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## THE FUTURE IS NOW

Inaugurated in 1981 to provide juveniles a late-season payday, the Hollywood Futurity has had quite an impact on the Classics contested the following spring. The initial running was captured by **Stalwart** (Hoist the Flag), the California sensation who provided trainer D. Wayne Lukas with the first of his four trophies in this race. Finishing down the field in seventh was **Gato del Sol**



(\*Cougar II), winner of the GII Del Mar Futurity a few months before. Stalwart never raced again, but the grey Gato del Sol captured the GI Kentucky Derby the following May, paying \$44.40 for owner/breeders Arthur Hancock III and Leone Peters, as well as trainer Eddie Gregson. The Breeders' Cup appeared on the scene three years later to trump the Hollywood Futurity's status, but the race has continued to serve as a precursor to success at three for its participants. The 1984 renewal was captured by **Stephan's Odyssey** (Danzig), who became the third Grade I winner from the first crop of his sire. The Henryk di Kwiatkowski homebred wound up running second in both the Kentucky Derby and GI Belmont S. in 1985.

In 1985, the California-bred **Snow Chief** (Reflected Glory) scorched to a 6 1/2-length victory, covering a mile in 1:34 1/5. While Snow Chief went on to take the 1986 GI Preakness S. and the Eclipse Award as the nation's champion three-year-old for owners Ben Rochelle and Carl Grinstead, he took a backseat on the first Saturday in May to **Ferdinand** (Nijinsky II), who had finished third in the Hollywood Futurity the previous December. Ferdinand had a championship season in 1987, taking an epic renewal of the GI Breeders' Cup Classic on his way to the Horse of the Year title.

While Ferdinand and Snow Chief traded decisions in 1986, a two-year-old colt by Alydar, **Alysheba**, kept picking up checks for trainer Jack Van Berg and owners Dorothy and Pamela Scharbauer. The \$500,000 KEEJUL yearling purchase, third in the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile, ran second by a neck to Temperate Sil (Temperence Hill) in the Hollywood Futurity.

Cont. p2

## BAFFERT CHARGES WORK AT HOLLYWOOD

With Santa Anita's main track experiencing drainage problems this past weekend, trainer Bob Baffert called an audible Tuesday, working a trio of GI CashCall Futurity contenders, including GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile runner-up **Lookin at Lucky** (Smart Strike), at Hollywood Park. The **"TDN Rising Star"** worked four furlongs beneath Joe Steiner in :47.20. "He went beautiful, like a dream, like he always does," Steiner told *Daily Racing Form*. "The track feels really good. He likes this track. He's doing so good." Baffert added, "The track was good there [at Santa Anita], but I didn't want to work there today. I thought it was best to get over here and work." Baffert also sent **Marcello** (Johannesburg) and **The Program** (Harlan's Holiday), who worked four furlongs in company in :48. Marcello, an allowance winner at the Oak Tree meeting, was last seen placing second in the grassy GIII Generous S. Nov. 28 at 22-1. The Program earned his diploma at Oak Tree before placing second in a Hollywood allowance Nov. 27. Also under consideration for Saturday's contest are: **Get My Fix** (Posse), **Noble's Promise** (Cuvee), **Seattle Ruler** (Roman Ruler), and **Make Music for Me** (Bernstein).



Lookin at Lucky  
Benoit photo

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While that colt went on to take the GI Santa Anita Derby in April, Alysheba proved to be the star of his crop, avoiding near-disaster to take the Run for the Roses before capturing the Preakness. Second by a nose to Ferdinand in the Breeders' Cup Classic, he was named champion three-year-old before going on to complete a Horse of the Year campaign in 1988.

The 1990 winner, **Best Pal** (\*Habitony), notched a runner-up finish in the Kentucky Derby in a noteworthy career that saw him retire as the richest California-bred in history for owner/breeder Golden Eagle Farm.

A \$2.9-million KEEJUL saletopper, **A.P. Indy** (Seattle Slew) came along in 1991 to take the Hollywood Futurity while winning three of four starts at two. The handsome bay was scratched on the morning of the Kentucky Derby, but rebounded with victories in the Belmont and Breeders' Cup Classic on his way to 1992 Horse of the Year honors, and has gone on to a glittering career in the breeding shed.

Three years later, **Afternoon Deelites** (Private Terms) capped an unbeaten season with a 6 1/2-length score over East Coast shipper **Thunder Gulch** (Gulch) in the Hollywood Futurity. The Burt Bacharach homebred added three graded-stakes victories at three, including the GI Malibu S., but Thunder Gulch rattled off wins in the Kentucky Derby, Belmont, GI Florida Derby and GI Travers S. and was honored with the Eclipse Award as champion three-year-old.

Mike Pegram's **Real Quiet** (Quiet American) took his time breaking his maiden in 1997, but concluded the year with a victory in the Hollywood Futurity. He became the race's first--and only--winner to go on to victory in the Kentucky Derby. After adding the Preakness to his trophy case, the rangy bay came up a nose short to Victory Gallop in his Triple Crown quest. Voted champion three-year-old of 1998, Real Quiet went on to win the GI Hollywood Gold Cup and GI Pimlico Special H. at four.

The Thoroughbred Corporation's **Point Given** (Thunder Gulch) was second by a nose in the 2000 Breeders' Cup Juvenile, but bounced back to give trainer Bob Baffert his third Hollywood Futurity winner in four years. Though he managed to lodge his only off-the-board finish in the Kentucky Derby, Point Given asserted his superiority with impressive victories in the Preakness and Belmont as well as the GI Haskell Invitational H. and the Travers, and wound up as the 2001 Horse of the Year and champion three-year-old.

The 2003 winner, **Lion Heart** (Tale of the Cat), emulated Best Pal by finishing second to Smarty Jones in the 2004 Run for the Roses before adding the Haskell a few months later.

In 2004, **Declan's Moon** (Malibu Moon) was honored with an Eclipse Award after taking the Hollywood Futurity as part of a perfect four-race season. Finishing second that day was **Giacomo** (Holy Bull), who went on to light up the tote board as the 50-1 winner of the Kentucky Derby. The Futurity trifecta was rounded out by Wilko (Awesome Again), himself the surprise winner of the Breeders' Cup Juvenile in his previous start.

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Last year's hero, **Pioneerof the Nile** (Empire Maker), went on to capture the Santa Anita Derby before finishing second in the Kentucky Derby. Runner-up **I Want Revenge** (Stephen Got Even) looked set for favoritism in the "Run for the Roses" following wins in the GI Wood Memorial S. and Gill Gotham S., but was scratched on the morning of the race.

**HOLLYWOOD (CASHCALL) FUTURITY - RECENT WINNERS**

| Yr  | Winner             | Sire             | Trainer    |
|-----|--------------------|------------------|------------|
| '08 | Pioneerof the Nile | Empire Maker     | Baffert    |
| '07 | Into Mischief      | Harlan's Holiday | Mandella   |
| '06 | Stormello          | Stormy Atlantic  | Currin     |
| '05 | Brother Derek      | Benchmark        | Hendricks  |
| '04 | Declan's Moon      | Malibu Moon      | Ellis      |
| '03 | Lion Heart         | Tale of the Cat  | Biancone   |
| '02 | Toccet             | Awesome Again    | Scanlan    |
| '01 | Siphonic           | Siphon (Brz)     | Hofmans    |
| '00 | Point Given        | Thunder Gulch    | Baffert    |
| '99 | Captain Steve      | Fly So Free      | Baffert    |
| '98 | Tactical Cat       | Storm Cat        | Lukas      |
| '97 | Real Quiet         | Quiet American   | Baffert    |
| '96 | Swiss Yodeler      | Eastern Echo     | Harrington |
| '95 | Matty G            | Capote           | McAnally   |
| '94 | Afternoon Deelites | Private Terms    | Mandella   |
| '93 | Valiant Nature     | His Majesty      | McAnally   |
| '92 | River Special      | Riverman         | Hess Jr    |
| '91 | A.P. Indy          | Seattle Slew     | Drysdale   |
| '90 | Best Pal           | *Habitony        | G Jones    |

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




**FROM THE DESK OF...**  
Bill Oppenheim  
12/10/2009



## ROLL THE DICE

Predictability. Well, who wouldn't like a crystal ball? Mine might be slightly less clouded than others, but anybody who tells you they can predict which sires are going to be successful, and which aren't, is deluding somebody. There's a long history of can't-miss stallion prospects who ended up on foreign shores, and equally a distinguished roll-call of relative nobodies (Distorted Humor, Pivotal) who've become household names in the breeding world. Write it down a 100 times: what they do on the racetrack isn't necessarily what they're going to do as a sire.

