

BILL OPPENHEIM'S APEX RATINGS

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WEDNESDAY, JAN. 22, 2003

FARDA AMIGA BOOKED TO GONE WEST

Farda Amiga (Broad Brush--Fly North, by Pleasant Colony), a leading candidate for champion three-year-old filly, will be bred to **Gone West** this year. The four-year-old filly, currently at Taylor Made Farm near Nicholasville, Kentucky, captured last year's GI Kentucky Oaks and GI Alabama. She concluded her career with a runner-up finish behind Azeri in the Breeders' Cup Distaff. "Her owners looked at a number of the top Kentucky stallions and **Gone West** just had a great year last year," Taylor Made's Steve Castagnola told *Thoroughbred Times*. "They wanted to breed her to a proven horse this year, especially with this being her first season."



Farda Amiga
Four Footed Fotos

PAOLINI GERMAN HORSE OF THE YEAR

In a poll conducted by TV station WDR, **Paolini (Ger)** (Lando {Ger}) has been awarded the German Horse of the Year title, despite not running in Germany nor winning a race during 2002. Although he didn't get his head in front last season, the chestnut was still Germany's highest earner with over €1 million in prizemoney. The Andreas Wohler-trained runner gained international recognition with runner-up finishes in the G1 Singapore Airlines International Cup and G1 Hong Kong Cup. Now six, he secured 54 percent of the 30,000 votes cast, ahead of the G1 German Derby first and second **Next Desert (Ire)** (Desert Style {Ire}) and **Salve Regina (Ger)** (Monsun {Ger}), who scored 24 percent and 22 percent, respectively.

BE MY GUEST AS BROODMARE SIRE OF GROUP 1 WINNERS

Horse (Sire)

Shamshire (Kris)	Bachir (Desert Style)
Principality (Victory Prince)	John's Call (Lord at War)
Stateway (Free State)	Holding Court (Hernando)
Tomba (Efisio)	Rock of Gibraltar (Danehill)

Courtesy [Werk Thoroughbred Consultants](#)

BE MY GUEST PENSIONED

Be My Guest (Northern Dancer--What a Treat, by *Tudor Minstrel) has been pensioned from stud duties and will remain at Coolmore Stud in Ireland, according to *Racing Post*. The chestnut set a European record when he sold for 125,000gns at Goffs as a yearling in 1975 and went on to capture the G2 Waterford Crystal Mile, the G3 Blue Riband Trial and the G3 Desmond S. as a three-year-old under the tutelage of Vincent O'Brien. **Be My Guest** got off to a quick start at stud, siring classic winners **Assert (Ire)** and **On the House (Fr)** in his first crop; their exploits helped him achieve champion sire status for 1982. Through the end of 2002, **Be My Guest** had sired 60 stakes winners, including **Pentire (GB)**, hero of the 1996 G1 King George VI and Queen Elizabeth S.; co-champion French miler **Luth Enchantee (Fr)**; and GI Belmont S. victor **Go and Go (Ire)**. As a broodmare sire, he has been represented by classic winners **Bachir (Ire)** and **Holding Court (GB)** in addition to 2002 champion **Rock of Gibraltar (Ire)**.

WITH ABILITY RETIRED

With Ability (A.P. Indy--Withallprobability, by Mr. Prospector), owned and bred by Edward Evans, has



With Ability
Adam Coglianese

been retired from racing and will be bred to **Giant's Causeway**. The five-year-old mare won last year's GIII Sixty Sails H. and GIII Next Move H. She was second in the GII Fleur de Lis H. On the board in 13 starts, **With Ability** won seven races and earned \$558,124.

GROUP/GRADE I WINNERS BY BE MY GUEST

Free Guest (Jim French)	Pelder (Troy)
Luth Enchantee (Luthier)	Pentire (Mill Reef)
Double Bed (Welsh Saint)	On the House (Lorenzaccio)
Go and Go (Alleged)	Assert (Sea-Bird)
	Valentine Waltz (Kings Lake)

Courtesy [Werk Thoroughbred Consultants](#)

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FROM THE DESK OF...
Bill Oppenheim



DANZIG DETHRONES A.P. INDY: 2002 APEX RATINGS

'Tis the season for year-end ratings and assessments, and time for me to weigh in with the first installment of 2002 APEX (Annual Progeny Earnings index) ratings, covering the seven years of racing, 1996-2002, in North America (U.S. and Canada), 'Europe' (for these purposes, Great Britain, Ireland, France, and Germany), and Japan. After four straight years as the world's top sire, [A.P. Indy](#) has been dethroned by the great [Danzig](#) as the World Number One, at least by this measurement.

To make a long story as short as possible, APEX ratings measure a sire's consistency in siring class horses over the previous seven years. It is therefore a career figure (this year) for stallions whose first foals were born 1994-99. Sires are not ranked until their first three-year-olds have run, and the purpose of the seven-year rolling ratings is mainly so we can see whether veteran sires are maintaining their career achievements, or declining as they get older (usually through declining opportunity).

