

**Monmouth Back in  
BC Picture  
p. 2**

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**TDN**  
THOROUGHBRED DAILY NEWS  
THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2005

**HEADLINE  
NEWS**

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**NINE TO LINE UP IN FLORIDA DERBY**

A field of nine three-year-olds, including the Nick Zito-trained pair of **High Fly** (Atticus) and **Noble Causeway** (Giant's Causeway), have been entered for Saturday's \$1-million GI Florida Derby at Gulfstream Park. The absence of runners such as Bandini and Closing Argument lured several unexpected sophomores. Trainer Rick Violette, Jr., who saddled last year's even-money favorite Read the Footnotes, will bring over 12-1 **Wallstreet Scandal** (Mt. Livermore) this time. "The loss



Wallstreet Scandal Equi-Photo

of Bandini and Closing Argument is significant," Violette explained, "and High Fly having a temperature two days ago means he may not be at his best. These developments make us want to take a look at a \$1-million purse here." Second to **Park Avenue Ball** (Citidancer) in

the GII Futurity S. at Belmont in September, Wallstreet Scandal kicked off 2005 with an allowance win on the turf at Gulfstream Feb. 21 (video). He travelled to Fair Grounds for his latest and finished fourth to High Limit in the GII Louisiana Derby Mar. 12. "Sometimes, you just have to be in the right place at the right time," Violette concluded.

**Saturday, Gulfstream Park**

PP HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY
1 Noble Causeway	Giant's Causeway	Prado
2 B. B. Best	Yes It's True	Chavez
3 Park Avenue Ball	Citidancer	Dominguez
4 High Fly	Atticus	Bailey
5 Vicarage	Vicar	Velazquez
6 Mighty Mecke	Mecke	Velasquez
7 Papi Chullo	Comeonmom	Albarado
8 Wall Street Scandal	Mt. Livermore	Castellano
9 Evil Minister	Deputy Minister	Potts

All carry 122 pounds.

**2005 CITGO RACING TO THE  
KENTUCKY DERBY**

Date	Network	Time (ET)	Event
Apr. 2	ABC	5-6 p.m.	Florida Derby

**CHOICE IS SIMPLE FOR INGHAM**

Woodlands Stud principal Bob Ingham outgunned three international underbidders to secure the charismatic Redoute's Choice (Aus) 3/4-brother to dual Melbourne Cup winner Makybe Diva (GB), setting a new sale record of A\$2.5 million during the second session of the Inglis Australian Easter Yearling Sale yesterday. Bidding kicked off at A\$1.5 million and continued rapidly, with Ingham seeing off a slew of challengers. Ingham later admitted he hadn't laid eyes on the colt before yesterday, but that he was prepared to get him at any cost. "My first impression? When he walked in there," said Ingham.



Lot 259 - A\$2.5 million  
eightmonkeysmedia

"That was the first time I had seen him. I employ the best people and they picked him out and said he was an absolute standout. I had my heart set on him. I made up my mind I was going to buy him." Ingham said Woodlands' earlier purchases had merely been "playing around, really," and, asked if he was prepared to keep going in the ring, he responded, "I came here to buy him." *Inglis Coverage cont. p2-4*

**STRANGLES CONCERNS HEAD TO NYRA**

Concerns over strangles have forced the New York Racing Association to put into place temporary restrictions on horses shipping from Florida to either Belmont Park or Aqueduct. The restriction--which includes ponies--applies to horses currently stabled at Palm Meadows, Gulfstream Park, Payson Park and Tampa Bay Downs. The announcement comes a day after Churchill Downs revealed that horses would temporarily not be allowed to ship from either Palm Meadows or Gulfstream Park. "We're restricting horses from Florida tracks and training centers until their connections can produce a negative PCR (polymerase chain reaction) and negative culture from nasopharyngeal washes or swabs taken after Apr. 2," said Dr. Celeste Kunz, NYRA's chief examining veterinarian. "Trainers that have horses in a barn with a history of strangles since Dec. 1, 2004, must get approval before entering NYRA grounds." Aqueduct is scheduled to contest the \$750,000 GI Wood Memorial Apr. 9.

**JADE HUNTER**

2005 Fee - \$10,000 LF



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**IN 2004, MR. PROSPECTOR'S BEST-VALUED SON AT STUD HAD...**

More Graded Stakes winners than **Distorted Humor**,  
More Stakes winners than **Unbridled**, More Winners than **Gone West**,  
Higher Average Earnings per Starter than **Tale of the Cat**,  
and Higher Progeny Earnings than **Victory Gallop**



☆ NEWS TODAY ☆

**AGREEMENT REACHED FOR MONMOUTH, BC**

An agreement has been reached between the New Jersey Racing Commission and the state's Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association, according to *Newark Star-Ledger*. The deal will allow Monmouth Park to host the Breeders' Cup in 2007. Breeders' Cup officials had announced several months ago that the Oceanport, New Jersey track would host the championship event, provided that a long-standing dispute between the racing commission and the THA would be resolved by Apr. 9. But an October court date meant that the resolution deadline would have long passed, and the *Star-Ledger* now reports that the two sides will meet today in New Jersey Superior Court to finalize an agreement. racing commission officials had called for the resignation of the THA's nine board members, but acting Gov. Richard Codey and officials at the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority urged the commission principals to reconsider. The THA will now be allowed to retain three of the nine board members if they win reelection later this year. "The governor was kind enough to intercede and he motivated the proper parties to do the right thing," THA attorney Dennis Drazin told the *Star-Ledger*.



**Triple Threats**

**BLUES AND ROYALS HEADS LATE NOMS**

Godolphin's **Blues and Royals** (Honour and Glory), the surprise winner of the G2 UAE Derby last weekend, is among 13 late nominees for the 2005 Visa Triple Crown. The late nominations, for \$6,000, closed Saturday, Mar. 26. The other 12 three-year-olds include **Parole Board** (Dynaformer), third in the UAE Derby; and weekend stakes winners **Cat Shaker** (Catienus) and **Malibu Moonshine** (Malibu Moon). Also nominated were **B.B. Best** (Yes It's True), **Bridge Loan (GB)** (Giant's Causeway), **Evil Minister** (Deputy Minister), **General John B** (Sweetensouthernstaint), **Hello Jerry** (Malibu Moon), **Mr. Sword** (Rizzi), **Rikman** (Storm Creek), **Sort It Out** (Out of Place) and **Watchmon** (Maria's Mon).