In recent years, stallions that were unproven when the horses were bred have sired more than their share of good horses in their first or second crops. It wasn't just a sales ploy, though for a while there you had a better chance of making money by using first-year sires regardless of whether they ended up good, bad, or indifferent. Rather the opposite is the case during recessionary times--breeders tend to fall back on the proven commodities, and the unproven sire becomes a more difficult sell. You can particularly see this when, as now, the prices on proven sires have fallen so much. When you have legitimately good stallions standing for \$7,500 and \$10,000, the unproven horse at that and all higher prices has to offer something really special to attract those breeders who were fighting over them two years ago.

Like everything in this business, a swing of the pendulum one way opens up big opportunities the other way--in this case, those breeders who are willing, and even eager, to patronize unproven stallions. Three years ago, if you'd bred to Medaglia D'Oro, Tapit, Speightstown, Candy Ride, or Birdstone, you were breeding in those stallions' third years, yet those were their yearlings of 2009. All you have to do is guess right, and you do get paid.

With this in mind, I've unpacked my trusty (but cloudy) crystal ball. As a breeder, you know you're taking a big gamble--even bigger than usual--when you use an unproven sire. So making it a 'value' gamble is just as important, if not more so, than for proven sires. If you're going to roll the dice, especially after this year's Keeneland September sale, it's important to avoid producing a yearling which won't even bring the stud fee it cost to produce it. Thus, price is an issue. It's very hard to see why breeders are going to want to pay even as much as \$50,000 to breed to any unproven sire in North America right now.

## "VALUE SIRES" FOR 2010:

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Thus, I have knocked out from consideration as 'value' unproven sires five horses who stand for more than \$40,000: F2008 Bernardini (\$60,000 first two-year-olds 2010); F2009 Street Sense (\$50,000); and F2010 Curlin (\$60,000) and Big Brown (\$55,000)--even though all five have very good credentials and could easily make good sires. Interestingly, the top stud fee for a stallion retired for 2010 in Kentucky is Zensational at \$25,000. That alone makes a pretty big statement about the North American market at the moment.

Of the 24 stallions I've selected for comment, five have their first two-year-olds racing next year; nine will have their first yearlings selling (so they're standing their third years); five will see their first foals arrive next year; and four are retiring in 2010. As picking unproven stallions is largely a matter of stating and weighing up credentials, we again encourage readers to let us know your opinions, which we publish in a follow-up feature, 'Nominations from the Floor.' There were nine nominations from the Floor following last week's article; these are discussed at the end of the column.

Oppenheim cont.



**First Foals 2008; First Juveniles 2010...**

**Bernardini** (\$60,000) is this group's runaway commercial leader, and has massive credentials, including the backing of Darley. But the value for 2010 is lower down the scale. All along there have been three horses in the running for the second spot: **Henny Hughes**, **Bluegrass Cat**, and **First Samurai**. All are sons of Storm Cat or grandsons. By Johannesburg's sire Hennessy, Henny Hughes was first or second in nine of his 10 career starts, winning the GII Saratoga Special and running second in three Grade I's at two: the Hopeful, the Champagne (both times to First Samurai), and the Breeders' Cup Juvenile (to Stevie Wonderboy, with First Samurai third). He came back at three to win the GI King's Bishop, a key seven-furlong 'siremaker' race for three-year-olds at Saratoga, then trounced older horses in the six-furlong GI Vosburgh. He was narrowly second over Bluegrass Cat in first-crop weanling average in 2008 (\$143,000 vs. \$139,866), and held second spot at the yearling sales, though his average dropped a little over 10 percent to \$128,326 (all auction figures per Insta-tistics). He raced for Skeikh Mohammed's son, Sheikh Rashid's Zabeel Stable, and is therefore a Darley stallion.

**First Samurai**, from Giant's Causeway's first American crop (second overall), defeated Henny Hughes in both the aforementioned two-year-old Grade I races, the Hopeful and Champagne, and ran third in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile. He only ran three times at three, his only win coming via the disqualification of Corinthian in the GII Fountain of Youth, but he never ran again after his next start, in which he was beaten 30 lengths in the GI Blue Grass. Sent to Claiborne, he was a distant fourth behind Henny Hughes and Bluegrass Cat at the 2008 weanling sales (\$85,438), but impressed many by increasing his average markedly to \$118,721 at the yearling sales. They had to look like runners to accomplish that in a seriously difficult market. That ranked him third behind Bernardini and Henny Hughes among North American first-crop yearling sires in 2009.

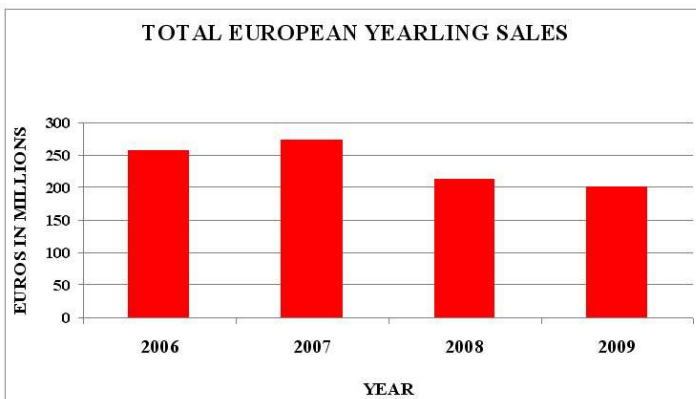
By contrast, **Bluegrass Cat's** commercial fortunes went the other way. His average dropped from \$139,866 at the 2008 weanling sales to \$95,057 at the 2009 yearling sales. It certainly wasn't because his credentials suddenly disappeared. He won the GIII Nashua/GII Remsen double at Aqueduct as a two-year-old, and won the GI Haskell at three. But his seconds were even more impressive--to Barbaro in the GI Kentucky Derby; Jazil in the GI Belmont S.; and Bernardini in the GI Travers. He comes from a great Phipps branch of the \*La Troienne family too: his third dam was dual Grade I winner Dance Number, a half-sister to Private Account, out of Numbered Account.

Oppenheim cont.

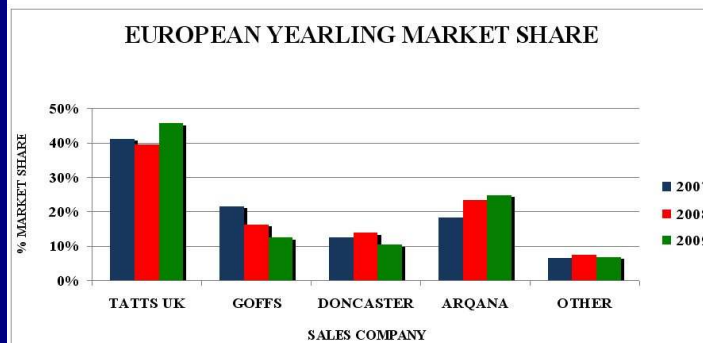
# Weekly Sales Ticker

by Bill Oppenheim

"The 2009 North American and European auctions saw 23,917 horses sell for \$1,158,068,473, an \$891-million drop (44 percent) from 2007, when 31,483 sales generated over \$2-billion in revenue. In that context, the European yearling sales have seen just a seven percent drop in horses sold and a 27 percent fall in gross. So they've held up relatively well. Goffs has been the big loser since 2007, their market share dropping 10 percent, from 22 to 12 percent of the European yearling market. Their sister company Arqana is the big winner, up seven percent (18 to 25); Tattersalls was up five percent, from 41 to 46 percent." *– Bill Oppenheim*



| YEAR | CAT   | RING  | SOLD  | %W/D  | %R/S  | %S/C  | GROSS        | AVE     |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------------|---------|
| 2009 | 6,372 | 5,813 | 4,472 | 8.8%  | 76.9% | 70.2% | €199,727,038 | €44,662 |
| 2008 | 6,596 | 5,929 | 4,323 | 10.1% | 72.9% | 65.5% | €213,491,158 | €49,385 |
| 2007 | 6,808 | 6,167 | 4,785 | 9.4%  | 77.6% | 70.3% | €273,929,660 | €57,248 |
| 2006 | 6,506 | 5,879 | 4,766 | 9.6%  | 81.1% | 73.3% | €256,798,934 | €53,881 |






The fact is all three of these prospects have pretty heavyweight credentials. Henny Hughes was a rocket whose weanlings and yearlings found favor with buyers. First Samurai was maybe an even better two-year-old whose first yearlings impressed the judges. Bluegrass Cat ran Grade I seconds to Barbaro and Bernardini, is by Storm Cat, and is himself from a great family. At \$30,000 for First Samurai and \$25,000 for the other two, you could be buying a lot of sire for not a lot of money.

