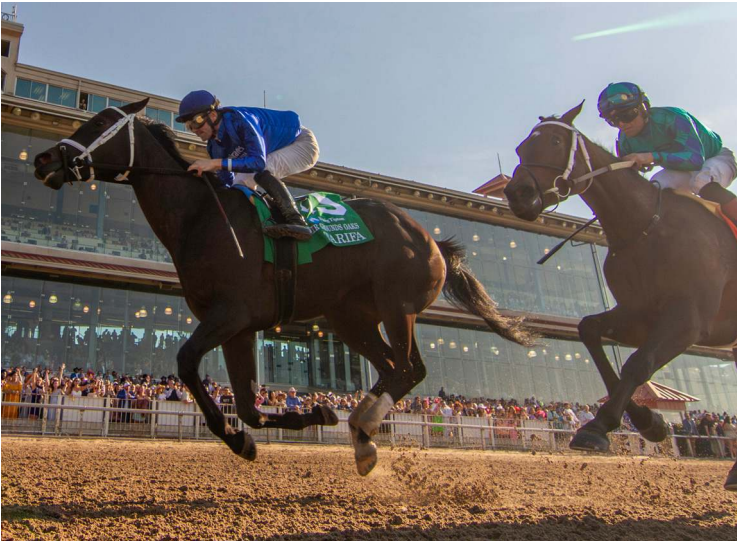




THE KENTUCKY OAKS TOP 10 FOR APRIL 11



Tarifa winning the Fair Grounds Oaks | Hodges Photography

by Bill Finley

Prep season for the GI Kentucky Oaks is over and we have a pretty good idea of who is going to be in the race and which ones are the horses to beat. With three major preps--the GI Ashland S., the GII Santa Anita Oaks and the GIII Gazelle S.--all run over the weekend, there was plenty of movement in our Top 10. But the very solid **Tarifa** (Bernardini) maintains the top spot for Brad Cox.

Here's a look at the latest installment of our Kentucky Oaks Top Ten:

1) TARIFA (f, Bernardini--Kite Beach, by Awesome Again)
O/B-Godolphin (KY); T-Brad Cox. Lifetime Record: **'TDN Rising Star'**, MGSW, 5-4-0-0, \$518,925. Last start: WON Mar. 23 GII Fair Grounds Oaks. Kentucky Oaks Points: 150. Next Start: GI Kentucky Oaks, CD, May 3.

Had someone done something spectacular in the GI Ashland S. at Keeneland, **'TDN Rising Star'** Tarifa might have been knocked down a peg. It didn't happen that way. Tarifa's stablemate, Impel (**Quality Road**), who was getting all the hype prior to the Ashland ran third, but does not have enough points to get into the Oaks. There's just no knocks on Tarifa, who is four-for-five lifetime and is riding a three-race winning streak. She faced a tough bunch in the GII Fair Grounds Oaks Presented by Fasig-Tipton and prevailed.

Cont. p8

FINCHER BACK TO 'BREAD & BUTTER' AFTER DUBAI, OAKLAWN ROAD BECKONS

by J.N. Campbell

SUNLAND PARK, New Mexico -- Todd Fincher cuts an easy path along the apron through the Sunday crowd at Sunland Park, giving nods and an occasional smile as he goes. It's closing day at the track and a homebred owned by Kirk and Judy Robison from his shedrow just won the Island Fashion S.

Sporting his standard duds, including a ball cap, creased jeans and shades, Fincher has his modular phone slung on his belt, ready to be drawn from its holster.

"Busy," replies the New-Mexico based trainer when asked about how it's all going. "It's just been such a non-stop crazy time, but coming back to Sunland Park, this is my bread and butter."

Cont. p3

IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

SECRET A POTENTIAL STAR FOR CONRAN

Brian Sheerin speaks to breeze-up consignor Ryan Conran, who is hoping Ecureuil Secret (Fr) (**Wootton Bassett (GBI)**) can be a flag-bearer for his burgeoning operation.



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Thursday, April 11, 2024



GII Fantasy S. winner Thorpedo Anna (Fast Anna) gallops at Churchill Downs on Tuesday morning. The Kentucky Oaks Top 10 continues on page 8. | Horsephotos

BULLET BREEZES CONTINUE AT OBS, THURSDAY CANCELLED 5

Jessica Martini keeps pace with OBS's Spring Sale of 2-Year-Olds in Training as she follows 18 juveniles who breezed :9 4/5 on Wednesday. Sales officials have confirmed that Thursday's session has been cancelled with an extra day tacked on Sunday.

TREY GORDON NAMED PRESIDENT OF WEST POINT 10

Trey Gordon has been named as the new President of West Point Thoroughbreds.

WEEKLY RULINGS FOR APRIL 3-9 10

A rundown of the latest weekly rulings.



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Fincher, Cont. p1

Fincher returned only a week ago from his second Middle East junket which capped **Senor Buscador's (Mineshaft)** successful two-race sojourn to that part of the world. Unless you have resided under an igneous rock, then you know that Joey Peacock's 6-year-old stalwart won the G1 Saudi Cup and then finished third in the G1 Dubai World Cup.

"The experience was great and even though the result in Dubai wasn't what we wanted, everyone was incredibly welcoming," he said. "Even in a race as big as that one was, I don't get disappointed because at least 75 percent of the time you are going to lose in racing, so getting down like I used to serves no purpose whatsoever."

Don't misinterpret Fincher's words because he wanted Buscador to win the World Cup. He wants to win them all and badly. Feigning

disappointment is his prosaic outlook shining through. You have to have this kind of attitude, which hails from a special place inside and comes from a host of life experiences.

Like a character out of an Ace Reid *Cowpoke* cartoon, the horseman has a thin build which is a reminder that he used to ride for a living. The mental toughness he developed in the saddle while breaking young horses and as a New Mexico jockey some 30 years ago has served him well, especially in a business



Todd Fincher on closing day at Sunland
courtesy of Coady Photography

like conditioning.

"I'd win three races riding and think I was on top," he said.

Cont.

GIFT BOX
Twirling Candy- Special Me, by Unbridled's Song

:10 Flat x2
First-Crop 2YOs impress at OBS Spring

Hip 213
Colt consigned by Shamrock Stables LLC, Agent I
From the family of GSWs Rothko and Electrify

Hip 216
Filly consigned by Rivera Training and Sales, Agent IV
From the family of GSW Hopkins

“And then that would dry up and I would get really, really down on myself, so you can't do that. It's a humbling sport with so many factors out of your control. You always have to be thankful for wins like Buscador delivered and he is not done yet, we hope.”

Fincher confirmed that Senor Buscador has arrived safely at Peacefield Farm in Temecula, California and will be given several weeks off before a new training cycle could start.

“Just like always, we are going to let him tell us,” he said. “I think the GII Pat O'Brien S. could be possible, we'll see, and then long term, the GI Breeders' Cup Classic.” Two years ago at Del Mar, Buscador finished third in the O'Brien to **Laurel River** (Into Mischief), who ran away with this year's Dubai World Cup.

While the Saudi Cup champ gets a break, his trainer will be doing nothing of the sort. With Sunland complete, Fincher's



Todd Fincher (left) with Only One America in the Island Fashion S.
courtesy of Coady Photography

stable shifts to SunRay Park up in Farmington, New Mexico, but he loaded up a trailer bound for Hot Springs, Arkansas to start this week.

“We have a couple that I am taking to Oaklawn and I will be there all week,” he said. “I don't like hauling them this far, but it is going to be good to run against competition like this.”

Fincher is entering **Perfect Dude** (Majesticperfection)-- who shifted from Vann Belvoir over to him in February--in Saturday's GIII Count Fleet S. It's a race which will feature

Skelly (**Practical Joke**), who is making his first U.S. start since the gelding ran second in the G3 Riyadh Dirt Sprint in Saudi Arabia.

Cont.

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Making the some 900-mile trip to Oaklawn for the GI Apple Blossom S. is **Flying Connection (Nyquist)**. Last year, the filly won the Island Fashion S. and then netted the Sunland Park Oaks, which earned her a spot in the starting gate for the



Olivia Twist works with leading rider Cristian Torres in the irons
courtesy of Robert Yates

GI Kentucky Oaks. She ran a game sixth in defeat that Friday. “Perfect Dude is a fairly new acquisition, but I can tell he has a ton of talent and he is really quick out of the gate,” said Fincher. “I think Flying Connection has developed a real tactical advantage and she has really come far since last year when she just went straight to the front all the time.”

Flying Connection is co-owned by Brad King, Randy Andrews, Chris Coleman, Jim Cone, Suzanne Kirby and Lee Lewis, which is the same group who invested in another Fincher-trained runner, **Olivia Twist** (Mshawish). Incidentally, King, Andrews, Cone and Lewis are a part of MSW **Candy Aisle (Gun Runner)**, who was ninth in Oaklawn's GI Fantasy S. Mar. 30, and who Fincher will possibly send to the Valley of the Vapors S. Apr. 20.

A half-sister to MGSW/MGISP **Skippy Longstocking** (Exaggerator), Olivia Twist already made the trip to Hot Springs to join Candy Aisle and put in a six-panel work over the weekend. According to her trainer, the 4-year-old could be ready for the April 27 running of the Dig A Diamond S., but for now Fincher is taking a wait-and-see approach when it comes to her next start.

“She raced a ton starting as a 2-year-old,” he said. “I really think she needed a good rest and got it during the second half of last year. I really like the way she carries her weight and she's developed over the winter, she has continued to be aggressive in the mornings, so we'll see if that continues to translate to the afternoons.”

Olivia Twist started eight times from when she broke her maiden at Remington Park late in her juvenile year through last summer at Del Mar. The biggest puzzle for Fincher is to figure out what distance she wants.

“That will come,” he said.

In the interim, Todd Fincher has plenty more puzzles to solve as Saudi Arabia and Dubai are now firmly in the rearview mirror. The road to Oaklawn beckons, and that means it is an opportunity to develop some more bread and butter.

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BULLETS CONTINUE TO FLY AT OBS WEDNESDAY, BUT WEATHER KO'S THURSDAY BREEZES *by Jessica Martini*

The :9 4/5 works continue to pile up during the fourth session of the under-tack show for the Ocala Breeders' Sales Company's Spring Sale of 2-Year-Olds in Training, with 18 juveniles hitting that mark Wednesday, even as sales officials confirm Thursday's session has been canceled due to forecasted inclement weather in Central Florida. After its unexpected dark day Thursday, the under-tack show will continue Friday and will have an extra day added Sunday.

One of the pack of furlong bullet workers Wednesday was a son of Into Mischief out of multiple Grade I winner Separationofpowers (**Candy Ride {Arg}**). David Scanlon sent the striking bay with the sparkling pedigree (**hip 603**) to work early in the session.

“We thought he would breeze really well today,” Scanlon said. “He prepped really good. He's been a very honest horse at the farm. He's real forward training and he has a real spring in his step. I always think :9 4/5s are blessings or gifts. I never go up expecting a :9 4/5, but you like to see it happen.”

Separationofpowers won the 2017 GI Frizette S. and GI Test S. for trainer Chad Brown and Klaravich Stables. **Cont.**

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Hip 603 | Judit Seipert

Her first foal, a filly by **Curlin**, sold for \$650,000 at the 2022 Keeneland September sale. Scanlon purchased the Into Mischief colt, bred by Hunter Valley and Mountmellick Farm, for \$350,000 at last summer's Fasig-Tipton Saratoga sale.

"For us, he was a pretty penny in Saratoga," Scanlon said. "We always thought he looked like a real 2-year-old type out there. He's a smooth, well-balanced horse with a really nice hip on him."

Timing had a lot to do with the colt's price tag among all the glittering offerings at the boutique Saratoga sale, Scanlon said.

"I think at the time, he was a little immature," he explained. "I had a feeling he was just falling through the cracks there a little bit. Sometimes up there, we do that. We kind of have to look for those bargains and cracks in the market a little bit. If they check all of the boxes, we can't really afford them. The horses a lot of people bring up there are extremely mature, big physical specimens like [\$2.3-million 2022 Saratoga topper and GI Kentucky Derby contender] Sierra Leone.

"My wife and I always say, 'You've got to be there,'" Scanlon said. "We will vet a bunch of these and they will blow right past us--we aren't even close, we are off by zeroes. But then that one time you are there, you can get one like this. Luckily, we ended up getting him and he's just been a real standout from day one."

Daredevil on the Comeback

Daredevil's first crop since being repatriated to the U.S. from Turkey in 2021 are now 2-year-olds and the Lane's End stallion was represented by a pair of bullet workers Wednesday.

The Martin family's Britton Peak consignment sent out a colt by **Daredevil** (hip 594) to hit the bullet mark. The juvenile was forced to wait out a lengthy delay in the under-tack show after a horse bolted into the rail during its breeze and was attended to on the track.

"Unfortunately, we were right behind the accident," Greg Martin said. "We were ready to work and we had to wait 45 minutes in the chute. Honestly, I hate to be so bold, but I wouldn't have been shocked if he had gone in :9 3/5. He definitely has a nice video. He has a nice, big stride on him."

The dark bay is out of graded winner Seasoned Warrior (Majestic Warrior), who is a daughter of Canadian champion Saoirse (Cure the Blues). Martin purchased the colt for \$37,000 at last year's Fasig-Tipton July sale.

"He looked like an absolutely gorgeous individual," Martin said. "He was well put together. Just the kind of body that I look for. He stood out."

While **Daredevil's** American-bred runners included GI Kentucky Oaks winner Shedaresthedevil and GI Preakness S.-winning champion 3-year-old filly Swiss Skydiver, he was already plying his trade in Turkey when those fillies were making headlines in 2020. With his hiatus from the American sales ring now over, buyers may need a reintroduction to the stallion.

"That's why, I think, we got him for that price," Martin said of the colt's yearling price tag. "I think if he was by a first-year or sophomore stallion or somebody proven, we definitely wouldn't have gotten him for that price."

Of the colt's progression from last summer, Martin added, "He's definitely gotten bigger. Once in a while, you are going to get that horse who is push-button from day one. And he's been that. He has a really nice pedigree and he's a looker. He's a gorgeous individual."

