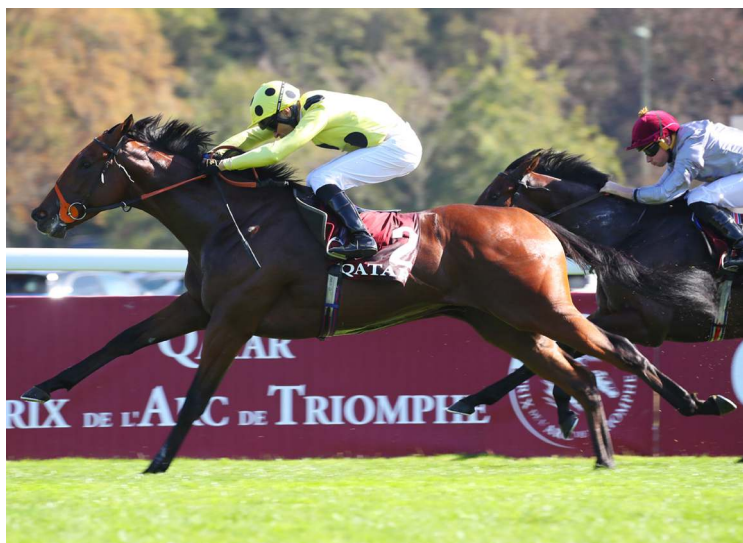


*Tattersalls*  
ONLINE  
Enter Now  JANUARY SALE  
17 - 18 January

## RACING'S CRYSTAL BALL - 10 PREDICTIONS FOR 2024



Rosallion: has big claims of Classic glory for his sire Blue Point  
Scoop Dyga

By Brian Sheerin

**Anyone who bets on racing will know too well the perils that come with predicting the outcome of a sporting event. But what if we take it a couple of steps further and, for a bit of fun, try and gaze into the crystal ball and see what could be in store for 2024?**

**From Frankie Dettori returning to the saddle in Europe to Wathnan Racing continuing its march in Britain, here are 10 predictions--some fun and some serious--for the new year.**

### ***Dettori's Groundhog Day To Continue Into 2024***

We've all seen the movie Groundhog Day, haven't we? The one where Bill Murray gets caught in a time loop? Well, if you haven't, the same script could well be playing out for real through Frankie Dettori's retirement [or lack thereof].

For all the people who had convinced themselves that Dettori had achieved a dream send-off when guiding King Of Steel to victory in the Champion S. at Ascot, there were just as many people rolling their eyes at the idea that one of the world's greatest riders was ready to set off into the sunset.

Cont. p3

## JRA CALLS ON TOP EVENTER BOYD MARTIN FOR EX-RACEHORSE CLINIC *By Emma Berry*

At no time has the issue of welfare within the horseracing industry been more of an important topic, and that includes what happens to horses beyond their racing careers. Encouragingly, there is much work being done around the world to ensure that retired racehorses are homed and utilised in a range of ways, from being companion horses through to competing at the highest level in other disciplines.

With a leaning towards the latter option, the Japan Racing Association (JRA) hosted a clinic with leading event rider Boyd Martin in the week before Christmas.

Based in America since 2007, the Australian-born Martin recently collected his seventh Rider of the Year Award from the United States Eventing Association. Along with competing all over the world, he has been a regular visitor to Japan, where the three-day clinic included tuition and advice in cross-country, showjumping and dressage. **Cont. p6**

## IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

### VALUE SIRES FOR 2024, PART 5: THE 20-SOMETHINGS

Chris McGrath's Value Sires series continues with Part 5, stallions standing for \$20,000 to \$29,999.

Contact the Thoroughbred Office. Tel: +44 (0) 1488 73 456 or visit [www.saracenhorsefeeds.com/thoroughbred](http://www.saracenhorsefeeds.com/thoroughbred)



**PUBLISHER & CEO**

Sue Morris Finley @suefinley  
suefinley@thetdn.com

**SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT**

Gary King @garykingTDN  
garyking@thetdn.com

**European Editor**

Emma Berry @collingsberry  
emmaberry@thetdn.com

**Associate International Editor**

Heather Anderson @HLAndersonTDN

**Business Development Manager**

Alayna Cullen Birkett @AlaynaCullen  
alaynacullen@thetdn.com

**Associate European Editor**

Brian Sheerin @BrianSheerin91

**Cafe Racing**

Sean Cronin & Tom Frary  
caferacing@thetdn.com

**Contributing Editors**

Alan Carasso  
Christina Bossinakis

**Regular Columnists**

Chris McGrath | John Berry

**ADVERTISING**

advertising@thetdn.com

**Director of Advertising**

Alycia Borer

**Advertising Manager**

Lia Best

**Advertising Designers**

Amanda Crelin  
Amie Newcomb

**Advertising Assistant/Dir. of Distribution**

Kristen Zaidi

**Advertising Assistant**

Liz Fronczek

60 Broad Street, Suite 105

Red Bank, NJ 07701

732-747-8060 | [www.TheTDN.com/europe](http://www.TheTDN.com/europe)

**Wednesday, January 3, 2024**



**Ireland's leading stallion farms open their doors for the 2024 ITM Irish Stallion Trail on January 12-13. [More info.](#) | Yeomanstown Stud**

**ITBA SEMINAR TO FOCUS ON NH BREEDING ISSUES 7**

*Issues surrounding jump breeding will be focal point of an upcoming seminar given by the ITBA later this month.*

**KESSAAR ON THE MOVE TO ITALY AFTER SALE 7**

*A son of Kodiak (GB), Kessaar (Ire) won a brace of juvenile group races, and is the sire of one stakes winner. He will stand at Scuderia Melissa Cipriani on behalf of Renew Italian Breeding.*

**MEGAHERTZ RELATIVE TO STEP OUT AT KEMPTON 8**

*A son of Ulysses (Ire) out of a full-sister to multiple Grade I winner Megahertz (GB) (Pivotal {GB}) will debut at Kempton on Wednesday.*

**Don't Miss!**

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

[thetdn.com/europe](http://thetdn.com/europe)



**10 Predictions For 2024 Cont. from p1**

Of course, Dettori has committed to ride on in America for the winter but, what happens after that? What happens if a big-ticket ride becomes available for a Guineas or a Derby? Don't tell me that Dettori, who arguably rode as well last year as he has in years, is going to give up on that opportunity for the sake of staying true to his word?

The farewell tour served its purpose and generated a subplot for almost every major meeting that Dettori rode at in 2023. However, the thought that we have seen the last of Frankie in Europe is not something I'd be taking short odds on this year.

**Classic Glory On The Cards For Blue Point?**

From a bloodstock perspective, Blue Point hogged just as many headlines as Frankie did throughout 2023. Tipped by many to scoop first-season sire honours, Blue Point delivered in no uncertain terms, coming up trumps with two genuine top-notchers in Big Evs and Rosallion.

The latter has real claims of bagging Classic glory for his young sire sensation this year and is just 12-1 to land the 2,000 Guineas. Big Evs proved he is a classy sprinter to look forward to when bagging the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf and the likelihood of him landing a major sprint in Europe is strong.

It's worth noting that Blue Point's most famous triumphs, his back-to-back Royal Ascot successes in the King's Stand S. and Diamond Jubilee S. back in 2019, came in his five-year-old campaign. The best may yet be to come from his progeny in 2024 and beyond and, if he is to bag a breakthrough Classic success, perhaps it may come through Rosallion in the Irish 2,000 Guineas provided City Of Troy stays away.

**Bank On Sangster To Have A Big Year**

Speaking of breakthrough successes at the highest level, there is a chance that up-and-coming trainer Ollie Sangster can bag a first Group 1 or even Classic victory with stable star Shuwari this season.

Grandson of the late Robert Sangster, Ollie has done his bit to keep the family name in lights and enjoyed a stellar debut season as a trainer by sending out 13 winners from 81 runners, highlighted by the Fillies' Mile runner-up Shuwari.

According to those who know Sangster best, there are few trainers who work as hard as the 27-year-old, who would be thoroughly deserving of a major day in the sun in 2024. Here's hoping Shuwari can provide Sangster just that and her 1,000 Guineas claims would be greatly aided by the word soft appearing in the going description.

Cont. p4

# CLASSIC SIRE!

**BLUE ROSE CEN**

- 2022 **Champion 2YO in France**
- 2022 Prix Marcel Boussac-**Gr.1** by 5 lengths
- 2023 Poule d'Essai des Pouliches-**Gr.1**
- 2023 Prix de Diane-**Gr.1** by 4 lengths
- 2023 Prix de l'Opera-**Gr.1**

**VADENI**

- 2022 **Champion 3YO in Europe**
- 2022 Prix du Jockey Club-**Gr.1** by 5 lengths
- 2022 Eclipse Stakes-**Gr.1**

**LEADING 3RD CROP SIRES IN EUROPE 2023**

Sire	2024 Fee	GSWs	G1Ws	Earnings
1 <b>CHURCHILL</b>	€30,000	7	1	€6,100,478
2 ZARAK	€60,000	8	1	€4,310,031

Arion Pedigrees

# CHURCHILL

YEARLINGS IN 2023 SOLD FOR €380,000, €365,000, €365,000, €340,000 ETC.

**6 impressive 2YO winners in December:**

- 1 LESSAY won on debut at Kempton for Andrew Balding
- 2 CHARLUS won on debut by 4 lengths for Jean-Claude Rouget
- 3 PANDORA'S GIFT won by 4 lengths on second start for Stuart Williams
- 4 CHARTWELL won at Deauville for Carlos & Yann Lerner
- 5 SURVIE is unbeaten in 2 starts for Nicolas Clement
- 6 LINA won by 2½ lengths for Jean-Claude Rouget & HH Aga Khan

# COOLMORE

Contact: **Coolmore Stud** Tel: +353-52-6131298.  
**Castlehyde Stud** Tel: +353-25-31966.  
 E-mail: sales@coolmore.ie [www.coolmore.com](http://www.coolmore.com)

# "The next big thing"

Julian Muscat, RACING POST

## SCAT DADDY's proven sire sons at COOLMORE

**NO NAY NEVER** Europe's Champion 2YO Sire of 2022, and again in 2023

**JUSTIFY\*** Global sire sensation with 6 Group/Grade 1 winners in 2023 - all from his first two crops

**SIOUX NATION** 7 new Group winners in 2023 putting him well ahead of fellow second crop sire Havana Grey

**MENDELSSOHN\*** Ranked sixth on the 2023 North American 2YO Sire table

\*Stands at Coolmore America

## Bodes extremely well for NO NAY NEVER's brilliant sons

**TEN SOVEREIGNS** 11 blacktype performers in 2023 from his first 2YO crop - more than any other first crop sire!

**ARIZONA** Coventry Stakes winner with his first 2YO runners to come in 2024

**BLACKBEARD** The only 2YO to win two Group 1 races in Europe in 2022. First foals in 2024

**LITTLE BIG BEAR** European Champion 2YO, rated upwards of 5lbs superior to all his contemporaries. New for 2024

### 2023 LEADING SIRES OF 2YOs IN EUROPE

Rk	STALLION	SIRE	GWs	TOTAL €
1	<b>NO NAY NEVER</b>	<b>Scat Daddy</b>	5	1,910,382

Source: Stallionguide.com

### 2023 LEADING SIRES OF 2YOs IN NORTH AMERICA

Rk	STALLION	SIRE	GSWs	TOTAL \$
1	<b>JUSTIFY</b>	<b>Scat Daddy</b>	6	4,987,920

Source: TheTDN.com



# COOLMORE





Ollie Sangster | Keeneland

### **Tough Task For City Of Troy To Live Up To Lofty Reputation**

City Of Troy proved himself to be something out of the ordinary as a two-year-old by going unbeaten in three starts, culminating with a jaw-dropping performance in the Dewhurst.

It was after the Dewhurst where Aidan O'Brien described City Of Troy as being the best two-year-old he has ever trained while Michael Tabor took it up a notch or two by comparing the horse to **Frankel**.

City Of Troy has generated much debate since that brilliant Dewhurst display but perhaps it might be wisest to side with Mick Kinane, who, in acknowledging the awesome talent the Ballydoyle-trained colt clearly has, said that he still has a lot to prove in order to be compared with the likes of **Sea The Stars** and **Frankel**.

Certainly at this juncture, City Of Troy would appear the most likely winner of the 2,000 Guineas, which his general even-money odds reflects. However, whether we will be speaking of him in the same ilk as **Frankel** come the end of the season, now that is a big ask.

