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NEWS**

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**THURSDAY, FEB. 27, 2003**

**STORM FLAG FLYING HEADS OAKS NOMS**

Champion **Storm Flag Flying** (Storm Cat) leads a list of 138 sophomore fillies who have been nominated to the GI Kentucky Oaks at Churchill Downs May 2. The undefeated daughter of My Flag, who ran fifth in the 1996 Oaks, is currently in training for her return to the races in the Mar. 14 GIII Stonerside Forward Gal S. at Gulfstream Park. Also prominent on the list of nominees is Bob and Beverly Lewis' **Composure** (Touch Gold), recent winner of the GI Las Virgenes S. and runner-up in the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies, and GI Hollywood Starlet winner **Elloluv** (Gilded Time), a close second to Composure in the Las Virgenes. Claiborne Farms' **Yell** (A.P. Indy) proved her mettle with a powerful victory over **Ivanavinalot**



**Storm Flag Flying (left),  
Composure top Oaks noms**  
*Adam Coglianesse photo*

(West Acre) in last Sunday's GII Davona Dale S., while undefeated **Lady Tak** (Mutakddim) is preparing for a battle with GIII Silverbulletday S. winner **Belle of Perintown** (Dehere) in the GII Fair Grounds Oaks Mar. 8. Godolphin has nominated eight of its three-year-old fillies to the Oaks, headlined by **Danuta** (Sunday Silence), who defeated stablemate **Ashraaf** (Deputy Minister) by 7 3/4 lengths in the Moonshell Mile in Dubai Feb. 20. For a complete list of the nominees, click [here](#).

**SKY MESA SUFFERS SLIGHT SETBACK**

**Sky Mesa** (Pulpit) became one of several high-profile Triple Crown nominees to lose training time recently after his connections announced that the unbeaten Grade I winner had bruised a quarter while training at Gulfstream Saturday, the *Thoroughbred Times* reports. "A set of horses galloped by him, so he jumped up and got a pretty bad bruise on his quarter," said trainer John T. Ward, Jr. "These young horses get spooked so easily. We hope to have him back on the racetrack this weekend. Everyone asks what the plan is for him, and I never say because I don't want the horses to make a liar out of me. We let them dictate what they do next."

**SERENA'S TWO-YEAR-OLD TO IRELAND**

A half-interest in **Grand Reward** (Storm Cat), Serena's Song's two-year-old colt of this year, has been sold to the Coolmore team and the full brother to Group 1 winner Sophisticat is currently training in Ireland with Aidan O'Brien. Breeder Bob Lewis said that the agreement was reached last fall and finalized this month. Lewis and his wife Beverly have retained a 50-percent interest in the colt. "Mrs. Lewis and I are pleased to have Coolmore and the Magnier/Tabor interests involved with the horse," he said. "I spoke with Mr. Magnier's close associate Clem Murphy [yesterday] morning and he reported that Aidan O'Brien is extremely pleased with the way he's been training. So we are eagerly anticipating his running as a two-year-old." Lewis said the colt will be registered in the names of Mr. Michael Tabor, Mrs. Susan Magnier and Beverly Lewis. Of the association, he said, "[The Coolmore team] admired the colt and his structure and conformation and John Magnier asked if we would consider sending him to Ireland. We feel very privileged to be associated with them." While he is in Europe, Grand Reward will run in the Coolmore colors. The fourth foal from his 11-time Grade I-winning dam, Grand Reward was raised at Denali Stud in Paris, Kentucky, and was special from day one, said Denali owner Craig Bandoroff. "A lot of people I really respect said he was the best yearling they ever saw," he said. "He's a fancy, fancy dude. It would be hard to imagine he wouldn't be a racehorse. He's a pretty exciting proposition. All of her foals are fancy and they're just that way from the moment they come out of her." Serena's Song is also the dam of MSW Serena's Tune (Mr. Prospector) and has a yearling colt by Unbridled. The farm welcomed her sixth foal, another Storm Cat filly, at Denali Sunday morning at 3:30 a.m. "It's a magnificent filly," said Lewis. "A very large and handsome, good-looking filly. We're so proud of her, and now she has given us three colts and three fillies." Serena's Song is booked back to Storm Cat for 2003.

**TDN TODAY**  
**Headline News . . . . . 5 pages**



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**FROM THE DESK OF...**  
**Bill Oppenheim**



**THE ROYAL ASCOT OF JUMPING**

A week from next Tuesday, at 9 a.m. East Coast time, the three-day Cheltenham Festival of National Hunt Racing (Mar. 11-13) will kick off, with a packed house of more than 50,000 devotees. These are the grown-up racehorses, mainly aged six to 10, who leap tall fences with a single bound (when things go according to plan) and ignite the enthusiasm of tens of thousands of racegoers. Being an American from west of the Appalachians, I didn't know much about it when I became a resident of the big island Across the Pond, but I've developed a lot of respect and admiration for the competitors, both equine and human.

**A Jumps Primer...**

There are two branches of jump racing, hurdles (smaller) and 'chases (bigger), and, at the sport's championship meeting, the distances range from two miles to three miles-plus. The vast majority of the horses are Thoroughbreds, and a pretty significant number of them come off the flat, especially in 'shorter' races over the smaller obstacles. Horses are 'novice hurdlers' until the end of the first season in which they win a race over hurdles and 'novice chasers', using the same criteria, over fences; besides the championship events in each category, the novice championships are among the meet's most interesting races.

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**Let's Get on With the Show...**

Here is a rundown on the two top 'early-price' races (fixed-odds prices are available now, and have been) each day:

**Tuesday, March 11**

**CHAMPION HURDLE, £300,000, 2m 1/2f**

**Istabraq** ([Sadler's Wells](#)--Betty's Secret, by Secretariat), a three-quarter brother to 1984 Epsom Derby winner Secreto, was a three-time winner of the Champion Hurdle 1998-2000, and without doubt, the best hurdler I've seen in the 10 years I've been watching jump racing. His retirement after being pulled up last year when bidding for his fourth straight win (there was no Cheltenham in 2001, due to foot-and-mouth) makes this year's renewal a pretty open-looking contest. Last year's winner, French-bred **Hors La Loi III** (by Arctic Tern's son, Cyborg, winner of six races on the flat and nine over jumps in France) is a 16-1 outsider, not having won since.