A filly by **Daredevil** (hip 687) worked in :9 4/5 for Hal Hatch's Halcyon Hammock Farm. The bay is out of Starship Gussie (High Cotton), a half-sister to the dam of Shedaresthedevil. Bred in Florida by Mustang Farm, she RNA'd for \$72,000 at last year's OBS October sale. **Cont.**



Shedaresthedevil | Horsephotos

Top Line Well Represented

Five of Wednesday's 18 bullet workers were from the Top Line Sales consignment: **hip 524**, a filly by Into Mischief who is a full-sister to graded winner Maximus Mischief; **hip 548**, a colt by Gormley; **hip 577**, a colt by Vekoma; **hip 622**, a colt by **Not This Time**; and **hip 638**, a colt by Maclean's Music.

Wavertree Stables had a pair of juveniles share Wednesday's :9 4/5 co-fastest furlong time. **Hip 567** is a filly from the first crop of Horse of the Year Authentic out of stakes winner Sandy's Surprise (Drosselmeyer), while **hip 637** is a New York-bred daughter of Omaha Beach out of Sister Margaret (Pulpit).

For the second day in a row, Grassroots Training & Sales had a pair of bullet workers: **hip 599**, a filly by **Munnings**; and **hip 625**, a filly from the first crop of GI Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile winner **Spun to Run**.

Also working in :9 4/5 Wednesday: **hip 523**, a filly by **Not This Time** consigned by Centofanti Thoroughbreds; **hip 530**, a filly by **Nyquist** consigned by Niall Brennan Stables; **hip 555**, a filly by **Global Campaign** consigned by Best a Luck Farm; **hip 591**, a colt by **Hard Spun** consigned by Harris Training Center; **hip 642**, a colt by **Street Sense** consigned by Hartley/DeRenzo Thoroughbreds; and **hip 690**, a filly by **Not This Time** consigned by Grade One Investments.

A filly from the first crop of graded winner **Instagrاند (hip 551)** turned in the fastest quarter-mile work of Wednesday's session when covering the distance in :20 3/5. Consigned by Hoppel LLC, the bay is out of Runaway Renee (**Munnings**) and was purchased for \$70,000 at last year's Fasig-Tipton October sale.

Conditions during the first four days of the seven-session under-tack show have been ideal, according to Scanlon.

"I don't remember in recent years when we've had such absolutely perfect days," he said. "I can't remember a year when we had so many cool mornings combined with an east wind--or a tailwind--for so many days in a row. It's been ideal conditions. It's made for perfect breeze days."

The ideal conditions are expected to be interrupted by heavy rain Thursday, prompting OBS officials to postpone the under-tack show's fifth session until Friday. Hips 691 through 863 are scheduled to work Friday, with hips 864-1035 on Saturday and hips 1036 through 1208 on Sunday. All sessions begin at 8 a.m.

The OBS Spring sale will be held Tuesday through Friday with bidding starting each day at 10:30 a.m.

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TOP KENTUCKY OAKS CONTENDERS

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Tarifa (Cont. from p1)

She's more steady than spectacular, but you know she will show up on Oaks Day for trainer Brad Cox, who will be seeking his third win in this race.

2) LESLIE'S ROSE (f, Into Mischief--Wildwood Rose {Ire}, by Galileo {Ire}) O-Whisper Hill Farm; B-John D. Gunther & Eurowest Bloodstock Services (Ky); T-Todd Pletcher. Sales history: \$1,150,000 yrl '22 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: **'TDN Rising Star'**, GISW, 4-3-0-1, \$467,800. Last start: WON GI Ashland S. Kentucky Oaks Points: 115. Next Start: GI Kentucky Oaks, May 3

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The Ashland was easily the best Oaks prep run so far this year, so you have to give a lot of credit to the winner, **'TDN Rising Star'** Leslie's Rose. She was bought by owner Mandy Pope at Keeneland September for \$1.15 million and got her career off to a fast start, with two straight wins, including a 9 1/4-length romp in her debut. But she stubbed her toe when third at odds of 3-10 in the GII Davona Dale S. on a day when she had no excuses. The betting public all but gave up on her in the Ashland, sending her off at 9-1. It now looks like she may fulfill her potential after all. Trainer Todd Pletcher has won the race four times and will tie all-time leaders Woody Stephens and Wayne Lukas with a win.



3) THORPEDO ANNA (f, Fast Anna--Sataves, by Uncle Mo) O-Brookdale Racing, Inc., Mark Edwards, Judy B. Hicks & Magdalena Racing (Sherri McPeek); B-Judy Hicks (Ky); T-Kenneth McPeek. Sales history: \$40,000 yrl '22 FTKOCT. Lifetime Record: **'TDN Rising Star'**, GSW, 4-3-1-0, \$584,363. Last Start: WON GII Fantasy S., Mar. 30. Kentucky Oaks Points: 105. Next Start: GI Kentucky Oaks, May 3.

Consigned by Grovendale

Still another **'TDN Rising Star,'** she sold for just \$40,000 at the 2022 Fasig-Tipton Fall Yearling Sale. Trainer Kenny McPeek has a knack for finding good horses that didn't cost a lot and this is the

latest example. She won her first two races by a combined margin of 17 1/2 lengths before finishing second in the GII Golden Rod S. as an odds-on favorite. But she was back at her best when scoring an easy four-length win in the GII Fantasy S. The Fantasy will be her only prep for the Oaks, but there's little doubt that McPeek will have her tight enough and ready for the Kentucky Oaks.

4) JUST FYI (f, Justify--Star Act, by Street Cry {Ire}) O/B-George Krikorian (Ky); T-Bill Mott. Lifetime Record: Ch. 2yo Filly, GISW, 4-3-1-0, \$1,433,250. Last start: 2nd in GI Ashland S. Kentucky Oaks Points: 90. Next Start: GI Kentucky Oaks, May 3.

MARGAUX FARM Starting and Training Grad

All things considered, she didn't run badly in the Ashland, even if it was her first career defeat. Trainer Bill Mott had to play catch-up after she missed a start in the GII Davona Dale S. with a fever. That meant she had to run well in the Ashland to have enough points to make the Oaks. She had a good trip under Junior Alvarado and looked to be within striking distance at the top of the stretch, but couldn't deliver the knockout punch. Every reason to believe she will run better in the Oaks.

5) POWER SQUEEZE (f, Union Rags--Callmethesqueeze, by Awesome Again) O-Lea Farms, LLC; B-Forging Oaks Farm, LLC (Ky); T-Jorge Delgado. Sales history: \$50,000 yrl '22 KEESEP; \$90,000 2yo '23 OBSAPR. Lifetime Record: GSW, 6-4-1-0, \$337,450. Last start: WON GII Gulfstream Park Oaks, Mar. 30. Kentucky Oaks Points: 120. Next Start: GI Kentucky Oaks, May 3.

Halcyon Hammock Farm Graduate
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She flew in under the radar when winning the GII Gulfstream Park Oaks at odds of 11-1. It was her fourth straight win and her third straight in stakes company for high-percentage trainer Jorge Delgado. She originally sold for \$50,000 at Keeneland September and then for \$90,000 at OBS June. Has seemed to get better as the distances have gotten longer and is 2-for-2 around two turns.



Where's My Ring | Sarah Andrew

6) WHERE'S MY RING (f, Twirling Candy--Mapit, by Tapit)
 O-Michael McMillan; B-Don Alberto Corporation (Ky); T-Val Brinkerhoff. Sales history: \$100,000 yrl '22 KESEP. Lifetime Record: GSW, 8-1-3-1, \$202,620. Last start: WON GIII Gazelle S., Apr. 6. Kentucky Oaks Points: 125. Next Start: GI Kentucky Oaks, May 3.



You have to give trainer Val Brinkerhoff a lot of credit. He could have stayed out West with this filly, but that would mean facing off against the Baffert monsters in the GII Santa Anita Oaks. So he shipped her across the country to run in the Gazelle at Aqueduct, where the competition would be lacking. In fact, Where's My Ring was a maiden in seven starts coming into the race, but still went off the 5-2 choice. The win was more than good enough to get her into the Oaks, but the competition will much tougher than what she faced last Saturday at the Big A.

7) WAYS AND MEANS (f, Practical Joke--Strong Incentive, Warrior's Reward) O/B-Klaravich Stables (Ky); T-Chad Brown. Lifetime Record: GISP, 'TDN Rising Star,' 3-1-2-0, \$165,750. Last start: 2nd Mar. 30 GII Gulfstream Park Oaks. Kentucky Oaks Points: 50. Next Start: GI Kentucky Oaks, May 3.

Is currently 16th on the leader board when it comes to her getting into the Oaks, so trainer Chad Brown is going to have to hope for some defections. But if she gets in, she can absolutely win. After romping by 12 3/4 lengths in her debut, she was second in the GI Spinaway S., but came out of that race with a chip in an ankle. That's why she didn't make her 3-year-old debut until the Mar. 30 GII Gulfstream Park Oaks. She had a tough trip that day, but managed to run second. Every reason to believe she will be better next time out, whether that's in the Oaks or not.

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Fasig-Tipton.

8) OUR PRETTY WOMAN (f, **Medaglia d'Oro--Dazzletown, by Speightstown)** O-Courtlandt Farms; B-Woods Edge Farm, LLC & Godolphin; T-Steve Asmussen. Sales History: \$900,000 yrl '22 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: GSP, 3-2-1-0, \$150,200. Last start: 2nd Mar. 23 GII Fair Grounds Oaks. Kentucky Oaks Points: 50. Next Start: GI Kentucky Oaks, CD, May 3.

She's 17th on the points list, so is another one who is going to need a break to make it into the Oaks starting gate. Trained by Steve Asmussen, this \$900,000 Keeneland yearling purchase won her first two starts and then faced the acid test when meeting Tarifa in the Fair Grounds Oaks. She ran a huge race that day, finishing second, losing by just three-quarters of a length. She's lightly raced and didn't make her debut until Jan. 18 of this year. So there's plenty of room for improvement.

9) WEST OMAHA (f, **West Coast--Birthday Bash, by **Medaglia d'Oro**)** O/B-Gary and Mary West (Ky); T-Brad Cox. Lifetime Record: SW & MGSP, 6-2-3-1, \$369,250. Last Start: 2nd GII Fantasy S. Kentucky Oaks Points: 90. Next Start: GI Kentucky Oaks, May 3.

Dam purchased by SCHUMER BLOODSTOCK

After she won the Silverbulletday S. Presented by Fasig-Tipton, she looked like she'd be a major player in this division for Brad Cox. Instead, she ran third in the GIII Honeybee S. and second in the Fantasy S. It looks like the rest of the division has caught up and passed her. Will need to improve to contend in the Oaks.

10) LEMON MUFFIN (f, **Collected--Pelt, by **Canadian Frontier**)** O-Aaron Sones & Julie Gilbert; B-Mr & Mrs Theodore Kuster & **Collected** Syndicate (Ky); T-D. W. Lukas. Sales history: \$20,000 yrl '22 KEESEP; \$140,000 2yo '23 OBSAPR. Lifetime Record: GSW, 7-1-4-0, \$324,000. Last Start: 7th GII Fantasy S. Kentucky Oaks Points: 50. Next Start: GI Kentucky Oaks, May 3.

Selected by Mersad Metanovic Bloodstock Mersadmm@yahoo.com

Sometimes the Wayne Lukas-trained horses run their best when it is least expected. Lemon Muffin was terrible in the Fantasy, losing by 10 3/4 lengths. She was a different horse in her prior start when winning the Honeybee by 3 1/2 lengths at odds of 28-1. She was still a maiden at the time and had never gone beyond seven furlongs. But instead of that race vaulting her forward, it seemed to have caused her to take a step in the wrong direction. Will be a big longshot in the Oaks, but you can never throw the cagey Lukas out.

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TREY GORDON NAMED WEST POINT THOROUGHBREDS PRESIDENT



Trey Gordon

West Point Thoroughbreds has appointed Trey Gordon as its new President, while Terry Finley continues as Chief Executive Officer, the racing partnerships company said in a Wednesday release.

In his new role, Gordon will work closely with Finley, who remains fully involved in the company's strategic direction and commitment to operating North America's largest public racehorse syndicate.

"Trey has been a West Point Partner since 2021 and has an incredible passion for the game," said Finley. "Our company has grown tremendously over the past several years and with over 130 horses in training and 650 Partners, we see bringing him on board as a natural expansion of our executive team. He is passionate about introducing new people to the sport and helping us execute on the highest level of Partner service. To know Trey is to like Trey, he's personable, kind, and a great ambassador for racing."

A graduate of the University of Notre Dame and Texas Tech University School of Law, Gordon practiced law for 33 years in Fort Worth, Texas. Additionally, he has 17 years of experience as a certified mediator. He serves on the Board of Directors for the Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo.

"I am honored to join the West Point Thoroughbreds team," said Gordon. "I've had a wonderful experience as a Partner and this opportunity presented itself organically, combining my passion for racing and decades of experience working with people and organizations. Terry and I share the same values and I look forward to enhancing West Point's reputation as a world leader in racing partnerships."

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WEEKLY RULINGS



STEWARDS AND COMMISSIONS RULINGS

APR. 3-9

Every week, the TDN posts a roundup of the relevant Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act (HISA) related rulings from around the country.

Among this week’s rulings, **trainer Lorenzo Ruiz was issued** a combined 7-year suspension and charged a total of \$95,000 in fines for three separate post-race positives for Diisopropylamine, a banned substance under HISA.

The Horseracing Integrity and Welfare Unit (HIWU) classifies Diisopropylamine as a vasodilator, which is a substance that dilates the blood vessels to allow blood to flow more freely through them. Diisopropylamine is also found in several everyday items like tobacco and beauty products, and hand sanitizer.

The three Ruiz-trained runners--Kant Beat the Rock, American Cat and Facts Matter--ran at Los Alamitos last June and July. American Cat and Facts Matter won their respective races, while Kant Beat the Rock finished second.

For these three positives, Ruiz was suspended a combined six years and charged a total of \$90,000 in fines and arbitration costs.

Ruiz was also issued an additional year suspension and \$5,000 fine for breaching his provisional suspension by continuing to work as an outrider at Los Alamitos.

Trainer Bernard Dunham was **also suspended** for 30-days and fined \$2,500 after his trainee, Shanghai Superfly, tested positive for an alkalinizing agent (TCO2) when finishing fourth at Penn National on Dec. 8.

High total carbon dioxide (TCO2) levels could be an indication of bicarbonate loading--otherwise known as milkshaking--which can neutralize the buildup of lactic acid in muscles, thereby helping the horse’s performance.

NEW HISA/HIWU STEWARDS RULINGS

The following rulings were reported on HISA’s “**rulings**” portal and through the Horseracing Integrity and Welfare Unit’s (HIWU) “**pending**” and “**resolved**” cases portals.