One thing that isn't up for debate is that **Justify** is quickly confirming himself as a very serious stallion, not only in America and Australia, but also in Europe. Not long after City Of Troy recorded his Dewhurst demolition, **Justify's** daughter Opera Singer did something similar in the Prix Marcel Boussac.

Both horses sit at the head of the 2,000 and 1,000 Guineas betting respectively and it will be fascinating to see how their careers progress this term.

### **Japan To Win The Derby**

Now this would be a bit of fun; what if Japan were to win the Derby? Or, if I was to be more specific, what if trainer Yoshito

Yahagi was to take out another major prize on the international circuit by sending out a brother to **Sottsass** to score at Epsom? You know, it's not impossible.

Shin Emperor is clearly bred for the job. Bought by Yahagi, who has recorded major success at the Breeders' Cup, Dubai World Cup and Saudi Cup meetings in recent years, for €2.1 million at Arqana in 2021, Shin Emperor has always been held in high regard.

A Group 3 winner already in Japan, he went down by less than a length in the G1 Hopeful S. at Nakayama over the festive period, doing his reputation no harm in the process.

Yahagi is famous for travelling his horses all over the world and, in Shin Emperor, he has a colt who clearly fits the Derby profile being a brother to the Arc winner **Sottsass**. In betting terms, this is one of the more fanciful predictions for 2024, but what a story it would be.

### **Pinatubo To Emulate Blue Point**

**Sottsass**, of course, is one of the first-season stallions that many enthusiasts are looking forward to this year. While his stock has gone down extremely well, highlighted by the sale of a €525,000 colt at Arqana last year, it seems as though everyone who is anyone is tipping Pinatubo to emulate Blue Point by coming up trumps for Darley yet again.

Many of the top industry judges hitched their wagon to Blue Point's wheel last year and we all know how that ended. The same theme developed at the yearling and foal sales last year with Pinatubo and to a similar extent with fellow Darley stallions Earthlight and Ghaiyyath. One thing's for certain: Darley appears to hold all the aces with a view towards this year's first-season sires' championship and, while it is only January, few people will be betting against Pinatubo being a big success. **Cont. p5**



Pinatubo in his paddock | Darley

**10 Predictions For 2024 Cont.**

It should also be noted how well Hello Youmzain performed with his stock at the sales in France. He could be well placed to clinch champion first-season honours in France.

**Breeze-Ups To Stay Strong Despite Market Correction**

There were some tough moments in 2023 and it's fair to say that the yearling and breeding stock sales were a struggle for many. Market correction was a term we heard plenty of as many of the key figures at some of the major sales in Europe settled back into pre-Covid levels.

With that in mind, there is understandably some apprehension heading into the new year and the first major metric into how well things are going in 2024 will come at the breeze-up sales.

But just how much of a correction can we expect to see here? There seems to be a huge demand for the ready-to-run horses and the breeze-up sales have never been a more popular shopping outlet for international buyers than it is now.

It should also be noted that unbeaten two-year-old and dual Group 1 winner Vandeeek, who sold to Anthony Stroud for 625,000gns at the Craven Breeze-Up Sale at Tattersalls last year, did his bit to fly the flag for this sector of the market.

In many ways, the breeze-up market could be viewed as something of an anomaly as, similar to the point-to-point sphere, there should, in theory, always be a demand for a good horse.

The middle to upper tiers can be expected to be solid at the breeze-up sales come the spring but it will be interesting to see how the median and clearance rates hold up.

**Wathnan Racing To Continue Its March**

One man who is sure to be out in force at the breeze-up sales

is Blandford Bloodstock's Richard Brown but, perhaps most interesting of all, will be the bloodstock agent's buying on behalf of Wathnan Racing.

Wathnan Racing embarked on ownership in Britain with a number of statement victories, none more so than when private purchase Courage Mon Ami won the Gold Cup at Royal Ascot on just his fourth career start.

It's likely that Wathnan Racing, which is the ownership vehicle of the Emir Of Qatar, can go from strength to strength in 2024.

**Tough Times Ahead For Smaller Breeders**

Ed Harper of Whitsbury Manor Stud said something frightening in a recent TDN Q&A. When commenting on some of the smaller clients of his who enjoyed a touch when selling foals by the stud's superstar stallion Havana Grey, he revealed that for many, their big payday would be just enough to keep them going for just a few more years, such are the choppy waters the smaller breeders are navigating through right now.

If you were to take an X-ray of the breeding game in its current form and peg it into the light, it wouldn't make for pretty reading, especially in Britain.

That was there for everyone to see on the first and last days of the foal sales at Tattersalls in December where many key stakeholders voiced their concerns about the future of the smaller breeder in Britain.

Of course, this is not a problem exclusive to Britain, but Brexit and the lack of small-time buyers and pinhookers getting into the game compared to Ireland clearly contributed to some of those frightening figures.

It begs the question; for how long can this continue? Where there is a will there's a way, and in that same Q&A, Harper called on smaller breeders to take a look at themselves in the mirror when it comes to breeding horses for the sales ring. **Cont. p6**



**Yoshito Yahagi** | Emma Berry



**Richard Brown** | Zuzanna Lupa





[WWW.ETALONS-GALOP.COM](http://WWW.ETALONS-GALOP.COM)

Need **more information on French stallions?**  
Visit the **French Stallion Book Online**.

Need the **latest information?**  
**Statistics, results, progeny analysis, sales results...**  
The **French Stallion Book Online** is an **intuitive and complete tool for breeders**.

\* the quantified information (progeny results...) indicated on the stallion pages come from a database of races from 15 different countries and are provided by Weatherbys.

© Agence-G

*Rendez-vous at*

[WWW.ETALONS-GALOP.COM](http://WWW.ETALONS-GALOP.COM)

The dedicated website  
for the French  
Stallion Book.

*Optimised for  
smartphones & tablets.  
Free to use.*



#vivelevagefrancais #breedinfrance #raceandcare  
[www.federationdeseleveursdugalop.fr](http://www.federationdeseleveursdugalop.fr)   

## 10 Predictions For 2024 Cont.

Some will take that advice and reinvest but, inevitably, more will slip away. It appears as though there could be some tough times ahead for the smaller breeders.

## No Sign Of Polarisation Slowing Down Over Jumps

On a similarly depressing theme, there doesn't appear to be any pause to polarisation in the markets, particularly when it comes to the National Hunt game. There could be a different winner to ever race at the Cheltenham festival and, chances are, people will still be honing in on the same two stallions at the major store sales.

King George hero Hewick once again reminded that a good horse can come from anywhere. Shark Hanlon's 800 quid wonder is by Virtual, a son of Pivotal and, without doing the horse a disservice, is what many would describe as a non descript stallion.

But here he is, siring the winner of one of the most important jumps races of the year, and once again proving that the love is more readily shared than what some would lead you to believe over jumps.

[Share this story](#) 

## JRA Ex-Racehorse Clinic Cont. from p1

Held in conjunction with Godolphin's Lifetime Care programme, the programme also featured guest appearances from top jockeys Christophe Lemaire and Hiroshi Kitamura to discuss the versatility of the Thoroughbred.

"It's been absolutely brilliant," Martin told *TDN* as the clinic wrapped up. "This is the fourth time we've done this clinic and it's awesome coming out to Japan, working with all the Japanese riders with a lot of retired racehorses. There were 36 horses here at the clinic and we were lucky enough to use the venue where the Tokyo Olympics were held, right in the centre of the city."

The work did not all take place in the saddle, however, with classroom sessions supplementing the ridden phases in the arena. A number of the riders in attendance were repeat visitors from previous clinics, and one former attendee now works for Martin as the head rider at his stable in Pennsylvania.

"We had an awesome group of riders. They were all passionate about restarting Thoroughbreds in their second career once they've finished racing," he said.

"There was an assortment of off-the-track Thoroughbreds: some that had not finished racing long ago, and then a few that have been converted into sport horses for a couple of seasons. We had six or seven groups, some Thoroughbreds looking to change career into eventing, a number into showjumping, and then a couple of groups of dressage."

Martin is a fervent believer in the power of the Thoroughbred in other disciplines, especially his own field of three-day eventing. He speaks from experience, too, having campaigned the American-bred former racehorse Blackfoot Mystery, a gelding by Out Of Touch whom he took all the way to the Olympics.

He said, "In the sport of eventing, our most influential phase is the cross-country, where we need an animal that's got stamina and endurance and athleticism to take us around the courses. And the off-the-track Thoroughbred is the ultimate breed. The horses are born and bred to gallop and run, and their spirit and nature is just a horse that gives its all. And if we can find ones that are good at the dressage and showjumping, there's no better horse in the world."

Martin continued, "I rode an off-the-track Thoroughbred around the Rio Olympics in 2016. And through my success there, I had to give a speech at the Preakness on how unbelievable this horse was. Blackfoot Mystery came through a retired racehorse programme.

"At the same time, the folks from Godolphin and the JRA and the National Riding Club Association of Japan were really looking to change the culture a bit in Japan and to make sure that the horses had a second chance of a new career once they finished racing here, and that's how I ended up getting involved.

"With the racing in Japan, there's a lot of longer-distance racing. The Thoroughbreds here are bigger, stronger animals. And they're just beautifully suited to a second career as a sport horse because they are big-boned and they're tall and rangy, and the majority of them have just wonderful movements."

Blackfoot Mystery went from being unsold when offered as a yearling to making three underwhelming starts on the track in California before eventually finding his metier at five-star level in eventing, the equivalent of being a Group 1 winner. [Cont. p7](#)



Boyd Martin with visiting jockeys  
Hiroshi Kitamura and Christophe Lemaire



**JRA Ex-Racehorse Clinic Cont.**

The fact that, with Martin, he represented America at the Olympics at the age of 12 is also testament to the great durability of Thoroughbreds, wherever their second walk of life may take them.

"It's something I'm very passionate about, and I'm very honoured and privileged that they'd have me out here to do this," said Martin.

"This is the fourth year we've done it. And each year the quality of training and the quality of riding is getting better and better."

[Share this story](#) 

EUROPEAN NEWS

**ITBA TO HOST SEMINAR ON CHALLENGES FACING IRISH NH BREEDING**

The Irish Thoroughbred Breeders' Association (ITBA) will stage a seminar to discuss the issues surrounding jump breeding in the country on Wednesday, January 17 at The Lord Bagenal in Leighlinbridge, Co Carlow.

Entitled 'Jumping into the Future: The Challenges Facing Irish National Hunt Breeding', the debate will be led by trainer and breeder Lorna Fowler of Rahinston Farm and Stud. The panel consists of bloodstock agents Anthony Bromley and Bertrand Le Metayer, breeder and stud owner Peter Molony, vet and consignor Walter Connors, and Tattersalls Ireland director Richard Pugh.

Doors will open at 6 p.m. and attendees are encouraged to arrive early to take advantage of a networking opportunity prior to the start of the seminar at 6:30 p.m.

ITBA chair Cathy Grassick said, "I am excited at the prospect of hearing from our expert panel on all issues relevant to our industry. This is a crucial time for the market and an important event for everyone to voice their opinion."

William Flood, who chairs the ITBA National Hunt committee, added, "This is a very important time for the industry in light of recent results at the sales. Our National Hunt committee has gathered an expert panel to help talk through these important topics."

Those intending to attend the seminar must register via email on [ddeveney@itba.ie](mailto:ddeveney@itba.ie) or by calling the ITBA on 045 877 543. ITBA members and non-members are welcome to attend this free event, at which light refreshments will be provided.

[Share this story](#) 



**Trainer and National Hunt breeder Lorna Fowler will host the seminar**  
*Emma Berry*

**KESSAAR ON THE MOVE TO ITALY**

Former Irish-based stallion **Kessaar (Ire)** (Kodiac {GB}--Querulous, by Raven's Pass) has been purchased by Renew Italian Breeding and will stand at Scuderia Melissa Cipriani in Castelnuovo Berardenga, Italy this year. Standing for €5,000, the stallion will be administered by Mattia Cadrobbi and managed by Marco Bozzi and Guido Berardelli.

Bred by Tally-Ho Stud, the G2 Mill Reef S. and G3 Sirenia S. hero was a 100,000gns Tattersalls October yearling, and raced in the colours of Mohammed Al Qatami and Khalid Al Mudhaf while trained by John Gosden. Winning three of his seven career starts--all at two--Kessaar retired to Tally-Ho Stud in 2019.

