literally thousands of horses offered at auction this year that nobody wants. The only way to adjust for that is to try to breed quality. It's the safest investment in tough times.

What breeders want to see, above all, is prices slashed, and where better to start than at the top? True, not many breeders can afford even 'low' six-figure stallions, but, for those who can afford to be involved in the higher ranges, three top-quality North American sires have seen their prices slashed over the last two years: Distorted Humor, Giant's Causeway, and Unbridled's Song. Distorted Humor's price has been cut in half, back to \$150,000 from \$300,000 this year.

(See accompanying table, p11)

Another Impressive Performance

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Giant's Causeway dropped 44 percent in 2008, from \$225,000 in 2007 (and as high as \$300,000 in 2006, from which crop 67 yearlings averaged \$269,719 this year) to \$125,000; he didn't need to drop any further. Unbridled's Song, who peaked at a high of \$200,000 for 2007, has been adjusted downward by 37.5 percent, also to \$125,000, for 2009.

Traditionally--by which I mean before the bubble of the early '80s--the highest stud fee was always \$150,000, and though Galileo, A.P. Indy, and possibly Kingmambo will stand for more than that in 2009, that's about it. It's a good price for **Distorted Humor**, who ranked third on the North American general sire list in 2007, when he led all sires with 20 stakes winners for the year. He ranks fourth on the general sire list in 2008, which is pretty good considering he didn't have as many stars, with 'just' 10 stakes winners to represent him this year. Distorted Humor stood for \$150,000 in 2006, from which crop 33 yearlings averaged \$416,220 this year (all sale statistics per *TDN's* Instatistics, available on the website)--2.77 times his 2006 stud fee. It'll be small consolation to breeders who paid \$225,000 in 2007 and \$300,000 this year, but at least this is one sire about whom you can say, if yearling prices in 2011 are the same as prices in 2008, and as long as Distorted Humor sustains his position as one of the top five sires in North America, this is one of the few sires you'd still have a fighting chance to make money with. **Cont. p4**



Oppenheim cont.

Giant's Causeway's 44-percent plunge in stud fee for 2008 earned him this column's accolade as 'value stallion of the year 2008.' He ranked number four on the 2007 general sire list, with 16 stakes winners. This year he ranks second only to Smart Strike, and leads all sires with 24 stakes winners in 2008, 11 of them graded/group winners (Northern Hemisphere crops only). He has had massive crops--over 650 foals in five 'Northern' crops of racing age, including 152 two-year-olds this year (according to *Bloodhorse.com*), which include an unbelievable 83 runners, of which his 17 winners include this year's G1 Dewhurst S. winner Intense Focus. But it's worked, those big crops, because he's siring as high a proportion of good horses as stallions with far fewer foals, and he's made it into the top five on the general sire list about twice as fast as most other stallions do. He was chart-topping value at \$125,000 for 2008, and he's still great value (relatively speaking, to be sure), at the same price, for 2009.

The crop of sires which had their first foals in 1998 was one of the strongest of recent times, and **Unbridled's Song**, along with Smart Strike and Pivotal, was always one of the top three sires of this very strong group. He's been a big success since day one, and his stud fee climbed to as high as \$200,000 in 2007. He's down to \$125,000 for 2009 (or \$112,500, if the breeder chooses to pay by Nov. 1, 2009 and receive a 10-percent discount from Taylor Made). Considering his crop of two-year-olds, that could look a very good buy after the first Saturday in May, 2009. He's the number two sire of two-year-olds in North America in 2008, siring not only G1 Breeders' Cup Juvenile winner Midshipman, but also the deeply impressive GII Remsen victor Old Fashioned late last month. After his initial disappointment as a sire of sires with Buddha, he's looking better on that front, too, courtesy of first-crop Grade I winner Songandaprayer (*see below*) and first-crop Grade II winner Even the Score, number eight on the freshman sire list and sire of the recent Grade III winner Four Gifts. If this crop of two-year-olds follows through at three, Unbridled's Song would finally qualify as one of the elite World Top 12 Sires, after knocking on the door for most of his stud career. If that happens, his 2009 price of \$125,000 is really going to look good value.

I don't mean to infer that these three top-flight sires are necessarily better than others of their contemporaries who rank among or near the World Top 12. The reason they made this list is dramatic price cuts. Virtually all the top sires are down from 2008 or 2007; these have just seen the most dramatic cuts. By the most succinct standards, all proven six-figure sires provide good value, because they can sire top horses.

Oppenheim cont. p5

Weekly Sales Ticker

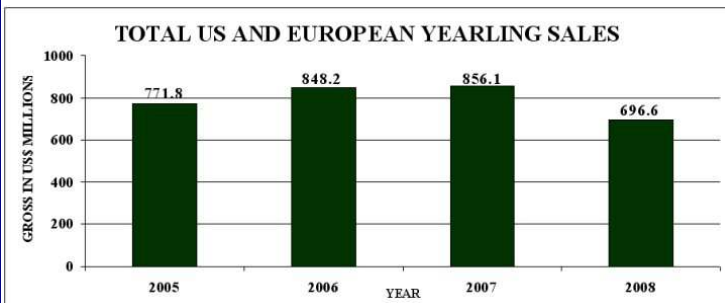
by Bill Oppenheim

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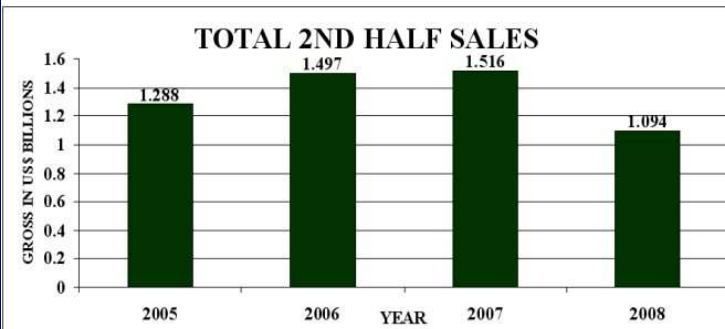
"Though four percent fewer horses were catalogued to 'second-half (yearling and mixed) sales were off 28 percent in gross. Usually a more reliable guide, yearling sales were down 19 percent; but the mixed sales coincided with the world credit collapse, and their gross was down 40 percent. One way to read that is the horse market is down 20 percent, but the credit collapse sends it down another 20 percent."