Resolved ADMC Violations

Date: 04/05/2024

Licensee: Gustavo Rodriguez, trainer

Penalty: A fine of \$500; imposition of 1.5 Penalty Points. Admission.

Explainer: For the presence of Glycopyrrolate--Controlled Medication (Class C)--in a sample taken from Flint Ridge on 3/1/24. This was a possible violation of Rule 3312--Presence of Controlled Medication Substance and/or its Metabolites or Markers (Post-Race/Vets’ List).

Resolution Date: 04/04/2024

Licensee: Lorenzo Ruiz, trainer

Penalty: Accumulated 7-year suspension, \$95,000 fine

Explainer: For the presence of Diisopropylamine--a banned substance--in samples taken from Kant Beat the Rock, American Cat and Facts Matter who ran at Los Alamitos respectively on 7/4/23, 6/25/23 and 6/23/23. These were all possible violations of Rule 3212--Presence of a Banned Substance and/or its Metabolites or Markers. This was also a possible violation of Rule 3227--aggravating Circumstances (in connection with Rule 3212 ADRVs).

Resolution Date: 04/04/2024

Licensee: Mary Pattershall, trainer

Penalty: Disqualification of Covered Horse’s Race results, including forfeiture of all purses and other compensation, prizes, trophies, points, and rankings and repayment or surrender (as applicable); a fine of \$500; imposition of 1.5 Penalty Points. Admission.

Explainer: For the presence of Dimethyl Sulfoxide (DMSO)--Controlled Medication (Class C)--in a sample taken from Shanghai Mike on 2/28/24. This was a possible violation of Rule 3312--Presence of Controlled Medication Substance and/or its Metabolites or Markers (Post-Race/Vets’ List).


Resolution Date: 04/03/2024

Licensee: Adan Farias, trainer


Penalty: A fine of \$500; imposition of 1.5 Penalty Points. Final decision by HIWU.

Explainer: For the presence of Dexamethasone--Controlled Medication (Class C)--in a sample taken from Misty Rain on 2/25/24. This was a possible violation of Rule 3312--Presence of Controlled Medication Substance and/or its Metabolites or Markers (Post-Race/Vets’ List).





Listen to this week’s podcast
April 9, 2024
**Chad Brown offers up insight on
 Sierra Leone’s Blue Grass victory**



Cont.

Resolution Date: 04/03/2024

Licensee: Michelle Nevin, trainer

Penalty: A fine of \$500; imposition of 1.5 Penalty Points. Final decision by HIWU.

Explainer: For the presence of Betamethasone--Controlled Medication (Class C)--in a sample taken from Everlys Girl on 2/19/24. This was a possible violation of Rule 3312--Presence of Controlled Medication Substance and/or its Metabolites or Markers (Post-Race/Vets' List).

Resolution Date: 04/03/2024

Licensee: Bernard Dunham, trainer

Penalty: 30-day period of Ineligibility for Covered Person, beginning on 4/4/24; Disqualification of Covered Horse's Race results, including forfeiture of all purses and other compensation, prizes, trophies, points, and rankings and repayment or surrender (as applicable); a fine of \$2,500; imposition of 3 Penalty Points. Final decision by internal adjudication panel.

Explainer: For the potential breach of Rule 4221--Alkalinization or use/administration of an Alkalinizing Agent (TCO2)--on Shanghai Superfly, who finished fourth at Penn National on 12/8/2023. This was also a possible violation of Rule 3313--Use of a Controlled Method During the Race Period.

Pending ADMC Violations

Date: 03/05/2024

Licensee: Wendell Matt, trainer

Penalty: Pending

Alleged violation: Vet's list medication violation

Explainer: For the presence of Phenylbutazone--Controlled Medication (Class C)--in a sample taken from Dixon Tuff on 3/5/24. This is a possible violation of Rule 3312--Presence of Controlled Medication Substance and/or its Metabolites or Markers (Post-Race/Vets' List).

Date: 03/05/2024

Licensee: Wendell Matt, trainer

Penalty: Pending

Alleged violation: Vet's list medication violation

Explainer: For the presence of Phenylbutazone--Controlled Medication (Class C)--in a sample taken from Fire When Ready on 3/5/24. This is a possible violation of Rule 3312--Presence of Controlled Medication Substance and/or its Metabolites or Markers (Post-Race/Vets' List).

Date: 03/13/2024

Licensee: John Cortez, trainer

Penalty: Pending

Alleged violation: Vet's list medication violation

Explainer: For the presence of Acepromazine--Controlled Medication (Class B)--in a sample taken from It'sanybodysgame on 03/13/24. This is a possible violation of Rule 3312--Presence of Controlled Medication Substance and/or its Metabolites or Markers (Post-Race/Vets' List).

Date: 02/26/2024

Licensee: Candelario Villamar, trainer

Penalty: Pending

Alleged violation: Medication violation

Explainer: For the presence of Capsaicin--Controlled Medication (Class B)--in a sample taken from Olivia's Choice, who finished third at Turf Paradise on 02/26/24. This is a possible violation of Rule 3312--Presence of Controlled Medication Substance and/or its Metabolites or Markers (Post-Race/Vets' List).

Date: 03/02/2024

Licensee: Bill McLean, trainer

Penalty: Pending

Alleged violation: Medication violation

Explainer: For the presence of Dimethyl Sulfoxide (DMSO)--Controlled Medication (Class C)--in a sample taken from Street Tiger, who finished fourth at Golden Gate on 3/2/24. This is a possible violation of Rule 3312--Presence of Controlled Medication Substance and/or its Metabolites or Markers (Post-Race/Vets' List).

Date: 03/14/2024

Licensee: Ruben Alvarado, trainer

Penalty: Pending

Alleged violation: Pre-workout joint injection violation

Explainer: A possible violation of Rule 3314--Use or Attempted Use of a Controlled Medication Substance or a Controlled Medication Method--on the horse, One Smokin Moon. This is also a possible violation of Rule 4222--Intra-Articular Injections Within Seven (7) Days of Timed and Reported Workout.

Date: 03/08/2024

Licensee: Amador Sanchez, trainer

Penalty: Pending

Alleged violation: Medication violation

Explainer: For the presence of Capsaicin--Controlled Medication (Class B)--in a sample taken from Grey Princess, who won at Gulfstream Park on 03/08/24. This is a possible violation of Rule 3312--Presence of Controlled Medication Substance and/or its Metabolites or Markers (Post-Race/Vets' List).

Date: 01/28/2024**Licensee:** Philip Schoenthal, trainer**Penalty:** Provisionally suspended**Alleged Violation:** Medication violation**Explainer:** For the presence of Methamphetamine--a banned substance--in a sample taken from Prodigy Doll, who won at Laurel Park on 1/28/24. This is a possible violation of Rule 3212--Presence of a Banned Substance and/or its Metabolites or Marker.**Date:** 02/09/2024**Licensee:** Philip Schoenthal, trainer**Penalty:** Provisionally suspended**Alleged Violation:** Medication violation**Explainer:** For the presence of Methamphetamine--a banned substance--in a sample taken from Determined Driver, who won at Laurel Park on 2/9/24. This is a possible violation of Rule 3212--Presence of a Banned Substance and/or its Metabolites or Marker.**Date:** 02/01/2024**Licensee:** Andres Gonzalez, trainer**Penalty:** Pending**Alleged violation:** Medication violation**Explainer:** For the presence of Lidocaine--Controlled Medication (Class B)--in a sample taken from Let There Be Peace, who won at Sunland Park on 02/01/24. This is a possible violation of Rule 3312--Presence of Controlled Medication Substance and/or its Metabolites or Markers (Post-Race/Vets' List).**Date:** 03/21/2024**Licensee:** Richard Mandella, trainer**Penalty:** Pending**Alleged violation:** Pre-workout joint injection violation**Explainer:** A possible violation of Rule 3314--Use or Attempted Use of a Controlled Medication Substance or a Controlled Medication Method--on the horse, Ice Dancing. This is also a possible violation of Rule 4222--Intra-Articular Injections Within Seven (7) Days of Timed and Reported Workout.

Violations of Crop Rule

One important note: HISA's whip use limit is restricted to six strikes during a race.

Oaklawn Park

Joe Bealmear--violation date Apr. 4; \$250 fine and one-day suspension

Joe Bealmear--violation date Apr. 5; \$250 fine and one-day suspension

Martin Chuan--violation date Apr. 6; \$250 fine and one-day suspension

Tampa Bay

Pablo Morales--violation date Apr. 5; \$250 fine and one-day suspension

Carlos Rojas--violation date Apr. 5; \$250 fine and one-day suspension

OTHER KEY RULINGS

The *TDN* also publishes a roundup of key official rulings from the primary tracks within the four major racing jurisdictions of California, New York, Florida and Kentucky.

[Here's a primer](#) on how each of these jurisdictions adjudicates different offenses, what they make public (or not) and where.

California

Track: Santa Anita**Date:** 04/04/2024**Licensee:** Neil Drysdale, trainer**Penalty:** \$2,500 fine**Violation:** Program Training**Explainer:** Pursuant to a Settlement Agreement and Mutual Release with the California Horse Racing Board, Trainer Neil Drysdale, who was named as trainer in the official program for 'M Is For Magic (While still in the care of the previous trainer), in the fifth race at Del Mar Race Track on 11/11/23, is fined \$2,500.00 for violation of California Horse Racing Board Rule #1502 (Program Training Prohibited).

New York

Track: Aqueduct**Date:** 04/04/2024**Licensee:** Eric Cancel, jockey**Penalty:** Three-day suspension**Violation:** Careless riding**Explainer:** Jockey Mr. Eric Cancel for having waived his right to an appeal is hereby suspended three NYRA racing days 4/14/24, 4/18/24, 4/19/2024 inclusive. This for careless riding during the running of the 8th race at Aqueduct Racetrack on 3/14/24.

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Friday, Keeneland #9, post time: 5:16 p.m. EDT

MAKER'S MARK MILE S.-GI, \$600,000, 4yo/up, 1mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Equitize (GB)	Kingman (GB)	Klaravich Stables, Inc.	Brown	Ortiz	123
2	Emmanuel 🌿	More Than Ready	Siena Farm LLC and WinStar Farm LLC	Pletcher	Ortiz, Jr.	123
3	Naval Power (GB)	Teofilo (Ire)	Godolphin, LLC	Appleby	Gaffalione	123
4	Master of The Seas (Ire)	Dubawi (Ire)	Godolphin, LLC	Appleby	Buick	123
5	Kubrick (Ire)	Dubawi (Ire)	Peter M. Brant	Brown	Prat	123
6	Shirl's Speight	Speightstown	Charles E. Fipke	Attfield	Saez	123
7	Du Jour 🌿	Temple City	Baffert, Natalie J. and Lanni, Debbie	Baffert	Velazquez	123
8	Integration	Quality Road	West Point Thoroughbreds and Woodford Racing	McGaughey III	Dettori	123

Breeders: 1-Newsells Park & Ammerland GmbH & Co.KG, 2-Helen K. Groves Revocable Trust, 3-Godolphin, 4-Godolphin, 5-White Birch Farm, SC, 6-Charles Fipke, 7-Woods Edge Farm, LLC, 8-Larkin Armstrong

Saturday, Oaklawn #11, post time: 6:46 p.m. EDT

APPLE BLOSSOM H.-GI, \$1,250,000, 4yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Free Like a Girl	EI Deal	Gerald Bruno Jr, Chasey Deville Pomier & J Caroom	Pomier	Manrique	117
2	Taxed 🌿	Collected	Richard Bahde	Morse	Torres	118
3	Wet Paint	Blame	Godolphin, LLC	Cox	Prat	122
4	Adare Manor	Uncle Mo	Michael Lund Petersen	Baffert	Hernandez	123
5	Flying Connection 🌿	Nyquist	Brad King, Randy Andrews, G. Chris Coleman, Jim Cone, Suzanne Kirby and Lee Lewis	Fincher	Santana, Jr.	118
6	Misty Veil 🌿	Tonalist	Resolute Racing	Maker	Vazquez	118
7	Honor D Lady 🌿	Honor Code	Final Furlong Farm and Madaket Stables LLC	Joseph, Jr.	Castellano	120
8	Bellamore 🌿	Empire Maker	Kaleem Shah, Inc.	Asmussen	Asmussen	120
9	Shotgun Hottie	Gun Runner	Omar Aldabbagh and Jeff Ganje	DeVaux	Lopez	117

Breeders: 1-Kim Renee Stover & Lisa Osborne, 2-Brereton C. Jones, 3-Godolphin, 4-Town & Country Horse Farms, LLC & GaryBroad, 5-Liberty Road Stables, 6-William Humphries & Altair Farms, LLC, 7-William Harrigan & Mike Pietrangelo, 8-Gainesway Thoroughbreds LTD., 9-Vincent Colbert

Saturday, Keeneland #9, post time: 5:16 p.m. EDT

JENNY WILEY S.-GI, \$600,000, 4yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Walkathon	Twirling Candy	Whitham Thoroughbreds LLC	Wilkes	Leparoux	123
2	Fluffy Socks	Slumber (GB)	Head of Plains Partners LLC	Brown	Ortiz, Jr.	123
3	Elusive Princess (Fr)	Martinborough (Jpn)	LNJ Foxwoods, Elusive, NK Racing& Church Street	Delacour	Alvarado	123
4	Embrace Me 🌿	Candy Ride (Arg)	Mark T. Anderson	Rutledge	Corrales	123
5	English Rose (Ire)	Frankel (GB)	Godolphin, LLC	Appleby	Buick	123
6	Gina Romantica 🌿	Into Mischief	Peter M. Brant	Brown	Gaffalione	123
7	Surge Capacity	Flintshire (GB)	Klaravich Stables, Inc.	Brown	Rosario	123
8	Star Fortress (Ire)	Sea The Stars (Ire)	John D. Gunther and Eurowest Bloodstock Services	DeVaux	Saez	123
9	Didia (Arg)	Orpen	Merrielle Stable	Correas, IV	Ortiz	123
10	Beaute Cachee (Fr)	Literato (Fr)	Madaket Stables, Michael Dubb & Louis Lazzinnaro	Brown	Dettori	123

Breeders: 1-Whitham Thoroughbreds, LLC, 2-Head Of Plains Partners, 3-Mr. Jean-Philippe Dubois, 4-Stone Farm, 5-Godolphin, 6-Machmer Hall, Carrie Brogden & Craig Brogden, 7-Klaravich Stables, 8-Sahara Group/Eurowest/Sunderland Hldgs, 9-La Manija, 10-Gregor Vischer

Saturday, Oaklawn #8, post time: 4:56 p.m. EDT**COUNT FLEET SPRINT H.-GIII, \$500,000, 4yo/up, 6f**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Code Five	Top Hit	Triple AAA Ranch	Owens	Quinonez	113
2	Jaxon Traveler 🌿	Munnings	West Point Thoroughbreds	Asmussen	Prat	122
3	I'm Wide Awake	Laoban	Haran Thoroughbreds, LLC	Haran	De La Cruz	114
4	Skelly	Practical Joke	Red Lane Thoroughbreds LLC	Asmussen	Santana, Jr.	125
5	Perfect Dude	Majesticperfection	HX3 Incorporated	Fincher	Fuentes	123
6	Tejano Twist	Practical Joke	JD Thoroughbreds LLC and Joey Keith Davis	Hartman	Torres	123
7	Ryvit	Competitive Edge	L. William and Corinne Heiligbrodt	Asmussen	Asmussen	121
8	Happy Is a Choice 🌿	Runhappy	Hooties Racing, WSS Racing and 4G Racing, LLC	Ortiz	Vazquez	117

Breeders: 1-Triple AAA Ranch, 2-Dr. & Mrs. A. Leonard Pineau, 3-Southern Equine Stables, LLC, 4-H. Allen Poindexter, 5-Todd Hansen & Shawn Hansen, 6-Tom Durant, 7-Curt Leake, 8-Builder's Mart, Inc.

