

**Pletcher Talks About  
his Derby Hopefuls**  
*p.2*

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**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2003**

**HALL OF FAME NOMINEES ANNOUNCED**

Jockeys Eddie Maple, Randy Ramero and Mike Smith headline a talented class of 2003 nominees to the



**Mike Smith** *Benoit*

National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame. Also included in the list of nominees announced yesterday by museum president John von Stade are trainers Sonny Hine, Mel Stute and John Veitch. Horses selected by the the Hall of Fame Nominating Committee are Ancient Title, Manila and Precisionist in the male horse category and distinguished females Dance Smartly, Flawlessly and Sky Beauty. Among his 4,398 wins, Maple twice captured the Belmont S., aboard

Temperence Hill and Creme Fraiche. Romero, the regular rider of champions Personal Ensign and Go for Wand, retired with 4,285 wins. With 4,169 wins through 2002, Smith rode champions Holy Bull and last year's Horse of the Year Azeri. The late Sonny Hine trained 1998 Horse of the Year Skip Away, as well as sprint champion Guilty Conscience. The California-based Stute trained champions Snow Chief and Brave Raj. Trainer for Calumet in the 1970s, Veitch trained champions Alydar, Our Mims, Davona Dale and Before Dawn. He also campaigned turf champion Sunshine Forever for Darby Dan Farm. In the Contemporary Male Horse category, Ancient Title swept Santa Anita's Strub Series and captured the Hollywood Gold Cup and Whitney S. Manila captured the 1986 Breeders' Cup Turf en route to a turf championship, while Precisionist was named sprint champion of 1985 after capturing the Breeders' Cup Sprint. Canadian Triple Crown winner Dance Smartly travelled south of the border to take the 1991 Breeders' Cup Distaff. Flawlessly was America's champion female on grass in 1992 and 1993 while winning the G1 Matriarch and G1 Ramona H. three years in a row. Sky Beauty won the New York Filly Triple Crown in 1993 and was named champion older filly the next year. The Hall of Fame inductees, as voted by 151 racing journalists and historians, will be announced Apr. 29 at Churchill Downs.

☆ **CLASSIC CORNER** ☆

**BRIAN HEADS O'BRIEN 30**

**Brian Boru (GB)** (Sadler's Wells) heads the 30 remaining Ballydoyle entries in the £1.2-million G1 Vodafone Derby at Epsom June 7 after yesterday's latest forfeit stage. Alongside the G1 Racing Post Trophy winner are stable companions **Hold That Tiger** (Storm Cat), winner of the G1 Grand Criterium; and **Alberto Giacometti (Ire)** (Sadler's Wells), who took the G1 Criterium de Saint-Cloud. Another O'Brien entry, **Chevalier (Ire)** (Danehill), was beaten a neck by the Alain de Royer-Dupre-trained **Dalakhani (Ire)** (Darshaan {GB}) in the G1 Criterium International, and that grey colt heads a seven-strong team of French-trained colts among the 143 entries. Godolphin is responsible for the filly entrant **Hi Dubai (GB)** (Rahy), a maiden full sister to Fantastic Light, while G2 Champagne S. winner **Almushahar** (Silver Hawk) heads the group's 12-strong team. Sir Michael Stoute, who seeks his third Epsom Derby, has left in 13 horses, headed by Racing Post Trophy third **Illustrator (GB)** (Sadler's Wells). "This is the first time that owners who entered their horses as yearlings have had to declare their hand and we are pleased that an increased number have stayed in," commented Epsom managing director Stephen Wallis. "Some we already know about from their two-year-old days and others are still unknown quantities." Meanwhile, 84 fillies remain in the G1 Vodafone Oaks at Epsom June 6, headed by G1 Fillies' Mile winner **Soviet Song (Ire)** (Marju {Ire}), while Godolphin's 11-strong team is headed by UAE 1000 Guineas winner **Mezzo Soprano** (Darshaan {GB}).

**TOMAHAWK RETURNS**

Trainer Aidan O'Brien will saddle one of his major sophomore talents Sunday when **Tomahawk** (Seattle Slew) steps out in the Listed Oak Lodge Sires Loughbrown S. at The Curragh. Last year's G1 Middle Park S. and G1 Dewhurst S. runner-up was reported to have wintered well by O'Brien. The Ballydoyle trainer may also run **Yesterday (Ire)** (Sadler's Wells) in the Listed EBF Park Express S. on the same card. Yesterday is a full sister to Quarter Moon (Ire), runner-up in last year's G1 Irish 1000 Guineas and G1 Epsom Oaks.

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**Patient Pletcher Plays Waiting Game**

Trainer Todd Pletcher will send out Michael Tabor's **Lion Tamer** (Will's Way) in Saturday's GII Lane's End S. at Turfway Park. The chestnut showcased his quickness at Gulfstream Park this winter, coming home an impressive winner in the GII Hutcheson S. Feb. 15, but he'll be testing new waters in this nine-furlong event. "He's a pretty kind horse," said Pletcher. "He's never given me any indication that he won't go two turns. He's not a good horse away from the gate, but I still think he'll be very close to the lead, if not on it. He's a beautiful moving horse." Pletcher has been very patient with the lightly made Lion Tamer. "He's a horse that needs time between his races," Pletcher explained. "For me, it works well to give a horse four to six weeks between races. I've had a lot of success with that." Pletcher said that if the colt wins Saturday, he would go for the Kentucky Derby with no additional prep race. "I do think it's a race that you can win with five or six weeks off," said Pletcher, who acknowledged that this strategy had not worked well in the past. "Maybe that will be a trend that you'll see when you look back 15-20 years from now."

**Pair of Placings for Pletcher**

Pletcher sent out a pair of three-year-olds over the weekend, with **Indy Dancer** (A.P. Indy) coming on for third in the GI Florida Derby Saturday, while **Aristocat** (Tale of the Cat) closed well for second in the GIII Tampa Bay Derby the next day. The conditioner has tentative plans for that duo. "They haven't gone back to the track yet, but my first impression is that Indy Dancer will go to the [Apr. 12 GI] Wood and Aristocat will go to the [Apr. 12 GI] Blue Grass," he said. Indy Dancer was away slowly in the Florida Derby, but finished well to be third. "With the way the track [Keeneland] is, it wouldn't make sense to send [Indy Dancer] there," Pletcher added. "We've kicked around the idea of putting blinkers on him. It's a fine line between letting him run the way he wants as opposed to trying to get him in the game earlier."