- Bill Oppenheim



TOTAL 2ND HALF SALES (YEARLINGS PLUS MIXED SALES)

YEAR	CAT	RING	SOLD	% S/C	GROSS	AVG
2008	30,459	23,859	17,168	56.4%	\$1,094,366,284	\$63,745
2007	31,587	26,012	20,063	63.5%	\$1,515,776,568	\$75,551
2006	30,342	24,796	19,811	65.3%	\$1,497,192,316	\$75,574
2005	27,880	22,552	18,201	65.3%	\$1,287,755,890	\$70,752



Data compiled by Brianne Stanley



Thanks to our clients and customers in 2008 and best wishes to all for a prosperous new year.

Happy Holidays,
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Oppenheim cont.

At the end of 2006, **Forestry** looked poised to give his illustrious barnmate at Taylor Made, Unbridled's Song, a run for his money as the farm's first sire to break into the World Top 12. Already standing for \$100,000 in 2006 as a result of his early exploits (his first foals raced in 2003), he began the year with a \$16-million Calder two-year-old (subsequently to become The Green Monkey), shattering the all-time auction record set by Seattle Dancer 21 years earlier, and ended it with Discreet Cat's imperious win in the GI Cigar Mile, running a Beyer 116. Forestry's stud fee went up the \$125,000 for 2007, but then it all went quiet. Having ranked 20th on the general sire list in 2006, he dropped to 57th in 2007, when The Green Monkey and Discreet Cat didn't win a race between them. At least in 2007 Forestry sired nine stakes winners; this year he ranks 73rd on the general sire list, with only three 2008 stakes winners. But now Taylor Made has dropped him to \$40,000 (\$36,000 on Nov. 1 terms)--less than a third of what he stood for two years ago. Yet he comes into 2009 with 98 two-year-olds sired at a \$100,000 stud fee, and 94 yearlings sired at \$125,000. It's the classic time to roll the dice on a horse like this--so much so that his enticing 2009 stud fee makes him this column's 'number one value sire' for 2009. He only needs to achieve what he did before Discreet Cat and The Green Monkey came along for that to be a good buy.

In the 'oldies but goodies' category, the winner this year has to be the British sire **Selkirk**, whose fee has dropped to £25,000 from £40,000 two years ago. A member of the 1994 sire class (first foals that year), which also included A.P. Indy, El Prado, Pleasant Tap, and In Excess, Selkirk is the sire of 70 stakes winners and is a very successful damsire as well, especially under the



Selkirk lanwades.com

Danehill branch of Danzig, by which his daughters have produced the likes of English Ballet, Simply Perfect, Mount Nelson, and Vital Equine. When an elder sire becomes a successful broodmare sire, people often forget they are usually very good sires of colts as well--Rainbow Quest, sire of top European two-year-old colt, Crowded House, being a good example. Selkirk is just about bombproof as a sire, and, though 21 and therefore not as sexy as some of his juniors, he's excellent value at this price. **Cont. p6**



WORTH 1,000 WORDS

Check out the photo album compiled by TDN staffer Sarah K. Andrew. Click [here](#) to see more!

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2,000 Guineas-Gr.1

St. James's Palace Stakes-Gr.1

Sussex Stakes-Gr.1

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Oppenheim cont.
Emerging Markdowns...

First Foals 2002: Stephen Got Even had GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile winner and champion two-year-old colt Stevie Wonderboy in his second crop, and stood for as much as \$25,000 in 2006, resulting in 107 two-year-olds for 2009. He's down to \$7,500 for next year, and his 2008 two-year-olds include I Want Revenge, who narrowly missed upsetting Pioneerof the Nile in last Saturday's GI CashCall Futurity.

First foals 2003: Two horses who moved to Kentucky for the 2005 season (foals of 2006) had good success from their first Kentucky crops, yet have suffered big price cuts nonetheless. **City Zip**, a half-brother to Ghostzapper by Carson City, moved down from New York. His 2006 crop includes five two-year-old stakes winners this year and ranks him 15th on the juvenile sire list, yet his stud fee is down to \$12,500 from a high of \$20,000 two years ago. It's the same 37.5-percent decline as Unbridled's Song, but with one less zero. He'll have 112 two-year-olds next year.

Songandaprayer, Unbridled's Song's first successful son, ranks 16th, just one spot behind City Zip. He has 32 two-year-old winners from his final Florida crop, has crops of 139 and 128 following on from Kentucky, yet at \$22,500 for 2009 is just half of what he was two years ago.

Put It Back started in Florida and remains there, up to just \$8,500 from \$7,500 last year. His 2.56 A Runner Index and 1.76 ABC Index are very much for real, which no doubt helps account for the fact that he bred 156 mares this year. He was five-for-five at six and seven furlongs himself as a three-year-old, culminating with a win in the GII Riva Ridge S. on the Belmont Stakes undercard

First Foals 2004: This is a key year for this group of stallions: the year their first four-year-olds run. They have three crops racing, including their third crop of two-year-olds. If it hasn't happened by now, it's not likely to. In a group headed by Street Cry and Johannesburg in America, and by Invincible Spirit and Rock of Gibraltar in Europe, there are five stallions standing for under \$20,000 which look like they're heading in the right direction even as their stud fees remain level instead of going up; or even falling. In the U.S., **E Dubai** (\$15,000) and **Pure Prize** (\$12,500) remain level after having seasons which, in any other year, would have seen stud fee hikes. E Dubai ranks fifth on the 2008 North American third-crop sire list, with earners this year over \$4 million, including the inaugural Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint winner Desert Code. Pure Prize ranks ninth on the same list, with earners of more than \$3.4 million this year, including 10 2008 stakes winners.

