



**Buying horses at auction?**

**Get the Nicks Auction app:**

Download on the  **App Store**

© 2014 Werk Thoroughbred Consultants, Inc.

## FOR BUYERS OF UP, AFTERCARE PRIORITY #1

By Lucas Marquardt

Ten years ago, Jan Vandebos considered herself an outsider when it came to horses. She had ridden a few times and liked them enough, but that was about it. But a decision to learn the ins and outs of riding and



**Up**

Laura W. Donnell

horsemanship--spurred after meeting her future husband Bob Naify, a longtime owner and breeder--changed everything.

Now, Vandebos is a headlong enthusiast of all things equine. She operates the California-based RanJan Racing with Naify, and last week made headlines by landing Keeneland January's \$2.2

million topper **Up (Ire)** (Galileo {Ire}), who sold in foal to War Front. Vandebos also rides jumpers and does dressage, and with a background in journalism, writes for Thoroughbred trade publications and websites in California.

Perhaps most impressive, though, is that Vandebos has built herself into a one-woman retirement program who has re-trained about 30 horses from her and Naify's operation for second careers. And that, said Vandebos, has indeed changed everything.

"I developed a love of horses late in life, and it's been a great gift for me," said the 56-year-old. "It's great that we got a fancy mare and we'll love her [Up] to death, but we love all of our horses whether they were good or not. They're all special." **Cont. p3**



From the desk of...

## BILL OPPENHEIM

## GALILEO TOPS BY 2014 ABC RUNNERS

When you see that Coolmore's top sire, Galileo, had 66 black-type horses (BTH) last year, of which 50 were graded/group stakes horses (GSH) ([click here](#)), it's not surprising he's also the leading 2014 North American or European sire of APEX ABC Runners. To review, a horse becomes an ABC Runner (meaning A Runner, or B Runner, or C Runner) by recording earnings among the top 8% of runners, in the year, in one of the five jurisdictions in which earnings are tallied: North America (US + Canada); Great Britain/Ireland (traditionally collected together by Weatherby's); France; Germany; and Japan. **Cont. p12**

## DUBAI RACING COVERAGE

sponsored by



**Stonehatch**

INSURANCE SPECIALISTS



[www.stonehatch.com](http://www.stonehatch.com) • [info@stonehatch.com](mailto:info@stonehatch.com) • +44 (0) 20 3397 5520

## AN EXERCISE WORTH REPEATING

Sheikh Mohammed Khaleel Ahmed's **Anaerobio (Arg)** (Catcher In the Rye {Ire}) will face nine others as he looks to successfully defend his title in the G2 Al Fahidi

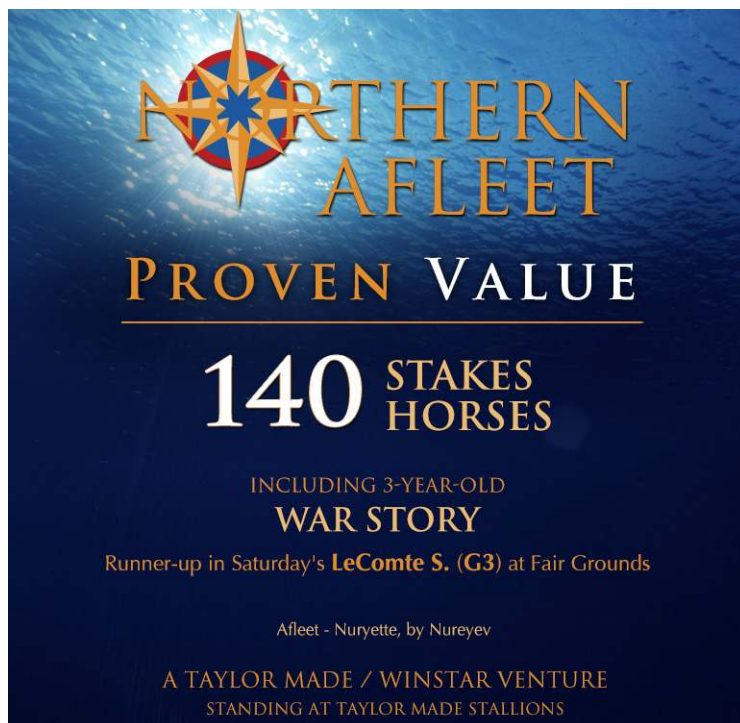


**Red Ray**

Liesl King

Fort S., the featured event on the third meeting of the Dubai International Racing Carnival tonight at Meydan.

