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TOP CHOICE AT MM GOLD COAST

Seemingly as much a certitude as death and taxes, Redoute's Choice (Aus) (Danehill) showed the way once again on the Gold Coast with the session's top priced pair during Wednesday's opening session of the Magic Millions Gold Coast Yearling sale in Bundall. With



Co-session topper Lot 36
Magic Millions Photo

cameras flashing and clicking away as Strawberry Hill Stud's [lot 36](#) entered the ring, the bidding escalated within a matter of volleys to hit the A\$300,000 mark before closing out at A\$450,000 to the bid of Gai Waterhouse and James Harron Bloodstock. The colt is second foal out of the

listed-winning Out of I Got Chills (Aus) (General Nediym {Aus}).

"He just ticked all the boxes and was really a fantastic type," offered Harron. "He was forward and looked like a 2-year-old horse, which is what we are trying to target."

Regarding the purchase price, Waterhouse added, "If you were here two years ago, you would have paid A\$600,000 or A\$700,000 for him."

Waterhouse, who confirmed that Strawberry Hill's John Singleton opted to come back in for a stake in the colt, added, "I liked the horse, I liked the bloke and I liked the stud he came from."

Strawberry Hill was also responsible for the third highest-priced colt of the session, [Lot 132](#), who brought A\$350,000 from the Hong Kong Jockey Club. By Exceed and Excel (Aus), the bay colt is out of listed winner Mirror Mirror (Aus) (Dehere).

"He is the most remarkable boutique breeder in all of Australia and everything he touches turns to gold," said Waterhouse of the popular Iarrikin. "John just keeps breeding Group 1 winners."

Late in the session, Gerry Harvey's Baramul Stud was responsible for [lot 138](#), another colt by Redoute's Choice, who realized a A\$450,000 final bid from Segenhoe Stud. MM cont. p3



Lot 35
Trackside Photography

MORE JOY FOR GLEN HILL

Glen Hill Farm campaigned the ill-fated Banned to three graded triumphs last year and the farm was in action during yesterday's third session of the Keeneland January Sale to secure another offspring of Kitten's Joy. Glen Hill's Craig Bernick, standing alongside advisor Donato Lanni, bid a session-topping \$180,000 to secure [hip 1112](#), a daughter of the Ramsey Farm stallion. "She is a nice filly," Bernick said. "We like Kitten's Joy--we had a good one in Banned, and we were just chasing another one." The yearling is out of Garden Spot (Danzig). "She is probably a little bit better mare than what he has been bred to," Bernick added.

Bernick usually finds himself shopping for colts, but this year he was looking for fillies.

"We had a dozen colts born and five fillies last year," he explained. "So usually we look for a colt to even it out, but this year we had so many colts born that we thought we'd buy some fillies and maybe get ahead of it for the yearlings."

The market for yearlings has been strong all week at Keeneland. Bernick thinks the reason is a simple reaction to supply and demand.

"I think there is a lack of really good horses and, maybe for the best 10 or 15 this week, people have congregated on them," Bernick explained. "We've only tried to buy two or three and this is the first one we got." -JM

Keeneland January cont. p10

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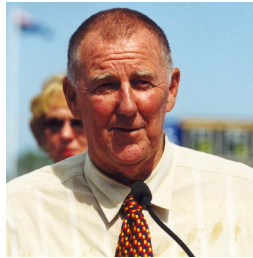
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In This Issue

More From Magic Millions

There is little doubt that multi-media mogul John Desmond Singleton is a unique individual. The memoirs of the master of Strawberry Hill Stud would read more like a best-seller by Jackie Collins than something plucked out of Fortune magazine. Read more about the colorful businessman and horseman in a "Ringside" piece from the TDN's Christina Bossinakis



John Singleton

Coverage begins page 5

Banner Day for Abraham

It was an outstanding day for breeder Mike Abraham Wednesday at Keeneland, as he turned a spectacular profit on a pair of in utero foals he landed on the cheap in late 2010. Learn more about Abraham in a profile from TDN Editor in Chief Jessica Martini





Mike Abraham
Lucas Marquardt

Coverage begins page 10

Strong Field for Maktoum Challenge


The Dubai International Racing Carnival hits full stride this evening at Meydan with the running of Round I of the G3 Al Maktoum Challenge going 1600 meters over the Tapeta surface. The field of 12 is headed by Mendip (Harlan's Holiday), but the defending champion faces a stern challenge from Musir (Aus) (Redoute's Choice) and Master of Hounds (Kingmambo) from the Mike de Kock barn.

Coverage page 19-20



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**MAGIC MILLIONS GOLD COAST YEARLINGS
WEDNESDAY'S TOP SEVEN LOTS**

Hip #	Sire	Dam	Price (A\$)
<u>138</u>	Redoute's Choice (Aus)	Miss Jakeo (Aus)	450,000
	<i>B-G Harvey</i>		
	Consigned by Baramul Stud Purchased by Segenhoe Stud		
<u>36</u>	Redoute's Choice (Aus)	I Got Chills (Aus)	450,000
	<i>B-Strawberry Hill Stud</i>		
	Consigned by Strawberry Hill Stud Purchased by Gai Waterhouse & James Harron Bloodstock		
<u>132</u>	Exceed and Excel (Aus)	Mirror Mirror (Aus)	350,000
	<i>B-Strawberry Hill Stud</i>		
	Consigned by Strawberry Hill Stud Purchased by Hong Kong Jockey Club		
<u>117</u>	Encosta de Lago (Aus)	Maslins Beach (Aus)	325,000
	<i>B-Vinery Stud Pty Ltd</i>		
	Consigned by Glastonbury Farms, Agent Purchased by Hong Kong Jockey Club		
<u>42</u>	Redoute's Choice (Aus)	Inaflury (NZ)	300,000
	<i>B-G Harvey</i>		
	Consigned by Baramul Stud Purchased by Paul McDonald		

35 Redoute's Choice (Aus) Hustle Bustle (Aus) 300,000
B-Arrowfield Pastoral Pty Ltd
 Consigned by Arrowfield Stud, Agent
 Purchased by Gai Waterhouse & James Harron Bloodstock

85 Fastnet Rock (Aus) Leitmotif (Aus) 260,000
B-Bradley Thoroughbreds Pty Ltd, Jodianka P/L, Peter Walsh P/L
 Consigned by Coolmore Stud, Agent
 Purchased by Chris Waller Racing Pty Limited

Magic Millions coverage cont. p4



**MAGIC MILLIONS GOLD COAST
Wednesday, January 11, 2012**

SESSION TOTALS	2012	2011
Catalogued	180	195
No. Offered	166	175
No. Sold	124	131
RNAs	42	44
% RNA	25.3%	25.1%
Highest Price	A\$450,000	A\$850,000
Gross	A\$14,750,000	A\$16,659,500
Average (% change)	A\$118,952 (-6.5%)	A\$127,172
Median (% change)	A\$100,000 (+5.3%)	A\$95,000

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New Horizons...

After combining to secure the day's top offering, Waterhouse and Harron also came out swinging for [lot 35](#), who fetched a final bid of A\$300,000. Arrowfield, who consigned the half-brother to multiple Group 2 winner Hurried Choice (Aus) (Choisir {Aus}), bought back into the Aug. 12 foal shortly after the sale.

"I thought the colt had an athleticism about him, so I really liked the way he moved," said Waterhouse.

While Waterhouse has proven very active on the Gold Coast in past years, the professional marriage of the horsewoman and Harron represented a departure from the past. The Sydney-based Harron, who launched his bloodstock agency this time last year, previously worked for Irish-based Hubie deBurgh before serving stints with Coolmore and Waterhouse.

"We got together not that long ago and we discussed joining forces for this sale," explained the native Irishman. "I worked in Gai's stable about five years ago and it is great to be back with her."

HKJC is in the House...

Representing the Hong Kong Jockey Club, Mark Richards didn't step up to the plate all that often

Wednesday afternoon. But when he did, he certainly made it count, securing the third and fourth highest priced yearlings of the afternoon. The first through the ring was [lot 117](#), a colt by Encosta de Lago (Aus) out of Group 3 winner Maslins Beach (Aus) (Flying Spur {Aus}), who was knocked down for



Lot 117
Magic Millions Photo

A\$325,000.

"I think he was as nice a horse as anything I saw here," said Richards. "He is a nice, well-balanced individual who just oozes class. He was one of my main targets in this sale."

Explaining the appeal, Richards added, "He was a very important horse for me. Not only because Encosta de Lago does well in Hong Kong, but the female family is very strong as well. On his page, you will find a colt named Mulitdandy (Aus) [Danehill, stakes-placed in Hong Kong and a half-brother to the dam]. He was a top-class sprinter in Hong Kong and trained on. So, we know this colt has speed and durability. He had ticks in all the boxes for me." Encosta de Lago is also the sire of former world champion and dual G1 Hong Kong Sprint hero Sacred Kingdom (Aus).

Soon after, [lot 132](#)--and Exceed and Excel (Aus) colt--attracted a final bid of A\$350,000. The Sept. 10 foal is out of Singleton's listed winning Mirror Mirror (Aus) (Dehere).

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"This was about as much as I wanted to pay for him," admitted Richards. "He looks like he is a 2-year-old and looks like he will get up and go early. He has a lovely attitude, a very nice and relaxed way about him."

The colt's half-brother, No Looking Back (Aus) (Redoute's Choice {Aus}), is slated to run this Saturday in the Magic Millions Gold Coast 2YO Classic.

"That's just icing on the cake," said Richards. "That colt is already a winner and this tells you that the dam is able to pass on the family trait."

Rounding out Richards's purchases on the afternoon was lot 61, a colt by High Chaparral (Ire) out of Group 2 placed Khepri (NZ) (Faltaat {Aus}) who brought a A\$200,000 final bid.

"He had a nice presence about him and is a shorter, stockier type than most High Chaparral's," confirmed Richards. "He has speed underneath him, which is very important. In Hong Kong, we race predominantly sprinting up to a mile or 1800 meters. By the time we get up to 2000 meters, it's a staying race. So, I'm not looking for those types of horses. I'm lookin for a sprinter/miler, and to me, he fits that mold."

Formerly a television racing presenter in the U.K. and Hong Kong, Richards assumed the role of Executive Manager of Hong Kong International sales in December 2010.

Magic Millions coverage by Christina Bossinakis



11-17 JANUARY 2012 – GOLD COAST, AUSTRALIA



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RINGSIDE... with Christina Bossinakis

FRIDAY'S HIP HAPPENINGS

Lot 444, colt, Fastnet Rock (Aus)--Allow (Aus), by Rahy
Consigned by Newhaven Park (As Agent)

By a young hot son of Danehill, the bay is out of G1 Queensland Oaks heroine Allow. This is the third foal out of the 10-year-old mare. This youngster is from the family of G2 Prince of Wales's S. winner English Spring (Grey Dawn), dam of Group 3 winner Spring Oak (Mark of Esteem {Ire}) and Fragrant Hill (Shirley Heights {GB}), dam of Group 1 scorers Fragrant Mix (Linamix) and Alpine Rose (Linamix).

**Lot 457, colt, More Than Ready--Aqua d'Amore (Aus),
by Danehill**

Consigned by Newgate Farm (As Agent)

This Sept. 20 foal is by one of Australia's most fancied sire and out of Aqua d'Amore, the joint-second filly on the 2006-07 Australasian 4YO + Classifications. With almost A\$2-million to her credit, the mare accounted for the MRC Futurity S. and was runner-up in the G1 Caulfield Cup and G1 AJC Queen Elizabeth S.