Oppenheim cont. p7

Rated a superior racehorse to his exceptional sire KINGMAMBO at both 2 and 3 years

At 2 Years

- 1st **Coventry Stakes-Gr.2**
- 2nd **Phoenix Stakes-Gr.1**
- 1st Maiden, 7f., by 7 lengths

At 3 Years

- 1st **2,000 Guineas-Gr.1**
- 1st **Irish 2,000 Guineas-Gr.1**
- 1st **St. James's Palace S.-Gr.1**
- 1st **Sussex Stakes-Gr.1**
- 2nd **Queen Elizabeth II S.-Gr.1**
- 2nd **Breeders' Cup Classic-Gr.1**

- Won **4** straight Gr.1's over a mile.
- Twice defeated Champion 2yo and Epsom Derby winner **New Approach**.
- Defeated BC Classic winner **Raven's Pass** the first three times they met.
- Won **St. James's Palace Stakes-Gr.1** at Royal Ascot in **record time**.
- Won 20-runner 6f., **Coventry Stakes- Gr.2** at Royal Ascot in **record time** as a 2yo.

New for 2009

Henry The Navigator

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Oppenheim cont.

Pure Prize's three-year-olds include the Grade I-winning filly Pure Clan, while his two-year-olds include Coronet of a Baron, second to both Azul Leon and Midshipman in California graded two-year-old stakes, and third in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf.

Two F2004 stallions with plenty to recommend them have had their fees halved, each from \$35,000 in 2008 to \$17,500 in 2009. **Officer** was a \$700,000 two-year-old, bought by the late Prince Ahmed Salman's Thoroughbred Corp. He won his first five races at two, including the GIII Best Pal S. by seven lengths, running a Beyer 106 (very high for a two-year-old), and the GI Champagne S., before setting the pace and fading to fifth, behind Johannesburg and Repent, in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile. He was fourth on the 2006 North American freshman sire list, with six two-year-old stakes winners; dropped a bit, to seventh, on the 2007 second-crop list, but had 10 stakes winners; and is sixth on the third-crop list this year, with six stakes winners. He has foal crops of 74 and 83 coming, and covered 114 mares this year at \$35,000.

The other horse whose price has been slashed identically, from \$35,000 to \$17,500, is **Include**. Though he's sired the winners of over \$3.2 million this year and his first crop is now up to six stakes winners, including Grade I winners Cash Included and Panty Raid, he hasn't had many big names since. Still, he has 74 two-year-olds coming for 2009, plus 131 yearlings sired for a \$25,000 fee, and covered 82 mares this year at \$35,000. At half that price, and with this many bullets in the pipeline, he must make some appeal.

My European value candidate from this sire class is 2001 G1 Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe winner and GI Breeders' Cup Classic second **Sakhee**, who was been dropped to £8,000. He's not everybody's cup of tea; he has one Group 1 winner, the sprinter Sakhee's Secret, from a family of such dominant sprinters that the stallion involved is never affecting distance capability--six furlongs is always the maximum--though they must impart something, possibly class. Otherwise, Sakhee has no other group winners. His next four best horses are just listed winners. But my earnings-based 'A Runner' calculations tell a different story, which is that all those listed winners and a few more group-placed horses are actually making money. On Aug. 1, the last time we did the calculations (they'll be updated at the end of the year), Sakhee's A Runner index was a sky-high 3.71. You can hedge and qualify it until the cows come home, but when a young sire puts up a number like that and is standing for £8,000--that would do me. They aren't two-year-olds, though (0.57 Two-Year-Old ABC Index).

Oppenheim cont. p8

GRADE 1 MARES
already booked include...

Eclipse Award winner **RAGS TO RICHES**, owned by Michael Tabor & Derrick Smith, who won four straight Grade 1 races including a pulsating victory over Curlin in the Belmont Stakes-Gr.1.



Mr. & Mrs. Frank Lyon of Summerwind Farm, owners of **FASHION STAR**, dam of Pimlico Special Handicap-Gr.1 winner **EDDINGTON**.



Dr. Gary Knapp of Monticule Farm with **MIEN**, dam of Kentucky Derby-Gr.1 and Preakness Stakes-Gr.1 winner **BIG BROWN**.

George Strawbridge, who is sending 4 mares to Henrythenavigator including the French Oaks-Gr.1 winner **LATICE**.



Lady Chryss O'Reilly of Skymarc, owner of **BLACK PENNY**, dam of French 1,000 Guineas-Gr.1 winner **BLUEMAMBA**.

New for 2009

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Oppenheim cont.

First Foals 2005: It's a moot point now, but if you managed to get one of the 50 or so farm seasons to **Nayef** at £15,000, you've done some very good business--especially as four seasons sold by the farm on-line made between £25,000-29,000 earlier this month. A half-brother to Unfuwain and Nashwan by Gulch, he has sired the top three-year-old French miler, Tamayuz and G1 Prix de l'Opera winner Lady Marian, among several other pretty decent horses, in his first crop. The farm received over 350 applications to breed to him in 2009. He will have relatively small crops of 38 and 45 coming up, but covered 110 mares in 2008, at £10,000.

In Kentucky, I like the look of **Repent**, who earned his way up from Florida, but still stands for a very reasonable \$7,500 fee. Himself a Grade II winner at two and three, and second to Johannesburg in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile and to Medaglia d'Oro in the GI Travers at three, he has surprised many observers by siring 11 stakes horses, including six stakes winners, of which two are graded stakes winners at one mile-plus. He covered 137 mares in Florida earlier this year.

First Foals 2006: I would be amazed if you can still book seasons to **Candy Ride** for \$12,500, but if you can, I would sure do so. I've become really cagey about believing freshman sire statistics over the years--witness Posse and Acclamation in 2008--but I can't see where this horse has ever done anything wrong. He was unbeaten in six starts on the racetrack, including a three-length win in the 2003 GI Pacific Classic, winning in 1:59 flat while registering a



Candy Ride
hillndalefarms.com

huge Beyer figure of 123. In his first crop, he's sired 20 winners, two of them Grade III winners, plus another stakes winner. He also has a colt who has placed in four stakes in Canada, and placed horses in both last weekend's GI Hollywood Starlet and GI CashCall Futurity. He is a screaming bargain if you can still get to him for \$12,500.