The first sons of Distorted Humor are coming on line, and the first two in Kentucky to have runners next year are Three Chimneys' **Flower Alley** and Sharp Humor, who, like Bluegrass Cat, stands at WinStar. They're sharply contrasting types. Flower Alley broke his maiden at a mile at Gulfstream Park and won the GII Lane's End at Turfway Park, but then ran a distant nine-length second to Afleet Alex in the GII Arkansas Derby and finished mid-pack (ninth) in the GI Kentucky Derby won by longshot Giacomo. It was a different story when Todd Pletcher got him back to New York, though. After winning the GII Dwyer on July 4th weekend, he ran Beyers of 112-110-111 in three of his next four starts, winning the GII Jim Dandy and GI Travers, and running second to Saint Liam in the GI Breeders' Cup Classic. That's good enough, especially since that gamble costs \$12,500 next year, down from \$20,000 in 2009.


Oppenheim cont.



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**RECOMMENDED 'VALUE' KY SIRES without RUNNERS**  
(arranged by Yr 1st Foals, then 2010 stud fee)

| SIRE               | YR   | HIS SIRE         | 1ST FLS | ST | FARM           | 2010   | 2009   | Cat* | 2009 Sales \$ Average |
|--------------------|------|------------------|---------|----|----------------|--------|--------|------|-----------------------|
| First Samurai      | 2003 | Giant's Causeway | 2008    | KY | Claiborne      | 30,000 | 30,000 | Y    | 118,721               |
| Bluegrass Cat      | 2003 | Storm Cat        | 2008    | KY | Winstar        | 25,000 | 40,000 | Y    | 95,057                |
| Henny Hughes       | 2003 | Hennessy         | 2008    | KY | Darley         | 25,000 | 30,000 | Y    | 128,326               |
| Flower Alley       | 2002 | Distorted Humor  | 2008    | KY | Three Chimneys | 12,500 | 20,000 | Y    | 39,559                |
| Sharp Humor        | 2003 | Distorted Humor  | 2008    | KY | WinStar        | 7,500  | 12,500 | Y    | 19,680                |
| Hard Spun          | 2004 | Danzig           | 2009    | KY | Darley         | 35,000 | 40,000 | W    | 142,076               |
| Corinthian         | 2003 | Pulpit           | 2009    | KY | Gainesway      | 30,000 | 30,000 | W    | 89,090                |
| Discreet Cat       | 2003 | Foresty          | 2009    | KY | Darley         | 20,000 | 25,000 | W    | 47,764                |
| Invasor            | 2002 | Candy Stripes    | 2009    | KY | Shadwell       | 20,000 | 28,000 | W    | 67,709                |
| Purim              | 2002 | Dynaformer       | 2009    | KY | Richland Hills | 10,000 | 10,000 | W    | 9,425                 |
| Stevie Wonderboy   | 2003 | Stephen Got Even | 2009    | KY | Airdrie        | 10,000 | 15,000 | W    | 53,500                |
| Latent Heat        | 2003 | Maria's Mon      | 2009    | KY | Woods Edge     | 8,500  | 12,500 | W    | 32,667                |
| Daaher             | 2004 | Awesome Again    | 2009    | KY | Shadwell       | 7,500  | 16,000 | W    | 0                     |
| Flashy Bull        | 2003 | Holy Bull        | 2009    | KY | Airdrie        | 7,500  | 8,500  | W    | 20,000                |
| Henrythenavigator  | 2005 | Kingmambo        | 2010    | KY | Ashford        | 40,000 | 65,000 | CS   | 160,775               |
| Midnight Lute      | 2003 | Real Quiet       | 2010    | KY | Hill 'N' Dale  | 20,000 | 20,000 | CS   | 48,970                |
| Divine Park        | 2004 | Chester House    | 2010    | KY | Airdrie        | 10,000 | 17,500 | CS   | 15,666                |
| Indygo Shiner      | 1998 | A.P. Indy        | 2010    | KY | Hill 'N' Dale  | 7,500  | 7,500  | CS   | 21,769                |
| Nobiz like Shobiz  | 2004 | Albert the Great | 2010    | KY | Darby Dan      | 2,500  | 7,500  | CS   | 5,500                 |
| Zensational        | 2006 | Unbridled's Song | 2011    | KY | Hill 'N' Dale  | 25,000 |        |      |                       |
| Pioneerof the Nile | 2006 | Empire Maker     | 2011    | KY | Vinery         | 20,000 |        |      |                       |
| Colonel John       | 2005 | Tiznow           | 2011    | KY | WinStar        | 15,000 |        |      |                       |
| Tale of Ekati      | 2005 | Tale of the Cat  | 2011    | KY | Darby Dan      | 15,000 |        |      |                       |
| Kodiak Kowboy      | 2005 | Posse            | 2011    | KY | Vinery         | 15,000 |        |      |                       |

\*Y=Yearling; W=Weanling; CS=Covering Sire



**Sharp Humor**, by contrast, was much speedier. He was a good New York-bred at two, but ran two bang-up races at Gulfstream Park the following spring which made his reputation, first winning the seven-furlong GII Swale S., then setting the pace and giving way grudgingly to Barbaro in the GI Florida Derby, defeated only a half-length. He gained a lot of respect from the pros that day, and they remembered when he went to stud. That was at \$12,500, and he's now down to \$7,500 for 2010.

No doubt you have your own opinions about which horses might be reasonable sorts of high-risk gambles among the class of (first foals) 2008 sires, so by all means let us know, and we'll include those (and any from the other sire crops covered today) in next week's 'Nominations from the Floor' section. Infallibility in the selection process would not be something a person with any knowledge of history would be claiming when assessing sires about to have their first two-year-olds.

**First Foals 2009; First Yearlings 2010...**

**Street Sense** was masterfully trained by Carl Nafzger to become the first horse to win the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile and come back the next year to win the GI Kentucky Derby, though he was beaten twice thereafter by Curlin, who was named champion three-year-old and Horse of the Year. Street Sense was top first-crop (F2009) weanling sire this year (\$148,500), but he's still \$50,000, and it's his Darley barnmate, **Hard Spun** (\$35,000) who really has one of those can't-miss commercial profiles. To sum it up, he had the speed to win the GI King's Bishop, seven furlongs for sophomores at Saratoga but a 'kingmaker' race. Hard Spun also had the class to set the pace and carry his speed enough to run second in the two top 10-furlong races in the country--the GI Kentucky Derby (to Street Sense) and the GI Breeders' Cup Classic (to Curlin). Hard Spun is by Danzig, who's overdue to have a World Top 12 sire son in Kentucky, and out of a mare by Turkoman (son of Alydar) from the storied Darby Dan family which produced Chateaugay and Little Current in days of yore. His weanlings averaged \$142,076--not far off Street Sense's \$148,500 average--and I would venture there are very few professionals who don't give this horse a big shot at stud.

**Corinthian** (\$30,000) was a very talented horse who didn't always have things go his way. He won the GII Fountain of Youth over First Samurai only to be disqualified, then was sidelined for most of the rest of his three-year-old year. He made amends at four, winning the GI Met Mile and the Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile, powering away in the Monmouth slop to an off-the-charts 119 Beyer figure (his previous best had been 108 in his Met Mile win). Gainesway has been very strong on him, and with Tapit and Birdstone lately, their credibility on the sire front is high. Corinthian was very strong at the weanling sales, with 22 sold from 26 offered and an average of \$89,090.

IF IT'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR "RAGS" ...



# BOBOMAN

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This was the year (2007) Darley went out and spent an estimated \$200 million recruiting the top three-year-old colts in America and Europe as stallion prospects. Plenty fancy another son of Distorted Humor, GI Haskell winner **Any Given Saturday**, another member of Darley's formidable lineup. But you can't pick 'em all. I guess in 'value' terms, I'm going a little commercial for the speedier horses, Hard Spun and **Discreet Cat**, over the two-turn horses. Discreet Cat, a grandson of Storm Cat (by the--can we call him this?--enigmatic Forestry), was unbeaten in six starts by the end of his three-year-old year, which culminated in a 10-length win in the GII Jerome (Beyer 115)--at odds of 1-20--followed by a 3 1/4-length win over older horses in the GI Cigar Mile (Beyer 116)--at odds of 1-4. It all came undone when he was last of seven to Invasor in the G1 Dubai World Cup, and he closed out his career with tame thirds to Fabulous Strike in the GI Vosburgh, and Corinthian in the Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile--but he looked like King of the World at the end of his three-year-old year. He now stands for \$20,000, which I would say isn't a bad bet for a horse who was that good.