APEX ratings measure a stallion's consistency in siring horses who can compete at three class levels in different countries. It is similar to an average-earnings index in that it is based on annual earnings figures, but it avoids the problem of one big earner distorting the rating. The top two percent of earners, wherever we're measuring, are designated, 'A Runners;' the next two percent are 'B Runners;' and the next four percent are 'C Runners.' So the top eight percent of earners are designated as 'ABC Runners.' The levels are calculated separately for three regions: North America (U.S. and Canada combined); Europe, which consists of three sub-regions (Great Britain/Ireland, France and Germany); and Japan. *Cont. p. 4*

**WORLD TOP 40 SIRES
 APEX 'A RUNNER' INDEX, 1996-2002
 (100+ Year-Starters)**

Sire (year of 1st foals, stands)	Year-Starters	A Runners	A Runner Index
1 Danzig (1982, Ky)	662	73	5.51
2 A.P. Indy (1994, Ky)	636	68	5.35
3 Storm Cat (1989, Ky)	948	101	5.33
4 Nureyev (1982, dead)	673	70	5.20
5 Pivotal (1998, GB)	129	12	4.65
6 Sadler's Wells (1986, Ire)	1300	114	4.38
7 Monsun (1997, Ger)	190	16	4.21
=8 Mr. Prospector (1976, dead)	561	47	4.19
=8 Unbridled's Song (1998, Ky)	191	16	4.19
10 Danehill (1991, Ire)	185	97	4.09
11 Kingmambo (1995, Ky)	532	43	4.04
12 Broad Brush (1989, Ky)	865	68	3.93
13 Rainbow Quest (1987, GB)	695	53	3.81
14 Deputy Minister (1985, Ky)	805	61	3.79
15 Sunday Silence (1992, dead)	1901	143	3.76
16 Machiavellian (1992, GB)	605	45	3.72
17 Sefapiano (1995, Ky)	136	10	3.68
18 Montbrook (1996, Fl)	316	23	3.64
19 Smart Strike (1998, Ky)	193	14	3.63
20 In The Wings (1992, Ire)	417	30	3.60
21 Seattle Slew (1980, dead)	587	41	3.49
22 Unbridled (1993, dead)	600	41	3.42
23 Rizzi (1997, NY)	220	15	3.41
24 Seeking the Gold (1991, Ky)	766	51	3.33
25 In Excess (1994, Ca)	425	28	3.29
26 Cozzene (1987, Ky)	747	47	3.15
27 Dancing Brave (1988, dead)	400	25	3.13
28 General Meeting (1993, Ca)	434	27	3.11
29 Pleasant Tap (1994, Ky)	423	26	3.07
30 Theatrical (1989, Ky)	850	52	3.06
31 Rahy (1991, Ky)	859	52	3.03
32 Selkirk (1994, GB)	529	31	2.93
33 Summer Squall (1993, Ky)	624	36	2.88
34 Doyoun (1990, dead)	356	20	2.81
35 Generous (1993, GB)	591	33	2.79
36 Forty Niner (1990, Japan)	743	41	2.76
37 Darshaan (1986, dead)	676	37	2.74
38 Desert Style (1997, Ire)	168	9	2.68
39 Lando (1997, Ger)	150	8	2.67
40 Not for Love (1997, Md)	319	17	2.66

KING CUGAT

Kingmambo - Tricky Game, by Majestic Light

On the board in 15 of 16 starts... 14 stakes wins/placings... 6 stakes wins... 4 graded wins... earned \$1.3 million... from the top sire family of Seeking the Gold by Leading Sire Kingmambo.



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**WEEKEND PEDIGREE
PERSPECTIVES**

by Alan Porter

SANTA YNEZ S.-GII, \$150,000, SAX, 1-20, 3yo, f, 7f, 1:23, ft.

1--**ELLOLUV**, 121, f, 3, by [Gilded Time](#)

1st Dam: **Currency Quest (SW)**, by **Cryptoclearance**

2nd Dam: **Crystal Blaze**, by **Spectacular Bid**

3rd Dam: **Stiff Breeze**, by **Never Bend**

(\$120,000 2yo 2002 KEEAPR). O-John Reddam; B-North Wales LLC (KY); T-C Dollase; J-P Valenzuela; \$90,000. Lifetime Record: 4-3-0-1, \$332,700.

Click for the [free brisnet.com catalogue-style pedigree](#).

Some while ago, in a study on "Undervalued Broodmare Sires," we cited Cryptoclearance as a horse to watch. Although he is in the early stages of his career in that role, Cryptoclearance has some features which gave his daughters greater than average appeal, especially as they are likely to be obtainable at reasonable prices. One of the first of his encouraging attributes is the fact that he had stamina. While this might almost be a liability for a commercial sire, as a broodmare sire this tends to be an advantage, staying horses generally conveying something more in terms of the cardiovascular system (which might be particularly relevant with regard to broodmare sires, as there is evidence there is an element of sex-related inheritance affecting these functions).