**The favorites:**

**Rhinestone Cowboy**, g, 7, (by Be My Native, a champion jumps sire and son of Our Native who ran second in the 1981 Dewhurst and won the G1 Coronation Cup at four). Owned by Sue (Mrs. John) Magnier. Beaten once in his life; 2-1 favorite.

**Intersky Falcon** (Polar Falcon), g, 6, flat-bred, in fact, out of a Try My Best mare, so inbred 3x3 to Northern Dancer. Trained, like the favorite, by Jonjo O'Neill, favored to dethrone Martin Pipe (the Wayne Lukas of British jump racing, at least in terms of rewriting the record books) as the meet's leading trainer; 4-1 second favorite.

**Rooster Booster** (Riverwise), g, 9, and has graduated from handicapping this season. I think his sire is a son of Riverman who was unplaced in four tries over jumps; 11-2.

Also: **Like-a-Butterfly** (9-1), m, 9 (by Montelimar, a G2 winner by Alleged); **Flame Creek** (10-1), g, 7, by Shardari (Top Ville), who won the G1 Matchmaker--now Juddmonte-- International; and **Landing Light** (In The Wings) (20-1), g, 8 (out of an Ela-Mana-Mou mare).



**A.P. INDY DAY AT GULFSTREAM**

**On Feb. 23:**

**YELL** ran off with the **Grade 2 Davona Dale** by **6 lengths**  
**SPIN CONTROL** broke her maiden by **13 1/2 lengths**  
**MISS HELLIE** won allowance event by **2 lengths**

*Congratulations to owners/breeders Claiborne Farm, Adele Dilschneider, Robert Evans, Emory Hamilton, Helen Alexander and Stewart Armstrong!*

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**Bill Oppenheim's Cheltenham preview cont.**

**ARKLE**, £140,000, 2m (Novice Chase)

The hot favorite for this is **Azertyuoip** (2-1), a six-year-old gelding by Northern Baby's son Baby Turk, winner of the 1986 G2 Grand Prix de Deauville and a successful jumping sire in France. Two of the live supporting cast, **Farmer Jack** and **Hand Inn Hand**, are seven-year-olds from the first crop by Alflora, the son of Niniski I mentioned a few weeks ago.

**Wednesday, March 12**

**QUEEN MOTHER CHAMPION CHASE**, £250,000, 2m

This looks a very hot contest this year. Favorite is last year's Arkle winner, Irish-trained **Moscow Flyer**, g, 9, (2-1), by Moscow Society, the 1988 Queen's Vase second, by Nijinsky II. Other strong contenders are: **Cenkos**, g, 9, (9-2) by 1984 Prix de la Foret second Nikos, by Nonoalco; **Kadarann**, g, 6, (6-1), by Bigstone, a four-time Group 1 winner from 7-9f, now standing in China; previous winner, the French-bred **Edredon Bleu**, g, 11, (8-1), by Grand Tresor; **Tiutchev**, g, 10, (8-1), by Soviet Star; **Flagship Uberalles**, g, 9, (9-1), by Accordion, an unraced son of Sadler's Wells; and **Native Upmanship** (12-1), a 10-year-old by Be My Native who was second in the race last year. This looks like the deepest championship field at the meet.

**ROYAL & SUN ALLIANCE NOVICE CHASE**, £140,000, 3m 1/2f

The three favorites in this race wouldn't be out of place in Thursday's festival showpiece, the £350,000 Cheltenham Gold Cup. The favorite is **Keen Leader**, g, 7, (3-1), (by Supreme Leader {Bustino}, leading jumps sire and third in the 1985 G1 English 2000 Guineas). The French-trained **Jair du Cochet**, g, 6, (Rahotep, 4-1), is a spectacular leaper by the 1981 G2 Prix Hocquart winner, himself by Matahawk (by \*Sea Hawk). Third favorite **It Takes Time** (5-1) is another by the Alleged horse, Montelimar.

**Thursday, March 13**

**CHELTEHAM GOLD CUP (CHASE)**, £350,000, 3m 2 1/2f

Last year's spectacular winner **Best Mate** (6-4), now eight, dominates the betting, and has won both his starts this season. He is by the 1986 G2 Prix Eugene Adam winner Un Desperado, a son of Top Ville. Second favorite is Irish-trained **Beef or Salmon**, a seven-year-old who has won all four of his starts this season. Though only a novice, he easily won Ireland's top three-mile chase and key Cheltenham prep, the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup.

He is by Cajetano, a son of Run the Gantlet who was bred by Bunker Hunt and won about \$160,000 on the flat and over jumps. An interesting outsider is **Behrajan**, an eight-year-old son of Arazi owned by a partnership including Simon Marsh, manager of the Lloyd-Webber's Watership Down Stud. Though there seem to be no chinks in Best Mate's armor, it's been over 30 years since a horse has won this race twice.

**STAYERS' HURDLE**, £140,000, 3m

Last year's winner, the Francois Doumen-trained **Baracouda** (6-4) is favored--at the moment, and in spite of losing last time out--over the Irish-trained **Limestone Lad** (11-4), a winner of no less than 35 races. The Irish have a big impact on the betting at this meet, and you can bet any horse that has won 35 times has a huge public following; he might go off favorite, or at worst co-favorite, on the day. Baracouda, now eight, is by another son of Alleged, the 1986 French St. Leger runner-up Alesso. Limestone Lad, who is 11, is by Aristocracy, a Group 3 winner in Ireland in 1977, by Lord Gayle, the son of Sir Gaylord who was also the sire of Strong Gale, the top jumping sire of the 'Nineties. The leading British-trained contenders are seven-year-olds **Classified** (by another perennial leading veteran jumps sire, Roselier), and **Galileo**--not the Derby winner by Sadler's Wells, but a Polish-bred by Jape, the 1992 Italian St Leger winner, and yet another by Alleged. This Galileo ran out an impressive winner of the big 'staying' novice hurdle (2m 5f) at Cheltenham last year, but hasn't been out since. It will say a whole lot for Polish breeding and form--he won the Polish St. Leger in his younger days--if he could beat those two hot favorites after a year off. Tall order.