Saturday, Keeneland #10, post time: 5:48 p.m. EDT**STONESTREET LEXINGTON S.-GIII, \$400,000, 3yo, 1 1/16m**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Secret Chat	Union Rags	Gelfenstein Farm	Rodriguez	Rosario	118
2	The Wine Steward	Vino Rosso	Paradise Farms Corp. and David Staudacher	Maker	Saez	118
3	Dilger (Ire)	Lope de Vega (Ire)	Michael J. Ryan	Joseph, Jr.	Gaffalione	118
4	Footprint	Dialed In	Greg McDonald	McPeek	Hernandez, Jr.	118
5	Hades	Awesome Slew	D. J. Stable LLC and Robert Cotran	Orseno	Ortiz	120
6	How's Ur Attitude 🌿	Street Sense	Welch Racing LLC	Ennis	Beschizza	118
7	Everdoit	Gary D	Donald L. Ming	Rice	Concepcion	118
8	Encino	Nyquist	Godolphin, LLC	Cox	Geroux	118
9	Liberal Arts	Arrogate	Evan and Stephen Ferraro	Medina	Ortiz, Jr.	118
10	Lucky Jeremy 🌿	Lookin At Lucky	Jeremy Ramsland	Morey	Corrales	118

Breeders: 1-Gelfenstein Farm, 2-Sequel Thoroughbreds LLC, Lakland Farm & Mark Toothaker, 3-Demers Bloodstock, 4-Greg B. McDonald, 5-Ocala Stud, Joseph M. O'Farrell III, David O'Farrell, et al., 6-Malibu Farm, LLC, 7-Don Ming, 8-Godolphin, 9-Stephen Ferraro & Evan Ferraro, 10-Mr. & Mrs. Craig L Minten

Saturday, Keeneland #7, post time: 4:12 p.m. EDT**GIANT'S CAUSEWAY S.-GIII, \$300,000, 3yo/up, f/m, 5 1/2fT**

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Play the Music 🌿	Mo Town	Glassman Racing LLC	Casse	Ortiz	122
2	Bling 🌿	American Pharoah	G. Watts Humphrey, Jr.	Oliver	Velazquez	122
3	Jill Jitterbug	Cross Traffic	Shagbark Farm, LLC	Walsh	Machado	122
4	Oeuvre	Shackleford	Richard Perkins	Block	Loveberry	122
5	B G Warrior	Run Away and Hide	Keith Grass	Andrade	Jimenez	122
6	Secret Money 🌿	Good Samaritan	Fortune Farm, Robert G. Hahn and Matthew Hand	Walsh	Gaffalione	124
7	Port Townsend	Uncle Mo	Blue Heaven Farm	DeVaux	Hernandez, Jr.	122
8	Roses for Debra 🌿	Liam's Map	Cheyenne Stable LLC and John O'Meara	Clement	Ortiz, Jr.	124
9	Kissed by Fire	Friesan Fire	Commonwealth Thoroughbreds, Exline-Border Racing, Ocean Reef Racing and Aaron Kennedy	Eurton	Smith	122
10	Breeze Easy (GB)	Bated Breath (GB)	It's All About The Girls Stable LLC	Catalano	Leparoux	122
11	Elm Drive	Mohaymen	Little Red Feather Racing	D'Amato	Saez	122
12	Love Reigns (Ire)	U S Navy Flag	Stonestreet Stables LLC	Ward	Rosario	122
13	High Class 🌿	Into Mischief	Courtlandt Farms	Asmussen	Hernandez, Jr.	122

Breeders: 1-Laura McKinney, 2-Clarkland Farm, 3-Ryan D. Walsh, 4-Richard Perkins, 5-Lou Dunn Diekemper Trust, 6-WinStar Farm, LLC, 7-Blue Heaven Farm, 8-Blackstone Farm, 9-Barak Farm & Sharon Dodgen, 10-Lofts Hall Stud & B. Sangster, 11-Kenneth D'Oyen, 12-Patrick Grogan, 13-SF Bloodstock

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IN ORDER OF PURSE:

7th-Keeneland, \$109,550, Alw (NW1X)/Opt. Clm (\$100,000), 4-10, 3yo, 1 1/16m, 1:44.01, sy, neck.

NATIVE LAND (c, 3, **Mastery--Janis's Joy {SP, \$128,989}**, by **Broken Vow**), a runaway maiden winner at third asking going



Native Land | Coady

1 1/8 miles at Oaklawn Mar. 9, delivered in his second straight here. The 5-2 chance saved ground heading into the first turn after exiting from post one. He chased from third and awaited racing room on the turn for home. He was tipped out widest of all at the top of the short stretch and came splashing home to score by a neck over Heartened (Street Boss). The winner's dam is also represented by the 2-year-old colt McDude (**McKinzie**) and a yearling colt by **Tiz the Law**. Sales history: \$85,000 Wlg '21 KEENOV. Lifetime Record: 4-2-1-1, \$170,848. **Click for the Equibase.com chart** or **VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV**. O-Cheyenne Stable LLC; B-Frankfort Park Farm (KY); T-Riley Mott.

Raised & Grazed at FRANKFORT PARK FARM
Broken and Trained by Randy Bradshaw
CANDY MEADOWS PURCHASE
WHITE PINE THOROUGHBREDS

MAIDEN WINNERS

Did You Know?
LEGACY Bloodstock
#1 Consignor by Average
@Keeneland September '23
Session 5
PROUD TO REPRESENT TOP HORSEMEN

IN ORDER OF PURSE:

2nd-Keeneland, \$64,254, Msw, 4-10, 2yo, 4 1/2f, :52.17, sy, 2 1/4 lengths.

RAISE THE BAR (c, 2, **Maclean's Music--Paschali**, by **Bernardini**) ran to the money for trainer Wesley Ward as the even-money



Raise the Bar | Coady

favorite on debut over the sloppy going at Keeneland Wednesday. The rail-drawn Douglas Scharbauer homebred was hustled to the front beneath John Velazquez, kicked for home under very confident handling and was never seriously asked for run while crossing the wire 2 1/4 lengths clear of Tuxedo Park (**Complexity**). Paschali, a daughter of MGISW Pure Clan (Pure Prize), was bred to Shoplifted and Competitive Edge for 2024. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$30,551. **Click for the Equibase.com chart** or **VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV**. O/B-Douglas Scharbauer (TX); T-Wesley A. Ward.

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FIRST-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: THURSDAY, APRIL 11
 2024 Stud Fees Listed

Game Winner (Candy Ride {Arg}), Lane's End Farm, \$20,000
 118 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners
 2-Keeneland, 1:32 p.m. EDT, Msw 4 1/2f, Baytown Amy Rose, 6-1
 \$92,000 KEE NOV wnl; \$3,000 KEE SEP yrl

Shancelot (Shanghai Bobby), Buck Pond Farm
 34 foals of racing age/0 winners/0 black-type winners
 2-Keeneland, 1:32 p.m. EDT, Msw 4 1/2f, Perfect Shances, 8-5

SECOND-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: THURSDAY, APRIL 11
 2024 Stud Fees Listed

Dreamliner (More Than Ready), CI-The Speedhorse Farm
 9 foals of racing age/2 winners/0 black-type winners
 7-Mahoning Valley, 3:43 p.m. EDT, Alw 6f, Living the Dream, 2-1

Dynamic Racer (Run Away and Hide), R.C. Cline Thoroughbred Farm
 17 foals of racing age/2 winners/0 black-type winners
 6-Mahoning Valley, 3:14 p.m. EDT, Alw 1m, C V Dynamic, 2-1

Flameaway (Scat Daddy), Darby Dan Farm, \$15,000
 200 foals of racing age/33 winners/4 black-type winners
 2-Keeneland, 1:32 p.m. EDT, Msw 4 1/2f, Cruz Chica, 30-1

Lost Treasure (Ire) (War Front), Hill 'n' Dale at Xalapa
 19 foals of racing age/2 winners/0 black-type winners
 5-Charles Town, 8:53 p.m. EDT, Msw 4 1/2f, Defiant Giant, 15-1

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St Patrick's Day (Pioneerof the Nile), Journeyman Stud, \$3,500
 92 foals of racing age/13 winners/1 black-type winner
 7-Gulfstream, 4:20 p.m. EDT, Alw 5f, Galipan, 20-1

World of Trouble (Kantharos), Hill 'n' Dale at Xalapa, \$5,000
 129 foals of racing age/25 winners/1 black-type winner
 1-Aqueduct, 1:20 p.m. EDT, Msw 1m, Well Schooled, 6-1
 \$55,000 OBS OCT yrl



ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

8th-Keeneland, \$116,000, 4-10, (NW2\$X), 4yo/up, 1 1/16m (off turf), 1:44.14, sy, 5 1/2 lengths.

PIPELINE (h, 6, Speightstown--Vivo Per Lei {MGSP, \$155,082}, by Empire Maker) Lifetime Record: GISP, 16-3-2-2, \$414,673. O-John D. Gunther & Eurowest Bloodstock Services; B-Eurowest Bloodstock Services LTD. (KY); T-Cherie DeVaux.

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Hidden Brook Florida Graduate

6th-Keeneland, \$110,000, 4-10, (NW1X), 4yo/up, 1m (off turf), 1:38.16, sy, 6 3/4 lengths.

MALIBU SPRINGS (g, 4, Quality Road--Marquee Miss {MSW & GSP, \$373,516}, by Cowboy Cal) Lifetime Record: 9-2-3-1, \$168,486. O-Marianne Stribling; B-WinStar Farm, LLC (KY); T-J. Kent Swezey. *\$85,000 3yo '23 KEEAPR.

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10th-Parx Racing, \$56,200, (NW1X)/Opt. Clm (\$16,000), 4-10, 3yo/up, f/m, 1m 70y, 1:46.07, ft, 3 3/4 lengths.

TURN ON THE CHARM (f, 4, Adios Charlie--Jim's Charm, by Gone Astray) Lifetime Record: 19-5-2-4, \$139,150. O-PCC Stable; B-Shade Tree Thoroughbreds Inc (FL); T-Eli Betancourt.

9th-Parx Racing, \$41,800, (S), 4-10, (NW1BX), 3yo/up, f/m, 1m 70y, 1:47.62, ft, 1 3/4 lengths.

MARY Q (f, 4, Social Inclusion--Musket Mary, by Musket Man) Lifetime Record: 7-3-1-1, \$143,390. O-Hardesty Stables; B/T-Michael Moore (PA). *1/2 to Talented Man (Talent Search), SW, \$263,300.

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8th-Mahoning Valley, \$33,700, (S), 4-10, (NW2L), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:13.87, my, 4 1/4 lengths.

HOT PRINCESS (f, 3, Bold Red--Done Goose, by Mongoose)
Lifetime Record: 6-2-1-1, \$50,748. O-Domingo Dionicio Hernandez Recinos; B-Debra Schaber (OH); T-Jacinto Lopez.

7th-Mahoning Valley, \$30,900, 4-10, (NW2X), 3yo/up, f/m, 1m, 1:41.15, my, 6 1/4 lengths.

PLANET FROLIC (f, 4, Blame--Frolic to the Wire, by Roman Ruler) Lifetime Record: 12-5-4-1, \$86,564. O/B-Steven Friedfertig (KY); T-Anthony Farrior. *\$85,000 RNA Ylg '21 KEESEP.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Blue Nomore, g, 3, **Air Force Blue**--Missap (MSW, \$243,671), by A. P. Warrior. Mahoning Valley, 4-10, (S), 1m, 1:42.27. Lifetime Record: 6-1-1-2, \$35,165. B-Beckett Racing Team (OH).

Spiritual Lady, f, 3, **Nyquist**--Spirit Lets Hearit, by Girolamo. Keeneland, 4-10, (C), 6f, 1:12.68. Lifetime Record: 9-1-1-2, \$69,109. B-Redmon Farm, LLC (KY). *\$25,000 RNA Wlg '21 KEENOV; \$60,000 Ylg '22 OBSOCT; \$75,000 2yo '23 OBSAPR.

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Confirmed Star, f, 4, **Uptowncharlybrown**--Its My Town, by Cowtown Cat. Parx Racing, 4-10, (S), 6f, 1:12.85. Lifetime Record: 7-1-3-2, \$79,246. B-Uptowncharlybrown Stud LLC (PA). *\$32,000 2yo '22 EASMAY. **Full to Oxana, SW, \$336,010.

