



BLUE POINT BLASTS HIS WAY TO CHAMPION FIRST-SEASON SIRE HONOURS



Big Evs: flew the flag for Blue Point this year | [Racingfotos.com](https://www.racingphotos.com)

By Brian Sheerin

There will be a lot of I-told-you-sos when looking back on the first-season sires' championship with Blue Point (Ire) living up to his lofty billing by amassing 50 individual winners in Europe including two Group 1 scorers in what can only be described as a dream debut season.

The pledge of support behind Blue Point from a very early stage, in what was viewed by many as the most competitive first-season sires' championship in a long time, was telling. Perhaps one of the most accurate predictions came from trainer Richard Hannon in his *TDN* two-year-old tour back in April. He said, "I don't think I will be able to afford many of these Blue Points next year--he could have a big year which will make them very expensive."

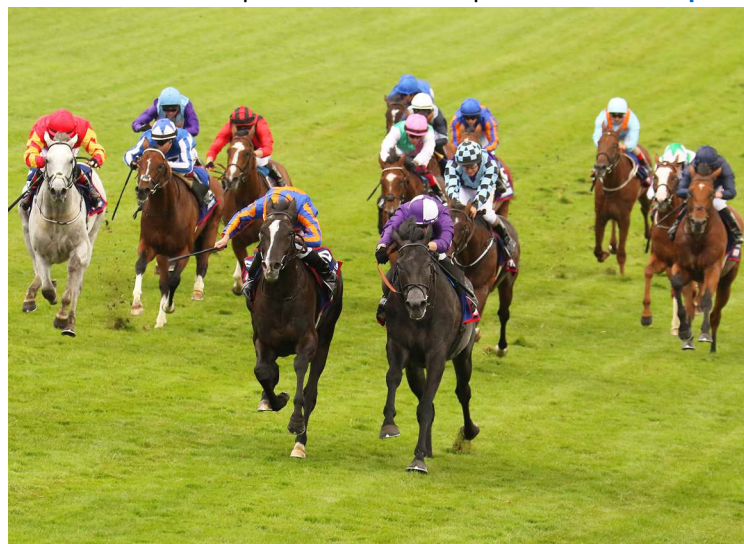
Little did Hannon know at the time but it was the stable's Rosallion (Ire) who would go on to add to that growing reputation for the stallion in running out an impressive winner of the G1 Prix Jean-Luc Lagardere at ParisLongchamp on Arc weekend. [Cont. p3](#)

TDN HORSES OF THE YEAR: AUGUSTE RODIN

Continuing the profiles of the favourite horses of *TDN Europe's* editorial team in 2023, **Tom Frary** selects the horse he believes is the best of Aidan O'Brien's nine Derby winners.

Sectional timing wasn't around when Dancing Brave tanked down the outer to get within just under a length of Shahrastani in 1986. If it had been, we'd have been able to gauge just how unlucky he was (he was). Maybe if it had been there could also have been a proper assessment of whether El Gran Senor should have prevailed two years earlier, but hey ho. Now we have it, we know just what the elite of their generation can do in cold, clear figures and in particular during that last surging period of what is still the world's most exciting horse race.

This year's Derby was visually a lovely throwback to those wonderful ones of the 1970s and 1980s, with little between two sensational colts primed to the minute able to stamp their superiority on the rest during the last three furlongs. Unfortunately for connections of the gargantuan yet surprisingly nimble King Of Steel, who produced the fastest individual furlong of :10.66 seconds between the three and the two on what was remarkably his first start of the season, there was another in the line-up who had the ace up his sleeve. [Cont. p4](#)



Auguste Rodin (I) swoops past King Of Steel | [Racingfotos.com](https://www.racingfotos.com)

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

WHAT DOES 2024 HOLD FOR CALIFORNIA RACING?

Dan Ross looks into potential futures for California racing in 2024.

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Look Here (GB) (Hernando {Fr}) winning the G1 Oaks in 2008. She won the Epsom Classic in the colours of Julian Richmond-Watson, who received an OBE in the New Year's Honours. | Racingfotos.com

NICK SMITH AMONG NEW YEAR'S HONOURS LIST

5

Several members of the racing fraternity were recognised in the New Year's Honours list.

USHBA TESORO TAKES TOKYO DAISHOTEN

7

Friday marked another Group 1 win for Ushba Tesoro (Jpn) (Orfevre {Jpn}) in the Tokyo Daishoten.

GOLDEN SIXTY SIDELINED

8

*A minor setback will see Hong Kong star Golden Sixty (Aus) (*Medaglia d'Oro*) miss the G1 Stewards' Cup.*

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First-Season Sires Cont. from p1

Add that to the exploits of Big Evs (Ire), winner of the Windsor Castle S. at Royal Ascot before signing off on a brilliant campaign by scorching to GI Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint honours at Santa Anita, Blue Point didn't just live up to expectations in 2023; he smashed it.

So, how does he compare to previous champion first-season sires and is his fee jump to €60,000 justified?

The answer is that Blue Point compares favourably with each of the past five leading first-season sires--Havana Grey (GB), Cotai Glory (GB), Mehmas (Ire), Gutaifan (Ire) and **No Nay Never**--on almost every metric.

In terms of prize-money amassed, only Havana Grey has managed to better Blue Point's debut season haul of €1,235,165 in Britain and Ireland, albeit by just €21,747. Standing on 41 individual winners in Britain and Ireland, Blue Point has bettered each of the previous five leading first crop

sires bar Mehmas, who ended his respective campaign with 46. Meanwhile, 57 wins all told in Britain and Ireland is just eight shy of what Mehmas recorded in 2020 but is on a par with what Havana Grey achieved last year.

These are the sort of statistics that led Con Marnane, one of the titans of the game, to label Blue Point as 'pound for pound the best stallion in Europe' while top pinhooker Paul McCartan is another man to have been heard singing the praises of the young stallion on the sales circuit this year.

It is one thing having a clatter of winners but something altogether different to produce quality performers and this is another area where Blue Point excelled this season. Along with

top-notchers Rosallion and Big Evs, Blue Point was responsible for another 100-plus rated juvenile in Action Point (Ire), who scored at listed level and reached an official rating of 101 for Archie Watson. **Cont. p4**



Darley's Blue Point | *Racingfotos.com*

“I have three by Sottsass and I love their attitude. Very good minds and fantastic movers every one of them. It's only December but you wouldn't give any of them back – I can tell you that.” WILLIE BROWNE

SOTTASS

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€300,000

€245,000

€220,000

€200,000

€200,000

etc.

COOLMORE

First-Season Sires Cont.

It is clear that Blue Point, a tremendous racehorse in his own right who recorded an amazing Royal Ascot double when landing the King's Stand S. and the Diamond Jubilee S. in the same week, is injecting a lot of class into his offspring with 17 of his two-year-olds ending the campaign on an official rating of 90 or above.

Too Darn Hot (GB) put the cherry on top of what was a memorable year for the Darley roster by ending the campaign strongly with a host of high-class winners, including G1 Moyglare Stud S. winner Fallen Angel (GB).

A genuine 1,000 Guineas contender for Karl Burke to look forward to next season, Fallen Angel was one of five juveniles by Too Darn Hot to achieve official ratings of 100 or more.

Too Darn Hot ended the year with 22 individual winners in Britain and Ireland, which was the same number that Soldier's Call (GB) managed. However, the latter amassed 29 total winners, which was just one more than Too Darn Hot managed.

Too Darn Hot is set to stand for £65,000 in 2024 while Soldier's Call, who has recently switched from Joe Foley's Ballyhane Stud in Ireland, where he has stood since 2020, to Dullingham Park, will command a fee of £8,500.

The move makes sense. For all that Soldier's Call lived up to what was expected from him in 2023, and in many ways hardened his reputation as a rock-solid producer of sprinting talent, he might stand out a little better in the British market compared to in Ireland, where there are plenty of options at a similar level.

Calyx (GB) may not have racked up the numbers Soldier's Call managed but he was represented by a number of talented juveniles, not least the Dewhurst third Eben Shaddad and the unexposed Purple Lily (Ire), who justified her €155,000 price tag at the breeze-ups when winning on debut at Galway for Paddy Twomey. She rates an exciting filly going forward for the stallion next season and featured among the 19 individual winners and 26 total wins recorded by **Calyx** in 2023.

Advertise (GB) [19 individual winners in Britain and Ireland], Phoenix Of Spain (Ire) [17], Inns Of Court (Ire) [16], Land Force

(Ire) [14], **Ten Sovereigns (Ire)** [14] and Invincible Army (Ire) [12] were others who managed to get into double figures this year.

Perhaps Phoenix Of Spain is deserving of most credit out of that group for what he achieved with his first crop two-year-olds as his progeny are almost certain to improve at three and beyond.

Study Of Man (Ire) could fit into that category as well. Nobody would have predicted that the G1 Prix du Jockey Club winner would have blasted out a host of two-year-old winners with his debut crop and he probably exceeded expectations through the exploits of Deepone (GB). Winner of the G2 Beresford S., historically a good guide for future Derby contenders, Deepone would appear to have leading Classic claims in 2024 for Twomey and his owner Vimal Khosla.

Like Study Of Man, **Magna Grecia (Ire)** ended the year with six individual winners in Britain and Ireland while Masar (Ire) was

just two behind that pair on four. Given **Magna Grecia** is out of a Galileo (Ire) mare, it will be wise to judge him properly at the end of 2024 while Derby winner Masar is another deserving of more time.

It should also be noted that City Light (Fr) enjoyed a banner year in France and ended the campaign as the clear leading first-crop sire with 15 individual winners and 19 total wins. A son of **Siyouni**, City Light also had a winner in Britain and Ireland is shaping up to be an

interesting stallion in his own right.

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Phoenix Of Spain | [Racingfotos.com](https://www.racingfotos.com)

Auguste Rodin Cont. from p1

Auguste Rodin (Ire), that melange of Japan's deity Deep Impact (Jpn) and one of the best of the faster Galileo (Ire) mares, took a while to get to fever pitch but on the first Saturday in June he caught fire. On the summer fast ground he would prove in time was essential, and granted the perfect ride from a jockey with the Epsom aptitude of the Longfellow, he thrust himself into the top of the charts of Derby heroes with an outlandish final two furlongs of :22.18 seconds. He almost broke :33 seconds for the last three! Upstaging his damsire in the process, he became to my eyes Ballydoyle's best Derby winner, under Aidan O'Brien's tenure at least. [Cont.p5](#)

Auguste Rodin Cont.

He needed to do it again, of course, and duly did so in what was for me the race of the year in the Irish Champion Stakes. Luxembourg (Ire) killed everything bar the uber-talented Auguste Rodin, who had the audacity to idle once he had passed his truly on-song stablemate, much as his dam Rhododendron (Ire) tended to do in her day. The Leopardstown race was not for the faint-hearted, yet he found it all well within his capabilities much as he did next time in the Breeders' Cup Turf.

Thankfully, he's going to be around in 2024 and by rights he should be even better. He may never win an Arc, as ironically the one year the ground rode fast he was already being routed elsewhere, but if the rains stay away he'll probably win the King George and another Breeders' Cup Turf, much as Aidan O'Brien's other brilliant colt High Chaparral (Ire) did. And then the Japan Cup perhaps? What a shame Equinox (Jpn) will not be around to stretch him more than his contemporaries did this year.



Auguste Rodin and his jubilant connections after his Derby victory
Racingfotos.com

I think only in time will that Derby performance be truly appreciated as the benchmark it really was. It is up to those who follow now to meet the standard of that barnstorming finish. Horse of the Year 2023 unquestionably for me, but whether 2024 will follow the same tune remains to be seen. In a story reminiscent of that of Riva Ridge and Secretariat, it could be that his thunder will be stolen by the "special one" housed in his own barn!

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EUROPEAN NEWS

ASCOT'S NICK SMITH RECEIVES NEW YEAR HONOURS



Nick Smith | *Racingfotos.com*

Ascot's director of racing and public affairs, Nick Smith, has been named to the New Year's Honours list.

Smith, who started at Ascot in 2000, was made a lieutenant of the Royal Victorian Order, which rewards personal service to the monarch and their household. In 2023, King Charles III and Queen Camilla celebrated their first Royal Ascot winner with Desert Hero (GB) ([Sea The Stars {Ire}](#)), who would subsequently be Classic placed in the G1 St Leger. Other highlights of Ascot's year include Hukum (Ire) ([Sea The Stars {Ire}](#)) and Westover (GB) ([Frankel {GB}](#))'s battle in the G1 King George VI and Queen Elizabeth S., and Frankie Dettori's Royal Ascot resurgence aboard G1 Gold Cup winner Courage Mon Ami (GB) ([Frankel {GB}](#)) among others.

Smith said, "I'm obviously absolutely delighted and honoured. It's been a fantastic journey working for Ascot for so long and it's nice to have it recognised.

"It's been a brilliant year at the racecourse with the King and Queen having a winner, Frankie Dettori lighting up Royal Ascot this year, a vintage King George and full fields for the Shergar Cup, so we really couldn't ask for much more."

Smith added, "We're just about to start our overseas campaign in Australia, Japan, the United States and suchlike, looking for those horses to populate the Royal meeting. That will all start in earnest and hopefully build up to another fantastic meeting in June." [Cont. p6](#)

Nick Smith Cont.

Smith was not the only racing industry figure to be honoured, with the Thoroughbred Breeders' Association (TBA)'s Julian Richmond-Watson receiving an OBE. Richard Linley was recognised with an MBE. Linley was the former British Horseracing Authority (BHA) senior inspector of courses.

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FRANCE

Friday's Results:

5th-Deauville, €30,000, Mdn, 12-29, 2yo, c/g, 9 1/2f (AWT), 1:56.74, st.

CHARTWELL (FR) (c, 2, Churchill {Ire}--Sidewalk {Ire}, by New Approach {Ire}), who hit the board over course and distance in his Dec. 3 debut last time, broke well and raced to the fore until settling in a handy fifth after the opening exchanges here.

Taking closer order in the straight, the 5-2 pick held a narrow advantage when tackled by More Dream (Fr) (Almanzor {Fr}) passing the furlong pole and was ridden out to deny that persistent rival by a head, the duo five lengths clear of the remainder. Chartwell is the first of two foals produced by a winning half-sister to G3 Prix de Saint-Georges victrix Ideal Beauty (Ire) (Invincible Spirit {Ire}). The May-foaled chestnut, whose second dam is Listed Prix Six Perfections winner Discernable (GB) (Elusive Quality), is kin to a yearling colt by Persian King (Ire). Sales history: €50,000 Ylg '22 ARQAUG. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-1, €19,500. **Video, sponsored by FanDuel TV.**

O-JML Racing, Carlos Lerner & Yann Lerner; B-Jean-Pierre-Joseph Dubois & Ecurie Thomas Levesque (FR); T-Carlos & Yann Lerner.