On the racing front, it could also be noted that Cryptoclearance was a very durable performer, starting 44 times over four seasons on his way to earnings of \$3,376,327. And although he's spent most of his career as a mid-priced sire, Cryptoclearance has proved able to transmit plenty of class, his representatives including champion and classic winner Victory Gallop, Canadian champion and classic winner Cryptocloser, GI Breeders' Cup Classic victor

Volponi, and other Grade I winners Millennium Wind, Strategic Maneuver and Traitor. Cryptoclearance also appeals as a broodmare sire on pedigree, as he is by Fappiano out of a mare by Hoist the Flag, from the excellent Alablue family.

Cryptoclearance mares certainly enjoyed a good few days recently, with Valhol winning Saturday's Maxxam Gold Cup to take his earnings to \$444,850 and Elloluv dominating the GII Santa Ynez S. on Monday. A surprise winner of the GI Hollywood Starlet S. in only her third lifetime start, Elloluv was second choice for the Santa Ynez, and had no trouble landing the odds by a comfortable 2½ lengths. The Santa Ynez victory also demonstrated considerable versatility on the part of the three-year-old filly, since she was dropping back to seven furlongs from the 8½ furlongs of the Starlet.

Elloluv is a member of the sixth crop sired by Gilded Time, champion two-year-old of 1992 and the champion freshman sire of 1997. Like Elloluv, Gilded Time took very few starts to demonstrate ownership of both high-class speed and a reasonable degree of stamina. He was undefeated in four two-year-old outings, with stakes victories coming in the GII Sapling S., where he blitzed six furlongs in a track record time of 1:07.4; the one-mile GII Arlington-Washington Futurity, which he took by 5½ lengths; and the 8½-furlong GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile. Following the Breeders' Cup, an injury kept Gilded Time away from competition for a full 12 months, and on his return, he put up a remarkable display to finish a close third to Cardmania in the GI Breeders' Cup Sprint.

A son of Timeless Moment and a grandson of Damascus, Gilded Time has emerged as the premier standard bearer for his sire line. Sire to date of 30 stakes winners, Gilded Time had something of a breakout year in 2002, as he was represented by his first Grade I scorers Mandy's Gold and Elloluv. His other group and graded stakes winners include Crystal Castle, who won group sprints in England and France last year; Elaborate; Time Limit; Early Flyer; Added Gold; Old Topper; and Lasersport.

Pedigree Perspectives cont. p. 4



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(Pedigree Perspectives cont. from p. 3)

In the current era, Gilded Time's pedigree is given particular value as he is free of both Mr. Prospector and Northern Dancer. He has already produced graded stakes winners out of mares from both sire lines, although having an especial affinity for mares from the Mr. Prospector line, this cross having yielded seven stakes winners, including Elloluv, Elaborate, Crystal Castle, Added Gold and Lasersport.

The success of the Gilded Time/Mr. Prospector combination comes as no surprise when you compare the pedigrees of Mr. Prospector and Hour of Parting, the dam of Gilded Time's sire, Timeless Moment. Hour of Parting is by Native Dancer out of a Count Fleet mare, and her third dam is by Bull Dog. Mr. Prospector is by a son of Native Dancer, and his granddam is by Count Fleet out of a Bull Dog mare.

Elloluv's dam, Currency Quest, a minor stakes winner, is out of a mare by Spectacular Bid. Since Gilded Time's dam is by What a Pleasure, Elloluv also has a double of Bold Ruler, and both Gilded Time's dam, Gilded Lilly, and Spectacular Bid's sire, Bold Bidder, combine Bold Ruler and Princequillo. The Bold Ruler double is found in at least four other Gilded Time stakes winners, including Elloluv's fellow GISW, Mandy's Gold. There is actually some similarity between the pedigree of Mandy's Gold's dam and the granddam of Elloluv, as Mandy's Gold's dam is by a grandson of Never Bend (by Bold Ruler's sire, Nasrullah), out of a mare by a son of Bold Ruler, where Elloluv's granddam is by a grandson of Bold Ruler out of a mare by Never Bend.

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(Bill Oppenheim cont. from p. 2)

Say there are 50,000 runners in a year, for example, in North America by qualifying stallions--they have to have had 10+ three-year-old foals in the last year covered, so to be rated this year, they had to have 10+ foals of 1999 (1188 stallions did). The top 1,000 earners in North America would then be 'A Runners.' If a sire had 100 runners, he would have an 'A Index' of 1.00 if two of his 100 were among the top 1,000 earners; if he had one, his A Index would be 0.50; if he had four, it would be 2.00, etc. Danzig had 662 year-starters (each horse by him counts as one runner each year he runs) 1996-2002; 73 of them (11.02 percent) were A Runners, so, dividing 11.02 by 2.00, Danzig's 1996-2002 A Runner Index was 5.51. Easy, huh?