**Lot 513, colt, Redoute's Choice (Aus)--Cannyanna (Aus),
by Canny Lad (Aus)**

Consigned by Baramul Stud

This colt is a choice offering from the operation that sold the co-topper on day 1. The Oct. 4 foal is out of listed winner and Group 1 placed Cannyanna, a half-sister to Deanna's Smile (Aus), herself responsible for the Group 3 scorer Load and Locket (Aus) (Serheed {Aus}). "Cannyanna was a sprinting-type mare, but he's a horse that is in between, he's a horse that might get up and run early, so he should appeal to both parties," explained Baramul stud manager Paul Thomspson. "He should train on as well."

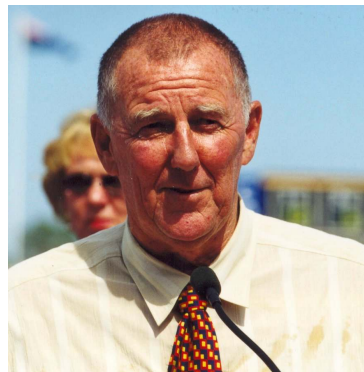
**Lot 532, colt, Redoute's Choice (Aus)--Cloister (Aus),
by Marauding (Aus)**

Consigned by Reavill Farm

This Oct. 13 foal is out of Listed VATC Debutante S. winner Cloister, a daughter of Group 3 victress Pampas Fire (Aus). The bay is a full brother to the dual Group 1 winning Melito (Aus), who was the head filly on the 2009-10 Australasian 3YO Classification.

ONE 'SINGO'-LAR SENSATION

There is little doubt that multi-media mogul John Desmond Singleton is a unique individual. The memoirs of the master of Strawberry Hill Stud would read more like a best-seller by Jackie Collins than something



John Singleton

plucked out of *Fortune* magazine. Known by many as 'Singo,' the Sydney native built his empire in Australia's advertising sector in the 1970s and 1980s, and has since developed diverse investment interests in radio broadcasting and publishing, in addition to his Thoroughbred racing and breeding business.

Rising from humble

beginnings, the media titan has routinely made headlines, as much for his personal life as for his business ventures. The famed larrikin has been featured in the press for rushing to the assistance of an octogenarian who had fallen at a bus stop; for buying a round for the crowd at Rosehill racecourse after his filly Belle Du Jour (Aus) (Dehere) triumphed in Australia's marquee event for 2-year-olds, the G1 Golden Slipper; for bucking the establishment by continually repainting the facade of his iconic Bellevue hotel in Paddington despite the town's opposition; and for his procession of nuptials to ladies of both distinction and beauty. Regardless of how one may have become familiar with Singo, one thing is certain--the man makes an impression.

Bitten By the Bug Early...

Hailing from a sport-loving nation devoted to 'footy' (rugby), cricket and horse racing, Singleton was introduced to the track by his father when he was barely eight years old.

"When I was a kid, we were poor--we couldn't go to the movies or things like that, so we went to the races," recalled Singleton. "My father was a committed gambler, and I just went along with him."


Following that early introduction, Singleton's love of the game grew. **Cont. p6**

Hip 1381

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“When I first started going to the races, I always dreamt about buying a horse. I knew one day, I was going to do that,” he said. “I bought my first racehorse when I was about 22, and I have had racehorses ever since. I raced horses with my dad, and later with [current Magic Millions owner] Gerry Harvey. In the last 25 years, I've raced them on my own.”

After several years of ownership, Singleton decided to invest in a farm for his deepening broodmare band. In the mid-'90s, he purchased Pokey Hill Stud before re-christening the 250-acre property Strawberry Hill Stud, honoring both the farm and Singleton's beloved international campaigner from the '80s, Strawberry Road (Aus) (Whiskey Road).



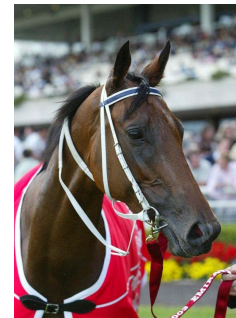
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Over the past decade alone, Singleton has campaigned--alone or in partnership--an impressive list of champions and Group 1 winners, including Ha Ha (Aus) (Danehill) (dual Group 1 winner, including the Golden Slipper); Tuesday Joy (NZ) (Carnegie {Ire}); Belle Du Jour; Fashions Afield (Aus) (Redoute's Choice {Aus}); Sunday Joy (Aus) (Sunday Silence); Zagalia (NZ) (Zabeel {NZ}); Seventh Rock (Aus) (Rock of Gibraltar {Ire}); Universal Queen (NZ) (Scenic {Ire}); Once Were Wild (Aus) (Johannesburg); and All American (Aus) (Red Ransom). The top-rung performers campaigned by Singleton in 2011 included five-time Group 1 winner More Joyous (NZ) (More Than Ready), victorious in 13 group events lifetime.



Sunday Joy
Magic Millions

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Magic Millions cont.

The ‘Strawberry’ of His Eye...

It can certainly be said that Singleton is a man that will put his money where his mouth is, and his support of champion Strawberry Road himself, and of his progeny, is testament to that fact. Campaigned in an era when Australian racing was still largely a secular industry, Strawberry Road became the poster child for its early expansion onto the international scene.

“Strawberry Road was the pioneer of international racing,” affirmed Singleton.

A late-blooming 2-year-old, Strawberry Road burst onto the scene at three, winning the G1 Rosehill Guineas, G1 AJC Derby and G1 Queensland Derby en route to a 3-year-old championship and the Horse of the Year title for the 1982-83 Australian season. The following spring, the bay added victories in the G2 Freeway S. and G2 Centennial S. before being sold to Singleton and Ray Stehr after a score in the G1 Cox Plate.

“I bought Strawberry Road and, at the time, I thought it was about time we took an Australian horse to America,” explained Singleton. “If we proved that our horses were better than American horses, then maybe Americans would come here and buy our yearlings.”

Sent to Europe for the 1984 season, the globe-trotting champion--who went to trainer John Nicholls--won the G1 Grosser Preis von Baden, finished third in the GI Washington D.C. International H., fourth in the GI Breeders’ Cup Turf and fifth in the G1 Prix de l’Arc de Triomphe. He rounded out the season with a seventh in the G1 Japan Cup before garnering another championship, this time topping the older horse division in Germany. In 1985, the 6-year-old was sent to France. Under the tutelage of his new trainer, Patrick Biancone, he won the G2 Prix Harcourt before selling to French horseman Daniel Wildenstein, for whom he won the G1 Grand Prix de Saint-Cloud. Shipped to the United States for another crack at the Breeders’ Cup Turf, he was only a neck back in second to the champion Pebbles in the 1985 edition.

That effort caught the attention of aerospace magnate Allen Paulson and hockey team owner Bruce McNall, and Strawberry Road was sold to the duo and sent to U.S. Hall of Fame trainer Charlie Whittingham. In America, the horse added a win in the GII Arcadia H., runner-up finishes in the GI San Luis Rey S. and GIII San Marcos H., and a third in the GII San Luis Obispo H. Following a sole start in 1987--a third in the GIII San Marcos H.--Strawberry Road was retired to stud with 17 wins and \$1.7 million in earnings. Strawberry Road was inducted into the Australian Hall of Fame in 2009.

As a stallion, Strawberry Road sired 15 graded/group winners, including GI Breeders’ Cup Distaff winners Escena (1998 champion older mare) and Ajina (1997 champion 3-year-old filly). He also was responsible for 1992 GI Breeders’ Cup Turf hero Fraise and GI Santa Anita Derby winner Dinard. **Cont. p8**

GIANT OAK

Giant’s Causeway – Crafty Oak, by Crafty Prospector



photo by Adam Coglianese

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“He made his mark on the Breeders’ Cup, having finished second and fourth himself, in addition to [the achievements of] his sons, daughters and granddaughters,” Singleton said. “He has had a big influence on the Breeders’ Cup, probably more so than most sires.”

He may have sold Strawberry Road during his racing career, but Singleton proved his unwavering belief in the horse after he went to stud.

“I bought all the Strawberry Road mares I could, when he died,” confirmed Singleton. “[As a broodmare sire] he’s had [Group 1 winners] All American and More Strawberries. Right now, I have four of the last five mares in the world by Strawberry Road. My Strawberry Road mares are still producing group winners every year.”

Every Little Thing He Does is Magic...

With a broodmare band numbering approximately 25 head, and an additional 25-30 horses in training, Strawberry Hill Stud plays at the highest level in both the racing and breeding spheres. In 1997, Singleton decided to expand his growing interests in the Thoroughbred industry. With Gerry Harvey and Rob Ferguson, he purchased the Magic Millions sales company. The trio proceeded to develop the company into one of the leading auction houses in the Southern Hemisphere while supporting the sale with the very best their respective breeding operations had to offer.

It is Singleton’s small but select band of broodmares that has produced many of the Gold Coast’s top yearling offerings at Magic Millions every January. Over the last decade, Strawberry Hill Stud sold the sales-topping youngster on six occasions. It began in 2001, when the operation sold a daughter of Sunday Silence out of Joie Denise (Aus) (Danehill) to trainer Gai Waterhouse for A\$1 million. The stud followed up with subsequent leaders in 2003--a colt by Sunday Silence out of Engraver for A\$900,000; in 2005, a colt by Danehill out of Silken Whisper, A\$950,000; in 2007, a colt by Sadler’s Wells from Sunday Joy (Aus) (Sunday Silence), A\$2 million; and in 2010, a colt by Redoute’s Choice out of They Say, A\$925,000. Singleton stayed in with a 25% stake for the 2010 topper, and the bay--named Cross of Gold (Aus)--graduated in his career debut at Geelong Aug. 9 before finishing runner up in the G3 H.D.F. McNeil S. Aug. 27.

Singleton’s latest Gold Coast topper--a robust Redoute’s Choice colt out of Sunday Joy--realized the high price of the sale when securing a A\$1.15-million final bid from trainer Peter Moody last year.

Not long after earning that unprecedented distinction, in what was seen by many as a somewhat surprising move, Singleton and Ferguson sold their interests in Magic Millions to Gerry and Katie Harvey.

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

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C O M

“Well, after 13 years or so, we were both getting older, and the business was getting too big,” Singleton explained. “One person needs to run it now. Our friendship was more important than arguing which direction the company should take.”

Will the decision to sell affect Singleton’s presence at Magic Millions? Not likely.

“I was a past owner. Now, I am a customer,” he said.

Joy Rising...

Much of Singleton’s success has been a direct result of a single female family line, the progeny and descendants of 3-year-old champion and multiple Group 1 winner Denise’s Joy (Aus) (Seventh Hussar {Fr}), and her daughter, Joie Denise. Bred by Arrowfield Stud, Joie Denise collected a victory at the highest level, taking the 1995 G1 Queensland Oaks. In the breeding shed, the mare became a star early, producing Sunday Joy, winner of the G1 AJC Oaks, and four-time Group 1 heroine Tuesday Joy (NZ) (Carnegie {Ire}).



More Joyous (NZ)



Magic Millions cont.

"We have a particular family that is now referred to as the 'John Singleton family,' stemming from the filly Joie Denise. That's the flagship family of John Singleton's Strawberry Hill," explained Strawberry Hill Stud Racing Manager Duncan Grimley. "[Joie Denise] has seven fillies, and John owns every one of them. Additionally, the fillies that each of those mares bore? We retained all of those as well."

While racing predominantly in Australia, Singleton's worldwide ambitions paid dividends early when he sent his prized mare overseas in pursuit of a suitor. Joie



Duncan Grimley

Denise was sent to Japan early in her breeding career and was covered on Southern Hemisphere time by Japan's marquee stallion, Sunday Silence.

The resulting foal was Sunday Joy, who not only excelled on the racetrack, but was able to replicate her success in the sale's ring. Case in point is her son, who broke the seven-figure barrier at the Gold

Coast sale in 2011, as well as her distinguished daughter More Joyous (NZ) (More Than Ready), who is a fourth generation Group 1 winner from the Denise's Joy/Joie Denise line.

"I think there may be only five of those in the history of breeding," surmised Grimley. "That's quite an accomplishment."