Chartwell (left) | Scoop Dyga

6th-Deauville, €30,000, Mdn, 12-29, 2yo, f, 9 1/2f (AWT), 2:01.76, st.

UNIGENA (FR) (f, 3, Almanzor {Fr}--Kazorina {Fr}, by Footstepsinthesand {GB}), who posted a Dec. 3 debut fifth over this course and distance when last seen, broke swiftly and raced in a prominent second for the most part. Inching ahead on the home turn, the 57-10 chance came under pressure passing the two pole and was ridden out inside the final furlong to hold the late bid of Pebblesshinybright (Ire) (Footstepsinthesand {GB}) by 3/4-of-a-length. Unigena is the lone reported foal out of a dual-winning half to the dual group-placed Kokaltash (Fr) (Haafhd {GB}) and the stakes-placed duo Kotama (Fr) (Siyouni {Fr}) and Kozideh (Fr) (Gold Away {Ire}). Kozideh, in turn, is the dam of this term's Listed Bloomers' Vase third Una Matina (Fr) (Golden Horn {GB}). The March-foaled chestnut's fourth dam is MGSW G1 Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe and G1 Prix du Moulin placegetter Kozana (GB) (Kris {GB}). Sales history: €12,000 Ylg '22 ARQOCT. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, €16,500. **Video, sponsored by FanDuel TV.**

O-Ecurie Hugo & Pierre Pilarski; B-Gaetan Taupin (FR); T-Romain Le Dren Doleuze.



Unigena and her connections | Scoop Dyga



IN BAHRAIN:

Rocket Rodney (GB), g, 3, Dandy Man (Ire)--Alushta (GB), by Royal Applause (GB). Bahrain Turf Club, Al Riffa Cup (Hcp.), 1200mT. B-R. W. Stableton (GB). **VIDEO.** *SW & GSP-Eng. **18,000gns Wlg '20 TATNOV; 18,000gns RNA Ylg '21 TATOCT.

Lucander (Ire), g, 6, **Footstepsinthesand (GB)**--Lady Sefton (GB), by Oratorio (Ire). Bahrain Turf Club, Al Dana Cup (Hcp.), 2000mT. B-John Connolly. **VIDEO**. **€26,000 Wlg '17 GOFNOV; 28,000gns Ylg '18 TATOCT.

WORLDWIDE NEWS

USHBA TESORO PLAYS ROLE OF 'FIRE' EXTINGUISHER IN TOKYO DAISHOTEN

by Alan Carasso

Friday's G1 Tokyo Daishoten marked a first and much-anticipated battle between reigning G1 Dubai World Cup hero **Ushba Tesoro (Jpn)** (Orfevre {Jpn}) and the upstart 3-year-old **Mick Fire (Jpn)** (Sinister Minister), perfect in his seven starts and winner of the unofficial Japan Dirt Triple Crown this past season. The showdown never really materialized, however, as the latter never reached contention after playing up in the stalls, and the odds-on Ushba Tesoro ran down his commonly owner front-runner **Wilson Tesoro (Jpn)** (Kitsan Black {Jpn}) to successfully defend his title in the 2000-metre contest. **Dura Erede (Jpn)** (Duramente {Jpn}), who won the G1 Hopeful S. on the turf 12 months ago, but has thrived on the dirt this term, stayed on well for third after chasing the pace.

As it was on World Cup night, Ushba Tesoro was not particularly quickly away and therefore settled last but one into the first corner, as Wilson Tesoro, who flashed home to finish second behind Lemon Pop (Lemon Drop Kid) and ahead of Dura Erede in the Dec. 8 G1 Champions Cup (1800m), galloped them along at a decent tempo over the notoriously deep surface at Oi. Racing three wide as Mick Fire provided some crucial cover down the back straight, Ushba Tesoro was pulled out and around his younger rival at the 600 metres, with Wilson Tesoro and Dura Erede a good eight to 10 lengths ahead. Steered out widest leaving the 400-metre peg behind, Ushba Tesoro leveled out and grabbed Wilson Tesoro in the dying strides, covering those final 600 metres in a race-fastest :37 flat. Mick Fire could produce no rally and beat just one home.

Given a lengthy spell to recover from his World Cup success, Ushba Tesoro was an easy winner of the Listed Nippon TV Hai at Funabashi Sept. 27 as a single prep for the GI Breeders' Cup Classic. He put in a long, sustained rally over the Santa Anita mile and a quarter Nov. 4, but had too much to do and finished a creditable fifth to White Abarrio (Race Day) and compatriot Derma Sotogake (Jpn) (Mind Your Biscuits).

"He's a very tough horse, so I was hoping he could run well," winning jockey Yuga Kawada told *Netkeiba*. "The horse will

remain active next year, so we appreciate the support as he goes to challenge the world again."

Trainer Noboru Takagi indicated that the early-season goals could include the G1 Saudi Cup in February in addition to a defence of his title at Meydan the following month.

Of the eighth-placed Mick Fire, trainer Kazuo Watanabe told *Netkeiba*: "The start for him was a pity. Even if he finished second or third and lost, I wanted to see him run his race. There is room for growth and we will be starting from scratch again."

Pedigree Notes

Ushba Tesoro's second dam Sixieme Sens was ridden by Freddy Head to victory in the 1995 Listed Prix Bagatelle for trainer David Smaga and Mme Marc de Chambure and went on to continue her career in the US under the tutelage of the late Bobby Frankel for whom she won the GIII Athenia S. in New York and the GII Dahlia H. in 1996 and the GII San Gorgonio H. the following season. Dr. Masatake Iida purchased Sixieme Sens for \$750,000 when offered in foal to Gone West at the 1997 Keeneland November Sale and exported her to Japan. Her second foal for Iida's Chiyoda Farm Shizunai became the stakes-winning Bold Brian (Jpn) (Brian's Time), while Millefeui Attach, a three-time winner of better than \$466,000, was Sixieme Sens's eighth produce and one of her nine winners from 12 to the races.

Ushba Tesoro races for the Ryotokuji Kenji Holdings Co., which has also campaigned the likes of US-bred Japanese listed winner Aurora Tesoro (Malibu Moon) and the multiple stakes winner and Group 1-placed Rieno Tesoro (**Speightstown**) to name but a few. Ushba Tesoro cost the operation ¥25 million (\$219,250) as a foal when consigned by Chiyoda Farm to the 2017 JRHA Select Sales.

Cont. p8



Ushba Tesoro | Horsephotos/Tomoya Moriuchi

G1 Tokyo Daishoten Cont.

The operation purchased the dam of Wilson Tesoro for \$225,000 at the 2015 Fasig-Tipton Florida Sale and sent her to Equinox's sire Kitanas Black (Jpn) in 2018 after winning a pair of minor races in Japan.

Millefeui Attach is also the dam of a 2-year-old colt by Asia Express (Henny Hughes) and a yearling filly from the first crop of 2019 G1 Takamatsunomiya Kinen hero Mr Melody (Scat Daddy). The mare foaled a filly by Group 1-winning turf sprinter Matera Sky (**Speightstown**) this past Apr. 29 and was reunited with Orfevre this year.

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Friday, Oi, Japan

TOKYO DAISHOTEN-G1, ¥170,000,000, Oi, 12-29, 3yo/up, 2000m, 2:07.30, std.

1--**USHBA TESORO (JPN)**, 126, h, 6, Orfevre (Jpn)

1st Dam: Millefeui Attach (Jpn), by King Kamehameha (Jpn)

2nd Dam: Sixieme Sens, by Septieme Ciel

3rd Dam: Samalex (GB), by Ela-Mana-Mou (Ire)

(¥25,000,000 Wlg '17 JRHAJUL). O-Kenji Ryotokuji Holdings; B-Chiyoda Farm (Jpn); T-Noboru Takagi; J-Yuga Kawada; ¥100,000,000. Lifetime Record: G1SW-UAE, 32-11-1-5, \$10,427,845. **Click for the free Equineline.com catalogue-style pedigree. Werk Nick Rating: A+++.** *Triple Plus*. **Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree.**

2--**Wilson Tesoro (Jpn)**, 126, c, 4, Kitanas Black (Jpn)--Chesutoke Rose, by **Uncle Mo**. O-Kenji Ryotokuji Holdings; B-Ryoken Farm (Jpn); T-Hitoshi Kotegawa; J-Yusuke Hara; ¥35,000,000.

3--**Dura Erede (Jpn)**, 123, c, 3, Duramente (Jpn)--Marchesa (Jpn), by Orfevre (Jpn) (¥100,000,000 Ylg '21 JRHAJUL). O-Three H Racing; B-Northern Farm (Jpn); T-Manabu Ikezoe; J-Bauyrzhan Murzabayev; ¥20,000,000.

Margins: HF, NK, 3/4. Odds: 0.70, 13.20, 10.90.

Also Ran: Notturmo (Jpn), King's Sword (Jpn), Gloria Mundi (Jpn), Tenkaharu (Jpn), Mick Fire (Jpn), Mangan (Jpn).

Click for the [goracing.jp chart](#) and [VIDEO](#).

HONG KONG STAR GOLDEN SIXTY RULED OUT OF STEWARDS' CUP WITH A SETBACK

Hong Kong's dual Horse of the Year **Golden Sixty (Aus)** (Medaglia d'Oro) has been removed from consideration for the G1 Stewards' Cup on Jan. 21 after sustained a minor injury to his left front leg.

A two-time winner of that prize in 2021 and 2023, the 8-year-old gelding will face a restricted workout schedule for the next three to four weeks. Owned by Stanley Chan Ka Leung, the bay has won 10 Group 1s in Hong Kong.

"We found, the day before yesterday [Wednesday] in the morning, a little bit of filling and a little bit of heat [in his front



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left leg]," said trainer Francis Lui. "The vets did a check, a scan and an MRI--there's nothing serious, but they sent a report to England.

"It's very slight but, of course, for the safety side, we don't want to push him because the race is only three weeks' time. The vets said we can give him light trotting for three or four weeks and progressively we can check on him. The issue is just inside the pastern on his front left leg."

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Golden Sixty | Hong Kong Jockey Club

WHAT DOES NEXT YEAR HOLD FOR CALIFORNIA RACING?



Morning at Santa Anita | Horsephotos

by Dan Ross

Nearly seventy years ago, *Sports Illustrated* turf writer, Jim Murray, penned a love-letter to Santa Anita, and its opening day sonata of sun and sport unmatched by any East Coast oval stunned into icy retreat by the "fierce howlings of blue northers spun across finish lines."

Santa Anita, Murray wrote, was an "extravagance of beauty." It was also a well-oiled money-spinner. Huge purses lured the best horses to Los Angeles, and the best horses lured the biggest crowds, their pockets brimming with the spoils of a post-war industrial boom transforming this callow cow-town into a maven of modernity. **Cont. p3**

IN HIS NEW YORK SWAN SONG, GOLDEN OLDIE GREELEY AND BEN LOOKS FOR 26TH CAREER WIN IN GRAVESEND

by Bill Finley

Forty-two starts into his career and with 25 wins, **Greeley and Ben** (Greeley's Conquest) is in top form as he will look to close out 2023 with a win over four rivals in Saturday's Gravesend S. at Aqueduct. It will, however, be his last ever start at a NYRA track, where horses who are 10 or older are not allowed to compete. That's fine with his connections. They can race him next year at just about anywhere else and are confident that the story of one of the true iron horses in the sport will continue for some time.

"I think he's a long way from being done," said trainer Horacio De Paz.

It's easy to see why De Paz doesn't think that age has caught up with Greeley and Ben and why he'll be bringing the horse back off of just one week's rest in the Gravesend. Greeley and Ben won last year's GIII Fall Highweight H. at the advanced age of eight and, after a layoff of nearly 12 months, has come back running this year. After finishing sixth in an allowance race at Laurel, he's won two straight, including the Dec. 23 Dave's Friend, also at Laurel. **Cont. p9**

IN TDN EUROPE TODAY BLUE POINT NAMED CHAMPION FIRST-SEASON SIRE

Brian Sheerin chronicles the top European first-season sires of 2023, with Darley's **Blue Point (Ire)** leading the way.

Dual Breeders' Cup winner
by sire of sires **UNCLE MO**

GOLDEN PAL

“Of all the horses I've ever trained, he's the fastest”

Wesley Ward



7 Graded Stakes victories at 2, 3 and 4 years including the Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint-Gr.1 and Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf Sprint-Gr.2

2024 fee: \$25,000

COOLMORE AMERICA



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In Memoriam: Ben Massam (1988-2019)

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Saturday, December 30, 2023



2023 in photos: August 3. Fans of uniquely-marked Thoroughbreds were treated to the debut of Dillon (Giant Surprise- Colorfull Seattle, by Airdrie Apache), pictured here shortly after the start of the race. | Sarah Andrew

PEGASUS PREVIEW DAY AT GULFSTREAM SATURDAY 10

Gulfstream Park's Saturday program will offer four stakes races--three graded--including the GIII Harlan's Holiday S., a prep for the GI Pegasus World Cup Invitational, and the GI Fort Lauderdale S., a prep for the GI Pegasus World Cup Turf Invitational.

TODAY'S GRADED STAKES



ET	Race	Click for	TV
3:00p	Joe Hernandez S.-GII, SA	TJCIS PPs	FDTV
3:32p	Suwannee River S.-GIII, GP	TJCIS PPs	FDTV
3:59p	Robert J. Frankel S.-GIII, SA	TJCIS PPs	FDTV
4:34p	Harlan's Holiday S.-GIII, GP	TJCIS PPs	FDTV
5:04p	Ft. Lauderdale S.-GII, GP	TJCIS PPs	FDTV

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California Racing cont. from p1

"One day (Handicap Day in 1947), so many people showed up (85,500) that a crisis was created (the plumbing caved in under the strain) and the card almost had to be canceled," Murray wrote.

This year's opening day at Santa Anita tells a different tale. A crowd of over 37,000 contributed to the "best handle ever among a total of 17 opening dates conducted on a Tuesday," as the track's publicity department put it.

Putting inflation adjustments aside for the moment, that still constitutes a 30% drop from last year's total--the sort of back-foot number stakeholders desperately wanted to avoid as the track embarks upon another grueling six-month marathon into one of the most consequential years yet for the state's racing industry.

Amid an economic landscape of consolidation and contraction--which gives the distinct impression of a giant puzzle set where the pieces don't quite fit together--decisions will be made that will set this ship's course for the foreseeable future. Icebergs abound.

The compass guiding many of these decisions is this spinning dial: Can a sustainable long-term racing circuit in Northern California be pieced together in the void left by Golden Gate Fields?

TDN tried unsuccessfully in recent weeks to reach California Association of Racing Fairs (CARF) executive director, Larry Swartzlander. *The LA Times*, however, this week quoted Swartzlander as saying that he was "60%" certain a deal could be reached whereby the fair circuit would take over Golden Gate's dates, though would likely reduce them from 132 days a year to 103.