**Strong Team for Pletcher**

"We've got three horses legitimately on the Derby trail, so we'll see how it goes," Pletcher said. Another runner from Pletcher's barn, **Bishop Court Hill** (Holy Bull), was scheduled to run in the Rushaway S. on the Lane's End undercard, but came up sick. "He had a temperature Sunday and missed a work, so we'll probably try to find a one-other-than at Keeneland for him," said Pletcher. Owned by Eugene Melnyk, the chestnut made a splashy debut at Gulfstream Feb. 22, winning by 7 1/2 lengths going seven furlongs. The likely field for the Lane's End also includes local star **Champali** (Glitterman), GSW **Saintly Look** (Saint Ballado), **Eugene's Third Son** (Indian Charlie), **Lots of Sizzle** (Hold for Gold), **New York Hero** (Partner's Hero) and **Ozzie Cat** (Storm Cat).

**Sometimes a Great Notion**

If it weren't for Champali's nose, the speedy **Great Notion** (Elusive Quality) would be heading into Saturday's Rebel S. at Oaklawn with an impressive unbeaten record. The bay colt bounced back from his narrow loss to Champali to post an eye-catching, nine-length success in the Southwest S. Mar. 1 at the Arkansas oval. Trainer Darrin Miller had been considering the Lane's End S. for his charge, but decided on the Rebel. "We looked at it very seriously, but decided to stay here [Oaklawn]," explained Miller. "He's training well over this track. It's a little bit easier for him to gain experience here." If Great Notion does well in the Rebel, he will point towards the Apr. 12 GIII Arkansas Derby before a decision is made about the Kentucky Derby. The Rebel isn't graded this year, making Great Notion's task a bit trickier. "He's got one shot at graded money [Arkansas Derby]," said Miller.

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**WEEKEND PEDIGREE  
PERSPECTIVES**

*by Alan Porter*

**Sunday, Santa Anita**

**SAN FELIPE S.-GII**, \$250,000, SAX, 3-16, 3yo,  
1 1/16m, 1:43 3/5, gd.

1--**BUDDY GIL**, 119, g, 3, by Eastern Echo

1st Dam: Really Rising (SP), by For Really

2nd Dam: Rising Writer, by Staff Writer

3rd Dam: Forever Rise, by Rising Market

O-Desperado Stables Inc, McFadden, Merrill Stables,  
et al; B-Billingsley Creek Ranch (KY); T-Jeff Mullins;  
J-G L Stevens; \$150,000. Lifetime Record: 8-4-1-1,  
\$279,455.

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When Eastern Echo retired to stud, he appeared redolent with promise. Although he only ran three times, he won all three, ending his career with a GI Futurity S. victory over Deposit Ticket. Eastern Echo also had the pedigree to go with his performance. A son of Damascus, he was out of the GII Diana H. and GIII Comely S. heroine Wild Applause (subsequently dam of other graded stakes winners Roar, Blare of Trumpets, and, in 2003, Yell). By Northern Dancer out of Broodmare of the Year Glowing Tribute, Wild Applause is a sister to Grade I winner and useful sire Hero's Honor, and half sister to the GI Kentucky Derby victor Sea Hero and other graded-stakes winners Glowing Honor, Coronation Cup and Mackie.

Unfortunately, these credentials didn't translate into consistent success for Eastern Echo. He did make a bright start as his first crop was headed by the GIII Laurel Futurity winner Western Echo, a horse who eventually earned over \$600,000. In his third crop came Swiss Yodeler, winner at two of the GI Hollywood Futurity and GII Hollywood Juvenile Championship (and subsequently California's leading freshman sire of 2002). However, Western Echo and Swiss Yodeler proved to be the only graded scorers from Eastern Echo's first eight crops and for the current season he moved from Lane's End Farm in Versailles, Kentucky to Shamrock Farms in Woodbine, Maryland, where he was advertised to stand at a fee of \$3,000.

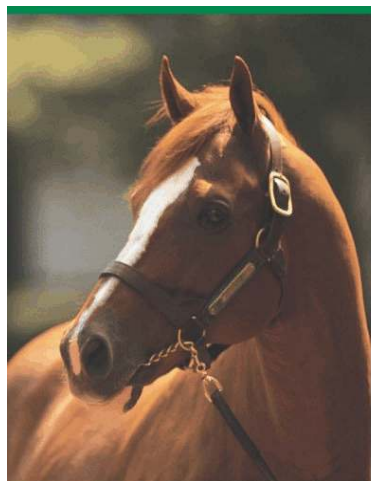
Oddly enough, Eastern Echo's current three-year-old crop, which is his ninth, is his largest ever, consisting of 53 named foals and producing two current stakes winners. The most notable of these is Buddy Gil, who has claimed upset victories in his last two starts. A speedy juvenile, Buddy Gil earned black type at two with a win in the Golden Bear S. He was off the board in the GIII Golden Gate Derby on his seasonal debut, then captured the GIII Baldwin S. over 6 1/2 furlongs on the turf at odds of 26-1. Back on the dirt for the GII San Felipe S., Buddy Gil produced a game display to deny the highly thought-of Atswatimtalknbut by a nose.

Buddy Gil is the second foal of the stakes-placed Really Rising, a daughter of the Buckpasser horse Buckaroo. A half sister to Hodson, winner of the Saguaro S. at Turf Paradise, Really Rising is out of Rising Writer (by Staff Writer), a stakes winner who also gained graded credits with a third in the GIII Ak-Sar-Ben Oaks. Buddy Gil's third dam, Forever Rise, was also stakes placed, and his fifth dam, Real Sweet Deal, won the Cinderella S. and was a full sister to Hollywood and California Derby winner Real Good Deal. Another daughter of Real Sweet Deal, Irreproachable, is dam of the 1980 GI Kentucky Derby runner-up, Rumbo and granddam of the GI Hollywood Oaks winner Pacific Squall.

