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TDN

THOROUGHBRED DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2009

For information about TDN, call 732-747-8060.

PERFECT SOUL

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ZAYAT SUED BY KENTUCKY BANK

Prominent racehorse owner and breeder Ahmed Zayat, who operates a coast-to-coast stable numbering some 200 horses, is being sued by Fifth Third Bank, which claims he owes over \$34 million in loans for his horseracing operations, *Daily Racing Form* reports. According to the trade publication, the suit, filed this



Ahmed Zayat Horsephotos

past Tuesday in U.S. District Court in Lexington, alleges that Zayat took out seven loans with the bank between Aug. 1, 2007 and Jan. 14, 2009, in an amount totaling over \$38.6 million. *DRF* reports that Fifth Third alleges that Zayat defaulted on notes from Aug. 1, 2007 and Sept. 23, 2008 when he did not make payments due Mar. 1, 2009 and July 31, 2009. The bank now acknowledges the payoff of

the Sept. 23, 2008 note and Zayat has made other payments in the amount of \$1.3 million, but remains in default on the Aug. 1, 2007 note. A representative of the bank declined to provide any comment to *DRF*, but, reached by telephone, Zayat said, "This shocks us as much as it shocks you, and we are surprised that they would do this to one of their strongest borrowers." Zayat entered the Thoroughbred business in 2005 and made an immediate impact, purchasing Maimonides (Vindication) for \$4.6 million and Mushka (Empire Maker), the \$1.6-million sales-topper at Fasig-Tipton Saratoga in 2006. He has also experienced some success as a seller, returning Mushka at the 2008 Keeneland November sale for \$2.4 million. Zayat currently owns or partially owns stallions at various farms around the country, including the recently retired Zensational (Unbridled's Song) and Pioneer of the Nile (Empire Maker), the stable's first homebred Grade I winner. *Daily Racing Form* reports that executives at Fasig-Tipton and Keeneland say that they have not been contacted regarding the sale of any of Zayat's bloodstock or racing interests.



LUCKY ONE

Lookin at Lucky (Smart Strike) nearly overcame a world of bad fortune to just miss in the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Nov. 7 and looks to close out a championship season in Saturday's GI CashCall Futurity. A win will secure the title and would add to his Grade I scores in the Del Mar Futurity and Norfolk S. One of three Baffert trainees in the field, he rematches with GI Dixiana Breeders' Futurity S. hero **Noble's Promise** (Cuvee) on the weekend. That bay led past the eighth pole in the Juvenile before dropping a half-length decision to Vale of York (Ire) (Invincible Spirit {Ire}) and Lookin at Lucky. There will be something of a race within a race Saturday. **Wildlee Special** (Offlee Wild) and **Seattle Ruler** (Roman Ruler) are by the two leading freshman sires, who were separated by less than \$600 in first-crop progeny earnings as of Wednesday. **Get My Fix** (Posse), runner-up in the GIII Hollywood Prevue S. Nov. 22, was not among the entries yesterday. He has been diagnosed with an ankle chip which will require surgery.

Saturday, Hollywood Park

CASHCALL FUTURITY-GI, \$750,000, 2yo, 1 1/16m (AWT)

PP HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER
1 Lookin at Lucky	Smart Strike	Gomez	Baffert
2 Brady Blue Eyes	Sky Mesa	Talamo	Glatt
3 The Program	Harlan's Holiday	Espinoza	Baffert
4 Marcello	Johannesburg	Valdivia Jr	Baffert
5 Make Music For Me	Bernstein	Smith	Barba
6 Noble's Promise	Cuvee	Albarado	McPeck
7 Seattle Ruler	Roman Ruler	Garcia	Harrington
8 Wildlee Special	Offlee Wild	Solis	Dutrow Jr

All carry 121 pounds.

TDN TODAY

Headline News..... **3 pages**

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SUPERIOR STORM SCORES HER 14TH VICTORY

The super solid and super consistent **SUPERIOR STORM** notches her 14th victory from 22 starts with a win in the \$100,00 Louisiana Champions Day Ladies Stakes. Second to Seventh Street earlier in the year in the Grade 1 Apple Blossom, Stormy Atlantic's Multiple Graded Stakes performer increased her bankroll to \$861,498. **SUPERIOR STORM** is one of **14 Stakes Winners** for her sire who ranks **#10** by North American Earnings.