Tom "Bomber" Doutrich, CARF racing secretary, told the TDN he's "hopeful" an announcement about any such plan will arrive early in 2024. "There are two things you can say about CARF," he added. "We need to get the purses right. And we've got to get a facility that we can turn into a top-class facility. We're working on that right now."

NORCAL

To say that time is of the essence when it comes to these negotiations does a gross disservice to ticking clocks everywhere, as well as to the heads of racing operations juggling families, employees and their own tentative futures.

Golden Gate Fields is scheduled to race through June 9, 2024, after which the facility is set to close permanently. Next year's fair schedule is currently set to close out with a fall fair meet at Fresno from Oct. 2 through the 13th.

In the aftermath of the announced closure of Golden Gate, Swartzlander made several proposals for a restructured

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Northern California circuit, **including a permanent base split** between Santa Rosa and Cal Expo, or only at the latter track.

But such plans would require reaching an agreement with California's harness racing industry, which **only last year extended its lease of operations** of the Cal Expo Harness racetrack until May 2030.

In the event no concrete proposal for Northern California materializes, a legislative fix may be sought to expand the menu of Thoroughbred races offered at Los Alamitos, said Bill Nader, president of the Thoroughbred Owners of California (TOC).

"We're on the clock and we're moving into 2024, so we have come up with alignment between the three tracks in the south for horses in the north to have suitable opportunities to compete in the south at Los Alamitos, Del Mar or Santa Anita," said Nader.

This "alignment," explained Nader, would include a statutory change to permit Los Alamitos--outside of their scheduled Thoroughbred meets--to stage Thoroughbred races beyond the current limit: 4 1/2-furlong races capped at a \$5,000 claiming price.

"Provided there's no operator or plan that comes forth in the north, it would allow for those horses to remain in California and have a suitable opportunity to compete within their own state seamlessly. At least we have that," said Nader, about such a proposal.

According to Jack Liebau, vice president of Los Alamitos, a legislative fix to go into immediate effect--as opposed to the start of January 2025, like most bills passed next year--needs an "urgency clause" requiring a two-thirds vote by the legislature.

"I think we can get the legislative change if it's fully supported by the industry as a whole. I don't know why anybody would oppose that," said Liebau. "The devil, of course, will be in the details."



Jack Liebau (right) with Tim Yakteen | Benoit

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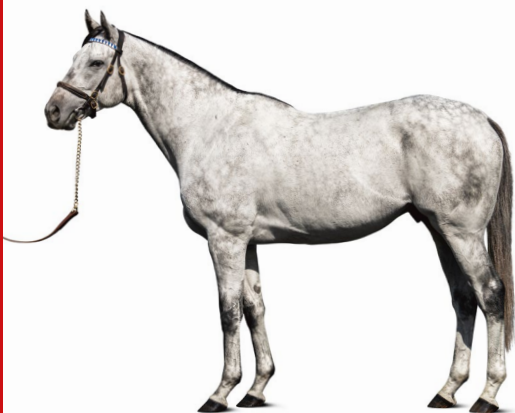
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Darley

According to Liebau, Los Alamitos can accommodate around 300 additional horses. In Golden Gate right now, there are around 1,150 horses.

But how motivated are trainers currently stabled at Golden Gate to funnel their horses south, in the event plans to furnish an alternative Northern calendar fall apart?

Answers are buffeted by other gusty headwinds. Purses at Golden Gate's final meet **have been slashed by 25%**, a result of the purse account being overdrawn by \$3.1 million. (Nader told the *TDN* that Santa Anita's purse account is also in the red to the tune of \$3.7 million)

In January, Berkeley City Council might **vote on an ordinance** that could essentially close Golden Gate before its anticipated June curtain call.

Ed Moger, a leading trainer at Golden Gate, **recently said** that while a 25% purse cut would likely spur some barns to cross state lines and relocate to Turf Paradise, he might shift a significant portion of his horses to Santa Anita instead.

"It's tougher to win a race at Santa Anita," said Moger, at the time. "I'll have to play it by ear."

But not everyone appears as ready to pack up box and truck for a trip south--not trainer Tim McCanna, who said that such a wholesale move would come only after every other alternative had been exhausted.

"Seventy-five percent of the horses in the north won't fit the south," McCanna explained, estimating that about 15 of his 40-horse Golden Gate string might suit the Southern circuit. "Most of the trainers can't go there either," he added, alluding to the increased costs of Southern California living.

McCanna said he's "quite hopeful" an alternative Northern California circuit can be pieced together. But he also feels as though the Northern California trainer colony has been largely ignored by industry leadership during the travails of the past year.

"We were ambushed by this," said McCanna, adding that an ownership group had recently moved five of his horses to Turfway Park, because of the purse cuts.

"The mood around the track is that it feels like we've been shot in the back," said trainer Blaine Wright, who currently has around 50 horses at Golden Gate. "My clientele is not very happy with this purse reduction."

Like McCanna, Wright is playing it by ear, hoping that in the New Year, news of a new viable Northern California circuit will trickle through.

If it doesn't, Wright said that he's already warned two of his staunchest patrons that the tough economics of maintaining a SoCal barn might behoove them to shut up shop.

"I said to them, 'if you don't want to race on the **West Coast** and you'd like to go to the Midwest or East where things are



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Blaine Wright | *Benoit*

happening good, that would be fine," said Wright. "But I warned them, 'if you want to stay on the **West Coast**, my advice would be to get out of the business because the horses we have aren't going to do at Santa Anita.'"

Wright added: "How do you tell the people who have basically made your living for 16 years to get out of the business? I'm just trying to be truthful when I'm telling them I think the writing's on the wall here and the end's coming soon."

BREEDERS

Back in August, long-time owner and breeder, Nick Alexander, warned the consolidation of racing in the south would be a body blow for the state's breeding industry. Has his thinking evolved since?

"No, is the short answer," said Alexander, who added that he still expects to maintain his 35-strong broodmare band through next year.

From a squad of five racehorses previously at Golden Gate, Alexander has shifted three south, and plans to do the same with one of the other two horses remaining. More broadly, he said he's "not optimistic" an alternative Northern racing circuit can be formed.

"It's a damn shame for the breeders up there," said Alexander. "I'm 81 years old. If I was fifty and had kids in college and was trying to be a trainer in Northern California, what the hell would I do?"

Adrian Gonzalez of Checkmate Farm--a 66-acre ranch in Parkfield, California--is one of those trying to build a business for his young family.

Of Gonzalez's 30-strong broodmare band, about half are headed to Kentucky stallions, he said, and he's in two minds whether to bring them back to California to foal.

"If there's no commercial market left in California, we need to



Adrian Gonzalez | *Fasig-Tipton*

make sure our stock is something that can be sought after in other markets," Gonzalez said. "Most of our clients are doing something similar," he added.

Given this trend, Gonzalez said he's concerned about a sharp dip in Cal-breds in three years--what would be especially troubling if the state racing industry can be fortified against further erosion in the meantime, he added.

"The long-term impacts are definitely something we need to be focused on," said California Thoroughbred Breeding Association (CTBA) president, Doug Burge.

As positives, Burge singled out how active California buyers were at Keeneland's November breeding stock sale. While Golden Gate's purses have been cut, he added, **lucrative Cal-bred bonuses** remain in place.

"I think in the future we'll see a major focus on quality," Burge said, pointing to the recent run high-profile successes for horses bred in the state, including a 1-2 finish in the recent GI La Brea S. for Cal-breds. "But we obviously need the numbers as well."

Indeed, while California's foal crop has steadily declined--by nearly 25% between 2012 and 2021--Cal-breds have been playing an ever more important role in propping up the



Tom Clark | Jill Williams

California racing calendar.

During Santa Anita's 2022-2023 six-month meet, **Cal-breds made up** about 37% of all individual starts, and Cal-bred races constituted more than 20% of the overall races carded.

Is there a number of foals bred annually below which the state's breeding industry becomes an unsustainable model?

"That depends on how much racing we'll have here in the next few years," Burge said. "When you announce the closure of a major racetrack, it's obviously going to have a major impact."

Tom Clark, the owner and manager of Rancho San Miguel--a mainstay of the state's breeding industry--estimates double digit declines in the number of mares bred in the state next year. Last year, 1,874 mares were bred to California stallions. Twenty years prior, the number was about three-times that.

"The response so far from clients generally has been to cut back or exit the breeding industry in the state," said Clark. "The only exceptions are some of the larger farms--Barton [Thoroughbreds] and John Harris and Loveacres [Ranch]--who have continued to invest in broodmares for their own account."

While the popularity of Clark's stallions means Rancho San Miguel has so far been fairly insulated from the worst of the declines, he said, unintended consequences are percolating through.

"I've got about 20 mares people want me to find homes for," said Clark. "I just gave three away to new homes as of this morning. It's happening."

Which begs the question: How will recent events impact California's flagship off-track Thoroughbred rehoming program?

"When they first announced that Golden Gate Fields would close, I had three different owners call me, and I took in three different horses," said Lucinda Lovitt, executive director of the **California Retirement Management Account** (CARMA). "They didn't know what the future was, and they just wanted to make

sure their horse had a good place."

As the sport rolls into the New Year, however, Lovitt said she doesn't anticipate a situation where California's aftercare facilities are swamped with urgent requests.

That said, "I would expect we will continue to see what we've seen this past year, which is less space available in aftercare charities, and higher demand for these fewer slots," said Lovitt.

STATISTICS

It was the author Fletcher Knebel who made the observation, "smoking is one of the leading causes of statistics."

If only horse racing could so readily dismiss its numerical DNA.

This recent New York Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association (NYTHA) **backed study** by a cohort of Yale undergrads highlighted how a common feature of a contracting market is consolidation, and how this trend is impacting everything from the training population to racetrack management.

Indeed, nationally over the last 20 years, the industry has lost nearly 55% of its trainers, they found. Most have been "micro-trainers" and "midsize" trainers with a maximum 40 discreet horses respectively.

At the opposite end of the scale are "super trainers" who operate stables with 80 or more horses.

The number of super trainers has stayed relatively constant in the midst of declining trainer numbers. In 2003 there were 123 super trainers, and in 2022 there were 114.

The same trends play out in California, with the bottom end getting clobbered while the top end stays remarkably strong.

According to numbers crunched for the *TDN* using *DRF* chart data, the number of trainers making at least one individual start in California decreased by nearly 50% between 2007 and 2022.

The trainers with 20 or less individual annual starters decreased a similar 50% during that period.

The number of trainers with at least 100 individual annual starters in California, however, has remained around the 8-10 mark since 2009.

Last year, nine trainers with at least 100 individual annual starters in California--just 3% of the total trainer colony--accrued 35% of the total prize money and made 21% of the total starts.

In another worrying trend, training in California is becoming less and less of a young person's game.

According to data put together by the California Horse Racing Board (CHRB), the median age of a licensed trainer in California was 52 in 2003. As of this year, that statistic has matured to 61.

The guiding light behind these numbers is field size, which in turn drives handle, which in turn fuels purses. Field size has been **especially problematic** during Santa Anita's six-month winter-spring meet these past five years, though it has rebounded very slightly.

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BREEDER AWARD RATE INCREASES FOR NEW YORK-BREDS IN 2024

SCHENECTADY, N.Y. (Tuesday, December 19, 2023) — At the December 12, meeting of The New York State Thoroughbred Breeding & Development Fund Corporation (the Fund) Board of Directors', a motion was unanimously approved to increase the breeder award rates for all New York-breds who compete in New York starting January 1, 2024.

The increase in breeder awards was approved by the Fund board due to projected revenue increases expected by the Fund in 2024. An increased holdback rate from 10 percent to 15 percent will also be implemented to ensure the Fund can payout awards up to the new advertised rates. We anticipate being able to pay the holdback in its entirety upon completion of the fiscal year.

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"These bigger better bonuses reward breeders for creating quality race horses," said Tracy Egan. "Board Chairman Brian O'Dwyer encouraged the Board to find a way to get award money out the door to award earners as quickly as possible and by hiking breeder awards, we will do that."

"This historic increase in breeder awards is monumental news for all breeders currently participating in the New York-bred program. It's another reason why New York remains the top regional state-bred program in the nation and why more breeders should bring their mares to foal in New York," said New York Thoroughbred Breeders executive Najja Thompson.

2024 NEW YORK-BRED PROGRAM BREEDER AWARDS

NY-SIRED*	AWARD (Percent of Purse Money Earned 2023)	2024 New Rate
First Place	30%	40%
Second Place	15%	20%
Third Place	15%	10%
Cap per Award	\$40,000	\$40,000

NON-NY-SIRED*	AWARD (Percent of Purse Money Earned 2023)	2024 New Rate
First Place	15%	20%
Second Place	7.5%	10%
Third Place	7.5%	5%
Cap per Award	\$20,000	\$20,000

*A breeder is the owner of the mare at the time the mare foals in New York State. There are two tiers of Breeder Awards for all races run in New York State.

*A New York-sired New York-bred is sired by a registered New York Stallion. A non-New York-sired New York-bred is sired by an out-of-state stallion or a non-registered New York stallion.

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Bill Nader | Horsephotos

For the six-month meet in 2021-2022, the combined dirt and turf field size was 7.12. For the 2022-2023 meet, the combined field size was 7.2.

With that in mind, Nader said he doesn't expect the recently announced purse cuts to make a dent into the \$3.7 million Santa Anita purse overpayment.

"I don't think it'll reduce at all, based on the current trends in business. If anything, the overpayment might even go up a little bit," said Nader. "That's why the wish list for 2024 is to secure a secondary source of income to preserve and protect the purse structure and the industry going forward."

But what could that be?

Twin sports wagering measures were torpedoed on last year's state ballot, **casting dark clouds** over future efforts. And though horse racing's standing in Sacramento has improved since the nadir of the 2019 Santa Anita welfare crisis, how likely is legislative support, even for an **industry estimated** to directly contribute over \$4.5 billion to the state's economy, and over 77,700 jobs?

"It's incumbent upon all of us here to try to get something where the state legislature provides some type of recognition to the industry, and a level of support--again, maybe not the same advantages the other competing states enjoy--but something that gives us a chance to compete," said Nader, declining, however, to speculate upon any specifics of what that "recognition" might look like.

Furthermore, should the heightened impact from the state's super trainers on field size during a period of such accelerated contraction be high up on the TOC's agenda for next year?

"In terms of trying to get more competitive field sizes and better business results, it's better if there's more parity. Sure. But how you manufacture that, it's tricky," said Nader. "It's hard to say to an owner, 'you need to give your horse to this trainer

and not that trainer.' It has to be carefully thought through."