☆ INGLIS EASTER ☆

*High Hopes for Topper...*

"We need another Horse of the Year," said Ingham, who, with his late brother Jack enjoyed racing Octagonal (NZ) and Lohnro (NZ), as well as six Slipper victors. Asked if the colt was comparatively good value by international standards, Ingham retorted, "No horse is good value!" Trainer John Hawkes was typically low-key, saying the colt would go to the Ingham's Belmont Park pre-training center, where he would be treated like any other youngster. "He is a lovely horse and we liked him a heck of a lot," said Hawkes. "Naturally, if he can gallop, he is going to make a lovely stallion. Redoute's Choice is pretty hot and it's a great family. He is a sensational type and he will get better as he gets older, he will keep developing, I feel."

Inglis Easter Sale cont. p3-4

**ROAD TO THE CLASSICS**  
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DATE	RACE	TRACK
Apr. 2	GI Florida Derby	Gulfstream
	WinStar Derby	Sunland Park

*This Saturday, watch the Florida Derby live on ABC at 5 p.m. ET and the WinStar Derby live on ESPN2 at 7 p.m. ET.*

**3 New 2005 Stakes Winners for Leading Sire**

**LANGFUHR**

(Danzig – Sweet Briar Too)



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**INGLIS EASTER YEARLING SALE  
WEDNESDAY -- TOP FIVE COLTS**

Hip	Sire	Dam	Price (\$A)
<u>259</u>	Redoute's Choice (Aus)	Tugela	\$2,500,000
Consigned by Arrowfield Stud, agent Purchased by Woodlands Stud			
<u>249</u>	Redoute's Choice (Aus)	Treasury Gardens	\$1,000,000
Consigned by Bellerive Stud Purchased by Shadwell Estates			
<u>344</u>	Redoute's Choice (Aus)	Back Pass	\$900,000
Consigned by Glenlogan Park Stud Purchased by Dean Hawthorne Bloodstock			
<u>340</u>	King Cugat	Assertive Lass (Aus)	\$460,000
Consigned by Twin Palms Stud Purchased by Tony Wildman			
<u>311</u>	Zabeel (NZ)	Abbaye (Aus)	\$410,000
Consigned by Cambridge Stud Purchased by E & B Bateman			

**Pride and Pedigree...**

Arrowfield sold the sale-topper on behalf of Makybe Diva's owner Tony Santic, who based his broodmare band at the Hunter Valley farm until recently developing his own farm in Victoria. Arrowfield's John Messara said Redoute's Choice deserved to have the new sale record. "Makybe Diva [by Desert King {Ire}] is arguably the mare of the century, and this colt is her three-quarter brother, by probably the stallion of the times," said Messara. "I expected him to nudge the record, I didn't think he'd go through it so easily. I always had a lot of hope and trust in Redoute's Choice, but he's just done the impossible. He's smashed every record for a two-year-old sire, and the market appreciates it. They like the fact he is local and they understand him. I didn't think it would go so well so quickly." Messara was also quick to heap accolades on the late Danehill, who climbed to the top of Australia's stallion ranks before suffering a fatal injury in 2003. "But let's not underestimate Danehill," he said. "Let's not forget him too quickly; he is a horse that broke all sorts of records in both hemispheres and we must respect that. He is the father of Redoute's Choice, so this is just one more achievement for Danehill."

**Sheikh Hamdan Makes His Presence Felt...**

With Sheikh Hamdan's Shadwell Estates revitalizing its racing portfolio in Australia, the organization's Angus Gold has been active during the first two sessions. Gold went to A\$1 million early Wednesday evening to secure Lot 249, a Redoute's Choice (Aus) colt from the Miswaki mare Treasury Gardens. The presence of Shadwell is due in part to the return of Hong Kong-based trainer David Hayes to the helm at Lindsay Park next season. "With the growth of racing in Dubai, Sheikh Hamdan has not raced all that many horses in Australia in recent years," explained Lindsay Park's Mark Pilkington. "He had a long association with Colin Hayes, and then David. With David coming home, Sheikh Hamdan sent Angus to New Zealand, where he bought five lovely horses, and he sent Angus here to buy some horses as well and hopefully relaunch David's training in Australia." Among the horses who have raced in Sheikh Hamdan's blue and white colors in Australia are Fraar, At Talaq, Jeune (GB) and Zabeel (NZ).

**INGLIS EASTER YEARLING SALE  
WEDNESDAY -- TOP FOUR FILLIES**

Hip	Sire	Dam	Price (A\$)
<u>293</u>	Fusaichi Pegasus	Wily Trick	\$600,000
Consigned by Emirates Park Purchased by William Inglis, agent			
<u>268</u>	Thunder Gulch	Vain Deb (Aus)	\$500,000
Consigned by Widden Stud, agent Purchased by Darley Australia			
<u>308</u>	Zabeel (NZ)	Zola (Aus)	\$450,000
Consigned by Bloomsbury Stud Purchased by Shadwell Australia			
<u>246</u>	Red Ransom	Tracy's Element	\$380,000
Consigned by Vinery Stud, agent Purchased by Broadhurst Agency			

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

**37 of the top 40**

yearlings sold in GB/IRE last year  
were sold at TATTERSALLS

Tattersalls Yearling Sales 2005 | Closing Date for Entries: April 29th

October Yearling Sale - Part 1 | October 4th - 7th  
October Yearling Sale - Part 2 | October 11th - 15th  
(Featuring the £250,000 Tattersalls October Auction Stakes)

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**Young Sires Prominent...**

After two sessions of the three-day Easter sale, young sires continued to figure prominently. Leading the way was Redoute's Choice, who had 19 sell at an average of A\$674,474 and median of A\$450,000. Fusaichi Pegasus has had 25 go through the ring at an average A\$216,400, with a top price of A\$800,000; and Giant's Causeway has had 18 go under the hammer at an average A\$203,944. King Cugat has also made an impact with Warwick Farm trainer Tony Wildman securing Lot 340, a half brother to Darley's multiple Group 1 winner Reset (NZ), for A\$460,000. The sale continues Thursday at 10 a.m. with highlights expected to include Lot 544, an Encosta de Lago (Aus) half sister to Hong Kong champion Silent Witness (Aus). Baramul Stud will offer a Giant's Causeway half brother to Golden Slipper victor Catbird (Aus) as Lot 487.