**Cont. p8**



**Kessaar** | *Tally-Ho/De Burgh Productions*

**Kessaar Cont.**

His extended family features GII Pennsylvania Derby and GII Ohio Derby winner and sire Gone Astray (Dixie Union), and his eldest foals are 4-year-olds.

At stud, he has sired 46 winners anchored by Italian stakes winner Melfi (Ire), who was third in the G2 Gran Criterium. His first-crop filly Ipanema Princess (Ire) was third in the G3 Prix Six Perfections, and he has an additional pair of stakes horses to date.

Standing alongside the Italian newcomer is **Frankel (GB)**'s half-brother **Morpheus (GB)**, who will command €3,500.

[Share this story](#) 

# OBSERVATIONS

on the European racing scene

## RELATIVE OF MEGAHERTZ SET FOR KEMPTON DEBUT

**17.30 Kempton, Nov, £7,000, 3yo/up, f/m, 8f (AWT)**  
 Sir Mark Prescott representative **APOSTLE (GB) (Ulysses {Ire})**, is the ninth foal out of dual G3 Dahlia S. victrix and G1 Matron S. runner-up and dual G1 Falmouth S. placegetter Heaven Sent (GB) (Pivotal {GB}), herself a full-sister to GI Yellow Ribbon S. and GI John C Mabee H. heroine Megahertz (GB). Cheveley Park Stud's homebred chestnut, who is a half-sister to the stakes-placed duo Seven Heavens (GB) (**Frankel {GB}**) and Firmament (GB) (Cape Cross {Ire}), encounters one dozen rivals in this debut.

[Share this story](#) 

# BRITAIN

**CONDITIONS RESULTS:**

**1st-Wolverhampton, £5,700, Cond, 1-2, 4yo/up, 8f 142y (AWT), 1:51.32, st.**

**ROMANOVICH (IRE) (g, 5, Dark Angel {Ire}--My Favourite Thing {GB}, by Oasis Dream {GB})** Lifetime Record: 11-2-1-1, \$11,062. O-The Cross Racing Club; B-Sheikh Mohammed Obaid Al Maktoum (IRE); T-John O'Shea. \*£17,000 3yo '22 TATAJ.

**ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:**

**Inner Temple (Ire), c, 3, Inns Of Court (Ire)--Teeline (Ire), by Exceed And Excel (Aus).** Wolverhampton, 1-2, 7f 36y (AWT), 1:29.19. Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-2, \$7,212. B-Brian Canning & Tom Kelly (IRE). \*€55,000 Ylg '22 TATIRY.

**Rubellite (Ire), f, 4, Iffraaj (GB)--Posh Claret (GB), by Royal Applause (GB).** Wolverhampton, 1-2, 9f 104y (AWT), 2:02.46. Lifetime Record: 8-1-0-0, \$4,020. B-Grasshopper Bloodstock (IRE). \*40,000gns Wlg '20 TATFOA; 95,000gns Ylg '21 TATOCT; 9,000gns 3yo '23 TATAPR; 5,000gns 3yo '23 TATSUM.

**Elusive Tiger (Ire), c, 4, Jungle Cat (Ire)--Purple Tiger (Ire), by Rainbow Quest.** Wolverhampton, 1-2, 9f 104y (AWT), 2:03.62. Lifetime Record: 11-1-1-1, \$8,736. B-Rabbah Bloodstock Ltd (IRE). \*7,000gns 3yo '23 TATFEB. \*\*1/2 to Taajub (Ire) (Exceed And Excel {Aus}), MGSP-Eng, \$397,056.

# FRANCE

**CONDITIONS RESULTS:**

**7th-Pau, €22,000, Cond, 1-2, 4yo/up, 10f (AWT), 2:04.30, st.**

**PATRICK SANSFIELD (FR) (g, 8, Australia {GB}--Ultra Appeal {Ire}, by Lawman {Fr})** Lifetime Record: GSW-Ire, G1SP-Ger, GSP-Fr & SP-Eng, 28-7-6-5, €267,644. O-Zacarias Sarmiento Llovel; B-China Horse Club International (FR); T-Oscar Alberto Anaya. \*€140,000 Ylg '17 ARQAUG; 230,000gns 3yo '19 TATJUL; 37,000gns 6yo '22 TATAUT.

**ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:**

**Silpeny (Fr), f, 3, Penny's Picnic (Ire)--Silly Lady (Fr), by Lingari (Ire).** Pau, 1-2, 10f (AWT), 2:08.00. B-Mme Pascale Papon & Mme Delphine Guillemin (FR).

**Le Phocea (Fr), c, 3, Zelzal (Fr)--Dreamtic (Fr), by Hernando (Fr).** Pau, 1-2, 10f (AWT), 2:05.40. B-Pierre Lamy & Horse & Feed CV (FR). \*€6,000 Ylg '22 ARQOCT.

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



Highlights Include:

[Dane Robinson Looking Forward To Magics](#)

[Successful Trials For China Horse Club](#)

[Arabian Summer To Contest Millions](#)

[More Autumn Aims For Legarto](#)

[J-Mac Returns To Australia After HK Stint](#)



**Friday, Meydan, Dubai, post time: 21:00p**

**ZABEEL MILE-G2**, AED850,000, NH & SH 4yo+ & SH 3yo, 1600mT

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	3	Bright Melody (Ire)	Dubawi (Ire)	Bouresly	Hernandez Salas	125
2	8	El Patriota (Uru)	Ecologo (Arg)	Olascoaga	Crowley	125
3	12	El-Unico (Brz)	War Secretary	Olascoaga	Da Silva	125
4	10	First <b>Constitution</b> (Chi)	<b>Constitution</b>	Al Mheiri	Pinheiro	125
5	9	In Crowd (GB)	Dubawi (Ire)	Bin Ghadayar	Barzalona	125
6	1	Marbaan (GB)	<b>Oasis Dream (GB)</b>	Costa	Coen	125
7	6	Marshall Plan (GB)	Golden Horn (GB)	Al Shemalli	Castano Mateus	125
8	11	On The Warpath (GB)	Declaration Of War	Aashour	Santiago	125
9	2	Real World (Ire)	Dark Angel (Ire)	Bin Suroor	Demuro	125
10	13	San Donato (Ire)	Lope De Vega (Ire)	Watson	Dobbs	125
11	7	Sean (Ger)	Excelebration (Ire)	Osborne	De Vries	125
12	4	Tamborrada (GB)	Dubawi (Ire)	Bin Harmash	Beasley	125
13	5	Western Writer (Ire)	Shamardal	Seemar	O'Shea	125

**Friday, Meydan, Dubai, post time: 20:25p**

**DUBAWI S.-G3**, AED700,000, NH & SH 4yo/up & SH 3yo, 1200m

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	7	Sound Money	Flatter	Watson	Dobbs	127
2	13	Tuz	Oxbow	Seemar	O'Shea	127
3	9	Beolmaui Star (Kor)	To Honor And Serve	Lyul Bark	Seo	125
4	10	Colour Up (Ire)	Mehmas (Ire)	Watson	Buick	125
5	11	Demain	More Than Ready	Graffard	Barzalona	125
6	2	Eastern World (Ire)	Dubawi (Ire)	Bin Harmash	Beasley	125
7	4	Leading Spirit (Ire)	Exceed And Excel (Aus)	Seemar	Cosgrave	125
8	8	Magic Petition	<b>Good Magic</b>	Bin Harmash	De Vries	125
9	6	Major Cinnamon	<b>Tapiture</b>	Al Baidhaei	Van Rensburg	125
10	3	Morning	<b>Munnings</b>	Seemar	Mullen	125
11	5	Mouheeb	Flatter	Costa	Coen	125
12	12	Never Just A Dream (Ire)	<b>No Nay Never</b>	Mohammed	Pinheiro	125
13	1	Rawy	<b>Frosted</b>	Al Mheiri	Demuro	125

\*All posts are displayed in local time.

Check out TDN videos on



Is Sealiway the Next French Superstar Stallion?

## VALUE SIRES FOR 2024, PART 5: 20-SOMETHINGS



**Army Mule** | Sarah Andrew

by Chris McGrath

Today we reach quite a crossroads in the market, between \$20,000 and \$29,999. It takes a degree of affluence to roll the dice at this level, but you'd do so hoping to reach blood of genuine elite potential.

As usual, we've sieved out the new sires, having given them a separate treatment at the outset. Instructively, however, it's a tier dominated by stallions still in the early stages of their careers. And there is an auspicious flux here. One or two, if building on a promising start on the track, could conceivably prove to be on their way to stardom.

Inevitably, there are also plenty of sires only trading at this kind of fee because they have not yet been exposed on the track. The reality is that few of these will ultimately hold out. And while we've cheerfully highlighted value about a couple of sires at a similarly untested stage, earlier in this series, that's harder to do at this money.

But what these horses do generally have behind them, having started with the sort of profile that merits a strong opening fee, is numbers.

Handsome as he is, for instance, and fast as he ran, it seemed staggering that **YAUPON** should have covered as many as 242 mares for his debut in 2022, behind only **Gun Runner**.

*Cont. p3*

## FACING EXTORTION ALLEGATIONS, DEFENDANTS IN DEFAMATION LAWSUIT CONTEND 'BAFFERT IS THE RARE

**LIBEL-PROOF PLAINTIFF'** by T.D. Thornton

The two defendants facing allegations of civil extortion and defamation in a federal lawsuit initiated by trainer Bob Baffert and his incorporated racing stable are contending that the case should be dismissed because "Baffert is the rare, libel-proof plaintiff given his notorious history in the horse racing industry," according to a discovery plan filed jointly by lawyers for all sides in United States District Court (Southern District of California) Jan. 2.

Baffert's legal team, however, is banking that dismissal won't happen, and it told the court in the same document that it is anticipating the case should be able to be brought before a jury a little more than a year after it was first initiated. **Cont. p12**

## IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

### EURO RACING'S CRYSTAL BALL--10 PREDICTIONS FOR 2024

Brian Sheerin delivers 10 predictions for the European racing year ahead, from potential Classic glory for young sires, to the possibility of Yoshito Yahagi winning the G1 Derby.

**HOME OF THE TOP 4  
FIRST-CROP SIRES IN 2023.**

1. Mitole	\$2,614,328
2. Maximus Mischief	\$2,266,229
3. Vino Rosso	\$2,193,544
4. Omaha Beach	\$2,129,783

*The only freshmen to exceed \$2M in earnings.*

**SPENDTHRIFT**



Champion Sire

2019  
2020  
2021  
2022  
2023

"The definitive stallion of our times"

-Chris McGrath

General Sire championships the last 100 years:

Bold Ruler	8
<b>INTO MISCHIEF</b>	<b>5</b>
Bull Lea	5
Nasrullah	5



INTO *Mischief*

\$250,000 S&N





**PUBLISHER & CEO**

Sue Morris Finley @suefinley  
suefinley@thetdn.com

**SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT**

Gary King @garykingTDN  
garyking@thetdn.com

**EDITORIAL**

editor@thetdn.com

**Editor-in-Chief**

Jessica Martini @JessMartiniTDN

**Senior Contributing Editor**

Alan Carasso @EquinealTDN

**Senior Racing Editor**

Steve Sherack @SteveSherackTDN

**Senior Editor**

Christina Bossinakis @CBossTDN

**Assistant Editor**

Jill Williams @JillWilliamsTDN

**Staff Writers**

Patrycja Szpyra @QueenOfSuites

Stefanie Grimm @SGrimmTDN

J.N. Campbell @campbellparlay

**Contributor**

Brian DiDonato @BDiDonatoTDN

**News and Features Editor**

In Memoriam: Ben Massam (1988-2019)

**ADVERTISING**

advertising@thetdn.com

**Director of Advertising**

Alycia Borer

**Advertising Manager**

Lia Best

**Advertising Designers**

Amanda Crelin

Amie Newcomb

**Advertising Assistant/Dir. of Distribution**

Kristen Zaidi

**Advertising Assistant**

Liz Fronczek

**Photographer/Photo Editor**

Sarah K. Andrew @SarahKAndrew  
photos@thetdn.com

**Associate Producer**

Katie Petrunyak

**Social Media Manager**

Sara Gordon

**Director of Customer Service**

Vicki Forbes | customerservice@thetdn.com

**Business Development Manager**

Alayna Cullen Birkett @AlaynaCullen

**Chief Financial Officer**

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

**WORLDWIDE INFORMATION**

**European Editor**

Emma Berry | emmaberry@thetdn.com

**Associate International Editor**

Heather Anderson @HLAndersonTDN

**Associate European Editor**

Brian Sheerin @BrianSheerin91

**Cafe Racing**

Sean Cronin & Tom Frary  
caferacing@thetdn.com

60 Broad Street, Suite 105

Red Bank, NJ 07701

732-747-8060 | www.TheTDN.com

**Wednesday, January 3, 2024**



**2023 in photos: December 30.** MGISW millionaire Megahertz (GB) (Pivotal {GB}) poses for photos last week at Kaz Hill Farm in Middletown, NY. Apostle (GB) (Ulysses {Ire}), the ninth foal out of her full-sister Heaven Sent (GB), makes her debut Wednesday at Kempton. See TDN Europe for more. | Sarah Andrew

**KNICKS GO YEARLING BRINGS MOORE FULL CIRCLE**

**13**

Sabrina Moore's GreenMount Farm will offer its final consignment during next week's Keeneland January Horses of All Ages Sale and, fittingly, the consignment's three offerings kick off with a short yearling from the first crop of the champion who put the Maryland farm on the map, *Knicks Go*.