*Pedigree Perspectives cont. p. 4*

**TELL IT TO THE TDN...**

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*(Pedigree Perspectives cont. from p. 3)*

Earlier in the article, we mentioned that Eastern Echo retired to stud with impressive credentials, which included the fact that he was out of a Northern Dancer mare. Although it wouldn't have been considered so at the time, this may oddly enough have been more a minus than a plus. Considering his greatness as a sire of sires and that he has been broodmare sire of well over 200 stakes winners, Northern Dancer has made remarkably little impact as a broodmare sire of sires. Indeed, if we are looking for the most successful stallions out of Northern Dancer mares, we end up considering, in addition to Eastern Echo, such sires as Southern Halo (an outstanding stallion on his Southern Hemisphere record), Maryland's up-and-coming Not for Love, Arazi, L'Enjoleur and Norcliffe. Compare this with, for example, Secretariat, whose roster in the broodmare sire of the sire category includes Storm Cat, A.P. Indy, Gone West, Dehere, Summer Squall and Chief's Crown.

It's likely that in a lot of cases, especially with the earlier horses, breeders avoided sending mares carrying Northern Dancer back to stallions whose dams were by the Canadian patriarch. However, since this formula gives inbreeding to Northern Dancer in the broodmare sire of the sire position, it may actually be a plus. Buddy Gil has a second strain of Northern Dancer through Northern Dancer's son Staff Writer, sire of Buddy's Gil's second dam, and a Northern Dancer duplication is found in at least three other Eastern Echo stakes winners. We've also had examples of the phenomenon this year in Grade I winner Got Koko (the only stakes winner for her sire Signal Tap) and handicap star Congaree (by Arazi, who has a Northern Dancer double in six of his first 10 stakes winners, including five of six group/graded winners).

We should also note that the three-parts sisters Searching (fourth dam of Eastern Echo) and Busanda (dam of Buckpasser) 5x5 in Buddy Gil's pedigree. This pair also appear 3x3 in GI Kentucky Sea Hero, who as mentioned is half brother to the dam of Eastern Echo. With regard to Buddy Gil's Derby chances, we'd have to guess that he will be stretched to be effective at a mile and a quarter. Eastern Echo has primarily been a speed influence, and the maternal grandsire, For Really, was a sprinter, pure and simple. Still, that shouldn't stop Buddy Gil, who is a gelding, from being a major money spinner of the West Coast for several years to come.

**FOALING NEWS:**

**DONNA VIOLA (GB)**, 11, Be My Chief--Countess Olivia (GB) (Prince Tenderfoot)

Foal born Mar. 3, a filly by Saint Ballado.

Will be bred back to Gone West.

Owned by Aaron & Marie Jones.

Boarded at Taylor Made Farm, KY.

Accomplishments: Hwt. Older Mare-Eng at 9.5-11f, SW & GSP-Eng, GSW-Fr & Ire, MGISW-US, \$996,126.

**POSSIBLY PERFECT**, 13, Northern Baby--Avasand (Avatar)

Foal born Mar. 3, a colt by Kingmambo.

Will be bred back to Giant's Causeway.

Owned by Blue Vista Inc.

Boarded at Ashleigh Stud, KY.

Accomplishments: Ch. Turf Mare, MGISW, \$1,377,273. Dam of Promontory Gold (Gone West), GSW, \$139,721.

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



**THESE GUYS ARE EVERYWHERE**

Without question the highlight of a big three-year-old weekend was the impressive performance of the Bobby Frankel-trained Empire Maker, running a Beyer 108 and winning by almost 10 lengths, in the GI Florida Derby. But the subplot was Touch Gold, again, and his new running mate, [Tale of the Cat](#), in their continuing emergence as the real stars--at least with their first three-year-olds--of an almost impossibly strong group of second-crop sires in North America.

Frankel's weekend blitz of Florida also saw Midas Eyes, by Touch Gold, win the GIII Swale at seven furlongs, notching up a Beyer 113 with a nine-length trouncing of Posse and Whywhywhy. The next day, the 1-2 from the Jan. 11 Gulfstream Park allowance race repeated the dose in the GIII Tampa Bay Derby; Region of Merit--by who else?--Touch Gold, defeating Aristocat, by Tale of the Cat. Aristocat had come back to win an allowance on Fountain of Youth day, so the form, as we like to say, is rock solid.

Touch Gold has only had four winners this year, but all four (Composure, Region of Merit, Midas Eyes, and Flirt With Fortune, third behind subsequent San Felipe

winner Buddy Gil in the GIII Baldwin S.) are stakes horses. Another son, Powerful Touch was second in the GIII Holy Bull, but hasn't run back, and hasn't won this year. Touch Gold was sixth on the Freshman Sire List last year, but has now worked his way into fourth in cumulative North American second-crop sire earnings, just \$100,000 off leader [Distorted Humor](#). Touch Gold and Tale of the Cat are 1-2, as you'd expect, in 2003 earnings, and Tale of the Cat is just \$20,000 behind Distorted Humor in second overall, and himself only \$13,000 ahead of [Elusive Quality](#), in third.