While the family of the blue hen mare Denise's Joy makes up the vast majority of Singleton's current broodmare band, Strawberry Hill is also home to a some of the last producing daughters of the stud's namesake--Strawberry Road.

"In addition to the Denise's Joy line, John also bought three or four Strawberry Road mares, because of his connection to that stallion," explained Grimley. "They have turned out to be very good broodmares for him as well."

Listed among them is Strawberry Girl (Aus), who won a few stakes for Singleton, and Milva (Aus), the dam of Group 2 winner and dual Group1 placed More Strawberries (Aus) (More Than Ready) and of All American (Aus) (Red Ransom), winner of the G1 Cantala S.

"In North America, probably the closest comparison you can draw to what John does was Ned Evans in the United States. Just like Evans, John has two or three really good families that he concentrates on. That doesn't mean he doesn't have other bloodlines, but the majority of his best horses have come out of one or two families. John's operation is very similar, even though he has a lot less horses."

By the Numbers...

While Strawberry Hill predominantly breeds to race, the operation has also made some high-profile purchases over the last decade. The most recent acquisition, and the last mare bought at public auction for Singleton, was in 2009, when he paid A\$3.85 million for Samantha Miss (Aus) (Redoute's Choice {Aus}) at the Inglis Easter Broodmare sale.

According to Grimley, Strawberry Hill principals may dip into the coffers to purchase a couple of fillies, if "we see something we like," however, the bulk of their racing stock is derived from their own band.

"We retain half of our fillies and sell all of the colts," offered Grimley. "We generally race about 16 or 17 horses. The majority we own ourselves, but we have a couple in partnership. In the past, we've also retained parts of our better colts. If it's a colt of that class and quality, we are happy to stay in with them."

The approach taken by the charismatic Australian has produced solid returns. From 2000 until the end of 2010, Strawberry Hill raced or bred 117 horses. Of those, 72 (61%) were winners, and 26 were stakes winners (36% of winners; 22% of raced). Those figures are certainly impressive, and are made even more so when it is considered that the operation has produced 11 Group 1 winners, which represents 42% of its stakes winners, 15% of its winners and 8.5% of those raced.

"We have phenomenal statistics, but we have achieved that success with a relatively small group of horses," said Grimley.

When asked what can account for all the success, Grimley added, laughing, "We've got a couple of very good families. If anybody did an analysis of our program, they would find that we have very deep families."

Photos courtesy of Magic Millions unless otherwise noted



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Keeneland January coverage cont.

Good Day for Abraham...

Mike Abraham came into yesterday's third session of the Keeneland January sale with a strong record of sales successes, and he came out with his streak intact. Abraham sent four yearlings, all purchased in utero, through the ring and walked away having sold the session's top two lots. First up was a yearling by Candy Ride (Arg), out of a mare Abraham paid \$30,000 for at the 2010 Keeneland November sale. The colt ([hip 877](#)) sold for \$140,000 to the bid of Tim Hyde. Later in the session, a Kitten's Joy filly ([hip 1112](#)) out of a mare who sold for \$9,000 at



Mike Abraham Lucas Marquardt

that same auction, topped the day's sale with a \$180,000 bid from Craig Bernick of Glen Hill Farm. Both yearlings were consigned by Taylor Made Sales Agency.

"They were both good babies," Abraham commented. "You always come in here a little reluctant, but it was good. I understand they both went to really good people and they aren't going to be pinhooked. I think they are both going to be raced. So we don't have to go through the agony of watching them bring a lot of money," he laughed.

The Candy Ride colt is out of Princess Consort (Dixieland Band). Asked what he liked about the now 9-year-old mare, Abraham explained, "I liked, 1) that she was a Dixieland Band mare, because they are great producers. And 2) that she was in foal to Candy Ride, who I had tried to get to that year and couldn't get to. This was a way of getting a mare in foal to Candy Ride."

The Candy Ride yearling was the first offering to break through the six-figure mark at Keeneland Wednesday. "I was pleasantly surprised with the price," Abraham said. "He was a late foal, and we really were torn between keeping him and letting him mature or go ahead and let some pinhookers grab on. He was a nice colt, a little small, but with a May 17 foal you expect that."

Abraham was able to take home the now 16-year-old mare Garden Spot, in foal to Kitten's Joy, for just \$9,000 in 2010. "She was really a bargain," he commented. "She was by Danzig and in foal to Kitten's Joy--what more could you want? You wish you could buy a boatload of them like that."

During Monday's first session of the January sale, Abraham sold a colt by Cowboy Cal for \$42,000. He had purchased the foal in utero for \$12,000 at this sale a year ago. **Cont. p11**



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At the 2011 September sale, Abraham sold a filly by Tapit for \$460,000. At the 2008 Keeneland September sale, he sold a Tiznow colt out of Storm Celine (Storm Cat), now named Fast Master, for \$435,000. He had purchased the mare, carrying the Tiznow foal, for \$55,000 at the 2007 Keeneland January sale. "I was actually quite proud of that," he admitted. Abraham is also co-breeder of last year's impressive juvenile Fire on Ice (Unbridled's Song).

Abraham, whose business interests have included real estate and oil and gas exploration, is taking advantage of a strong market, with a wary eye on future conditions.

"The market right now is really strong," he said. "I am a little worried about the economy, both here and abroad. That was another reason that we decided to sell some here, because I don't know if next September is going to be like this past September. I think it's a 50-50 chance that it could be worse. So that was another determining factor in me selling here."

Abraham was born in Tulsa, grew up in Albuquerque and now calls Las Vegas home. He breeds and races both Thoroughbreds and Quarter Horses, with a commercial Thoroughbred broodmare band of approximately 40 horses divided between New Mexico and Kentucky. "I am all over the place," he laughed. "I have a lot of frequent flyer miles."

A longtime racing fan, Abraham claimed his first horse in 1977.

"I tried to claim a horse with a friend who knew about claiming, but we didn't get the horse, we got outshook," he recalled. "This was in Albuquerque, where they only raced once a year at the fair meet. So I waited the whole year and I read a bunch about horses and breeding and thought I knew a whole lot. So a year later, I ended up claiming a filly named Gaelic Sue, she was by Gaelic Dancer." **Cont. p12**



First 2-year-olds in 2012



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KEENELAND JANUARY SALE

Monday, January 9 - Thursday, January 12

<u>SESSION TOTALS:</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>
Catalogued	409	372
No. Offered	318	302
No. Sold	263	227
RNAs	55	75
% RNAs	17.3%	24.8%
High Price	\$180,000	\$135,000
Gross	\$4,255,900	\$2,878,150
Average (% change)	\$16,182 (+27.6%)	\$12,679
Median (% change)	\$7,500 (+7.1%)	\$7,000



Mike Abraham cont.

That one claim soon turned into much more. "We ended up having to rest her a little bit and my partner found a ranch not far from Albuquerque to board her," Abraham continued. "It was my first horse and I went up every day to see her. I actually ended up buying that ranch. So I had one horse and a horse ranch. I felt it was my obligation to fill it up with mares."

While he was already involved with Quarter Horse stallions, Abraham bought his first interest in a Thoroughbred stallion this past fall. The 62-year-old came to the 2011 January sale with an eye on the stakes-winning Weather Warning (Storm Cat).

"Weather Warning was in this sale last year and I came out here to buy him, but he was scratched," Abraham said. "Somebody from New Mexico bought him [privately] and I didn't even know it, but he ended up 10 miles from my farm. I bought a part of him in September this year."

The 8-year-old stallion began his stud career in 2008 in Canada and he had seven winners from 10 starters, including stakes winner Notacloudinthesky, in his first crop to race last year. He will stand the 2012 season at Brunacini Farms in New Mexico for \$2,000.

As he walked away from the Keeneland sales pavilion last night, Abraham was asked if it had been a good day. "Good day so far," he replied. -*Jessica Martini*

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**KEENELAND JANUARY HORSES OF ALL AGES
 WEDNESDAY'S TOP THREE LOTS**

Hip	Sire	Dam	Price (\$)
1112	Kitten's Joy	Garden Spot	180,000
	(\$9,000 in utero '10 KEENOV) B-Mike Abraham (KY)		
	Consigned by Taylor Made Sales Agency, Agent LXIX Purchased by Glen Hill Farm		
877	Candy Ride (Arg)	Princess Consort	140,000
	(\$30,000 in utero '10 KEENOV) B-Mike Abraham (KY)		
	Consigned by Taylor Made Sales Agency, Agency LXIX Purchased by T Hyde		
1124	Harlan's Holiday	Grandstone	110,000
	(\$19,000 RNA in utero '10 KEENOV) B-Don Ameche III, Don Ameche Jr & Prancing Horse Enterprise (KY)		
	Consigned by Allied Bloodstock, agent for D Ameche III, D Ameche Jr & Prancing Horse Enterprise Purchased by Acorn Equine		

Look for the  throughout the TDN graded stakes entries, denoting Keeneland sales graduates.



First 2-year-olds in 2012 

Jay B. Gilbert ©

INTO MISCHIEF

Harlan's Holiday - Leslie's Lady, by Tricky Creek ■ \$7,500 LFSN

Harlan's Holiday's top performer

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Grand Score for Ameche Family...

A short yearling colt by Harlan's Holiday who was bred by the Ameche family brought a bid of \$110,000 from pinhooker Gerry Dilger yesterday. The colt was consigned by Clark Shepherd and Bert Welker's Allied Bloodstock as [hip 1124](#). "I think we would have been happy with half that price coming into the sale," said Shepherd. "But we really liked him coming in--he was a nice horse. And as the days went along, the stars started aligning. There were some good people on the horse. It was kind of a who's who list as to who was on the horse." The colt was produced by the 14-year-old Grandstone (Grindstone), a three-parts sister to stakes winner and Grade I performer Wheelaway (Unbridled). Shepherd said the colt, however, took more after his successful sire. "By body type and his head, he was very much built like Harlan's Holiday," said Shepherd. "He's a late foal [Apr. 30], but was pretty good sized."

The colt was bred by Don Ameche Jr.--son of the Hollywood actor--as well as Don Ameche III and Prancing Horse Enterprises. His dam Grandstone was purchased at the 2004 Keeneland January Sale for \$52,000, and two years later, the Ameches enjoyed a nice score when her Medaglia d'Oro son Echo Tango sold for \$200,000 at FTKJUL.

Shepherd said he wasn't worried about selling the colt on day three of the January Sale. "We knew the sale was going to be only four days," he said. "In our minds, placement wasn't going to mean a whole lot. Truth be known, he probably would have brought the same price on Monday. Plus, being smaller consignors, we figured if we could just sell one day and be done with it...great. It worked out."

Shepherd said he's been happy with the action at January. "It's a cliché, but if you bring a good horse in there you'll do all right," he said. "We saw it in October--a couple of nice pleasant surprises. The thing is setting moderate reserves, and to be willing to trade. If you're not willing to trade, you don't need to be here. The days of setting high reserves and hoping someone kicks it one time are over. You can't do that anymore. Like this horse here--we set a moderate reserve, and let the buyers take him from there." -LM

KEENELAND JANUARY OUTS

THURSDAY

1190	1204	1214	1220	1230	1234	1237	1243	1249
1250	1252	1253	1259	1262	1263	1266	1267	1268
1275	1282	1292	1295	1312	1315	1317	1320	1329
1335	1336	1354	1357	1368	1370	1371	1373	1375
1376	1380	1387	1393	1407	1421	1424	1425	1428
1430	1443	1447	1451	1455	1457	1463	1480	1490
1491	1496	1498	1501	1506	1509	1510	1513	1516
1522	1525	1527	1538	1541	1543	1545	1546	1547
1553	1555	1559	1561	1564	1566	1567	1575	1576
	1578	1581	1584	1588	1590	1592		

LEADING ACTIVE SIRE
BY GRADE 1 WINNERS

U.S. BLACK-TYPE
G1 WINNERS

DYNAFORMER	16
2012 FEE: \$150,000	
UNBRIDLED'S SONG	13
2012 FEE: \$85,000	
GIANT'S CAUSEWAY	12
2012 FEE: \$85,000	
DISTORTED HUMOR	9
2012 FEE: \$100,000	
SMART STRIKE	9
2012 FEE: \$85,000	



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KEEJAN coverage cont.