★ **Watch Out for "TDN Rising Stars" ★**  
Stars of tomorrow grabbing the spotlight today...



Also down to \$20,000 for 2010 is Shadwell's **Invasor**, bred in Argentina and unbeaten in five starts in Uruguay at two and three. He was then bought by Sheikh Hamdan, and suffered his only career defeat when seven lengths fourth to Discreet Cat in the 2007 G2 UAE Derby (the race is open to Northern Hemisphere three-year-olds and Southern Hemisphere four-year-olds). He was unbeaten thereafter, winning four Grade I races from four starts in North America, and culminating in a one-length defeat of Bernardini (Invasor ran a Beyer 116) in the 2006 GI Breeders' Cup Classic at Churchill Downs. He won the GI Donn as a prep for the G1 Dubai World Cup, and closed out his career with his sixth straight Grade I win and earnings of over \$7.8 million with a decisive win in Dubai. You can bet Sheikh Hamdan has been breeding some very good mares to him. I'm thinking there are a lot of positives there.

There are some interesting ideas as we drop down the stud fee ladder. **Purim** (\$10,000) is a son of Dynaformer who won the GI Shadwell Mile as a five-year-old. Out of a Lord at War mare from the family of Dr. Fager, he is of most interest because Nathan Fox, the man who got Dynaformer started at his (then) Wafare Farm, was quoted as saying he went and sought this horse out for his Richland Hills Farm because he reminded him more of his old man than any other Dynaformer he'd seen.

There are two reasons why we need to respect the chances of the Airdrie stallion **Stevie Wonderboy**, especially as he's down to \$10,000 for 2010. The first is the Form Book: trained in California by Doug O'Neill for the late Merv Griffin, he shipped across the country to defeat Henny Hughes (stands for \$25,000) and First Samurai (\$30,000) in the 2005 GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile at Belmont Park. He ran a Beyer 104 that day, about three points higher than most runnings of the race. If Henny Hughes and First Samurai are good prospects--and I think they are-- doesn't that make Stevie Wonderboy a good prospect, too, at a fraction of their prices? Not only that, Stevie Wonderboy is eligible to become a vigorous proponent of what is called 'hybrid vigor'--the idea the closely inbred parents can spark improvement in a breed. By a son of A.P. Indy out of a mare by A.P. Indy's half-brother Summer Squall, Stevie Wonderboy is thus inbred 3x3 to the dam of sires, Weekend Surprise.

**Latent Heat** was four-for-five at seven furlongs on the dirt as a three- and four-year-old for the late great Bobby Frankel, including the GI Malibu and GII San Carlos H., during the winter of 2006-07. He's standing at Woods Edge Farm, operated by Peter O'Callaghan of the Irish O'Callaghans, and one of the most accomplished young pinhookers in the business. Latent Heat, as you can imagine, is a good-looking horse, now down to \$8,500, and it wouldn't take much for him to develop a following.

## ZANJERO

*Cherokee Run – Checkered Flag, by A.P. Indy*



photo by Matt Goins

### VERSATILE

- On **DIRT**, he won the G2 Indiana Derby and G3 West Virginia Derby
- On **POLY**, he won the G2 Kentucky Cup Classic and placed in the G1 Blue Grass S. in a blanket finish with **STREET SENSE**

\$10,000 LIVE FOAL (STAND AND NURSE)

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Interestingly dropped way down to \$7,500 (originally \$20,000) is Shadwell's **Daaher**, who won the same two one-mile New York dirt races in 2007 that Discreet Cat won in 2006 and pretty nearly as impressively--the GII Jerome for three-year-olds (Beyer 110), followed by a 2 1/2-length win (Beyer 114 over Midnight Lute, who was 1-2 after winning the first of his two GI Breeders' Cup Sprints) in the GI Cigar Mile. And I mustn't forget Airdrie's **Flashy Bull**, a son of Holy Bull, as noted last week. He was third, promoted to second in the Corinthian/First Samurai GII Fountain of Youth race, but came back very strong at four for Terry Finley's West Point Thoroughbreds, winning four in a row, culminating in the GI Stephen Foster H. at Churchill Downs.

## TDN CRITERIA

*The races covered in the TDN are as follows:*

- Black Type Races** - purses of \$50,000/up
- Allowance Races** - purses of \$20,000/up
- Optional Claiming Races** - purses of \$20,000/up and a minimum claiming price of \$25,000
- Maiden Special Weight Races** - purses of \$18,000/up
- Maiden Claiming Races** - purses of \$18,000/up and a minimum claiming price of \$40,000



**First Foals 2010; Standing Second Season...**

Three stallions went to stud in North America in 2009 at stud fees of \$50,000 and up--Lane's End's **Curlin** (\$75,000), Three Chimneys' **Big Brown** (\$65,000), and Ashford's **Henrythenavigator** (\$65,000). Though in theory a sire's opening-year covering sire average may reflect nothing more than the quality of book they attracted, a comparison of the three averages, and their 2010 stud fees, is interesting. There were 14 mares offered in foal to Curlin, of which 10 were sold for an average of \$242,700; Curlin's stud fee dropped 20 percent to \$60,000. Big Brown had 13 offered, of which only six sold, for an average of \$110,500; his stud fee dropped 15 percent to \$55,000. There were 11 mares offered in foal to Henrythenavigator, of which 10 sold, for an average of \$160,000; his stud fee dropped 38 percent, to \$40,000. Henrythenavigator had the second highest covering sire average, the highest clearance rate, and the biggest drop in stud fee. That makes him this group's most expensive value sire for 2010. He's just as good a prospect as he was this time last year, yet his stud fee dropped in the neighborhood of twice as much as this sire class's other top prospects.

Hill 'n' Dale's **Midnight Lute** remains at \$20,000, but let's remind ourselves why. He won the GI Breeders' Cup Sprint twice (Beyers of 108 and 112), and ran an off-the-graph 124 Beyer when he won the GI Forego in his race before his first Breeders' Cup Sprint win. He has some interesting staying elements in his pedigree (his second dam Bolt From the Blue was a staying grass filly in the mid '80s by a son of Olden Times). It will be really interesting to see his first foals next year.

Airdrie's **Divine Park** drops 40 percent from \$17,500 to \$10,000. He won the GI Met Mile and is the best chance to extend the influence of his short-lived but remarkably good sire Chester House.

Hill 'n' Dale stands another interesting stallion whose first North American foals will be born next year. **Indygo Shiner** is a son of A.P. Indy out of Navarra, a Grade III-winning full-sister to Grade I winner Toussaud, dam of Empire Maker and the aforementioned Chester House. He's really a second-year stallion with a history. He won the GIII Jefferson Cup as a three-year-old, then was sold to Argentina, where his first crop was born in 2004. His second crop included three different Argentine Classic winners, as well as a filly bought for Dubai who won the Listed UAE 1000 Guineas this year.

Oppenheim cont.

“something to behold”

For size, scope, and quality, MAJESTIC WARRIOR is something to behold. With a grand physique, a beautiful pedigree, and a G1 victory, Majestic Warrior has tremendous potential...

Source: Frank Mitchell, www.ematings.com, March 22nd 2009



**MAJESTIC WARRIOR**

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2010 FEE \$15,000



He had another 2009 black-type winner in Dubai this year from his first crop: Grade III winner My Indy. And we must give a nod to Darby Dan, who slashed the fee of the six-time graded race winner (including on dirt and grass, and including the GI Wood Memorial) **Nobiz Like Showbiz** by two-thirds, from \$7,500 to \$2,500.

**Retiring in 2010...**

The most notable thing about this group is that the stallion with the highest stud fee retiring to Kentucky in 2010 is another Hill 'n' Dale sprinter from the Bob Baffert barn, triple Grade I winner and GI Breeders' Cup Sprint favorite **Zensational** (Unbridled's Song), who retires for a \$25,000 stud fee. It's the lowest 'high' retirement in recent memory, and shows just how tough stallion masters think it's going to be to market young stallions now. Vinery introduces **Pioneer of**

**the Nile**, by Empire Maker out of a Lord at War mare. He won four Grade I/Grade II races in a row in California last winter/spring, starting with the GI Cashcall Futurity and culminating with the GI Santa Anita Derby.