WRITERS UP

THE COMEBACK CODGER

By Bill Finley

Special to espn.com

When Jonathan Sheppard was asked whether he wanted to take a nine-year-old who had tendon problems, hadn't run in several months and hadn't won since 2007, he was understandably reluctant. It's not that he minded reclamation projects or working with older horses, but this one seemed particularly hopeless.

"My first thought was, 'How am I going to get out of this one?'" he said.

But something about Cloudy's Knight intrigued Sheppard. He remembered the gelding's game win in the 2007 GI Canadian International. With a horse that had once been that classy, perhaps Sheppard could bring him back successfully. If not, maybe he could turn him into a jumper.

The challenge stirred something in him. Not long after he first heard from co-owner Shirley Schwartz, Sheppard was preparing to welcome Cloudy's Knight to his stable. He was hoping for a useful turf horse. Against all odds, he wound up getting one of the most productive flat horses he has trained in a long, Hall-of-Fame career.

Cloudy's Knight might not have the star power of Zenyatta or Rachel Alexandra, but his 2009 season has been one of the more remarkable campaigns in racing history. At an age when he should have been well past his prime and coming off what appeared to be a career-ending injury, the old pro has won three stakes this year, earned \$338,409 and missed winning a Breeders' Cup race by a nose.

"What this horse has done is absolutely amazing," Sheppard said. "It's mind-boggling. We haven't done anything too different with him. He's done it himself. It's that he's an amazing animal."

Before Sheppard entered the picture, Cloudy's Knight was based in Chicago and was trained by Frank Kirby. He had won nine races, none more important than the Canadian International, that year a \$2-million race.

A year later, Cloudy's Knight, then eight, struggled mightily. In four starts, he failed to finish in the money. It seemed obvious that age and infirmities had caught up to him and that retirement was the only viable option.

But before completely giving up, the owners decided to consult with a veterinarian. He told them that the soft tissue injury in a hind leg had made remarkable progress and that perhaps Cloudy's Knight could run again. He also suggested that they try a trainer who trained horses in a style typical of Europe, where horses aren't stabled at racetracks and are often given long, slow gallops in fields and other open terrain.

FIRST-CROP YEARLING SIRE

ARAGORN

GIANT'S CAUSEWAY – ONAGA



AT KEENELAND SEPTEMBER

HIP 2030 - COLT
\$200,000

Purchased by Timothy F. Ritchey,
Agent for Cash Counter Stable

HIP 706 - FILLY
\$160,000

Purchased by
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He figured that was the best fit for an older horse with problems. That's why they picked the British-born Sheppard, who trains off a farm in Pennsylvania.

"They sent me the horse, and this enormous, rangy animal arrives," Sheppard said. "He's about 17 hands. We did start jumping him a little bit when he first came to get him legged back up. He took to the jumping quite well, but once we got further along we cut out the jumping because he was training so well. It looked like he still had some life left in him as a flat horse. In his works, he showed amazing stamina."

With Rosemary Homeister Jr. aboard, Cloudy's Knight made his comeback at Kentucky Downs. Sheppard had come to the conclusion that the gelding's greatest asset was his stamina, so he entered him in the mile-and-a-half GIII Kentucky Cup Turf Sept. 19. It was the gelding's first race in 373 days and he had not won in 23 months.

He was anything but rusty. He won that day at Kentucky Downs by 1 1/2 lengths and one month later returned to win the Sycamore at Keeneland. At that point, Sheppard wasn't quite sure what to do next with the gelding, but a chance meeting with a turf writer changed that. Marty McGee, the *Daily Racing Form's* Kentucky correspondent, ran into Sheppard one morning at Keeneland and told him he thought Cloudy's Knight would be a good fit for the Breeders' Cup Marathon.



"I hadn't even thought of that," Sheppard said. "Marty put the idea into my head."

After discussing the situation with the owners, Sheppard decided to go for the Marathon, hoping that his turf specialist would handle the synthetic surface.

It worked. Cloudy's Knight ran a remarkable race, losing by just a nose. After that, he headed up to Canada, where he won the Dec. 6 Valedictory S. at Woodbine.

No matter what happens from here, Sheppard has pulled off one of the great all-time training feats. It's something of which he's understandably quite proud.

"It means quite a lot to me," he said. "To resurrect an older horse who had seemed to have lost a step and had a major injury, to bring him back off a long layoff and win first time out at a mile-and-a-half in a graded stakes, I take professional pride in that. It's also been something that has given me a lot of



Cloudy's Knight Horsephotos

pleasure. It's fun to be around a horse like that."