**BELFIORE RETURNS AS NYTHA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**14**

After serving as Executive Director of the Florida Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association, Andy Belfiore will be returning as the New York Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association's Executive Director, effective Jan. 7.

*Now Online*

**2024 PENNSYLVANIA STALLION & BOARDING FARM DIRECTORY**

**FIVE NEW STALLIONS!**



**PENNSYLVANIA HORSE BREEDERS ASSOCIATION**

**PABRED.COM**

#PABRED ON SOCIAL MEDIA

**CLICK HERE** >



## Value Sires for 2024: The 20-Somethings

(cont. from p1)

But next time round, we saw another farm go to a dizzier level yet, allowing rookie turf sprinter **GOLDEN PAL** to entertain no fewer than 293.

Now we all understand how this model works and breeders embrace it with open eyes. Some will hit a home run, but they're going to have to stand out from a crowd. You all know what the stakes are, and whether it can work in your program, and you don't need me preaching one way or the other. For the record, Yaupon duly processed 36 of 40 weanlings at an average \$130,888/median \$100,000.

He had to settle for 202 mares last time, some of his 2022 supporters having doubtless flitted straight to **Golden Pal**; but others yet will have switched to his new studmate **CYBERKNIFE**, who mustered 223.

**Gun Runner** has risen so fast that more affordable sons are finding themselves quickly in the game, and this was one of his breakout stars who beat a 37-year track record in the GI Haskell S.



Yaupon | Sarah Andrew

The sophomore frustrations of **CORNICHE** cannot have helped his cause, so a book of 180 pays tribute to the brilliance of his championship campaign. As much as the way he dominated the crop as a juvenile, the pinhookers will be dwelling on his \$1.5-million breeze as a 2-year-old (and 98 Beyer on debut). Some arcane names seed his family, but the genes were all functioning in his dam, six-time graded winner Wasted Tears (Najran).

Standing on a couple of farms that know how to keep a young stallion in the game, **Golden Pal**, Yaupon, Cyberknife and **Corniche** all take a trim in 2024 from \$30,000 to \$25,000.

Cont. p4

# Breed your mare to a Maryland stallion in 2024

Foal in Maryland in 2025

THE RESULTING FOAL WILL EARN YOU

# HIGHER

## Breeder Bonuses

*on earned purses for 1st, 2nd, 3rd  
on all overnight races\* in Maryland*

## PLUS

## Owner/Developer Bonuses

*30% total on earned purses for 1st, 2nd, 3rd  
on all overnight races\* in Maryland*

### Maryland Stallions for 2024

- |                    |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| BARBADOS           | HOLY BOSS       |
| BLOFELD            | HOPPERTUNITY    |
| BOURBON COURAGE    | IRISH WAR CRY   |
| CUPID              | KOBE'S BACK     |
| DIVINING ROD       | LONG ON VALUE   |
| ECLIPTICALSPRALINE | LONG RIVER      |
| ENGAGE             | MADEFROMLUCKY   |
| FIRST MONDAYS      | MOSLER          |
| FRIESAN FIRE       | NOT ABROAD      |
| GALAWI (IRE)       | UNCLE LINO      |
| GOLDEN LAD         | V. I. P. TICKET |
| GREAT NOTION       |                 |

Details on our stallions  
and Maryland-Bred incentives at

[MarylandThoroughbred.com](http://MarylandThoroughbred.com)

**BREED FOAL RACE**  
in Maryland

\*For foals born in 2023 and later. MARYLAND-BRED BONUSES APPLY TO REGISTERED MARYLAND-BREDS ONLY



**Value Sires, cont.**

The industrial approach is long familiar at Spendthrift and Ashford, but Juddmonte also played a candidly commercial game with MANDALOUN, who opened with as many as 211 partners. So he has certainly been given every chance of riding the luck he enjoyed when promoted from second for both his Grade Is. He actually paid somewhat for that rather freakish fortune, in that it distracted people from his inherent merit. Meanwhile he's another taking a clip, in his case from \$25,000 to \$20,000.

These horses are slipstreaming a handful on the brink of launching their first runners. One who excelled at the sales was WAR OF WILL, whose \$117,202 average (for 61 of 77 sold) placed him third in the debutants' table (sales up to \$650,000, \$85,000 median). He duly retains his opening fee at \$25,000.

**War of Will** appeals as a stallion for our times, as a Grade I scorer on both dirt and turf, but the clincher is a Niarchos family saturated with quality. A full subscription of 143 mares in his debut book has predictably tapered a little since (112 and 84), but the enthusiasm of the market is a huge plus for a horse who must contend with its crass reservations about anything--even a Preakness winner!--bearing a taint of turf.

Two others from his intake not only started out with very similar books (157 and 159), but achieved an identical median of \$53,500 with their first yearlings. That was better news for GAME WINNER than TIZ THE LAW, in that they opened at \$30,000 and \$40,000, respectively. Their averages were very similar too: the former sold 66 of 84 at \$95,772, just behind the latter with 64 sold of 70 at \$99,835. They remain in step now, both down to \$20,000 for 2024.

It was **Tiz the Law** who rallied in his second book, to 218 mares against 131 for **Game Winner**, and maintained an advantage of 131 against 96 last spring. **Cont.**



**Maximus Mischief** | Louise Reinagel

# CAIRO PRINCE



© EquiSport Photos

*More than*  
**\$9,000,000**  
 in **EARNINGS**  
 for the  
**Second Year in a Row**

**Think About It!**  
**\$15,000**

**AIRDRIE**  
**STUD** INC.

859-873-7270 • [www.airdriestud.com](http://www.airdriestud.com)





2021 G1 BREEDERS' CUP SPRINT

# ALOHA WEST

Hard Spun – Island Bound, by Speightstown



from the **FAPPIANO** family



**FAPPIANO**, a sire of sires, and a sprinter himself, with speed and class, has left behind a high proportion of quality offspring. His contribution to the breed will play out for years.

*You never know from where the next may come . . .*

*Live Aloha!*

LOVE . PEACE . COMPASSION

**Value Sires, cont.**



**Vino Rosso** | Sarah Andrew

He collected a series of stallion-making Grade Is-- Champagne/Florida Derby/Belmont/ Travers--and might well have added the Derby if only it had been run at the normal date in 2020. That makes him look a lot of horse at this money.

As for **Game Winner**, he obviously offers commercial precocity as an unbeaten champion juvenile, and very few of the crop managed to close the gap on him at three.

How those behind this trio would love to see them emulate **MAXIMUS MISCHIEF, VINO ROSSO** and **FLAMEAWAY**, who have all just completed their freshman season in a way that has earned an elevation in fee for 2024.

Spendthrift buddies Maximus Mischief and Vino Rosso contested second in the first-season sires' table all the way to the wire. The former--repeatedly advised as a commercial no-brainer at \$7,500--is hiked to \$25,000 and Vino Rosso, having been kept in the game in familiar fashion by halving to \$15,000 from an opening \$30,000, now inches back up to \$20,000.

Inevitably their farm has succeeded in maintaining volume behind both horses. In their fourth books, Vino Rosso covered 171 mares and Maximus Mischief 159. Pretty impressive, given how many of their original supporters must have been the type that annually jumps from one new sire to the next.

Vino Rosso, having himself thrived with maturity, has surprised people with the precocity of some stock, but then you're going to get many different flavors with no fewer than 155 named foals in your debut crop!

His 23 winners actually represent an unremarkable percentage, then, but where Vino Rosso does deserve credit is in mustering four to make the frame at Grade I level. Overall this has been an unproductive class, in graded stakes terms, but at least Vino Rosso has been coming up with the right caliber.

**Cont.**

**2021:** **19** North American Stakes Winners (bred from fees of \$25,000 and less)  
*Only Into Mischief had more.*

**2022:** **15** North American Stakes Winners (bred from fees of \$25,000 and less)  
*Only Into Mischief had more.*

**2023:** **15** North American Stakes Winners (bred from fees of \$30,000 and less)  
*Only Into Mischief, Quality Road and Gun Runner had more.*

Yearlings in 2023 sold for **\$775,000, \$700,000, \$700,000** etc. (from a fee of \$40,000)

His best-bred crops by far are yearlings (fee of \$85,000) and foals of 2024 (fee of \$100,000)!

# MUNNINGS

Fee: \$75,000



**COOLMORE®**  
A M E R I C A

Dermot Ryan, Charlie O'Connor, Adrian Wallace, Robyn Murray, Blaise Benjamin, Charles Hynes or Michael Norris. Tel: 859-873-7088. Fax: 859-879 5756.

[www.coolmore.com](http://www.coolmore.com)



**Value Sires, cont.**

Maximus Mischief has mustered a solitary graded stakes placing, though of course he was dealing with relatively modest materials when starting at a quarter of Vino Rosso's opening fee. This is a big moment for him, in that he needs to capitalize on his platform of 31 winners with an upgrade in mares at his new fee. (Predictably enough, he has already launched the highest percentage of named foals among all the freshman sires, at just about two-in-three).

His yearling average held up well, with 57 of 67 sold at a \$38,000 median (average \$47,312) compared with \$40,000 (average \$57,019, as much as anyone could have asked off a \$7,500 conception) for 77 sold last year.

Vino Rosso's 75 sales from 98 yearlings offered from his second crop achieved a \$45,000 median (\$55,558 average), down from \$61,000 (\$94,287 average) for 112 sold on debut. But his own template (and that of his own sire **Curlin**) is encouraging for his stock to keep progressing now, and interestingly both Vino Rosso and Maximus Mischief moved their weanling prices back up compared with 2022.

Hats off to **Flameaway**, meanwhile, for getting closest to breaking up the Spendthrift freshman monopoly. None of the quartet above him can match his four stakes winners, while he joins only champion Mitole and Solomini in relieving the overall

embarrassment of the class in at least managing one graded stakes scorer.

It must be said that he had decent numbers behind him, with 109 named foals, but by the same token the pipeline will be maintained by three-figure books annually since. Like Maximus Mischief, he needs to seize the moment after making precisely the same leap in fee, to \$25,000 from \$7,500. His second crop of yearlings didn't really reflect the fine start made by their predecessors, 41 of 54 changing hands at an unchanged median of \$30,000 (average \$44,950, down from \$49,340). But there should be plenty of action to come from such a versatile horse, who won at various trips on three different surfaces. Auspiciously, his flagship Dreamfyre divided her two graded stakes wins between six furlongs of dirt and a mile of turf. **Flameaway's** third dam is a true matriarch in Europe and he offers all the flexibility we should be seeking in a changing landscape.

**VALUE PODIUM**

**Bronze: BLAME**

**(Arch--Liable, by Seeking the Gold)**

**Claiborne, \$25,000**

How many of the aspiring youngsters who dominate this tier will end up achieving anything like as much as **Blame**? **Cont.**

# Maryland Stallion Season Auction



**January 3-7, 2024**

Sign Up & Bid at [MarylandHorse.com](http://MarylandHorse.com)

Barbados  
 Blofeld  
 Bourbon Courage  
 Cupid  
 Divining Rod  
 Friesan Fire

Galawi (IRE)  
 Golden Lad  
 Holy Boss  
 Hoppertunity  
 Irish War Cry  
 Kobe's Back

Long On Value  
 Long River  
 Madefromlucky  
 Mosler  
 Uncle Lino



# Brilliant winner of a sire-making race

Won the **Travers Stakes-Gr.1** earning a **112** Beyer Speed Figure, the highest of any 3YO on dirt in 2022.