**Zensational**  
Benoit photo

He looked the winner of the GI Kentucky Derby at the head of the lane, but had no answer to little Mine That Bird motoring along under Calvin Bo-rail. He'll stand for \$20,000. Coming in at \$15,000 are WinStar's **Colonel John** (Tiznow), who won the GI Santa Anita Derby and Travers as a three-year-old; and Darby Dan's **Tale of Ekati**. He's by Tale of the Cat out of a Sunday Silence daughter of Maplejinsky, and won the GI Wood Memorial, GI Cigar Mile (by disqualification) and GI Jerome as a three-year-old in 2008. Vinery also retires **Kodiak Cowboy**, a four-time graded stakes winner at two and three who graduated to win three New York Grade I's from six furlongs to a mile this year. He will stand for \$15,000 and replaces his sire Posse, who's been sent to New York. I believe these are the only stallions announced as going to stud for more than \$10,000 in Kentucky next year. We are still awaiting, as far as I know, announcements on the fees for Tiago and Einstein at Adena Springs, and Cowboy Cal at Pin Oak.



*Did You Know?...*  
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**Nominations From the Floor...**

It's testimony to the scale of the reductions in 2010 stud fees that readers felt there were nine different sires that I had left out of my column last week, which one or more of you felt should have been included. Fair enough: as stated above, I don't really claim infallibility, though there are those who claim I act like it sometimes. In alphabetical order, the nominations from the floor are:

**Awesome Again:** The team at Adena Springs took the time to send us a very detailed case for inclusion of three of their stallions, headed by Awesome Again, who they point out is the sire of nine Grade I winners, including four Breeders' Cup winners. Sure enough, he has been among the top 10 on the general sire list three times, and 2009 marks the first year since 2004 he hasn't been in the top 25. His stud fee, though, has been cut by 60 percent, from \$125,000 to \$50,000, which I have to agree is fair value for a stallion with his record.

**Belong to Me:** A reader wondered why I have been recommending him every year, but when his stud fee dropped again, from \$10,000 to \$7,500, I didn't include him. I guess my reasoning was there were a lot of others who caught up with him with so many dropping so much for 2010. But it's fair to say he's no less a successful journeyman stallion than he has been the last few years. He's at Lane's End.

**Broken Vow:** Number-one third-crop sire, and number 16 on the GSL in 2007, the year his first four-year-olds raced. He ranked 38th last year, and is 24th in 2009. I certainly do like Broken Vow, don't get me wrong; I guess I thought he might have fallen further. He is \$25,000 for 2010 at Pin Oak, from \$30,000 in 2009.

**Cactus Ridge:** Sire of the Grade I-winning three-year-old filly Hot Cha Cha this year; he ranks eighth on the third-crop sire list. He was an unbeaten two-year-old by Hennessy, also sire of Johannesburg and Henny Hughes. He moves from Walmac to Vinery; his stud fee has risen to \$7,500 from \$6,000.

All horses in TDN Headline News and TDN American edition are bred in North America, unless otherwise indicated

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**Even the Score:** A dual Grade II winner (as a six-year-old) in California by Unbridled's Song, he has been a pleasant surprise (well, maybe not to Ro) for Ro Parra's Millennium Farm. His first crop are now three-year-olds, and he's been in the top 10 in this strong sire class both years. His first crop includes dual Grade I winner Take the Points and dual Grade III winner Four Gifts. He remains at \$15,000 for 2010.

**Macho Uno:** The Adena Springs team makes the very fair point that he ranked fifth on the 2007 Freshman Sire list, sixth on the second-crop list, and seventh on the third-crop list this year. You can see from his 2.08 APEX A Runner Index that he's been a consistent sire of good runners, including Grade I winner Wicked Style and Macho Again, as well as Harlem Rocker, DQ'd after winning the 2008 GI Cigar Mile over Tale of Ekati.

**NOMINATIONS FROM THE FLOOR: READERS' CHOICES - KENTUCKY SIRES, with RUNNERS**

| SIRE            | YR   | HIS SIRE         | 1ST FLS | ST | FARM           | 2010   | 2009    | A Index | ABC Index |
|-----------------|------|------------------|---------|----|----------------|--------|---------|---------|-----------|
| Awesome Again   | 1994 | Deputy Minister  | 2000    | KY | Adena Springs  | 50,000 | 125,000 | 3.01    | 2.10      |
| Belong to Me    | 1989 | Danzig           | 1995    | KY | Lane's End     | 7,500  | 10,000  | 2.31    | 1.76      |
| Broken Vow      | 1997 | Unbridled        | 2003    | KY | Pin Oak        | 25,000 | 30,000  | 1.69    | 1.36      |
| Cactus Ridge    | 2001 | Hennessy         | 2005    | KY | Vinery         | 7,500  | 6,000   | 0.92    | 1.15      |
| Even the Score  | 1998 | Unbridled's Song | 2006    | KY | Millennium     | 15,000 | 15,000  | 3.13    | 1.56      |
| Macho Uno       | 1998 | Holy Bull        | 2005    | KY | Adena Springs  | 25,000 | 25,000  | 2.08    | 1.56      |
| Northern Afleet | 1993 | Afleet           | 2000    | KY | Taylor Made    | 10,000 | 7,500   | 1.54    | 1.39      |
| Touch Gold      | 1994 | Deputy Minister  | 2000    | KY | Adena Springs  | 10,000 | 15,000  | 1.74    | 1.43      |
| Yes It's True   | 1996 | Is It True       | 2002    | KY | Three Chimneys | 17,500 | 22,500  | 1.75    | 1.63      |



Oppenheim cont.

**Northern Afleet:** He's up to eighth on the GSL this year, his previous best placing having been 26th, the year Afleet Alex was a three-year-old. He has been a consistently above-average sire, and there could well be better in the pipeline. He also led the way in being nominated by two different readers. He's at Taylor Made, up to a very reasonable \$10,000 fee from \$7,500 this year. He's also the leading sire of winners this year on the GSL with 156.

**Touch Gold:** Was Adena Spring's third nomination. He has ranked between 30th-50th on the GSL each of the last five years, and can fairly be called a journeyman sire. His stud fee drops to \$10,000 from \$15,000 this year.

**Yes It's True:** He drops another \$5,000 from \$22,500 to \$17,500, having been as high as \$35,000. He's been a real 'top 30' sire, ranking 27th-31st-29th on the GSL in 2006-2008, and is up to 20th this year. He's a prolific sire of winners, ranking among the national leaders in that category (150 winners this year), and of two-year-old winners as well.

Comments? Click on [bopp@erb.com](mailto:bopp@erb.com) to send an email.



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--John Brocklebank  
Brother Derek's Yearling Purchaser  
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## In Other News...

A Daily Roundup of  
Racing Articles in Other Media

[Deck the Halls With the Passing Decade](#)

The decade's most memorable stories and developments

Bill Christine, HorseRace Insider.com

[Cordish, De Francis and Sister among 6 Bidders for Tracks](#)

Andrea K. Walker & Laura Smitherman, Baltimore Sun

[BC should seek permanent residence](#)

Paul Moran, ESPN.com



### TELL IT TO THE TDN...

Want to send a "Letter to the Editor" of the *Thoroughbred Daily News*? Our address is 27 Monmouth St., Red Bank, NJ, 07701; or send a fax to: (732) 747-8955; or an e-mail to: [editor@thoroughbreddailynews.com](mailto:editor@thoroughbreddailynews.com).



Letters  
TO THE EDITOR

What an end of an era the passing of Lee Eaton marks.

I first met Lee in 1982 or '83--but I had been doing work for him uncredited for several years, as part of my copy writing duties at *The Blood-Horse*. When he asked why we had never met face to face, I said, "because they think I'll argue with you, Mr. Eaton." He got that broad grin I would forever associate him with, said, "Mary, get some coffee for these folks," and hunkered down to go over--comma by comma--the ad copy I had prepared for him.

Lee Eaton was many things to many people. Let me share a few of those that he was to me.

- Mentor.
- Infuriating.
- Religious.
- Loyal.
- Charitable.
- Interested.
- Political.
- Horseman.
- Friend.

So many people in our industry have been mentored by Lee Eaton. I will be doing a disservice to mention some and not others, but certainly Ric Waldman, John Williams, Neil Howard, Reiley McDonald, John Prather, Bill Betz, Tom Sayre, Ginger Mullins, Nancy Sabol, Tom Evans, Page Etchison and Tony Leonard will not mind if I put down their names.

I have been feeling for many years that Lee's contributions have been negated by more "modern" guys, and so few recognize what a giant Lee was. He devised the catalog page with notes to the side; he prepped yearlings like show horses (before anyone else really did); he kept a research person on staff in his office to keep him appraised of the news; he never counted RNA's for his success as he felt he had not done the job. How times have changed.