Eleven stallions registered APEX A Runner Indices of 4.00+, meaning over eight percent of their runners reached the top earnings category. Besides Danzig (5.51) and A.P. Indy (5.35), [Storm Cat](#) (5.33) and [Nureyev](#) (5.20) also had more than 10 percent A Runners from 1996-2002 year-starters, for A Runner indices over 5.00.

I've talked plenty about what a strong group the North American sires with first foals of 1998 (four-year-olds of 2002) appear to be, but it is the top European from the same sire group, Nureyev's grandson Pivotal, who actually registers the highest mark with an APEX A Index of 4.65, ranking him fifth among all sires. He is one of three sires with first foals of 1998 to hit the top 20, along with Unbridled's Song (4.19, tied for eighth) and [Smart Strike](#) (3.63, 19th).

The venerable Sadler's Wells (4.38, with a massive 1,300 year-starters 1996-2002) ranks sixth, followed by Germany's top sire, Monsun (4.21); then Mr. Prospector and Unbridled's Song tied for eighth (4.19); Danehill (4.09--it was only a few years ago he was under 3.00, the increase reflected by his leading all European and American sires with 17 new 2002 A Runners); and [Kingmambo](#) (4.04). By this standard, these are the world's current 'Top 11.'

Bill Oppenheim cont. p. 5

Back-to-Back Graded Stakes Wins

for 3YO Filly **ELLOLUV**
Hollywood Starlet • Santa Ynez



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Gilded Time \$15,000
59 Stakes Horses, \$20 Million in 6 Crops





(Bill Oppenheim cont. from p. 4)

Just a couple of other notes on the accompanying tables. You'll no doubt be as surprised as I was to see a horse called Sefapiano (3.68) ranked 17th. A son of Fappiano, he made his money by dominating racing in Michigan, where he stood his first few years at stud. He's now moved to Kentucky. The leading sire in Florida is now Montbrook, a son of Buckaroo whose first five crops have earned him an APEX A Index of 3.64, ranking 18th in the world. Considering the company he's keeping on this list, he's a horse whose name you're likely to hear called a lot more from now on.

The second table is a list of the top sires of new A Runners in 2002--today's hottest sires. Sunday Silence towers over the sire rankings in Japan. I think I recently saw that his runners made over \$50 million last year. He has had over 270 runners a season the last seven years, and his 143 A Runners in that period, and 22 last year, leads all sires in both those categories. Danehill, as mentioned, had 17 new A Runners last year, followed by Storm Cat (12), A.P. Indy (11) and Sadler's Wells and Royal Academy with 10 each. Royal Academy looks significantly undervalued now at his \$20,000 fee; his first Kentucky crop were foals of 1999, and he had no fewer than six new A Runner colts from that crop last year. Night Shift, who was 22 last year, did indeed have a Career Year, with nine new A Runners, tied with Kingmambo, while the evergreen Broad Brush, Dehere, and Saint Ballado had eight each.

This list only scratches the surface, so in coming weeks we shall be looking at more APEX ratings from various angles. Each sire, as I mentioned, is rated at three class levels (A Runners, B Runners, and C Runners, plus combined ABC Runners); in three regions (A.P. Indy is now 0-for-52 for A Runners in Europe, otherwise he would surely be the world's top sire now); and at four ages: 2yos, 3yos, 4yos, and 5yos-plus (those are for ABC Runners combined). So there's plenty to chew over. We shall try to cover as much ground as possible, and again this year the complete ratings for all 1,188 sires will be published in the *Blood-Horse* supplement, "Sires of 2002." There is also a website in development which I hope will open up all sorts of interactive possibilities for pedigree analysis, based on the APEX ratings and A Runners. So, as we like to say...Stay tuned.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY...

January 23, 1994...Pat Day, at age 40, became the 10th rider in North American racing history to ride 6,000 winners when he rode Miss Popsnorkle to victory in the first race at Oaklawn Park.

January 24, 1974...Jockey Chris McCarron rode his first race, in which he finished last aboard Most Active at Bowie Racecourse.

January 26, 1950...Citation's 16-race win streak came to an end in the La Sorpresa Handicap at Santa Anita. Despite giving 16 pounds to the winner, Miche, Citation, carrying 130 pounds, lost only by a neck.

Courtesy of the National Thoroughbred Racing Association.

CORRECTION: The "Pedigree Insights" column in the Jan. 21 edition of the *TDN* incorrectly stated the number of Northern Hemisphere stakes winners for Unbridled's Song. The Taylor Made stallion has 12 stakes winners in the Northern Hemisphere.