His winning distance of **5¼ lengths** has been bettered only 3 times since 1979 – by **Arrogate**, **Bernardini** and **Tiz The Law**.

**ALSO A STAKES-WINNING 2YO BY 6½ LENGTHS!**

# EPICENTER

Champion 3YO by  
**NOT THIS TIME** (fee \$150,000)

Bred on a similar cross to  
**GUN RUNNER** (fee \$250,000)

**Fee: \$40,000**



**COOLMORE®**  
A M E R I C A



**Value Sires, cont.**

Entering his 13th season at stud, he has settled into the middle of this bracket as by far its most established operator. In fact, he's become a rather unique horse at this level. Everyone else is passing through, in one direction or the other. **Blame** is the only one trading at this kind of money where you know definitively where you stand. Others could yet turn out to have flattered to deceive, whereas he has found a fairly uncontested place among proven sires, between the blue-collar strivers and the unaffordable elite.

He's actually had a modest year by his standards, with only three stakes winners, albeit these did include a sixth Grade I scorer in Wet Paint. But his lifetime ratios are extremely solid: 6.5% stakes winners from named foals, 3% at graded stakes level. His ratios are a match for the likes of **Munnings**, **Street Sense** and **Twirling Candy**, to name just three sires too good to be embarrassed by the comparison. And the big news with him over the past couple of years is his precocious emergence as a broodmare sire.



**Blame** | Claiborne Farm

His breakout moment in this role was the GI Breeders' Futurity S. at Keeneland in 2022, aptly sponsored by Claiborne, when the pair that dueled clear of a strong field--champion Forte (**Violence**) and the luckless Loggins (**Ghostzapper**)--were both out of **Blame** mares. This is hardly a surprising development in a stallion whose third dam is none other than Special (Forli {Arg}). So for many programs--one that would like to keep a filly, for instance, or just to prove a young mare--**Blame** will offer better value than most horses in higher tiers. For the record, the niche he has carved out for himself could be measured in 2023 by a book of 129 mares, plus a yearling average of \$94,442 (up from \$82,075)--both really solid for a horse at this level of the market, at this stage of his career. **Cont.**



# START YOUR YEAR RIGHT

THE RIGHT OPPORTUNITIES ARE RIGHT HERE.

*Exceptional Offerings include*

**STAR ACT**  
Dam of 2023 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies (G1) winner Just F Y I, offered in foal to Life Is Good

**'23 JUSTIFY x STAR ACT**  
Yearling full sister to 2023 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies (G1) winner Just F Y I

**AIROSA**  
Winner of the 2023 Catch a Glimpse S. (L) as a juvenile. Her dam is a half-sister to dominant debut-winning 2YO Nash, Sara Street (GSP), Coronation Street, dam of 2023 Pennine Ridge S. (G2) winner Kalik, etc.

**CURLIN'S VOYAGE**  
Multiple Canadian champion daughter of Curlin offered in foal to Flightline

**HIDDEN CONNECTION**  
Daughter of Connect won the Dec. 22 Joseph E. Spanky Broussard Memorial S. at Fair Grounds. Her five graded stakes performances include a 9 1/4-length romp in the Pocahontas S. (G3)

**PIPIT**  
Quality Road filly won the Victoria S. (L), was runner up in the Algonquin S. (L) and placed in the Gowell S. as a juvenile

**SEBAGO LAKE**  
A Tapit half-sister to G3 winner and G1-placed Family Way from the immediate family of Irish highlight Carravagio, offered in foal to Justify



## Keeneland January Horses of All Ages Sale

Monday, Jan. 8 - Thursday, Jan. 11

[VIEW CATALOG](#)



**Value Sires, cont.**



**Oscar Performance** | Sarah Andrew

**Silver: OSCAR PERFORMANCE**

**(Kitten's Joy--Devine Actress, by Theatrical {Ire})**

**Mill Ridge, \$25,000**

Cometh the hour, cometh the man.

Here's a horse that faced only one problem when retiring to stud, but one as significant as it was tiresome: the notorious myopia of the domestic market regarding even high-class grass stallions. We all know how brutally difficult it is to stand a turf horse in the Bluegrass. Even English Channel and Kitten's Joy never quite cracked ringside prejudice sufficiently to obtain adequate reward for their outstanding records. But the consecutive loss of both those horses, even as he started out, nonetheless represented a big opportunity for **Oscar Performance**. And while it's still early days, he's making a strong case to step up as heir to his sire.

**Oscar Performance** covered 160 mares last spring, much his biggest book in his fifth season at stud. He had covered just 63 the previous year, but started out with a couple of three-figure books, so there will be plenty of talent coming through--especially when you recall how he kept thriving as a runner--to keep his name in lights, pending the arrival of the better stock he should be producing now.

And here's something else he did this year, that would be no less exceptional in a commercial dirt stallion. Offering his third crop of yearlings, he achieved an average of \$79,959 (23 sold from 30; admittedly a \$35,000 median was more in line with the \$15,000 conception fee) up from \$57,474 (\$32,500) for his second; and \$43,149 (\$26,000) for his first. In other words, he's reversing the usual trend: his stock is gaining in value by the year.

Why is this happening? **Cont.**

**START  
YOUR  
YEAR  
RIGHT**

THE RIGHT OPPORTUNITIES ARE  
RIGHT HERE.

*Quality Yearlings in Quantity*

**99 YEARLINGS BY 21 SIRES  
THAT STAND FOR \$50,000+**

*including*

- TWIRLING CANDY** | 11
- NOT THIS TIME** | 9
- BOLT D'ORO** | 8
- NYQUIST** | 8
- AUTHENTIC** | 7
- JUSTIFY** | 7
- PRACTICAL JOKE** | 7
- MUNNINGS** | 6
- CHARLATAN** | 5
- QUALITY ROAD** | 4

*and more*

**Keeneland January  
Horses of All Ages Sale**

Monday, Jan. 8 - Thursday, Jan. 11

[VIEW CATALOG](#)



**Value Sires, cont.**

Well, as we said, it's still early in the piece. None of his stock is yet at the same age as **Oscar Performance** when he won his fourth Grade I in the Woodbine Mile. But he's now had two crops to borrow the precocity he also required to win the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf, and they have together produced eight graded stakes horses at a ratio (5% of named foals) exceeded, in what looks a very strong intake, only by **Justify**; and matched only by Bolt d'Oro.

Interestingly his principal earner to date is Red Carpet Ready, whose two graded stakes wins actually came on the main track--on which surface he's also had Tumbarumba win the Ellis Park Derby and Deer District win a Churchill allowance by 10 lengths before placing in the GII Amsterdam S. So second and third dams by Mr. Prospector and Slew o' Gold are obviously having a say while, purely in terms of quality, his own mother has also produced two additional graded stakes-winning siblings.

His second crop has produced dual graded stakes scorer Endlessly, who looks aptly named for how far his sire may advance from here. After returning to his opening fee of \$20,000 last year, back up from \$12,500, **Oscar Performance** has now edged up to \$25,000. If he can keep building from here, he may reach a much higher level as breeders belatedly service an expanding turf program.

**Gold: ARMY MULE**

**(Friesan Fire--Crafty Toast, by Crafty Prospector)**

**Hill 'n' Dale, \$25,000**

This was a racetrack meteor--brief but bright--and now we're immediately seeing persuasive evidence that he may be replicating the freakish talent that we only glimpsed. It's not the most conventional profile, nor pedigree, but the functionality cannot be in question. **Cont.**



**Army Mule** | Chelsea Durand



# START YOUR YEAR RIGHT

THE RIGHT OPPORTUNITIES ARE RIGHT HERE.

*Quality Broodmares in Quantity*

## MARES IN FOAL TO YOUNG STALLIONS

- EPICENTER | 14
- PRACTICAL JOKE | 13
- GOLDEN PAL | 12
- JACK CHRISTOPHER | 11
- OSCAR PERFORMANCE | 10
- NASHVILLE | 9
- YAUPON | 9
- CORNICHE | 8
- JUSTIFY | 8
- MAXIMUS MISCHIEF | 8
- MCKINZIE | 8
- VOLATILE | 7
- and more*

64 MARES IN FOAL TO STALLIONS THAT STAND FOR \$50,000 OR MORE

116 MARES IN FOAL TO 25 DIFFERENT FIRST-YEAR SIREs



## Keeneland January Horses of All Ages Sale

Monday, Jan. 8 - Thursday, Jan. 11

[VIEW CATALOG](#)

IF YOU  
 MYST  
HIM IN 2023,  
DON'T MAKE  
THE SAME  
 MYSTAKE  
AGAIN...

The son of Ghostzapper was assessed as the world's best racehorse after his fast-time triumph in Dubai.

**Mystic Guide:** supported with a big, quality first book of 145 mares, including five G1 winners or their dams. Just imagine.

**Darley**



**Value Sires, cont.**

If **Army Mule** carries on the way he has started, enough people are going to accept that reality for him to break into the elite. If so, doubling his fee from \$12,500 last year is only going to be a start.

Remember he had to muscle his way into an exceptionally strong class of freshmen. **Justify** is soaring to stardom, either side of the water, and **Good Magic** came up with a Derby winner at the first attempt. In his first two crops, sired at \$10,000 and \$7,500, **Army Mule** produced only 138 named foals. Of the five above him in the cumulative earnings table, **Mendelssohn** has 323; **Justify** 309; Bolt d'Oro 238; **Good Magic** 226; **City of Light** 191. So guess what, some (but only some) of those have more stakes winners. But in what ratios?

Start with his individual winners: 68 from 108 starters, 49% of named foals. **Justify** is getting his at 28%; **Good Magic** 38%; Bolt d'Oro 39%; **Mendelssohn** 36%; **City of Light** 30%.

Of these, 10 have won at black-type level: 7.3% of named foals. **Justify** is operating at 6.5%; **Good Magic** matches **Army Mule** at 7.5%; Bolt d'Oro is on 4.2%; and **Mendelssohn** 1.9%; **City of Light** 3.7%. In terms of stakes performers overall, **Army Mule's** 11.6% is only matched in the class by Bolt d'Oro.

Understandably, given the relative caliber of mares they will have received, **Army Mule** can't quite see that performance

through at graded stakes level. He only has two such winners, among five placed. Moreover his farm was not even able to promote his Grade I breakout with One in Vermillion, the Allen Jerkens S. having fallen into his lap in ghastly circumstances. But someone needs to say that One in Vermillion has proved a legitimate graded stakes performer as a \$26,000 yearling from the Arizona TBA Fall Mixed Sale. **Army Mule** also has Danse Macabre, an \$11,000 short yearling, close to millionaire status after winning five of her first 10. (Incidentally, another nod to our bronze medalist here: she's out of a **Blame** mare.)

His debut crop had already done enough by last spring for **Army Mule** to entertain 199 mares in his fifth season at stud, up from 115 in 2022 and 83 the previous year.

His 2024 sophomores emerge from a crop of just 37 live foals, so he may have to tread water briefly. But surely **Army Mule** is one of those rare stallions who do enough, early enough, to lock in the medium-term momentum required. Sure enough, he sold 28 (from 38) of his latest crop of yearlings for a median \$67,500 and average \$96,650, up from \$51,000 and \$69,272: stellar returns for those who kept the faith for a \$7,500 conception.

As a rule, I prefer a horse that has left no doubt as to his resilience and **Army Mule's** entire career comprised barely four minutes. **Cont.**

# FIRST DUDE

MULTIPLE GRADED STAKES PRODUCING SIRE  
WITH OVER \$25 MILLION IN PROGENY EARNINGS

Congratulations

GRADED STAKES WINNER

## MARYQUITECONTRARY

REPEAT WINNER OF THE RAMPART S.  
SATURDAY AT GULFSTREAM

---

ALSO STANDING:

BAHAMIAN SQUALL

SIRE OF SPIRIT WIND  
SUGAR SWIRL S. G3 WINNER (12.23.23)

Donald R. Disney

DOUBLE DIAMOND FARM

www.doublediamondfarm.com

Phone: 352.237.3834

Roger Brand – rbrand@doublediamondfarm.com

Garrett Smith – gsmith@doublediamondfarm.com

**Value Sires, cont.**

But the talent that made him a six-length Grade I winner (114 Beyer) in that time was already luminous when he turned himself from \$35,000 yearling to \$825,000 2-year-old. This farm has a great record with these flashbulb talents, and there's a rapidly rising tide to catch with **Army Mule**.