One smart person in his research dept. clipped a chart for him of a maiden winner by Northern Dancer and wrote on it: "Call Seth Hancock and tell him you want a share when this horse goes to stud."

Lee told me he argued with the person and said, "what kind of pedigree does this horse have? Why would Seth Hancock want this horse?" The person said, "I am telling you, call Seth Hancock." He did, and Seth said, "I think you are being presumptuous, but I will put you down." Lee said, "I'll take two."

The horse was Danzig.

The research person was Ric Waldman.

I want to tell just a few stories that speak to the Lee Eaton that I knew. The 1991 Breeders' Cup was run at Churchill, and we had a consignment at Keeneland November beginning the following Monday. Lee was living in Florida most of the time back then, and he came up early so John and Reiley could go to Churchill while we all stayed at the sales grounds. He told me, "Buyers don't want to see Eaton-Williams junior--the want to see US," and he was right. Buyers literally lit up when he greeted in them in that cold, cold courtyard.

Every year, Eaton-Williams sent out a letter to prospective consignors detailing the successes E-W had the previous year, as an enticement to sell their horses with Eatons. This letter was supposed to be mailed right after the start of the year. Lee could--and would--hold this letter up for days and even weeks, haggling over the smallest detail in a single sentence. This drove John (and office personnel) to distraction, but it was simply his attention to detail. Some claim it--Lee lived it.

In doing his advertising for many years, he impressed upon Page and me several crucial factors, none more important than: ads need not be the most modern nor flashy, but there must be a unique fact pertinent only to Eaton-Williams, and the logo needed to be prominent and easily read. He told us, "Like Coca-Cola." Once seen, the reader knows what it is. As has been pointed out, the fact that Reiley kept the name speaks to "Coca-Cola."

He also taught me that the writer's sole job is to speak for the client. Once and only once, I "corrected" him for taking credit for something I had written. He called me aside: "You did not write that--I did. I am the client, and you are merely putting my thoughts down for me. If I accept what you have put down as my own, that is the highest compliment you will ever receive."

And lastly, I want to tell a story that speaks to the incredible horsemanship Lee had. When he heard that I had purchased a farm with my longtime partner Charlie, he called to find out how farm livin' was going.

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\$50

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When you fill out your foal registration application, designate an amount of your choice to

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Letter to the Editor cont.

I griped about the amount of rock in Harrodsburg and our lack of fence. He said, "That reminds me of a story of a yearling I sold maybe 25 years ago." He then recounted the story of a woman from the wilds of Virginia--where he was from, by the way--who asked him to come look at her yearling. He described her as though she were Elly May Clampett, with sea grass string holding up her blue jeans. He arrived at the farm way out in the country, already behind schedule to see several yearlings he was considering selling. "Elly" told him she needed to go get the yearling. He waited there, maybe 20 or 30 minutes, and was about to leave, when the woman appeared over the rise leading the colt. He said his jaw dropped. "Even from there, I could see that colt placed every foot exactly where each foot needed to go." He got that colt to one of his satellite operations in Kentucky as soon as humanly possible, where he prepped it the Eaton way, and eventually sold it for some \$400,000.

I quote something Lee taught me every week--always with attribution, as I am proud to have been mentored by him (even though he fired me). In the last letter I ever got from him, he wrote: "I am happy to hear you are using the lessons I taught you. I was not sure you were ever listening." Lee told me many times, "if you say it with love, it will be heard." I say this with love: there will never be another Lee Eaton.

--Dale Brichta

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.

## **FIRST ANNUAL TDN READERS' CHOICE AWARDS**

The TDN is proud to present our inaugural Readers' Choice Awards. We at the TDN have come up with our favorite performances on the year and beyond, but we want your input, too. So from now until Dec. 22, we will be accepting your votes for additional nominees.

Then, from Dec. 23 through Jan. 17, we will be accepting votes for the award winners, to be announced in the Jan. 22 edition of the TDN. All voters will be entered in a drawing, with five winners getting to choose either a framed 11x14 photo by Sarah K. Andrew, or a free full-page ad in the TDN. For a list of categories and nominees, please click [here](#).

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#### **NATIONAL:**

12-27 150 San Gabriel H.-II, SA, 9fT (150), 12-17  
01-18 150 San Marcos-II, SA, 4/up, 10fT (150), 01-07  
01-30 300 Sunshine Millions Turf, GP, R, 4/up, 9fT (100), 12-17  
01-30 150/50 John B Connally BC Turf-III, Hou, 9fT (0), 01-20  
02-06 300 Gulfstream Park Turf H.-I, GP, 4/up, 9fT (300), 01-23  
02-20 50/50 Fair Grounds H.-III, FG, 4/up, 9fT (100), 2-06

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★ **INDUSTRY INFO** ★

**PARADING TO CLAIBORNE** Multiple graded stakes winner **Parading** (Pulpit--On Parade, by Storm Cat) has been retired and will begin stud duties next season at Claiborne Farm in Paris, Kentucky. The six-year-old Phipps homebred, who won Belmont's Volponi S. in 2008, won this year's



Sarah K Andrew photo

GII Dixie S. and GIII Ben Ali S. He was fourth in the GI Pacific Classic and GI Goodwood S. before concluding his career with a runner-up effort in the Oct. 31 GII Fayette S. at Keeneland. On the board in 14 of 21 starts, Parading won seven times and earned \$530,046 for trainer Shug McGaughey. "This horse is

extremely talented and very good looking," McGaughey said. "As well as the sons of Pulpit are doing at stud, with his talent, looks and pedigree, I think he will make a very good stallion." Parading is out of On Parade, a full-sister to champion Storm Flag Flying. He will stand for \$3,500 live foal, stands and nurses.

**READY'S ECHO TO ZABEEL RACING**

The versatile four-year-old **Ready's Echo** (More Than Ready--Menekinenko, by Kingmambo), last seen placing a close second in the GI Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile at Oak Tree Nov. 7, has been acquired by Sheikh Rashid bin Mohammed Al Maktoum's Zabeel Racing and will be pointed toward the Dubai World Cup meeting. The 2008 GI Belmont S. third-place finisher raced in the colors of Kevin Scatuorchio and Bryan Sullivan's Let's Go Stable. Trainer Todd Pletcher signed the ticket on the \$100,000 KEESEP yearling purchase. "It goes without saying



Ready's Echo  
Horsephotos

that we're saddened to see our stable star leave the barn, but we're elated with the overall deal, as well as the ability to close out our first fund with over a 100 percent ROI," Sullivan commented. Ready's Echo, a strong third in this year's GI Forego S. at Saratoga, will remain under the care of Pletcher.



Sullivan & Scatuorchio  
lgsracing.com

**NTRA Seeks Sales and Business Executive:**

The National Thoroughbred Racing Association is seeking a senior-level Sales and Business Development Executive. The executive will identify and build strategic business relationships and sponsorship opportunities. A complete job description for the Lexington-based position can be found by clicking [here](#).

**THREE CHIMNEYS** TODAY'S INSIGHTS  
*The Idea is Excellence.*

2:17p 5th-TAM, \$20K, Msw, 2yo, f, 1 1/16mT  
HR/TVG **WICKED CHARM** (**Ghostzapper**), a 1/2 to turf champion English Channel (Smart Strike) and MGSP Sedgfield (Smart Strike), kicks off her career for Ramona Bass and trainer Michael Matz. Her dam Belva (Theatrical {Ire}) RNA'd for \$2 million with this filly in utero. Wicked Charm RNA'd for \$470K as a yearling at KEESEP before selling to Bass for \$190K at KEEAPR. [brisnet.com PPs](#)

**BLACK-TYPE STAKES CLOSINGS**



**TODAY, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16:**

12-19 \$750,000 **CashCall Futurity-I, Hol, 2yo, 8.5f (AWT) (10000s)**

**TOMORROW, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17:**

**SUNSHINE MILLIONS (100 EB)**

01-30 \$500,000 **Classic, SA, [Q], 4yo/up, 9f (AWT)**

01-30 \$300,000 **Turf, GP, [Q], 4yo/up, 9fT**

01-30 \$300,000 **Distaff, SA, [Q], 4yo/up, 8.5f (AWT)**

01-30 \$300,000 **F/M Turf, SA, [Q], 4yo/up, 9fT**

01-30 \$200,000 **F/M Sprint, GP, [Q], 4yo/up, 6f (AWT)**

01-30 \$200,000 **Sprint, GP, [Q], 4yo/up, 6f**

12-17 \$300,000 **Hollywood Starlet-I, Hol, 2yo, f, 8.5f (AWT) (10000s)**

12-26 \$300,000 **Malibu-I, SA, 3yo, 7f (AWT) (300)**

12-26 \$300,000 **La Brea-I, SA, 3yo, f, 7f (AWT) (300)**

12-27 \$150,000 **San Gabriel H.-II, SA, 3yo/up, 9fT (150)**

[www.stakesdigestweekly.com](http://www.stakesdigestweekly.com)

The **brisnet.com** 'Race of the Day' is the 7th Race, \$27,500 Allowance, at Hawthorne. For pps and a complete race analysis, click [here](#).