The 7-year-old entire has made half of his 26 career starts at Meydan and was the easy winner of a seven-furlong handicap two weeks prior to his 3/4-length defeat of Mshawish (Medaglia d'Oro) in this event last winter. He was third two starts later behind his stablemate Vercingetorix (SAf) (Silvano {Ger}) in the G1 Jebel Hatta S. over 1800 meters and will be having his first run since finishing better than 10 lengths behind Just a Way (Jpn) (Heart's Cry {Jpn}) in the G1 Dubai Duty Free S. Mar. 29. **Cont. p15**



**NORTHERN AFLEET**

**PROVEN VALUE**

**140 STAKES HORSES**

INCLUDING 3-YEAR-OLD **WAR STORY**

Runner-up in Saturday's **LeComte S. (G3)** at Fair Grounds

Afleet - Nuryette, by Nureyev

A TAYLOR MADE / WINSTAR VENTURE  
 STANDING AT TAYLOR MADE STALLIONS

# IN THIS ISSUE



## WHO'S #1? NEW YORK'S #1!

Congratulations to G3 LeComte S. winner and NY-bred **INTERNATIONAL STAR**, co-#1 on the Derby points list

### New York. Why Breed Anywhere Else?



518.587.0777 • [www.nytbreeders.org](http://www.nytbreeders.org)



518.388.0174 • [www.nybreeds.com](http://www.nybreeds.com)



**President:** Barry Weisbord  
[barryweisbord@thetdn.com](mailto:barryweisbord@thetdn.com)  
[@barryweisbord](https://twitter.com/barryweisbord)

**Sr. V.P. and Co-Publisher:** Sue Finley  
[suefinley@thetdn.com](mailto:suefinley@thetdn.com) [@suefinley](https://twitter.com/suefinley)

**V.P., International Operations:** Gary King  
[garyking@thetdn.com](mailto:garyking@thetdn.com) [@garykingTDN](https://twitter.com/garykingTDN)

#### EDITORIAL

[editor@thetdn.com](mailto:editor@thetdn.com)

**Editor-in-Chief:** Jessica Martini  
**Managing Editor:** Alan Carasso  
**Senior Editor:** Steve Sherack  
**Racing Editor:** Brian DiDonato  
**Associate Editor:** Justina Severni  
**Associate Editor:** Christie DeBernardis  
**Assistant Editor:** Heather Likins  
**Assistant Editor:** Ben Massam

#### ADVERTISING

[advertising@thetdn.com](mailto:advertising@thetdn.com)

**Director of Advertising:** Alycia Borer  
**Art Director:** Lia Kusch  
**Sr. Ad Coordinator/Dir. of Distribution:** Sarah K. Andrew  
**Advertising Designer:** Amanda Crelin  
**Advertising Assistant:** Amanda Foster  
**Social Media Strategist:** Nichola Henry

#### CUSTOMER SERVICE

[customerservice@thetdn.com](mailto:customerservice@thetdn.com)

**Dir. of Customer Service:** Vicki Forbes

#### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

**Director of IT:** Robert Williams  
[robertwilliams@thetdn.com](mailto:robertwilliams@thetdn.com)

#### WORLDWIDE INFORMATION

**International Editor:** Kelsey Riley  
[kelseyrriley@gmail.com](mailto:kelseyrriley@gmail.com)

**Assistant Editor:** Alix Choppin

**Newmarket Bureau, Cafe Racing:**  
Sean Cronin & Tom Frary  
[caferacing@aol.com](mailto:caferacing@aol.com)

60 Broad Street, Suite 100  
Red Bank, NJ 07701  
732-747-8060 | 732-747-8955 (fax)  
[www.thoroughbreddailynews.com](http://www.thoroughbreddailynews.com)  
[www.thetdn.com](http://www.thetdn.com)



## APBs



**Daredevil**  
Coglianese/NYRA

Steve Sherack tracks down the top horses on the sidelines with his popular column. In this edition, Sherack talks to the connections of the speedy **"TDN Rising Star"** **Mean Season** (Henny Hughes), two-time Champion **Beholder** (Henny Hughes), GI Champagne S. winner **Daredevil** (More Than Ready), and Laurel Futurity victor **Cyclogenisis** (Stormy Atlantic).