The plan now is to give Cloudy's Knight some time off and gear up for some races in the spring. Sheppard has been so encouraged by what he saw from Cloudy's Knight this year that he plans to aim even higher in 2010.

"We might pick up the tempo," he said. "We might have a more ambitious schedule and point for some of the bigger Grade II and Grade I races on the turf."

No 10-year-old has ever won a Grade I race, so the odds of Cloudy's Knight taking a top-level race next year aren't good. But he's obviously not just any horse. The latest chapter of a remarkable story about a remarkable horse may just be beginning.

For more stories on horseracing by Bill Finley and others, click on www.espn.com.

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](#).

STUDENT COUNCIL

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CORRECTION FROM BILL OPPENHEIM: At the very end of yesterday's article, in discussing stallions retiring in 2010, I said I thought I had included all those retiring at more than \$10,000. I had not! No, I somehow inadvertently missed **Old Fashioned**, a son of Unbridled's Song retiring to his sire's home base, Taylor Made. Unbeaten in three starts at two, he destroyed the field in the 2008 GII Remsen, winning off by more than seven lengths. He wintered in Arkansas, where he won the GIII Southwest S. before his unbeaten skein was snapped with seconds in both the GII Rebel and GII Arkansas Derby, but he didn't make it back to the races thereafter. He was an \$800,000 yearling out of Grade III winner and three-time Grade I-placed Collect Call, and his second dam is a half-sister to GI winner Mitterand, dam of successful sire French Deputy.

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Legends PREMIER STALLION SEASON AUCTION

We are pleased to announce the second annual Legends Premier Stallion Season Auction, benefiting the Stallion Reproductive Studies program at the Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences. As a world leader in stallion reproductive research and clinical studies, Texas A&M University has joined with leading breeders and owners to offer the opportunity to bid on breedings from elite sires in the Thoroughbred racing industry. All proceeds from the auction will directly support the advancement of research relating to stallion reproduction.

SESSION	OPENS	CLOSES
Session One	December 1, 2009, at noon (CST)	December 18, 2009, at noon (CST)
Session Two	December 21, 2009, at noon (CST)	January 15, 2010, at noon (CST)
Session Three	January 18, 2010, at noon (CST)	February 19, 2010, at noon (CST)

Bidding will begin at 80 percent of the listed 2010 breeding fee in Session One, unless otherwise specified. Interested bidders must register to bid online prior to the start of the auction, and agree to the auction's terms and conditions.

Make plans for your breeding season now and help support continuing research and clinical studies at Texas A&M University dedicated to the betterment of the breeding stallion. Visit our web site for more information.

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NORTH AMERICA

BENNY THE BULL TO VINERY Eclipse champion sprinter **Benny the Bull** (Lucky Lionel--Comet Cat, by Birdonthewire), who was recently retired by IEAH Stables and partners, will take up stud duties at



Sarah K Andrew

Vinery in Summerfield, Florida for 2010, according to an announcement by Vinery president Tom Ludt. The six-year-old multiple Grade I winner will stand for \$4,000, stands and nurses. Benny the Bull carried IEAH's colors to four group/graded wins, including the GI Frank J. De Francis Memorial

Dash S. and GI Dubai Golden Shaheen. He was named champion sprinter in the U.S. and was highweighted champion sprinter in Dubai in 2008. Overall, he won or placed in 14 of 20 starts and earned \$2,353,430. "Benny the Bull has been a dream horse--talented, totally sound and brilliantly fast," said owner Greg James, Benny the Bull's original owner who reacquired the horse for stud duty. "I'm very excited about his future at Vinery, and with the stud fee we have decided on, I think he will offer breeders a wonderful opportunity to breed to a champion at a very fair and reasonable price."

TODAY'S VIDEO HIGHLIGHTS



Sire of 4 Starters in 4 Stakes Races
 on 1 Card
 December 19th at Fair Grounds
 2009's #1 General Sire
 by Number of Winners and Repeat Winners
 2010 Fee: \$9,000 LF Nov 1 / \$10,000 S & N

A TAYLOR MADE / WINSTAR VENTURE • Standing at Taylor Made

5th-TAM (Msw) Apple Charlotte (Smart Strike) romps by 5 1/2 lengths.