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- Adios Charlie**, Turn On the Charm, f, 4, o/o Jim's Charm, by Gone Astray. AOC, 4-10, Parx Racing
- Air Force Blue**, Blue Nomore, g, 3, o/o Missap, by A. P. Warrior. MSW, 4-10, Mahoning Valley
- Blame**, Planet Frolic, f, 4, o/o Frolic to the Wire, by Roman Ruler. ALW, 4-10, Mahoning Valley
- Bold Red**, Hot Princess, f, 3, o/o Done Goose, by Mongoose. ALW, 4-10, Mahoning Valley
- Maclean's Music**, Raise the Bar, c, 2, o/o Paschali, by Bernardini. MSW, 4-10, Keeneland
- Mastery**, Native Land, c, 3, o/o Janis's Joy, by Broken Vow. AOC, 4-10, Keeneland
- Nyquist**, Spiritual Lady, f, 3, o/o Spirit Lets Hearit, by Girolamo. MCL, 4-10, Keeneland
- Quality Road**, Malibu Springs, g, 4, o/o Marquee Miss, by Cowboy Cal. ALW, 4-10, Keeneland
- Social Inclusion**, Mary Q, f, 4, o/o Musket Mary, by Musket Man. ALW, 4-10, Parx Racing
- Speightstown**, Pipeline, h, 6, o/o Vivo Per Lei, by Empire Maker. ALW, 4-10, Keeneland
- Uptowncharlybrown**, Confirmed Star, f, 4, o/o Its My Town, by Cowtown Cat. MSW, 4-10, Parx Racing

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‘POTENTIALLY A GROUP HORSE’ - CONRAN FULL OF HOPE FOR LEOPARDSTOWN WINNER



Ryan Conran (left): alongside Thomond O'Mara
Tattersalls Ireland

By Brian Sheerin

Everybody is searching for that flagbearer. Be it a jockey, trainer or an owner, the hunt for a horse capable of taking in big-race riches, that's the lure.

Breeze-up consignors are no different. Being associated with good horses is what sustains a business and keeps buyers coming back for more. [Cont. p3](#)

‘IN MY MIND SHE NEVER MADE AU\$10 MILLION’: JONATHAN D'ARCY AND A LIFETIME OF SALES

by Keely Mckitterick/TTR AusNZ

Following the sale of the AU\$10 million Winx (Aus) filly and his announcement to step back from full-time duties at the end of the year, Jonathan D'Arcy, Inglis's general manager of bloodstock operations, spoke with TTR AusNZ.

A few days after Jonathan D'Arcy, Inglis's general manager of bloodstock operations and auctioneer, made headlines for knocking down the Pierro (Aus) x Winx filly for a staggering AU\$10 million to Woppitt Bloodstock, he took the time to sit down with *The Thoroughbred Report* for a Q&A session.

While there was news of D'Arcy's retirement, he was quick to clarify that he would only be stepping back from his full-time role at Inglis. However, he plans to remain involved as part of the bloodstock inspection team and will continue his duties as an auctioneer.

D'Arcy told *TTR AusNZ*, "I'm stepping back from a full-time position, but I'll certainly still be around. I will be playing a role in inspecting yearlings with the team in August and September and I'll be in the auction box for as long as they [Inglis] want to keep me." [Cont. p11](#)

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

TDN OAKS TOP 10

Bill Finley examines the movers and shakers among the GI Kentucky Oaks fillies after a weekend full of preps.

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Thursday, April 11, 2024



Orfevre (Jpn)'s Justin (Jpn) won the Listed Tokyo Sprint on Wednesday, defeating Kurojishi Joe (Jpn) (Furioso {Jpn}) by two lengths. | *Horsephotos*

OSARUS TOPPED BY MEHMAS FILLY

5

Mandore International Agency snapped up a juvenile filly by Mehmas (Ire) for €80,000 at the Osarus Breeze-Up Sale on Wednesday.

ULYSSES MARE LEADS TATTERSALLS ONLINE

6

The Tattersalls Online April Sale was topped by a daughter of Ulysses (Ire) named Julia Augusta (GB) at 72,000gns.

STRONG FOREIGN ENTIRES ON FWD CHAMPIONS DAY

11

The foreign entries for Hong Kong's FWD Champions Day later this month were revealed.

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Ryan Conran Cont. from p1

That's what makes Sunday's Leopardstown maiden winner Ecureuil Secret (Fr) (**Wootton Bassett {GB}**) such an important horse in the career of Ryan Conran.

Having put down two big stints working for prominent breeze-up handlers Con Marnane and Thomond O'Mara, Conran has been connected to many top-class horses, but Ecureuil Secret is shaping up to be the first flag-bearer sold through his own Lacka House Stables.

After failing to sell at the Arqana May Breeze-Up Sale last year, the €22,000 yearling purchase was snapped up privately by trainer Edward O'Grady on behalf of owner Aidan O'Ryan last summer. Afforded time to fill into his fine frame, Ecureuil Secret made his debut in a one-mile maiden at Leopardstown on Sunday, justifying strong support to score in the style of an above-average colt.

Conran said, "I have only been consigning under Lacka House Stables since 2020 and, while I have worked with a lot of good horses and sold some nice horses through Knockanglass Stables [Thomond O'Mara] and Eoin McDonagh's Shanaville Stables, Ecureuil Secret is potentially the nicest I've sold under my own banner."

He added, "Edward had an order for a two-year-old and I think he tried and failed to fill that order at the Tattersalls Ireland

Breeze-Up Sale. He looked at a couple of Thomond's horses that were going to the July Sale in France and then, afterwards, looked at my lad as well. He liked Ecureuil Secret and asked if I'd work him in his yard that week.

"That all went well and we had a deal done a few days later. Edward gave the horse the time that he needed and now he has a very nice colt on his hands--he's potentially a Group horse."

Ecureuil Secret does not hold any fancy entries at this juncture but that might change soon. Described as 'a very nice horse' by O'Grady in his post-race interview, the **Wootton Bassett** colt is the latest example that smart horses don't have to break the clock at the breeze-up sales.

Conran recalled, "He was not your typical breeze-up horse--he was big and raw but he always had a big engine and showed plenty of pace. He was just on the weak side. With that being considered, he couldn't have gone to a better trainer in Edward O'Grady, as he gave him all of the time that he needed."

Ecureuil Secret might be the first horse that Conran is getting deserved recognition for but this is far from his first rodeo. He has been a key cog in the wheels of various big operations and has enjoyed many fine touches before branching out on his own.

Explaining his background in the industry, Conran said, "Thomond is married to my aunt, Roisin O'Mara, and they taught me how to ride. They have taught me so much." **Cont. p4**



NIGHT OF THUNDER



Romantic Style, a 550,000gns yearling, beats G1 opposition to win the G3 Prix Imprudence on her way to the Classics. **She's one of eight Group horses from her sire's outstanding fifth crop.**

€100,000 Oct 1, SLF Kildangan Stud, Ireland

Darley

Ryan Conran Cont.

He added, "I rode a lot of good horses for Thomond, including Malc (GB) (**Calyx {GB}**), who finished second in the Norfolk last year, and I still ride two lots for him every day.

"All told, I've been pinhooking and trading breeze-up horses for seven or eight years now. Happy Together (Ire) (Dragon Pulse {Ire}) is probably the best horse that I have been associated with up until now. He has won over €3 million in prize-money in Hong Kong. I bought him for £15,000 at the Tattersalls Ireland September Yearling Sale when it was held at Newmarket during Covid in 2020. Thomond took half of the horse with me and I actually consigned him at Doncaster but he didn't breeze well and we withdrew him. I didn't do so well selling him at Doncaster so Thomond had a go at consigning him at Tattersalls Ireland!"

Conran added, "He wasn't ideally-suited to breezing--not every horse is--because he liked to pass horses and never really did it on his own. I met Peter Nolan the night before Goresbridge and, thankfully, he listened to me and came down and looked at the horse the following day. He didn't breeze brilliantly again but, Peter is such a brilliant horseman, he saw enough in the horse and bought him for £24,000 on behalf of Noel Meade. He nailed it."

Nadowessi (Ire) (**Sioux Nation**), who finished second in a

winners' race at Naas before being sold on to America, and rock-solid sprint handicapper Secret Guest (GB) (Havana Grey {GB}), are other graduates.

Like so many of the young breeze-up handlers who are making a proper go of it in their own right, Conran also speaks highly of his time spent working for Marnane, and credits the Bansha House operator for fast-tracking his progress within the industry. **Cont. p5**



Ecureuil Secret (right): winning at Leopardstown | Racingfotos.com

“ it was pretty straightforward. I don't think I've trained many 1-20 shots! That was her first piece of work for the year, so we'll sit down and make a plan....If she runs in Newmarket (English 1000 Guineas), she would go straight there, but if she runs in Ireland, she might run again.”

Trainer **Paddy Twomey**



6-length Goffs Million winner **ONE LOOK** scored at Cork on March 30th to remain unbeaten

Other Classic prospects for **Andre Fabre, James Fanshawe, Christopher Head, Aidan O'Brien, Joseph O'Brien** and **Jean-Claude Rouget**



GLENEAGLES

9 Group winners in 2023, while yearlings sold for up to €395,000

COOLMORE

Fee for 2024: **€17,500**

Ryan Conran Cont.

He said, "I spent three or four years working for Con Marnane and had a great time working for him. I rode a lot of nice horses for Con--Sands Of Mali (Fr), Prince Of Lir (Ire), Different League (Fr), Teppal (Fr)--and went out to France when Matthieu Palussiere was looking after his string out there. When you think back now, so many of the staff that Con sent out to France are running their own breeze-up consignment now, so that's hardly a coincidence. You could call him the Jim Bolger of the breeze-up game!

"Off the top of my head, you had Stephen Byrne [Knockgraffon], Justin Timmons [Dolmen], Eoin McDonagh [Shanaville], Colin Bargary [Drummona House] and Shane 'Rancher' Ryan as well. Con had a brilliant method in place and we all learned a lot there. It helped me realise what a good horse actually feels like and that helps when you are standing outside your own consignment.

It seems as though Marnane is indebted to Conran just as much as the latter is to the Bansha boss.

"He didn't just ride Different League every day," Marnane recalls of Conran's input, "he practically trained that filly. Ryan is a special horse man and you'd be proud to see himself and the lads doing so well out on their own."

While becoming bigger and better is the name of the game, Conran explained how his rapid progress came as a surprise even to him at one stage last autumn. However, there is no such thing as a problem in Conran's world, only solutions.

He said, "We've nine horses this year but at one point we were a little short of room! My partner Pamela and myself bought a small place near Fethard in Tipperary a couple of years ago. We don't have a gallop yet but we try to improve the place every year. To that extent, we have been relying on the help of our neighbour, Johnny Cummins, who lets us use his gallop."

He continued, "The other little hurdle we had to jump recently was a lack of stables! There were only eight stables when we moved in and, as I said earlier, I buy a couple of horses every year with Eoin McDonagh, but we were both full by the time Book 3 came around. Anyway, Eoin fell in love with a **Starspangledbanner (Aus)** filly and we couldn't leave her behind. We just couldn't help ourselves.

"When I got home, I said that I had no other option to convert the garage into stables. I rang a couple of mates and we had it up in no time. When I started off buying breezers, I did it with Eoin and his aunt, Noleen O'Brien, and they have also been very good to me and gave me a great start. Wherever you go in this game, there are so many people willing to give you a hand, and I'm forever grateful to so many people."

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EUROPEAN NEWS

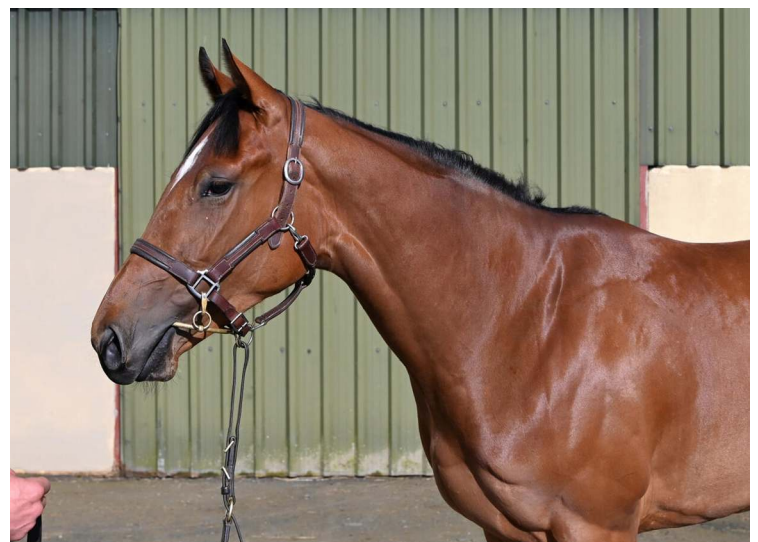
MEHMAS FILLY LEADS MAYFIELD TRIO AT OSARUS BREEZE-UP SALE

A trio of juveniles from the Mayfield Stables' consignment filled the top three positions during Wednesday's Osarus Breeze-Up Sale at La Teste Racecourse, with a filly by Mehmas (Ire) (lot 41), taking top honours at €80,000 from Mandore International Agency.

The March foal is out of Heavenly Bliss (GB) (Intello {Ger}), herself a daughter of G3 Dahlia S. winner and triple Group 1 placegetter Heaven Sent (GB) (Pivotal {GB}), a full-sister to U.S. turf star and dual Grade I winner Megahertz (GB) (Pivotal {GB}).

Mandore was also the name on the ticket for lot 2, a son of Profitable (Ire), who made €47,000 after bringing €20,000 during the Tattersalls Ireland September Yearling Sale. His granddam is Pomology (Arch), twice successful at group level and second in the G1 Prix Vermeille. The colt's New Approach (Ire) dam Teikei (Ire) is a half-sister to G3 Zetland S. hero Goldspur (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}).

The third juvenile from Mayfield Stables was a filly (lot 40) by last year's leading first-season sire Blue Point (Ire), who caught the eye of Jean-Claude Rouget and Capucine BDT. Knocked down for €35,000 as a private sale, the filly is from the extended family of Classic winner and sire **Camelot (GB)** (Montjeu {Ire}). She sold for €27,000 at the 2023 Goffs February Sale. [Cont. p6](#)



Lot 41, the sale-topping Mehmas filly | *Osarus*

Osarus Cont.

The fourth horse to make €30,000 or above was a filly by Aclaim (Ire) from **John Bourke's Hyde Park Stud**. The daughter of Impressionable (GB) (Exceed And Excel {Aus}) was also a Mandore International acquisition. Her second dam, the Bertolini mare Appealing (Ire), was second in the GII Yellow Ribbon H. and third in the GIII Oak Tree S.

Overall, 36 sold (59%) from 61 offered for a gross of €579,000. The average of €16,919 was down 2% from 2023, while the median decreased 13% to €13,000.