As you can see, flat-raced and flat-bred sires--some with form over as short as one mile-- have a huge, even decisive, influence in National Hunt pedigrees. So, besides being an interesting gambling medium--and yes, there are occasional thrills and spills that result, unfortunately, in injury and death--it's actually quite instructive for those of us interested in flat pedigrees to follow Cheltenham. Any top racing 'festival' or 'carnival' is. Hopefully one day our 24/365 international racing channels will enable us all, anywhere in the world, to follow these top festivals; in fact, maybe you should call up your local TVG and see if you can get it on this year. You won't see any better racing midweek mornings in America, I can guarantee you that.

**KING CUGAT**, Kingmambo – Tricky Game  
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*“...his value as a stallion is immeasurable.”*

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☆ SOPHOMORE SCENE ☆

**Ten Cents A Shine Joins Team Lukas**

Graded-stakes placed **Ten Cents a Shine** (Devil His Due), who ran sixth last time out for trainer Ken McPeck in the GI Fountain of Youth S. at Gulfstream Park Feb. 15, will join Hall of Fame trainer D. Wayne Lukas' California string, according to owner Ken Ramsey. "The switch was not intended to hurt Kenny McPeck, who I respect and admire very much," Ramsey told *The Blood-Horse*. "The horse did have a lung infection and was coughing after the race [the Fountain of Youth], and it's been getting very hot and humid in South Florida." Ramsey, who also owns GIII Risen Star S. winner Badge of Silver, added, "The weather is beautiful in California this time of year, and I just thought a change of scenery would be good for the horse." When asked about the change Ramsey commented, "I think I've got the horse in the best hands I can get him in. I went with Lukas primarily because I know he and Bob Baffert are just noses apart on this Derby trail, and Wayne has done such a good job for me with Nothing to Lose [GIII Tropical Park Derby winner]. Wayne is very dedicated and focused on getting us there, and he's looking forward to the opportunity." The dark bay, who was scheduled to fly to California from Opa Locka Airport yesterday evening, will likely make his next start in the GI Santa Anita Derby Apr. 5. The Ohio-bred sophomore, who was second in the GII Kentucky Jockey Club S. at Churchill Downs Nov. 30, dead-heated for first in his 2003 debut in a Gulfstream allowance Jan. 31 before an out-of-the-money finish in his Grade I debut. Ten Cents a Shine has won half of his four lifetime starts to date and has amassed \$80,120 in earnings.

**Senor To Take Derby Swing**

Robert Ackerman and Barry Golden's **Senor Swinger** (El Prado {Ire}) has emerged from his Monday drill in good order and was pronounced on track for the GI Florida Derby by trainer Mickey Goldfine. "I was very pleased with his workout," the conditioner said of the five-furlong move which was clocked in 1:01 4/5. "He galloped out six furlongs in 1:14 4/5 and seven-eighths in 1:28 and change. He did everything easy and I'd say right now if everything continues to go well then he'll run in the Florida Derby." The grey colt will be making his first start since dead-heating with Ten Cents A Shine in a Jan. 31 Gulfstream allowance.

**Offlee Wild Out of Florida Derby**

GIII Holy Bull S. winner **Offlee Wild** (Wild Again) will be forced to miss the Florida Derby after spiking a temperature late last week. "He got sick," trainer Thomas Smith commented. "My groom noticed he wasn't looking right last Friday and took his temperature. He told me it was 104 so I called in the veterinarian. The vet says he has a bacterial infection. Today [Wednesday] was the first day that I had him out of his stall and he's still listless. It's highly unlikely he'll make the Florida Derby."

☆ PREVIEW ☆

**Saturday, Santa Anita**

**SANTA ANITA H.-GI**, \$1,000,000, 4yo/up, 1 1/4m

A day following the announcement that Medaglia d'Oro was going to take a pass on the richest race of the meeting, trainer Bob Baffert expressed his delight in being able to re-secure the services of jockey Jerry Bailey to ride 124-pound highweight **Congaree** (Arazi). "It was going to be a huge race," Baffert said of the now-cancelled clash of titans, "but at the same time, it's nice that I got my rider back." Bailey has ridden Congaree to consecutive wins in the GI Cigar Mile H., the GII San Pasqual H. and most recently the GII San Antonio H. Feb. 2.

While the top-weighted horse is set to take his place in the starting gate Saturday afternoon, don't be surprised to see a pair of "lightweights" in the field. Trainer Gary Mandella is considering entering **Trompolino (Chi)** (Stuka), a nine-length winner of an \$80,000 optional claimer Feb. 12. In the absence of Medaglia d'Oro, the five-year-old could be one of the chief speeds in the race. "I'll have to give it some thought now," the younger Mandella admitted. Baffert is also toying with the idea of entering 111-pound low-weight **Tough Game** (Mr. Greeley) in the Big' Cap. A \$270,000 FTKJUL yearling purchase, the lightly raced New York-bred registered a six-length entry-level allowance score at Santa Anita Feb. 9.

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**XTRA HEAT, winner of the February 22 Barbara Fritchie H. (GII)**

O-Classic Star Stable; B-P. McLean Sr., P. McLean Jr., M. McLean, P. Feringa Jr., et al (KY); T-John Salzman

Sold Keeneland November 1998 for \$91,000; Earnings now \$2,389,635.