**What They're Saying At The Sales...**

**Dermot Farrington, with fellow agent Hubie de Burgh, has bought five horses so far**

*"It's a great sale, a strong sale. It's hard to get a good one. It reflects the fact that racing here is structured very well, with good prize money. Colts like Reset and Exceed and Excel have sold as huge money as stallions and that's excited a lot of people. But there is a surprising emphasis on X-rays here. I'd be a lot more forgiving than the market is, generally. I'd hate to X-ray every winner at Randwick today."*

**Mark Pilkington, agent purchasing for David Hayes**

*"The sale is very much in keeping with all the sales this year that the good horses are selling very well, and the fickleness of the X-ray situation has meant that, unfortunately for the vendors of horses with minor blemishes, their sale price has been severely limited, which is a shame. But it does provide opportunities for shrewd purchasers with vets who have a practical approach and take chances on these horses. X-rays are important, but it gets back to interpretation. We've bought horses that have had perfect X-rays and problem knees all their lives. It's not a perfect science."*

INGLIS EASTER YEARLING SALE WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2005		
SESSION TOTALS	2005	2004
No. Offered	105	98
No. Sold	72	73
RNAs	33	25
% RNA	31.4%	25.5%
Gross	A\$16,580,000	A\$15,870,000
Average (% change)	A\$230,278 (+5.9%)	A\$217,397

[www.inglis.com.au](http://www.inglis.com.au)

**Congratulations to the Best Customers in the World on FIVE Grade 1 and 2 Winners!**

**ROSES IN MAY**, winner of the **Dubai World Cup (G1)** March 26  
O-Kenneth & Sarah Ramsey; B-Margaux Farm LLC (KY); T-Dale Romans  
Sold Keeneland September 2001 for \$19,000; Earnings now \$5,490,187  
*Consigned by Margaux Farm, LLC; Purchased by Classic Bloodstock*

**SARATOGA COUNTY**, winner of the **Dubai Golden Shaheen (G1)** March 26  
O-Evelyn M Pollard; B-Round Table LLC (KY); T-George Weaver  
Sold Keeneland September 2002 for \$67,000; Earnings now \$1,646,590  
*Consigned by Taylor Made Sales Agency, agent; Purchased by Bowling & Dodd*

**BLUES AND ROYALS**, winner of the **U.A.E. Derby (G2)** March 26  
O-Godolphin; B-Cheryl A Curtin (FL); T-Saeed bin Suroor  
Sold Keeneland September 2003 for \$400,000; Earnings now \$1,216,980  
*Consigned by Eaton Sales, agent; Purchased by John Ferguson*

**FLOWER ALLEY**, winner of the **Lane's End S. (GII)** March 26  
O-Melnyk Racing Stables Inc; B-George Brunacini & Bona Terra Farms (KY); T-Todd Pletcher  
Sold Keeneland November 2002 for \$50,000  
*Consigned by Paramount Sales, Agent for Bona Terra Farms; Purchased by Bruce Smart*  
Sold Keeneland September 2003 for \$165,000; Earnings now \$321,660  
*Consigned by Walnut Green: Jones Bros, agent; Purchased by Eugene Melnyk*

**STANLEY PARK**, winner of the **San Luis Rey H. (GII)** March 27  
O-Mr. & Mrs. Jerome S Moss; B-Fred Seitz (KY); T-John A Shirreffs  
Sold Keeneland November 2000 for \$90,000  
*Consigned by Fred Seitz, Brookdale Farm*  
Sold Keeneland September 2001 for \$240,000; Earnings now \$250,916  
*Consigned by Fred Seitz, Brookdale Farm; Purchased by Mr. & Mrs. Jerome S Moss*





☆ RESULTS ☆

Wednesday, Randwick, Australia

**EMIRATES AJC AUSTRALIAN OAKS-G1**, A\$660,000, Randwick, 3-30, 3yo, f, 1 1/2 mT, 2:34.25, slow.

1--▲**DIZELLE (AUS)**, 122, f, 3, by Zabeel (NZ)

1st Dam: **Danelagh (Aus) (G1SW-Aus)**, by Danehill  
 2nd Dam: **Palatious (Aus)**, by Semipalatinsk  
 3rd Dam: **Delicious Blue (Aus)**, by Rascolnik (GB)

O-K Biggs Enterprises Pty Ltd Syndicate, Porter Street Investments Pty Ltd Syndicate, R Russell & Dr J M Tickell; B-K Biggs Enterprises Pty Ltd & Porter Street Investments Pty Ltd; T-John Hawkes; J-C Brown; A\$429,000. \*Full to Subscribe (NZ), MSW-HK & SP-Aus.

2--**She's Justa Tad (NZ)**, 122, f, 3, Istidaad--Infinity (NZ), by Markella (Fr). O-R P Liefing; B-Mrs J B & Dr R K Griesbach, B A & Mrs J M MacDonald; A\$132,000.

3--**Gee That's Tops (NZ)**, 122, f, 3, Danasinga (Aus)--Truly Tops (NZ), by Truly Vain (Aus). O-D C Ellis, G Manson, D Farrow & B Robins; B-D C Ellis, D J Farrow, D N Manson & B W Robbins; A\$59,400. Margins: HF, 3/4. Odds: 3.60, 6.00, 40.00.

Jockey Corey Brown confessed he could "feel the hands of trainer John Hawkes around his neck" as the lightly raced filly Dizelle settled among the tail-enders here, but the pair got the job done with a strong late rush. Dizelle, who races in the same colours made famous by 1995 Caulfield-Melbourne Cups winner Doriemus (Aus) for Perth businessman Keith Biggs, was a fast-finishing fifth in the G1 Arrowfield S. on Mar. 19, 3 1/2 lengths behind Hollow Bullet (Aus). The three-year-old was well back early this time, much to the consternation of Hawkes, who had instructed Brown to have her racing midfield. When Brown tried to improve position at the 700-meter pole, Dizelle was thwarted, before being the victim of a scrimmage on the home turn and again about 250 meters from home. But the gallant filly picked herself up off the mat to give her sire Zabeel his 32nd individual Group 1 winner when she fended off a late charge from New Zealand contender She's Justa Tad. Hawkes criticised Brown's ride, but said the filly's stout pedigree won the day. "She's a very good filly and I didn't give up, you never give up," he said. "Her family is all staying blood and she may measure up to being a Cups horse in the spring."

Click for the free [brisnet.com](http://brisnet.com) catalog-style pedigree.

Wednesday, Randwick, Australia

**DAVID JONES GALAXY-G1**, A\$375,000, Randwick, 3-30, 3yo/up, 5 1/2 fT, 1:04.76, slow.

1--▲**CHARGE FORWARD (AUS)**, 117, c, 3, by Red Ransom

1st Dam: **Sydney's Dream (Aus) (G1SW-SAf)**, by Bletchingly (Aus)  
 2nd Dam: **Dream Appeal**, by Valid Appeal  
 3rd Dam: **Cam Shaft**, by Fleet Path

O-P D L & Mrs H F Horwitz, B Kerr, J P Abrahams, S Blizzard & J W Owsnett; B-D P R Esplin & Nighrose Pty Ltd; T-J O'Shea; J-D Beadman; A\$243,750. \*1/2 to Sydney's Joy (Aus) (Royal Academy), GSP-SAf.

2--**Spark of Life (Aus)**, 127, g, 4, Nine Carat--Sparkling Bounty (Aus), by Celestial Bounty (Ire). O-P A & Mrs M E Bernie & Mrs B J & M W Jones; B-R J & D J Thompson; A\$75,000.