SANTA ANITA

The variables weighing in on the future of the sport are--for want of a less utilitarian phrase--multifactorial. Just take the topic of Computer Assisted Wagering (CAW).

CAW players constitute a small group of high-volume and largely anonymous gamblers with an outsized impact on the betting markets--**including in California**--due to the use of sophisticated wagering tools. Because of their high stakes play, they're offered inducements in the form of rebates and reduced takeout rates largely not available to the average punter.

Last summer, Del Mar introduced measures to help curb CAW play. By the meet's end, Del Mar's total handle was down some 10% compared to the year prior, **according to the DRF**.

The TDN asked the CHRB for a breakdown of CAW play per-pool for last summer's meet at Del Mar. The agency said it does not yet have those granular figures.

But the CHRB provided a total breakdown of handle per betting location, including from the most influential of these computer syndicates, the Elite Turf Club, a Curacao-based company owned by The Stronach Group and NYRA Bets LLC.

According to this data, Elite Turf Club total handle during Del Mar's summer meet dropped 23.7% from 2022 to 2023: \$116.9 million last year compared to \$89.1 million this year.

How industry leaders in California manage the thorny topic of CAW play next year, therefore, will be a key driver of revenues.

For many stakeholders, another key tangible will be the roll-out of TSG's much **vaunted \$30 million-plus investment** into the Southern California racing furniture, including new stabling at Santa Anita, new tracks at the facility, and industry support funds.



Santa Anita construction of new Tapeta track | Santa Anita

The replacement of Santa Anita's dirt training track with **Tapeta is scheduled** for a mid-January finish. According to Craig Fravel, chief executive office at 1/ST Racing, there are tentative plans to modify one of the barns at Santa Anita next summer.

The other big-ticket items slated for development in 2024--including a new one-mile turf chute, an equine swimming pool and horse exercisers--have been put on hold, however.

"We've wanted to focus on getting the synthetic surface done. The price tag on that has come in higher than we had expected," said Fravel. "Right now, we're just very much focused on the racing calendar, trying to enhance the prospects for horses moving down here and improving the product in Southern California."

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Greeley and Ben cont. from p1



Greeley and Ben | Jim McCue

Greeley and Ben began his career racing for trainer John Ortiz and won six times before being claimed for just \$10,000 on March 7, 2021 by Karl Broberg. He won 13 of 17 starts for Broberg before he was claimed again and wound up in the barn of David Jacobson. He made three starts for Jacobson, his last in a 2022 \$40,000 claimer at Saratoga. It was there that he caught the attention of his current owner, Darryl Abramowitz.

"His age didn't bother me," Abramowitz said. "This game is about dreams and taking chances. I thought that for \$40,000 the worst-case scenario was we'd have to drop him into a \$20,000 claimer and we'd win and get our money back. You only live once."

So Abramowitz spent the \$40,000 to claim a horse who was eight at the time and, at least according to his Beyer numbers, was starting to slow down. Little did he know that the future for the gelding would include four wins in his next seven starts and two stakes wins, including his first graded stakes victory in the

Fall Highweight.

"He's a combination of Mike Tyson and Cal Ripken," Abramowitz said. "He's an iron horse and he's a fighter."

After winning the Fall Highweight, Greeley and Ben disappeared, but that would not prove to be the end of his career.

"He's an old war horse and as time has gone on he has come up with a few leg issues," Abramowitz said. "Nothing serious. He just needed the time to heal up. Would other people spend 352 days on the shelf and spend all that money while he wasn't racing? I don't think so. I could have brought him back earlier, but if we did, we'd have to have dropped into a lower level of claimers. We coaxed him along and gave him the time that was necessary. He's sound and he's solid right now. With the way he's going he could keep running for another two years. This guy loves to run. He just thrives on it."

Abramowitz initially had the horse with Jeffrey Englehart and then moved him into the barn of Faith Wilson for the Fall Highweight. The next move was to give him to De Paz, who has had him since September. Greeley and Ben could do no better than to finish sixth in his return race, but De Paz was not discouraged.

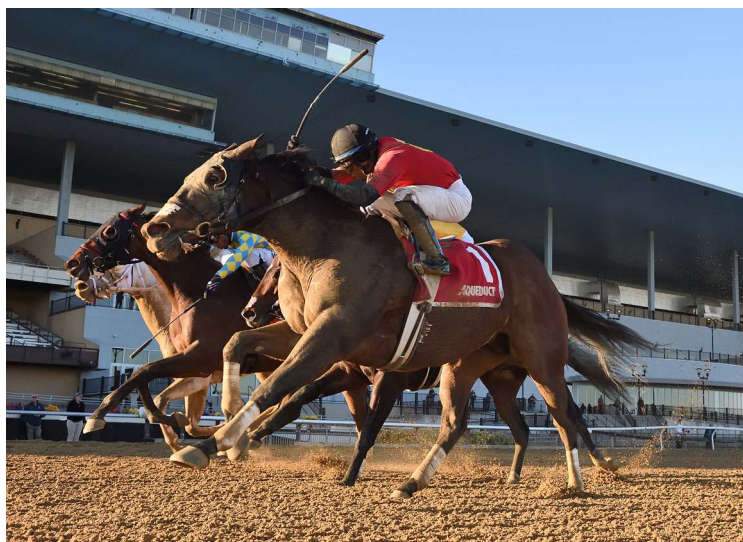
"When we got him he had to build back the foundation that he had lost," the trainer said. "He carries good flesh, so we had to work past that. In his first race back, we figured we'd give him a race rather than just breezing him. We thought a race would do him more good than breezing him every week. That first run showed he still wanted to compete. He just got tired."

Twenty-two days later, he won the allowance and followed that up with the win in the Dave's Friend, which upped his career earnings to \$981,138. After that start, De Paz and Abramowitz started searching for a race. On whether they should enter him in the Gravesend, it came down to the question of, why not?

"That we're running here doesn't have anything to do with the rules in New York," Abramowitz said. "We were watching nominations for this race and knew there would be a small field and I didn't think the race would be that difficult. At Laurel, he ran three solid furlongs. It was like having a spectacular workout. For the first three furlongs he was in the back just enjoying himself and having a good time. I knew he was going good and Horacio told me he's better than ever and is going extremely good. We looked at all the factors, like the \$150,000 purse, and decided to give it a go."

Abramowitz is so bullish on the gelding's future that he said if the horse runs well in the Gravesend he will consider sending him to the Middle East--Saudi Arabia and Dubai.

First though, they have to get past the Gravesend. On paper, Greeley and Ben is stepping up in class and could have a tough



Greeley and Ben | *Coglianes*



O'Connor | *Coady*

time in the six-furlong stakes. But Abramowitz doesn't think that will be the case.

"He fits in this race and I think he might surprise a lot of people," the owner said.

Win or lose, Greeley and Ben's place in the sport has already been assured. Where else can you find an active 9-year-old who is still at the top of his game and has won more races than he has lost?

"It's a tremendous story," De Paz said. "He's run at all these different racetracks and has run for different trainers and he's been honest for everyone who has had him. He's just a special horse."

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PEGASUS PREVIEW DAY AT GULFSTREAM PARK SATURDAY

Gulfstream Park's Saturday program will offer four stakes races--three graded--including the GIII Harlan's Holiday S., a prep for the GI Pegasus World Cup Invitational, and the GII Fort Lauderdale S., a prep for the GI Pegasus World Cup Turf Invitational.

The Harlan's Holiday drew a field of 11, including last out GII Hagyard Fayette S. winner and 5-2 morning-line favorite **O'Connor (Chi)** (Boboman); last year's GII Remsen S. winner **Dubuyhnell (Good Magic)**, who returned from the shelf with an optional claiming win at Keeneland Oct. 28; and the streaking \$1.7-million OBS April graduate and 'TDN Rising Star' **Signator (Tapit)**, who makes his stakes debut for trainer Shug McGaughey following two straight wins at Aqueduct Oct. 21 and Nov. 12.

"In the Keeneland race, he was off the pace, but he was handy the whole way. He was into the bridle and traveled well for Tyler (Gaffalione)," trainer Saffie Joseph, Jr. said of O'Connor's win in the Fayette. "If he can travel the same way, it will increase his

chances Saturday."

The Fort Lauderdale has attracted a field of 10, including the Chad Brown-trained duo of 2-1 morning-line favorite **Running Bee** (English Channel), who resurfaced from a lengthy layoff with a wire-to-wire victory in an optional claimer at Aqueduct Nov. 17; and **Stone Age (Ire)** (Galileo {Ire}), runner-up in the 2022 GI Breeders' Cup Turf. The latter adds blinkers following a fifth-place finish in the GI Joe Hirsch Turf Classic S. Oct. 7.

The 11-race card at Gulfstream also includes: the GIII Suwannee River S. and the Rampart S. Santa Anita, meanwhile, boasts a pair of grassy graded races Saturday, the GII Joe Hernandez S. and the GIII Robert J. Frankel S.

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RACE FOR WINNINGEST HORSE COMES DOWN TO FINAL WEEKEND OF '23

by T.D. Thornton

North America's winningest Thoroughbred in terms of victories this year will have 10 wins, but the final weekend of 2023 will determine if the Midwest-based gelding **Fayette Warrior** (Exchange Rate) ends up alone atop the leaderboard or if he has to share the honor with two nine-win rivals in the mid-Atlantic who could tie the mark either Dec. 30 or 31.

The 7-year-old Fayette Warrior, who sports a lifetime record of 19-11-7 from 71 starts with \$241,772 in earnings, has topped the continent since his last victory at Columbus against starter-allowance company Oct. 21. He then finished second Oct. 29, also at the Nebraska track, before owner/trainer Troy Bethke gave him a break to prepare for a 2024 campaign.

With Troy's son, Scott Bethke, riding Fayette Warrior in all 18 starts this year, the pair also posed for winner's circle photos at Energy Downs (three times), plus Fonner Park, Sweetwater County Fair, and Wyoming Downs (twice each).

Fonner Park | *Fonner Park*

"He's a little bitty horse. He probably barely reaches 15 hands. Just a small-statured horse, but he's got a big heart, and he likes to run," Troy Bethke told *TDN*. "Every time we lead him up there, he gives you 100%. He's a spunky, cocky little guy; a good-looking rascal. He likes to train, likes to race--just a good little horse.

"We only had a couple of races where he didn't run great this year, and both of them he got in trouble," Bethke said, noting that Fayette Warrior only finished out of the money three times. "One was on the backside where he got pinched into the rail, and then another one it was really muddy and he just didn't seem to handle the track that day. Scott's kind of grown attached to him, and in that particular race I think he kind of took care of him a little bit.

A \$90,000 KEEJAN purchase for Calumet Farm back in 2017, Fayette Warrior debuted for trainer Wesley Ward at Saratoga in 2018 (seventh at the MSW level). But he won his next start at Kentucky Downs by 4 1/4 lengths, and was then fourth and third in listed stakes at Belmont Park and Laurel Park.

After that, Fayette Warrior drifted downward in class to circuits in Kentucky, Oklahoma, Nebraska, Iowa and Minnesota while switching stables 13 times before finally landing with Bethke.

"I claimed him two years ago. We ran him at Canterbury, then in Nebraska and Colorado," Bethke said. "This last summer, we started in Nebraska, then a gal who was an assistant for me went out to Wyoming and ran that circuit out there. Then he came back to Nebraska.

"We were trying to put him in races where he would run well. We knew that he was doing well, up towards the top [of the North American leaderboard]," Bethke said.

No matter the level of racing, achieving 10 victories "is a lot of wins" for any horse, Bethke said.

Anthony Farris | *Jim McCue*

"He'll be coming back next year," Bethke said. "He had a pretty hard, long campaign, so we stopped on him. I've got a little place in Minnesota, so we've got him turned out at the house here right now.

Reached by phone Dec. 29, Bethke said he wasn't aware there were two other horses entered this weekend to potentially tie Fayette Warrior.

Both of those runners are trained by Anthony Farris, who told *TDN* in a separate phone interview that it wasn't his intent to go after the winningest horse title.

"It's just how the races came up," said Farris, whose stable primarily competes in Maryland, West Virginia and Pennsylvania.

Farris will run the 4-year-old filly **Divine Fashion** (**Divining Rod**) in the third race Saturday at Mahoning Valley, where she's the 7-5 morning-line favorite for a \$5,000 starter-allowance.

He's also got the 3-year-old gelding **Uncaptured Storm** (Uncaptured) on the also-eligible list in the first race at Laurel on Sunday as the 5-2 morning-line choice. That's a \$25,000 claimer open to non-winners of three (any age) or straight 3-year-olds (regardless of the number of victories).

"Uncaptured Storm, me and [trainer Mario] Serey claimed him back and forth [twice each this year]. He just seemed to get better as a grew up as a 3-year-old," Farris said, adding that being able to take advantage of a condition that pits a nine-time winner against horses who haven't broken through the three-lifetime level is "a little advantage."

Divine Fashion is going to have to prove she's able to win on the road. All nine of her wins this season have come at Charles Town. The two times she's shipped elsewhere in 2023 (both to Laurel), she's lost.

"She just loves Charles Town," Farris said. "She always shows up and runs her race. When you get a nice starter filly at Charles



Beverly Park | Coady Photography

Town [the condition goes back to] two years from the date, so that helps out a lot. She'd probably have won more if my other filly wasn't beating her earlier in the year."

Farrior was referring to **Dulcimer Dame (Mineshaft)** a 6-year-old who won seven straight before the month of March ended but has been 0-for-5 since. She'll aim for win No. 8 on Sunday at Laurel.

"They're just sound horses and you can keep them running. So it's worked out great," Farrior said.

All three of those Farrior-trained winners are owned, either in whole or in partnership, by Richard Burnsworth, whose record as a solo owner in 2023 is an impressive 79-for-298 (26%).

"He likes to win. He doesn't mess with me, and he lets me put them in where they belong," Farrior said of his client.

One other gelding with nine wins, the 6-year-old **Never Compromise (Graydar)**, most recently ran third at Charles Town Dec. 16 and won't make a subsequent start before the year is out. He's owned by Robert Cole Jr. and trained by Stephen Murdock.

In 2022, the continent's winningest horse was **Beverly Park (Munnings)** with 14 victories. He came back to win four this year.

Between 2012 and 2021, the North American leaderboard was topped by horses who won between eight (in the pandemic-shortened 2020 campaign) and 12 times.

You have to go back to 2011 to find a truly freakish outlier, which was when the Cole-owned starter-allowance stalwart Rapid Redux ran the table with a 19-for-19 record for trainer David Wells.