**Page 6**

## Cape Premier Yearling Sale

The Cape Premier Yearling Sale, which begins today in Cape Town, has a bumper catalogue with the 200 lots on offer in the Cape Town International Convention Centre.



**Lot 111** *Liesl King*

**Page 15**

## Also In This Issue...

More Trouble Ahead for Moody?.....p10  
Investec Oaks Closing Pushed Back.....p18  
NHC Or Bust!.....Regional Report p1

# TODAY'S GRADED STAKES

**EST** 12:40p **Race** Al Fahidi Fort S.-G2, MEY

**Click for** (Amwest.com PPs)

**TV** HRTV



# NORTH AMERICAN NEWS

## FOR BUYERS OF UP, AFTERCARE PRIORITY #1 (cont. from p1)

For Vandebos, that's not just feel-good fluff said for effect. She and Naify have put significant time and resources into making sure their horses are cared for well after their racing careers are over. And because Vandebos and Naify have strict guidelines for themselves, some of those careers don't last long.

"If we don't think our horses are going to be stakes horses, we basically retire them," she explained. "We don't run horses in claiming races."

That, in turn, means a lot of horses coming off the track, even for a boutique breeding operation like theirs. Of the 30 horses she's retrained, many by standout sires like A.P. Indy and Giant's Causeway, she's found "forever homes" for about half of them. The other half, some with injuries that preclude second careers, are kept at Vandebos and Naify's Springtime Farm, an operation located in the Santa Ynez Valley the couple bought so Vandebos could do the work herself.

Vandebos is the only person on the farm who rides the horses, and climbs aboard four or five each day.

The re-training process can take up to eight months for the average horse, and can take much longer for those with injuries.

"We really do re-break them," said Vandebos. "And we do it in a very genteel, kind way. We have a program where they are handwalked, then long-lined or lunged, and then ridden. They get about three hours of turnout, plus we have a vibrating plate, so if they have any injuries coming off the track, that helps with both tendon and bone problems."



**Jan Vandebos**  
Laura W. Donnell

Vandebos still has the first horse she ever retired off the track, the now 16-year-old **Mackelwane**. By Bertrando--who was campaigned by Naify's brother Marshall--Mackelwane wasn't able to find the winner's circle in

five trips to the post, but has become "my best hunter/jumper," said Vandebos.

Other favorites include the 8-year-old **Crazy as a Fox** (Whywhywhy). "We bred him, and I helped deliver him," Vandebos. "He stands at 17.1 [hands], weighs 1450 pounds, and I've rehabbed three times from Lymphingitis." **cont. p4**

# Gr.1 Sale

## DAMS OF Gr.1 WINNERS FOR AS LITTLE AS 15,000gns



**GREEN ROOM** dam of **TOGETHER FOREVER**  
winner of Fillies Mile, Gr. 1 sold for 20,000gns

**2015 CONSIGNORS INCLUDE**  
Darley, Juddmonte Farms, Shadwell Estates, etc.,

**KHELEYF'S SILVER** dam of  
**TIGGY WIGGY** winner of  
Cheveley Park Stakes Gr. 1,  
Lowther Stakes Gr. 2  
sold for 15,000gns

## Tattersalls February Sale

**February 5**  
Broodmares, Fillies/Horses in Training, 2YOs & Yearlings  
featuring the TBA Stallion Parade



Tel: +44 (0) 1638 665931 [www.tattersalls.com](http://www.tattersalls.com)





**Diorella**, a full-sister to Mackelwane, suffered a fractured skull in a freak accident before she ever even made a start, and is another Vandebos helped nurture back to health.

Not all the horses have to overcome such odds, of course, and of those who retired sound, many are now show horses, while several others amateur polo ponies for teams at Stanford University and Cal Poly.