Top Ten (+ ties) Sires of New 'A Runners', 2002	
Sire (stands)	A Runners
1 Sunday Silence (dead)	22
2 Danehill (Ire)	17
3 Storm Cat (Ky)	12
4 A.P. Indy (Ky)	11
= 5 Sadler's Wells (Ire)	10
Royal Academy (Ky)	10
= 7 Kingmambo (Ky)	9
Night Shift (Ire)	9
= 9 Broad Brush (Ky)	8
Dehere (Jpn)	8
Saint Ballado (dead)	8

11 individual Stakes Winners from his first 2 crops including Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies-Gr.1 winner CARESSING **14 individual 2YO winners in 2002 from his 3rd crop including Natalma S.-Gr.3 winner ONE AND TWENTY**

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 **NORTH AMERICA** 

★ **CENTRAL** ★

HOLLYWOOD BOOSTS JIM MURRAY PURSE

Hollywood Park has raised the purse of the Jim Murray Memorial H. from \$75,000 to \$400,000 for the 2003 renewal of the 1 1/2-mile race. It will be run May 10 in conjunction with the first annual *L.A. Times* Sports Workshop for aspiring sports journalists. The workshop, honoring Pulitzer prize-winning *Times* columnist Jim Murray, will run from May 7 through 10 at Hollywood Park under the direction of *The Times* sports staff. "Jim Murray was a great friend to horse racing," said Rick Baedeker, president of Hollywood Park. "We are pleased to join with the Los Angeles Times in introducing young journalists to a sport Jim loved." College students selected for the workshop will be given the opportunity to work with *The Times* editors on stories, with the best printed in a supplement to the official racing program on May 10. Hollywood Park's May 10 program will also include the \$200,000 GIII Los Angeles Times H., formerly known as the Los Angeles H., and the \$150,000 GII Mervyn LeRoy H.

Wild Wonder to Spendthrift:

The Winchell Family's nine-year-old **Wild Wonder** (Wild Again--Carol's Wonder, by Pass the Tab) will move to Spendthrift Farm near Lexington, Kentucky, for the 2003 breeding season. His stud fee will be \$5,000 live foal. The grey stallion had previously stood at Dunhill Stud in Ocala, Florida; his first crop will hit the track later this year. As a racehorse, Wild Wonder captured three graded stakes in earning \$639,036, setting a track record of 1:33.2 in winning the GIII Longacres Mile in 1998.

A # will distinguish first-time stakes-winners, a **@** will indicate first-time graded stakes-winners, a **▲** will denote a first-time Grade/Group 1 winner, a **+** will first-time starters, an **(S)** will be used for state-bred races, a **(C)** will be used for maiden-claiming races and an **(R)** will be used for other restricted races. Purses for Canadian races are in Canadian dollars.

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STAKES CLOSINGS

TODAY, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22:

02-01 \$150,000a **Fair Grounds Breeders' Cup**,
FG, 4yo/up, 9fT (50)



TOMORROW, THURSDAY, JANUARY 23:

02-01 \$400,000 **Strub-II, SA**, 4yo, 9f (400)

02-01 \$150,000 **San Vicente-II, SA**, 3yo, 7f (150)

02-02 \$250,000 **San Antonio H.-II, SA**, 4yo/up, 9f (250)

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WEDNESDAY'S ENTRIES

**GPX-6th, Msw, post time: 3:25 p.m. EST
CERTIFICATION (c, 3, Southern Halo--Salty Gal, by
Cox's Ridge) B-Beth H Clifton (Ky).**

A \$420,000 **KEESEP** yearling, *Certification* disappointed as the 6-5 chalk when eighth in his bow over the main track at Keeneland in mid-October, but closed well to be fifth, despite checking early, in his first go at two turns over Calder's lawn Dec. 7. He'll stick to the green stuff here in this nine-furlong event. The Todd Pletcher trainee is the third foal out of the winning mare *Salty Gal*, whose first foal, *Mongoose (Broad Brush)*, won the *GI Donn H.* last year and who entered stud at Hill 'n' Dale in 2003.

★ AMERICAN-BRED WINNERS ★

IN BRITAIN:

Caesarean Hunter, g, 4, Jade Hunter--Grey Fay, by Grey Dawn II (Fr). Southwell, 1-21, Hcp., 4yo/up, 1 3/16m (AWT). B-Lee R Oakford. *\$21,000 wnl '99 KEENOV; lr£44,000 yrl '00 GOF OCT.