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Favorite Moment

WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE MOMENT OF 2023: HEADLEY BELL

As 2023 draws to a close, the TDN is asking industry members to name their favorite moment of the year. Send yours to suefinley@thetdn.com



Headley Bell | Keeneland

My favorite '23 moment was watching Jena Antonucci and her team, 'vigorously' rooting home Arcangelo in the Belmont and then becoming the 'spokesperson extraordinaire' on behalf of our industry! --Headley Bell, Mill Ridge Farm

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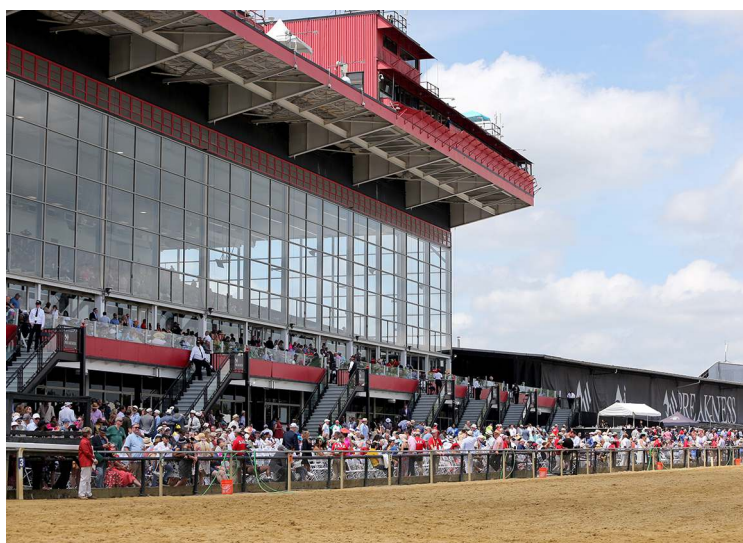
GRADED STAKES ENTRIES

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MARYLAND'S THOROUGHBRED HORSEMEN AND BREEDERS ANNOUNCE ONE-YEAR EXTENSION WITH 1/ST RACING



Pimlico | Horsephotos

The Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen Association, Maryland Horse Breeders Association, and 1/ST RACING have announced a one-year deal to continue live horse racing in Maryland until December 31, 2024. The deal ensures that the GI Preakness S. will be run at Pimlico in May and provides for ongoing racing operations throughout 2024.

"We are pleased to come to terms on a one-year extension to the 2012 agreement with The Stronach Group, 1/ST RACING and Maryland Jockey Club and appreciate the work by all that went into finalizing this deal," said David Richardson, Executive Director of MTHA. "This agreement provides our horsemen, the state's breeders, and backstretch workers stability while the Maryland Thoroughbred Racetrack Operating Authority continues their important work on a long-term plan for our industry. We look forward to the final Authority report and a bright and sustainable future for thoroughbred horse racing in Maryland."

During the 2023 legislative session, Governor Wes Moore, Senate President Bill Ferguson, House Speaker Adrienne A. Jones, and members of the Maryland General Assembly created the Maryland Thoroughbred Racing Operating Authority by law to outline a plan for the future of Maryland racing. Over the past decade, Maryland leaders have dedicated funding to stabilize this historic industry but needed more legal authority to implement a plan.

"The Stronach Group, 1/ST RACING and the Maryland Jockey Club are committed to a successful 2024 racing season as we work in good faith with other stakeholders to develop a long-term, sustainable racing model for Maryland," said Craig Fravel, Executive Vice Chairman, 1/ST RACING. "We are pleased to have worked constructively with Maryland stakeholders on this agreement and look forward to continuing to work with the Maryland Racetrack Operating Authority in the best interests of racing in Maryland."

The Maryland racing industry, one of the oldest in the United States, has an economic impact of more than \$2 billion in addition to preserving thousands of acres of open space statewide.

The Authority, chaired by veteran attorney at Venable LLP Gregory A. Cross, is expected to issue its interim recommendations next month.

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THIS DATE IN HISTORY...

December 31, 1989...Jockey Pat Day edged Angel Cordero Jr. as the year's leading jockey by just two wins after chartering a plane to Louisiana and riding Dana's Woof Woof and Miltons Magic to victory during the evening program at Delta Downs. Day won the title--his first--with 399 wins to Cordero's 397.

December 31, 1989...Jockey Kent Desormeaux set a world record for the most wins in a single season, 598, riding East Royalty to victory in the Inner Harbor S. at Laurel. He surpassed the old mark, set by Chris McCarron, by 52 wins.

December 31, 1993...Jockey Mike Smith set the record for the most stakes victories in a single year, 62, with a win aboard Bit of Puddin in the Bertram F. Bongard S. at Aqueduct.

Courtesy of the National Thoroughbred Racing Association.

Saturday, Gulfstream #11, post time: 5:04 p.m. EST

FT. LAUDERDALE S.-GII, \$200,000, 3yo/up, 1 1/8mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Marwad (GB)	Intello (Ger)	Rachid Racing Inc.	Moubarak	Murphy	121
2	Grand Sonata 🌿	Medaglia d'Oro	Whisper Hill Farm, LLC	Pletcher	Gaffalione	121
3	Jerry the Nipper 🌿	Liam's Map	Repole Stable	Pletcher	Ortiz	121
4	Main Event 🌿	Bernardini	Harrell Ventures, LLC	Weaver	Castellano	121
5	Kingmax (Ire)	Kingman (GB)	Amo Racing USA	Delgado	Egan	121
6	Fort Washington	War Front	Allen Stable, Inc. and Magic Cap Stables	McGaughey III	Saez	121
7	Stone Age (Ire)	Galileo (Ire)	Westerberg, Peter M. Brant, Mrs. John Magnier, Derrick Smith, and Michael B. Tabor	Brown	Velazquez	121
8	Red Run	Gun Runner	Jordan V. Wycoff	Maker	Zayas	121
9	Running Bee	English Channel	Calumet Farm	Brown	Ortiz, Jr.	121
10	Henley's Joy	Kitten's Joy	Paradise Farms Corp. and David Staudacher	Maker	Lopez	121

Breeders: 1-Shadwell Estate Company Limited, 2-Whisper Hill Farm, LLC, 3-St. Elias Stable, LLC & Peta Ryan, 4-Godolphin, Eric Buckley & Elizabeth Buckley, 5-Sunderland Holding Inc., 6-Joseph Allen, LLC & White Birch Farm, Inc., 7-White Birch Farm, SC, 8-Winchell Thoroughbreds LLC, 9-English Channel Co-Owners & Gordon Gilliam, 10-Kenneth L. Ramsey & Sarah K. Ramsey

Saturday, Santa Anita #1, post time: 3:00 p.m. EST

JOE HERNANDEZ S.-GII, \$200,000, 3yo/up, 6 1/2FT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Lucky Score 🌿	Lookin At Lucky	Pantofel Stable, Wachtel Stable and Barber, Gary	Casse	Maldonado	125
2	Balnikhov (Ire)	Adaay (Ire)	Little Red Feather Racing, Madaket Stables & Old Bones Racing Stable, LLC	D'Amato	Fresu	123
3	Daniel's Magic	Magician (Ire)	S. J. S. Stables and Diamond, Lindy S.	Harty	Kimura	121
4	Forbidden Kingdom	American Pharoah	MyRacehorse and Spendthrift Farm LLC	Mandella	Prat	121
5	Peaceful Waters 🌿	Dialed In	Hronis Racing LLC	Sadler	Berrios	121
6	I'm A Gambler (Ire)	No Nay Never	Red Baron's Barn LLC and Rancho Temescal LLC	Glatt	Dettori	121
7	Lovesick Blues	Grazen	Nicholas B. Alexander	Miyadi	Baze	121
8	Johnny Podres	Grazen	David A. Bernsen LLC & Mia Familia Racing Stable	Barocio	Frey	121
9	Tahoe Sunrise 🌿	American Pharoah	Pegram, Michael E., Watson, Karl & Weitman, Paul	Baffert	Espinoza	119
10	Turn On The Jets (Ire)	Mehmas (Ire)	Benowitz Family Trust, CYBT, Nentwig, M & Pagano, R	D'Amato	Hernandez	121
11	Olympic Runner 🌿	Gio Ponti	Gary Barber	Casse	Rispoli	121
12	Front Run the Fed 🌿	Fed Biz	George A. Sharp	Caramori	Franco	121
13	Dancing Buck	War Dancer	J and N Stables and Diamond M Stable	Dutrow, Jr.	Maldonado	121

Breeders: 1-James Everatt, Janeane Everatt & Arika Everatt-Meeuse, 2-T. de La Heronniere & Gestut Zur Kuste AG, 3-SJS Stables, 4-Springhouse Farm, 5-Mark Toothaker & Keith Crupper, 6-Fullbury Ltd, 7-Nick Alexander, 8-Nick Alexander, 9-Mr. & Mrs. David Garner, 10-Mr D. Byrne, 11-Eutrophia Far



THE SIGN OF SUCCESS

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

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Saturday, Gulfstream #8, post time: 3:32 p.m. EST**SUWANNEE RIVER S.-GIII, \$150,000, 3yo/up, f/m, 1mT**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Saffron Moon 🌿	Malibu Moon	CHP Racing	Brown	Gaffalione	121
2	Poca Mucha 🌿	Tourist	Pantofel Stable, Wachtel Stable, and Jerold L. Zaro	Mott	Lopez	121
3	Walkathon	Twirling Candy	Whitham Thoroughbreds LLC	Wilkes	Bravo	121
4	Full Count Felicia 🌿	War Front	Gold Square LLC	Russell	Ortiz, Jr.	123
5	Tequilera	Vancouver (Aus)	John T. Behrendt	Matz	Alvarado	121
6	Accomplished Girl 🌿	Street Boss	Gentry Farms	Joseph, Jr.	Zayas	120
7	Willakia	Tapit	Stonestreet Stables LLC	Motion	Velazquez	121
8	Sister Lou Ann	Frosted	Kenneth L. Ramsey	Joseph, Jr.	Ortiz	121
9	Fast as Flight 🌿	Air Force Blue	Jim and Susan Hill	Lynch	Saez	123
10	Messidor (Ire)	Vadamos (Fr)	Blue Devil Racing Stable	Clement	Castellano	121

Breeders: 1-Cove Springs Farm LLC, 2-Brownwood Farm, 3-Whitham Thoroughbreds, LLC, 4-Joseph Allen, LLC, 5-Helen K. Groves Revocable Trust, 6-Jack Swain III, 7-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC, 8-Kenneth L. Ramsey & Sarah K. Ramsey, 9-Pursuit of Success, LLC, 10-Fairway Thoroughbreds

Saturday, Gulfstream #10, post time: 4:34 p.m. EST**HARLAN'S HOLIDAY S.-GIII, \$150,000, 3yo/up, 1 1/16m**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Dubuyhnel 🌿	Good Magic	West Paces Racing LLC & Stonestreet Stables LLC	Gargan	Saez	118
2	Ny Traffic	Cross Traffic	John Fanelli, Cash is King LLC, LC Racing LLC, Paul Braverman, and Team Hanley	Joseph, Jr.	Castellano	121
3	Grand Aspen	Dialed In	PRO Thoroughbred Enterprises	Pletcher	Ortiz	121
4	Blue Devil 🌿	Uncle Mo	MyRacehorse and Rocket Ship Racing, LLC	Hiles	Alvarado	121
5	Signator	Tapit	West Point Thoroughbreds, Woodford Racing, LLC, Gainesway Stable, Phipps Stable, Ken Langone, Edward J. Hudson, Jr., and Lane's End Racing	McGaughey III	Velazquez	118
6	O'Connor (Chi)	Boboman	Michael Iavarone, Julia C. Iavarone, and Fernando Vine Ode	Joseph, Jr.	Gaffalione	126
7	Octane	Brethren	Arindel	Alvarado	Zayas	121
8	Miles D 🌿	Curlin	Haras Lizzie, Inc.	Sanchez	Reyes	121
9	Gasoline	Curlin	Harrell Ventures, LLC and CHC INC.	Pletcher	Ortiz, Jr.	121
10	Steal Sunshine	Constitution	Carrie L. Brogden, Michael Iavarone, and Julia C. Iavarone	Dibona	Lopez	123
11	Lure Him In	Khozan	Double B Racing Stables	Wilensky	Gonzalez	121

Breeders: 1-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC, 2-Brian Culnan, 3-PRO Thoroughbred Enterprises, 4-Mt. Brilliant Farm & Ranch, LLC, 5-Gainesway Thoroughbreds Ltd., 6-Haras Carioca, 7-Arindel, 8-River Bend Farm, 9-China Horse Club International, LTD., 10-Machmer Hall, 11-Stonehedge LLC

Saturday, Santa Anita #3, post time: 4:00 p.m. EST**ROBERT J. FRANKEL S.-GIII, \$100,000, 3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/8mT**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Lakota Spirit 🌿	Curlin	Brant, Peter M. and Shanahan, Mrs. Paul	D'Amato	Hernandez	121
2	Rebel Girl 🌿	Noble Mission (GB)	De Seroux, Laura and Naify, Marsha	Powell	Dettori	121
3	Angel Nadeshiko 🌿	Carpe Diem	U.S. Equine	Gallagher	Fresu	121
4	Luminiferous 🌿	City of Light	Nguyen, Calvin and Tran, Joey C.	Papaprodromou	Kimura	121
5	Oakhurst	Mr Speaker	Little Red Feather Racing	D'Amato	Prat	121
6	Yerwanthere (Ire)	Markaz (Ire)	Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners	Gallagher	Rispoli	121

Breeders: 1-WinStar Farm, LLC, 2-Pamela Deegan & W. S. Farish, 3-Fred W. Hertrich III, 4-Fred W. Hertrich III & John D. Fielding, 5-Vegso Racing Stable, 6-Kilnamoragh Stud

Saturday, Fair Grounds, post time: 4:45 p.m. EST

WOODCHOPPER S., \$100,000, 3yo, 1mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Velocitor	Mor Spirit	Ulwelling, Al and Bill	Scherer	Cohen	116
2	Winters Lion	Accelerate	Calumet Farm	Sharp	Torres	116
3	Deccan Prince (Ire)	Kingman (GB)	Wayne T. Davis	Wilson	Guerrero	116
4	Gigante	Not This Time	Iapetus Racing LLC and Diamond T Racing LLC	Asmussen	Morales	122
5	Desert Duke	Kitten's Joy	William Brook Henderson	Hartman	Murrill	116
6	Mor Victory	Mor Spirit	Norman Stables, LLC	Gelner	Loveberry	116
7	Northern Invader	Collected	West Point Thoroughbreds and Ingordo, David	DeVaux	Hernandez, Jr.	122
8	Dapper Dude	California Chrome	Ricardo Rodriguez	Rodriguez	Pedroza, Jr.	116
9	Gluckstadt	Malibu Moon	J. Patrick Lee Racing LLC	Sanchez	Nieves	116
10	Point Proven	Gun Runner	Norman C. Miller IV	Cohn	Lanerie	116
11	Machine Gun Man	Mor Spirit	J. Patrick Lee Racing LLC	Sanchez	Gutierrez	116
12	Cash Fever	Speightster	Joel B. Hunsburger	Tracy	Roman	116