Naturally, one doesn't learn how to train horses overnight, and it took a while before Vandebos felt comfortable handling the job herself.

"When I started riding, and we started taking home horses off the track, I learned from a lot of great people," she explained. "It took about four years before I started doing it on my own. I don't have a lot of fear, and I believe it's because I learned late in life and I learned with these horses while they were growing up. These were horses that Bob and I bred together. I really nurtured them since they were babies and have a bond with them. It probably isn't too smart on my behalf, and I suffered my first injury this year, but I have such a good time with them."

It's a future Vandebos couldn't have foreseen for herself growing up in Santa Barbara, California. A communications major who minored in journalism, Vandebos graduated UCLA, then headed up the coast to San Francisco where she worked for TCI Media, a cable-television group. Unbeknownst to Vandebos, her future husband sat on the board of the company.

"When we met, we started talking about interconnects and cable systems," she laughed.

Vandebos was working for the Fang family, who owned the San Francisco *Independent* and *Examiner*, when she left 10 years ago to start her own small publishing house. She authored a few books and wrote articles for trade dailys in California. "It's mostly equine-related work now," she said. "I'll do some things for the CTBA, and I try to help when it comes to giving funds and time to certain equine charitable organizations."



Up (left), Frank Taylor and Cambiocorsa  
Laura W. Donnell

One of the horses that made Vandebos really fall in love with Thoroughbred racing was **Cambiocorsa** (Avenue of Flags). Owned in partnership by RanJan with Leatherman Racing, Cambiocorsa was nearly unbeatable on Santa Anita's downhill course. She won a pair of graded stakes and three other black-type events, and banked over \$500,000. **cont. p5**

**MANY SONS of TIZNOW were GRADED STAKES WINNERS AROUND TWO TURNS AT 3**

AMERICAN LION  
COLONEL JOHN  
DA' TARA  
GEMOLOGIST  
etc.

*...but only one of those was BRILLIANT enough to be a Graded Stakes-Winning Sprinter at 2.*

FIRST 2-YEAR-OLDS RACE IN 2015

**AMERICAN LION**

**DARBY DAN**  
Contact Ryan Norton. (859) 254-0424  
TIZNOW / STORM TIDE, BY STORM CAT  
\$5,000 S&N

# TOP WORLD RANKINGS

**Lankan  
Rupe**



**Terravista**

**EQUAL WORLD'S TOP RATED SPINTERS**

**WORLD'S TOP THREE SPINTERS**

1. LANKAN RUPEE (AUS)
1. TERRAVISTA (AUS)
3. CHAUTAUQUA (AUS)

**WORLD'S TOP SPINTER (Fillies & Mares)  
APPEARANCE (AUS)**

**WORLD'S EQUAL THIRD BEST RACEHORSE  
& WORLD'S SECOND TOP MILER  
ABLE FRIEND (AUS)**

## BUY AUSTRALIAN

  
**AUS HORSE**  
*The Spirit of Winning*

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



Vandebos and Naify bought out their partners when it came time to send Cambiocorsa to the breeding shed, and the now 15-year-old has rewarded their faith. Three of her first four foals are stakes winners and the fourth is a Grade I performer. The first foal was the Grade II winner **Schiaparelli** (Ghostzapper), followed by the Grade I-placed **Vionnet** (Street Sense), the Grade II winner **Moulin de Mougín** (Curlin), and last year's 3-year-old SW **Alexis Tangier** (Tiznow). Both Moulin de Mougín and Alexis Tangier are on holiday at present, but are set to rejoin trainer Richard Mandella in the coming weeks.

That Cambiocorsa's first four foals were all fillies has ensured a strong broodmare band for RanJan for years to come.

"We love 'Cambi,' and our goal was to have four or five really terrific mares, which we now have in her daughters," said Vandebos.

RanJan has most of its horses with Mandella, but also has a few with trainer Mike Puype.

"We like both of them very much and have good relationships with them," said Vandebos. "Richard's a great guy, and he always does the right thing for horses and owners. If a horse doesn't have it, he's always very honest and tells us right away. He doesn't waste a lot of time, and he understands breeding and breeding programs, which is great."

RanJan currently has nine horses in training, including five 3-year-olds.