IN FRANCE:

Maestria, f, 3, Gentlemen (Arg) (See *European Breeders' Edition*)

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SOPHOMORE SPOTLIGHT

First-crop progeny to watch: Wednesday, Jan. 22

*Sire (Sire's Sire), Farm, 1998 Fee, #foals of racing age/Winners/SW
Race #-track, race type, distance, runner, odds (if available)*

- AWESOME AGAIN** (Deputy Minister), Adena, \$50K, 148/10/2 4-CT, Alw, 4 1/2f, Miss Awesome, \$9K KEE SEP yrl, 5-2
- DISTORTED HUMOR** (Forty Niner), Winstar, \$13K, 128/17/4 8-GP, Alw, 6f, Ritzy Dame, \$10K KEE SEP yrl, 15-1
- INDIAN CHARLIE** (In Excess {IRE}), Airdrie, \$10K, 149/16/1 6-GP, Msw, 1 1/8mT, Indian Run, \$80K OBS FEB 2yo, 10-1
- JOYEUX DANSEUR** (Nureyev), Lakeview, \$20K, 92/5/0 6-GP, Msw, 1 1/8mT, Mystic Hawk, 12-1
- KING OF KINGS (IRE)** (Sadler's Wells), Ashford, \$20K, 186/12/1 6-GP, Msw, 1 1/8mT, King of the World, \$300K KEE SEP yrl, 3-1
- LUCKY LIONEL** (Mt. Livermore), Adena, \$3K, 101/13/0 4-CT, Alw, 4 1/2f, Lionel's Lucky Hat, \$900 FTK OCT yrl, 3-1
- 8-GP, Alw, 6f, Crafty Brat, \$31K OBS APR 2yo, 6-1
- PARTNER'S HERO** (Danzig), Northview, \$8K, 112/15/1 8-GP, Alw, 6f, Joanie's Smile, \$62K EAS OCT yrl, 8-1
- TOUCH GOLD** (Deputy Minister), Adena, \$30K, 169/9/1 6-GP, Msw, 1 1/8mT, Tapster, \$90K KEE APR 2yo, 12-1

★ **EUROPE** ★

★ **FRANCE** ★

SIMON DU DESERT EST MORT

French-based sire **Simon du Desert (Fr)** (Kaldoun {Fr}) died of a heart attack last Sunday at his Haras du Berlais base. The 10-year-old stallion was a high class miler in France when trained by Robert Collet, winning the G3 Prix Edmond Blanc and placing in the G1 Prix d'Ispahan, G2 Prix du Muguet and G3 Prix Messidor. His passing was immediately emphasised on Monday when his four-year-old daughter *Reine du Desert (Fr)* raced to an easy success in the opening race at Cagnes-sur-Mer.



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★ BRITAIN ★

RANDOM BREATHALYZER TESTS FOR JOCKEYS

The Jockey Club has announced that it will begin administering random breathalyzer tests to jockeys in the next few months, according to *Racing Post*. "We've been trying to bring it in for some time, but it has been held up for practical and financial reasons," Jockey Club public relations director John Maxse told *Racing Post*. "I expect it to come into effect in the coming months. It will be an added piece of armoury to ensure the racecourse is as safe a place as possible. Alcohol would show up in urine samples now if riders were over the limit, but we've had only one alcohol positive come before the disciplinary panel. A breathalyzer is a more effective deterrent and would enable us to test more people." A rider found over the limit on the day of the test would be forced to take off his mounts and would be referred to the disciplinary committee for possible further action. Five-time British champion jockey Kieren Fallon recently admitted that he is receiving treatment for alcohol abuse.

GUNNER B DEAD

Gunner B (GB) (Royal Gunner), thought to be Europe's oldest active sire at the age of 30, died last weekend following a suspected heart attack at his Shade Oak Stud home. "He died in his box on Saturday," stud manager Peter Hockenhull told *Racing Post*. "It was quite peaceful and there wasn't a lot of struggle, it had all the classic signs of heart failure. It is extremely sad and his lass, Sue Titley, is devastated as she has looked after him for 13 years." Gunner B won the G3 Diomed S. and was second in the G3 Dante S. for trainer Geoff Toft before being moved to Henry Cecil. Under the tutelage of Cecil, he gained his biggest career victory in the 1978 G1 Eclipse S. and also won the G3 Earl of Sefton S., the G3 Brigadier Gerard S. and the G2 Prince of Wales's S. in the same season. He finished out of the first three only six times from 33 starts. "That toughness was equally, if not more, shown in his lesser horses," Hockenhull added. "A Gunner B would always win a race somewhere, somehow. He would have carried on [covering] this year as the physical side of covering was not a problem, though with his age he did have declining fertility."

INCREASE IN LISTED PORTFOLIO

The British Flat Pattern Panel has announced 23 new Listed races for the 2003 season, with fillies & mares and stayers enjoying the the best of the new program. The result is that Britain will stage a total of 145 Listed races during 2003. "This has been done on the back of the exercise we have been conducting over the last 18 months to correct the imbalance in the British programme, relative to the quality of horses trained in this country," British Horseracing Board controller of programmes Ruth Quinn told *Racing Post*. "We're very keen to improve the fillies' programme, with a view to stopping the mass exodus to the United States at the end of their three-year-old careers. We are not alone, and the EPC [European Pattern Committee] working party has been set up to examine this issue."