Breeders: 1-Al Ulwelling & Bill Ulwelling, 2-Center Hills Farm, 3-Diamond Creek Farm, 4-Ann Mudge Backer & Smitten Farm, 5-Sam Henderson, 6-Susan Bedwell, 7-Anderson Farms Ont. Inc. & Peter A.Berglar Racing Interests, LLC., 8-Team Block & Rich Ege, 9-Mikhail Yanakov, 10-Three Chimneys Farm, LLC, 11-St. Simon Place LLC, 12-Kimberly Crabtree & Danny Wills

Saturday, Fair Grounds, post time: 5:45 p.m. EST

PAGO HOP S., \$100,000, 3yo, f, 1mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Mo Bills	Uncle Mo	Mt. Brilliant Farm LLC and Ingram, Orrin	Stidham	Loveberry	116
2	Spartan Queen	Medaglia d'Oro	Spartan Team Investments, LLC	Lovell	Hernandez	116
3	Tufani	Distorted Humor	Susan Moulton	Stidham	Curtis	116
4	Watch This Birdie	Astern (Aus)	Michael House	Correas, IV	Graham	116
5	Musical Score	American Pharoah	Mrs John Magnier, Derrick Smith and Michael Tabor	Cox	Pedroza, Jr.	116
6	Storm Bay	Cross Traffic	Mueller Thoroughbred Stable, Ltd.	DeVaux	Parker	116
7	Callie's Grit	Maclean's Music	Carl R. Moore Management LLC and Grady, Brad	Sharp	Torres	118
8	Ann Alee	Midshipman	Sprick, Cheryl and Bremer, Richard	Biehler	Gutierrez	116
9	Financial Advice (Fr)	Wootton Bassett (GB)	Chris Nolan	Forster	Morales	116
10	Kerry	Practical Joke	Jordan V. Wycoff	Sharp	Cohen	116
11	Condensation	Frosted	Pravin A. Patel	Hartman	Lanerie	116
12	Free Look	Tapit	Blue Diamond Stud Farm, LLC	Cox	Geroux	116
13	Secret Statement	Runhappy	Candie Baker, Robert Hoeweler and Jeff Monen	Baker	Morales	116
14	Batucada	Union Rags	Full of Run Racing II and Madaket Stables LLC	Russell	Lanerie	116
15	Fit and Famous	Sock Hop	Joel B. Hunsburger	Tracy	Roman	116

Breeders: 1-Mt Brilliant Broodmares II LLC, 2-Spartan Team Investment, 3-Chance Farm & Distorted Humor Syndicate, 4-McDowell Farm, 5-Orpendale, Chelston & Wynatt, 6-Mueller Thoroughbred Stable, LTD., 7-Dr. John C. Weed Jr. & Maclean's MusicSyndicate, 8-Richard Bremer & Cheryl Sprick, 9-Mr. Jean Uzel, 10-Waterville Lake Stable LLC, 11-William Humphries & Altair Farms LLC, 12-KatieRich Farms, 13-Robert Hoeweler, 14-Wygod Equine, LLC, 15-Joel B. Hunsburger

Happy Holidays
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CARPE DIEM'S KINZA A 'STAR' IN SANTA ANITA UNVEILING *by Stefanie Grimm*



Kinza | Benoit

Michael Lund Peterson's **Kinza** (Carpe Diem--Secret Wonder, by **Quality Road**) debuted in 'TDN Rising Star' style Friday, leading a field of maiden fillies at Santa Anita gate-to-wire to graduate for trainer Bob Baffert. Purchased for \$350,000 as a 2-year-old earlier this year at the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic Sale 2-Year-Olds In Training Sale after **breeding in :10.1**, the 5-1 shot prepped for this spot with a pair of back-to-back bullet works earlier in the month (five furlongs from the gate in :59 3/5 {1/9} Nov. 29 and again in 1:00 flat {1/4} Dec. 6) and certainly seized her opportunity to strike the front at first call under Juan Hernandez. Despite heavy pressure to her outside from race favorite Ms Bo J (Mitole), Kinza was able to shake that rival off through fractions of :21.92 and :45.24 and really open up when unleashed past the quarter pole. From there, it was only a matter of who would finish second (an honor taken by Splendor {**Audible**}) as Kinza won for fun by 7 1/2 lengths.

The fourth 'TDN Rising Star' for Louisiana-based Carpe Diem, and the first since 2020, Kinza is the first to the races and first winner for her dam who has since produced a yearling **Instagrand** filly. Secret Wonder is due on a cover to **Honest Mischief** for 2024.

NEW TDN **RISING STAR**

8th-Santa Anita, \$68,000, Msw, 12-29, 2yo, f, 6f, 1:09.79, ft, 7 1/2 lengths.

KINZA, f, 2, Carpe Diem



1st Dam: Secret Wonder, by Quality Road

2nd Dam: Maxinkuckee Miss, by Langfuhr

3rd Dam: Wini Jones, by Seeking the Gold

Sales History: \$17,000 Wlg '21 FTNMIX; \$30,000 Ylg '22 OBSOCT; \$350,000 2yo '23 EASMAY. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$39,000. O-Michael Lund Petersen; B-JD Business Ventures LLC, Brushy Hill Stable & Carpe Diem Syndicate (NY); T-Bob Baffert. **Click for the Equibase.com chart** or **VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV.** Click for the **free Equineline.com catalog-style pedigree.**



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SATURDAY INSIGHTS: PLETCHER DUO KICKS OFF PEGASUS PREVIEW DAY AT GULFSTREAM *by Stefanie Grimm*

1st-GP, \$70K, Msw, 2yo, 7f, 12:10 p.m.

A pair of Todd Pletcher trainees headlines the action Saturday for Gulfstream's Pegasus Preview Day led by \$700,000 2-year-old **BAIL US OUT** (**Lookin At Lucky**). Picked up at OBSAPR by Repole Stable off a **breeze in :10 flat**, the bay is a son of a stakes-winning dam from the family of MGSW/MGISP Topcount (Private Account). Bail Us Out will break from the inside under Jose Ortiz. **Cont.**



Bail Us Out sells at OBSAPR | Photos By Z

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Stablemate **Born Noble (Constitution)**, himself a \$725,000 KESEEP yearling for St. Elias Stable and West Point Thoroughbreds, is the first foal out of GISP Zapperkat while third dam Rokeby Rosie counts dual champion Silverbulletday (Silver Deputy) as her half-sister.

Breaking between that pair is **Mo Go (Medalia d'Oro)**, a \$400,000 KEENOV weanling for Tom Durant and Jose D'Angelo. The colt was a \$625,000 RNA at OBSAPR earlier in the year.

Big City (City of Light) has the same owner and trainer as Mo Go and his own \$300,000 FTKNOV price tag after RNA'ing for \$445,000 also out of OBSAPR. His dam, bought for \$325,000 at KEENOV with this runner in-utero, is a daughter of MGISW and \$1.8m KEENOV broodmare Ask the Moon (Malibu Moon).

TJCIS PPS

1st-AQU, \$85K, Msw, 2yo, f, 1m, 12:20 p.m.

Summer Wind Equine's **Greatest Gift (Curlin)** is the latest foal out of Lil Indy, also the dam of champion 3-year-old colt **Maximum Security (New Year's Day)**. Summer Wind bought Lil Indy, a half-sister to MGISW Flat Out (Flatter), out of the 2019 KEENOV Sale for \$1.85m. **TJCIS PPS**

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IN ORDER OF PURSE:

BLUE NORTHER S., \$102,000, Santa Anita, 12-29, 2yo, f, 1mT, 1:35.80, fm.

1--**MEDORO**, 118, f, 2, by Honor Code

1st Dam: **Achira (MSP, \$151,852)**, by English Channel

2nd Dam: **Styler**, by Holy Bull

3rd Dam: **Set Them Free**, by Stop the Music

1ST BLACK TYPE WIN. O-C R K Stable LLC; B-Parks Investment Group, LLC (KY); T-Peter Eurton; J-Antonio Fresu. \$60,000. Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, \$96,600.

2--**Chatalas**, 122, f, 2, **Gun Runner**--Indian Safari, by Indian Charlie. O-Rancho Temescal Thoroughbreds, Dan Agnew and William Chatalas; B-Dan Agnew (KY); T-Mark Glatt. \$20,000.

Fleetwood Bloodstock Recommended Mating

Born and Raised at Greenfield Farms

3--**Mo Fox Givin**, 120, f, 2, **Mo Town**--Givine (Fr), by Blackdown (Fr). (\$2,000 Ylg '22 FTKOCT). O-Woo Pig Stables; B-Liberty Road Stables (KY); T-Leonard Powell. \$12,000.

Consigned by  **GAINESWAY**

FELD FAMILY FIND

Margins: NK, 2, HF. Odds: 2.40, 8.40, 3.70.

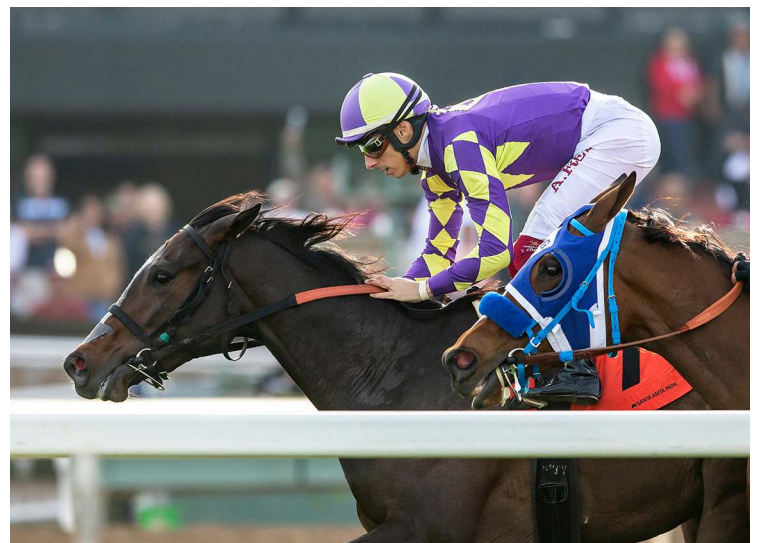
Also Ran: Zona Verde (Ire), Antifona (Fr), April Vintage, Highlands, Hattie T, Blue Oasis.

Medoro's first stakes race looked eerily similar to her Del Mar debut Dec. 1 with both resulting in narrow, hard-closing wins. Stretching out from five furlongs to one mile Friday, the Peter Eurton trainee broke from an outside gate and was content to settle off the speed while kept wide and in the clear by Antonio Fresu. Racing in the back half of the field of nine, the 2-1 favorite began to make up ground into leader Chatalas and drew alongside that rival at the head of the lane. Unleashed into the final furlong, Medoro swept onto even terms on the outside and just out-dued the runner up for the win. The stewards looked into a pair of events during the race, one involving Zona Verde (Ire) (**Calyx {GB}**) and the third-place runner Mo Fox Givin in the stretch, but opted to let the order of finish stand.

"I would have liked to stay third or fourth and not wide," said Fresu. "Unfortunately I was caught wide around the first turn and I didn't have any place to go, so I just tried to reduce pace, just to hold her there to save some energy and just give her a breather. At the quarter pole, I asked her because at Del Mar she had an exceptional turn of foot, so I just wanted to see if today at a mile she would have the same. When she switched leads, she just flew home."

One of 18 stakes winners for sire Honor Code, Medoro is the first foal out of a half-sister to the dam of Perryville S. record-setter and new sire **Nashville (Speightstown)**. Further back in the family is GI Kentucky Derby upsetter Giacomo (Holy Bull) along with MGISW Tiago (Pleasant Tap) and GSW/MGISP Stanwyck (Empire Maker). The winner has a **Speightstown** yearling half-brother and a weanling half-brother by **Honor A.P.** while her dam is pregnant to **Not This Time**. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV.**

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Medoro | Benoit

EDDIE LOGAN S., \$100,500, Santa Anita, 12-29, 2yo, 1mT, 1:36.15, fm.

1--**LORD BULLINGDON, 122, c, 2, by Lord Nelson**

1st Dam: Ms Silver Oak, by Leroidesanimaux (Brz)

2nd Dam: Songthrush, by Unbridled's Song

3rd Dam: Virgin Michael, by Green Dancer

(\$22,000 Ylg '22 KEESEP; \$55,000 2yo '23 EASMAY). O-Colbart Stables and Michael McCarthy Racing Stable, Inc.; B-Veloce LLC (KY); T-Michael W. McCarthy; J-Umberto Rispoli. \$60,000. Lifetime Record: GSP, 6-2-2-0, \$186,220.

LANE'S END RAISED & SOLD

SIX K's TRAINING & SALES GRADUATE

2--**Charge for Gold, 118, c, 2, Omaha Beach--Gasp, by Hennessy.** (\$55,000 RNA Wlg '21 KEENOV; \$60,000 2yo '23 OBSAPR).

1ST BLACK TYPE. O-John P. Warren; B-Brad Shattuck (KY); T-Philip A. Oviedo. \$20,000.

3--**Twirling Point, 120, g, 2, Twirling Candy--Kitten's Point, by Kitten's Joy. 1ST BLACK TYPE.** O-Augustin Stables; B-George Strawbridge (KY); T-Jonathan Thomas. \$12,000.

STONE FARM "We're trying to raise you a good horse." **Raised**

Margins: 2, HF, 3/4. Odds: 2.40, 18.20, 6.50.

Also Ran: Miracle Mark, Final Boss, American Hope. Scratched: Invincible, Practically Broke, Stay Hot.



Lord Bullingdon | Benoit

The connections of Lord Bullingdon thought highly enough of their horse to jump him up into graded-stakes company after running second to 'TDN Rising Star' Prince of Monaco (Speightstown) at Los Alamitos July 9. Second again in the GIII Del Mar Juvenile Turf S., he was denied again back in maiden special weight company at Santa Anita Oct. 7 before finally breaking through in the Qatar Golden Mile S. Nov. 3. Fourth last out in the GIII Cecil B Demille S., Lord Bullingdon stuck to what he knows best in his fifth straight try over the mile distance Friday. Tucked in to save ground from third, the 2-1 favorite was

patiently handled by Umberto Rispoli and navigated through a gap around the far turn to launch a bid. Once clear, Lord Bullingdon was the class of the field and opened up with authority for the easy score.

"It was a very good trip," said Rispoli. "I sat behind the speed. Last time I have to say it was my fault, I didn't give him a chance to get his legs under him. Today he was a different horse. He dragged me up there, I found the gap at the top of the stretch and he did the rest. He is a very good horse today, acting more professionally."