8th-HAW (Alw) Souper Miss (Alphabet Soup) wins her third straight.

NORTHERN AFLEET

2010 Stud Fees:
 \$9,000 LF, Payable Nov. 1
 \$10,000 S&N

Ranks #8 on the General Sire List

In 2009, Sire of 10 Stakes Winners / 2 Grade 1 Winners, as many as or more Grade 1 Winners than the following Sires.

Rank on Sire List	Sire	Stud Fee	Grade 1 Winners
8	Northern Afleet	\$10,000	2
3	Tiznow	\$75,000	2
4	Smart Strike	\$75,000	2
10	Tale of the Cat	\$30,000	2
11	Malibu Moon	\$40,000	2
12	Unbridled's Song	\$115,000	2
21	Pulpit	\$60,000	2
18	Elusive Quality	\$75,000	1
2	Distorted Humor	\$100,000	0
13	Stormy Atlantic	\$35,000	0
54	Mr. Greeley	\$50,000	0

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★ EAST ★

Yesterday's Results:

5th-TAM, \$17,000, Msw, 2yo, f, 8.5fT, 1:44 4/5, fm. **APPLE CHARLOTTE** (f, 2, [Smart Strike](#)--Charlotte Augusta {SW, \$123,282}, by Chief's Crown) closed from well back to be second in her one-mile debut over the Churchill lawn Nov. 1. Sent off the 1-5 favorite, the bay filly settled into stride and rated in mid-pack. She spurred into contention leaving the final bend and romped clear despite racing greenly down the lane to win by 5 1/2 lengths. Manners (Rock Hard Ten) closed for second. Wicked Charm (Ghostzapper) was scratched. The winner is a three-quarter sister to Mythical Gem (Jade Hunter, GSW, \$161,820); and a half to Relaxing Green (Formal Gold, SP, \$160,082). [Video, sponsored by Taylor Made.](#) [Click for the brisnet.com chart.](#) Lifetime Record: 2-1-1-0, \$19,400. O/B-Jack Swain III (KY). T-H Graham Motion.

TDN TODAY

Around the World. 7 pages



Tuesday Night's Results:

5th-PEN, \$43,000, Alw, NW3\$6MX, 3yo/up, 6f, 1:11, ft.

NO ADVANTAGE (c, 4, Posse--Prime Advantage, by Tactical Advantage), winner of the May 16 Gill William Donald Schaefer S., had been on the sidelines since taking the June 20 Wild and Wonderful S. at Charles Town. The 3-5 favorite, purchased for \$50,000 at last month's KEENOV sale, rallied three wide to take the lead in upper stretch and drew clear late to win by 1 1/2 lengths. No Advantage was also a \$32,000 KEEJAN yearling, a \$55,000 KEESEP yearling, and a \$14,000 FTMMAY juvenile. Lifetime Record: GSW, 15-7-1-2, \$251,760.

NO ADVANTAGE – A IBS Private Purchase

O-Suarez Racing Inc. B-Viking Stud Inc (KY).
T-Stephanie S Beattie.

1st-PEN, \$34,000, Msw, 2yo, 6f, 1:13, ft.
+ **DANDY WALTZ (c, 2, Tale of the Cat--Iridescence, by Mt. Livermore)**, the 7-5 favorite, was a close-up third in the early going, grabbed the lead at midstretch and powered clear to win by 2 1/2 lengths. Dandy Walz, a half-brother to Flashy Bull (Holy Bull), GISW, \$844,313; and Pink Viper (Smoke Glacken), MSW, \$207,812, was a \$185,000 KEENOV weanling and a \$360,000 KEESEP yearling. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$20,400. O-Priscilla Graham. B-Mueller Farms Inc (KY). T-H Graham Motion.

Caton Bredar Returns to Gulfstream Park:

Caton Bredar, a familiar on-air personality at Gulfstream Park in the 1990s, will return to the Hallandale oval this year in the role of executive producer of the newly created Media Development Department. A native of Chicago, Bredar moved to Los Angeles in the late '90s and helped launch racing's first full-time television network, Television Games Network (TVG). She subsequently relocated to Kentucky, where she has frequently contributed to horse racing broadcasts and was a news reporter and anchor for station WAVE-3. For that station, she co-produced the Eclipse and SPJ (Society of Professional Journalists) Award-winning documentary "The 1978 Triple Crown: A Legend Re-Affirmed." At Gulfstream, her responsibilities will include overseeing of a team responsible for all broadcast operations, with the goal of increasing and enhancing coverage on all platforms, including print, simulcast, Internet, radio and TV. "Caton is the definitive choice to lead this new and exciting initiative," said Gulfstream's Mike Cronin. "She has an extremely strong foundation in the sport. She gets it, and more importantly, she loves it. New and creative endeavors come naturally to her, and I'm confident she'll bring the same credibility and popularity to Gulfstream Park that she brings to everything."