Shakespeare In Love? Maybe...

A stakes winner and multiple Grade/Group 3 performer brought the top bid for a mare yesterday at January. The 6-year-old **Honimiere (Ire)** (Fasliyev--Sugar, by Hernando {Fr}), offered by Three Chimneys Sales as [hip 1145](#), was hammered down to Dell Ridge



Honimiere Lucas Marquardt

Farm manager Des Ryan for \$105,000. The mare carried strong credentials into the ring, having finished a head adrift of the good racemare Strawberrydaiquiri (GB) (Dansili {GB}) in a Group 3 event at Newmarket in 2010 and, after coming to the U.S., running third in Keeneland's GIII Bewitch S. this past April. She

concluded her racing career with a first black-type score, a 7 1/2-length romp in the 1 1/2-mile, \$100,000 Flaming Page S. at Woodbine Sept. 25. Roger Attfield trained the mare for Stella Perdomo.


Des Ryan said Honimiere was purchased to be bred to Shakespeare (Theatrical {Ire}), the good young sire who takes up stud duties for the first time at Lane's End this year for a fee of \$10,000. Runners from Shakespeare's first crop included the 2011 Grade III-winning juvenile Shkspeare Shaliyah.

"We wanted to get a couple of nice mares to breed to him, and this one is a good strong mare," said Ryan. "She's got a good shoulder and a good hip and is quite balanced. She's got a lovely walk on her, and she should suit him well."

Dell Ridge bred Shakespeare out of the mare Lady Shirl (That's a Nice), and sold half of the horse as a yearling to William Schettine. Together, they campaigned the bay to a pair of Grade I wins: the GI Woodbine Mile and GI Joe Hirsch Turf Classic Invitational S.

Herself a Grade I winner on the track, Lady Shirl took a while to get going as a broodmare, and Dell Ridge bought the then 13-year-old for \$90,000 at the 2000 Keeneland November Sale having not produced a stakes winner. She's since produced four, and some good ones. They include this year's GI Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Turf heroine Perfect Shirl (Perfect Soul {Ire}), as well as Grade II winner Lady Shakespeare (Theatrical {Ire}) and SW & MGSP Fantastic Shirl (Fantastic Light). Dell Ridge also bred and raced Fantastic Shirl. **Cont. p15**

TDN TODAY
Headline News..... 21 pages



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Lookin At Lucky	106	124
Shackleford	104	121
Animal Kingdom	103	121

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Giant's Causeway - Aldebaran Light, by Seattle Slew
 \$22,500 by Nov.1st - \$25,000 S&N



"Once we started breeding her to turf stallions, she really took off," said Ryan. "It's just one of those good-luck stories. You never really know."

In 2005, Dell Ridge sold Lady Shirl, with Lady Shakespeare in utero, to Jack Werk, agent for Charles Fipke, for \$485,000.

Ryan said it's been exciting to watch not only the success of the family on the track, but Shakespeare's early success in the breeding shed. "We've had a lot of positive feedback, and he had a lot of nice runners, especially toward the end of the season, which you'd expect," Ryan said. "He has a couple of really nice horses in training at Gulfstream and Palm Meadows right now, and we've got a couple ourselves that we gave some time off that we'll bring back in March or April. We also bought a few of his yearlings last year from other breeders to help support him, and we're excited about those."

Three Chimney's Case Clay said Honimiere was well sold at \$105,000. "She's was in the right spot in the sale, and she's a nice horse," he said. "She's a graded stakes horse and a standout today. We're very pleased." -LM

Hickory Tree Launches Rebellion...

Jim and Mary Lea Treptow's Hickory Tree Farm brought Euro import **Rebellion (GB)** (Mozart {Ire}) to Keeneland to register a career-best victory in the GII Commonwealth S. in 2008, and have returned to Keeneland January with a handful of his babies in the



Rebellion *Norse Ridge photo*

hopes of helping turn the grandson of Danehill into a successful sire. Hickory Tree sold a pair of Rebellion's short yearlings yesterday with St. George Sales, and has three more going through today with Brookdale Sales.

Yesterday's duo was led by [hip 810](#), who was purchased by BBA Ireland

for \$16,000. Not a headline-grabbing price tag, but for Hickory Tree, that's not really the point.

"I was happy with that, but the goal is really to get some of the foals out there and let people see them," said Cheris Treptow, Jim and Mary Lea's daughter and the manager of equine operations at Hickory Tree. "He's gotten some really nice-looking individuals, and it's good to put them through the ring." Selling today are [hip 1321](#), a filly out of Shenandoah Valley (Proud Citizen); [hip 1453](#), a colt out of Caillech (GB); and [hip 1497](#), a filly out of Ecouter (Smart Strike).

Brookdale's Joe Seitz purchased Rebellion for the Treptows as a horse-of-racing age for a modest 30,000gns at the 2006 Tattersalls July Sale, and he blossomed in the States under the tutelage of trainer H. Graham Motion.

Hip 428 - dam of KY Derby hopeful
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In addition to the seven-furlong Commonwealth, he won the 7 1/2-furlong GIII Ack Ack S. at Hollywood and ran a huge second to Albertus Maximus (Albert the Great) in the \$1 million Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile at Santa Anita after blowing the break.

"He really spoiled us from the very beginning," said Cheris Treptow. "He was our first real racehorse, and you hope all the others are going to do as well as he did. He was a great horse all around. He has great heart, and he's really easy to work with."

Rebellion was retired to Norse Ridge Farms in Ontario; his oldest foals are now yearlings. He stands the 2012 season for \$3,500, live foal. "He's doing well," said Treptow. "We bred about 10 mares to him in his first year, five last year, and I think we'll breed another 10 to him this season."

The Treptows, who originally are from Texas, purchased the famed Hickory Tree Farm in Middleburg, Virginia, from the du Pont family. The property was once owned by Alice Francis du Pont Mills, who raced champion Devil's Bag and G1 1000 Guineas heroine Glad Rags II. -LM



Cheris Treptow
Lucas Marquardt



KEEJAN cont.

January Sale Continues Positive Results...

The Keeneland January sale continued to show strong increases from 2011 during its third session yesterday in Lexington, with double-digit gains in gross, average and median. "The market continues to show considerable consistency and strength," commented Keeneland's Vice President of Sales Walt Robertson. "For the third consecutive session, we've achieved significant increases in gross, average and median, accompanied by much lower RNA rates. In general, consignors and buyers both seem pleased with the current marketplace."

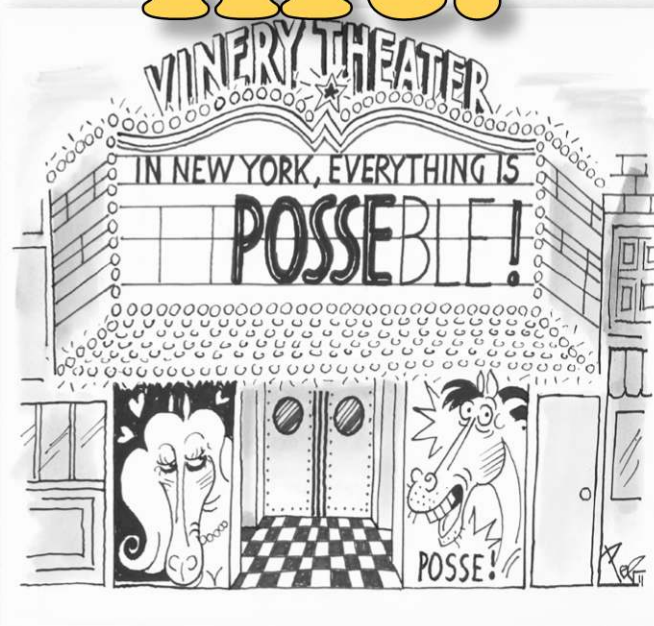
During three sessions, Keeneland has sold 750 horses for a total of \$34,371,200. The average is up 26.2% to \$45,828 and the median is up 53.8% to \$20,000. The buy-back rate dipped to 20%, from 28.19% a year ago.

Yearlings dominated yesterday's session, with eight of the day's top prices coming for youngsters. "A well-conformed baby is worth a lot of money," Robertson said.

Keeneland's Director of Sales Geoffrey Russell blamed a strong November market for the yearling demand. "The weanling to yearling pinhookers did not fulfill all of their orders in the November sale," Russell said. "They have been buying them privately since the November sale and they were gung ho to buy them this week."

The January sale concludes with a final session today beginning at 10 a.m.

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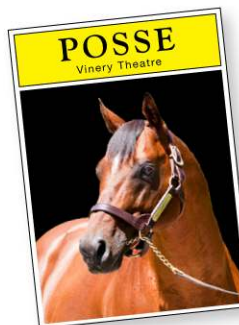


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Sponsors of the following stats for the:
KEENELAND JANUARY SALE
Monday, January 9 - Thursday, January 12

<u>CUMULATIVE:</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>
Catalogued	1189	1099
No. Offered	937	862
No. Sold	750	619
RNAs	187	243
% RNAs	20%	28.2%
No. Over \$500K	4	4
High Price	\$1,400,000	\$1,400,000
Gross	\$34,371,200	\$22,478,350
Average (% change)	\$45,828 (+26.2%)	\$36,314
Median (% change)	\$20,000 (+53.8%)	\$13,000

CORRECTION: Yesterday's TDN should have stated that 19 horses sold for over \$200,000 during Tuesday's session, compared to seven during last year's second session. We regret the error.



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FROM THE DESK OF...

BILL OPPENHEIM

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A.P. INDY TOPS APEX LIST FOR 8TH TIME

There was a real flurry of consternation when all the year-end North American leading sire lists came out. The *Blood-Horse* (whose General Sire List is still accepted as the industry standard) and *TDN* had Distorted Humor winning his first sire championship, but the *Thoroughbred Times*, which includes Japanese earnings at face value, had Giant's Causeway as Leading Sire. More importantly, though, the argument showed once again the flaws in progeny earnings lists: big paydays in Dubai (which is included), Hong Kong, and Japan have the potential to distort earnings lists.

This is one way in which the APEX (Annual Progeny Earnings index) stallion ratings create a level playing field in the realm of sire statistics. The APEX ratings measure the frequency with which a stallion sires runners that achieve one of three class levels, based on earnings and calculated on an annual basis. It makes these calculations in any racing jurisdiction specified, so we have the ratings calculated in five different jurisdictions, comprising three regions: North America (U.S. and Canada calculated together); Europe, which is itself comprised of three jurisdictions (UK/Ireland; France; and Germany); and Japan. In each of the five jurisdictions, the top 2% earners from starters are classified as 'A Runners'; the next 2% are 'B Runners'; the next 4% are 'C Runners'; and the top 8% are called 'ABC Runners', combined. We simply find the numbers for each sire in each jurisdiction (North America, Europe, Japan), and add the five together in each category. That's the best way I've seen to statistically accommodate the huge earnings available in Japan, compared to everywhere else.

Mind you, that ability to combine results from seven different countries counted as five different jurisdictions across three different regions hasn't made a lot of difference to A.P. Indy. He's always been an all-American sire. Though he's had the very occasional success in Europe and Japan, they have indeed been few and far between. In the seven years covered in this report (APEX figures always cover the last seven years, in this case 2005-2011), 93% of A.P. Indy's 1,124 year-starters (a horse is counted as one runner each year it starts, up to seven) were in North America; just 7% were in Europe or Japan.