★ EAST ★

**Horsemen's Dinner Jan. 5:**

The 2010 Winter Horsemen Dinner will be held Jan. 5 at Da Vinci Caffe Restaurant in Bay Harbour, Florida. Tickets are \$45 per person and include cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and a four-course dinner. RSVP by Jan. 2 to Bill Hirsch at 954-454-9375.

★ CENTRAL ★

**Yesterday's Results:**

5th-RPX, \$28,500, Alw, Opt. Clm. (\$75,000), NW1X, 2yo, f, 7 1/2fT, 1:32 2/5, fm.

**DIXIE HEARTH (f, 2, [Stephen Got Even](#)--**

**Theheartofdixie, by Crafty Prospector)** rallied to prevail in her Nov. 9 unveiling over the local main track, but was 7-1 in this switch to turf. Never too far from the front, the bay filly ranged up three wide and came home 1 1/4 lengths clear of 3-5 Winning Tale (Tale of the Cat). The winner, a \$16,000 KEENOV weanling and \$25,000 KEESEP yearling, is a 3/4-sister to Lesly's Back (Rock Slide), SP, \$203,900. **Click for the [brisnet.com chart](#).** Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, \$32,538. O-Gar Oil Corp. B-Nicole Zitani & Ramon Rangel (KY). T-Joe S Offolter.

• ON THE WORKTAB •

AQUEDUCT

Silver City (Unbridled's Song), 4f, :54.98, 12/12

BELMONT

Haynesfield (Speightstown), 5f (tr), 1:01.12, 1/28  
Spicy Steve (Stephen Got Even), 3f (tr), :38.24, 6/11

HOLLYWOOD PARK

Lookin at Lucky (Smart Strike), 4f, :47.20, 2/36  
Misremembered (Candy Ride {Arg}), 5f, :59.60, 6/20  
Miss Wined Up (Roman Ruler), 4f, :48.00, 8/36

PALM MEADOWS

Albertus Maximus (Albert the Great), 3f, :37.80, 3/14  
Honest Man (Unbridled's Song), 5f, 1:03.70, 4/6  
Lentenor (Dynaformer), 4f, :51.00, 15/20  
Winslow Homer (Unbridled's Song), 5f, 1:04.00, 5/6

SANTA ANITA

Beautician (Dehere), 4f, :48.20, 2/22  
Cherokee Artist (Cherokee Run), 5f, 1:02.40, 21/35  
Kinsella (Mr. Greeley), 5f, 1:00.80, 6/35  
Noble's Promise (Cuvee), 4f, :49.40, 8/22  
Sidney's Candy (Candy Ride {Arg}), 5f, 1:00.60, 4/35

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

**FASHIONED**  
FOR PROFITABILITY



photo by Z

**\$800,000 YEARLING**

By Unbridled's Song, a \$1.4 Million 2-year-old

Out of Collect Call, a sale-topping 2-year-old

Half-sister was a \$2 Million sale-topping yearling

**OLD FASHIONED**

Unbridled's Song-Collect Call, by Meadowlake • Fee: \$12,500



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# ROOKIES

**First-crop starters to watch: Wednesday, December 16**

*Sire (Sire's Sire), Farm, 2006 Fee, #foals of racing age/Winners/BlackTypeWnrs  
Race #-track, race type, distance, runner, odds (if available)*

- CONSOLIDATOR** (Storm Cat), Darley, \$20K, 102/18/1  
9-DED, Alw, 5f, Exploding Crystals, \$35K KEE SEP yrl, 6-1  
9-DED, Alw, 5f, Solid Lunar, 5-1
- GHOSTZAPPER** (Awesome Again), Adena Springs, \$200K, 80/8/0  
5-TAM, Msw, 1 1/16mT, Wicked Charm, \$190K KEE APR 2yo, 5-1
- KITTEN'S JOY** (El Prado {Ire}), Ramsey, \$25K, 104/17/5  
6-TP, Msw, 1m, Native Kitten
- PURGE** (Pulpit), Vinery, \$20K, 134/13/1  
6-TP, Msw, 1m, Liteasaire
- ROCK HARD TEN** (Kris S.), Lane's End, \$50K, 82/7/3  
5-TAM, Msw, 1 1/16mT, Manners, \$140K KEE SEP yrl, 6-1
- WILDCAT HEIR** (Forest Wildcat), Journeyman, \$7K, 122/38/2  
9-DED, Alw, 5f, Secret Heiress, \$8K OBS AUG yrl, 2-1

**First/Second-crop starters to watch: Wed., Dec. 16**

*Sire (Sire's Sire), Farm, 2005 Fee, #foals of racing age/Winners/BlackTypeWnrs  
Race #-track, race type, distance, runner, odds (if available)*

- CASHEL CASTLE** (Silver Ghost), Journeyman, \$3K, 36/11/0  
5-TAM, Msw, 1 1/16mT, +Castleintheclouds, 8-1
- TAPIT** (Pulpit), Gainesway, \$15K, 173/72/12  
6-TP, Msw, 1m, +Tap Tap Tapping, \$40K KEE SEP yrl
- WAR EAGLE** (Seeking the Gold), All Star Tbreeds, \$2K, 15/1/0  
3-DED, Msw, 5f, +War Town, 15-1

**UPCOMING MAJOR NORTH AMERICAN STAKES**

| Date    | Race                     | Track |
|---------|--------------------------|-------|
| Dec. 19 | GI CashCall Futurity     | HOL   |
| Dec. 20 | GI Hollywood Starlet S.  | HOL   |
| Dec. 26 | GI La Brea S.            | SA    |
|         | GI Malibu S.             | SA    |
|         | GII WL McKnight H.       | CRC   |
|         | GIII Kenny Noe Jr. H.    | CRC   |
|         | GIII Stage Door Betty H. | CRC   |
|         | GIII Sir Beaufort S.     | SA    |
| Dec. 27 | GII San Gabriel H.       | SA    |
| Jan. 2  | GII San Gorgonio H.      | SA    |
|         | GIII Tropical Park Derby | CRC   |
| Jan. 3  | GIII Hal's Hope Derby    | GP    |
|         | GIII Monrovia H.         | SA    |
| Jan. 9  | GII San Pasqual H.       | SA    |
|         | GIII Mr. Prospector H.   | GP    |
|         | GIII Old Hat H.          | GP    |
|         | GIII Sugar Swirl H.      | GP    |
| Jan. 10 | GIII Ft. Lauderdale S.   | GP    |
|         | GIII Santa Ysabel S.     | SA    |

# FASHIONED FOR SPEED



Horsephotos.com

## FASTEST 2-YEAR-OLD OF 2008

**Undefeated in 3 starts by a combined 23 lengths**

**7 1/4-length** romp in Remsen S. (G2), earning a **triple-digit Beyer**

"In recent years we have seen some fast (2-year-olds), but nothing like this."

- Jerry Brown, Thoro-Graph

# OLD FASHIONED

Unbridled's Song-Collect Call, by Meadowlake • Fee: \$12,500



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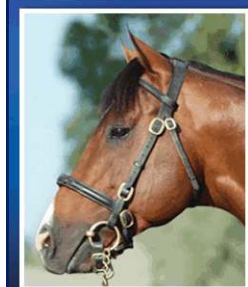


**Observations**  
on today's European  
racing scene  
sponsored by **COOLMORE**

**12.30 Lingfield, Mdn, £5,500, 2yo, f, 7f (AWT)**  
**ELATION (IRE) (Cape Cross {Ire})** made a promising debut when fourth after a slow start at Kempton last month, and can make the step up here. The Mark Johnston trainee is the first foal of dual Classic winner Attraction (GB) (Efisio {GB}) and faces nine rivals in this second go.