Consigned by Pope McLean (Crestwood Farm), Agent; Purchased by Hartley/DeRenzo



☆ NEWS TODAY ☆

 **FOALING NEWS**

**WINGS OF GRACE DIES** Wings of Grace (Key to the Mint--Far Beyond, by Nijinsky II), the dam of 1999 champion turf mare and Breeders' Cup Filly and Mare Turf winner Soaring Softly (Kris S.), died Feb. 12 at Darby Dan Farm near Lexington due to complications from foaling. The mare aborted a foal by Darby Dan stallion Repriced prior to developing complications. The 25-year-old mare, bred by Mr. & Mrs. John Galbreath, was a Grade III winner on the racetrack and went on to produce 16 named foals. In addition to millionaire Soaring Softly, Wings of Grace is also the dam of GI Yellow Ribbon Invitational winner Plenty of Grace (Roberto) and her older full sister Jody G, the dam of graded-stakes winners Bound By Honor (Woodman) and Duality (Seeking the Gold) as well as multiple stakes winner Private Joe (Private Account). Wings of Grace is also the dam of three-year-old filly of this year, Honor Bestowed (Honor Grades), and a two-year-old named Foot Soldier (Arch), a three-parts brother to Soaring Softly. Wings of Grace did not produce a foal in 2002.

**GODOLPHIN TRIO TO CLASH IN CUP** Team Godolphin have revealed plans which will allow **Grandera (Ire)** (Grand Lodge), **Sulamani (Ire)** (Hernando {Fr}) and **Moon Ballad (Ire)** (Singspiel {Ire}) to clash in the G1 Dubai World Cup at Nad al Sheba Mar. 29. Trainer Saeed bin Suroor told *Racing Post*, "So far, it is certainly possible that we will run Sulamani, Grandera and Moon Ballad in the Dubai World Cup. The World Cup is a very difficult race to win and we always try to send the best Godolphin horses for the race. All three horses have the class to run in the race. We need to discover if [Sulamani] handles dirt, but we should find that out on March 8 and we can then decide if he runs in the World Cup. He worked on Monday over a mile under Frankie [Dettori], but he still wasn't quite fit or ready and he'll improve 100 percent. There is a great chance Grandera will run in the World Cup. If he stays sound and healthy, we'll look at the World Series and the same races he ran in last year. Moon Ballad looks stronger than he did last year and I think he has a good future. I like him a lot and think he has a great chance of being a real Group 1 horse."

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

**HISHI AMAZON**, 12, Theatrical (Ire)--Katies (Ire) (Nonoalco)  
 Foal born Feb. 7, a colt by Thunder Gulch.  
 Will be bred back to Awesome Again.  
 Owned by Masaichiro Abe.  
 Boarded at Taylor Made Farm, Ky.  
 Accomplishments: Ch. 2yo Filly, 3yo Filly & Older Mare-Jpn, MGSW-Jpn, \$6,981,102.

**GOLDEN BALLET**, 5, Moscow Ballet--Golden Jewel Box (Slew o' Gold)  
 Foal born Feb. 10, a colt by Saint Ballado.  
 Will be bred back to Unbridled's Song.  
 Owned by Aaron & Marie Jones.  
 Boarded at Taylor Made Farm, Ky.  
 Accomplishments: MGISW, \$732,145.

**MANISTIQUE**, 8, Unbridled--Astaire Step (Nureyev)  
 Foal born Feb. 10, a filly by Forestry.  
 Will be bred back to Storm Cat.  
 Owned by Aaron & Marie Jones.  
 Boarded at Taylor Made Farm, Ky.  
 Accomplishments: MGISW, \$1,311,800.

=====

**CORRECTION:** The underbidder on the \$1.4 million sale topper (Tale of the Cat--Satin Sunrise) at Tuesday's Fasig-Tipton Calder sale was incorrectly reported in yesterday's TDN. The underbidder was Robert McMartin, acting on behalf of Eugene Melnyk. Part of consignor Robert Scanlon's quote was also inadvertently omitted. The quote should have read, "I thought he'd bring a million, from all the action at the barn, but I didn't expect a million-and-four. But when you get Demi (O'Byrne) and Eugene together, it's like a dream come true." In addition, it was reported that Scanlon had been the consignor of Unbridled's Song. In fact, Scanlon sold Unbridled's Song's son Songandaprayer for \$1 million at the 2000 Fasig-Tipton Calder sale. We regret the errors.

CURRENCY CONVERSIONS		
	Unit/US\$	Unit/GB£
British pound	1.58353	1.00
Euro	0.926081	0.681899
U.S. dollar	1.00	0.631499

**BREEDERS' CUP STAKES CLOSINGS**



CLOSES	TRACK	RACE	CONDITIONS	PURSE	RUNS
2-28	HOL	Gamely Breeders' Cup H. (GI)	3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/8mT	\$350,000	5-26
2-28	HOL	Shoemaker Breeders' Cup Mile (GI)	3yo/up, 1mT	\$350,000	5-26
3-6	GG	Golden Gate Breeders' Cup H. (GIII)	3yo/up, 1 1/8mT	\$150,000	3-16

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 **NORTH AMERICA** 

★ **GULFSTREAM** ★

**WEATHER FORCES TRACK CANCELLATIONS**

Another wave of wintry weather prompted a spate of cancellations in the eastern portion of the country yesterday. Oaklawn Park in Hot Springs, Arkansas, Charles Town in West Virginia, and Laurel Park in Maryland all announced the cancellation of their Wednesday cards. With the inclement weather to continue into today, Oaklawn has also called off this afternoon's racing. Laurel is slated to resume racing today with a 12:40 p.m. post time; Charles Town expects a first post of 7:15 p.m.

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*Smart Strike season--\$20,000 NG*

**STAKES CLOSINGS**

**TODAY, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27:**

03-08 \$300,000 *Santa Anita Oaks-I, SA, 3yo, f, 8.5f (300)*  
03-08 \$350,000 *Fair Grounds Oaks-II, FG, 3yo, f, 8.5f (100)*

**TOMORROW, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28:**

03-09 \$750,000 *Louisiana Derby-II, FG, 3yo, 8.5f (2500)*  
05-26 \$350,000a *Shoemaker Breeders' Cup Mile-I, Hol, 3yo/up, 8fT (500)*  
05-26 \$350,000 *Gamely Breeders' Cup H.-I, Hol, 3yo/up, f/m, 9fT (500)*

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**Yesterday's Results:**

**9th-GPX, \$36,000, Alw, NW1X, 4yo/up, 5 1/2f, 1:03 4/5, ft.**

**IN HIGH GEAR (c, 4, Golden Gear--Playing Star Again {SW}, by Coup de Kas)** ran a big 104 Beyer at first asking while beating the ill-fated Warners by a neck at Belmont back in June of 2001. The dark bay went missing for nine months before returning to finish fifth at Fair Grounds in March of 2002, then hit the board in two Belmont allowance races in June before again disappearing, this time for eight months. Sent to post as the 2-1 chalk in his 2003 bow, In High Gear came from just off the pace to challenge the leaders as they turned for home. From there, he drew clear under urging and sped under the wire a 4 1/2-length victor. The winner was a \$17,000 OBSOCT weanling, a \$26,000 OBSAUG yearling, and a \$170,000 OBSFEB two-year-old. Lifetime Record: 5-2-0-2, \$57,000. O-Jay Em Ess Stable. B-Double Diamond Ranch (FL). T-Richard E Dutrow Jr.