One of six stakes winner for Lord Nelson, Lord Bullingdon has a yearling **Accelerate** half-sister and a weanling **Tonalist** half-brother still to race. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV.**

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ALEX M. ROBB S., \$96,000, Aqueduct, 12-29, (S), 3yo/up, 1m, 1:36.18, my.

1--**DR ARDITO, 126, g, 5, Liam's Map--Delightfully So,**

by Indian Charlie. (\$95,000 Ylg '19 SARAUG). O-Michael J. Caruso and Michael Dubb; B-Fred W. Hertrich III & John D. Fielding (NY); T-Chad C. Brown; J-Manuel Franco. \$55,000. Lifetime Record: GSP, 14-8-2-0, \$496,993.

Valerio Bloodstock Yearling Selection

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2--**Aggregation, 121, g, 4, Flatter--Emotional Words, by Curlin.** (\$270,000 Ylg '20 KEESEP). O-Klaravich Stables, Inc.; B-Graceville Breeding (NY); T-Chad C. Brown. \$20,000.

THINK INDIAN CREEK

3--**Barese, 126, c, 4, Laoban--Right Prevails, by Successful Appeal.** (\$150,000 2yo '21 FTFMAR). O-Paradise Farms Corp. and David Staudacher; B-Sequel Thoroughbreds LLC & Lakland Farm (NY); T-Michael J. Maker. \$12,000.

SIX K's TRAINING & SALES GRADUATE

Margins: HF, 4HF, HD. Odds: 1.70, 1.25, 7.70.

Also Ran: General Banker, **Curlin's** Wisdom.

Dropping down out of graded-stakes company, Dr Ardito topped a Chad Brown-trained exacta when defeating his stablemate in Friday's Alex M. Robb S. After picking up a placing in the GII Forty Niner S. Oct. 28, a poor break did him no favors when facing a tough field in a muddy rendition of the GII Cigar Mile H. Dec. 2. Now in his third straight try over course and distance, the 8-5 second choice trailed the field and was kept well off the inside over a track again listed as muddy. Angled in to save ground around the turn, he came within sight of his pacesetting stablemate Aggregation with a quarter to run and shifted back to that rival's outside to rally. The pair came home together but, as Aggregation began to tire, Dr Ardito took advantage and picked up a narrow win. **Cont.**

“I know they were going a pretty good pace in front because my horse was there, but then he tucked back a little bit,” said winning jockey Manny Franco. “I knew they were rolling along, so I just bided my time, cut the corner and when I got in the clear, he started running again.”

Out of a half-sister to Canadian champion 2-year-old filly Delightful Mary (Limehouse) and MGSW/GISP Delightful Kiss (Kissin Kris), Dr Ardito has a 2-year-old **Audible** half-sister, a yearling half-sister by **Volatile** and a weanling half-brother by **Liam's Map**. His dam is due to **Life Is Good** for the spring. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV.**

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IN ORDER OF PURSE:

8th-Turfway, \$73,950, Alw, 12-28, (NW3L), 3yo/up, f/m, 6 1/2f (AWT), 1:18.63, ft, 1/2 length.

TWO ITEM SAVER (f, 3, Super Saver--Two Item Limit {MGSW & MGISP, \$1,060,585}, by Twining) broke her maiden off an extended layoff earlier this year at Colonial Downs before dominating at Keeneland against allowance horses, winning by 13 1/2 lengths Oct. 6. A disappointing seventh last out when stretched out to 1 1/16 miles at Churchill Downs Nov. 24, she stepped onto Tapeta for the first time Thursday with a 6-1 chance. Outrun up the backstretch from a wide post, Two Item Saver began a bid with a quarter left to run and was able to close past pacesetter Black Forest (**Frosted**) to nab the half-length win. The last foal from her dam, Two Item Saver is a half to \$1.5m KEENOV broodmare Arena Elvira (**Ghostzapper**), MGSW, \$497,396. Lifetime Record: 5-3-0-0, \$156,478. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV.** O/B-Charles Fipke (KY); T-Ignacio Correas, IV.

TODAY'S FEATURED REPLAY



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6th-Gulfstream, \$54,000, (S), Alw (NW1X)/Opt. Clm (\$20,000), 12-29, 3yo/up, 6f, 1:10.55, my, 2 lengths.

BRING THEBAND HOME (g, 3, Into Mischief--Tizatude, by Street Cry {Ire}) broke his maiden as a juvenile at Saratoga last July but has raced only twice since off extended layoffs. Last spotted in third at Tampa Nov. 22, the 9-2 shot was best from the gate and quickly opened up a gap on the field that Classify (Adios Charlie) would not be able to close, coming in two lengths behind on the line. Tizatude, purchased for \$800,000 at FTKNOV in 2019 carrying Bring Theband Home, is a half to GISW and sire **Paynter** (Awesome Again) and out of a full-sister to Horse of the year Tiznow (Cee's Tizzy). She has an unraced **Curlin** 2-year-old, a weanling **Tapit** colt and is due to **Constitution** in the spring. Lifetime Record: 5-2-1-1, \$107,990. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV.** O/B-Live Oak Stud (FL); T-Mark E. Casse.

2nd-Delta Downs, \$36,000, Alw, 12-29, (NW2L), 2yo, f, 6 1/2f, 1:22.78, ft, 2 3/4 lengths.

NANA'S CORN MUFFIN (f, 2, Oscar Performance--Nothing But Netta, by Will Take Charge) just missed after leading throughout over five furlongs at Delta Downs Dec. 14. The 8-5 favorite Friday, she pressured the early speed before taking over around the turn and outrunning Katies Spirit (Mitole) home to win by 2 3/4 lengths. Nana's Corn Muffin is the only foal out of a half-sister to G1SP Centrodelerantero (Carpe Diem). Sales History: \$11,000 Ylg '22 OBSWIN. Lifetime Record: 4-2-1-0, \$50,000. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV.** O/B-Ellen Epstein (FL); T-Allen Landry.



IN ORDER OF PURSE:

5th-Aqueduct, \$70,000, (S), Msw, 12-29, 2yo, 6f, 1:11.52, my, 1 3/4 lengths.

DOC SULLIVAN (c, 2, Solomini--Queen Frostine, by Giant's Causeway) outran his 16-1 odds to finish third over course and distance Dec. 2 and caught his second straight muddy surface Friday as the 5-2 favorite. Making a move from the back half of the field, he closed into fractions of :22.06 and :45.82 to draw past Sorority Prank (Maximus Mischief) late and open up by 1 3/4 lengths for the win. The 13th winner for his freshman sire (by **Curlin**), Doc Sullivan is a half to Fix Me a Sandwich (To Honor and Serve), SP, \$284,905. Queen Frostine reported a yearling

Lookin At Lucky filly and was bred to **Drain the Clock** for 2024. Sales History: \$58,000 Ylg '22 SARAUG; \$59,000 2yo '23 OBSOPN. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-1, \$46,900. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV.** O-Tristar Farm, LLC; B-Seamus Coughlan (NY); T-Michael Miceli.

Purchased as a 2yo by Joseph Brocklebank
VINERY SALES GRADUATE



Doc Sullivan | *Coglianese*

3rd-Laurel, \$54,160, Msw, 12-29, 2yo, f, 6f, 1:12.08, ft, 4 3/4 lengths.

HEART (f, 2, Bolt d'Oro--Adore {MSW & GSP, \$500,924}, by Big Brown) pressured the pace into the far turn just behind Destination (**Liam's Map**) and took over with a bid past the quarter pole to sweep ahead for the 4 3/4 length-win as the 2-1 favorite. Adore has a yearling **Not This Time** filly and reported a **Cairo Prince** filly this year but was barren on a **Girvin** cover for 2024. Sales History: \$70,000 RNA Ylg '22 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$31,200. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV.**

O/B-Brereton C. Jones (KY); T-Brittany T. Russell.

7th-Fair Grounds, \$52,000, Msw, 12-29, 2yo, f, 5 1/2ft, 1:04.08, fm, 2 1/4 lengths.

FLEET FROST (f, 2, Frosted--Miss Frost {MSW, \$247,259}, by Curlin) hit the board but was well beaten in her Delaware debut Oct. 18 and failed to fire most recently over 1 1/16 miles on the main track at Fair Grounds Nov. 24. Trying the turf and cutting back to sprinting, the 46-1 longshot added blinkers and Lasix and responded accordingly, showing early speed to duel inside of Joke Master (**Practical Joke**). Allowed to open up a bit off the turn, Fleet Frost showed a powerful closing kick and widened the gap back to Topsy Runner (Omaha Beach) to win by 2 1/4 lengths. Miss Frost, already responsible for White Frost (**Candy**

Ride {Arg}), GSW & GISP, \$492,270, sold for \$160,000 at last month's KEENOV sale carrying a full-sibling to that runner after foaling a **Tapit** colt this year. Sales History: \$75,000 Ylg '22 FTKOCT. Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-1, \$35,380. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV.** O-Oak Crest Farm LLC (Hodge); B-Gainesway Thoroughbreds Ltd. (KY); T-Michael Stidham.

Yearling recommendation by Murette Farrell
 Bred & Consigned by **GAINESWAY**



FIRST-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

2023 Stud Fees Listed

Audible (Into Mischief), WinStar Farm, \$25,000
 150 foals of racing age/21 winners/2 black-type winners
 9-Turfway, 9:55 p.m. EST, Msw 6f, Sanctify, 20-1
 \$7,500 KEE JAN yrl
 3-Laurel, 1:23 p.m. EST, Msw 6f, Work Hard, 3-1
 \$42,000 KEE NOV wnl; \$77,000 KEE SEP yrl

Catalina Cruiser (**Union Rags**), Lane's End Farm, \$15,000
 110 foals of racing age/12 winners/0 black-type winners
 9-Turfway, 9:55 p.m. EST, Msw 6f, Catalina Nina, 8-1
 \$47,000 KEE NOV wnl; \$50,000 KEE SEP yrl

Coal Front (Stay Thirsty), Spendthrift Farm, \$5,000
 49 foals of racing age/10 winners/2 black-type winners
 5-Fair Grounds, 3:45 p.m. EST, Msw 1 1/16mT, Coal Coal Beer,
 12-1 \$25,000 KEE SEP yrl

Divisidero (Kitten's Joy), Airdrie Stud, \$5,000
 27 foals of racing age/4 winners/1 black-type winner
 5-Fair Grounds, 3:45 p.m. EST, Msw 1 1/16mT, Gamer Nate, 8-1
 \$14,000 OBS WIN wnl; \$50,000 OBS OPN 2yo

Enticed (**Medaglia d'Oro**), Darley, \$5,000
 104 foals of racing age/22 winners/1 black-type winner
 1-Aqueduct, 12:20 p.m. EST, Msw 1m, Patricia Ann, 8-1
 \$20,000 FTK OCT yrl

Leofric (**Candy Ride {Arg}**), Darby Dan Farm, \$7,500
 57 foals of racing age/5 winners/1 black-type winner
 7-Laurel, 3:20 p.m. EST, \$100K Gin Talking S., 7f, Roanan
 Goddess, 6-1 \$30,000 EAS OCT yrl; \$60,000 EAS MAY 2yo

Maximus Mischief (Into Mischief), Spendthrift Farm, \$7,500
 136 foals of racing age/31 winners/3 black-type winners
 7-Laurel, 3:20 p.m. EST, \$100K Gin Talking S., 7f, Carmelina, 7-2
 \$44,000 FTI DEC wnl

Omaha Beach (**War Front**), Spendthrift Farm, \$30,000
 138 foals of racing age/22 winners/2 black-type winners
 1-Aqueduct, 12:20 p.m. EST, Msw 1m, Regulatory Risk, 9-5
 \$235,000 KEE SEP yrl

Vino Rosso (**Curlin**), Spendthrift Farm, \$15,000
 180 foals of racing age/24 winners/2 black-type winners
 7-Laurel, 3:20 p.m. EST, \$100K Gin Talking S., 7f, Cap Classique, 6-5
 \$110,000 FTK OCT yrl; \$145,000 EAS MAY 2yo
 9-Turfway, 9:55 p.m. EST, Msw 6f, Vino Frizzante, 10-1
 \$50,000 KEE SEP yrl

Yoshida (**Jpn**) (Heart's Cry {Jpn}), WinStar Farm, \$10,000
 103 foals of racing age/10 winners/0 black-type winners
 3-Laurel, 1:23 p.m. EST, Msw 6f, Desvio, 4-1
 \$60,000 KEE JAN wnl; \$70,000 FTK OCT yrl

SECOND-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: SATURDAY, DEC. 30
2023 Stud Fees Listed

Accelerate (**Lookin At Lucky**), Lane's End Farm, \$10,000
 215 foals of racing age/71 winners/2 black-type winners
 7-Fair Grounds, 4:45 p.m. EST, \$100K Woodchopper S., 1mT,
 Winters Lion, 8-1
 \$27,000 KEE NOV wnl; \$35,000 KEE SEP yrl

Bee Jersey (Jersey Town), Darby Dan Farm, \$5,000
 87 foals of racing age/23 winners/5 black-type winners
 8-Laurel, 3:52 p.m. EST, \$100K Heft S., 7f, Sweet Soddy J, 3-1
 9-Oaklawn, 5:14 p.m. EST, \$150K Poinsettia S., 5 1/2f, Topsy, 9-5
 \$42,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$225,000 OBS MAR 2yo

Bolt d'Oro (**Medaglia d'Oro**), Spendthrift Farm, \$35,000
 256 foals of racing age/94 winners/10 black-type winners
 7-Turfway, 8:55 p.m. EST, \$125K Holiday Cheer S., 6f, Olazabal,
 20-1
 \$60,000 FTK OCT yrl

City of Light (**Quality Road**), Lane's End Farm, \$60,000
 209 foals of racing age/57 winners/7 black-type winners
 1-Gulfstream, 12:10 p.m. EST, Msw 7f, Big City, 6-1
 \$300,000 FTK NOV wnl; \$445,000 RNA OBS APR 2yo
 3-Santa Anita, 3:59 p.m. EST, \$100K GIII Robert J. Frankel S., 1
 1/8mT, Luminiferous, 8-1
 \$230,000 KEE SEP yrl

Collected (City Zip), Airdrie Stud, \$10,000
 234 foals of racing age/76 winners/7 black-type winners
 7-Fair Grounds, 4:45 p.m. EST, \$100K Woodchopper S., 1mT,
 Northern Invader, 7-2
 \$65,000 KEE NOV wnl; \$160,000 FTK JUL yrl; \$310,000 OBS MAR
 2yo

Good Magic (**Curlin**), Hill 'n' Dale at Xalapa, \$50,000
 237 foals of racing age/86 winners/17 black-type winners
 10-Gulfstream, 4:34 p.m. EST, \$150K GIII Harlan's Holiday S., 1
 1/16m, Dubyuhnell, 8-1
 \$400,000 KEE SEP yrl

Justify (Scat Daddy), Coolmore Ashford, \$100,000
 347 foals of racing age/84 winners/20 black-type winners
 8-Fair Grounds, 5:15 p.m. EST, Msw 6f, Louis the Champ, 6-1
 \$190,000 RNA KEE NOV wnl; \$390,000 KEE SEP yrl

Mor Spirit (Eskendereya), Swifty Farms, \$5,000
 191 foals of racing age/56 winners/1 black-type winner
 7-Fair Grounds, 4:45 p.m. EST, \$100K Woodchopper S., 1mT,
 Machine Gun Man, 20-1 \$11,000 OBS OPN 2yo
 7-Fair Grounds, 4:45 p.m. EST, \$100K Woodchopper S., 1mT,
 Mor Victory, 20-1 \$25,000 KEE NOV wnl; \$25,000 KEE SEP yrl
 3-Laurel, 1:23 p.m. EST, Msw 6f, Tubtimsiam, 30-1
 \$12,000 EAS OCT yrl
 7-Fair Grounds, 4:45 p.m. EST, \$100K Woodchopper S., 1mT,
 Velocitor, 8-1

Mo Town (**Uncle Mo**), Coolmore Ashford, \$5,000
 175 foals of racing age/67 winners/5 black-type winners
 8-Fair Grounds, 5:15 p.m. EST, Msw 6f, Doncho, 10-1
 \$12,000 RNA KEE JAN wnl; \$32,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$72,000 OBS
 OPN 2yo

Oscar Performance (Kitten's Joy), Mill Ridge Farm, \$20,000
 174 foals of racing age/49 winners/6 black-type winners
 5-Santa Anita, 4:59 p.m. EST, Msw 1mT, Sneaker, 6-1
 \$120,000 FTK OCT yrl



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**ALLOWANCE RESULTS:**

6th-Oaklawn, \$140,000, 12-29, (NW1\$X), 3yo/up, 1 1/16m, 1:44.56, ft, nose.