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IN BRITAIN:

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★ CENTRAL ★

Yesterday's Results:

8th-HAW, \$36,960, Alw, Opt. Clm. (\$30,000-\$25,000), NW2X, 3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16m, 1:41 2/5, ft.
SOUPER MISS (f, 4, Alphabet Soup--Miss Tenenholtz, by Storm Bird), an allowance winner over the Arlington lawn versus state-bred foes Sept. 13, aired by 6 1/4 lengths in an off-the-turfer against open company at Hawthorne Oct. 29. The 2-1 favorite was unhurried early, moved into contention on the turn and swarmed to the lead in upper stretch before powering clear to win by five lengths over Lakeaway (Greenwood Lake). The winner is a half-sister to Extra Check (Chequer, GISP, \$213,486); and to Class Ack (Sky Classic, SP, \$166,240). **Click for the [brisnet.com](http://www.brisnet.com) chart. [Video](#), [sponsored by Taylor Made](#).** Lifetime Record: SP, 11-5-2-2, \$129,712.
O-Bob Ackerman, et al. B-Bob Ackerman (IL). T-Mickey A Goldfine.



★ SO. CALIFORNIA ★

Barretts Catalogues 518 Head for January Mixed Sale:

The catalogue for the Barretts January Mixed Sale is now online at www.barretts.com. Copies will be mailed soon. The auction, scheduled for two days Monday, Jan. 25 and Tuesday, Jan. 26, features 518 head, an increase of over 64 percent on 2009, when 315 were catalogued for a one-day sale. The event includes 134 yearlings, 123 two-year-olds and 179 broodmares. Live interactive bidding will be available to registered bidders. For information on how to bid interactively, visit www.barretts.com/ViewSale/bidding.asp.

★ INDUSTRY INFO ★

Churchill Delays Online Oaks, Derby Ticket Sale:

Due to a potential error with its new online box office, officials at Churchill Downs have decided to delay the scheduled online sale of two-day Kentucky Derby and Kentucky Oaks ticket packages. The sale was set for yesterday at noon EST. "Churchill Downs regrets having to make this late announcement of a delay, but the customer experience comes first," said Churchill Downs Racetrack President Kevin Flanery. "While exhaustively testing our online ticketing system, we detected a potential data error that could have resulted in customer service issues for some patrons. We regret any inconvenience, but the best way to serve all patrons is to delay the online offering, address the potential data error and offer these limited tickets at a later date. We will announce the new date as soon as possible."



First-crop starters to watch: Thursday, December 17

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

- AFLEET ALEX** (Northern Afleet), Gainesway, \$40K, 138/20/2 8-LRL, Aoc, 7f, Itineris, \$36K EAS MAY 2yo, 6-1
- EUROSILVER** (Unbridled's Song), Dromoland, \$13K, 143/14/0 8-LRL, Aoc, 7f, Daddy's Gabs, \$50K EAS SEP yrl, 9-2
- FANTASTICAT** (Storm Cat), MD Stallion Stn, \$6K, 28/4/0 8-LRL, Aoc, 7f, Heavenstmurgatroid, \$11K EAS SEP yrl, 4-1
- GRAND APPOINTMENT** (Unbridled), Red River, \$2K, 16/2/0 9-DED, Alw, 5f, Twelve Oclock High, \$5K TEX APR 2yo, 4-1
- GRAND REWARD** (Storm Cat), Hill 'n' Dale, \$13K, 132/22/0 8-HOL, Str, 1 1/16m, Gilligan, \$27K BAR MAY 2yo
- ORATORY** (Pulpit), Country Life, \$5K, 59/14/0 8-HOL, Str, 1 1/16m, Show the Flag, \$2K KEE JAN yrl
- PURGE** (Pulpit), Vinery, \$20K, 134/13/1 1-CRC, Msw, 6f, +Da Lady Vikki, \$170K KEE SEP yrl, 8-1
- ROCK HARD TEN** (Kris S.), Lane's End, \$50K, 82/7/3 1-CRC, Msw, 6f, Roca Sweet, \$120K OBS MAR 2yo, 5-1