**6th-GPX, \$34,000, Msw, 3yo, f, 1 1/8mT, 1:50 4/5, fm.**

**PLAIT (f, 3, Cozzene--Golden Braids {GSP, \$111,700}, by Forty Niner)** made a nice debut in an 8 1/2-furlong test on the Calder sod Dec. 18, coming from well off the pace to finish third by 1 3/4 lengths. The gray added Lasix for this as the 6-5 chalk and was content to race near the back of the pack early. Swung out three wide on the turn, she rallied through the stretch to catch Sweet Scottische (Storm Creek) in the final panel and assert over that one by 1 1/4 lengths. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-1, \$22,800. O/B-Robert Kirkham & Claiborne Farm (KY). T-Christophe Clement.

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**Gulfstream Report cont.**

**8th-GPX, \$34,000, Msw, 3yo, f, 1 1/8mT, 1:51 2/5, fm.**

**FILM MAKER (f, 3, Dynaformer--Miss Du Bois, by Mr. Prospector)** rallied to finish third in a 5 1/2-furlong maiden test over Colonial's main track last July, but was shelved for 7 1/2 months following that one. The dark bay filly was well placed off the pacesetters while racing three wide under jockey Edgar Prado and had her eyes on the prize as she rounded the turn. Asked for her best entering the lane, she sailed to the front and drew clear to notch the sharp 2 3/4-length score in her turf and two-turn bow. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-1, \$23,040.

O-Courtlandt Farms. B-Tac Holdings Inc (KY). T-H Graham Motion.

**Chamrousse Returns:**

**Chamrousse** (Peaks and Valleys), the winner of last year's GII Black Eyed Susan S., returns from a seven-month absence in today's eighth race at Gulfstream Park. Owned by Arthur Hancock III and James Stone, the dark bay filly was third in the GIII Silverbulletday S., the GII Fair Grounds Oaks and GII Fantasy S. prior to her win at Old Hilltop. Subsequently second in the GI Mother Goose S., she was last seen when fourth in the GI CCA Oaks last July 20. Jerry Bailey, who was aboard for the Black Eyed Susan success, has the return call for trainer Niall O'Callaghan in the \$75,000 optional claimer to be contested at three-quarters of a mile.

**On the Florida Worktab:**

Eclipse Award winning juvenile filly **Storm Flag Flying** (Storm Cat) continued on the comeback trail, working a half mile in :49 and remains on schedule to make her sophomore debut in the seven-furlong GIII Stonerside Forward Gal S. at Gulfstream Mar. 14...**Whywhywhy** (Mr. Greeley) breezed five-eighths of a mile in 1:02 and the winner of last year's GI Futurity S. is likely to contest the GIII Swale S. at seven furlongs on the Florida Derby undercard Mar. 15...**Region of Merit** (Touch Gold), a recent impressive allowance winner at Gulfstream Park, went an easy half mile in :51 4/5 at Payson Park for trainer Christophe Clement, who has not yet decided on a next start for the Calumet Farm colorbearer.

★ NEW YORK ★

**Yesterday's Results:**

**8th-AQU, \$54,000, Alw, NW2\$3M, 4yo/up, 6f, 1:07 4/5 (NTR), ft.**

1--**CAPTAIN RED, 111, h, 6, Mr. Greeley--Mary Roland, by Relaunch.** (\$52,000 wlng '97 KEENOV; \$100,000 yrl '98 FTSAUG). O-Anthony Pyliotis; B-Darlene Wahman (KY); T-Dimitrios Synnefias. Lifetime Record: SP, 40-13-6-4, \$347,250. \*1/2 to Rolandthemonarch (Wavering Monarch), SW, \$197,713.

2--**Gold I. D., 118, c, 4, Caller I. D.--Prissy Gold Digger, by Red Ryder.**

3--**Affirmed Success, 118, g, 9, Affirmed--Towering Success, by Irish Tower.**

Margins: HF, HF, 9HF. Odds: 2.80, 9.10, 0.70.

Captain Red overcame a stakes-quality field and a claim of foul to set a new track record over the inner surface in this hotly contested event. The bay has blossomed into a fine racehorse after spending the majority of his 2002 campaign in the claiming ranks on the New York circuit. A two-length winner against \$35,000 claimers in late November at Aqueduct, he beat GISW Peeping Tom by four lengths in a \$55,000 claiming event Jan. 16, then finished a head runner-up to that foe in a tough allowance contest Feb. 9. Captain Red hadn't been headed at either the first or second call in his last seven races, and that streak wouldn't end here as apprentice jockey John McKee sent his charge to an uncontested lead through fractions of :22 2/5 and :44 2/5. Challenged in midstretch by MGISW Affirmed Success from the inside, Captain Red came over a bit under right-handed urging--causing that rival steady off heels and alter course to the outside--before asserting in the final strides over Gold I.D. Affirmed Success' trainer Richard Schosberg lodged a claim of foul, alleging interference in deep stretch, but the claim was disallowed by the stewards and Captain Red was made the official winner. The venerable Say Florida Sandy (Personal Flag), the richest New York-bred of all time, raced along the inside and failed to fire through the lane, finishing fifth.

**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.**

**TDN TODAY**  
Around the World ..... 6 pages

*Anet 2-year-old blazes in :10.1*  
Hip 179, a filly by millionaire ANET,  
had the co-fastest work for the Barretts March 4 sale.