Awesome Again, second leading freshman sire last year, has only two winners and ranks 34th in 2003, so has dropped to fifth overall, with [Grand Slam](#), who has one stakes winner but no fewer than nine stakes-placed runners, down one slot to sixth. The biggest mover into the top 10 is Deputy Commander, yet a third Deputy Minister, after Touch Gold and Awesome Again. He's had three stakes-placed runners in the last four weeks, and is up from 17th to 10th. One of those is Brancusi, third to Buddy Gil and Atswhatimtalknabout in Sunday's GII San Felipe S.; he is one of three Derby contenders trained in America for Michael Tabor, along with Aristocat and GII Hutcheson winner Lion Tamer, who makes his two-turn debut at Turfway this weekend. Presumably a decision about whether Hold That Tiger goes to Louisville or Newmarket could depend to some extent on how that goes. **Cont. p. 4**

**LEADING NORTH AMERICAN SECOND-CROP SIRES BY CUMULATIVE EARNINGS**

<u>SIRE</u>	<u>YOB</u>	<u>SIRE'S SIRE</u>	<u>3YO</u>	<u>RNRS</u>	<u>WNRS</u>	<u>WINS</u>	<u>EARNINGS</u>	<u>GSW</u>	<u>SW</u>	<u>SP</u>	<u>LOC</u>
<a href="#">Distorted Humor</a>	1993	Forty Niner	69	37	20	36	\$1,634,399	2	4	2	KY
<a href="#">Tale of the Cat</a>	1994	Storm Cat	119	53	31	46	\$1,621,444	0	4	3	KY
<a href="#">Elusive Quality</a>	1993	Gone West	79	43	24	42	\$1,608,234	3	8	4	KY
Touch Gold	1994	Deputy Minister	86	43	10	20	\$1,531,066	3	3	2	KY
Awesome Again	1994	Deputy Minister	77	36	12	21	\$1,347,649	1	2	1	KY
<a href="#">Grand Slam</a>	1995	Gone West	140	69	27	37	\$1,157,812	0	1	9	KY
Stormy Atlantic	1994	Storm Cat	60	26	13	28	\$991,946	1	3	2	KY
Swiss Yodeler	1994	Eastern Echo	53	29	19	29	\$923,542	0	2	4	CA
<a href="#">Souvenir Copy</a>	1995	Mr. Prospector	115	54	23	31	\$906,912	0	1	1	KY
Deputy Commander	1994	Deputy Minister	103	53	18	23	\$812,625	0	0	4	KY
Indian Charlie	1995	In Excess (IRE)	91	44	20	25	\$811,364	0	1	5	KY
<a href="#">Coronado's Quest</a>	1995	Forty Niner	58	27	15	20	\$772,252	1	3	2	KY

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(Bill Oppenheim cont. from p. 3)

**Japan: a Sinkhole for Precocity...**

Long before Dosage was corrupted by becoming identified with predicting Kentucky Derby winners, Dr. Franco Varola outlined the key concept of 'aptitude' in geographical terms: certain lines were best suited by the type of racing conducted in specific countries or continents, whereas other lines may be not so well suited by one type of racing or another. Japan appears to be a case in point. APEX Stallion Ratings, as you will know, are based on earnings, and it's clear, from looking at the numbers, that the vast majority of purse money in Japanese racing goes to older horses, far more so than is the case in Europe and North America. Japan has imported lots of big-money stallions in the last 20 years, but on the whole--if money is the correct criterion--the results have been disastrous.

The table below shows the 1996-2002 results for 24 sires who stood elsewhere and then went to Japan. Five of them have been bought to come back to North America or Europe. Incredibly, of the 24, only two have higher A Runner Indices in Japan than where they came from, and in the cases of both of them, Damister and Mi Cielo, the explanation may be a relatively small number of runners in Japan. One after another, they have flopped there, or at least underperformed. Soviet Star, for example, has a 3.28 A Runner Index in Europe and North America; he is 0.00, 0-for-191, in Japan. No wonder they were willing to sell him back to Ireland. Generous, now back in England, is another example: 4.42 A Runner Index outside of Japan, 0.00 there; 0-for-218. Forty Niner has at least had A Runners there: he is 1.31 (9-for-344) in Japan, but he was 4.01 (32-for-399) in North America and Europe. **Cont. p. 5**

**24 SIRES, STOOD JAPAN & ELSEWHERE**

Sire	Yr. 1 <sup>st</sup>		Stands		A Runner		Runners in		A Runners in		A Runner		Runners		A Runners		A Runner	
	Foals	Now	Runners	A Runners	Index	NA/EU	NA/EU	Index	NA/EU	Index	NA/EU	in Japan	In Japan	Index	Japan	Index	Japan	
Afleet	1990	JP	1246	46	1.85	589	30	2.55	657	16	1.22							
Arazi	1994	J-	385	8	1.04	327	8	1.22	58	0	0.00							
Black Tie Affair	1993	JP	1266	28	1.11	1079	26	1.20	187	2	0.53							
Blushing John	1991	JP	604	11	0.91	544	11	1.01	60	0	0.00							
Criminal Type	1992	JP	408	5	0.61	120	3	1.25	288	2	0.35							
Damister	1988	JP	226	6	1.33	127	3	1.18	99	3	1.52							
Dr Devious	1998 <sup>^</sup>	E-	528	6	0.57	181	3	0.83	347	3	0.43							
Forty Niner	1990	JP	743	41	2.76	399	32	4.01	344	9	1.31							
Generous	1993 <sup>@</sup>	GB	591	33	2.79	373	33	4.42	218	0	0.00							
Groom Dancer	1989x	GB	670	13	0.97	348	10	1.44	322	3	0.47							
Hector Protector	1993 <sup>^</sup>	JP	749	14	0.93	115	4	1.74	634	10	0.79							
Jolie's Halo	1994x	JP	620	22	1.77	402	18	2.24	218	4	0.92							
Lammtarra	1997	JP	294	5	0.85	48	2	2.08	246	3	0.61							
Last Tycoon	1988x	J-	780	15	0.96	425	11	1.29	355	4	0.56							
Mi Cielo	1996	JP	370	6	0.81	346	4	0.58	24	2	4.17							
Mining	1990	JP	673	17	1.26	532	17	1.60	141	0	0.00							
Ogygian	1989	JP	747	10	0.67	446	6	0.67	301	4	0.66							
Polish Navy	1989x	KY	430	7	0.81	201	4	1.00	229	3	0.66							
Polish Patriot	1993	JP	361	9	1.25	259	8	1.54	102	1	0.49							
Rhythm	1998*	CA	493	7	0.71	187	4	1.07	306	3	0.49							
Soviet Star	1990x	IR	450	17	1.89	259	17	3.28	191	0	0.00							
Sunshine Forever	1991	JP	594	9	0.76	426	8	0.94	168	1	0.30							
Tenby	1995	JP	281	8	1.42	177	8	2.26	104	0	0.00							
Warning	1991d	J-	803	33	2.05	628	28	2.23	175	5	1.43							