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- In PA: **ECCLESIASTIC** \$4,000

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ROMAN RULER (Fusaichi Pegasus), Hill 'n' Dale, \$30K, 155/28/3 8-HOL, Str, 1 1/16m, Onemoreforarch

SOUTHERN IMAGE (Halo's Image), Taylor Made, \$15K, 95/12/0 1-CRC, Msw, 6f, Mallory Square, \$7K OBS APR 2yo, 10-1

TASTE OF PARADISE (Conquistador Cielo), Crestwood, \$6K, 50/2/0

4-HOL, Msw, 1 1/16m, Paradise Found, \$100K KEE NOV wnl

WILDCAT HEIR (Forest Wildcat), Journeyman, \$7K, 122/38/2 1-CRC, Msw, 6f, +Future Heiress, \$100K EAS MAY 2yo, 3-1

First/Second-crop starters to watch: Thursday, Dec. 17

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

CANDY RIDE (ARG) (Ride the Rails), Land's End Farm, \$10K, 217/68/7

1-CRC, Msw, 6f, +It'z My Candy, 8-1

MEDAGLIA D'ORO (El Prado {Ire}), Stonewall, \$35K, 252/73/12 6-LRL, Msw, 6f, +Zula, \$37K KEE SEP yrl, 12-1

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.



★ BRITAIN ★

Yesterday's Results:

DIGIBET SUNBURY S.-Listed, £40,000, Kempton Park, 12-16, 3yo/up, 7f (AWT), 1:24.39, stn.

1--**DOHASA (IRE)**, 128, g, 4, **Bold Fact--Zara's Birthday (Ire)**, by **Wajib (Ire)**. (€19,000 wnlg '05 GOFNOV; €50,000 yrl '06 TATIRE; 100,000gns RNA HIT '08 TATHIT). O-Sean Jones; B-Eamon D Delaney; T-Ger Lyons; J-E J McNamara; £22,708. Lifetime Record: Hwt 3yo-Ire at 5-7f, MGSP-Ire, GSP-UAE, 25-7-4-3, £176,686.

2--**Dunelight (Ire)**, 128, h, 6, Desert Sun (GB)--**Badee'a (Ire)**, by **Marju (Ire)**. (€110,000 yrl '04 GOFORB). £8,608.

3--**Ceremonial Jade (UAE)**, 130, g, 6, Jade Robbery--Talah (GB), by **Danehill**. £4,308.

Margins: HD, HF, NK. Odds: 6-5, 5-1, 7-1.

Also Ran: Himalya (Ire), Black Dahlia (GB), Aeroplane (GB), Sir Gerry, Carcinetto (Ire), Capricorn Run, Know No Fear (GB), Stargazy (GB). Scratched: Vanadium (GB).

Successful in conditions events at Dundalk Sept. 8 and The Curragh Sept. 27, Dohasa came here off a second in the Oct. 4 Coolmore Stud Home of Champions Concorde S. at Tipperary. Racing just behind the front rank in fifth, he took closer order once into the straight and responded willingly under a final-quarter drive to nail Dunelight in the shades of the post. [Video, courtesy of Racing UK.](#)

Kempton Park, 17.50, Mdn, £6,000, 2yo, 1m (AWT), 1:39.21, stn.

+ **GRACIOUS MELANGE (GB)** (f, 2, **Medicean {GB}--Goodness Gracious {Ire}**), by **Green Desert**), a £58,000 DONAUG yearling, raced in a handy fourth after the initial strides of this opening show. Stoked up with three furlongs remaining, the 12-1 chance quickened to challenge approaching the final eighth and was cajoled to the line in the closing stages to defeat Tiger Star (GB) (Tiger Hill {Ire}) by two lengths. Duellist (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}), a half-brother to Lujain (Seeking the Gold) and Botanical (Seeking the Gold), was scratched. [Video, courtesy of Racing UK.](#) Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, £3,886.

O-Mrs R J Jacobs; B-Newsells Park Stud; T-Marco Botti.

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 indicate first-time starters, an **(S)** will be used for state-bred races.

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Kempton Park, 18.20, Mdn, £6,000, 2yo, 1m (AWT), 1:40.82, stn.