But as a sire in North America, A.P. Indy is without parallel. He's so good in North America that those results alone have made him the leading sire by APEX A Runner Index--the signature APEX measurement of class--for the eighth time. A.P. Indy's first foals were 4-year-olds in 1998, and in the 14 years since, he has never been out of the top three by A Runner Index, and, as I say, he's topped the list eight times. That's a pretty remarkable achievement.



Pleasantly Perfect

THE FACTS:

- 4 Crops to Race
- 70% Winners/Starters
- 15% Stakes Horses/Starters
- 7% Stakes Winners/Starters

THE RECOMMENDATION:

From Bill Oppenheim:
“ PLEASANTLY PERFECT made over \$7.7-million on the track, defeated Medaglia D'Oro in both the G1 Breeders' Cup Classic and the Dubai World Cup, and has an A runner index of 2.72, so he looks great value at \$10,000. ”

-TDN, Dec. 2, 2011

LANE'S END



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Photo: Lee Thomas



Bill Oppenheim cont.

Only 14 sires, among the 688 which had 200 or more year-starters in the countries covered 2005-2011, have APEX A Runner indexes above 3.00 (6% of starters). Besides A.P. Indy being retired, two more, Sadler's Wells and Canada's leading sire, Bold Executive, have died; so only 11 active sires (with 200+ year-starters) have A Runner Indexes above 3.00. Four of them are North American sires whose first foals were born in 2006, started racing in 2008, and had their first 5-year-olds in 2011. Ranked by the frequency with which they sire top-2% earners from runners, Speightstown (3.68) tops the group, ranking second overall, and therefore first among all active sires. He is marginally ahead of Galileo (3.62), universally acknowledged as the Northern Hemisphere's leading sire, and Japan's Deep Impact (3.61). It's unusual for a sire with first 3-year-olds to have 200+ year-starters and thus qualify for this list (War Front, for example, has nine A Runners from 119 year-starters, for a 3.78 A Index; Bernardini has 11 from 177 year-starters, for a 3.11 A Index), but things work differently in Japan. F2006 sires Medaglia d'Oro (3.56) and Candy Ride (3.52) rank fifth and sixth overall, with Tapit (3.09) also a member of the exclusive 3.00+ crop. As he ranked number three by progeny earnings on the 2011 North American general sire list, you can see this F2006 sire crop is having a huge impact in North America. Pleasantly Perfect, who's never been considered a member of the F2006 'fearsome foursome', is himself not far behind the leaders, with a 2.94 A Runner Index.

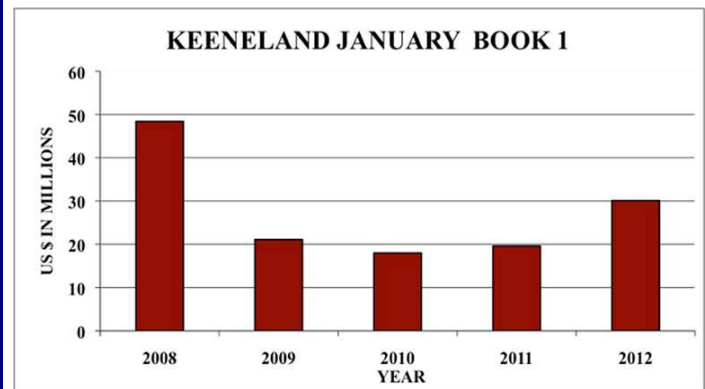
2012 ROAD TO THE CLASSICS

DATE	RACE	TRACK
Jan. 14	California Derby	Golden Gate
Jan. 16	Smarty Jones S.	Oaklawn
Jan. 21	GIII Lecomte S.	Fair Grounds
Jan. 29	GIII Holy Bull S.	Gulfstream
Feb. 4	GII Robert B. Lewis S.	Santa Anita
	GIII Withers S.	Aqueduct
	GIII Sam F. Davis S.	Tampa Bay
Feb. 18	GIII El Camino Real Derby	Golden Gate
Feb. 20	GIII Southwest S.	Oaklawn
Feb. 25	GII Risen Star S.	Fair Grounds
	Borderland Derby	Sunland Park
	Turf Paradise Derby	Turf Paradise
Feb. 26	GII Fountain of Youth S.	Gulfstream
Mar. 3	GIII Gotham S.	Aqueduct
	John Battaglia Memorial S.	Turfway
Mar. 10	GII San Felipe S.	Santa Anita
	GII Tampa Bay Derby	Tampa Bay
Mar. 17	GII Rebel S.	Oaklawn
Mar. 24	GIII Vinery Racing Spiral S.	Turfway
	Rushaway S.	Turfway
Mar. 25	GIII Sunland Derby	Sunland
Mar. 31	GI Florida Derby	Gulfstream

Weekly Sales Ticker
by Bill Oppenheim

"Even given that the quality of January catalogues isn't necessarily consistent from year to year, there's no mistaking the whiff of Recovery in the air. The two-day gross was up 54% and had already surpassed the gross for last year's whole sale by the end of Book 1 – in which nearly 100 more horses (24%) sold than last year. The average was up 24%, and the clearance rate from the catalogue was above 62% compared to 54% last year. The crash came after the 2008 September Sale, so 2008 figures for this sale were still when things were flying high."

– Bill Oppenheim



YEAR	CAT	RING	SOLD	%W/D	%S/R	%S/C	GROSS	AVG
2012	780	619	487	20.6%	78.7%	62.4%	\$30,115,300	\$61,838
2011	726	560	392	22.9%	70.0%	54.0%	\$19,600,200	\$50,001
2010	734	552	406	24.8%	73.6%	55.3%	\$17,993,800	\$44,320
2009	788	548	412	30.5%	75.2%	52.3%	\$21,091,600	\$51,193
2008	738	594	434	19.5%	73.1%	58.8%	\$48,414,100	\$111,553

Data compiled by Brienne Stanley

UPCOMING SALES CALENDAR

DATE	SALE
JAN 17-18	OBS Mixed Winter Sale
JAN 23	Barretts January mixed
FEB 2-3	Tattersalls February Sale
FEB 6	Fasig-Tipton KY Winter Mixed
FEB 6-7	Pegasus 2yo in Training Sale, WA
FEB 13-14	Arqana February Sale
FEB 15-16	Goffs February Sales
MAR 5	Barretts Select 2yo Sale
MAR 13-14	OBS March Select 2yo in Training
MAR 25	John Franks 2-year-old in Training Sale in Opelousas, LA
MAR 26	Fasig-Tipton Florida 2yo Sale
APR 3	Goffs Ready To Run at Kempton
APR 5	Fasig-Tipton Texas 2yo Sale
APR 9	Keeneland April 2yo in Training
APR 17-19	Tattersalls Craven 2yo Sale
APR 22-23	Doncaster Breeze Up Sale
APR 23-26	OBS 2yo in Training

TOP 50 SIRES by APEX A RUNNER INDEX
688 SIRES with 200+ YEAR-STARTERS 2005-2011

SIRE	YR	HIS SIRE	1ST FLS	ST	2005-2011			ABC	
					RNRS	A's	A INDEX	ABC's I	NDEX
A.P. Indy	1989	Seattle Slew	1994	Retired	1124	98	4.36	236	2.62
Speightstown	1998	Gone West	2006	KY	570	42	3.68	118	2.59
Galileo	1998	Sadler's Wells	2003	IR	1242	90	3.62	223	2.24
Deep Impact	2002	Sunday Silence	2008	JP	291	21	3.61	61	2.62
Medaglia D'oro	1999	El Prado	2006	KY	562	40	3.56	104	2.31
Candy Ride	1999	Ride the Rails	2006	KY	440	31	3.52	76	2.16
Monsun	1990	Konigsstuhl	1997	GE	758	51	3.36	117	1.93
Desert God	1991	Fappiano	1994	NM	254	17	3.35	39	1.92
Sadler's Wells	1981	Northern Dancer	1986	Dead	1263	84	3.33	191	1.89
Dubawi	2002	Dubai Millennium	2007	GB	361	24	3.32	59	2.04
Unusual Heat	1990	Nureyev	1999	CA	776	50	3.22	145	2.34
Bold Executive	1984	Bold Ruckus	1990	Dead	844	54	3.20	150	2.22
Tapit	2001	Pulpit	2006	KY	582	36	3.09	95	2.04
Montjeu	1996	Sadler's Wells	2002	IR	1347	83	3.08	211	1.96
Smart Strike	1992	Mr. Prospector	1998	KY	1526	91	2.98	216	1.77
Kingmambo	1990	Mr. Prospector	1995	Retired	868	51	2.94	116	1.67
Lemon Drop Kid	1996	Kingmambo	2002	KY	1056	62	2.94	190	2.25
Pleasantly Perfect	1998	Pleasant Colony	2006	KY	272	16	2.94	43	1.98
Giant's Causeway	1997	Storm Cat	2002	KY	1809	105	2.90	309	2.14
Mineshaft	1999	A.p. Indy	2005	KY	492	28	2.85	79	2.01
Storm Cat	1983	Storm Bird	1989	KY	933	53	2.84	157	2.10
Dansili	1996	Danehill	2002	GB	1238	69	2.79	187	1.89
Oasis Dream	2000	Green Desert	2005	GB	845	47	2.78	135	2.00
Danehill Dancer	1993	Danehill	1999	IR	1691	94	2.78	239	1.77
Shamardal	2002	Giant's Causeway	2007	IR	363	20	2.75	60	2.07
Awesome Again	1994	Deputy Minister	2000	KY	1043	57	2.73	163	1.95
Dalakhani	2000	Darshaan	2005	IR	440	24	2.73	51	1.45
King Kamehameha	2001	Kingmambo	2006	JP	1115	60	2.69	187	2.10
Rahy	1985	Blushing Groom	1991	Dead	935	50	2.67	161	2.15
Whiskey Wisdom	1993	Wild Again	1999	MB	432	23	2.66	63	1.82
Distorted Humor	1993	Forty Niner	2000	KY	1548	82	2.65	298	2.41
Unbridled's Song	1993	Unbridled	1998	KY	1289	68	2.64	199	1.93
Dynaformer	1985	Roberto	1991	KY	1246	65	2.61	206	2.07
Selkirk	1988	Sharpen Up	1994	GB	889	46	2.59	121	1.70
Where's the Ring	1999	Seeking the Gold	2006	ON	252	13	2.58	52	2.58
D'Wildcat	1998	Forest Wildcat	2005	FL	372	19	2.55	59	1.98
City Zip	1998	Carson City	2003	KY	906	46	2.54	143	1.97
Street Cry	1998	Machiavellian	2004	KY	768	39	2.54	114	1.86
Tiznow	1997	Cee's Tizzy	2003	KY	1011	51	2.52	121	1.50
Afleet Alex	2002	Northern Afleet	2007	KY	341	17	2.49	45	1.65
Zenno Rob Roy	2000	Sunday Silence	2007	JP	444	22	2.48	59	1.66
Seeking the Gold	1985	Mr. Prospector	1991	Retired	711	35	2.46	97	1.71
Pivotal	1993	Polar Falcon	1998	GB	1310	64	2.44	222	2.12
Kitten's Joy	2001	El Prado	2007	KY	348	17	2.44	38	1.36
Empire Maker	2000	Unbridled	2005	JP	612	29	2.37	99	2.02
Bowman's Band	1998	Dixieland Band	2006	Dead	234	11	2.35	36	1.92
Pulpit	1994	A.p. Indy	1999	KY	1112	52	2.34	169	1.90
Tribal Rule	1996	Storm Cat	2004	CA	431	20	2.32	51	1.48
Kiridashi	1992	Bold Ruckus	2000	AB	391	18	2.30	39	1.25
Ghostzapper	2000	Awesome Again	2007	KY	240	11	2.29	51	2.66



Oppenheim cont.