3--**Red Oog (Aus)**, 116, g, 5, Brief Truce--Mary Julia (Aus), by Zoffany. O-Mrs G Clayton & M R Lester; B-Ms G Clayton; A\$33,750.

Margins: NK, HF. Odds: 11.00, 2.80, 15.00.

Charge Forward overcame an unsuitably soft track and outside post 14 to capture the Galaxy, adding a Group 1 victory to his record ahead of retirement to stand at Arrowfield this spring. The bay settled midfield and pursued 2004 Galaxy hero Spark of Life when that one accelerated. Rallying on the outside, he caught Spark of Life and asserted to win by a neck, with Red Oog (Aus) a further 1 1/2 lengths away third. Charge Forward, whose Royal Academy half brother sold Tuesday at Inglis Easter for A\$1.2 million, was a \$100,000 Magic Millions graduate and is the first Australian Group 1 winner for Vinery stallion Red Ransom. Randwick trainer John O'Shea had scratched on several occasions due to wet weather, but Arrowfield chief John Messara persuaded him to start Charge Forward in the race regardless of the rain. "I was on the phone to the Trainers Service Centre and about to scratch when John got onto me on the other phone," O'Shea said. "I knew this horse was fit and I couldn't believe it when it rained because he hasn't handled it before. And to think I was going to scratch him!"

Click for the free [brisnet.com](http://brisnet.com) catalog-style pedigree.

INGLIS EASTER YEARLING SALE			
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2005			
CUMULATIVE	2005	2004	
No. Offered	327	275	
No. Sold	245	210	
RNAs	82	65	
% RNA	25.1%	23.6%	
Gross	A\$53,028,000	A\$44,127,500	
Average (% change)	A\$216,441 (+3.0%)	A\$210,131	

## BREEDERS' CUP STAKES CLOSINGS

CLOSES	TRACK	RACE	CONDITIONS	PURSE	RUNS
4/06	KEE	Commonwealth Breeders' Cup S. (GII)	3YO/UP, 7F	\$400,000	4/16
4/08	OP	Northern Spur Breeders' Cup S.	3YO, c/g, 1 1/16m	\$75,000	4/16
4/08	OP	Instant Racing Breeders' Cup S.	3YO, f, 1 1/16m	\$100,000	4/16
4/09	AQU	Bed o'Roses Breeders' Cup H. (GIII)	3YO/UP, f/m, 1m	\$150,000	4/23
4/09	CD	Louisville Breeders' Cup H. (GII)	3YO/UP, f/m, 1 1/16m	\$300,000	5/06

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THURSDAY,  
MARCH 31, 2005

**TDN**  
THOROUGHBRED DAILY NEWS



AROUND  
THE WORLD

 **NORTH AMERICA** 

**MADCAP ESCAPADE TO FACE ASHADO?** *Madcap Escapade* (Hennessy) may renew her rivalry with three-year-old champion filly *Ashado*, who is readying for her 2005 debut, in the GI Apple Blossom H. at Oaklawn Park Apr. 9. "I would say it's 50-50 between the Apple Blossom and the [GIII] Vinery Madison S. at Keeneland [Apr. 13]," said trainer Frank Brothers. "It can go either way. The filly will work seven-eighths [this morning] at Gulfstream, and then I will sit down with her owner [Bruce Lunsford] and reach a decision as to her next race." The bay defeated *Ashado* in last year's GI Ashland S. at Keeneland before coming home third behind that foe in the GI Kentucky Oaks. Watching from the sidelines as *Ashado* went on to win the GI Breeders' Cup Distaff and collect the sophomore championship, *Madcap Escapade* marked her seasonal bow with an impressive two-length tally in the GII Shirley Jones H. at Gulfstream Feb. 19. "I do know the Apple Blossom has always been a wonderful race," added Brothers. "It would be a privilege to run in it."

★ GULFSTREAM ★

**Yesterday's Results:**

**8th-GPX, \$33,000, Alw, NW1X, 3yo, f, 1 1/16mT, 1:41 2/5, fm.**

**INSAN MALA (IRE) (f, 3, Bahhare--Madame Claude {Ire}, by Paris House {GB})** was purchased for €7,000 as a TATIRE yearling and made one start at two, defeating 17 other rivals in a Fairyhouse maiden test over seven furlongs Sept. 29. Getting Lasix for her U.S. debut, the bay was outrun early and found herself blocked as the field rounded the clubhouse turn. Taken back thereafter, she was taken wide for the stretch drive and closed fast for a 1 1/2-length victory at odds of 6-1. *Campionessa* (A.P. Indy) also came flying late to edge 7-10 favorite *Pommes Frites* (Dynaformer) out of the place spot. [Click for a video replay.](#) Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, \$33,407.

O-Mansell Stables Llc & George Bolton. B-Mrs Clody E Norton (IRE). T-W Elliott Walden.

**6th-GPX, \$33,000, Alw, NW1X, 3yo, f, 1 1/16mT, 1:41 3/5, fm.**

**ONLY IN PHILLY (f, 3, Polish Numbers--Buffels {MSW & MGSP, \$385,173}, by Vaal Reef)** came from just off the pace to score in her turf debut. Third in her Oct. 11 bow sprinting over the Delaware main track, the chestnut graduated by a length at that oval Nov. 6.

Stretched out to this track's one-turn mile Jan. 13, she was a solid third to *In the Gold* and was most recently runner-up going nine furlongs Feb. 3. Adding Lasix for this, she was sent up to track the speed from second, took over approaching the eighth pole and was hard ridden to hold *Shakespeare*sister (GB) (Chester House) by a neck as the 5-2 second choice. The \$95,000 FTKJUL yearling purchase is a full sister to *One Eyed Joker*, MSW, \$462,520. [Click for a video replay.](#) Lifetime Record: 5-2-1-2, \$53,180.

O-Erdenheim Farm. B-Dr & Mrs Timothy J Gardner & Mr & Mrs Rick Abbott (PA). T-Michael R Matz.

**9th-GPX, \$33,000, Alw, NW1X, 4yo/up, 1m, 1:35, ft. GOULDINGS GREEN (c, 4, Charismatic--Elusive Gold, by Strike the Gold)**, fourth in his June 12 bow sprinting over the Arlington main track, graduated by six lengths in the Arlington slop July 3. He hadn't been seen since running a distant 10th in a first-level allowance at Saratoga Aug. 1. Sent up to dispute the early fractions with *Itsawonderfulife* (Skip Away), the \$260,000 KESEP yearling purchase began to inch clear into the stretch and pulled away to defeat his rival by 2 1/2 lengths as an 8-1 chance. Lifetime Record: 4-2-0-0, \$39,360.