In Europe, I'm impressed by **Kheleyf**, the number two freshman sire by earnings in Europe. A winner of the G3 Jersey S, himself by emerging sire of sires Green Desert (sire also of Cape Cross, Invincible Spirit, and Oasis Dream), Kheleyf has sired 31 winners in his first crop, including seven stakes horses, of which three are stakes winners. He'd first really appeared on the radar screens at the 2007 yearling sales, when 66 yearlings by him averaged over \$60,000--10 times his original stud fee of €7,000. He's up to €12,000 for next year, but they've run like they looked, and lately that has been a very good pointer to sire success, and not just as a freshman sire, either. **Oppenheim cont. p9**

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Unknown Territory...

Here we're guessing, but hopefully it's at least an educated guess; and it's about gambling on stallions with credentials whose fees have declined and/or are low.

First Foals 2007: Seven first-crop stallions averaged over \$100,000 at the 2008 yearling sales, four in North America and three in Europe (Motivator narrowly missed there, with an average of \$99,752). Of the four in North America, Ghostzapper will stand for \$150,000, and Saint Liam is dead. The other two also look pretty fair bets, and their stud fees have dived around 40-50 percent. A lot of the judges were raving about the yearlings by **Rock Hard Ten**, who had 43 yearlings average \$151,111, and whose stud fee has dropped from \$50,000 down to \$30,000. They must have liked the **Afleet Alex** yearlings, too; he had 69 sell for an average of \$120,679, yet his stud fee has now been cut in half, from \$40,000 to \$20,000.

In Europe, 2004 European champion two-year-old and dual 2005 French Classic winner (vintage Dettori rides in both cases) **Shamardal** had 47 yearlings average \$126,227, yet his stud fee drops from €40,000, in 2007, to €20,000 in 2009.

At the lower end of the stud fee scale there is Ashford's **Powerscourt**, now down to \$7,500, having stood his first season, in 2006, for \$12,500. He won the GI Arlington Million twice, though he lost one in the stewards' room, and generally proved himself a top-class Group/Grade I performer at 10-12 furlongs, especially at four and five in 2004-'05. I don't see why he couldn't make a sire.

Ditto **Antonius Pius** for the same team (Coolmore) in Europe. Down to €5,000 for 2009 from an original €8,000, he placed in the G1 St James's Palace S., G1 Prix de Moulin de Longchamp and GI Breeders' Cup Mile, all of which were after he had the G1 Poule d'Essai des Poulains won, only to throw it away by jinking into the fence inside the last 100 yards. Top-class three-year-old mile form has always been a fair pointer to sire success in Europe, and this fellow qualifies on that score, as I read the form. Oh, and he's by Danzig.

First Foals 2008: This year's three top European three-year-olds--Henrythenavigator, New Approach, and Raven's Pass--had all been very high-class two-year-olds in 2007. In the excitement about this trio's accomplishments in 2008, the glow of the previous year's top European two-year-olds might have ever so slightly dimmed. Probably it shouldn't. The 2006 G1 Dewhurst S. was a tremendous race between unbeaten Teofilo and Holy Roman Emperor (*see below*). The clash between the two in the next year's G1 English 2000 Guineas was eagerly anticipated. But neither horse ever raced again: Teofilo was injured and retired, and Holy Roman Emperor was whisked out of Ballydoyle and called on to cover the mares going to George Washington, who had proved virtually infertile.

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In a very depressed market, **Holy Roman Emperor** was the only European stallion with five or more sold who averaged over \$100,000 at the weanling sales last month; he had 17 sold, of 28 offered, for an average of \$121,790. His stud fee has dropped from its original €40,000 to €25,000 for 2009. The judges like this horse, and plenty of people think he would have beaten Teofilo if both had made the Guineas.

In America, Bernardini put up what used to be July-sale type figures with his first weanlings. Bluegrass Cat was a distant second, just ahead of Henny Hughes. It's slightly splitting hairs to single out **Henny Hughes** for special mention, since the stud fees for both Bernardini (\$75,000 from \$100,000) and Bluegrass Cat (\$40,000 from \$50,000) are both down, by 25 and 20 percent, respectively. Henny Hughes is also down 25 percent, from \$40,000 to \$30,000. The other two are great prospects, too, but Henny Hughes did something particular that has proved in the past to be a good pointer to sire success: he came back from a very arduous campaign as a two-year-old (including, in his case, runner-up finishes in the GI Hopeful, GI Champagne, and GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile) to absolutely scorch the field in the GI King's Bishop S. at seven furlongs at Saratoga. That race has proven a fair sire pointer all by itself in the past, and he won it much easier than other horses who have since made sires. **Cont. p10**



Oppenheim cont.

But we can't just be touting €25,000 and \$30,000 stallions here. We know that, and the cheaper option who makes sense from all angles is **Sharp Humor**, who started out at \$12,500 in 2007 and remains at \$12,500 for 2009--which he should, because he was priced right in the first place. He won the GII Swale S. at Gulfstream as a three-year-old, and gave Barbaro a fright in the GI Florida Derby, which was really farther than he looked like he wanted to go. In other words, he had a lot of speed, and he carried it. WinStar tabbed him to stand alongside his sire, the great Distorted Humor, and the breeders agreed. He had 114 foals of 2008, of which 12 averaged \$49,917--almost four times the stud fee--in November, and he covered 134 mares this year.

First Foals 2009: A clean sweep for Darley. **Hard Spun** drops \$10,000 (\$50,000 to \$40,000), having covered 181 mares (he's by Danzig, you know) and averaging even more as a covering sire at the November sales than his more expensive barnmate, **Street Sense**. **Discreet Cat**, discussed above under his sire Forestry, was a genuine rocket up to a mile as a three-year-old. At the end of 2006, he looked like one of the best horses Godolphin had ever had, yet he now stands for \$25,000 (down from \$30,000). If he had retired unbeaten at the end of the 2006 season, he'd be standing for two or three times that now. He covered 149 mares this year.

In Europe, **Teofilo**, discussed above under Holy Roman Emperor, covered 158 mares, and has dropped from €40,000 to €25,000, the same as that rival. Considering the form of both horses as two-year-olds, that makes them both great buys in my book. **Bill Oppenheim** may be contacted at bopp@erb.com. Please cc TDN at editor@thoroughbreddailynews.com.