VALID REASON (GB) (c, 2, **Observatory--Real Trust {SP-Fr}**), by **Danzig**), a first-up third at Lingfield Nov. 25, was roused from the gate to lead after the opening exchanges of this one. Pushed along passing the two pole, the 8-13 pick came under a stern drive in the latter stages to withstand the late thrust of Balducci (GB) (Dansili {GB}) by 3/4 lengths. Your Lad (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}), a half-brother to Rose Gypsy (GB) (Green Desert), was unable to figure throughout and finished eighth. [Video, courtesy of Racing UK.](#) Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-1, £4,415.

O-Khalid Abdullah; B-Juddmonte Farms; T-A Perrett.

EUROPEAN VIDEO LINKS

12.30 Lingfield (Mdn) **SUNSBURY S. (Listed)** Dohasa (Ire) (Bold Fact) gains the narrow decision.

12.30 Lingfield (Mdn) Elation (Ire) (Cape Cross {Ire}) wins by 4 1/2 lengths.

16.20 Kempton (Mdn) Valid Reason (GB) (Observatory) holds on for narrow victory.

17.50 Kempton (Mdn) Gracious Melange (GB) (Medicean {GB}) scores at first asking.



(British report cont.)

Lingfield, 12.30, Mdn, £5,500, 2yo, f, 7f (AWT), 1:21.72, stn.

ELATION (IRE) (f, 2, [Cape Cross {Ire}](#)--Attraction {GB} {Ch. 2yo Filly-Eur, Hwt. 2yo Filly-GB, Hwt. Older Mare-Ire at 7-9.5f, MG1SW-GB & Ire, \$1,586,237}, by Efisio {GB}) shaped with promise, despite a slow start, on debut at Kempton Nov. 29. The dark bay broke sharply to seize the early initiative in this second go. Maintaining control until threatened by Freddie's Girl (More Than Ready) on the home turn, the 8-11 chalk surged clear in the short straight to defeat that rival by an impressive 4 1/2 lengths. Elation is the first foal from Attraction, who captured the G1 1000 Guineas, G1 Irish 1000 Guineas and G1 Coronation S. in succession in 2004. The Duke of Roxburghe's mare has a Montjeu (Ire) yearling filly, and produced a colt by Pivotal (GB) in 2009. [Video, courtesy attheraces.com](#). Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, £3,826. O-Duke of Roxburghe; B-Floors Farming; T-Mark Johnston.

BREEDERS' EDITION AMERICA

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

8th-LRL, \$32,000, Opt. Clm. (\$25,000-\$20,000), NW2X, 3yo/up, f/m, 7f, 1:25, ft.

SEMINOLE LASS (f, 3, [Indian Charlie](#)--Inside Emotion, by Miswaki) Lifetime Record: SP, 16-4-2-1, \$101,210. O-Three Diamonds Farm. B-Hargus & Sandra Sexton & Rose Hill Farm (KY). T-Michael J Trombetta. *\$95,000 yrl '07 KESEEP.

SEMINOLE LASS - Another IBS yearling auction purchase

10th-SUN, \$31,000, 12-15, NW2L, (S), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:10 4/5, ft.

BLAZING SUPERSTAR (g, 3, Super Special--Blazing Royalty, by Screen King) Lifetime Record: 4-2-2-0, \$49,482. O-Pierre Jean & Leslie A Amestoy. B-Lobo Farm (NM). T-Andres Gonzalez. *1/2 to Blazing Rockstar (Chimes Band), SW, \$175,620.

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(Allowance results cont.)

7th-HAW, \$27,500, NW1X, (S), 3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16m, 1:43 1/5, ft.

LICA'S BLUFF (f, 3, Pine Bluff--Eolica {MSP, \$102,452}, by Roar) Lifetime Record: 12-2-1-3, \$47,226. O/B-Lamont Nienast LLC (IL). T-Percy E Scherbenske.

8th-TAM, \$20,400, Opt. Clm. (\$32,000), NW2X, 3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16mT, 1:44 3/5, fm.

OMEGA CAT (f, 3, Omega Code--Herecomesacat {SP}, by Storm Creek) Lifetime Record: 10-3-1-3, \$65,764. O/B-Charles R Patton (FL). T-Thomas F Proctor.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Blackie's Crown, f, 2, Souvenir Copy--Light the Crown (MSP, \$100,315), by Chief's Crown. SUN, 12-15, 5 1/2f, 1:04 4/5. B-Bradford Thoroughbred Farm (TX). *\$9,000 RNA yrl '08 TEXAUG. **Won by eight lengths.