# VALUE PODIUM



## ARMY MULE

Hill 'n' Dale at Xalapa | \$25,000



## OSCAR PERFORMANCE

Mill Ridge Farm | \$25,000



## BLAME

Claiborne Farm | \$25,000

**The breeders have their say...**

We asked breeders to weigh in on who their top picks were.

**Carrie Brogden of Machmer Hall**

**GOLD: Army Mule**

Gold would have to be **Army Mule**. He has had so much success from such modest mares that you have to pay attention. If he can simply maintain what he has done so far until the big gun crops come down the pipeline, he has the potential to be a breakout stallion. For example, we sold the dam of Grade I winner One in Vermillion carrying him in utero for a paltry \$4,500, bred on our share that I am probably going to completely regret selling earlier this year. He seems to offer speed, soundness, heart and his good looks.

**SILVER: Vino Rosso**

**(Curlin--Mythical Bride, by Street Cry {Ire})**

**Spendthrift Farm, \$20,000**

Silver for me would have to be **Vino Rosso**. We have booked three mares to him based on what he did with his first crop of 2-year-olds. Considering his own race record and breeding, I

would expect that they will excel with added distance. He seems to throw a particular type and I know that he is booked full for 2024, so clearly I am not the only one who sees his future potential. When I was at the Keeneland September sale this year, we had a nice colt out of **Queenie's Pride** (Special Rate) and the positive feedback I got from trainers and 2-year-old consignors was surprising to me since it was so early in the year for a son of **Curlin** that won the GI Breeders' Cup Classic as a 4-year-old. Speaking of **Curlin**, what an emerging superstar sire of sires he is! That coupled with **Spendthrift's** eye-popping accomplishment of a stallion farm leading home all top four freshman sires for 2023 in North America, the future looks very bright!

**BRONZE:**

**TIZ THE LAW**

**(Constitution--Tizfiz, by Tiznow)**

Coolmore, \$20,000

**GAME WINNER**

**(Candy Ride {Arg}--Indyan Giving, by A.P. Indy)**

Lane's End, \$20,000

Bronze would be a tie between **Tiz the Law** and **Game Winner**. Talk about racehorses! **Tiz the Law** won FOUR Grade Is as a 2-year-old and 3-year-old! **Cont.**

# CONGRATULATIONS



## Daddysruby

*Frac Daddy-Youtheprizeandi*

**LA BREA S. GR. 1 AT SANTA ANITA PARK**

OWNER: Jethorse LLC, Wachtel Stable and Gary Barber

TRAINER: Peter Miller

JOCKEY: Juan J. Hernandez

BREEDER: Jethorse LLC, Wachtel Stable and Gary Barber

BENOIT PHOTO



tip.ontarioracing.com



# TIME IS \$ MONEY

SIRE	# of progeny to run triple-digit Beyers	BTW %
Into Mischief	9	5.84
Curlin	7	5.83
Gun Runner	7	7.92
<b>NOT THIS TIME</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6.44</b>
Ghostzapper	5	4.78
Tapit	5	4.72

\*Numbers are based off 2023 statistics

North America's  
**Third Highest Stallion**  
in **Earnings Per Runner - \$63,813**  
AND **Triple-Digit Beyer Speed Figure Runners**

2024 FEE: \$150,000

**NOT THIS  
TIME**



TAYLOR MADE  
STALLIONS

TAYLORMADESTALLIONS.COM

859.885.3345

GIANT'S CAUSEWAY - MISS MACY SUE, BY TRIPPI

**Value Sires (the breeders have their say), cont.**

He is by a rising top-tier stallion in **Constitution** and the reception and physical attributes of his babies reminded me of the early crops of **Constitution**.

**Game Winner**, a 2-year-old champion, won THREE Grade Is as a 2-year-old and is by the incredible sire of sires **Candy Ride**. With the ones we had at Machmer Hall and that I saw at the sales, I personally felt that there was a lot of **Candy Ride** in them. I was the underbidder on two really nice weanlings by him and am still having non-buyer's remorse there. No crystal balls of course, as I am constantly reminded of playing Geoffery Russell's freshman sire contest every year, but both of these young stallions have the race record and stock to step into the very big shoes of both of their fathers.

**John Greathouse of Glencrest Farm****GOLD: Blame**

**Blame** was a gutsy racehorse and I think that's what he gets you. He's sired six Grade I winners and has been consistent year after year at the sales and at the races. He produces solid individuals that are sound and can go two turns. **Blame** is also starting to prove to be an excellent broodmare sire. Forte and Wet Paint are prime examples of that. If you are looking to start a young mare, there aren't many horses you can pick from that stand for less than 30k and are as proven as **Blame**.

**SILVER: Vino Rosso**

Vino Rosso is great value at 20k. He's third on the first-crop sire list, but I think he's far ahead of where most people expected him to be at this point. He was a horse that was better going two turns and I expected his progeny would be the same. His offspring are smooth and athletic. He comes from a serious family of runners. If his progeny improve going longer, we could be talking about him like we were talking about **Good Magic** in 2023. There is real upside at 20k.

**BRONZE: Maximus Mischief**

**(Into Mischief--Reina Maria, by Songandaprayer)  
Spendthrift Farm, \$25,000**

Maximus Mischief was one of the fastest 2-year-old sons of Into Mischief, which is no easy feat. That precocity is showing up with his 2-year-olds. He's off to a terrific start with 30 winners and sits second on the first-crop sire rankings. He has bred a big book of mares every year, so I don't expect him to slow down anytime soon. I like that he gets a big, strong horse with plenty of bone which suits smaller mares. We have bred to him in the past and will continue to support him this year.

**Baffert lawsuit, cont. from p1**

"This matter should be ready for trial approximately in November of 2024," Baffert's counsel wrote in the joint discovery plan. "Plaintiffs estimate that between five and eight days will be needed for trial."

Back on Sept. 27, Baffert filed a suit against two New Jersey residents, Justin Wunderler and Daniel DiCorcia, that asked for compensatory damages in excess of \$75,000, plus an award of punitive damages "to deter similar conduct by Defendants and others" after purportedly suffering "mental anguish, anxiety, and duress Defendants have caused by virtue of their repeated threats to Baffert's business and family by means of their unlawful statements."

The alleged extortion and defamation took the form of repeated social media postings.

Among them, according to Baffert's complaint, were postings written by Wunderler asking "his followers to bring dangerous objects to hurl at Baffert and his family" at the 2023 GI Belmont S., and another in which Wunderler posted "a picture of Baffert's house in California."

As Baffert's complaint put it, "This lawsuit is the response to a series of escalating threats and criminal conduct by Defendants Justin Wunderler and Daniel DiCorcia against Plaintiffs Bob Baffert and his family. Over the past several months, Defendants have urged others to engage in violent behavior toward Baffert and his family, baselessly accused Baffert of criminal conduct, and attempted to extort Baffert and his family under threats to his business, reputation, and occupational license."

Both defendants have denied the allegations and are seeking a dismissal of the case. **Cont.**



Louise E. Reinagel PHOTOGRAPHER Copyright MACHO UNO

Serving the Thoroughbred Industry Since 1979

Mobile contacts: 859.396.0761 / 352.237.3809

www.louiseereinagel.com

Share this story 



**Baffert lawsuit, cont.**

Bob Baffert | Horsephotos

Wunderler, however, did not initially file a timely legal response after being served with his summons.

On Dec. 4, one of Baffert's attorneys, Clark Brewster, asked the court to **enter a default judgment** against Wunderler for failing to respond.

Wunderler subsequently obtained a lawyer and an answer was filed Dec. 15. The judge denied the motion for default judgment on Dec. 19 and ordered the case to proceed.

Next up is an "early neutral evaluation" conference Jan. 8 that is designed to serve as a form of alternate dispute resolution, although neither party mentioned the likelihood of a settlement in the Jan. 2 joint filing.

Baffert's legal team, in Tuesday's joint plan, brought up some anticipated issues relating to discovery, allegedly because "One or more defendants in this matter have posted on social media regarding their intent to seek discovery on matters beyond the scope of the Complaint."

Discovery is the formal legal process by which the parties in a case exchange information in advance about witnesses and evidence that each side intends to present.

The filing by Baffert's lawyers continued: "This case is about Defendants' allegations of blood doping, the use of EPO, and their conspiracy to extort Mr. Baffert. Inquiries outside of these topics will be irrelevant except to the extent necessary to resolve issues regarding Mr. Baffert's reputation."

The defendants were given an opportunity in the joint filing to give their positions on the topic of anticipated discovery issues.

"DiCorcia has nothing to add and no response to the amorphous comment above," the joint filing stated.

"Wunderler agrees to adhere to the scope and limits of discovery [and] will adhere to any Court order regarding discovery," the joint filing stated.

[Share this story](#) 

**KNICKS GO YEARLING BRINGS MOORE FULL CIRCLE AT KEENELAND JANUARY**

by Jessica Martini

Sabrina Moore's GreenMount Farm will offer its final consignment during next week's Keeneland January Horses of All Ages Sale and, fittingly, the consignment's three offerings kick off with a short yearling from the first crop of the champion who put the Maryland farm on the map, **Knicks Go**.

"It's a little bittersweet that this is going to be my last consignment," Moore admitted. "But it will kind of come full circle, hopefully."

Moore and her mother Angie co-bred **Knicks Go** and sold the son of the late Paynter for \$40,000 as a weanling at the 2016 Keeneland November sale. He sold to the Korea Racing Authority for \$87,000 at the following year's Keeneland September sale.

**Knicks Go** went on to win five Grade I races, including the 2021 GI Breeders' Cup Classic, GI Pegasus World Cup Invitational, and GI Whitney S., as well as the 2018 GI Claiborne Breeders' Futurity and the 2020 GI Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile. The gray was named Horse of the Year and champion older male in 2021 and retired to Taylor Made Farm the following year.

**Knicks Go** had 18 weanlings sell last November for an average of \$64,611 and a high of \$220,000. With the turning of the year, the stallion's first yearlings sell at Keeneland next week and Moore's GreenMount will offer the first of the group as **hip 69** during the auction's first session Monday.

"He has this tenacious attitude," Moore said when asked if she saw similarities between the yearling and his famous father. "He is a little hard-headed, but in the best way possible. He definitely has his own opinions and he is a very confident colt. I foaled him at my farm [in Maryland] and he came out brown and I thought, 'oh no!'" **Cont.**

**Knicks Go** | Sarah Andrew



# A SIRE ON

# FLAME

## FLAMEAWAY

CLOSED OUT 2023 AS THE  
LEADING FRESHMAN SIRE  
OF BLACK-TYPE WINNERS

SIRE BTW

**FLAMEAWAY 4**

MAXIMUS MISCHIEF 3

SOLOMINI 3

MITOLE 2

VINO ROSSO 2

OMAHA BEACH 2

AUDIBLE 2

COAL FRONT 2

\*TDN Sires Lists 1/2/24



MGSW BY SIRE OF  
SIRES **SCAT DADDY**,  
LIKE JUSTIFY,  
NO NAY NEVER,  
SIOUX NATION, ETC.



Fee: \$25,000 S&N



Contact Stuart Fitzgibbon:  
(859) 254-0424



**Sabrina Moore, cont.**

Moore continued: “I just had this dream in my head that I would get this little gray **Knicks Go** baby. But other than that, body style, they are pretty similar. He is a stout individual and he carries good body.”

After foaling the colt in Maryland, Moore picked up roots and moved to Kentucky last fall.

“We moved him down here and I can’t believe how much he’s progressed in the last two months,” Moore said. “He is really coming on. If a pinhooker picks him up, I think they will be thrilled with him in the next few months. He is really headed in the right direction.”



Sabrina Moore | Katie Petrunyak

Of her move to Kentucky, Moore admitted it was a transition that just made sense.

“It had been on my radar the last few years,” Moore said. “I bred a really nice horse, but at the end of the day, that didn’t get me far, at least financially. The Maryland circuit was really struggling and I had a lot of clients who were really struggling. It felt like it was going in a direction that I didn’t think was going to benefit me long term. So I just had to try to think about my future and where I wanted to be. And owning a farm in a regional market was just not going to do it.”

The decision to make the move to Kentucky was made easier when some Maryland clients, Steve and Denise Smith, encouraged her to join them as their farm manager.

“They just bought a really nice farm,” Moore said. “It’s the old Fort Blackburn Farm on Old Frankfurt Pike. They were looking for a manager and I was looking for a job. We’ve had this relationship for a long time, so I was really comfortable. I was scared to come down here and get lost in the mix, but it’s been a really smooth transition. It’s been great.”