**KEY**  
 In Yr. 1<sup>st</sup> Foals:  
 d = dead  
<sup>^</sup> = imported to Europe  
<sup>@</sup> = dual-hemisphered  
 x = exported  
 \* = imported to NA

**In Stands Now:**  
 E- = stood in Europe  
 J- = stood in Japan



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(Bill Oppenheim cont. from p. 4)

Of the Top 20 Sires in Japan (A Runner Index in Japan, 1996-2002), only five were imports who began their careers elsewhere. Warning, Forty Niner, and Afleet, who are all in the second 10, all had better ratings from their pre-Japanese crops. Damister, a 12-furlong horse, is in the top 10, and has better ratings in Japan. Arc winner Dancing Brave actually ended up with good ratings in Europe, but not until after he had been sold to Japan, where he was second only to Sunday Silence with a 3.08 Japanese A Runner Index. His son, Derby winner Commander in Chief (he went straight to Japan to stand), ranked fourth, at 2.07. This suggests to me that the Japanese racing program suits "two-turn" sires, whose runners tend to improve with age, much better than the big-name, precocious stars from speed or miler lines. Sunday Silence, Brian's Time, Opera House, White Muzzle, Tony Bin; they round out the top seven, along with Dancing Brave and Commander in Chief. Not speed horses.

**FOALING NEWS:**

**LITE LIGHT**, 15, Majestic Light--Printing Press (In Reality)

Foal born Mar. 5, a colt by Fusaichi Pegasus. Will be bred back to Thunder Gulch. Owned by Foxfield.

Boarded at Trackside Farm, Ky.

Accomplishments: MGISW of \$1,231,596. Dam of Gaily Egret (Storm Cat), SW-Jpn, \$1,785,348; Saddad (Gone West), SW-Eng.

**WESTERN WOMAN**, 7, West by West--Sondrio (The Minstrel)

Foal born Jan. 24, a colt by Exploit. Will be bred back to Tiznow.

Owned by Taylor Made Farm, Brian Kahn & Corey Brown.

Boarded at Taylor Made Farm, KY.

Accomplishments: SW, \$114,800.

**TDN TODAY**  
**Headline News . . . . . 7 pages**

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

**TOP 20 SIRES IN JAPAN, A RUNNER INDEX 1996-2002**

Sire	Yr. 1 <sup>st</sup>	Stands		A Runner		Runners in		A Runners in		A Runner		Runners		A Runners		A Runner	
	Foals	Now	Runners	A Runners	Index	NA/EU	NA/EU	Index	NA/EU	Index	NA/EU	in Japan	In Japan	Index	Japan	Index	Japan
Sunday Silence	1992d	J-	1901	143	3.76	25	1	2.00	1876	142	3.78						
Dancing Brave	1988d	J-	400	25	3.13	27	2	3.70	373	23	3.08						
Brian's Time	1991	JP	941	45	2.39	1	0	0.00	940	45	2.39						
Commander In Chief	1995	JP	605	25	2.07	0	0	0.00	605	25	2.07						
Opera House	1995	JP	275	10	1.82	1	0	0.00	274	10	1.82						
White Muzzle	1996	JP	199	7	1.76	0	0	0.00	199	7	1.76						
Tony Bin	1990d	J-	1241	42	1.69	1	0	0.00	1240	42	1.69						
Mejiro Ryan	1994	JP	471	15	1.59	0	0	0.00	471	15	1.59						
Damister	1998	JP	226	6	1.33	127	3	1.18	99	3	1.52						
Northern Taste	1977	JP	569	17	1.49	2	0	0.00	567	17	1.50						
Amber Shadai	1985	JP	515	15	1.46	0	0	0.00	515	15	1.46						
Warning	1991d	J-	803	33	2.05	628	28	2.23	175	5	1.43						
Assatis	1992	JP	423	12	1.42	0	0	0.00	423	12	1.42						
Soccer Boy	1991	JP	461	13	1.41	0	0	0.00	461	13	1.41						
Forty Niner	1990	JP	743	41	2.76	399	32	4.01	344	9	1.31						
Star of Cozzene	1996	JP	199	5	1.26	0	0	0.00	199	5	1.26						
Afleet	1990	JP	1246	46	1.85	589	30	2.55	657	16	1.22						
Rodrigo De Triano	1994	JP	372	9	1.21	0	0	0.00	372	9	1.21						
Mogami	1982	JP	224	5	1.12	0	0	0.00	224	5	1.12						
Fuji Kiseki	1996	JP	564	13	1.15	2	1	25.00	562	12	1.07						

**KEY:** In Yr. 1<sup>st</sup> Foals: d = dead      In Stands Now: J = stood in Japan

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 **NORTH AMERICA** 

**VOLPONI BACK ON TRACK** Breeders' Cup Classic winner **Volponi** (Cryptoclearance) returned to the work tab Tuesday, drilling three furlongs over Belmont Park's fast training track in :37 3/5. It was the five-year-old's first serious move of the year. "The weather put the schedule behind, but it didn't put the horse behind," commented trainer Phil Johnson. "I'm hoping to run him very early in the Belmont meet." Belmont's Spring/Summer meeting opens May 7. Of Volponi's 2003 itinerary, Johnson said, "The only race I've picked out for him this year is the Breeders' Cup Classic on Oct. 25 [at Santa Anita]."

**AMERICAN CHANCE FILLY TOPS OBS OPENER**

A dark bay filly by American Chance out of the stakes-placed mare Sweet and Lowdown (Stalwart) brought top bid of \$350,000 at yesterday's opening session of the Ocala Breeders' Sale's Company's Select Two-Year-Olds in Training Sale, held at the OBS Complex in Ocala, Florida. Consigned by agent Moonshadow Farm and purchased by Team Valor, the juvenile posted the co-fastest quarter-mile work of :21.2 at the sale's second under tack show Mar. 15. Leading the colts on the afternoon, with a final bid of \$300,000, was hip 110, a chestnut colt by sophomore sire Subordination out of the dual stakes winning mare Tricky Move (Tricky Creek). Purchased by M&M Racing, the colt was consigned by Horizon Bloodstock LLC. During the first session of the two-day sale, OBS sold 137 two-year-olds for \$9,635,000. The average, \$70,328, rose 10.2 percent from last year's opening session figure of \$63,827. The sale's second session begins today at 11:00 a.m.