AUSTRALASIA



FLYING FINISH AT INGLIS CLASSIC Danehill's son Flying Spur (Aus) accounted for the top-priced yearling at the third and final Inglis Classic Yearling Sale session Tuesday in Sydney when agent Anton Koolman outstayed agent James Bester to secure [Lot 357](#) for A\$180,000. The colt, from the Dehere mare Nuance (Fr), is cleverly bred, as his fourth dam is Fanfreluche, which is also the immediate family of Flying Spur's granddam Grand Luxe. Koolman purchased the colt for Hong Kong trainer Ricky Yiu and the Sydney-based agent's recent Hong Kong successes include Dr. More and Hidden Dragon. "The thing with him was that his X-rays were 100 percent clear and that is vital for export to Hong Kong, and he is a real athlete," said Koolman. "His third dam, La Voyageuse, was champion Canadian filly and Fanfreluche has to be among the top 20 broodmares of the last 100 years. If this colt was offered at Easter he would have brought a lot more, he was the stand-out horse in the sale." The sale, with a catalogue expanded from 464 in 2002 to 507 this year, concluded with an average of A\$29,812 for 347 horses sold for an aggregate of A\$10,344,750. In 2002, a total of 342 sold at an average of A\$29,116 and gross of A\$9,958,000. The lack of any gain may have left some vendors, buoyed by a bullish Magic Millions sale that was boosted by the presence of 30 Danehill yearlings in its catalogue, somewhat disparaged. But local trainers were delighted with many declaring their purchases exceptional value for money. Gai Waterhouse was active, purchasing 10 yearlings. *Top lots, p4*



ASHKALANI - Sire of 6 Stakes Winners and 4 SP runners in 2002

Sire of 4 SWs and 7 SP runners in 2001 - Fee 2003: €10,000 October 1st

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**INGLIS CLASSIC YEARLING SALE
TUESDAY'S - TOP THREE LOTS**

Hip	Sex	Sire	Dam	Price (A\$)
357	c	Flying Spur (Aus)	Nuance (Fr)	180,000
Consigned by Kitchwin Hills, agent Purchased by Anton Koolman Bloodstock				
457	f	<u>Belong to Me</u>	Snarl (Aus)	140,000
Consigned by Boscobel Stud Purchased by David Lamond Bloodstock				
486	c	Fasliyev	Sveldte (Aus)	\$115,000
Consigned by Bowness Stud Purchased by Sutton Grange Racing				

**BREEDERS' EDITION
AMERICA**

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

9th-PHA, \$26,964, NW2X, 4yo/up, 1m, 1:38 3/5, ft.
HERO'S GLOW (c, 4, Ghazi--Glowing Gal, by Sunny's Halo) Lifetime Record: 10-3-1-1, \$64,235. O/B-Hidden Lane Farms Inc (PA). T-Guadalupe Preciado.

8th-MNR, \$25,000, 1-20, NW2L, 3yo, 5 1/2f, 1:05 1/5, gd.

LORDY LORDY LORDY (c, 3, Lord Carson--Conclusive, by Turkoman) Lifetime Record: 4-2-1-0, \$51,985. O-Phillip G Creek. B-Faye Smith (KY). T-Jake S Radosevich. *\$40,000 yrl '01 FTKJUL. **1/2 to Fortune N' Fame (Northern Park), SW, \$141,948.

9th-MNR, \$25,000, 1-20, NW2L, 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:12 2/5, gd.

FREE PLAY (f, 4, Mr. Greeley--Play Per View, by Sports View) Lifetime Record: 5-2-0-1, \$28,986. O-Donald J Baker. B-Beverley & Steve Tortora (FL). T-Chuck Lloyd. *\$11,000 yrl '00 OBSAUG.

10th-PHA, \$21,600, NW1X, 4yo/up, f/m, 6 1/2f, 1:18, ft.

KASHAGAWIGAMOG (m, 5, American Standard--Val's Tribute, by Great Gladiator) Lifetime Record: 33-5-5-3, \$77,817. O-Alzate Sandra Consuelo. B-Rachel Liston (ON). T-Alberto Plaza. *1/2 to David's Discovery (Secret Claim), SP, \$159,909.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Onebigbag, c, 3, Abaginone--Bah Bye (MSP, \$156,260), by Mاماison. SAX, 1-20, (S), 6 1/2f, 1:16. B-Clear Valley Stables & Ron Charles (Ca).
Watch and Wager, h, 5, Eastern Echo--Shenandoah (MSP), by Vice Regent. MNR, 1-20, (S), (C), 5f, :58 2/5. B-Stronach Stables (Fl). *\$10,000 wlng '98 OBSOCT; \$4,000 yrl '99 OBSAUG; \$16,000 2yo '00 OBSAPR.

**BREEDERS' EDITION
EUROPE**

CONDITIONS RESULTS:

FRANCE, Pau, 3.30, Cond, €20,000, 4yo/up, 6 1/2f (sand), 1:19.00, stn.

LE BILA (FR) (g, 6, Marignan--Fareham {Fr}, by Fast Topaze) Lifetime Record: 30 starts, 7 wins, 16 places, €109,448. O-Marquise de Villatoya; B-Bernard Barthe; T-Roman Martin-Sanchez.