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SIR BEAUFORT S.-GIII, \$100,000, 3yo, 1mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER	WT
1	Liberian Freighter	Bertrando	Drysdale	118
2	Sky Cape	Najran	Mulhall	122
3	Dakota Phone	Zavata	Hollendorfer	120
4	Fifteen Love	Point Given	Frankel	122
5	Medjool	Monarchos	Canani	118
6	Icemancometh (Ire)	Marju (Ire)	Sadler	118
7	Young Joe	Roar	Hofmans	118
8	Ten Meropa	Johannesburg	Mullins	118
9	El Gato Malo	El Corredor	C Dollase	118
10	Ghetto (GB)	Auction House	C Dollase	118
11	Pistol Pete Afleet	Northern Afleet	Periban	118
12	Gio Ponti	Tale of the Cat	Clement	122
13	Il Girasole	Lemon Drop Kid	Pletcher	118

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Today's Graded Stakes brought to you by



6:20p **Sir Beaufort S.-GIII, SA**

6:52p **Malibu S.-GI, SA**

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PREVIEWS



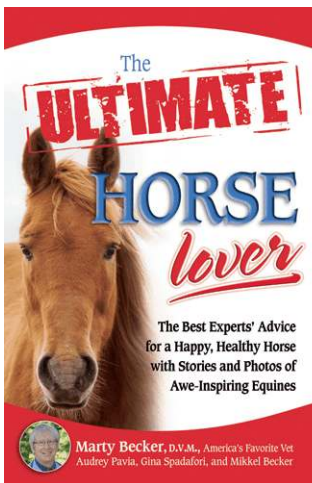


PRICES (MOSTLY) SLASHED: 29 TOP-VALUE SIRES FOR 2009

SIRE	1st Fls	ST	2009 Fee	'08 Bred	2008 Fee	'08 Fls	2007 Fee	'07 Fls	2006 Fee	*Ylgs Sold	2008 \$Avg
AFLEET ALEX	2007	KY	20000	100	40000	99	40000	138	40000	69	120,379
ANTONIUS PIUS	2007	IR	5000	117	7500	82	8000	125	8000	45	35,719
CANDY RIDE	2006	KY	12500	77	12500	96	12500	90	12500	12	16,316
CITY ZIP	2003	KY	12500	103	15000	65	20000	112	15000	47	33,005
DISCREET CAT	2009	KY	25000	149	30000	---	-----	----	-----	22	77,590
DISTORTED HUMOR	2000	KY	150000	108	300000	103	225000	96	150000	33	416,220
E DUBAI	2004	KY	15000	138	15000	101	15000	58	15000	24	28,656
FORESTRY	2001	KY	40000	69	100000	94	125000	98	100000	30	155,034
GIANT'S CAUSEWAY	2002	KY	125000	190	125000	132	225000	168	300000	67	269,719
HARD SPUN	2009	KY	40000	181	50000	----	-----	----	-----	14	356,571
HENNY HUGHES	2008	KY	30000	147	40000	99	40000	----	-----	13	151,692
HOLY ROMAN EMPEROR	2008	IR	25000	174	35000	92	40000	----	-----	17	121,790
INCLUDE	2004	KY	17500	82	35000	131	25000	75	12500	30	28,481
KHELEYF	2006	IR	12000	163	5000	84	5000	77	7000	46	66,661
NAYEF	2005	GB	15000	110	10000	45	10000	38	15000	14	174,175
OFFICER	2004	KY	17500	114	35000	83	40000	74	15000	27	43,895
POWERSCOURT	2007	KY	7500	98	7500	72	10000	71	12500	16	35,856
PURE PRIZE	2004	KY	12500	127	12500	93	12500	50	7500	13	23,621
PUT IT BACK	2003	FL	8500	156	7500	59	5000	31	5000	29	39,437
REPENT	2005	KY	7500	137	5000	40	5000	86	5000	22	34,159
ROCK HARD TEN	2007	KY	30000	93	50000	72	50000	81	50000	43	151,111
SAKHEE	2004	GB	8000	84	10000	38	10000	54	15000	12	69,316
SELKIRK	1994	GB	25000	67	35000	59	40000	59	40000	15	113,131
SHAMARDAL	2007	IR	20000	121	25000	99	40000	110	40000	47	126,227
SHARP HUMOR	2008	KY	12500	134	12500	114	12500	----	-----	12	49,916
SONGANDAPRAYER	2003	KY	22500	153	25000	129	45000	139	35000	67	90,208
STEPHEN GOT EVEN	2002	KY	7500	51	12500	35	20000	107	25000	49	30,125
TEOFILO	2009	IR	25000	158	40000	----	-----	----	-----	8	96,195
UNBRIDLED'S SONG	1998	KY	125000	121	150000	84	200000	150	150000	44	356,931