Vaults Last Sister, f, 3, Cartwright--Claim the Cashmere, by Claim. HAW, 12-16, (S), 6f, 1:10 3/5. B-J. B. Stables, Inc. (IL). *Full to Crack the Vault, MSW, \$337,510.

Curragh Mon, g, 3, Maria's Mon--Imari (Jpn), by Forty Niner. TAM, 12-16, 6 1/2f, 1:18 1/5. B-Kenneth & Sarah K Ramsey (KY). *\$9,000 yrl '07 KEESEP.

★ **WINNERS BY U. S. SIRE S** ★

IN BRAZIL:

Rio da Prata (Brz), c, 3, Redattore (Brz)--Gerbera (Brz), by Minstrel Glory. Cidade Jardim, 12-14, Mdn, 7.5f, 1:31.55. Lifetime Record: 4-1-0-1. O-Abdul Rahman Al Jasmi Stud; B-Haras Ponta Pora; T-Antoni Luis Cintra.

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

BLACK-TYPE STAKES CLOSINGS

TODAY, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17:

SUNSHINE MILLIONS (100 EB)

- 01-30 \$500,000 *Classic, SA, [R], 4yo/up, 9f (AWT)*
- 01-30 \$300,000 *Turf, GP, [R], 4yo/up, 9fT*
- 01-30 \$300,000 *Distaff, SA, [R], 4yo/up, 8.5f (AWT)*
- 01-30 \$300,000 *F/M Turf, SA, [R], 4yo/up, 9fT*
- 01-30 \$200,000 *F/M Sprint, GP, [R], 4yo/up, 6f (AWT)*
- 01-30 \$200,000 *Sprint, GP, [R], 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)*

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BREEDERS' EDITION EUROPE

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Sinnada (Ire), f, 2, **Statue of Liberty**--Symbolise (Ire), by Nashwan. Rome, Italy, 12-15, Mdn, 2yo, 1m (AWT). B-Antonietta Ruzzu.

Licence to Till, c, 2, **War Chant**--With a Wink (GSW, \$233,880), by Clever Trick. Lingfield, Britain, 12-16, Mdn, 2yo, c/g, 7f (AWT). B-John Hettinger.

* \$130,000 yrl '08 FTSAUG. ** 1/2 to Jena Jena (Dixieland Band), MSW & GSP, \$272,888; Win With a Wink (Dixieland Band), SW, \$126,380; full to Up Like Thunder, SW, \$113,202.

Champagne Fizz (Ire), f, 3, **King Charlemagne**--Silver Moon (GB), by Environment Friend (GB). Kempton Park, Britain, 12-16, Mdn, 3-5yo, 1 3/8m (AWT). B-Mrs R I Nelson.

★ WINNERS BY EURO SIRES ★

IN ARGENTINA:

+ **Chapa Uno (Arg)**, c, 3, **Orpen**--Carissima Juli (Arg), by Caro Lover. La Plata, 12-15, Mdn, 5f, 1:00.02. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0. O-Enrialado; B-Bullines SA; T-Cleber Sanguinetti. *Won by three lengths.

• ON THE WORKTAB •

GULFSTREAM PARK

Backseat Rhythm (El Corredor), 5f, 1:01.80, 11/18

HOLLYWOOD PARK

Blind Luck (Pollard's Vision), 4f, :47.80, 7/40
 Chocolate Candy (Candy Ride {Arg}), 5f, :59.80, 3/29
 Dakota Phone (Zavata), 6f, 1:12.80, 4/15
 Delta Storm (Storm Boot), 3f, :36.80, 10/15
 Eaton's Gift (Johannesburg), 5f, 1:02.00, 22/29
 Tuscan Evening (Ire) (Oasis Dream {GB}), 5f, 1:00.80, 7/29

SANTA ANITA

Dancing in Silks (Black Minnaloushe), 4f, :50.40, 27/34
 Silver Swallow (Alphabet Soup), 3f, :36.80, 11/23
 Take Control (A.P. Indy), 6f, 1:13.40, 6/14
 Witty (Distorted Humor), 3f, :35.80, 4/23



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UPCOMING MAJOR NORTH AMERICAN STAKES

<u>Date</u>	<u>Race</u>	<u>Track</u>
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