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RECORD CLEARANCE, AS ULYSSES MARE TOPS TATTERSALLS ONLINE



Julia Augusta topped the sale | Tattersalls Online

The winning mare **Julia Augusta (GB)** (Ulysses {Ire}) (lot 15) topped the Tattersalls Online April Sale when selling to Jimmy Chua for 72,000gns on Wednesday during a sale noted for its record clearance of 76%.

Offered by Roger Varian's Carlburg Stables, the 5-year-old mare has won twice--once each on turf and the all-weather--and was fourth in the Listed Snowdrop Fillies' S. at Kempton last Saturday. From the family of Poet's Word (Ire) (Poet's Voice {GB}), she is out of a half-sister to the dam of GIII Chicago S. winner Abby Hatcher (Ire) (Acclamation {GB}).

A yearling filly by Mehmas (Ire) (lot 55) came in second on the buyers' sheet when making 45,000gns on the bid of Kingthorn Racing. A half-sister to the G2 Superlative S. and GIII Quick Call S. third Neverland Rock (GB) (**No Nay Never**), the Baroda Stud-consigned bay is a granddaughter of multiple group winner Jessica's Dream (Ire) (Desert Style {Ire}), herself the dam of G1 Prix Jean Prat hero and Group 1 sire Havana Gold (Ire) (Teofilo

{Ire}).

Another two lots cleared 25,000gns--a yearling son of Admire Moon (Jpn) (lot 58), also from Baroda Stud, caught the eye of R T Goodes at 35,000gns. Rounding out the top four was **Laafy** (Noble Mission {GB}) (lot 17), who was consigned by Whitewall Stables and brought 27,000gns from Brian Ellison.

Padraic Gahan of Baroda Stud, which was the leading vendor at the sale with 13 yearlings sold of 13 offered, said, "We are pleased with our consignment at the Tattersalls Online April Sale. It is great that all 13 of our yearlings sold and we would like to wish their purchasers luck with them be that for re-offering in the Autumn, at the breeze-up sales or on the racecourse. Particular thanks to the teams at Castlebridge, Castlehyde Stud and Ecurie des Monceaux for their assistance in bringing these to the market."

Of the 62 horses offered, 47 were marked as sold for a gross of 427,100gns. The median was 4,200gns and the average was 9,087gns.

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TATTERSALLS TO SPONSOR 2024 POLISH ST LEGER

The 2024 edition of the Polish St Leger will be sponsored by Tattersalls, the sales company announced on Wednesday.

Held at Warsaw's Służewiec Racecourse, the 1 3/4-mile race on Westminster Day, Aug. 31, joins other Classic sponsorships by Tattersalls including the G1 Tattersalls Irish 2000 Guineas, G1 Tattersalls Irish 1000 Guineas and G2 Tattersalls Italian Oaks. Multiple group winner Va Bank (Ire) (Archipenko), a €4,500 Tattersalls Ireland September yearling buy, won the Polish St Leger. In addition, Tattersalls Ireland will sponsor the Nagroda Dakota, a juvenile race over 6 1/2 furlongs, also held on Westminster Day.

Tattersalls Chairman Edmond Mahony said, "We are delighted to add the Polish St Leger to the Tattersalls portfolio of Classic sponsorships in Europe. It is an exciting time for Polish racing, with the country staging their first ever internationally recognised listed race in October last year, and Tattersalls and Tattersalls Ireland are thrilled to be involved with the 2024 Westminster Day at Tor Służewiec."

Tattersalls Ireland CEO Simon Kerins said, "Tattersalls Ireland are committed to supporting the markets that support us, and our Polish client base has seen year on year growth over the last few years, making this agreement beneficial to both parties. This partnership will extend our Flat racing sponsorship portfolio, which is headlined by our €250,000 Super Auction Sales Stakes at the Irish Champions Festival."



Polish St Leger winner Va Bank winning in Germany | [Racingfotos.com](#)

Polish St Leger Cont.

Westminster Group President Marian Ziburske added, “Opened in 1939, Tor Służewiec in Warsaw is one of the most beautiful and important racecourses in Eastern Europe, and it is fantastic to have Tattersalls join world-class companies such as Dell, Land Rover and Panattoni in sponsoring on our charity raceday. We are very proud to have such a respected partner and look forward to the further development of Polish racing.”

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NICK BANNISTER WILL BE NEXT RACING WELFARE CHAIRMAN



Nick Bannister | [Racing Welfare](#)

Nick Bannister will become the next chairman of Racing Welfare on June 12, the organisation announced on Wednesday. Currently chairman of Haydock Park Racecourse since 2020, Bannister will succeed William Barlow, who will be completing his five-year term.

Bannister, who first worked for three decades in financial services, also manages the family-owned Coniston Hotel & Spa and its associated estate in the Yorkshire Dales. He has served as chair of The Countryside Alliance Foundation for six years and spent over 10 years as the deputy governor of the Hunt Staff Benefit Society.

At one point an amateur jump jockey, Bannister said, “I am very much looking forward to immersing myself in this position and helping Racing Welfare evolve, navigate the challenges ahead and continue the excellent work they do for a cause so close to my heart.”

Dawn Goodfellow, chief executive at Racing Welfare said, “Nick’s vast background of working in finance will undoubtedly be hugely beneficial. Added to that is his experience of political matters with the Countryside Alliance, which can hopefully serve to further strengthen our relationships with key industry stakeholders.”

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GERALD LEIGH CHARITABLE TRUST AND RACING TO SCHOOL RENEW PARTNERSHIP

Racing to School and the Gerald Leigh Charitable Trust have renewed their partnership for an additional two years that will allow the latter to continue assisting young people in hard-to-reach areas, the duo announced on Wednesday.

Already in its third year, the partnership has assisted over 600 young people from rural, inner city and deprived areas in 2023. The aim is to expose more young people to free, interactive, and healthy outdoor educational events for schools, staged at a variety of racing venues through the Racing to School experience.

John Blake, chief executive of Racing to School, said, “Developing this special partnership with the Gerald Leigh Charitable Trust has helped widen our scope to support new beneficiaries, and the racing industry. We are already working alongside other partners with similar objectives, which is very exciting.”

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OBSERVATIONS

on the European racing scene

HOW THEY FARED

13.15 Leopardstown, Mdn, €15,000, 3yo, f, 10fT

Rubies Are Red (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}), the daughter of Red Evie (Ire) (Intikhab) and full-sister to Found (Ire), ran a respectable race forcing it from the front only be overpowered by the impressive winner.

14.45 Leopardstown, Mdn, €15,000, 3yo, c/g, 8fT Mundi (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}), the full-brother to **Churchill (Ire)** and **Clemmie (Ire)**, was withdrawn due to the deep ground.

BRITAIN

Wednesday's Results:

2nd-Kempton, £7,000, Nov, 4-10, 3yo/up, 8f (AWT), 1:40.15, st/sl.

JAYYASH (FR) (c, 3, Siyouni {Fr}--Power Of The Moon {Ire} {MSP-Fr}, by Acclamation {GB}), who posted a runner-up finish going seven furlongs at Southwell last month, was steadied behind the leaders in fifth after the initial exchanges of this third start. Powering forward once into the home straight, the 8-11 favourite seized control approaching the final furlong and was pushed out to assert by a length from Goodwood Odyssey (GB) (Ulysses {Ire}). "I got him into a nice position after two furlongs, he got relaxed and was able to finish off his race nicely," said rider Kieran O'Neill. "He feels like a nice horse, he showed a turn of foot and could be anything going forward." Jayyash is the fifth of six foals and fourth scorer from as many runners out of the multiple stakes-placed Power Of The Moon (Ire) (Acclamation {GB}), herself a half-sister to G2 Criterium de Maisons-Laffitte and G3 Prix Eclipse victrix Zinziberine (Zieten). The April-foaled bay is a full-brother to G2 German 1000 Guineas heroine Txope (Fr) and half to an unnamed 2-year-old filly by Hello Youmzain (Fr). Sales history: €170,000 RNA Ylg '22 ARAUG; €420,000 2yo '23 ARQMAY. Lifetime Record: 3-1-1-0, \$8,490. O-Wathnan Racing; B-SAS Haras Voltaire (FR); T-John & Thady Gosden.

1st-Kempton, £6,800, Nov, 4-10, 2yo, f, 5f (AWT), 1:02.23, st/sl.

KODIBEAT (GB) (f, 2, Kodiak {GB}--Corazon Canarias {Fr} {SP-Fr}, by Caradak {Ire}) broke swiftly and raced in a prominent second from the outset of this debut. Looming large off the home turn, the well-backed 2-1 pick was shaken up to poach a decisive edge approaching the furlong pole and ran on well under urging to hold the late thrust of Spirited Dancer (GB) (Dandy Man {Ire}) by a neck in a blanket finish. "I thought she'd come on for the run as we haven't really wound her up because we haven't been on the grass this year," explained trainer Oliver Cole. "I don't think she'll ever be a big filly, but she's bred to be very quick and it's nice to see her win. I'm very pleased as that's our first 2-year-old runner and first 2-year-old winner [of the year]. We run a couple of nice ones at Newmarket next week, so it should be interesting to see what happens." Kodibeat is the latest of five registered foals, all winners, produced by Listed

Criterium du Bequet third Corazon Canarias (Fr) (Caradak {Ire}). The May-foaled bay's dam is kin to a quartet of black-type performers headed by stakes-winning dual Spanish champion and her dual Group 1-placed full-brother Noozhoh Canarias (Spa). Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$4,655.

O-Bronte Collection 1; B-Branton Court Stud LLP (GB); T-Paul & Oliver Cole.

2nd-Wolverhampton, £6,300, Mdn, 4-10, 2yo, 5f 21y (AWT), 1:02.03, st.

ENCHANTING EMPRESS (GB) (f, 2, Sergei Prokofiev--Yolo Star {Ire} {SP-Eng}, by Society Rock {Ire}), sent off at 11-2, chased the frantic early pace and was hard at work before the home turn. Staying on strongly, the newcomer overhauled Kaadi (Ire) (Soldier's Call {GB}) with 100 yards remaining en route to a 3/4-of-a-length success. In doing so, she was becoming the third winner for her first-season sire. The dam, who was third in the Listed Lansdown S., hails from the family of the G1 Phoenix S.-winning sire Pips Pride (GB). Her yearling colt is by Lope Y Fernandez (Ire). Sales history: 62,000gns Ylg '23 TATSOM. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$4,313.

O-AMO Racing Limited & Giselle De Aguiar; B-Llety Farms & Whitsbury Manor Stud (GB); T-Dominic French Davis.



Sergei Prokofiev | Whitsbury Manor Stud

CONDITIONS RESULTS:

3rd-Wolverhampton, £14,200, 4-10, 3-5yo, f/m, 6f 21y (AWT), 1:14.28, st.

NO HALF MEASURES (GB) (f, 3, Cable Bay {Ire}--Fascinator {GB}, by Helmet {Aus}) Lifetime Record: 3-2-1-0, \$21,170. O-Mr R P Gallagher; B-Bumble Bloodstock & Mrs S Nicholls (GB); T-Richard Hughes. *£34,000 Ylg '22 GOFFUK.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Machete Beach (GB), g, 3, **Territories (Ire)**--Serenada (Fr), by Anabaa. Lingfield, 4-10, 10f (AWT), 2:07.95. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$7,188. B-D J & Mrs Deer (GB). *28,000gns RNA Ylg '22 TATOCT.

IRELAND

Wednesday's Results:

IRISH STALLION FARMS EBF HERITAGE S.-Listed, €40,000, Leopardstown, 4-10, 4yo/up, 8fT, 1:53.95, hy.

1--**GOLDANA (IRE)**, 128, m, 5, **Galileo Gold (GB)**--**Humble And Proud (Ire)**, by **Pivotal (GB)**. (£40,000 Ylg '20 GOFOR; €120,000 3yo '22 ARQDEC). O-Sights On Gold Partnership; B-Patrick Grogan (IRE); T-Joseph O'Brien; J-Dylan Browne McMonagle. €24,000. Lifetime Record: GSW-Ire & SW-Ger, 16-5-2-4, \$116,637. *1/2 to Glorious Empire (Ire) (**Holy Roman Emperor {Ire}**), GISW-US, \$977,227; and Love Reigns (Ire) (U S Navy Flag), MSW-US, \$242,965.

2--**Power Under Me (Ire)**, 138, g, 6, Mehmas (Ire)--Oonagh (Ire), by Arakan. (€28,000 Wlg '18 GOFNOV). O-Vincent Gaul; B-Ms Barbel Reiss (IRE); T-Ger Lyons. €8,000.

3--**Lord Massusus (Ire)**, 138, g, 4, Markaz (Ire)--Wajaha (Ire), by Haafhd (GB). O-John N Bourke; B-Longrove Stud (IRE); T-Joseph Murphy. €4,000.

Margins: HF, HF, 2. Odds: 0.44, 5.50, 5.50.

Also Ran: Cristal Clere (Ire), Big Gossey (Ire), Zenga (GB).

Scratched: Self Belief (Ire).

2023's G3 Gladness S. victrix Goldana opened this campaign with a third in the Curragh's Mar. 18 G3 Park Express S. last time and justified odds-on favouritism with a game half-length tally here. Moving into third after racing fourth through the initial stages, she launched her challenge in early straight and kept on resolutely inside the final quarter-mile to register a third black-type success.

"She really deserved it as she had been running well with penalties through the end of last season and also on her first run this year," said Joseph O'Brien. "I'm delighted to get her head in front and she's beaten two very good geldings. She'll probably step back into Group company now and she's particularly effective on soft ground. Wherever she goes she'll be kept on easier ground. She's a Group 3 and Listed winner and it would be great if we could get her into Group 2s. There is a nice one on Guineas weekend [G2 Ridgewood Pearl S.], but obviously we'll be guided by conditions."

Goldana is the fifth of eight foals and one of six scorers from as many runners out of a half-sister to the dual Group 2-placed

Listed Newmarket S. winner Delsarte (Theatrical {Ire}), G3 Jockey Club Cup third Veenwouden (GB) (Desert Prince {Ire}) and Listed Premio Paolo Mezzanotte third Regina Mundi (Ire) (Montjeu {Ire}). The February-foaled chestnut is a half to GI Sword Dancer S. hero Glorious Empire (Ire) (**Holy Roman Emperor {Ire}**) and the dual stakes scorer Love Reigns (Ire) (U S Navy Flag).