ANET

Clever Trick--Romantic Story, by Quadratic \$5,000 LF, stands & nurses




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New York report cont.

7th-AQU, \$46,000, Alw, NW2X, 4yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16m, 1:43 3/5, ft.

**AVALOS** (f, 4, Holy Bull--Francie's Fancy {SP}, by Flying Paster), a \$35,000 KEESEP yearling, was outgamed as the favorite in her most recent and was forced to settle for second against \$35,000 claimers Jan. 29. Stepped up several notches here, the chestnut was allowed to settle off the pace through four furlongs, progressed into contention on the turn and responded to his jockey's urging to win by 3/4 of a length over Lauren's Hot Dance (Gate Dancer). Lifetime Record: SP, 17-6-5-3, \$188,945.

O-John & Dawn Zoldak. B-Francie Willis (KY). T-Richard E Dutrow Jr.

4th-AQU, \$43,000, Alw, NW2L, 4yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:10 3/5, ft.

**TRULY A LEGEND** (f, 4, Mr. Greeley--Due Bill {SW, \$150,612}, by Relaunch), a \$45,000 TEXAUG yearling and \$135,000 OBSMAR two-year-old, broke her maiden by two lengths sprinting at Belmont Sept. 29, but disappeared for just over four months before returning to finish a well-beaten fourth over trip and track Feb. 5. The 4-1 chance, sent for the lead under jockey Luis Chavez, got away with moderate fractions up the backstretch and had plenty left in the tank through the stretch to account for Lyrical Prado (El Prado {Ire}) by 1 3/4 lengths on the wire. Lifetime Record: 10-2-1-3, \$83,100.

O-Winbound Farms. B-Frannie Stewart (KY). T-Gary Sciacca.

★ CENTRAL ★

**Memorial Set for Fallen Trainer:**

Sam Houston Race Park will hold a memorial service Mar. 1 for trainer Ramon Flores, who died in a car accident Feb. 25. Led by Chaplain John Shumaker, the service will be held in the Club Level of the Sam Houston Race Park grandstand. "The loss of Ramon Flores has hit everyone at Sam Houston Race Park hard," said Robert L. Bork, president and general manager at Sam Houston. "We felt that the service on Saturday would give the horsemen, riders, staff and fans an opportunity to pay their respects to a respected and well-liked member of the community." The 34-year-old conditioner and one of his grooms, Rafael Hernandez, were transporting three horses to Sunland Park, New Mexico, when their van went out of control on an icy patch near Schulenburg, Texas. Flores died instantly, but Hernandez and the horses are reportedly in good condition. Flores is survived by his wife, Amy, and two children. Donations may be sent to the Ramon Flores Fund in care of the Racetrack Chaplaincy of Texas, 7575 Sam Houston Parkway West, Houston, Texas, 77064.

**Arlington To Serve as DWC Wagering Hub:**

For the eighth consecutive year, Arlington Park will serve as the North and South American simulcast hub for the Dubai World Cup program Mar. 29. Arlington will once again serve as the North American host for the program, which kicks off with the running of the G1 Dubai Sheema Classic at 10 a.m. EST. It will be followed by the G1 Dubai Golden Shaheen at 11:10 a.m., the G1 Dubai Duty Free at 11:50 a.m. and the G1 Dubai World Cup at 12:40 p.m. The G2 UAE Derby and the G2 Godolphin Mile will not be available for wagering, though the UAE Derby is scheduled to be shown on a tape-delay basis between races. The wagering menu consists of win, place, show, exacta, trifecta and superfecta betting on each of the four live events. There will also be a Pick 4 on the first four races, a Pick 3 on the final three and a Daily Double on the Dubai Duty Free and Dubai World Cup.

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.

*Thoroughbred Daily News is:*

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## ★ SO. CALIFORNIA ★

### Thunder Blitz Heads Santa Anita Allowance:

**Thunder Blitz** (Holy Bull), the last winner of the GIII Flamingo S., makes his West Coast debut for trainer Bobby Frankel in this afternoon's 7th race at Santa Anita, a \$62,500 optional claimer at one mile on the main track. The gray had acquitted himself well in his early three-year-old allowance tests prior to his Hialeah victory, finishing second to Invisible Ink and Distilled in races that provided the bookends to a third versus Monarchos. A solid fourth to the latter in the Kentucky Derby, the five-year-old is in search of his first win since the 2001 Flamingo and was last seen when second in Belmont allowance company June 26 in what would become his final start for trainer Joe Orseno. Adding blinkers for the first time this afternoon, the Stronach homebred meets a field which includes last year's GI Santa Anita Derby runner-up **Easy Grades** (Honor Grades), GSW **Popular** (Saint Ballado) and \$4.4 yearling **Shah Jehan** (Mr. Prospector). He breaks from post position two beneath jockey Jose Valdivia Jr.

### Yesterday's Results:

**7th-SAX, \$56,000, Alw, NW1X, 4yo/up, f/m, 1m (off turf), 1:36 2/5, ft.**

**MEGUIAL (ARG) (f, 4, Roy--Starry Night {Arg}, by Fitzcarraldo {Arg})** landed her maiden in a Listed stakes in Argentina before running into the tough Miss Terrible (Arg) in a trio of Group 1 races. Fourth to that rival last June 2, the dark bay improved to third in her three-year-old bow Aug. 10 and was second in the G1 Argentinian 1000 Guineas Sept. 7. She was coming into this off a runner-up finish in the G1 Gran Premio Seleccion Oct. 5 and was the 2-1 choice in her U.S. bow. Facing older horses for the first time and getting Lasix, she showed good speed and angled over to secure the rail, kicked clear on the final turn and dug in gamely through the stretch to record a two-length victory. Lifetime Record: SW & MG1SP-Arg, 6-2-2-1, \$41,425.

O-David J Lanzman Racing Stable Inc. B-Guillermo Raul Vazquez (ARG). T-Doug O'Neill.

The **brisnet.com** 'Race of the Day' is the \$52,000 2nd Race at Santa Anita. For pps, click [here](#).