**5.50 Kempton, Mdn, £6,000, 2yo, 1m (AWT)**  
**DUELLIST (GB) (Dubawi {Ire})** is a half-brother to the 1998 G1 Middle Park S. winner Lujain (Seeking the Gold) and the 2005 G1 Dubai Golden Shaheen third Botanical (Seeking the Gold). One of two representatives from Mark Johnston's Yorkshire stable, he tackles nine opponents in this opening show.

**6.20 Kempton, Mdn, £6,000, 2yo, 1m (AWT)**  
**YOUR LAD (GB) (Dubawi {Ire})** is a half-brother to the 2001 G1 Poule d'Essai des Pouliches victress Rose Gypsy (GB) (Green Desert). Opposition to the Chris Wall trainee includes **Bonded (Ire) (Oasis Dream {GB})**, who is a half-brother to dual Group 2-winning juvenile Flashy Wings (GB) (Zafonic), who also hit the board three times at the highest level.



**G1 winner over 6f. by Danzig just like the exceptional sires Danehill, Green Desert & Anabaa.**

**AD VALOREM**

Won G1 Middle Park S. & G1 Queen Anne S.

**COOLMORE**

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**BREEDERS' EDITION  
EUROPE**

**MAIDEN WINNERS:**

**Renesse (GB)**, f, 2, **Hennessy--Read Federica (GB)**, by Fusaichi Pegasus. Pau, France, 12-15, Mdn, 2yo, f, 7 1/2f (AWT). B-Newsells Park Stud Ltd. \*£65,000 yrl '08 DONAUG.

**Vive Le Sud (Fr)**, c, 2, **Martaline (GB)--Siro (Ger)**, by Grand Lodge. Pau, France, 12-15, Mdn, 2yo, c/g, 7 1/2f (AWT). B-Mme Annie Delarue. \*€32,000 yrl '08 ARQOCT. \*\*1/2 to Reve de Soleil (Fr) (Dyhim Diamond {Ire}), GSP-Eng.

**FASHIONED**

FOR GREATNESS

Like **Unbridled's Song**, he was a brilliant 2-year-old and Classic-caliber 3-year-old

Both were winter-book favorites for the **Kentucky Derby**

Both were impressive **GSWs at 2 and 3**

Out of a GSW Meadowlake mare, 3-time G1-placed including the **KY Oaks (G1)**



photo by Lee Thomas

**OLD FASHIONED**

Unbridled's Song-Collect Call, by Meadowlake • Fee: \$12,500



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## BREEDERS' EDITION AMERICA

### ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

**1st-RPX, \$41,410, 12-14, 3yo/up, f/m, 1mT, 1:38, fm.**  
**PLEASANTLY BLESSED** (m, 5, [Pleasant Tap](#)--Benedicida {MSW, \$126,000}, by **Silver Ghost**) Lifetime Record: SW, 19-7-9-0, \$264,256. O/T-Steven M Asmussen. B-Doug & Linda Neece (KY). \*1/2 to Cat Hop (Cat Thief), SW, \$260,959.

**8th-RPX, \$33,200, 12-14, NW1X, (S), 3yo/up, f/m, 7f, 1:26 3/5, ft.**

**NOVEL LEGACY** (f, 4, **Leave a Legacy**--**Top Novel**, by **Mari's Book**) Lifetime Record: 20-6-6-2, \$97,554. O/T-Roger F Engel. B-Richter Family Trust (OK).

**8th-MNR, \$25,600, 12-14, NW2X, 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:12, my.**

**ELUSIVE SURPRISE** (f, 3, [Elusive Quality](#)--**Amirati**, by **Danzig**) Lifetime Record: 11-3-1-2, \$49,730. O/T-Jimmy Corrigan. B-Lynch Bages Ltd (KY). \*\$250,000 wIng '06 KEENOV.

**9th-RPX, \$25,000, 12-14, 3yo/up, 1 13/16mT, 3:07 4/5, fm.**

**ALERIC** (g, 7, [Slew City Slew](#)--**Squaw d'Or**, by **Navajo**) Lifetime Record: 44-7-5-10, \$102,286. O/B-Scott K Garrison (KY). T-Elise Reed.

### ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

+ **Skippy Was a Hippy**, g, 2, **Kipling**--**Kikika** (SP), by **Prince Forli**. RPX, 12-14, (S), 6f, 1:14. B-Jerry Dilaura & Luis Quinonez (OK).

**Hooten Town Hill**, g, 2, **Monashee Mountain**--**Poquito Nikawa**, by **Parade Ground**. MNR, 12-14, 5 1/2f, 1:07 1/5. B-Nursery Place (KY). \*\$7,000 RNA wIng '07 KEENOV; \$20,000 yr '08 KEESEP.

**Setustrait**, f, 3, **Desert God**--**Setapiece**, by **In Excessive Bull**. SUN, 12-15, (S), 6f, 1:12. B-Charles Hunter (NM).

**Hey Smarty**, g, 3, [Smarty Jones](#)--**Miss Seffens** (MSW, \$502,600), by **Dehere**. RPX, 12-14, 7f, 1:26 2/5. B-Kaaren Biggs (KY).

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## ☆ THE LEADER BOARD ☆

### LEADING SIRES OF 2009 NORTHERN HEMI- SPHERE GRADE/GROUP 1 WINNERS (through Dec. 14)

| Stallion                          | Sire            | Loc | GISW's |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-----|--------|
| <a href="#">A.P. Indy</a>         | Seattle Slew    | Ky  | 4      |
| <a href="#">Dynaformer</a>        | Roberto         | Ky  | 4      |
| <a href="#">Montjeu</a>           | Sadler's Wells  | Ire | 4      |
| Pivotal                           | Polar Falcon    | Eng | 4      |
| <a href="#">Danehill Dancer</a>   | Danehill        | Ire | 3      |
| <a href="#">Empire Maker</a>      | Unbridled       | Ky  | 3      |
| <a href="#">Giant's Causeway</a>  | Storm Cat       | Ky  | 3      |
| <a href="#">Medaglia d'Oro</a>    | El Prado        | Ky  | 3      |
| Monsun                            | Konigsstuhl     | Ger | 3      |
| Oasis Dream                       | Green Desert    | Eng | 3      |
| <a href="#">Singspiel</a>         | In the Wings    | Eng | 3      |
| <a href="#">Birdstone</a>         | Grindstone      | Ky  | 2      |
| <a href="#">Galileo</a>           | Sadler's Wells  | Ire | 2      |
| <a href="#">Hernando</a>          | Niniski         | Eng | 2      |
| <a href="#">Invincible Spirit</a> | Green Dancer    | Ire | 2      |
| <a href="#">Lemon Drop Kid</a>    | Kingmambo       | Ky  | 2      |
| <a href="#">Malibu Moon</a>       | A.P. Indy       | Ky  | 2      |
| <a href="#">Northern Afleet</a>   | Afleet          | Ky  | 2      |
| <a href="#">Pulpit</a>            | A.P. Indy       | Ky  | 2      |
| <a href="#">Rock of Gibraltar</a> | Danehill        | Ire | 2      |
| <a href="#">Sadler's Wells</a>    | Northern Dancer | pen | 2      |
| <a href="#">Selkirk</a>           | Sharpen Up      | Eng | 2      |
| <a href="#">Smart Strike</a>      | Mr. Prospector  | Ky  | 2      |
| Soviet Star                       | Nureyev         | Ire | 2      |
| <a href="#">Storm Cat</a>         | Storm Bird      | pen | 2      |
| <a href="#">Street Cry</a>        | Machiavellian   | Ky  | 2      |
| <a href="#">Tale of the Cat</a>   | Storm Cat       | Ky  | 2      |
| <a href="#">Tapit</a>             | Pulpit          | Ky  | 2      |
| <a href="#">Tiznow</a>            | Cee's Tizzy     | Ky  | 2      |
| <a href="#">Unbridled's Song</a>  | Unbridled       | Ky  | 2      |

### LEADING BROODMARE SIRES OF 2009 GRADE/GROUP 1 WINNERS (through Dec. 14)

| Stallion         | Sire            | Winners |
|------------------|-----------------|---------|
| Kingmambo        | Mr. Prospector  | 5       |
| Rainbow Quest    | Blushing Groom  | 4       |
| Sadler's Wells   | Northern Dancer | 4       |
| Seeking the Gold | Mr. Prospector  | 4       |
| Kris             | Sharpen Up      | 3       |
| Mr. Prospector   | Raise a Native  | 3       |
| Storm Bird       | Northern Dancer | 3       |

Compiled by [Werk Thoroughbred Consultants](#), specialists in assisting breeders in their stallion selection and buyers in their auction purchases. For more information call (510) 490-1111.