2008 Average Column:

- Black = Yearlings
- Blue = Weanlings
- Red = Covering Sire
- Green = 2yo's



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STALLION PROSPECTS - 2YOS

Rank (prev.)	Name	Owner	Breeder	Trainer	Last Race - Video	Best BRIS	STATUS
1(1)	MIDSHIPMAN (Unbridled's Song) (<i>'08: 4-3-1-0, \$1,380,200</i>) <i>(Matched his sire's feat by winning the Juvenile, his second Grade I win; heads to Dubai to prepare for a 2009 campaign...L Marquardt)</i>	Godolphin	Stonerside Stable	bin Suroor	1st GI BC Juvenile	102	Wintering in Dubai
2(2)	SQUARE EDDIE (Smart Strike) (<i>'08: 6-2-2-1, \$767,389</i>) <i>(Second in a Group 3 at Kempton, the chestnut earned his Grade I in the Breeders' Futurity before a bang-up second to likely champ in BC ...C Bossinakis)</i>	J Paul Reddam	Kinghaven Farm	O'Neill	2nd GI BC Juvenile	100	Wintering in So. Cal
3(4)	OLD FASHIONED (Unbridled's Song) (<i>'08: 3-3-0-0, \$173,280</i>) <i>(Unbeaten, romping winner of the GII Remsen S. is a son of MGISP Collect Call (Meadowlake)...J Martini)</i>	Fox Hill Farms	Rod & L Rodriguez	Jones	1st GII Remsen S.	101	Wintering @ FG
4*	PIONEER OF THE NILE (Empire Maker) (<i>'08: 5-2-0-1, \$544,200</i>) <i>(Gave Zayat Stables their first Grade I winner as a breeder and should get even better as distances increase in 2009.....A Carasso)</i>	Zayat Stables LLC	Homebred	Baffert	1st GI CashCall Fty.	98	undecided
5(4)	CHARITABLE MAN (Lemon Drop Kid) (<i>'08: 2-2-0-0, \$187,200</i>) <i>(Unbeaten in two starts, including a professional win in the GII Futurity, the handsome bay exited latest work with injury...J Martini)</i>	William Warren Jr	Edward Evans	McLaughlin	1st GII Futurity S.	100	undecided
6(5)	VINEYARD HAVEN (Lido Palace {Chi}) (<i>'08: 4-3-0-1, \$419,000</i>) <i>(Added a scintillating Champagne score to impressive Hopeful victory. Will take the Dubai route to next year's Classics...C Bossinakis)</i>	Godolphin	Lynne Scafe	bin Suroor	1st GI Champagne S.	106	Wintering in Dubai
7(6)	BREAK WATER EDISON (Lemon Drop Kid) (<i>'08: 5-2-1-0, \$140,880</i>) <i>(Liked the way long-striding colt finished up in Nashua; should only improve at 3...L Marquardt)</i>	Eli Gindi	Caldara Farm	Kimmel	1st GIII Nashua S.	105	Wintering in Florida
8(7)	DESERT PARTY (Street Cry {Ire}) (<i>'08: 3-2-0-0, \$108,467</i>) <i>(\$2.1-million FTFEB topper failed to fire after getting bumped in Hopeful; GII Sanford hero missed BC Juvenile due to a minor leg injury...S Sherack)</i>	Darley Stable	Smith & Sinatra	Harty	6th GI Hopeful S.	93	In Training at Kee
9(8)	BEETHOVEN (Sky Mesa) (<i>'08: 5-3-0-0, \$149,913</i>) <i>(Son of GSW Moonlight Sonata hit a high note with GII Ky Jockey Club S. tally; connections teamed up for '01 Derby win with Monarchos...S Sherack)</i>	John Oxley	Deerbrook Racing	Ward	1st Ky Jockey Club	96	undecided
10(9)	MUNNINGS (Speightstown) (<i>'08: 4-1-1-1, \$142,200</i>) <i>(\$1.7-million FTFEB juvenile is best forgiven for his Pro-Ride effort. Look for return to form when back on conventional dirt...A Carasso)</i>	Magnier/Tabor/Smith	Tayloe & Glencrest	Pletcher	10th GI BC Juvenile	99	undecided

RETIRED

Horse	Owner	Breeder	Trainer	Lifetime Record:	Bris	Standing at Stud
STREET HERO (Street Cry {Ire})	Myung Kwon Cho	Homebred	Cho	'08: 6-1-2-3, \$419,360	100	VINERY- \$12.5K

AT THE GAP: American Dance (A.P. Indy), Friesan Fire (A.P. Indy), Giant Oak (Giant's Causeway), Hello Broadway (Broken Vow), Indygo Mountain (A.P. Indy), Quality Road (Elusive Quality), Reynalothewizard (Speightstown).

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 **NORTH AMERICA** 

IEAH ACQUIRES PORTO SANTO, WISHFUL TOMCAT

International Equine Acquisitions Holdings, Inc. has purchased the five-year-old **Porto Santo (Fr)** (Kingsalsa--Exciting Times {Fr}, by Jeune Homme) and acquired a majority interest in recent GIII Discovery H. winner **Wishful Tomcat** (Tactical Cat--Holy Wish, by Lord at War {Arg}). A half-sibling to the top grass filly **Gorella (Fr)** (Grape Tree Road {GB}), Porto Santo was Group 1-placed in France as a juvenile before coming to the States in 2006, where he became a stakes winner and has been twice placed at Grade II level for trainer Julio Canani. In his latest start, he won a grassy allowance at Hollywood Dec. 3. Porto Santo was moved to the barn of trainer Bobby Frankel after being purchased, and has since breezed four furlongs in :48 4/5 on the main track at Santa Anita on Dec. 17. The three-year-old **Wishful Tomcat** has also joined Frankel's barn in California. The New York-bred colt has been first or second in eight of 11 starts thus far and is coming off three straight stakes wins, including two minor stakes on the grass at Belmont this fall and Aqueduct's Discovery Nov. 22. He was previously trained by Gary Contessa for Winter Park Partners. The GII San Fernando S. at Santa Anita Jan. 17 has been mentioned as a possible target for **Wishful Tomcat**.



GIII Discovery winner Wishful Tomcat
Horsephotos

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★ **EAST** ★

Yesterday's Results:

SLEIGH RIDE S., \$75,000, PHA, 12-23, 3yo/up, f/m, 1m70y, 1:39 2/5, ft.

1--**MISS BLUE TYE DYE**, 116, f, 4, **Tekken (Ire)--Blue Moon Ninety**, by **Allen's Prospect**. O-Roll Z Dice Racing Stable; B-Shirley A Lojeski (PA); T-Robert E Reid, Jr; J-Frankie Pennington; \$43,100. Lifetime Record: 26-9-8-2, \$408,378. **Werk Nick Rating: B.** [Click for eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree.](#)

2--**You Asked**, 118, f, 4, **Yes It's True--Dixie Deb**, by **Dixieland Band**. (\$145,000 wlng '04 KEENOV; \$200,000 yrl '05 KEESAP). \$14,700.

3--**Talkin About Love**, 124, f, 4, **Not For Love--She's Jane**, by **Northern Idol**. \$8,310.

Margins: HF, 5, HD. Odds: 3.60, 1.30, 5.30.

SLEIGH RIDE S. result cont.