FRANCE, Pau, 1.30, Cond, €18,000, 3yo, f, 7 1/2f (sand), 1:34.00, stn.

MAESTRIA (f, 3, Gentlemen {Arg}--Almost Logical, by Moscow Ballet) Lifetime Record: 7 starts, 2 wins, 2 places, €22,300. O-Mme Cyril Morange; B-J T L Jones Jr & R D Hubbard; T-Guy Henrot. *\$22,000 yrl '01 KEESEP.

FRANCE, Pau, 5.30, Cond, €15,000, 4yo/up, 1 3/16m (sand), 2:02.00, stn.

LEPTIS MAGNA (FR) (f, 4, Cardoun {Fr}--Legada {Fr}, by Legend of France) Lifetime Record: 19 starts, 2 wins, 13 places, €32,250. O-A Melara Manero; B-Zafonic SA; T-Roman Martin-Sanchez.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Grand Perri (Fr), c, 3, Zieten--Grey Perri (GB) (SW-Ger & GSP-Ity), by Siberian Express. Pau, France, 1-21, Cond, 3yo, c/g, 7 1/2f (sand). B-G Schneider. *FF150,000 yrl '01 DEAOCT.

Parachute (GB), g, 4, Hector Protector--Shortfall (GB) (SP-GB), by Last Tycoon (Ire). Southwell, Britain, 1-21, Mdn, 4yo/up, 1 1/2m (AWT). B-P D Player. *100,000gns yrl '00 TATOCT.

The **brisnet.com** 'Race of the Day' is the
9th Race at Gulfstream Park.
For pps and a complete race analysis, click [here](#).



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WRITERS UP

RANDOM THOUGHTS

By Bill Finley

Random thoughts on a brutally cold Tuesday afternoon in January...

Enough with the complaining and moaning already with the Eclipse Awards. So much has been written and said lately about how lousy the system is that decides our champions that one would think that a \$17,500 claimer was about to be named Horse of the Year. Okay, so a couple of people may have foolishly voted for Rock of Gibraltar for Horse of the Year and Bob Baffert probably deserved to be among the three finalists for top trainer. (Then again, what difference does it really make when Bobby Frankel figures to get 97 percent of the vote, and deservedly so?) The thing is that year after year, the Eclipse voters get it right. The right horses are made champions and, even in the case where there is a close call that sparks some healthy debate, the winner is never really unworthy. Change nothing. The system works just fine.

What has happened to the California riding colony? For years, it was accurately lauded as the best in the world. Now, Chris McCarron and Eddie Delahoussaye have retired, Gary Stevens is back and forth between injuries, retirements and his acting career and Kent Desormeaux was a stunningly bad 11th in the standings at the fall Hollywood meet. Not a single California-based rider was among the top five in the nation in earnings last year, with the best being sixth-place finisher Victor Espinoza. Credit should go to the two leading riders at Santa Anita. Pat Valenzuela has kept his head on straight for some time now and Laffit Pincay Jr. is nothing less than super human to be doing what he is doing at age 56, but where is the competition?

Cleared for Take Off...

Thanks to an incredible run at Gulfstream, Mike Gill is the leading owner in the country in both wins and money earned during this young year. Fourth in earnings last year and second in wins, he says he will lead both categories this year and there's little doubt that he will. Gill has been so aggressive at Gulfstream that his trainer, Mark Shuman, is making a mockery of the training race. He was 19 winners at the meet. Dale Romans and Tim Hills are tied for second with five apiece. One would think Gill is knocking them dead financially. Not so. He admits he loses money, which is pretty damning evidence as to how hard it is for an owner to succeed. If the leading owner in the country can't make money, who does? "You don't go into this business for profit," he said. "If you do, you better hope to get awful lucky. For me, it's about enjoyment."

Killjoy Was Here...

Hate to be a killjoy amid all the excitement that has been drummed up by the possibility that there will be even more racinos in the near future (in Maryland and Pennsylvania) and more obscenely high purses, but is anyone paying attention to what is going on at Prairie Meadows, the track that started slot madness? Expenses are up, the government desperately needs more money, slot revenues have fallen short of expectations, local business leaders are griping that so much money goes to purses, yadda, yadda, yadda. Anyway, under a new five-year contract just signed with the horsemen, Prairie Meadows total purses have been cut from \$20 million to \$15 million for 2003 and the purses of many of the track's stakes races have been cut. When do cash-starved governments start thinking that maybe they deserve more of the slot millions and the race-tracks deserve less? Be afraid.

TDN CRITERIA

The races covered in the TDN are as follows:

- Stakes** - purses of \$35,000/up
- Allowance Races** - purses of \$20,000/up
- Optional Claiming Races** - purses of \$20,000/up and a minimum claiming price of \$25,000
- Maiden Special Weight Races** - purses of \$18,000/up
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TDN TODAY

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