O-Eugene & Laura Melnyk. B-Marvin Delfiner (KY). T-Anthony L Reinstedler.

**CORRECTION...** Yesterday's TDN incorrectly reported the breeder of *Orbit o'Gold* (Kingmambo). The three-year-old colt, who won the 3.50 maiden at Fontainebleau Monday, was bred by Northwest Farms. We regret the error.

**STAKES CLOSINGS**

**TOMORROW, FRIDAY, APRIL 1:**

**04-24 \$250,000 Cal National Snow Chief, Hol, 3yo, [R], 9f (250)**

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★ NEW YORK ★

**Yesterday's Results:**

**8th-AQU, \$46,000, Alw, NW2X, 4yo/up, f/m, 1m, 1:36 1/5, ft.**

**JUDY SODA (f, 4, Personal Flag--Nikki Tootsie, by Waquoit)** was second for a \$50,000 tag going two turns over the inner Dec. 16, then stepped back into allowance company to finish runner-up Jan. 28. A front-running, one-length winner going nine panels Feb. 11, the bay filly was coming into this off a fifth-place effort Mar. 10. Dismissed at odds of 13-1, the New York-bred showed immediately in front, set a good pace on the inside, dug in gamely and held on for a half-length victory over Strategy (A.P. Indy), a daughter of MGISW Educated Risk. Lifetime Record: MSP, 20-5-3-2, \$208,273. O/B-Scott S Solar (NY). T-Thomas M Bush.

**6th-AQU, \$41,000, Msw, (S), 3yo, 6f, 1:11 2/5, ft. REBENGA (c, 3, Claramount--Miss Tess {NZ}, by \*One Pound Sterling),** a full brother to Misstress, SW, \$153,123; and to Fickle Fanny, SW, \$382,370, was bet down to 8-5 favoritism for his Mar. 5 bow at Gulfstream Park, but gave way to be third after forcing the early pace. Trying state-bred company this time, the \$37,000 FTMSEP yearling and \$250,000 OBSMAR juvenile purchase chased Sarah's Prospect (Allen's Prospect) from the bell and edged past that one late for a half-length victory at 2-5. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-1, \$27,800. O-Puglisi Stables. B-Edwin Wachtel (NY). T-Steve Klesaris.

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.

**4th-AQU, \$41,000, Msw, (S), 3yo, f, 6f, 1:11 4/5, ft. + TRUE LEGEND (f, 3, Gold Legend--Struckbylightning, by Cryptoclearance)** posted several solid workouts for this debut effort and was well-regarded at the windows, sent off the 7-2 second choice. Far back and outrun through the opening furlongs, the homebred filly advanced wide into the stretch and charged home to win by an impressive 8 1/4 lengths. [Click for a video replay.](#) Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$24,600. O/B-Richard J Troncone & Richard J Troncone Jr (NY). T-Kelly John Breen.

★ EAST ★

**NBC's Law & Order Wraps at Monmouth Park:**

Law & Order, which airs on NBC, wrapped a three-day shoot at Monmouth Park in Oceanport, New Jersey, Wednesday, completing scenes in the barn area, jockey's room, trackside and the paddock. A crew of over 100 took part in the shooting, including Dennis Farina, Michael Imperioli and Sam Waterston. The episode will air at 10:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 4.

**TODAY'S VIDEO HIGHLIGHTS**



- [Gulfstream 6<sup>th</sup> \(N1X\)](#) Only in Philly (Polish Numbers) scores in her turf debut.
- [Gulfstream 8<sup>th</sup> \(N1X\)](#) Insan Mala (Ire) (Bahhare) rallies from last to remain perfect in two starts.
- [Aqueduct 4<sup>th</sup> \(MSW\)](#) True Legend (Gold Legend) crushes the field by an impressive 8 1/4 lengths.

**TDN TODAY**

Around the World ..... 7 pages

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East Report cont.

**8th-LRL, \$24,000, Msw, 3yo, f, 6f, 1:10 4/5, ft. MILITARY CODE (f, 3, Lear Fan--Code du Marche, by Lost Code)** nearly overcame a wide trip when second, beaten a half-length, in a Pimlico maiden Dec. 27. In her only other trip to the post, the homebred filly was loose on the lead and was ahead at one point by as many as eight lengths in a seven-furlong test over this dirt Feb. 25, only to be caught on the wire. Even-money to go one better, the bay sprinted to an early advantage, was four lengths clear at the eighth pole and held on to best Silver Emblem (Demidoff) by 1 3/4 lengths. Lifetime Record: 3-1-2-0, \$23,760.  
O/B-Rainbow Stable (KY). T-Timothy J Tullock Jr.

## ★ CENTRAL ★

**7th-OPX, \$32,000, Msw, 3yo, 1 1/16m, 1:46 3/5, ft. E. G. PRADO (c, 3, Parade Ground--Tunicle, by Dixieland Band)** finished an even fourth in a highly rated maiden over six furlongs Feb. 17 and improved slightly in his two-turn debut last out, finishing 3/4 of a length adrift of the winner in third going a mile Mar. 3. Last of this octet for the opening three-quarters, the \$14,000 KEESEP yearling and \$45,000 OBSMAR two-year-old purchase charged hard down the center of the track and caught pacesetter Characterize (Commitisize) in the final jump at 6-1 odds. The winner is a 3/4 brother half to Wimple (Kingmambo), SP-Eng. Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-1, \$24,260.  
O-Vince Bernardi. B-Bayard Sharp (KY). T-Hugh H Robertson.

## ★ SO. CALIFORNIA ★

Yesterday's Results:

**7th-SAX, \$50,064, Alw, N1X, 4yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:10 3/5, ft. SIPHON HONEY (m, 6, Siphon {Brz}--Harlan Honey {MSW, \$103,702}, by Silver Hawk)** won first time out at four, but failed to find the winner's circle in five subsequent 2003 outings and was laid up following a third in November of that year. The bay didn't make it back until Mar. 6, when she missed by a length in a 6 1/2-furlong test, and was the 2-1 favorite to go one better this time. Never too far from the front, she came through on the inside in the stretch and powered her way home to win by two lengths. A half to Impending Bear (Farma Way), SW & MGSP, \$255,751, she was a \$140,000 KEESEP yearling purchase. Lifetime Record: 8-2-2-2, \$93,320.  
O-D & L Trucking. B-Brereton C Jones (KY). T-Donald J Leifeld.

**1st-SAX, \$47,600, Msw, 2yo, f, 2f, :21 1/5, ft. + ANGEL ONE (f, 2, Bertrando--Midnight Angel, by Housebuster)** sported some decent works over at the Fairplex and was sent off a 4-1 chance to get the job done at first asking. Sent up from her inside box to duel for the lead, the Cal-bred miss took over approaching the final half furlong and found the line 1 1/4 lengths in front of Swiss Lady (Swiss Yodeler). Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$28,080.  
O/B-William R Peebles (CA). T-Shane Chipman.