Miss Blue Tye Dye, a three-time stakes winner last summer, was coming off a Nov. 13 allowance victory at Penn National. On the lead from the start, the dark bay filly set fractions of :23.44 and :46.87. She carried a three-length advantage into the lane and held off the late kick of favored **You Asked**.

9th-PHA, \$47,186, Alw, NW1X, 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:09, ft.

AKA ROXIE (f, 3, Cactus Ridge--T Storm {SW, \$210,772}, by Salt Lake) romped home an 8 1/4-length winner of her career opener over track and trip Nov. 29. The 5-2 favorite shadowed the pacesetter, took charge at the sixteenth pole and inched clear to win by 1 3/4 lengths. **Aka Roxie** was a \$40,000 KEESAP yearling. Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, \$51,600. O-Byberry Stable. B-La Ciega LLC (KY). T-Robert E Reid Jr.

6th-CRC, \$22,400, Msw, 2yo, f, 5 1/2f, 1:06 4/5, ft.

DZIBANCHE (f, 2, Roar of the Tiger--North to South, by Northern Flagship) was second in her debut over track and trip Dec. 6. The 9-5 favorite set the early fractions, opened a clear lead on the turn and held sway late to best **Noahs Sweetsuccess (Out of Place)** by 1 3/4 lengths. The \$65,000 OBSAUG yearling, a half-sister to **Yourmoneysnogood (Exchange Rate, SW, \$137,810)**, is the 15th winner for her freshman sire (by **Storm Cat**). Lifetime Record: 2-1-1-0, \$19,041. O-St George Stable LLC. B-Michelle Redding (FL). T-Kirk Ziadie.

5th-TAM, \$17,000, Msw, 3yo/up, f/m, a1 1/16mT, 1:45 4/5, fm.

MEADOW SAFFRON (f, 3, Military--Gigi Gear, by Golden Gear), a first-out fourth at Kentucky Downs Sept. 16, was third at Woodbine Oct. 17 and was coming off a seventh-place effort at this distance at Churchill Nov. 19. With a bullet work at Palm Meadows since that last effort, the 3-1 shot jumped out to the early lead, was loose on the front through moderate splits and reported home an easy 7 1/2-length winner. **Meadow Saffron** was an \$8,000 FTKOCT yearling and a \$180,000 OBSAPR juvenile. Lifetime Record: 4-1-0-1, \$17,593. O/T-Frederick J Seitz. B-Bradyleigh Farms Inc (KY).

STAKES CLOSINGS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26:

01-04 \$150,000 **San Gorgonio H.-II, SA**, 4yo/up, f/m, 9fT (150)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27:

01-10 \$100,000 **Lecomte-III, FG**, 3yo, 8f (100)

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☆ TRACK OPENING ☆

SANTA ANITA - Arcadia, California
 Opens: Friday, Dec. 26
 Closes: Sunday, April 19
 Post Time: 1:00 p.m. • 12:30 p.m.-weekends
 Racing Days: Wednesday through Sunday
 Stakes Schedule: 75 stakes worth \$12.34 million
Highlights: \$250,000 GI Malibu S.-Dec. 26 • \$250,000 GI La Brea S.-Dec. 27 • \$100,000 GIII Santa Ysabel S.-Jan. 11 • \$150,000 GII San Fernando S.-Jan. 17 • \$100,000 GIII San Rafael S.-Jan. 17 • \$150,000 GII Santa Ynez S.-Jan. 17 • \$150,000 GII El Encino S.-Jan. 18 • Sunshine Millions Day-Jan. 24 • \$300,000 GI Santa Monica H.-Jan. 31 • \$250,000 GII Strub S.-Feb. 7 • \$200,000 GII Robert B Lewis S.-Feb. 7 • \$300,000 GI Las Virgenes S.-Feb. 7 • \$200,000 GII San Antonio H.-Feb. 8 • \$300,000 GI Santa Maria H.-Feb. 14 • \$200,000 GII La Canada S.-Feb. 15 • \$150,000 GII San Vicente S.-Feb. 16 • \$150,000 GII Buena Vista H.-Feb. 16 • \$150,000 GII San Carlos H.-Feb. 21 • \$150,000 GII San Luis Obispo H.-Feb. 22 • \$200,000 GIII Sham S.-Feb. 28 • \$100,000 GIII Baldwin S.-Mar. 1 • \$1-million GI Santa Anita H.-Mar. 7 • \$300,000 GI Frank E Kilroe Mile-Mar. 7 • \$300,000 GI Santa Anita Oaks-Mar. 7 • \$300,000 GI Santa Margarita H.-Mar. 14 • \$200,000 GII San Felipe S.-Mar. 14 • \$750,000 GI Santa Anita Derby-Apr. 4 • \$200,000 GII Santa Barbara H.-Apr. 18 • \$200,000 GII San Juan Capistrano H.-Apr. 19
 Website: www.santaanita.com

• ON THE WORKTAB •

HOLLYWOOD PARK

SWISS DIVA (Swiss Yodeler), 5f, :59.80, 3/8

PALM MEADOWS

KELLY'S LANDING (Patton), 5f, 1:00.60, 1/34

PAYSON PARK

RED ROCKS (IRE) (Galileo {Ire}), 4fT, :48.20, 1/2

SANTA ANITA

TORO BONITO (El Corredor), 4f, :47.40, 3/20

VALBENNY (IRE) (Val Royal {Fr}), 5f, 1:00.20, 8/26

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

BRIS Speed Ratings
 Top Weekly Stakes Races

Horse	Sire	Race	BRIS Speed
White Spar	Benton Creek	Cactus Wren H.	112
Storm Treasure	Storm Boot	Bonapaw S.	105
Secret Gypsy	Sea of Secrets	Esplanade S.	103
Jimmy Simms	Lost Soldier	Woodchopper S.	96
Ask Joe	Najran	Sugar Bowl S.	95
Leigh McLovin	Flame Thrower	Letellier Memorial S.	94
Step Out Smartly	Came Home	Gowell S.	94
Vacare	Lear Fan	Dahlia H.-G2	93
Bai and Bai	Falstaff	Cat's Cradle H.	92
Queen of Song	Unbridled's Song	Maryland Juvenile Filly Championship S.	92
Pioneer of the Nile	Empire Maker	CashCall Futurity-G1	91
Merus Miami	Friends Lake	Gold Rush S.	86
You Rock	Rock Slide	Eleanor M. Casey Memorial S.	80
Askmetodance	Ghostly Moves	La Coneja H.	79