Because the APEX ratings are based on earnings, sires which stand in jurisdictions with comparatively high earnings can score very high on these lists. Ontario is a very good example, and when we have a chance to go over these lists in more details we'll see a number of young Ontario sires with very high ratings. Desert God (3.35), a son of Fappiano who stands in New Mexico, benefits in this way, as did, for example, Bold Executive in Ontario and, some might argue, Unusual Heat (3.22) in California. Certainly this will be an issue with New York sires in future years. But, these exceptions aside, the A Runner Index has a very good record of identifying the top sires, partially because, of course, there is actually a strong correlation between earnings and class: Monsun, Dubawi, and Montjeu are the three other sires with 200+ year-starters and A Runner indexes above 3.00, and virtually all of the top sires appear on this list. Smart Strike (2.98), Giant's Causeway (2.90), Dansili (2.79) and Oasis Dream (2.78--interesting how the two Juddmonte stallions now have almost exactly identical ratings), Distorted Humor (2.65), Unbridled's Song (2.64), Street Cry (2.54), and Tiznow (2.52) are all among those siring between 5% (2.50) and 6% (3.00) A Runners from year-starters. There's no doubt the scale for the leading sires has dropped significantly from 10 years ago, when ratings over 4.00 were standard for the top sires, and many who are now at 2.50 were above 3.00. There's also no doubt this 'compression' of class among the top sires must be a result of the doubling of book sizes in the last 15 years, and the concomitant drop in the percentage of better mares bred to the best sires.

We have some technical work to do before we'll be ready to post the whole list of sires on the website and discuss the figures in more detail--primarily scratching from the lists a few jump sires which always sneak in, and reconciling first foal years and where sires are standing between our files and those supplied by TJCIS-- but today's Top 50 list will hopefully serve as a 'taster'.

We'll be back next week in more detail, and we'll Tweet and put in the paper when the entire list is ready for outside scrutiny.

Bill Oppenheim may be contacted at bopp@erb.com (please cc TDN management at suefinley@thoroughbreddailynews.com). Follow him on Twitter at www.twitter.com/billoppenheim.

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; an e-mail to: editor@thoroughbreddailynews.com; or post in our new Forum section at <http://www.thoroughbreddailynews.com/members/forum/>.

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PREVIEWS

DANDY DOZEN FOR ROUND 1

A salty field of 12 will head to the post for tonight's first round of the G3 Al Maktoum Challenge at Meydan headed by the 2011 winner **Mendip** (Harlan's Holiday). Third to **Musir (Aus)** (Redoute's Choice {Aus}) in the 2010 G2 UAE Derby, Mendip was first-up in last year's event and carried Frankie Dettori to a 2 3/4-length victory. Despite winning the G3 Burj Nahaar next time out, he regressed significantly and was last seen finishing sixth in the G1 Dubai Duty Free S. on the turf. "We have given him a lovely break over the summer and he is fresh and very well indeed," trainer Saeed bin Suroor commented. "He is working just as well as he was last year before the race and has a great draw in one. We have to be thinking he will run a big race, but it looks a strong renewal." Just once out of the top three in six tries over the Meydan Tapeta, Musir returns to that surface off a popular victory in the G2 Topkapi Trophy in Istanbul last Sept. 4. **Master of Hounds** (Kingmambo), a nose runner-up in last year's G2 UAE Derby, was a creditable fifth in the G1 Kentucky Derby, but flopped and was 10th as a 6-1 chance in the G1 Belmont S. last time out. He has since been acquired by Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa and is trained, like Musir, by the always-dangerous Mike de Kock.



Black-Type Previews cont.

Thursday, Meydan, post time: 12:35 p.m. EST

AL MAKTOU CHALLENGE R1-G3, \$200,000, NH4yo/up, SH3yo/up, 1600m (AWT)

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	WT
1	Mendip (K)	Harlan's Holiday	Dettori	bin Suroor	123
2	Derbaas	Seeking The Gold	Hills	Raihe	123
3	Dance And Dance (Ire)	Royal Applause (GB)	Spencer	Vaughan	123
4	Musir (Aus)	Redoute's Choice (Aus)	Soumillon	de Kock	123
5	Le Drakkar (Aus)	Anabaa	Ajtebi	Huzaim	123
6	Escape Route (K)	Elusive Quality	Mullen	Seemar	123
7	Xin Xu Lin (Brz)	Wondertross	Barzalona	Zarooni	123
8	Kavango (Ire)	Cape Cross (Ire)	Cosgrave	Shafya	123
9	Secrecy (GB)	King's Best	Suroor	Fallon	123
10	Fanunalter (GB)	Falbrav (Ire)	Moore	Botti	123
11	Snaafy	Kingmambo	O'Shea	Muhairi	123
12	Master of Hounds	Kingmambo	Shea	de Kock	123

Saturday, Santa Anita Park, post time: 7:07 p.m. EST

SAN FERNANDO S.-GII, \$150,000, 4yo, 1 1/16m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	WT
1	Prayer for Relief (K)	Jump Start	Bejarano	Baffert	123
2	Balladry	Unbridled's Song	Talamo	Harty	118
3	Riveting Reason (K)	Fusaichi Pegasus	Quinonez	Cho	118
4	Dreaminofthewin	Successful Appeal	Garcia	Jackson	118
5	Irish Art (K)	Artie Schiller	Rosario	Gaines	118
6	Spud Spivens	Tizbud	Smith	Moreno	118
7	First Strike	Vindication	Espinoza	Diodoro	118
8	Tapizar	Tapit	Nakatani	Asmussen	118

Saturday, Gulfstream Park, post time: 4:45 p.m. EST

FT. LAUDERDALE S.-GIII, \$100,000, 4yo/up, 1 1/16mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	WT
1	Uptowncharlybrown (K)	Limehouse	Maragh	Coletti Sr	117
2	Santiva	Giant's Causeway	Castanon	Walsh	117
3	Guys Reward (K)	Grand Reward	Centeno	Romans	117
4	Yummy With Butter	Silvador	Lopez	Belsoeur	121
5	Mutual Trust (GB)	Cacique (Ire)	Lezcano	Mott	123
6	Mambo Meister	King Cugat	Bravo	Gleaves	117
7	Teaks North	Northern Afleet	Leyva	Sallusto	123
8	Flat Out	Flatter	Solis	Dickey	119
9	Hollinger	Black Minnaloushe	Velazquez	Attfield	117
10	Silver Medallion (K)	Badge of Silver	Castellano	Pletcher	121
11	Hoofit (NZ)	Mossman (Aus)	Prado	Motion	117
12	Kindergarden Kid (K)	Dynaformer	Leparoux	Tagg	121
13	Cool Blue Red Hot	Harlan's Holiday	Cruz	Penna Jr	117
14	Flatter This	Flatter	Jurado	O'Connell	119

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Saturday, Gulfstream Park, post time: 4:17 p.m. EST

HAL'S HOPE S.-GIII, \$100,000, 4yo/up, 1m

PP HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	WT
1 Jackson Bend	Hear No Evil	Velazquez	Zito	123
2 Sky Venture	Sky Mesa	Leyva	Paul	117
3 Sangaree	Awesome Again	Maragh	McLaughlin	117
4 Successful Mission (K)	Successful Appeal	Trujillo	Plesa Jr	121
5 Decisive Moment	With Distinction	Madrid	Arias	121
6 Our Dark Knight (K)	Medaglia d'Oro	Bravo	Zito	117
7 Soaring Empire (K)	Empire Maker	Leparoux	Gambolati	121
8 Cool Blue Red Hot	Harlan's Holiday	Cruz	Penna Jr	117
9 Will's Wildcat (K)	Eurosilver	Borel	Baker	117

RACETRACK ROUND-UP

Animal Kingdom Arrives In South Florida...

Kentucky Derby winner **Animal Kingdom** (Leroidesanimaux {Brz}) along with stablemate **Toby's Corner** (Bellamy Road) rolled into Palm Meadows Training Center Wednesday morning where they will continue preparations for their respective comebacks. Conditioner Graham Motion had been training the pair at Fair Hill Training Center in Maryland, where mild weather has kept them closer to home longer than planned. "It looked like it was going to be a nasty week," said Motion from his Fair Hill base. "I thought we would be better off to get them down there and not have to worry about it." Although Motion will no longer have daily contact with Animal Kingdom, he had no issues with sending his stable star to Florida and assistant trainer David Rock. "David was with him from this time last year all the way through the Triple Crown, so he knows him very well." The Derby winner is pointing for the G1 Dubai World Cup March 31 and may prep for that race in the G1 Gulfstream Park Turf Handicap on Feb. 11. Motion has been impressed with Animal Kingdom since he returned to training after being injured in the G1 Belmont S. in June. "I think physically, he's a bigger, stronger animal than he was last year," said Motion. Toby's Corner is unraced since winning the Wood Memorial in April due to a hind leg injury, but has been on the same schedule as Animal Kingdom gearing up for his return.

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NEWS TODAY

Met Rankings Taking Shape...

The field for the G1 J & B Met S. at Kenilworth near Cape Town Jan. 28 is taking shape. The R2.5-million contest is limited to 20 starters, which are determined by log that includes a horse's merit rating, current performance and group race performance. Continuing to top the most recent log is the sensational filly **Igugu (Aus)** (Galileo {Ire}), but moving up to the fifth spot is **Gimmethgreenlight (Aus)** (More Than Ready), who upset last Saturday's G1 L'Ormarins Queen's Plate at Kenilworth. The complete current log can be viewed [here](#).

IT'S A BOY! OR A GIRL!
Click [here](#) to submit your Foaling News for Stakes Winning and/or Stakes Producing Mares for publication in the TDN.

Sarah K. Andrew photo



All post times in the TDN are local time

NEW YORK 

Yesterday's Results:

8th-AQU, \$62,000, Alw, NW1X, 4yo/up, 6f, 1:10 1/5, ft.

OPENING MOVE (c, 4, [Bernardini](#)--**Show Me the Roses, by Storm Cat**) graduated over this track and trip last March. Sixth in a Belmont allowance the following month, the bay colt subsequently ran seventh on the grass June 23, and hadn't faced the starter since. Dismissed at 9-1, Opening Move had his head in front down the backstretch, but conceded the advantage to Quick Money (City Zip) on the turn. He battled back inside that tiring rival and forged clear late to defeat him by 2 1/2 lengths. Lifetime Record: 7-2-1-1, \$77,460. [Click for the brisnet.com chart](#) or the [video replay](#).

O-Darley Stable. B-Zabeel Racing International (KY). T-Kiaran P McLaughlin.

2nd-AQU, \$58,800, Msw, 3yo, f, 5 1/2f, 1:04, ft.

EVASIVE CAT (f, 3, [Discreet Cat](#)--**Evasive, by Elusive Quality**) was sent off as the 2-1 choice in her Dec. 7 opener on the inner track, but got caught up in a speed duel and wound up settling for third. Bet down to 3-5 to make amends this time, the bay filly outbroke her four rivals and grabbed the lead. Apprentice jockey Irad Ortiz Jr. asked for a bit more turning for home and Evasive Cat responded nicely, stretching clear to take it by 5 1/2 lengths despite drifting out a bit late. Dixie Babe (Dixie Union) was second best. Sales history: \$30,000 RNA yr1 '10 FTKOCT. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-1, \$41,000. [Click for the brisnet.com chart](#) or the [video replay](#).

O/B-Gatewood Bell, Kiaran McLaughlin & John A Marulli (KY). T-Kiaran P McLaughlin.