## ★ INDUSTRY INFO ★

**April in Kentucky Means Keeneland:**

W. B. Rogers Beasley, Keeneland's Director of Racing, and Jim Gallagher, Executive Director of the Kentucky Horse Racing Authority (KHRA) will address the Kentucky Thoroughbred Farm Managers Club (KTFMC) at the monthly meeting, Tuesday, Apr. 5 at 6:30 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza Lexington--Campbell House. Beasley will give a brief update on the stakes schedule for the Spring meet and provide some feedback on the new polytrack surface on the training track, and will, if time permits, run down his top 10 Derby hopefuls. Gallagher, a 27-year industry veteran, was appointed to the position of Executive Director of the KHRA last fall. Gallagher previously served as the New York Racing Association's Vice President of regulatory compliance and is the former Executive Director of the NTRA's Racing Integrity and Drug Test Task Force. He will address the club concerning the recent approval of race-day drug bans and testing for "milkshakes," or Total Carbon Dioxide testing. Track security will also be discussed. Early reservations are recommended and are available by calling Linda Javid at (859) 296-4279 or by visiting the website at KTFMC.org.

**West Elected President of NTWA:**

Gary West, who covers racing for the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, was elected president of the National Turf Writers Association during a teleconference of the organization's board of directors Tuesday. West replaces Mike Kane, who submitted his resignation after announcing he was leaving the *Schenectady Daily Gazette* to become the communications director for the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame. NTWA by-laws state that the role of officers can be filled only by full-time racing writers. West will serve the remainder of Kane's term through the 2006 Kentucky Derby.



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Industry Info cont.

**Keeneland and KTA Host College Scholarship Day:**

Keeneland and the Kentucky Thoroughbred Association will team up to present College Scholarship Day, which will be held at Keeneland Racecourse Apr. 8. Full-time students can register to win a \$1,000 scholarship, which will be awarded via random draw after each of the day's races. Numerous gifts, in relation to local Lexington establishments, will also be given away, including certificates to Malone's, Cheddar's and Planet Salon, while students who enter the drawing will receive a voucher for free admission to Keeneland. "Since College Scholarship Day was introduced in 2002, it has grown tremendously," said KTA representative David Schneck. "The college students love Keeneland and we love giving something back to them." Following the ninth race, two scholarships will be awarded, one presented to a college student and the other directly to a student affiliated with the horse industry.

★ ON THE WORKTAB ★

**BELMONT PARK (training track)**

**Artie Schiller** (El Prado {Ire}), 6f, ●1:12.87, 1/4  
**Megascap** (Cape Canaveral), 5f, 1:01.46, 7/13  
**Survivalist** (Danzig), 4f, :51.82, 21/24

**CHURCHILL DOWNS**

**Alumni Hall** (A.P. Indy), 4f, :48.00, 3/11  
**High Limit** (Maria's Mon), 5f, 1:02.20, 6/20

**GULFSTREAM PARK**

**Funny Cide** (Distorted Humor), 4f, :47.40, 2/12  
**Good Reward** (Storm Cat), 5f, 1:00.80, 3/10  
**Lilah** (Defreere), 3f, ●:34.20, 1/4

**HOLLYWOOD PARK**

**Cajun Beat** (Grand Slam), 5f, 1:02.20, 14/15  
**Katdogawn (GB)** (Bahhare), 4f, :50.60, 28/32

**KEENELAND**

**Sis City** (Slew City Slew), 6f, 1:15.40, 1/1

**OAKLAWN PARK**

**Real Dandy** (Yankee Victor), 5f, 1:03.80, 20/28  
**Savorthetime** (Gilded Time), 4f, :49.60, 17/43

**PALM MEADOWS**

**Park Avenue Ball** (Citidancer), 3f, :39.00, 4/4  
**Zakocity** (Precocity), 3f, ●:36.40, 1/4

**SANTA ANITA**

**Island Fashion** (Petionville), 5f, 1:00.20, 10/41

The **brisnet.com** 'Race of the Day' is the 4th Race, \$52,000 Alw (N1X) at Santa Anita. For pps and a complete race analysis, click [here](#).



**SOPHOMORE SPOTLIGHT**

**Progeny to Watch: Thursday, March 31**

*Sire (Sire's Sire), Farm, 2001 Fee, #foals of racing age/Winners/SW  
 Race #-track, race type, distance, runner, odds (if available)*

**BRUSHED ON** (Broad Brush), Clermont, \$2K, 36/2/0  
 7-AQU, Alw, 1 1/8m, Ink the Deal, \$900 EAS SEP yrl  
**COMMITISIZE** (Explodent), Wycombe, \$5K, 31/2/0  
 7-GP, Msw, 1 1/16mT, Lord C. J., \$2K OBS WIN yrl  
**CROWD PLEASER** (A.P. Indy), Northview, \$4K, 84/5/0  
 10-OP, Msw, 1 1/16m, She Is What She Is, \$5K OBS AUG yrl  
**FUSAICHI PEGASUS** (Mr. Prospector), Ashford, \$85K, 196/24/5  
 7-GP, Msw, 1 1/16mT, Scalator, \$20K KEE SEP yrl  
 10-OP, Msw, 1 1/16m, +Casting Pearls, \$250K KEE SEP yrl  
**LION HEARTED** (Storm Cat), NorthView, \$5K, 88/13/3  
 7-LRL, Alw, 6f, Karbobway, \$26K EAS SEP yrl, 4-1  
**MILLIONS** (Dehere), McMahon, \$3K, 33/2/0  
 4-AQU, Msw, 6f, Lookslikeabillion, \$50K OBS FEB 2yo  
**MUQTARIB** (Gone West), Valley Creek, \$4K, 46/6/1  
 1-SA, Msw, 2f, Swingshift  
**ROB 'N GIN** (Farma Way), McMahon, \$3K, 16/2/0  
 7-AQU, Alw, 1 1/8m, Liquid Romance, \$21K OBS APR 2yo  
**STRAIGHT MAN** (Saint Ballado), Dunhill, \$5K, 156/21/0  
 10-OP, Msw, 1 1/16m, Lucky Wink, \$65K OBS AUG yrl  
**SWEETSOUTHERNSAINT** (Saint Ballado), 94/20/2  
 7-TP, Ms, 6f, Archie Manning, \$48K FTK JUL yrl  
**WAR CHANT** (Danzig), Three Chimneys, \$60K, 111/15/3  
 7-GP, Msw, 1 1/16mT, Honoring Blue