Goldana | Racingfotos.com

1st-Leopardstown, €15,000, Mdn, 4-10, 3yo, 10fT, 2:27.10, hy. **GALILEO DAME (IRE)** (f, 3, **Galileo Gold {GB}**--**Two For Tea {Ire}**, by **Mount Nelson {GB}**), runner-up over an extended mile at Gowran Park on debut in October, raced just behind the early pace. Staying on powerfully in the final two furlongs, the 13-8 second favourite had an impressive 3 1/2-length margin to spare over Ballydoyle's blueblood Rubies Are Red (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}) at the line. Trainer Joseph O'Brien said, "She had a good run in soft ground last year and we thought that 10 furlongs would suit her well. I was very pleased and looking at that you'd have to say she's a smart filly. I suppose the obvious thing now is to go into an Oaks trial of some sort. She's owned by a great group of lads, the Annus Mirabilis Syndicate, Sean O'Driscoll and Brian McKieran. It's exciting for them to have a real smart filly." The dam, whose 2-year-old filly by Inns Of Court (Ire) is catalogued in next month's Tattersalls Ireland Goresbridge Breeze Up, is a half-sister to the G2 Champions Juvenile S.-placed Alder (Ire) (**Australia {GB}**) and the G3 Derrinstown Stud 1000 Guineas Trial-placed Radiantly (GB) (Aussie Rules). A granddaughter of the high-class Shiva (Jpn) (Hector Protector), she also has a yearling filly by Cotai Glory (GB). Sales history: €125,000 2yo '23 TATGOR. Lifetime Record: 2-1-1-0, \$14,787.

O-Annus Mirabilis Syndicate/Sean O'Driscoll/Middle Cow Unlimited; B-Tally Ho Stud (IRE); T-Joseph O'Brien.

2nd-Leopardstown, €15,000, Mdn, 4-10, 3yo, 10fT, 2:25.61, hy. THE EQUATOR (IRE) (c, 3, Galileo {Ire}--Quiet Reflection {GB} {MG1SW-Eng, GSW-Fr, GSW-Ire, \$926,853}, by Showcasing {GB}), fourth on his sole start in a mile maiden here in July, raced prominently out wide throughout the early stages. Finishing with a flourish in the deep ground to take control approaching the furlong pole, the 7-2 shot drew away to beat stablemate Ortelius (**Justify**) by 3 1/4 lengths. "The Equator had a lovely run last year and he's a lovely big, honest horse," Aidan O'Brien said. "He handles an ease in the ground, but will obviously handle ground which is much better as well and he stays well. Wayne [Lordan] was very happy with him and said he went to the line very strong, he did that last year as a two-year-old as well. Definitely going up to a mile and a quarter suited him and going further will probably suit him even better. He could go for a trial at Lingfield or somewhere like that. He'll probably love going a mile and a half and I'd say next time that's what we will do." Of the 5-6 favourite Ortelius, he added, "Ryan said he was a little bit slow away and he was just in the pocket behind the lads. He said he might have preferred to be in the race and going earlier. He said obviously he was struggling in the ground and will be much better on better ground. Next time you'll see a different horse, I'd imagine, but it was still a lovely run and he was very happy with him." The winner's dam Quiet Reflection was a top-class sprinter, winning the G1 Commonwealth Cup and G1 Haydock Sprint Cup and five other black-type races. Bought for 2.1million gns at the 2017 Tatts December Mares Sale, her first foal was Galileo's useful and well-regarded Bluegrass (Ire) who was third in the G2 Dante S. Her 2-year-old is a filly by **Frankel (GB)**, while she also has a yearling colt by that sire. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, \$10,503. O-Michael Tabor & Derrick Smith & Mrs John Magnier; B-Coolmore (IRE); T-Aidan O'Brien.

4th-Leopardstown, €15,000, Mdn, 4-10, 3yo, 8fT, 1:55.10, hy. NORWALK HAVOC (GB) (g, 3, Showcasing {GB}--Light of Joy {SP-Eng}, by Kitten's Joy), not sighted since finishing last of six in a six-furlong Curragh maiden last May, was in front initially before accepting a lead from Gallantly (GB) (**Frankel (GB)**). Taking control back from that rival with 1 1/2 furlongs remaining, the 10-1 shot asserted to score by 2 3/4 lengths. Trainer Jessie Harrington commented, "He didn't behave very well at the Curragh last year and when he came back, he got castrated which seems to have done the job. We always thought he had ability but he wasn't giving it to us and it was great to get his head in front. Shane said he actually couldn't go any quicker than he was going and he then quickened up well in the straight and went through the ground very easily." The winner is the first foal out of the listed-placed dam, a half to the GIII Sam F. Davis

S. winner Sole Volante (**Karakontie {Jpn}**) and the GIII Canadian Derby scorer Explode (Trappe Shot). From the same excellent family of Shiva (Jpn) (Hector Protector) as the card's opening maiden winner Galileo Dame (Ire) (Galileo Gold {GB}), her 2-year-old colt Emit (Ire) is by Too Darn Hot (GB) while she also has a yearling colt by **Sea The Stars (Ire)**. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, \$9,986. O/B-Flaxman Stables Ireland Ltd (GB); T-Jessica Harrington.

FRANCE

Wednesday's Results:

2nd-Deauville, €28,000, Cond, 4-10, 3yo, c/g, 7fT, 1:28.56, hy. AGAT (IRE) (c, 3, Wootton Bassett {GB}--Ayelet {GB}, by Hat Trick {Jpn}), who backed up a Dec. 15 debut fifth at this venue with a breakthrough score back here in January, settled off the pace in sixth through halfway. Coaxed forward with 500 metres remaining, the 31-10 chalk appeared held by Grand Scoop (GB) (**No Nay Never**) entering the final furlong and ran on relentlessly under continued urging to deny that rival by a neck in the dying strides. Agat, kin to the 2-year-old colt Kingofthehighseas (Fr) (**Sottsass (Fr)**), is one of two scorers produced by an unraced daughter of the dual stakes-winning G3 Prix de Lieurey third Dream Clover (GB) (**Oasis Dream (GB)**). His second dam is a half-sister to elite-level winners Call The Wind (GB) (**Frankel (GB)**), With You (GB) (Dansili {GB}) and We Are (Ire) (Dansili {GB}). Dream Clover is also a full-sister to the stakes-winning dam of last year's G1 Prix de la Foret heroine Kelina (Ire) (**Frankel (GB)**). Sales history: €190,000 Wlg '21 ARQDEC. Lifetime Record: 3-2-0-0, €28,250. **Video, sponsored by FanDuel TV.** O-Nurlan Bizakov; B-Langlais Bloodstock, Euro Limousin & SCEA de Marancourt (IRE); T-Jean-Claude Rouget.



Agat (far side) | Scoop Dyga

2nd-La Teste-Bassin Arcachon, €23,000, Cond, 4-10, 2yo, 5fT, 0:59.91, vs.

MISS BEETHOVEN (FR) (f, 2, Van Beethoven--Hathfa {Fr}, by Dark Angel {Ire}), sent off at 28-1, missed the kick and languished in rear early. Picking up on the outer at halfway, the newcomer wore down Vif De Boistron (Fr) (Al Wukair {Ire}) with 150 metres remaining en route to a 2 1/2-length success to provide his first-season sire with a second winner. The dam, who also has the unraced 3-year-old filly Hatfavielle (Fr) (Al Wukair {Ire}), is a granddaughter of the graded-stakes-placed Ghurra (War Chant) who produced Invincible Spirit's G1 Prix Morny and G1 Middle Park S.-winning sire Shalaa (Ire). Lifetime Record: 1-10-0, €11,500. **Video, sponsored by FanDuel TV.** O-Asier Sanchez Iceta; B-Mme S Peron & SARL Winning Bloodstock Agency (FR); T-Miguel Alonso Roldan.

CONDITIONS RESULTS:

4th--La Teste-Bassin Arcachon, €22,000, 4-10, 3yo, 9fT, 1:59.76, vs.

SAFWAN (GB) (c, 3, Wootton Bassett {GB}--Al Mayhola {Fr}, by Sea The Stars {Ire}) Lifetime Record: 6-2-0-1, €32,750. O/B-Al Shaqab Racing (GB); T-Edouard Monfort.

1st-Deauville, €19,000, Cond, 4-10, 4yo/up, 12 1/2f (AWT), 2:40.03, st.

PALAIMON (FR) (h, 7, Soldier Hollow {GB}--Leukothea {GB}, by Sixties Icon {GB}) Lifetime Record: 15-5-0-1, €53,360. O-Erich Schwaiger; B-Concept Real AG (FR); T-Markus Munch.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Tazara (Ire), f, 3, Blue Point (Ire)--L' Explora, by War Front. Deauville, 4-10, 6fT, 1:13.55. B-Hamwood Stud (IRE). *€27,000 Wlg '21 GOFNOV; 90,000gns Ylg '22 TATOCT.

 Selected by Windfield Arthur Hoyerou +1 (859) 753-7257 

Calyso King (GB), g, 3, Calyx (GB)--Cherierarch (SW-Fr), by Arch. Deauville, 4-10, 6fT, 1:13.12. B-Oceanic Bloodstock SARL, OTI Management Pty Ltd & Mme Ariane Gravereaux (GB). *€170,000 Ylg '22 ARQOCT. **1/2 to Welwal (GB) (Shalaa {Ire}), GSW-Fr & MGSP-Aus, \$283,803; Epistrophy (Fr) (Charm Spirit {Ire}), GSP-Fr; and Chic Cherie (Fr) (Muhaarar {GB}), SP-Ger.

WORLDWIDE NEWS

Jonathan D'Arcy Q&A Cont. from p1

Keely: Jonathan, could you provide readers with some insight

into how your career in the breeding and racing industry began?

D'Arcy: Certainly, I am going back a long time, probably before you were born, but I grew up in Brisbane and I was always interested in the thoroughbred industry.

During my school holidays, I'd go and work on a stud farm or I'd go down to Eagle Farm Racecourse and help out a couple of trainers down there.

My mum was a tipster on the radio and had a column in the paper tipping horses, so there was always an interest there and after finishing school I worked for a couple of properties and then to the Agricultural College in Victoria, and as part of that course I ended up doing some experience with Inglis in 1986.

After that work experience I was fortunate enough that John and Reg Inglis offered me a position in the pedigree team. At that stage we wrote pedigrees, they weren't generated by computers, so we wrote all of them.

At that stage I certainly wasn't thinking I was going to become an auctioneer. I just enjoyed being around the horses and loved the pedigree side of the business. I was learning a lot, as you do working for a company like Inglis.



Jonathan D'Arcy | Inglis

A couple of years later Reg Inglis asked me and Vin Cox if we'd like to have a go at auctioning. We both took up the offer, I kept going with it and Vin decided he'd go down more of a sales path where he became a successful bloodstock agent before embarking on his very successful management career.

I stayed with auctioneering because I enjoyed it so much. I've been lucky enough to see the world as a company representative and it's been a very enjoyable career to this date.

Cont. p12



Chris Waller with Winx and her filly by Pierro | Chris Waller Racing

Jonathan D'Arcy Cont.

Keely: How do you ready yourself for an auction? Do you plan out your approach in advance, or do you prefer to improvise and go with the flow?

D'Arcy: Every auction is different, and obviously a sale like the Inglis Australian Easter Yearling Sale there's a lot more work that goes into having a think about how you can promote these horses you're selling. Most auctions we take 90 seconds to 2 1/2 minutes to sell a horse.

So, there's not an awful lot you can say, you just make sure you're up to date with the pedigree and what the stallion's latest racetrack results are. We get all the information on the successful nicks and crosses, but all the buying bench is so well versed in all this information.

They don't really want to hear a lot about pedigrees--it's all in the catalogue and so they really want an efficient auctioneering service that can get the horses bought and sold in a good time.

I think we're actually selling a bit faster these days just to get through the large number of lots that we've got on our selling days.

But overall, I don't think we want to bore people with extra statistics or pedigree information. You just got to be up to date with anything that might help or make a difference when the final bids are called for.

Keely: Throughout your extensive and successful career, who have been some of your influences and sources of inspiration?

D'Arcy: I've been fortunate to be around a lot of successful people in this industry. Early days, I was learning from the auctioneers that were present at the company. So, that was Reg Inglis, John Inglis and Jamie Inglis.

Down the track we took over Dalgety Bloodstock in Victoria, and that meant that we had the services of Peter Heageny. Peter was certainly someone who I learned a lot of auctioneering skills from. We also worked with Simon Vivian.

I spent a lot of time listening to other auctioneers and I was lucky enough to follow Damien Cooley, who's a very successful real estate auctioneer. I followed him around for several months just learning how he sold houses. I was lucky enough to do a real estate auction for his company.

An inspiration has been Neville Begg. I am very fortunate to have developed a strong friendship with Neville. Obviously, he's been a successful trainer in Australia for many years. When he went to Hong Kong, I was lucky to stay with Neville and his wife on several occasions. Neville remained a very close friend and someone I learned a lot about horses from.

I've spent time with many successful bloodstock agents like Kieran Moore and John Foote. There's too many to name. You learn from everyone you're around, and it's an industry that you keep learning. You're still learning to this very day and that's what makes it interesting. It's an industry where a lot of people get involved and a lot of people do share their knowledge with you.

I think that's great for young people coming up through the business that you can learn from all these different people that we've got within the industry.

Keely: What is your favourite aspect of your role?

D'Arcy: At Inglis, we have a great bloodstock team. We've got about 10 people in the bloodstock team, so we talk to each other a lot. We have meetings almost weekly where we talk about some of the things we need to do, whether it's for a digital sale or whether it's recruiting buyers to certain sales. Sometimes it's about what we need to do to attract yearlings or attract mares for the Chairman's Sale.

So, there's always something different happening throughout the year. The most enjoyable part to me is the auctioneering. I love it because I think we can make a difference to the returns for our clients, and I love the theatre of it. I love the fact every sale is different.

When you're calling bids at a million dollars and seeing the emotion on both purchasers' and vendors' faces, that's a great kick. It's great to play a very small part in a successful sale. Because the breeders have spent up to 18 months, two years, breeding the mare to get the foal and then foal to a Inglis Australian Easter Yearling Sale or a Inglis HTBA Sale or Classic or Premier--to get the result for them that they dream of that's very important for not only myself but all the people in the company. [Cont. p13](#)

Jonathan D'Arcy Cont.

Keely: Apart from the Winx filly, could you share some of your other career highlights?