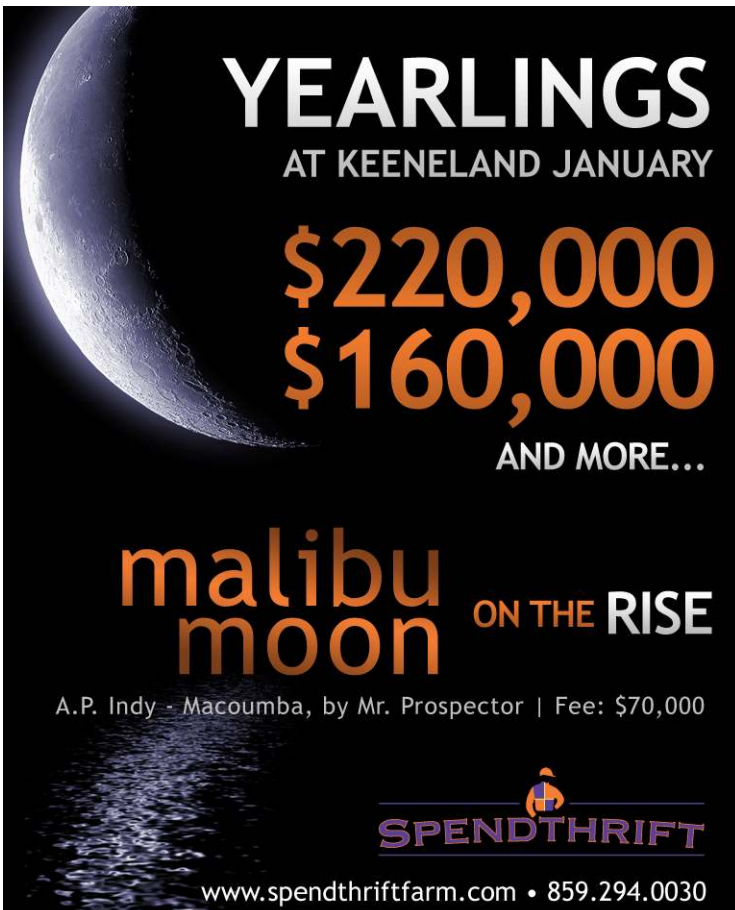
CROMWELL BLOODSTOCK  Mated and Raced

Today's Video Highlights

2nd-AQU (Msw) Evasive Cat (Discreet Cat) continued her young sire's hot streak with a sharp effort.

6th-GP (Msw) Diez (Rock Hard Ten) comes flying to prevail in a blanket finish.

The **brisnet.com** 'Race of the Day' is the 9th Race, \$32,000 Allowance, at Fair Grounds. For pps and a complete race analysis, [click here](#).



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FLORIDA 

Yesterday's Results:

3rd-GPX, \$25,950, Alw, Opt. Clm. (\$25,000), 3yo, 6f, 1:10 3/5, ft.

ESSENCE OF BUBBLES (f, 3, **Essence of Dubai--Silver Champagne, by Silver Buck**) broke her maiden for a \$7,500 tag at Ellis July 24 and added an allowance tally at that track seven days later for trainer Dwight Preston. Shifted to William Bennett's shedrow, the Florida-bred wired an Arlington optional claimer Aug. 25, then ran second by a half-length in the GIII Arlington-Washington Lassie Sept. 10 for current conditioner Larry Rivelli. She was subsequently unplaced in stakes contests at Hawthorne and Woodbine, but rebounded with a confidence-boosting starter allowance success going a mile at Gulfstream Dec. 11. Sent off as the 2-1 second choice here, Essence of Bubbles raced in second before asserting herself in the lane en route to a 3 1/4-length victory. Riojano (Mass Media) was runner-up. Sales history: \$1,800 yr1 '10 FTKOCT. Lifetime Record: GSP, 9-5-1-0, \$87,997. [Click for the brisnet.com chart](#) or the [video replay](#).

O/T-Larry Rivelli. B-Susie Leonie Blommaerts (FL).



6th-GPX, \$42,700, Msw, 3yo, 5fT, :57, fm.
 + DIEZ (c, 3, [Rock Hard Ten](#)--Provisions {SW, \$144,945}, by Devil's Bag), a half-brother to Jack Sullivan (Belong to Me), MSW & MGSP-UAE, SW & MGSP-GB, \$1,128,967, looked to be at a distinct disadvantage with the 11 hole and was dismissed at 21-1. Unhurried early, the bay colt drafted inside before being angled out entering the stretch. He was closest of all to the outside fence, but shifted gears smartly and got up in the final jump. It was a



Coglianesse photo

dead-heat for second between Venture World (Elusive Quality) and Rockstar Richie (Bring the Heat), with D'Pepjo (Hard Spun) and Core Inflation (Closing Argument) also inseparable for fourth. In addition to Jack Sullivan, Diez is a half-brother to Piedras Negra (Unbridled), the dam of the swift La Traviata (Johannesburg), whose first foal Crusade (Mr. Greeley) captured the 2011 G1 Middle Park S. Sales history: \$150,000 yrl '10 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$24,300. [Click for the brisnet.com chart](#) or [video replay](#). O-Silverton Hill LLC. B-Hermitage Farm LLC (KY). T-Darrin Miller.

McElroy Equine Yearling Purchase

2nd-GPX, \$40,500, Msw, (S), 3yo, 6f, 1:11 4/5, ft.
 + DREAMING OF NENO (c, 3, [Exclusive Quality](#)--Gold Bag Lady, by Friendly Lover) notched several sprightly gate works and was bet down to 5-2 from his morning line of 8-1. His task was made much easier when favored Mordi's Miracle (Lawyer Ron) went sideways as the gates opened and ditched jockey John Velazquez. Dreaming of Neno vied with fellow firster Closerwalk (Street Sense) through a :45.02 opening half, and finally got the better of that rival to graduate by 3/4 of a length. Sales history: \$11,000 RNA wIng '09 OBSOCT. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$24,300. [Click for the brisnet.com chart](#) or the [video replay](#). O-Frank Carl Calabrese. B-Kenneth Breitenbecker Jr (FL). T-Nick Canani.

• ON THE WORKTAB •

Belmont Park
 More Than Love (More Than Ready), 4f, :49.54, 21/35
Gulfstream Park
 Acting Happy (Empire Maker), 5f, 1:04.40, 13/13
 Madman Diaries (Bring the Heat), 5f, 1:03.40, 9/13
Palm Meadows
 Union Rags (Dixie Union), 3f, :38.35, 5/6

Quality on the track, in his blood and in his first book!

2009 CHAMPION 2YO

Won Cashcall Futurity S.-Gr.1, Norfolk S.-Gr.1, Del Mar Futurity-Gr.1 and Best Pal S.-Gr.2, 2nd Breeders' Cup Juvenile-Gr.1

2010 CHAMPION 3YO

Won Preakness S.-Gr.1, Haskell Invitational S.-Gr.1 (PICTURED) Rebel S.-Gr.2 and Indiana Derby-Gr.2

2011 COVERED THE BEST QUALITY BOOK OF MARES BY A FIRST CROP SIRE

Source: Bloodhorse Marketwatch, Nov 2011

2012 FEE \$30,000

Lookin At Lucky

One of the very best sons of champion sire **Smart Strike** (fee \$85,000)
 Bred on a similar cross to champion sire **Distorted Humor** (fee \$100,000)



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A M E R I C A



8th-TAM, \$18,200, Alw, Opt. Clm. (\$75,000), NW1X, 3yo, f, 1mT, 1:36 3/5, gd.

SPIELZEIT (f, 3, [Medaglia d'Oro](#)--Symbol of Hope, by Mr. Prospector) had a tough trip when sixth in her Dec. 9 unveiling in a \$75,000 tagger on the Gulfstream grass. Shipped up to Tampa three weeks later, the Calder-based filly surged late to earn her diploma over this course and distance, and was available at 4-1 here. Spielzeit settled in seventh, weaved her way through traffic on the far turn and asserted herself to take it by 1 3/4 lengths. The 3-5 chalk Bremusa (Theatrical {Ire}) rallied belatedly to complete the exacta. Sales history: \$120,000 wIng '09 KEENOV; \$147,000 RNA 2yo '11 FTFEB. Lifetime Record: 3-2-0-0, \$21,420. **Click for the [brisnet.com chart](#) or the [video replay](#).**

O-Cloverleaf Farms II Inc. B-Hopewell Investments LLC (KY). T-Kathleen O'Connell.

EASTERN U.S.

Laurel Announces Winter Stakes Schedule:

Pending approval from the Maryland Racing Commission, Laurel Park will stage 11 stakes races during their winter meet, down from 15 as originally planned. The stakes program, which kicks off with the Jan. 28 \$100,000 Dancing Count S. for 3-year-old at six furlongs, is anchored by the GI Barbara Fritchie H. for fillies and mares and the GI General George H. for males, each of which saw its purse boosted by \$50,000 to \$200,000. "We had to cancel four stakes because we got a late start not knowing when the meet would start, but because of that, we were able to raise the purses for all but one of the remaining stakes," said Maryland Jockey Club racing secretary Georganne Hale. She also indicated that daily overnight purses will increase from \$185,000 to \$205,000 beginning with the second condition book Feb. 1. "We will have a purse increase across the board," added Hale. "Some are 10%, others 11%. It will make our purses competitive with Charles Town, Penn National and Parx Racing. Horsemen will not have to go out of town to run because the purse is so much bigger. We are holding our own and this will boost morale, especially on the heels of the fact we will be running the same schedule as a year ago."

• ON THE WORKTAB •

Hollywood Park

Empire Way (Empire Maker), 5f, 1:02.20, 19/25
I'll Have Another (Flower Alley), 6f, 1:12/40, 1/9
Vision in Gold (Medaglia d'Oro), 4f, :49.00, 8/21

Santa Anita

Plum Pretty (Medaglia d'Oro), 4f, :48.80, 18/38
Setsuko (Pleasantly Perfect), 5f, 1:01.00, 13/28
Tapizar (Tapit), 4f, :50.00, 32/38
Thiskyhasnolimit (Sky Mesa), 6f, 1:11.20, 1/11

NTRA REPORT FROM CAPITOL HILL



DOJ OPINION COULD IMPACT HORSERACING

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) released a [letter and related opinion](#) in late December that may have significant implications for U.S. horseracing.

The opinion specifically addresses the legality of intrastate Internet lotteries. It concludes that in-state online lotteries do not violate the Wire Act. The Wire Act is a federal criminal statute that prohibits most forms of sports betting via telephone or the Internet. The opinion is significant for horseracing for at least two reasons. First, it may open the door for a new form of online wagering via state lotteries. Previously, it was believed that by virtue of the Interstate Horseracing Act, horseracing was the only legal form of online wagering. Second, some commentators are interpreting the opinion as an open door for online casino-style gambling. States such as Nevada, New Jersey and California are considering online poker legislation. Proposed federal legislation now before Congress could also expand online wagering to Internet poker.

The NTRA continues to monitor this situation very carefully on behalf of the horseracing industry. We also will continue to work with Congress to ensure that any federal legislative developments in the area of online betting include significant protections for racing.



For more information contact Joe Bacigalupo, director of membership development, (859) 422-2677 or visit www.SupportHorseRacing.org.

CENTRAL U.S.

Yesterday's Results:

8th-FGX, \$45,000, Alw, Opt. Clm. (\$62,500), NW3X, 4yo/up, f/m, a1mT, 1:40 4/5, fm.

- 1--INSTANT STYLE, 119, m, 6, [Forestry](#)--Golden Damsel (SW & GSP, \$241,502), by Gold Token.** (\$140,000 RNA yrl '07 KEESEP). O-John L Wiczorek; B-Avalon Farms Inc (KY); T-Frank R Springer. Lifetime Record: MSP, 28-4-4-6, \$149,514.
- 2--Joyful Victory, 119, f, 4, Tapit--Wild Lucy Black,** by Wild Again. (\$60,000 yrl '09 KEEJAN; \$400,000 2yo '10 FTFEB).
- 3--Bet On the Blue, 119, m, 5, E Dubai--Javana,** by Sandpit (Brz). (\$8,000 2yo '09 FTKFEB). Margins: 3/4, HD, NK. Odds: 9.70, 1.10, 2.60.