**FRESHMAN FOCUS**

**First-crop progeny to watch: Thursday, March 31**

*Sire (Sire's Sire), Farm, 2002 Fee, #2yos/Winners/SW  
 Race #-track, race type, distance, runner, odds (if available)*

**B.L.'S APPEAL** (Valid Appeal), L.W. T'breds, \$2.5K, 24/0/0  
 1-SA, Msw, 2f, +B L's Daddy, \$6.5K OBSJAN yrl  
**ECTON PARK** (Forty Niner), Wintergreen, \$15K, 52/0/0  
 1-SA, Msw, 2f, +Double Parked, \$4K KEE SEP yrl

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★ BRITAIN ★

**RECORD BROKEN AT LINCOLN SALE**

Breeder Paul Mason set a new price record at the one-day Doncaster Lincoln Sale when purchasing a Machiavellian filly for 68,000 guineas. From the draft of Kingsley House Stables, hip [109](#) stood out as a full sister to the smart UAE sprinter-miler Tropical Star (GB), who was beaten just a length in last Saturday's \$2-million G1 Dubai Golden Shaheen. The unraced three-year-old filly is out of Tropical (GB) (Green Desert), a stakes-winning half sister to the G1 Coronation S. winner Shake the Yoke (GB). It was Mason who got the better of Richard Venn from Anthony Stroud Bloodstock to secure the three-year-old and beat the previous record of 60,000 guineas set 12 months ago. The average of 5,432 guineas represented an increase of 43 percent on 2004. Full results can be found on [www.dbsauctions.com](http://www.dbsauctions.com).

**Yesterday's Results:**

**Folkestone, 2.10, Mdn**, £6,320, 2yo, 5fT, 1:06.21, sf. + **SALUTE HIM (IRE)** (c, 2, **Mull of Kintyre--Living Legend {Ity}**, by **Archway {Ire}**), sent off the 85-40 favorite, broke well and stalked the early pace in a close second before edging ahead passing the quarter pole. Challenged and briefly passed by Lyrical Blues (Ire) (Namid {GB}) inside the final 100 yards, the €15,000 GOFNOV weanling and 34,000gns DONSEP yearling purchase responded to his rider's urgings to regain the advantage in the final strides and score by a neck. Salute Him represents the second winner for his freshman sire (by Danzig). Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, £4,108. O-Jaber Abdullah; B-Drumhass Stud; T-Mick Channon.

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

**BREEDERS' EDITION  
AMERICA**

**ALLOWANCE RESULTS:**

**3rd-AQU, \$42,140**, NW2L, 4yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:10 4/5, ft.

**SANTA ROSALIA** (f, 4, **Saint Ballado--Sugar Is Gold**, by **Slew o' Gold**) Lifetime Record: 16-2-4-4, \$108,474. O-Louis P Solferino & Stefano Vaccaro. B-Jim & Martha Gladwell (KY). T-Robert Ribaud. \*\$42,000 yrl '02 KEESep. \*\*3/4 to Shot of Gold (Jolie's Halo), MSW, \$515,033.

**8th-HAW, \$30,000**, 3-29, NW2X, (S), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:11 4/5, ft.

**BEAMER'N GLICK** (c, 4, **Caller I. D.--Keen On Gold**, by **Fast Gold**) Lifetime Record: 16-3-3-2, \$77,756. O-Ben Barnow. B-Tooth-Acres Farm, LLC & Frank Newman (IL). T-Richard P Hazelton. \*\$7,900 yrl '02 ARKFEB.

**11th-SUN, \$28,600**, 3-29, C, 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:10 2/5, ft.

**RED LIFESAVER** (f, 4, **Victory Gallop--Brush With Tequila {SP, \$212,092}**, by **Broad Brush**) Lifetime Record: SP, 16-4-4-2, \$96,713. O-J Kirk & Judy Robison. B-WinStar Farm, Llc (KY). T-Steven M Asmussen. \*\$70,000 yrl '02 KEESep.

**10th-SUN, \$25,100**, 3-29, NW3L, (S), 3yo/up, f/m, 1m, 1:41 2/5, ft.

**ZINGA DEEBLEUZ** (m, 5, **Moudix Bleu--Deerifle**, by **Elk's Uz**) Lifetime Record: 23-3-3-3, \$39,985. O/T-Debbie Holland Dyer. B-Veva Grace Cunningham (NM).

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**Breeders' Edition America cont.**

**7th-LRL, \$25,000, NW1X, 3yo, 1m, 1:39, ft.**  
**ANXIOUS (g, 3, Concern--Axe and Slash, by Silent Screen)** Lifetime Record: 5-2-1-0, \$27,555. O/B-Barbara M Kees & Robert Lingham (MD). T-Barbara M Kees.

**8th-SUN, \$22,700, 3-29, NW2L, (S), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:12 4/5, ft.**

**HEY RICKY (h, 5, Flying Drone--Pressing the Issue {SW}, by Scout Leader)** Lifetime Record: 21-2-2-4, \$36,577. O-Michele A Smith. B/T-Paul Smith (NM).

**ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:**

**L'Argento, c, 3, Concorde's Tune--Silver Pastry (SP), by Silver Buck. AQU, 3-30, (C), 6 1/2f, 1:17 3/5.**  
 B-Patricia Generazio (FL).

**Cat's Lad, c, 3, Lil's Lad--Cat Attack (GSW, \$161,580), by Storm Cat. MNR, 3-29, 6f, 1:12 4/5. B-Murray & Lillian Durst (NY). \*Full to Pick of the Pack, SW, \$102,272.**

**Quiet Shine, f, 3, Real Quiet--Miss Wineshine (SW & GISP, \$189,080), by Wolf Power (SAf). SAX, 3-30, (C), 1 1/16m, 1:47. B-Michael Pegram (Ky). \*\$85,000 yrl '03 KEESEP.**

**Galaxy Lady, f, 3, Rizzi--Ministrada, by Deputy Minister. GPX, 3-30, (C), 6f, 1:11 3/5. B-Jaime S Carrion, Trustee (FI). \*\$120,000 yrl '03 FTKJUL. \*\*1/2 to Lone Star Sky (Conquistador Cielo), GSW, \$504,995.**

**Bella Noelle, f, 4, Beau Genius--Paddling, by Lyphard. MNR, 3-29, 6f, 1:15. B-Audrey Narducci (Ky).**

**Lost Rainbow, c, 4, Lost Code--Morning Rainbow, by No House Call. HAW, 3-29, (S), 6f, 1:13. B-Three Star Partnership (IL).**

**BREEDERS' EDITION EUROPE**

**ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:**

**Olea Bere (Fr), f, 3, Rajpoute (Fr)--Belle de Saron (Fr), by Bellypha (Ire). Lyon-Parilly, France, 3-30, Mdn, 3yo, 1mT. B-SNC Regnier & Mickael Cahan.**