D'Arcy: I was lucky enough to sell a mare called Samantha Miss (Aus). She was put through as a racing and breeding prospect as a 4-year-old mare. She'd won the VRC Oaks and was probably one of the highest profile race mares to be sold that year. Samantha Miss sold for AU\$3.85 million - that was a great thrill. I was also fortunate enough to sell Makybe Diva (GB)'s Galileo (Ire) colt at the Inglis Australian Easter Yearling Sale when it was held at Newmarket many years ago.

Once again, that was not dissimilar to what we saw play out this week, there was a lot of mainstream media attention there. Makybe Diva having won the Melbourne Cup on three occasions and a Cox Plate. There was a lot of international interest, the colt made AU\$1.7 million.

That was exciting but some of the biggest thrills you get are selling horses for AU\$100,000 when the client thought it was worth AU\$40,000 or selling a horse for AU\$80,000 when they thought they were struggling to get AU\$20,000.

That gives you as much thrill as selling the high-priced horses. Sometimes a result like that keeps that breeder in the game. It means they can breed the mare again the following year. So, I think it's very important, and it's not a cliché but every horse we offer is important. We would like to think that we're giving every horse the same opportunity to maximise its sale price through our auctioneering team.

Keely: Could you share some of your funniest or most cherished memories from your career?

D'Arcy: I can remember when I was a bit younger and I was actually taking bids in the Newmarket ring, which many people will remember had quite a lot of residential housing around it and a school and hospital across the road.

I can't recall if it was a Inglis Classic Sale or an Easter Sale but my wife and I lived across the road and we had a young beagle puppy called Jackson. Anyway, I had my back to the auctioneer and was looking at the clients under the tree taking bids and there was a commotion and I turned around and here was this

beagle puppy racing straight towards me! It was quite a hilarious moment.

I'm sure there would be a lot of other funny moments around the sales. You get people who are surprised at what their horses are making, absolutely gobsmacked and wonderful things like that. We sold a colt for a vendor from New Zealand one day, who thought the horse was going to make AU\$400,000- AU\$500,000 and they ended up making well over that mark, selling for AU\$1.5 million.

So, that was a bit of fun. You share a lot of jokes and camaraderie with the clients. Many of the people who attend the sales have been attending them for a very long time, you can always have a laugh with them about certain things that happen in the sale ring.

Keely: What positive changes or innovations have you observed in the industry, and are there any aspects you'd like to see improved or altered?



Danehill | Arrowfield

D'Arcy: I suppose the innovations are the way computers are used these days. The statistics are up to date and you can get the ratings that are put out after every meeting. I think that's certainly a tool that many people use now when they're buying horses or if they're trading horses to Hong Kong, those ratings are something that have become very

Prior to the introduction of computers - analytics, statistics, ratings was very much a personal opinion but now it's solid data behind why horses are bought and sold. One of the biggest changes with the selling of bloodstock/livestock has been the introduction of digital sales.

We've been lucky at Inglis to play a role in that. We're turning over AU\$90 to AU\$95 million a year in digital sales. But that's made it a very liquid market so you don't have to wait three or four months to sell a horse or even prior to this it wasn't really possible to sell a five or 10 per cent share in a horse.

Now you've got a sale every two weeks. So, it's almost like the stock market, like a trading floor of a stock market and I think that has changed the way people look at trading bloodstock.

We have horses that one year they're sold as a yearling for AU\$400,000 and they have a couple of starts and the syndicate might decide that they're not exactly going to make a stallion, so they're traded for say AU\$200,000. **Cont. p14**

Jonathan D'Arcy Cont.

D'Arcy Cont.: That horse might win a couple of races for that owner and then maybe nine months later they're traded again for AU\$90,000 because they need to continue their racing in an easier jurisdiction.

Some of these horses have been traded three, four, five times in their lives and at each time it's important for the owners to be able to conduct that trading. I think the fact we've developed a trading platform that assists everyone.

The second part, I think the industry is now much more focused on welfare and the importance of displaying to the world that we care about these horses, not only during their racing careers but their post racing careers.

While there's still more that can be done and needs to be done, I think everyone is now thinking in the right direction. There isn't just financial support but also having a think about how we look after these horses once they are retired. So, I feel that was something that was very much required and it's been a rocky road to get to that point.

Keely: Is there a particular stallion that holds a special place in your heart over the years?

D'Arcy: I was fortunate enough to be around when Danehill was really in full stride. I can remember looking at his fist crop and they sold okay but when they started racing it was quickly understood that he was a breed shaper stallion. Danehill was getting colts and fillies, his sons were going off to stud and were successful - the likes of Danzero (Aus), Flying Spur (Aus), Redoute's Choice (Aus), Fastnet Rock (Aus).

The fact that we were able to sell Danehills for something like 12 years, the incredible popularity of the stallion and the success they had. Many of them were sold through our Easter Yearling Sale, it was just a great time to be involved.

I remember Danehills regularly making a million dollars, two million and he never had any sex bias. It's a rare thing to see in a stallion - the term is a breed shaper and I've only seen a couple of breed shaper stallions in my lifetime. Danehill was probably the greatest one and to have the opportunity to his progeny for an extended period of time was certainly a great highlight of mine.

Keely: Do you consider the sale of the Piero x Winx filly to be the pinnacle of your career?

D'Arcy: I suppose a lot of people will because it got all the publicity, and it was certainly probably the most highly anticipated moment of my career.

I just hoped everything would play out well. I was pleased that

there was competition, I would have loved to have had a few other people to jump in. However, I know people were trying to have a bid at AU\$3 million, AU\$4 million and AU\$5 million. People have spoken to me afterwards saying we tried to get in but it was just too fast.

I was just delighted to be able to play a very, very small role in what was a great story. The marketing team here and the way buyers were recruited did a massive job.

I think the whole story captured the imagination of the Australian public and the thoroughbred industry around the world - that was great.

As an auctioneer we sell a lot of horses every year but it's been very enjoyable being part of this sale and it's very fresh in my mind. It's an easy one to remember because there's just been so much written about it and a lot of video content.

It was just a thrill to be involved and I'm pleased that it played out well for everyone. Fingers crossed the filly can go on and continue the legacy that Winx has laid down.



Winx's Piero filly in the ring | Inglis

Keely: Has the reality of selling a yearling filly for AU\$10 million fully set in for you?

D'Arcy: I practised selling her for about a month before the sale, not every day, but if I was driving for half-an-hour or every couple of days and in my mind she never made AU\$10 million. When practising I'd be taking bids of AU\$200,000 or AU\$250,000 but to be taking bids of a million and a million and a half, that wasn't something I considered was ever a possibility of occurring.

I don't think any auctioneer in the world would have imagined they'd be calling bids of that magnitude in such quick succession as how it played out. Personally, I really didn't think she would be making that sort of money. When you think about it the highest-priced yearling ever sold was a colt at US\$13 million and it was a long, long time ago. [Cont. p15](#)

Jonathan D'Arcy Cont.

D'Arcy Cont.: The Australian record for a filly was AU\$2.6 million, and I thought she'd be making somewhere around AU\$5 million because of the interest. At AU\$10 million, it is still sinking in for a lot of us. Just a magic moment to be involved in and a horse's worth is determined by what two people are willing to pay.

Debbie Kepitis had a part ownership of the filly, but she had to pay an awful lot of money to buy out her partners. It was a unique opportunity to buy the daughter of arguably the greatest racehorse we've ever seen in this country.

Keely: What would you name the Pierro x Winx filly?

D'Arcy: I quite like a name called An A Nod. Three words, a wink and a nod. Sort of something like that. There's an old saying, a nod and a wink. So, that's why I think An A Nod. But I'm sure smarter people than I will come up with a very suitable name for her.

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ELEVEN FOREIGNERS TO CHALLENGE HOME TEAM ON FWD CHAMPIONS DAY *by Alan Carasso*



Dubai Honour is set for a third trip to Hong Kong | HKJC photo

A record 11 overseas-based gallopers, including Group 1 winners **Dubai Honour (Ire)** (Pride of Dubai {Aus}) from Great Britain and Japan's **Mad Cool (Jpn)** (Dark Angel {Ire}), are among the 35 total horses invited to participate in the trio of races which comprise FWD Champions Day at Sha Tin Racecourse on Apr. 28.

Trained by William Haggas, the globetrotting Dubai Honour pays a third visit to Hong Kong and will look to improve on his performance from 12 months ago, where he was a low-odds third behind the re-opposing, three-peat seeking **Romantic**

Warrior (Ire) (Acclamation {GB}) and **Prognosis (Jpn)** (Deep Impact {Jpn}) in the richest of the afternoon's events, the HK\$28 million (£2.84 million/€3.29 million) G1 FWD QE II Cup. Also among the invitees is recent BMW Hong Kong Derby winner **Massive Sovereign (Ire)** (No Nay Never).

Whereas Dubai Honour was set for a strenuous two-race Australian Group 1 prep last term, he enters this year's contest a much fresher horse, having won Kempton's Listed Magnolia S. by a smooth three-length margin Apr. 1. Dubai Honour was also a respectable fourth in the 2022 G1 Longines Hong Kong Cup over the QE II Cup course and distance.

The G1 Chairman's Sprint Prize lost some of its lustre when the world's top-rated sprinter Lucky Sweynesse (NZ) (Sweynesse {Aus}) was ruled out via injury, and it will be left to last-out G1 Al Quoz Sprint victor **California Spangle (Ire)** (Starspangledbanner {Aus}) to fly the Bauhinia flag. **Victor the Winner (Aus)** (Toronado {Ire}) is also set to make an appearance, having set the pace before finishing a brave third to Mad Cool in the G1 Takamatsunomiya Kinen at Chukyo Mar. 23. Trainer George Boughey is set to be represented by his first Hong Kong runner in the 4-year-old filly **Believing (Ire)** (Mehmas {Ire}), a dual listed winner in England and victorious in the G3 Prix Texanita at Chantilly in 2023.

Golden Sixty (Aus) (Medaglia d'Oro) will try to win the G1 FWD Champions Mile for a record fourth time in what could be his final career appearance. The 8-year-old, a three-time Horse of the Year, will have the services of Vincent Ho as they look for an 11th Group 1 success together. Hong Kong Derby runner-up **Galaxy Patch (Aus)** (Wandjina {Aus}) drops back to the 1600 metres in a race that has also attracted All-Star Mile winner **Obamburumai (Jpn)** (Discreet Cat), beaten under three lengths in last weekend's G1 Doncaster Mile H. at Randwick, and Middle Park Racing LX's **Brave Emperor (Ire)** (Sioux Nation), a stakes winner in no fewer than five different jurisdictions for trainer Archie Watson, including the Listed Irish Thoroughbred Marketing Cup in Qatar Feb. 17.

"FWD Champions Day is one of the most prestigious meetings on the international racing stage and we are delighted to have such a strong group of world-class horses heading to Sha Tin for our spring flagship meeting," said Andrew Harding, executive director, racing, for the Hong Kong Jockey Club. "With eight visitors from Japan and three from Great Britain, the might of Hong Kong's team will be tested in all three feature races."

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REBEL'S ROMANCE TO TAKE HIS SHOW BACK ON THE ROAD



Rebel's Romance | Horsephotos

Godolphin's **Rebel's Romance (Ire)** (Dubawi {Ire}), who won the Listed HH The Amir Trophy in Qatar before causing a mild surprise over a star-studded field in the G1 Longines Dubai Sheema Classic Mar. 30, is scheduled to travel overseas yet again for his next start.

“He shipped back to Newmarket a couple of days ago, shipped well, and I think we'll stick with plan A and probably head to Hong Kong for the [May 26 G1 Standard Chartered] Champions and Chater there,” trainer Charlie Appleby told Equidia's Katherine Ford Callier at Deauville Apr. 9.

Having won a pair of Group 1s in Germany and the GI Longines Breeders' Cup Turf in 2022, the homebred endured a string of bad luck when winless last season—including a spill in a race at Saratoga—but hinted at a return to his better form when taking out the Listed Wild Flower S. over the Kempton all-weather in December. The 6-year-old made the majority of the running in the Amir Trophy to win by a convincing three lengths and sat just off a moderate tempo in the Sheema Classic, pouncing late to best Shahryar (Jpn) (Deep Impact {Jpn}) by two lengths.

“It's a program we put in place before the Sheema Classic,” Appleby said of the trip to Hong Kong. “We know he enjoys his traveling, as long as he's traveling in and out within a certain period, but importantly, he likes that style of track and that style of racing. So that's our plan to go to the Champions and Chater.”

Rebel's Romance is likely to come up against **Russian Emperor (Ire)** (Galileo {Ire}), who has capped off each of his last two seasons in Hong Kong with victories in the Champions and Chater Cup, as well as the dual group-winning **Straight Arron (Aus)** (Fastnet Rock {Aus}), a meritorious sixth in the Mar. 30 G1 Dubai Turf over an insufficient 1800 metres.

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ASIA

Wednesday's Result:

TOKYO SPRINT-Listed (Jpn-G3), ¥51,0900,000, Oi, 4-10, 4yo/up, 1200m, 1:12.30, hy.

1--**JUSTIN (JPN)**, 126, h, 8, by Orfevre (Jpn)

1st Dam: Synesthesia, by Gone West

2nd Dam: Honest Cause, by Giant's Causeway

3rd Dam: Quite Honestly, by Believe It


O-Yoshio Oda; B-Reiji Amaba (Jpn); T-Hidemitsu Sakai; J-Keita Nishi; ¥30,000,000. Lifetime Record: GSW-Jpn, 38-10-3-3, ¥286,588,000.

2--**Kurojishi Joe (Jpn)**, 123, h, 5, Furioso (Jpn)--Silence Love (Jpn), by Special Week (Jpn). O-Takao Kawauchi; B-Masuo Farm (Jpn); ¥10,500,000.

3--**T M Tokkyu (Jpn)**, 123, h, 6, Lord Kanaloa (Jpn)--Agnes Natural (Jpn), by Sakura Bakushin O (Jpn). O-Masatsugu Takezono; B-Kosho Farm (Jpn); ¥6,000,000.

Margins: 2, 2, 1 1/4. Odds: 13.40, 4.40, 1.70.

Also Ran: Helios (Jpn), Rgyal Dar (Jpn), Maru Mori Special (Jpn), Boiler House (Jpn), Arms Reign (Jpn), Gishigishi (Jpn), Praelude (Jpn), Apollo Bibi (Jpn), Melt (Jpn), Snark da Vinci (Jpn), Kyudokun. **Click for the [NAR chart and video](#).**

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