		<b>OBS 2YOs IN TRAINING SALE TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2003</b>	
<u>SESSION TOTALS</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	
No. Sold	137	98	
Gross	\$9,635,000	\$6,255,000	
Average (% change)	\$70,328 (+10.2%)	\$63,827	
<a href="http://www.obssales.com">www.obssales.com</a>			

**OBS TWO-YEAR-OLDS IN TRAINING  
TOP FIVE LOTS -- TUESDAY**

<u>Hip#</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Sire</u>	<u>Dam</u>	<u>Price</u>
<u>081</u>	filly	American Chance	Sweet and Lowdown	\$350,000 ( <i>\$40,000 yrl '02 KEESEP</i> )
Consigned by Moonshadow Farm, agent Purchased by Team Valor				
<u>214</u>	filly	Salt Lake	Checkerspot	\$320,000 ( <i>\$20,000 wnlg '01 KEENOV; \$40,000 yrl '02 OBSAUG</i> )
Consigned by Old South Farm Purchased by Carl Lizza, Jr., Flying Zee Stables				
<u>110</u>	colt	Subordination	Tricky Move	\$300,000 ( <i>\$20,000 yrl '02 FTMSEP</i> )
Consigned by Horizon Bloodstock LLC Purchased by M&M Racing				
<u>192</u>	colt	Montbrook	Bright Bliss	\$250,000 Consigned by Ocala Stud Farms Purchased by Bea Oxenberg & Trilogy Stable
<u>104</u>	colt	Peaks and Valleys	To Be Paid	\$240,000 ( <i>\$12,500 yrl '02 KEEJAN</i> ) Consigned by Eddie Woods, Agent I Purchased by David Clark

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**STAKES CLOSINGS**

**TODAY, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19:**  
03-29 \$300,000 *Gulfstream Park H.-I, GP, 3yo/up, 10f (200)*

**TOMORROW, THURSDAY, MARCH 20:**  
03-29 \$200,000 *Portrero Grande Breeders' Cup H.-II, SA, 4yo/up, 6.5f (100)*

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## ★ CENTRAL ★

### Turfway Adds Precautions Against Equine Herpesvirus:

Three horses stabled at Turfway Park have been positively diagnosed with the equine herpesvirus type 1. The three horses, stabled in the same barn and under the care of the same trainer, have responded favorably to treatment. At the direction of the state veterinarian, all horses in the affected barn will be quarantined until the risk of viral infection has passed. The presence of the virus has led Turfway Park racing officials to implement additional precautionary steps against the spread of the infection. These measures are: horses shipping into Turfway Park will be housed only in the receiving barn or the stakes barn; all stalls in the receiving barn, the detention barn and the stakes barn have been stripped and thoroughly sanitized; the Equine Infectious Disease Action Plan developed by the Maxwell H. Gluck Equine Research Center has been implemented; in concert with the Gluck Center and the state veterinarian's office, protocols are being developed for the handling of horses stabled in the immediate barn. "We've taken these additional steps out of an abundance of caution to ensure everyone racing at Turfway Park feels comfortable about the welfare of their horses," said track president Robert Elliston. "We will take whatever steps necessary to ensure the safety of the 950 horses stabled with us all year, horses shipping in from training facilities throughout the region, as well as horses shipping in for our Lane's End S. day next weekend."

### Yesterday's Results:

4th-HAW, \$31,980, Alw, Opt. Clm. (\$50,000-\$40,000), NW2X, 3yo, a1m70yd, 1:45 2/5, ft.

**LX COMMANDER (c, 3, Deputy Commander--Criminative {SP}, by Criminal Type)** graduated third time out at Turfway Park Jan. 26 before posting an impressive 2 1/4-length victory over the same track while stretching to a mile Feb. 6. A distant ninth in his stakes debut, Turfway's John Battaglia Memorial Mar. 1, the \$57,000 TEXAUG yearling purchase went off the 3-1 third choice to score his first win of the year. Close up through a modest half mile, the bay took over on the final turn and drew off to win by 10 1/2 lengths. Lifetime Record: 6-3-0-0, \$35,390. O-E Wright, M Childers & L T B Inc. B-Stonerside Stable (TX). T-Bernard S Flint.

## ★ NEW YORK ★

### Main Track to Open Friday:

Racing will return to Aqueduct's main track on Friday with a first post time of 1 p.m. The transfer from the inner track, originally scheduled to take place Mar. 12, was delayed by the affects of winter weather in the area.

## ★ INDUSTRY INFO ★

### Racing Viewership Up in 2003:

According to data supplied by Nielsen Media Research, audience numbers have increased dramatically for both "Long John Silver's Wire to Wire," the National Thoroughbred Racing Association's weekly magazine show, and "CITGO Racing to the Kentucky Derby," which presents key Triple Crown prep races. Both series are shown on the ESPN networks. Numbers for "Wire to Wire" are up 118 percent through the end of February and "Racing to the Kentucky Derby" has posted increases of 95 percent, 82 percent and 12 percent for the four shows that have aired through last Sunday. This past weekend's coverage of the Florida Derby drew more households (381,000) than did the Big 12 Conference college basketball tournament game that preceded it on ESPN2 (371,000). With a tennis lead-in, Sunday's program featuring the San Felipe S., the Gotham S. and the Tampa Bay Derby attracted more households (237,000 vs. 204,000) than did the NHL game that followed racing on ESPN2. "With so much sports programming heading in the other direction in terms of audience size, we are pleased by our sport's increased viewership thus far in 2003," said NTRA Commissioner Tim Smith.