**Tapa (GB), f, 3, Tagula (Ire)--Tweed Mill (GB), by Selkirk. Folkestone, Britain, 3-30, Mdn, 3yo, 6fT. B-Mrs I A Balding.**

**Hawkes Bay (GB), c, 3, Vettori (Ire)--Nordico Princess (GB), by Nordico. Folkestone, Britain, 3-30, Mdn, 3yo/up, 7fT. B-Hedgeholme Stud. \*4,400gns wnlq 02 TATDEC.**

 **FOALING NEWS**

**CIRCLE OF GOLD (IRE), 9, Royal Academy--Never So Fair (GB), by Never So Bold (Ire)**  
 Foal born Jan. 24, a filly by Grand Slam.  
 Will be bred back to Smoke Glacken.  
 Owned by Gainesway Thoroughbreds Ltd.  
 Boarded at Gainesway Farm, KY.  
 Accomplishments: GSW-Eng & GSP-US, \$127,987.

**ORA, 7, Quiet American--Charmed Aura, by Halo**  
 Foal born Feb. 28, a colt by Forest Wildcat.  
 Owned by Shadai Farm.  
 Boarded at Stone Farm, Ky.  
 Accomplishments: SW of \$185,134.

**I BELIEVE IN YOU, 7, Pleasant Tap--I'll Get There, by Copelan**  
 Foal born Mar. 1, a colt by A.P. Indy.  
 Will be bred back to Elusive Quality.  
 Owned by Mace & Samantha Siegel.  
 Boarded at Taylor Made Farm, Ky.  
 Accomplishments: GISW of \$244,270.

**IFTIRAAS (GB), 8, Distant Relative (Ire)--Ideal Home (GB), by Home Guard**  
 Foal born Mar. 1, a filly by Malibu Moon.  
 Owned by Shadai Farm.  
 Boarded at Stone Farm, Ky.  
 Accomplishments: GSW-US, Eng & Ire, GSP-Fr, \$278,238.

**MAGNIFICENT CROWN, 21, The Irish Lord--Hail the Crown, by Halo**  
 Foal born Mar. 2, a filly by Johannesburg.  
 Will be bred back to Northern Afleet.  
 Owned by Barry & Judith Becker.  
 Boarded at Taylor Made Farm, Ky.  
 Accomplishments: Dam of Westcot (London Bells), SW, \$197,247; College Town (Snow Chief), MGSW, \$507,040; Sturge Weber (In Excess {Ire}), SW, \$144,039.

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**NOBLE CAUSING DERBY FEVER**

by Alan Carasso

At the dawn of the new century, Leonard Riggio and family, owners of My Meadowview Farm in upstate New York, made the decision to try their hand in Thoroughbred racing, having been involved in show horses since the late 1980s .

“Since we had horses anyways, I said to my wife, ‘Why don’t we get a couple that we can race,’” explained Leonard Riggio, founder and chairman of the Barnes and Noble chain of bookstores. Five years later, Riggio is ready to merge onto the Triple Crown super-highway on the back of Noble Causeway (Giant’s Causeway), who goes in this weekend’s GI Florida Derby.

“This feels great, what can I tell you,” he enthused. “You don’t get this far that often in this game.”

Riggio, who has “loved horse racing for most of my adult life,” has been active in the yearling market over the past several years, enlisting the help of trainer Nick Zito in acquiring young racing prospects at Keeneland. One of the conditioner’s first purchases for his new client was Father Steve, a half brother to Time Limit from the first crop of Pulpit, which made \$900,000 at the 2000 Keeneland September sale. While some would view that sort of investment in a new sire overly risky, Riggio does not



Leonard Riggio  
www.bn.com

and it was a similar process which led him to a colt from the first crop of Giant’s Causeway at the 2003 September Sale.

“What we would like to do is to buy horses that are well-bred on both sides,” he offered. “The problem is that if you pick some of the accomplished sires and if you’re looking to get something that is equally well-bred on the dam side, the bidding can sometime take you into the several millions. Our strategy has been to pick an unproven sire with a great line on the other side and we succeeded in getting what we wanted with Noble Causeway.”

A son of the Seeking the Gold mare Mimi’s Golden Girl, the chestnut’s second dam is MGISW Classy Cathy. But despite his \$1.15-million price tag, the colt was a little slow to come to hand.

“He looked beautiful [as a yearling], but when we put him into training, he really wasn’t taking to the track,” Riggio commented. “Nick suspected that, as with many of Giant’s Causeway’s progeny, that he may have indeed been a grass horse, so we chose to give him a race on the grass, hoping that he’d find his stride.”

The experiment didn’t yield positive results. Sent off at 5-1 for that Oct. 7 debut at Belmont Park, he ran a spotty race, finishing fifth by seven lengths. But things began to brighten considerably in his next start. Returned to the main track, Noble Causeway ran Dearest Mon to a three-lengths second going seven panels at Aqueduct Nov. 27 ([video](#)) and there was cause for optimism.

“We were quite frankly a bit surprised that he ran as well as he did,” Riggio admitted. “So we decided to stay on the dirt and see what we could get. He looks like he belongs and he looks and has been competitive.”

There is scarcely a horse stabled in South Florida who has improved as much as Noble Causeway. Second to Bandini in a Jan. 6 maiden over seven furlongs ([video](#)), he is perfect in a pair of subsequent starts at the Derby distance, winning his maiden by two lengths Feb. 5 ([video](#)) before a 3 1/4-length allowance score Mar. 5 ([video](#)).

Riggio also considers himself blessed to be able to avail himself of the expertise of Nick Zito.

“He is certainly a Hall of Fame person and human being,” he says. “He’s just a great guy to do business with. He’s thoroughly professional and competent and impeccably honest. I couldn’t find a better person to work with.”

Saturday’s race marks the first of what Riggio hopes will be many Grade I appearances for Noble Causeway.

“This is as exciting as it gets,” he says.



Noble Causeway  
Equi-Photo

<b>Giant's Causeway</b>	Storm Cat	Storm Bird	Northern Dancer
		Terlingua	South Ocean
	Mariah's Storm	Rahy	Secretariat
		Immense	Crimson Saint
<b>Mimi's Golden Girl</b> 27sts, 2-7-3 2Fls	Seeking the Gold	Mr. Prospector	Blushing Groom
		Con Game	Glorious Song
	Classy Cathy 15sts, MGISW, 7-1-2 11Fls, 1GSW	Private Account	Roberto
		Trestle 11Fls, 5SW	Imsodear
			Raise a Native
		Gold Digger	
		Buckpasser	
		Broadway	
		Damascus	
		Numbered Account	
		Tom Rolfe	
		Ponte Vecchio	