## ★ "TDN Rising Star" ★

### Yesterday's Results:

**4th-GGX, \$36,465, Alw, Opt. Clm. (\$50,000), NW1X, 3yo, 6f, 1:08 3/5, ft.**

**EYE OF THE TIGER (c, 3, American Chance--Dial a Trick, by Phone Trick)** ran a great one to break his maiden over trip and track Nov. 30, circling five wide against an 11-horse field to get the 3/4-length victory, but ran into the promising Scrimshaw in his first try against winners and proved third best in a Dec. 26 Santa Anita allowance race. Hammered down to 1-2 favoritism in his first start since then, the Triple Crown nominee tracked the leaders from third, quickly assumed command at the top of the lane and drew off under intermittent urging to win by 2 1/2 lengths. Lifetime Record: 3-2-0-1, \$39,790.

O/B-John D Gunther (KY). T-Jerry Hollendorfer.

## ★ ON THE RADAR ★

### THURSDAY'S ENTRIES

**5th-AQU, Msw, 6f, post time: 2:19 p.m. EST + LUGANIS (c, 3, Grand Slam--Annoconnor {MGISW, \$1,002,420}, by Nureyev) B-Foxfield (KY).**

*Millionaire Annoconnor was a flat-out gamer in her day, though her offspring have yet to set the track alight. The Anthony Dutrow-trained Luganis will try to change all that as he enters this one having worked steadily at Laurel since October. He'll debut with Lasix and employ the services of jockey Richard Migliore.*

**5th-AQU, Msw, 6f, post time: 2:19 p.m. EST + HASLAM (c, 3, Seattle Slew--Changing Ways {GSW, \$104,247}, by Time for a Change) B-Allan R Dragone (KY).**

*Haslam, the second foal of GSW Changing Ways to make the races, shows a series of fine gate works over at Belmont and makes the short trip across town under the care of trainer David Donk. He'll be treated with Lasix for his first start.*

## ★ AMERICAN-BRED WINNERS ★

### IN BRITAIN:

**Fulvio, g, 3, Sword Dance (Ire)--One Tuff Gal, by Lac Ouimet. Lingfield, 2-26, Hcp., 3yo, 7f (AWT). B-Gilbert G Campbell. \*\$25,000 wnlg '00 KEENOV.**

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\$350,000a, 3yo/up, 1mT, to be run May 26  
Nomination Fee of \$500



**SOPHOMORE SPOTLIGHT**



EUROPE



**First-crop progeny to watch: Thursday, Feb. 27**

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

- ANET** (Clever Trick), Glencrest, \$5K, 93/8/1  
8-TP, Alw, 6 1/2f, Court of Maximus, \$47K KEE APR 2yo
- BANKER'S GOLD** (Forty Niner), Airdrie, \$15K, 122/12/1  
7-AQU, Alw, 1m, Heavenly Kevin, \$8K KEE APR 2yo
- 6-LRL**, Alw, 1 1/16m, Depository, \$100K KEE SEP yrl, 2-1
- BON POINT (GB)** (Soviet Star), Marablue, \$4K, 50/3/0  
10-TAM, Msw, 1mT, Coyote Point, \$1,000 OBS AUG yrl, 15-1
- CAPE TOWN** (Seeking the Gold), Overbrook, \$10K, 127/11/1  
5-AQU, Msw, 6f, Rock Sez Win, \$50K OBS MAR 2yo
- 8-FG**, Alw, 1 1/16mT, Red Azalea, \$44K TEX MAR 2yo, 8-1
- CORONADO'S QUEST** (Forty Niner), Claiborne, \$60K, 127/15/3  
8-FG, Alw, 1 1/16mT, Winter's Quest, \$50K FTK OCT yrl, 5-2
- FAVORITE TRICK** (Phone Trick), Walmac, \$30K, 138/14/2  
6-LRL, Alw, 1 1/16m, Prospector's Trick, \$35K OBS MAR 2yo, 3-1
- GRAND SLAM** (Gone West), Ashford, \$30K, 244/28/1  
5-AQU, Msw, 6f, Luganis, \$95K KEE SEP yrl
- HALORY HUNTER** (Jade Hunter), Rockin Rvr, \$8K, 97/4/0  
1-CT, Msw, 6 1/2f, Diamond Hunter, 4-1
- LARRUPIN'** (Mr. Prospector), Green Willow, \$2K, 85/7/0  
6-LRL, Alw, 1 1/16m, Shaheen Shaheen, 10-1
- OPS SMILE** (Caveat), Bonita, \$5K, 55/3/0  
5-GG, Msw, 1mT, Jacobs Smile, \$12K BAR MAY 2yo
- PARTNER'S HERO** (Danzig), Northview, \$8K, 112/20/1  
8-AQU, Alw, 1m, New York Hero, \$135K EAS MAY 2yo
- PROUD AND TRUE** (Mr. Prospector), DBL Diamond, \$4K, 81/6/1  
5-GG, Msw, 1mT, Tell No Tales, \$62K OBS APR 2yo
- TALE OF THE CAT** (Storm Cat), Ashford, \$25K, 235/30/4  
7-FG, Alw, 6f, Baby Lets Cruise, \$170K KEE SEP yrl, 9-2
- WILL'S WAY** (Easy Goer), Brookdale, \$8K, 98/18/1  
7-AQU, Alw, 1m, Gang, \$30K KEE SEP yrl

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

★ BRITAIN ★

**Yesterday's Result:**

**Britain, Lingfield, 2.55, Cond, £6,140, 3yo, 1 1/4m (AWT), 2:09.54, stn.**  
**LUNDY'S LANE (IRE) (c, 3, Darshaan {GB}--Lunda {Ire}, by Soviet Star)** stumbled from the gate, but soon raced in a stalking second until joining the leader off the home turn. The 2-5 market choice eased to the front at the eighth-pole and quickened clear late on for an easy 2 1/2-length win. Lifetime Record: 4-2-1-1, £10,983. O/B-Saeed Manana; T-Clive Brittain.