## SOPHOMORE SPOTLIGHT

### First-crop progeny to watch: Wednesday, Mar. 19

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

**ARCH** (Kris S.), Claiborne, \$, 102/9/0  
6-TP, Msw, 1 1/16m, Luvbnme, \$20K KEE OCT yrl  
**DEPUTY COMMANDER** (Deputy Minister), Airdrie, \$20K, 183/20/0  
8-SA, Msw, 1mT, Majestic Commander, \$240K KEE SEP yrl  
8-SA, Msw, 1mT, Commander Jag, \$200K FTS AUG yrl  
**DOUBLE HONOR** (Gone West), Farnsworth, \$5K, 137/29/0  
5-LRL, Msw, 5 1/2f, Heartfelt Honor, 5-2  
**GENTLEMEN (ARG)** (Robin des Bois), Walmac, \$30K, 126/11/1  
8-SA, Msw, 1mT, Richard's Boy, \$50K KEE SEP yrl  
**SKIP AWAY** (Skip Trial), Hopewell, \$50K, 180/21/2  
8-SA, Msw, 1mT, +Found My Way, \$44K KEE SEP yrl  
**SWAIN (IRE)** (Nashwan), Shadwell, \$35K, 122/7/1  
8-SA, Msw, 1mT, Stanley Park, \$240K KEE SEP yrl  
**TOUCH GOLD** (Deputy Minister), Adena, \$30K, 169/10/3  
2-CT, Msw, 7f, Gold Muff, \$35K EAS OCT yrl, 10-1

The **brisnet.com** 'Race of the Day' is the Race 7, \$65,000 Allowance, Santa Anita Park. For pps and a complete race analysis, click [here](#).



**ROTHMANS ENDS ST. LEGER SPONSORSHIP**

English tobacco firm Rothmans (UK) Ltd announced yesterday the termination of their sponsorship of the G1 St. Leger S., the world's oldest Classic, due to a recently imposed ban on tobacco advertising by the government. The Tobacco Advertising & Promotion Act, which came into effect in February, prohibits tobacco advertising at sporting events. The title sponsors of the St. Leger Festival for the past four years, Rothmans will also cease their sponsorship of three other events at the festival: the G3 Park Hill S., G3 May Hill S., and G2 Champagne S. John Sanderson, chief executive at Doncaster Racecourse, commented, "We will always be grateful to Rothmans and their highly professional team for the enormous benefits they brought to the St. Leger Festival in the way of marketing and promotional expertise, as well as through their generous financial support."

★ **BRITAIN** ★

**DONCASTER SALE PRECEDES MEET**

Tomorrow's opening day of the Turf Flat season at Doncaster will be ushered in by today's Doncaster Lincoln Handicap Sales. Comprised of Flat and National Hunt horses both in and out of training, the one-day sale will also feature two-year-olds that could not be accommodated by the Breeze-Up Sales Apr. 1 and 2. The sale will include lots by sires such as Danetime (Ire), Atraf (FB), and Fasiliyev.

★ **FRANCE** ★

**CHARM PAYS TIMELY TRIBUTE**

There were emotional scenes at Maisons-Laffitte yesterday as **Mister Charm (Fr)** (Linamix {Fr}) became the first posthumous winner for owner/breeder Jean-Luc Lagardere, who passed away on Friday evening. Ioritz Mendizabal steered the three-year-old to an impressive score in the conditions event on the card. "This is a real emotional moment," explained racing manager Roland de Longevialle. "Monsieur Lagardere had watched this colt the first time he ran last year and he thought that he would develop into a very nice three-year-old and that looks likely now. Unfortunately, he will not be there with me tonight to discuss the horse's future plans."

**Yesterday's Results:**

**PRIX MONTENICA-Listed**, €41,000, Maisons-Laffitte, 3-18, 3yo, c/g, 1mT, 1:43.70, gd.

1--#**GRIP T (GB)**, 123, c, 3, by **First Trump (GB)**

1st Dam: **Needwood Epic (GB)**, by **Midyan**

2nd Dam: **Epure (GB)**, by **Bellypha (Ire)**

3rd Dam: **Caretta (Ire)**, by **Caro (Ire)**

(10,000gns wnl '00 TATDEC; FF220,000 yrl '01 DEAAUG). O-Robert Bousquet; B-Mrs J D Railton & Miss R Dobson; T-Jean-Claude Rouget; J-Ioritz Mendizabal; €20,500. Lifetime Record: 3 starts, 3 wins, €43,500.

2--**Solo Tango (Fr)**, 123, c, 3, **Goldneyev--Miss Bonfosse (Fr)**, by **Hard Leaf (Fr)**. €8,200.

3--**On Line (Fr)**, 123, c, 3, **Green Tune--Odwalla (GB)**, by **Kaldoun (Fr)**. €6,150.

Margins: NK, 1, SHD. Odds: 1.20, 3.90, 6.00.

Also ran: **L'Archonte (Fr)**, **Ascetic Silver (Fr)**.

Gript did not appear until October of his two-year-old season, but made up for lost time with scores in a debutants event at Longchamp and a conditions contest at Saint-Cloud a month later. Held up by Ioritz Mendizabal in the early stages here as Thierry Thulliez sent Solo Tango to the head of affairs, he made smooth progress on the outer to challenge entering the straight. Edging ahead of the game front-runner inside the final 100 yards, he needed only to be pushed out with hands and heels for a cosy score. "Most of his rivals had run this year already, so to be capable of handling them while not at the top of his game shows he is nice," commented winning trainer Jean-Claude Rouget. "He has to step up a level now, but it's too early to say where he will go."

**Maisons-Laffitte**, 1.15, Cond, €29,000, 3yo, 6½fT, 1:23.20, gd.

**MISTER CHARM (FR)** (c, 3, **Linamix {Fr}--Miss Sacha {Ire} {SW-Ire}**, by **Last Tycoon {Ire}**) was sent off the 3-5 favourite on the basis of his performance when a 2½-length runner-up to Dalakhani (Ire) in the G3 Prix des Chenes. Held up off the conservative early pace, he showed impressive acceleration to sprint through a gap on the rail before comfortably holding Flechazo (Fr) (Jeune Homme) by 1½ lengths. Lifetime Record: GSP-Fr, 5 starts, 2 wins, 3 places, €49,200.