Bloodstock Research Information Services
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★ INDUSTRY INFO ★

Feb. 1 Deadline to Name Foals:

The deadline for owners and breeders to make a valid attempt to name foals of 2007 is Feb. 1, 2009. There is a \$75 late fee. The Jockey Club has published a list of 40,949 names released from active use on Dec. 22 on its website, www.thejockeyclub.com. The released names are mostly horses that will be over 10-years-old on Jan. 1 and have not raced or been bred during the preceding five years. Applications are available through The Jockey Club's Interactive Registration, which automatically screens to eliminate direct matches with names unavailable for use. Owners can also submit their name applications by mail to The Jockey Club, 821 Corporate Drive, Lexington, Ky 40503.

★ AMERICAN-BRED WINNERS ★

IN BRITAIN:

This Ones for Pat, g, 3, **Proud Citizen**--Lace Curtain Irish, by Irish Tower. Southwell, Britain, 12-23, Hcp, 3yo/up, 5f (AWT). B-McMillin Brothers & James Devaney. *\$17,000 yrl '06 KEESEP; 16,000gns 2yo '07 DONAPR.



TDN Book Review

by Jon Forbes

You've heard the Thoroughbred breeding truisms. Like how the progeny of Storm Cat are known for their speed and precocity. Or that the sons and daughters of Unusual Heat can be expected to improve the first time they try the grass. Or how anybody out of Toussaud or Hasili (Ire) is destined for Grade/Group 1 success.

If only it was that simple.

Edwin Anthony's *The American Thoroughbred: Volume I*, a 594-page tome of pedigree analysis, inspects the ancestry of Thoroughbreds from the early 19th century through the present. And while the book should delight anybody who is serious about Thoroughbred genetics, this publication isn't for mass consumption.

While it's easy to overestimate the influence of sire lines and female families, it's more important to evaluate how every ancestor interacts within a pedigree, Anthony suggests.

"Most often, it is not just one thing that serves as the spark for success; it is the cumulative effect of several key connections that serve as the bridge for continued superior performance or the catalyst for great change in a positive direction," he asserts.

To illustrate, Anthony shows the pedigrees of prominent racehorses and highlights the crosses he believes contributed to their success. For example, the potent Nasrullah/Princequillo combination is strong in the pedigree of Bernardini (A.P. Indy), with both sires appearing six times in his pedigree.

Anthony is a proponent of balanced inbreeding, where an ancestor who appears multiple times in a subject's pedigree passes through a male *and* a female relative. He makes finding examples of balanced inbreeding simple by adding either the letter "X" or "Y" following the name of ancestors who appear multiple times, with the letters representing the chromosomes they passed along.

"Many pedigree consultants (myself including) believe that balanced inbreeding increases speed in the resulting progeny of such matings," he writes.

The strengths of *The American Thoroughbred* are the sheer number of pedigrees and the extensive research Anthony has included. Those are also its weaknesses. To learn the book's lessons, one must pay attention to the details, which can become tiresome during prolonged readings. The paragraphs in bold type and analysis at the end of chapters do help explain Anthony's main points, but this is not a book for casual perusal.

But to purchase or breed a horse with the talent needed to win one of the 488 graded stakes in the United States, one must be willing to do the necessary research and analysis, Anthony argues.

And while it is easy to be overwhelmed with the amount information presented in *The American Thoroughbred*, the book should be a handy reference for those interested in learning more about the genetic patterns that are conducive to producing success on the racetrack.

"It really is an all or nothing game, and the difference between success and failure can be razor thin," Anthony writes. "Dismissing details as trivial can really cost you."

BREEDERS' EDITION AMERICA

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

9th-TAM, \$17,700, NW1X, 3yo/up, a1mT, 1:39 4/5, fm.

MASHALA (c, 4, [Orientate](#)--Silk n' Sapphire, by Smart Strike) Lifetime Record: 12-2-4-0, \$42,800. O-Mojallali Stables, Inc. B-William A Carl (KY). T-Leo J Azpurua, Jr. *\$26,000 yrl '05 KEESEP. **1/2 Mark of Success (Mt. Livermore), GSP, \$153,388.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Fire Water, f, 2, [Cape Canaveral](#)--Oyster Bay, by Saint Ballado. PHA, 12-23, (C), 6f, 1:09 3/5. B-Overbrook Farm (KY). *\$3,200 yrl '07 KEESEP.

Tiz Believing, c, 2, [Tiznow](#)--Surprise Girl (SP), by Time for a Change. SUN, 12-23, 1m, 1:41. B-Boone Family Trust (KY).

+ **Gus Who**, c, 2, [Yonaguska](#)--Avens, by Briartic. PHA, 12-23, (C), 5 1/2f, 1:03 1/5. B-Barbara Brown & Henry Crigler (PA). *\$11,000 yrl '07 FTMOCT. **1/2 to Katherine of Ascot (Ascot Knight), SW, \$307,500.

BREEDERS' EDITION EUROPE

CONDITIONS RESULT:

ITALY, Naples, 15.30, 12-22, €12,600, 2yo, 1 1/4mT, time: n/a, sf.

JOHANNES MOZART (IRE) (c, 2, [Spinning World](#)--Nicolitta {Ire}, by Nicolotte {GB}) Lifetime Record: 9-4-1-0, €15,997. O-Valentina Sestili; B-Michael Bambrick; T-Gabriella Arcese. *€5,000 yrl '07 GOFMIL.

MAIDEN WINNER:

+ **Trueblue Wizard (Ire)**, c, 2, [Bachelor Duke](#)--Truly Bewitched, by Affirmed. Southwell, Britain, 12-23, Mdn, 2yo, 7f (AWT). B-Keatly Overseas Ltd. *€80,000 wnlg '06 GOFNOV; 50,000gns yrl '07 DONAUG. **10th winner for freshman sire (by Miswaki).