Instant Style hadn't had her picture taken since rallying to victory in an Arlington optional claimer in August 2010. Third in Hawthorne's Indian Maid S. Oct. 8, the dark bay came into this contest off an eighth in the Blushing K.D. H. on the Fair Grounds sod Dec. 17. The 6-year-old was content to caboose the field early as even-money Joyful Victory (Tapit) skimmed the rail in fourth. The chalk angled off the fence and had every chance, but Instant Style knifed through inside her and forged ahead to secure a 3/4-length success. **Click for the [brisnet.com chart](#) or the [video replay](#).**



Central report cont.

Turfway Returning to Saturday Afternoons:

Effective with this Saturday's live program, first post time at Turfway Park will return to 1:10 p.m. EST. The decision bring to an end an experiment using a 5:30 p.m. post time. "The evening post did help us reach a different group of customers, but with the most popular import signals clustered in the afternoon hours, the later post had an adverse effect on our in-state outlets and our national simulcast business," said Turfway Park president and CEO Robert N. Elliston. "We have always been willing to try new approaches and we will continue to do look for ways to shake up tradition and create new business." First post Thursdays and Fridays will remain at 5:30. Sunday's racing kicks off at 1:10.



First/Second-crop starters to watch: Thur., January 12

*Sire (Sire's Sire), current farm, 2008 Fee, #foals of racing age/Winners/BlackTypeWnrs * Race #-track, race type, distance, runner, odds (if available)*

EXCLUSIVE QUALITY (Elusive Quality), Journeyman, \$4K, 119/16/1

2-GP, Ocl, 6f, Sassy Q, \$35K OBS APR 2yo, 2-1

FLASHY BULL (Holy Bull), Airdrie, \$10K, 151/19/2

4-MEY, Alw, 7f, Meydan Tiger, \$5K RNA OBS OPN 2yo, 40-1

HARD SPUN (Danzig), Darley, \$50K, 244/28/3

4-MEY, Alw, 7f, Mabroor, \$300K KEE SEP yrl, 20-1

4-GP, Msw, 5fT, Heaven's Song, 12-1

INTEREST RATE (Storm Cat), Ackel T'bred, \$2K, 27/0/0

5-DED, Msw, 5f, +Z Rate, \$4K LTB AUG yrl, 10-1

ISTAN (Gone West), Airdrie, \$10K, 60/7/1

3-FG, Msw, 6f, +Very Lucky, \$40K KEE SEP yrl, 3-1

LATENT HEAT (Maria's Mon), Woods Edge, \$15K, 155/15/1

2-GP, Ocl, 6f, Hot Lady, \$50K OBS MAR 2yo, 6-1

LAWYER RON (Langfuhr), Stonewall, \$30K, 143/15/3

5-DED, Msw, 5f, +Mongol Max, \$100K EAS MAY 2yo, 3-1

SEEKING THE BEST (IRE) (Seeking the Gold), Hill N Dale, \$8K, 69/5/0

3-FG, Msw, 6f, +Drago's Best, \$5K RNA CAN SEP yrl, 5-2



2012 DUBAI INTERNATIONAL RACING CARNIVAL GROUP RACES

Date	Race	Cond.
Jan. 12	G3 Al Maktoum Challenge - R1	1600m (AWT)
Jan. 20	G2 Cape Verdi	1600mT, f/m
Jan. 26	G2 Al Rashidiya	1800mT
Feb. 3	G3 Al Shindagha Sprint	1200m (AWT)
Feb. 9	G2 Al Maktoum Challenge - R2	1900m (AWT)
	G3 UAE 2000 Guineas	1600m (AWT), 3yo
	G3 Firebreak S.	1600m (AWT)
Feb. 16	G2 Al Fahidi Fort	1600mT
Feb. 17	G2 Balanchine	1800mT, f/m

All races open unless otherwise noted

www.dubairacingclub.com



Wednesday's Results:

JANUARY CUP H., HK\$2,400,000 (\$309,038), Happy Valley, 1-11, 3yo/up, 1800mT, 1:48.61, gd.

1--**PURE CHAMPION (IRE)**, 120, h, 5, **Footstepsinthesand (GB)**--Castara Beach (Ire), by **Danehill**. (100,000gns wnlg '07 TATDEC; 250,000gns yrl '08 TATOCT). O-Mr & Mrs Eddie Wong Ming Chak & Kameny Wong Kam Man; B-Dr D Harron; T-Tony Cruz; J-G Mosse; HK\$1,368,000. Lifetime Record: GSW-Ire, GSP-HK, 21-5-3-0, HK\$4,918,535. *Formerly Steinbeck (Ire).

2--**Packing Ok (Aus)**, 114, g, 5, Redoute's Choice (Aus) --Abbadena (Aus), by Runyon (Ire). (A\$480,000 yrl '08 MMMAR). HK\$528,000.

3--**Noble Conqueror (Aus)**, 133, g, 9, Danehill--Target Figure, by Diesis (GB). HK\$276,000.

Margins: HF, 3 3/4 NO. Odds: 5-2, 4-1, 13-1.

Pure Champion, the former Steinbeck who won the G3 Solonoway S. for Michael Tabor and Aidan O'Brien in 2010, couldn't make a dent when sold as a Derby hopeful to Hong Kong interests, but has found better form of late. A neck second in the G2 Jockey Club Cup at Sha Tin Nov. 20, the bay was entering this off a seventh in the G1 Hong Kong Cup Dec. 11, beaten three lengths by California Memory (Highest Honor {Fr}). Forced to cover ground three wide down the backstretch over this unique configuration, Pure Champion stayed on well into the stretch, though wide, and reeled in Packing Ok in the shadow of the post. "I expected him to win today," confirmed trainer Tony Cruz. "He has always had some issues since he came to Hong Kong, he had quarter cracks and a mucous problem, but he is growing out of all those problems now. He is much better and a lot stronger--he's a better racehorse now." Noble Conqueror came home well enough to snag third in his January Cup three-peat attempt. [Click for the HKJC.com chart.](#)



Pure Champion HKJC.com

2012 DUBAI INTERNATIONAL RACING CARNIVAL GROUP RACES

Date	Race	Cond.
Feb. 23	G3 UAE Oaks	1900m (AWT), 3yo, f
Mar. 1	G2 Zabeel Mile	1600mT
	G3 Nad Al Sheba Trophy	2810mT
Mar. 10	G1 Al Maktoum Challenge - R3	2000m (AWT)
	G1 Jebel Hatta	1800mT
	G2 Dubai City of Gold	2400mT
	G3 Burj Nahaar	1600m (AWT)
	G3 Mahab Al Shimaal	1200m (AWT)



SOUTH AMERICA



STRONG U.S. CONTINGENT FOR JOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Eleven United States-based jockeys will participate in the sixth annual Robalca International Jockeys' Championship-Copa Caliente at Hipodromo de Monterrico in Lima, Peru Jan. 24. Edgar Prado and Victor Espinoza, the event's defending champions, as well as returning champions Kent Desormeaux, Joe Bravo and Jose Valdivia Jr. headline a star-studded lineup of some of the top riders from the United States and South America for the international competition. Southern California-based Rafael Bejarano and East Coast-based riders Alan Garcia, Miguel Mena, Luis Contreras, Jesus Castanon and Alex Solis have also been confirmed to participate in the event. Peruvian representatives are Carlos Trujillo, who guided Peruvian-bred Bradock to victory in last season's Gran Premio Latinoamericano in Buenos Aires; and former U.S.-based jockey Victor Fernandez. Argentine-based Edwin Talaverano will also compete. Three-time Breeders' Cup-winning trainer Julio Canani will be honored during the event.

BREEDERS' EDITION AMERICA

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

7th-AQU, \$59,000, Opt. Clm. (\$25,000), NW2X, (S), 4yo/up, f/m, 1m70y, 1:43 1/5, ft.

JUDICIAL LEADER (m, 6, Judge T C--Rosie Is a Leader, by Fit to Fight) Lifetime Record: 38-7-6-6, \$206,884. O-Maggi Moss. B-Thomas B Edwards (NY). T-Chris J Englehart.

4th-FGX, \$41,000, NW1X, 4yo/up, f/m, a1mT, 1:40, fm.

ARTEMUS KITTEN (f, 4, Kitten's Joy--Chianti Red, by Woodman) Lifetime Record: MSP, 8-2-2-1, \$76,388. O/B-Kenneth L & Sarah K Ramsey (KY). T-Michael J Maker. *Full to Lisa's Kitten, SW, \$110,918

8th-LRL, \$37,000, Opt. Clm. (\$40,000-\$35,000), C, 4yo/up, 7f, 1:22 4/5, ft.

FORDANGSHORE (g, 5, Forest Danger--Shorewalk Drive, by Formal Gold) Lifetime Record: 11-5-3-0, \$145,970. O-Michael J Trombetta & Ted Julio. B-McKee Stables, Inc (KY). T-Michael J Trombetta. *\$68,000 yrl '08 KEESEP; \$130,000 2yo '09 OBSMAR.

6th-LRL, \$31,000, NW1X, 4yo/up, a1 1/16m, 1:45 4/5, ft.

NINTH CLIENT (g, 6, Malibu Moon--Bird Cage, by Kris S.) Lifetime Record: GSP, 46-7-8-4, \$194,445.

O-Manfred Roos & John Rigattieri. B-Marylou Whitney Stables (KY). T-John Rigattieri.

6th-CTX, \$26,300, 1-10, NW2L, 4yo/up, 7f, 1:27 3/5, ft.

PERFECT SLAM (BRZ) (g, 5, Grand Slam--Impulsada {Arg} {SP-Arg}, by Ringaro) Lifetime Record: 11-2-2-3, \$63,100. O-Michael S Harrison. B-Haras Old Friends Ltda (BRZ). T-Michael Lee Weeks. *1/2 to Leggera (Brz) (Vettori {Ire}), SW & GSP-Brz.

9th-TAM, \$17,200, NW1X, 4yo/up, f/m, 7f, 1:25, wf.

ISLAND BOUND (m, 5, Speightstown--Indy Mood for Luv {MSP, \$134,365}, by A.P. Indy) Lifetime Record: 15-3-4-2, \$72,983. O-Robert T Manfuso. B-Nursery Place (KY). T-Ian R Wilkes. *\$90,000 RNA wIng '07 KEENOV; \$95,000 RNA yrl '08 KEESEP.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Smart Forest, f, 3, **Forest Wildcat--Just Smart**, by Smart Strike. CTX, 1-10, 4 1/2f, :54 2/5. B-New Farm (NJ).

Muffins Magic, g, 4, **Double Honor--Muffer's Pet**, by On to Glory. CTX, 1-10, 4 1/2f, :53 4/5. B-Black Oak Farm (KS).

D'or's Powerstroke, g, 4, **Ford Every Stream--Soxie d'Or**, by Tour d'Or. FGX, 1-11, (S), 6f, 1:11 4/5. B-Linda Anne Brown & Farrell Fresh (LA).

Time Marches On, f, 4, **Leading the Parade--Timeleigness**, by Sir Raleigh. AQU, 1-11, (C), 6f, 1:13. B-Roy S Lerman (FL). *1/2 to Light Up the Town (Citidancer), MSP, \$259,751; Lavish Numbers (Polish Numbers), SW, \$105,727; and Behaving Badly (Pioneering), GISW, \$749,224.

LEADING SIRES BY 2011 NORTHERN HEMISPHERE GRADE/GROUP 1 WINNERS (through Dec. 31) standing in U.S. and Europe

Stallion	Sire	G1 Winners
Galileo (Ire)	Sadler's Wells	10
Montjeu (Ire)	Sadler's Wells	8
Dubawi (Ire)	Dubai Millennium (GB)	3
Dynaformer	Roberto	3
Giant's Causeway	Storm Cat	3
High Chaparral (Ire)	Sadler's Wells	3
Mr. Greeley	Gone West	3
Oasis Dream (GB)	Green Desert	3

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