O-The Lagardere Family; B-Jean-Luc Lagardere; T-Jean-Claude Rouget.

**TDN TODAY**  
 Around the World ..... 4 pages



**ASHKALANI** - Sire of 6 Stakes Winners and 4 Stakes Placed runners in 2002  
 Sire of 4 Stakes Winners and 7 Stakes Placed runners in 2001

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# AUSTRALASIA



## HIGH HOPES FOR INGLIS EASTER SALES

William Inglis & Son Ltd. have announced that the 2003 Select Weanling and Broodmare Sale will take place Apr. 28-May 1, the week after the company conducts the Easter Yearling Sale. A total of 330 weanlings and 750 broodmares have been catalogued for the auction. Among the sires represented by weanlings are Danehill, Belong to Me, Carnegie (Ire), Fasliyev, Flying Spur (Aus), Fusaichi Pegasus, King's Best, Singspiel (Ire) and Spinning World. South African star Hoeberg (NZ) (Maroof) is the headliner for the broodmares, along with Lilande (Aus) (Marscay {Aus}), the dam of MG1SW Defier (Aus); and Lady Special (Aus) (Alzao), who produced MG1SW Bomber Bill (Aus). Catalogues will be available on-line at [www.inglis.com.au](http://www.inglis.com.au).

## DISPERSAL SET FOR MILLUNA STUD

Inglis will conduct a complete dispersal of Milluna Stud May 20 at One Tree Hill, South Australia. The stud's owner, Jim O'Connor, has decided to retire from the commercial breeding industry. One of Australia's leading nurseries in the last 40 years, Milluna Stud was home to leading sires Twig Moss (Fr) and Made of Gold. The dispersal of approximately 100 head will include mares by Fairy King, Grosvenor (NZ), Kenmare (Fr), Marscay (Aus), Royal Academy, \*Sir Tristram and Twig Moss. Among the weanlings scheduled to be sold are offspring of King's Best, Marju (Ire) and Singspiel. Catalogues will be available from mid-April at [www.inglis.com.au](http://www.inglis.com.au).

## BREEDERS' EDITION AMERICA

### ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

**1st-HAW**, \$30,000, NW2X, 4yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:14, ft.  
**PLAYITAGAIN LEO** (f, 4, **Leo Castelli--Dynamo Darling, by Gummo**) Lifetime Record: 11-3-4-2, \$66,810.  
 O-Wayne Bessler. B-Joseph Fletcher Archer (TX).  
 T-Dale Bennett. \*\$6,000 yrl '00 TEXAUG. \*\*1/2 to Millview (Variety Road), SW, \$121,213.

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**6th-HAW**, \$30,000, NW2X, (S), 4yo/up, f/m, a1m70yd, 1:47 3/5, ft.

**SNICKEEZ** (m, 5, **Mr. Greeley--Lady Theodora {MSP, \$184,361}**), by **Mari's Book**) Lifetime Record: 23-4-3-2, \$98,376. O-Mary Ann Calabrese. B-Crown's Way Farm & Marovich Ent LLC (IL). T-Michael L Reavis. \*1/2 to Sandy's Way (Twining), SP, \$221,845; Out Of My Way (Jolie's Halo), SW, \$186,811.

**7th-CTX**, \$21,500, 3-17, NW3L, 4yo/up, 1 1/16m, 1:47 3/5, ft.

**SUPERNATURAL STORM** (c, 4, **Storm Creek--I'm a Kitty Kat, by Alleged**) Lifetime Record: 13-3-3-2, \$46,872. O-Robert E Hafer. B-Casey Seaman (FL). T-Raimondo Schiano-Dicola. \*\$22,000 wlng '99 OBSOCT; \$85,000 yrl '00 OBSAUG.

**9th-PHA**, \$21,000, NW2X, 4yo/up, 1 1/16m, 1:45 1/5, ft.

**SCOTTISH WARRIOR** (c, 4, **Cherokee Run--British Bubbly, by Stop the Music**) Lifetime Record: 29-6-8-5, \$116,170. O-Gumpster Stable. B-Donald Lake (FL). T-Scott A Lake.

### MAIDEN WINNERS:

**Iceplosion**, c, 3, **Lite the Fuse--Chantilly Ice**, by Sir Naskra. HAW, 3-18, 6f, 1:13 1/5. B-Inman & Seldin (Ky).

**Belle of Livorno**, f, 3, **Whitney Tower--Marfa's Blossom**, by Marfa. MNR, 3-17, 6f, 1:14. B-Robert Vickers (Fl). \*\$14,000 2yo '02 FTMMAY.

## BREEDERS' EDITION EUROPE

### CONDITIONS RESULTS:

**ITALY, Rome, 4.45, Cond**, €19,125, 3yo, 1 1/16mT, 1:45.00, gd/fm.

**TREVI (ITY)** (c, 3, **Bound for Honour--Valenik {Ity}**), by **Mr. Classic**) Lifetime Record: 4 starts, 2 wins, 0 places, €23,375. O/B-Azienda Agricola Ste Ma SRL; T-F Camici.

### ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

+ **Nonno Carlo (Ire)**, c, 3, **Alhaarth (Ire)**--Most of People (GB) (SP-Ity), by Horage (Ire). Rome, Italy, 3-18, Cond, 3yo, c/g, 1 5/16mT. B-CAMMA SAS di Andrea Schiavi Co.

**Subtile Bed (Fr)**, f, 3, **Double Bed (Fr)**--Flowers Lane (Fr), by Kaldoun (Fr). Maisons-Laffitte, France, 3-18, Cond, 3yo, f, 1 5/16mT. B-G Gilles. \*FF45,000 yrl '01 DEAOCT.

**Tinaki (Fr)**, c, 3, **Kendor (Fr)**--Tinerana Memories (Ire), by Don't Forget Me (Ire). Maisons-Laffitte, France, 3-18, Cond, 3yo, c/g, 1 5/16mT. B-Ecurie Bader.