Now renamed Mesingw Farm, the operation is home to some 40 horses, as well as a racing stable of some 20 horses in

training. Among the stable, the Smiths are co-owners of graded stakes winner Danse Macabre (**Army Mule**), who is trained by Kelsey Danner.

“[Smith] is getting close to retiring and this is his passion and he’s always had his eye on doing this,” Moore said. “They aim to keep the fillies and sell the colts. But if they bring them through the ring and it’s not what he wants, then he will race them, too. He is aiming to try to build a really nice broodmare band.”

As for Moore, she’s settling into a more relaxed way of life.

“I thought I wanted an office job for a while—I didn’t realize how much I would miss working with horses,” Moore said. “I was so burned out. It was so hard to find help in Maryland. I had 50 horses for the last year and a half and it was me and one other girl and sometimes another part-time person. It was unrealistic and exhausting.”

Of her final GreenMount consignment, Moore said, “I will miss it, but I am a little relieved to be done with it and to focus on my current job right now full force. And go on from there.”

Moore retained one broodmare, a half-sister to **Knicks Go**, and she is looking forward to seeing what the champion’s first offspring can do on the racetrack.

“They are falling into the hands of a lot of really nice professionals,” she said of the stallion’s first crop. “It will be really exciting to watch them develop and hopefully they go on and do big things.”

The Keeneland January sale will be held next Monday through Thursday with sessions beginning each day at 10 a.m.

[Share this story](#)

## BELFIORE RETURNS AS NYTHA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Andy Belfiore will be returning as the New York Thoroughbred Horsemen’s Association (NYTHA)’s Executive Director, effective Jan. 7, the organization announced Tuesday.

“Andy has a wealth of experience in all facets of the racing industry,” said newly elected NYTHA President Tina Bond. “In addition to her knowledge base, Andy’s devotion to equine welfare and aftercare are especially crucial in this period of our sport. We are very pleased that she will be rejoining the NYTHA team.”

Belfiore started her career in racing on the backstretch at Belmont Park, working as a hotwalker, groom and exercise rider, before joining the Rick Violette stable as assistant trainer. After six years as Violette’s assistant, she moved to the frontside at the track, and spent five years in the communications and marketing departments at the New York Racing Association (NYRA). **Cont.**

**Andy Belfiore, cont.**

Belfiore left NYRA in 1993 to take the post as editor-in-chief at the *Thoroughbred Daily News*. During her tenure, the *TDN* grew from a four-page publication with just a few hundred subscribers to a leader in the Thoroughbred industry. Named Director of Communications for NYTHA in December, 2011, and Executive Director in September, 2015, she was instrumental in the creation of the TAKE2 and TAKE THE LEAD Programs.

She returns to New York after serving as Executive Director of the Florida Thoroughbred Horsemen’s Association (FTHA) for two years.

“This is an exciting time to be a part of the racing industry in New York,” said Belfiore. “I thank the NYTHA Board and President Tina Bond for the opportunity, and I am looking forward to working with such a great team.”

[Share this story](#)



**Full Count Felicia** became the newest graded winner for Claiborne Farm's **War Front** in the Suwannee River S. | *Lauren King*

**SIRES WITH** **NEW SWs/GSWs**

**FOR THE WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023  
ACTIVE NORTH AMERICAN-BASED STALLIONS**

<b>Sire (Sire's Sire)</b>	<b>#SWs</b>	<b>#GSW</b>
<b>Into Mischief</b> (Harlan's Holiday) <i>(High Class--Poinsettia S.)</i>	141	68
<b>War Front</b> (Danzig) <i>(Full Count Felicia--Suwannee River S.-Gill)</i>	115	67

**STANDING AT CLAIBORNE FARM • CLICK HERE FOR MORE  
NOMINATE A MARE • EMAIL BERNIE SAMS**

*Italics indicate new activity, statistics include Northern Hemisphere results only. Want to promote your stallion? Email [suefinley@thoroughbreddailynews.com](mailto:suefinley@thoroughbreddailynews.com).*

Follow the TDN staff on  
Twitter  
Thoroughbred Daily News

<a href="#">@SGrimmTDN</a>	<a href="#">@SteveSherackTDN</a>	<a href="#">@JessMartiniTDN</a>
<a href="#">@suefinley</a>	<a href="#">@CBossTDN</a>	<a href="#">@EquinealTDN</a>
<a href="#">@HLAndersonTDN</a>	<a href="#">@garykingTDN</a>	<a href="#">@JillWilliamsTDN</a>
<a href="#">@thorntond</a>	<a href="#">@SarahKAndrew</a>	<a href="#">@QueenOfSuites</a>
	<a href="#">@campbellparlay</a>	

**NEWS ROUNDUP**  
sponsored by **BIEDERMAN REAL ESTATE**

**APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR 2024 THOROUGHBRED  
MAKEOVER**

Applications are now being accepted for the 2024 Thoroughbred Makeover and National Symposium, presented by Thoroughbred Charities of America, according to a Tuesday release from the Retired Racehorse Project. The application can be accessed at [theRRP.org](http://theRRP.org) and must be completed by 5 p.m. EST Jan. 19. Accepted trainers will be announced no later than Feb. 15.

Entering its 10th year at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, the Thoroughbred Makeover features competition in 10 disciplines for recently retired Thoroughbreds in their first year of retraining for a career after racing. A competition division is also open to recently retired broodmares exiting the bloodstock industry.

Horses and their trainers may compete in one or two disciplines of their choice, including Barrel Racing, Competitive Trail, Dressage, Eventing, Field Hunter, Polo, Ranch Work, Show Hunter, Show Jumper and Freestyle (a freeform discipline showcasing skills of the trainer’s choosing).

Horses and trainers will compete for more than \$110,000 in total prize money, plus the title of Thoroughbred Makeover Champion, at the Kentucky Horse Park Oct. 9-12.

[Share this story](#)



The **ONLY** Top Ten First Crop Sire of '23  
With a Grade 1 or Grade 2 Stakes Winner

# SOLOMINI



Livingston

Sire of **3 Blacktype Stakes Winners (7.0%)**, more than Mitole (\$15,000 fee), Vino Rosso (\$25,000 fee), Omaha Beach (\$40,000 fee), Audible (\$15,000 fee), etc., on both measures

The highest average earnings per starter of the Top 10 Freshman Sires, incl. Mitole, Vino Rosso, Omaha Beach, Audible, etc.

14 First Crop Winners and a higher percentage of winners from starters than Vino Rosso, Audible, etc.

#7 Freshman and #1 Outside of Kentucky

*Best Stud Fee Value*

# SOLOMINI

Curlin-Surf Song, by Storm Cat | \$7,500 Live Foal

BREEDERS OF NY Breds EARN EVEN MORE STARTING IN 2024!

McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds, LLC

180 Fitch Rd Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

Ph: 518-587-3426 | F: 518-587-4393

Inquiries to: [john@mcmahonthoroughbreds.com](mailto:john@mcmahonthoroughbreds.com)

John 518-376-2924 or Jane 518-693-2218

**NYBREDS.COM**  
NEW YORK THOROUGHBRED BREEDING & DEVELOPMENT FUND

**McMAHON**  
of Saratoga  
THOROUGHBREDS



## MARYLAND HORSE FOUNDATION LAUNCHES WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE

The Maryland Horse Foundation will kick off the new year with a clothing drive to collect warm winter clothing and riding attire that will be distributed to young equestrians in need this winter season. The clothing drive will run from Jan. 2 until the end of March.

Recommended items are new or gently used hats, gloves, scarves, pants, sweatshirts, long-sleeve shirts, tights, socks, breeches, jodhpurs, and boots. All sizes are accepted. Items will be donated to Baltimore-county based programs that offer riding instruction to low-income students.

Unwrapped items may be dropped off inside the Maryland Horse Library & Education Center located at 321 Main Street in Reisterstown, Maryland. The Library & Education Center is open from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Inquiries about donations or clothing distribution can be directed to Jeanne Schnell via email at [jeanne@marylandthoroughbred.com](mailto:jeanne@marylandthoroughbred.com) or (410) 252-2100 extension 113.

[Share this story](#) 

### AMERICAN GRADED STAKES COMMITTEE REVIEW

The **Via Borghese S.**, originally scheduled as a listed race to be run over the turf, was automatically run as a non-listed event when it was taken off the grass and moved to the Tapeta at Gulfstream Park Dec. 26. After reviewing the race, the American Graded Stakes Committee has reinstated the race's listed status.



**THE TRUSTED EXPERT FOR QUALITY KENTUCKY REAL ESTATE SINCE 1994**

BIEDERMANREALESTATE.COM  
Call 859.277.2030

## UPCOMING MAJOR NORTH AMERICAN STAKES

Date	Race	Track
Jan. 6	GII San Vicente S.	SA
Jan. 7	GIII Santa Ynez S.	SA
Jan. 14	GIII Las Cienegas S.	SA
Jan. 20	GIII Lecomte S.	FG
	GIII Louisiana S.	FG
	GIII La Canada S.	FG

*Click [here](#) to access the TDN graded stakes calendar.*

# GRADED STAKES ENTRIES

Visit the TDN Graded Stakes Entries page to keep up with where the sport's top horses are running next. Every Graded stakes in America is posted just after it is drawn.

[Click here to get started](#)

CAN'T WAIT TO GET YOUR TDN BREAKING NEWS AND RACE RESULTS?

[Click Here](#) to sign up for TDN Alerts





# JOB OPENINGS

A listing of career opportunities in the Thoroughbred industry



## SPENDTHRIFT

### BOOKING SECRETARY

**Spendthrift** is looking to add a **Booking Secretary** to our team as we continue to grow our operation and reputation as one of the best Thoroughbred Farms around!

Booking Secretaries are the main point of contact for clients during the breeding season and beyond and are important representatives of the farm. Successful Booking Secretaries will have great attention to detail, be proficient with Microsoft Office, possess the ability to multitask in a fast paced environment, have superb organizational skills and a congenial personality. Spendthrift offers a robust compensation and benefit package.

***Come join our team!***

Please submit resume and references to  
[hr@spendthriftfarm.com](mailto:hr@spendthriftfarm.com)

Share this job 

---

## Want to list your job?

---

Standard listing: **\$400**

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

Multi listing: **\$350 each**

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



Contact the TDN Ad Staff: [advertising@thetdn.com](mailto:advertising@thetdn.com)  
for details or to post a job

# NORTH AMERICAN RACING



## SECOND-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: WEDNESDAY, JAN. 3

2024 Stud Fees Listed

**Audible** (Into Mischief), WinStar Farm, \$15,000

260 foals of racing age/20 winners/2 black-type winners  
8-Mahoning Valley, 4:02 p.m. EST, Msw 6f, Blenheim Baby, 8-5

**Demarchelier (GB)** (Dubawi {Ire}), Claiborne Farm, \$7,500

99 foals of racing age/12 winners/0 black-type winners  
3-Charles Town, 7:57 p.m. EST, Msw 6 1/2f, Photo Finish, 6-5

**Divisidero** (Kitten's Joy), Airdrie Stud, \$5,000

42 foals of racing age/4 winners/1 black-type winner  
5-Turfway, 7:55 p.m. EST, Msw 6f, Proud Divi, 15-1

**Heart to Heart** (English Channel), Crestwood Farm

60 foals of racing age/4 winners/0 black-type winners  
8-Mahoning Valley, 4:02 p.m. EST, Msw 6f, Halcyon Days, 8-1

**Vino Rosso (Curlin)**, Spendthrift Farm, \$20,000

309 foals of racing age/24 winners/2 black-type winners  
3-Tampa Bay Downs, 1:19 p.m. EST, Aoc 1 1/16mT, Alcohol, 3-1  
\$150,000 KEE SEP yrl; \$75,000 OBS OPN 2yo



[CLICK HERE](#)

to view the largest selection of farms  
for sale in Kentucky's Bluegrass Region

[www.kyhorsefarms.com](http://www.kyhorsefarms.com) | 859.255.3657 | LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

© Copyright Thoroughbred Daily News.

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



## IN SOUTH KOREA:

**Power Gunju**, c, 2, **Ghostzapper**--One Night, by Distorted Humor. Seoul, 12-30, Hcp. (C4), 1400m. B-David Ross (KY).  
\*\$195,000 Wlg '21 KEENOV; \$220,000 RNA Ylg '22 FTSAUG;  
\$15,000 Ylg '22 FTKOCT; \$25,000 2yo '23 FTMMAY.