★ FRANCE ★

**Yesterday's Results:**

**France, Marseille Borely, 2.00, Cond, €20,000, 4yo/up, 1 1/4mT, 2:09.20, gd/sf.**  
**PRETTY FIGHTER (h, 5, Kornado {GB}--Pretty Ballerina {Ire}, by Sadler's Wells),** Group 3-placed last term, was sent to the front from the outset. The 14-5 chance came under pressure when challenged at the quarter-mile marker, but was driven out thereafter to secure a determined neck success. Lifetime Record: GSP-Fr, 22 starts, 5 wins, 12 places, €87,161. O-Jean-Claude Seroul; B-Gestut Auenquelle; T-Jean-Marc Capitte.

**France, Marseille Borely, 2.30, Cond, €16,000, 3yo, 1 1/4mT, 2:13.10, gd/sf.**  
**VULCANIA (c, 3, Saumarez {GB}--Vulcanella {Fr} {SP-Fr}, by Sicyos)** raced in a tracking fourth until making his bid at the top of the home straight. The 139-10 outsider was sent to the front approaching the final furlong and was pushed out late on to record a comfortable 1 1/2-length victory. Lifetime Record: 9 starts, 2 wins, 2 places, €15,250. O-J Troggi; B-C Loew-Schelfhout; T-J Laurent-Joye Rossi.



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**BREEDERS' EDITION  
AMERICA**

**STAKES RESULTS:**

**ISADORABLE S.**, \$35,000, SUF, 2-26, (S), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:12 4/5, ft.

1--**BIG MISS, 124, m, 7, Chief Honcho--Little V., by Buckfinder.** O/B-Gal Sal Stable (MA); T-Donald G Caroli; J-W Lozano Jr; \$21,000. Lifetime Record: 65-15-17-9, \$325,060. \*1/2 to Lt'l Miss D. S., (Hiromi The Great), MSW, \$220,262; and Lt'l Mandy A (Blushing Stage), MSW, \$137,714.

2--**Sunlit Ridge, 124, m, 5, Sundance Ridge--Sultan's Light,** by Southern Sultan. \$7,000.

3--**Little Time, 124, f, 4, Scarlet Ibis--Time to Ask,** by L'Amour Rullah. \$3,500.

Margins: 3/4, 5, HF. Odds: 1.70, 1.10, 6.60.

**ALLOWANCE RESULTS:**

**6th-AQU, \$44,000, NW1X, (S), 4yo/up, f/m, a1m70yd,** 1:43 1/5, ft.

**TICKLES (f, 4, Cure the Blues--Aljadam {MSP, \$159,794}, by Anticipating)** Lifetime Record: 5-2-0-0, \$52,320. O-Sheila Sherry. B-Dr Herb Sherry (NY). T-Richard Schosberg. \*Full to Pentatonic, GSW & MGISP, \$601,860.

**11th-SUN, \$26,700, 2-25, NW4L, 4yo/up, 1m,** 1:36 4/5, ft.

**ALL AMERICAN CHRIS (c, 4, Society Max--Fancy Baggage, by Crafty Drone)** Lifetime Record: 14-4-2-0, \$51,176. O-Kevin Eikleberry & G Chris Coleman. B-Triple AAA Ranch (AZ). T-Kevin Eikleberry. \*1/2 to Los Cabo (Society Max), SW, \$168,902.

**ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:**

**Heebie Jeebies, f, 3, Blue Ensign--Yes Dear Love,** by Stalwart. MNR, 2-25, 1m, 1:40 4/5. B-Sam E Stevens (Tx). \*\$1,700 yrl '01 TEXDEC.

**Macho Image, c, 3, Clever Trick--Endless Storm,** by Storm Bird. SAX, 2-26, (C), 5 1/2f, 1:04 2/5. B-K C Horse Corporation (Ca). \*\$38,000 wlng '00 KEENOV; \$130,000 yrl '01 FTKJUL.

**First Class Trip, c, 3, Souvenir Copy--Fly First Class,** by General Meeting. SAX, 2-26, (C), 1m, 1:38 3/5. B-Mr & Mrs John C Mabee (Ky).

**Cream Creek, f, 4, Virginia Rapids--Minted Dancer,** by Key to the Mint. AQU, 2-26, (S), 6f, 1:11. B-Elisabeth R Jerkens (NY).

**BREEDERS' EDITION  
EUROPE**

**ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:**

**Chico Guapo (Ire), g, 3, Sesaro--Summer Queen (GB),** by Robellino. Lingfield, Britain, 2-26, Mdn, 3yo, 5f (AWT). B-Hardys Of Kilkeel Ltd. \*Ir£20,000 wnlg '00 GOFNOV; 22,000gns yrl '01 DONSEP.



**FOALING NEWS**

**THAWAKIB, 13, Sadler's Wells--Tobira Celeste (\*Ribot)** Foal born Feb. 20, a colt by Seeking the Gold. Will be bred back to Bahri.

Owned by and boarded at Shadwell Farm, Ky. Accomplishments: GSW-Eng of \$117,839. Dam of Sakhee (Bahri), Hwt. Older Horse-Fr & Eng at 11-14f, Hwt. Older Horse-Eng at 9.5-11f, G1SW-Eng & Fr, G1SP-US & UAE, \$3,253,253.

**ROYAL SHYNESS (GB), 8, Royal Academy--Miss De-** mure (Ire) (Shy Groom)

Foal born Jan. 24, a filly by Coronado's Quest. Owned by and boarded at Crystal Springs Farm, Ky. Accomplishments: SW-US & GISP-Eng, \$191,543.

**ETHELDREDA, 18, Diesis (GB)--Royal Bund (Royal Coin-** age)

Foal born Jan. 27, a colt by Dynaformer. Will be bred back to Dixie Union. Owned by and boarded at Mill Ridge, Ky. Accomplishments: Daggett Peak (It's Freezing), MGSP, \$500,677; Flemensfirth (Alleged), G1SW-Fr & Ity, \$236,767.

**MISS RA HE RA, 12, Rahy--Glimmer of Gold (Slew o'** Gold)

Foal born Jan. 29, a filly by Dixieland Band. Will be bred back to Hennessy. Owned by River Bend Farm and Robert Clay. Boarded at River Bend Farm, Ky. Accomplishments: GSW of \$302,833.

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