LUCKY BOSS (g, 4, Street Boss--Lucky Striker, by Van Nistelrooy) Lifetime Record: SP, 25-6-2-2, \$342,378.

O-Contreras Stable Inc. and Victory Stables, LLC; B-De Sousa Stable LLC (KY); T-Cipriano Contreras. *\$35,000 Ylg '20 FTKSEL.

Hidden Brook Foaled, Raised & Sold

10th-Oaklawn, \$140,000, 12-29, (NW1\$X), 3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16m, 1:46.19, ft, 1 1/4 lengths.

WINDY BAY (f, 3, Tale of Verve--Co, by Candy Ride {Arg})

Lifetime Record: 15-2-5-1, \$181,306. O-Karen Young; B-Charles Fipke (KY); T-Thomas L. Van Berg. *\$4,500 Ylg '21 KEESEP; \$150,000 2yo '22 OBSMAR.

7th-Aqueduct, \$92,000, (NW2\$X)/Opt. Clm (\$62,500), 12-29, 3yo/up, 1m, 1:36.82, my, 1/2 length.

GUNTOWN (g, 4, Gun Runner--Fun House {Broodmare Of The Year, GSW, \$432,922}, by Prized) Lifetime Record: 23-4-6-3, \$277,499. O-Paterpop Racing; B-Winchell Thoroughbreds (KY); T-Fernando Abreu. *\$750,000 Ylg '20 KEESEP. **1/2 to Untapable (Tapit), Ch. 3-year-old Filly, MGISW, \$3,926,625 and Paddy O'Prado (El Prado {Ire}), GISW, \$1,721,297.

8th-Aqueduct, \$75,000, (S), 12-29, (NW1\$X), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:11.32, my, 3 1/4 lengths.

LADY MINE (f, 3, First Samurai--Lady Moyne, by Dialed In)

Lifetime Record: SP, 10-4-1-1, \$205,280. O-Ten Strike Racing; B-Anlyn Farms (NY); T-Jeremiah C. Englehart. *\$10,000 Ylg '21 KEEJAN; \$4,000 Ylg '21 KEESEP.

6th-Santa Anita, \$68,706, (NW1\$X)/Opt. Clm (\$50,000), 12-29, 3yo/up, 1m, 1:37.36, ft, neck.

AMERICAREWHITEBLU (g, 5, American Pharoah--Dream Spinner {GSP, \$145,881}, by Hard Spun) Lifetime Record:

11-3-3-1, \$154,644. O-Seahawk Racing and Ken Copenhaver; B-CASA Farms (KY); T-Mark Glatt. *\$140,000 Ylg '19 KEESEP.

3rd-Santa Anita, \$68,000, (S), (NW1\$X)/Opt. Clm (\$20,000), 12-29, 3yo/up, 6fT, 1:08.76, fm, 1 1/4 lengths.

MAN O ROSE (g, 3, Stanford--Kathleen Rose {GSP, \$342,238}, by Good Journey) Lifetime Record: 5-2-2-0, \$101,700. O/B-B&B Zietz Stables, Inc. (CA); T-Jeff Mullins.

8th-Laurel, \$62,600, (C)/Opt. Clm (\$44,000-\$55,000), 12-29, 3yo/up, 5 1/2f, 1:04.72, ft, 2 1/4 lengths.

BROTHER CONWAY (g, 4, Lord Nelson--Stephanie Jayne {SP, \$138,651}, by Henny Hughes) Lifetime Record: 13-7-3-1, \$205,225. O-Sheffield Stable LLC; B-Don Alberto Corporation (KY); T-Kieron Magee. *\$29,000 2yo '21 OBSMAR.

7th-Laurel, \$61,980, 12-29, (NW1X), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:11.13, ft, 3 3/4 lengths.

ROMINSKI (g, 4, Great Notion--Undisputed Legend, by Domestic Dispute) Lifetime Record: 15-5-4-2, \$176,934.

O-Timothy N. Hopkins; B-David H Wade (MD); T-Kieron Magee. *\$28,000 Ylg '20 EASOCT. **1/2 to Whereshetoldmetogo (El Padrino), MSW & GSP, \$967,795.

MASON SPRINGS GRADUATE

4th-Gulfstream, \$54,000, (S), 12-29, (NW1X), 2yo, f, 7f, 1:25.74, my, 2 3/4 lengths.

MISS SAYELY (f, 2, Maximus Mischief--Lady Halite, by Medaglia d'Oro) Lifetime Record: SP, 6-2-0-2, \$79,896. O-Gran Chanito

Stable LLC, Soldi Stable LLC and Orange Racing Stable LLC; B-Beth Bayer (FL); T-Jose Francisco D'Angelo. *\$32,500 Ylg '22 OBSWIN; \$28,000 Ylg '22 KEESEP; \$50,000 2yo '23 OBSAPR.

**1/2 to Recruiter (Army Mule), MSW, \$241,985.

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9th-Gulfstream, \$54,000, (S), (NW1X)/Opt. Clm (\$20,000), 12-29, 3yo/up, f/m, 1m 70y (AWT) (off turf), 1:41.48, ft, neck.

BOSTON PRINCESS (f, 4, Social Inclusion--My Princess Dawn {SP}, by Master Command) Lifetime Record: 20-5-2-2, \$116,140. O-Echo Papa Racing; B-Cheryl Ann Curtin (FL); T-Jose Garoffalo.

6th-Fair Grounds, \$54,000, (S), 12-29, (NW3L), 3yo/up, 1m 70y, 1:44.86, ft, 4 1/4 lengths.

BENOIT (g, 3, Closing Argument--Katiebarthedor, by English Channel) Lifetime Record: SP, 6-3-2-0, \$100,400. O-Stacey Moak; B-Joseph Tosterud (LA); T-Joe O. Duhon.

7th-Delta Downs, \$44,000, (S), 12-28, (NW1X), 3yo/up, 5f, :58.96, ft, 4 3/4 lengths.

SHARP CHARLIE (g, 5, My Pal Charlie--Chic Jolie, by Rodeo)

Lifetime Record: 22-6-6-2, \$132,050. O-Terrell Jarrett Jr. and Lara Racing Stables, LLC; B-Michele Rodriguez (LA); T-Jorge Lara.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

I'm an Oak, g, 2, **Caleb's Posse--Hold Me Fast**, by Hold Me Back. Oaklawn, 12-29, (S), (C), 6f, 1:14.11. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, \$35,286. B-Dewaine Loy (AR).



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- ◆ Ran a **103** Beyer Speed Figure when 2nd in the 7f **Bold Ruler H. (G3)**
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Seat At the Table, f, 2, **The Factor**--Table for Six, by Mizzen Mast. Gulfstream, 12-29, (C), 1 1/16m (AWT) (off turf), 1:43.58. Lifetime Record: 4-1-0-0, \$31,820. B-Haras Buen Borincano, Inc. (FL).

Dakota Springs, f, 2, **Uncle Lino**--Marquee Kelly (MSP, \$180,130), by Marquetry. Penn National, 12-29, 5 1/2f, 1:07.24. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$21,138. B-WMT Stables, Inc. (PA). *1/2 to Raging Smoke (More Smoke), MSW, \$422,282. **1ST-TIME STARTER.

Vino Barbarino, c, 2, **Vino Rosso**--Sweet Temper, by Stormy Atlantic. Aqueduct, 12-29, (C), 1m, 1:38.39. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, \$27,250. B-Sandra Sexton & Silver Fern Farm (KY). *\$125,000 Ylg '22 FTKJUL; \$125,000 RNA 2yo '23 OBSMAR; \$70,000 2yo '23 OBSOPN. **1/2 to Colonelsdarktemper (Colonel John), GSW, \$1,042,390. ***24th winner for freshman sire (by **Curlin**).

Presider, g, 3, **Connect**--Lawless Miss, by Posse. Turfway, 12-28, 1m (AWT), 1:39.20. Lifetime Record: 10-1-3-1, \$101,820. B-Colts Neck Stables LLC (KY). *\$175,000 Ylg '21 KEESEP; \$60,000 3yo '23 KEEAPR. **1/2 to Front Run the Fed (Fed Biz), MSW & MGSP, \$737,016.

Autoline (Ire), c, 3, **Exceed And Excel (Aus)**--Mzyoon (Ire), by Galileo (Ire). Santa Anita, 12-29, (C), 1 1/8mT, 1:47.46. Lifetime Record: 6-1-0-1, \$32,899. B-HI Investments Group (IRE). *€50,000 Ylg '21 GOFOR.

Ready to Gig, f, 3, **Gig Harbor**--Ready to Score, by More Than Ready. Golden Gate Fields, 12-29, 6f (AWT), 1:11.92. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-1, \$22,230. B-Francis O'Leary (CA).

Insensitive, f, 3, **Karun (Ven)**--Hy Belle Champ, by Tale of the Cat. Oaklawn, 12-29, 1 1/16m, 1:46.65. Lifetime Record: 9-1-2-1, \$123,150. B-Rose Hill Farm Inc. (KY).

MSW, 12-29, Santa Anita

Closing Argument, Benoit, g, 3, o/o Katiebarthedoor, by English Channel. ALW, 12-29, Fair Grounds

Connect, Presider, g, 3, o/o Lawless Miss, by Posse. MSW, 12-28, Turfway

First Samurai, Lady Mine, f, 3, o/o Lady Moyne, by **Dialed In**. ALW, 12-29, Aqueduct

Frosted, Fleet Frost, f, 2, o/o Miss Frost, by **Curlin**. MSW, 12-29, Fair Grounds

Gig Harbor, Ready to Gig, f, 3, o/o Ready to Score, by More Than Ready. MSW, 12-29, Golden Gate

Great Notion, Rominski, g, 4, o/o Undisputed Legend, by Domestic Dispute. ALW, 12-29, Laurel

Gun Runner, Guntown, g, 4, o/o Fun House, by Prized. AOC, 12-29, Aqueduct

Honor Code, Medoro, f, 2, o/o Achira, by English Channel. Blue Norther S., 12-29, Santa Anita

Into Mischief, Bring Theband Home, g, 3, o/o Tizatude, by Street Cry (Ire). AOC, 12-29, Gulfstream

Liam's Map, Dr Ardito, g, 5, o/o Delightfully So, by Indian Charlie. Alex M. Robb S., 12-29, Aqueduct

Lord Nelson, Brother Conway, g, 4, o/o Stephanie Jayne, by Henny Hughes. AOC, 12-29, Laurel

Lord Nelson, Lord Bullingdon, c, 2, o/o Ms Silver Oak, by Leroidesanimaux (Brz). Eddie Logan S., 12-29, Santa Anita

Maximus Mischief, Miss Sayely, f, 2, o/o Lady Halite, by **Medaglia d'Oro**. ALW, 12-29, Gulfstream

My Pal Charlie, Sharp Charlie, g, 5, o/o Chic Jolie, by Rodeo. ALW, 12-28, Delta Downs

Oscar Performance, Nana's Corn Muffin, f, 2, o/o Nothing But Netta, by Will Take Charge. ALW, 12-29, Delta Downs

Social Inclusion, Boston Princess, f, 4, o/o My Princess Dawn, by Master Command. AOC, 12-29, Gulfstream

Solomini, Doc Sullivan, c, 2, o/o Queen Frostine, by Giant's Causeway. MSW, 12-29, Aqueduct

Stanford, Man O Rose, g, 3, o/o Kathleen Rose, by Good Journey. AOC, 12-29, Santa Anita

Star Guitar, Six String, f, 2, o/o Oh Whata Holiday, by Harlan's Holiday. MSW, 12-29, Delta Downs

Street Boss, Lucky Boss, g, 4, o/o Lucky Striker, by Van Nistelrooy. ALW, 12-29, Oaklawn

Super Saver, Two Item Saver, f, 3, o/o Two Item Limit, by Twining. ALW, 12-28, Turfway

Tale of Verve, Windy Bay, f, 3, o/o Co, by **Candy Ride (Arg)**. ALW, 12-29, Oaklawn

The Factor, Seat At the Table, f, 2, o/o Table for Six, by Mizzen Mast. MOC, 12-29, Gulfstream

Uncle Lino, Dakota Springs, f, 2, o/o Marquee Kelly, by Marquetry. MSW, 12-29, Penn National

Vino Rosso, Vino Barbarino, c, 2, o/o Sweet Temper, by Stormy Atlantic. MCL, 12-29, Aqueduct

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American Pharoah, Americaredwhiteblu, g, 5, o/o Dream Spinner, by **Hard Spun**. AOC, 12-29, Santa Anita

Bolt d'Oro, Heart, f, 2, o/o Adore, by Big Brown. MSW, 12-29, Laurel

Caleb's Posse, I'm an Oak, g, 2, o/o Hold Me Fast, by Hold Me Back. MCL, 12-29, Oaklawn

Carpe Diem, Kinza, f, 2, o/o Secret Wonder, by **Quality Road**.