[VIDEO \(SC 5\)](#)



## ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

**6th-Mahoning Valley, \$32,900**, 1-2, (NW1X), 3yo/up, f/m, 1m, 1:41.58, my, 5 1/2 lengths.

**LADY JASPER (f, 4, Exaggerator--Spun From Gold, by Hard Spun)** Lifetime Record: 15-5-2-1, \$141,048. O-Blazing Meadows Farm LLC & S G M Thoroughbred Racing LLC; B-Blazing Meadows Farm LLC & Choice One Bloodstock (OH); T-Timothy E. Hamm.

**5th-Golden Gate Fields, \$31,027**, (NW1\$X)/Opt. Clm (\$25,000), 1-1, 4yo/up, f/m, 5 1/2f (AWT), 1:03.21, ft, 2 1/2 lengths.

**BERRY VALLEY (f, 5, Curlin to Mischief--Noe Valley, by Royal Academy)** Lifetime Record: 5-2-1-1, \$55,588. O-Barbara DeLima; B-Clifford DeLima, Barbara De Lima & Dennis Patterson (CA); T-Clifford DeLima.

**7th-Mahoning Valley, \$25,900**, 1-2, (NW2L), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:13.73, my, 3 3/4 lengths.

**PLANET FROLIC (f, 4, Blame--Frolic to the Wire, by Roman Ruler)** Lifetime Record: 9-2-4-1, \$45,024. O/B-Steven Friedfertig (KY); T-Anthony Farris. \*\$85,000 RNA Ylg '21 KEESEP.

## ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

**Seeking Freedom**, g, 3, **Da Big Hoss**--Seeking a Sunrise, by Seeking a Home. Mahoning Valley, 1-2, (S), 6f, 1:15.35. Lifetime Record: 8-1-2-0, \$36,480. B-Rodney C Faulkner (OH).

**Time the Avenger**, g, 4, **Bolt d'Oro**--Angry Ocean, by Giant's Causeway. Mahoning Valley, 1-2, 6f, 1:12.74. Lifetime Record: 3-1-1-0, \$21,359. B-E. H. Beau Lane & J. B. Orem (KY).

Bred & Raised by **BEAU LANE BLOODSTOCK/WOODLINE**



## The New York Jockey Injury Compensation Fund (NYJICF) 2024 Workers' Compensation Premium Assessment and Formula

This is the NYJICF's Assessment Plan for 2024 (2024 Assessment Plan) and, consistent with the last few years, continues to be structured on New York Racing Association (NYRA)-based horsemen contributing 86% of the NYJICF's annual cost, which is estimated to equal \$7,388,161, and Finger Lakes Gaming and Racetrack (FLRA)-based horsemen contributing 14% of the NYJICF's annual cost, which is estimated to equal \$1,202,724.

The NYJICF has the authority (i) to use up to \$2 million from the NYRA purse cushion fund and (ii) to deduct and use 2% of purses from an owner's share of purses until April 1, 2024, when the percentage from purses decreases from 2% to 1%.

Similar to the last few years, the NYJICF will seek authority to use 2% of purses for all of calendar 2024. If such approval is granted, then the NYJICF will seek to eliminate or reduce the scheduled second installment of the owner and trainer base payment for NYRA owners and trainers. We recognize that changes in the 2024 Assessment Plan would require New York State Gaming Commission (Gaming Commission) review and approval.

NYRA Owners assessment and payment is a \$2,241 base premium, plus 2% of purses earned until April 1, 2024 when the percentage of purses decreases to 1%.

FLRA Owners assessment and payment is a \$3,060 base premium, plus 2% of purses earned until April 1, 2024 when the percentage of purses decreases to 1%.

Each race with a purse over \$1,000,000 will be capped at \$1,000,000 for Workers' Compensation assessment purposes only.

NYRA Trainer assessment and payment is a \$2,241 base premium plus: NYRA trainers will pay a per stall charge of \$2.00 per day for each stall allotted and accepted during each stall allotment period as designated by the track where each trainer races, provided that the first 12 stalls allotted and accepted will be free and the per stall charge for each stall allotted and accepted in excess of 12 will be \$2.00 per day.

FLRA Trainer assessment and payment is a \$3,060 base premium plus: FLRA trainers will pay a per stall charge of \$1.80 per day for each stall allotted and accepted during each stall allotment period as designated by the track.

These premium charges will be due as follows:

NYRA and FLRA Owners and Trainers base premium charge is due:

- a. At NYRA, for those trainers already stabled on the grounds: \$1,250 on or before January 1, 2024, and an additional \$991 (for a total of \$2,241) to be paid on or before June 1, 2024.
- b. At NYRA, for those owners already stabled on the grounds: \$1,250 before they run their first horse in 2024 through May 31, 2024, and an additional \$991 (for a total of \$2,241) to be paid on or before June 1, 2024.
- c. For those trainers shipping in: upon entering the horse on the grounds based on the "shippers" per start schedule set forth below.
- d. For those owners shipping in: before they run their first horse in 2024 based on the "shippers" per start schedule set forth below.
- e. At FLRA, for trainers: upon entering the horse on the grounds: \$1,800 on or before April 1, 2024, and an additional \$1,260 (for a total of \$3,060) to be paid on or before June 1, 2024.
- f. At FLRA, for owners: \$1,800 before they run their first horse in 2024 through May 31, 2024, and an additional \$1,260 (for a total of \$3,060) to be paid on or before June 1, 2024.

Anything in this 2024 Assessment Plan to the contrary notwithstanding, FLRA's 14% of the NYJICF's cost, which is estimated to equal \$1,202,724, will be paid by FLRA in eight equal installments in the amount of \$150,340 between April 2024 and November 2024.

NYRA and FLRA Owners and Trainers

The stall charges will be due on the last day of the first month of each allotment period, for example: January 31 for winter 2024 at NYRA and thirty days after the opening of the stable area for the spring meeting at FLRA.

If the trainer accepts stalls for the summer meeting but ships in three weeks before that meeting begins, that trainer will be responsible for the entire summer meeting plus \$2.00 per day (\$1.80 at FLRA) times the number of stalls allotted, times the number of days that the trainer occupied the stalls prior to the summer meeting, provided that the first 12 stalls allotted and accepted at NYRA tracks will be free.

Owners/Trainers will be required to pay the base premium charge of \$2,241 at NYRA and \$3,060 at FLRA, plus 2% of purses earned until April 1, 2024, when the percentage of purses decreases to 1%, plus the stall allotment charge.

Private Trainers will be responsible for the base premium of \$2,241 at NYRA and \$3,060 at FLRA. The owner employing that trainer (whose payroll the exercise riders are on) will be responsible for the stall charge plus 2% of purses earned until April 1, 2024, when the percentage of purses decreases to 1%.

Shippers. At NYRA, owners and trainers will be charged \$125.00 each per start for their first ten starts (for a maximum of \$1,250 for 2024). At FLRA, owners and trainers will be charged \$180.00 each per start for their first ten starts (for a maximum of \$1,800 for 2024). Owners will also be charged 2% of purses earned until April 1, 2024, when the percentage of purses decreases to 1%. Shipping trainers will only be charged a stall fee if they are assigned stalls.

A suitable stall count to be determined by the racing secretary at the current stall assessment rate (\$2.00 at NYRA tracks (except the first 12 stalls allotted and accepted will be free for 2024) and \$1.80 at FLRA) will be assessed to those horsemen stabled off of the racetrack proper and who have daily access and use of the racetrack facilities.

Surcharge. Each trainer, upon such trainer's second claim and any subsequent claim filed with the workers' compensation insurance carrier in 2024, shall be charged a per-claim handling surcharge based upon the total number of horses then currently trained on the date of such claim(s) (as measured by the number of stalls allocated statewide as of the date of the claim for which a surcharge is to be collected), as follows: 1 to 10 horses: \$200; 11 to 30 horses: \$400; and 31 or more horses: \$600.

### General Information

Should NYJICF determine that the amounts which are actually collected from (i) NYRA is inadequate to cover 86% of the NYJICF's annual cost, which is estimated to equal \$7,388,161 and/or (ii) FLRA is inadequate to cover 14% of the NYJICF's annual cost, which is estimated to equal \$1,202,724, respectively, then the NYJICF will seek additional funds pursuant to the Racing, Pari-Mutuel Wagering and Breeding Law Section 221 (7).

- For determining the responsibility for payment of workers' compensation, an owner is the person whose account would be debited or credited when a horse runs. In the case of multiple ownership, this would be the managing partner.
- In order for trainers to reduce their stall charge, they must officially return stalls to the proper association, stall man or racing secretary within 10 days after assuming the stalls.
- The charge per stall is in no way to be construed as a payment for stall rent. This is only a method which the NYJICF uses to estimate the appropriate premium charge that is due.

For those racing at NYRA:

Please send checks for the base premium payable to:

New York Racing Association, Inc.

PO Box 170243

Ozone Park, NY 11417

Attention: Horsemen's Bookkeeper

or

Call the Horsemen's Bookkeeper at 718-687-4843 to have that amount debited from your account.

For those racing at FLRA:

Please send checks for the base premium payable to:

Finger Lakes Gaming and Racetrack, Inc.

PO Box 25250

Farmington, NY 14425

or

Call the Horsemen's Bookkeeper at 585-924-3004 after April 1, 2024 to have that amount debited from your account.



## ALL TDN WINNERS BY SIRE

sponsored by

**IRT**  **Your Horse.  
Our Passion.**

**IRT USA:** Tel +1 630 377 2300  
Tel +44 1638 668 003

[www.irt.com](http://www.irt.com)  

- Blame**, Planet Frolic, f, 4, o/o Frolic to the Wire, by Roman Ruler. ALW, 1-2, Mahoning Valley
- Bolt d'Oro**, Time the Avenger, g, 4, o/o Angry Ocean, by Giant's Causeway. MSW, 1-2, Mahoning Valley
- Curlin to Mischief**, Berry Valley, f, 5, o/o Noe Valley, by Royal Academy. AOC, 1-1, Golden Gate
- Da Big Hoss**, Seeking Freedom, g, 3, o/o Seeking a Sunrise, by Seeking a Home. MSW, 1-2, Mahoning Valley
- Exaggerator**, Lady Jasper, f, 4, o/o Spun From Gold, by **Hard Spun**. ALW, 1-2, Mahoning Valley

## UPCOMING MAJOR NORTH AMERICAN STAKES

Date	Race	Track
Jan. 6	GII San Vicente S.	SA
Jan. 7	GIII Santa Ynez S.	SA
Jan. 14	GIII Las Cienegas S.	SA
Jan. 20	GIII Lecomte S.	FG
	GIII Louisiana S.	FG
	GIII La Canada S.	FG
Jan. 27	GI Pegasus World Cup Invitational	GP
	GI Pegasus World Cup Turf Invitational	GP
	GII Inside Information S.	GP
	GIII Fred W. Hooper S.	GP
	GIII La Prevoyante S.	GP
	GIII Pegasus F/M Turf Invitational	GP
	GIII William L. McKnight S.	GP
	GIII Houston Ladies Classic	GP
	GIII John B. Connally Turf Cup	GP
	GII San Pasqual S.	SA
	GIII Southwest S.	OP

Click [here](#) to access the TDN graded stakes calendar.

Seeing  
**RED?**

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

**BY SUPPORTING PERMANENTLY  
DISABLED JOCKEYS, YOU CAN HELP  
THEM WRITE THEIR COMEBACK STORY!**



The PDJF currently assists 58 permanently disabled jockeys. Each day these men and women face the challenge of living with their disability, and the loss of income as a way to provide for their families.

Your consideration of a gift to support permanently disabled jockeys during this time of the year will make a difference in their lives.



**PDJF.ORG/donate**

Donations by check can be mailed to:  
PDJF, P. O. Box 803, Elmhurst, IL 60126.



*make a difference  
in the new year*



Providing health and human  
services to people working  
in Central Kentucky's  
Thoroughbred industry.



**Blue Grass  
Farms Charities**

Supporting the Thoroughbred Racing Community

**Make your donation today**

P.O. Box 12252, Lexington, KY 40582 | [www.bgfcky.org](http://www.bgfcky.org) | [Info@Bgfcky.org](mailto:Info@Bgfcky.org) | 859.219.0910

Blue Grass Farms Charities is a 501(c)3 non-profit