While the primary focus has been breeding to race, RanJan will expand its role as a commercial seller, said Vandebos.

"We won't ever sell 'Cambi' or her daughters--we love them too much--but we will probably sell some of their offspring as yearlings," she said.

That's a gameplan that includes Up, the Classic-placed half-sister to Dutch Art (GB) who was acquired at January through advisor Frank Taylor of Taylor Made Farm.

"Up is the first mare we bought since buying a Danehill mare privately about 7 or 8 years ago," Vandebos explained. "We don't typically buy--we breed--but we had looked for a Galileo [mare] for a few years. Frank brought this mare to us, and I just couldn't resist it. I really didn't think I'd go that high, but I loved her in the ring, I loved her page, I loved her walk. I fell in love with her and Bob agreed, and we decided to buy her and add her to the band." **cont. p6**



**Vandebos on the farm**  
Laura W. Donnell

**“ I don't know of any other *Unbridled's Song* that had the kind of ability GRAYDAR did ”**

-Jeff Siegel



**GRAYDAR**



For his part, Taylor said it's been a pleasure working with the RanJan partnership. "Bob and Jan are ideal owners because they know their horses and understand the business very well," he said. "Jan is a great horsewoman, and Bob is great businessman. They make a great team. Their horses well-being is always the primary concern."

Up will board at Taylor Made in Kentucky, along with Cambiocorsa and her daughters Schiaparelli and Vionnet, who are now both retired. "We'll keep all our commercial mares in Kentucky," said Vandebos.

There are, she laughed, some other, less commercial mares in Kentucky, too. "We have seven open mares at Taylor Made, mostly between 13 and 16," she said. "If their progeny did something we'd possibly breed those, but most of those will just live out their lives there. People say that we have to let these mares go, but as long as we're breaking even, we're happy. Hopefully, the new mares will offset the cost of the old ones. I know it's a little strange, but it works for us."

Vandebos views mare retirement through the same lens as racehorse retirement, and while she readily admits that her and Naify are in a financial position many breeders don't enjoy, she's adamant that if racing hopes to remain relevant, aftercare will have to be a priority. And that, she says, starts with the sports' principals.

"If we're going to get new fans on board, we're going to have to make a lot of changes with how we treat the horses when they're done racing," she said. "We need aftercare funds to be taken not just from purses, but from breeders and trainers and jockeys and owners. Everyone who makes money on horses needs to step up to the plate and put money into the aftercare program."

"I came to this late, but have seen a lot of bad cases at the track, and have seen a lot of horses that were discarded when they were done racing--and that stuck with me greatly. Bob and I together vowed that all these horses deserve a second chance. Fortunately, we can afford to do it. But I just don't believe in dumping older horses. I don't believe in dumping older mares. As more owners find out what can happen to these horses when they leave the track and get re-trained, I think people want to do the right thing. I think more breeders and owners are taking responsibility, and that's great to see. I think a lot of people don't mind spending a little bit of money to do that if they know the horses are going to good homes. We all want what's best for the horse."

[t f](#) [CLICK HERE TO SHARE THIS STORY](#) ✉

© Copyright Thoroughbred Daily News.  
 This newspaper may not be reproduced in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, without prior written permission of the copyright owner, MediaVista. Information as to the American races, race results and earnings was obtained from results charts published in Daily Racing Form and utilized here with the permission of the copyright owner, Daily Racing Form.

## YOU'RE INVITED TO A LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING

**SANTA ANITA PARK – JANUARY 24 • RSVP TODAY!**

Get the latest news from Capitol Hill on federal legislation that will impact horse racing and hear an insider's view of the new Congress by joining NTRA President and CEO Alex Waldrop and NTRA lobbyist Greg Means of the Alpine Group.

**WHEN:** Saturday, January 24  
10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

**WHERE:** Baldwin Conference Room  
(3rd level of Grandstand above Clockers' Corner)

**WHAT:** Join us on the morning of Cal Cup Day at beautiful Santa Anita Park for a discussion about federal issues that impact the horse racing and breeding industry.

Q & A follows.

Limited Availability  
 RSVP to the NTRA's Barbara Fossum  
[bfossum@ntra.com](mailto:bfossum@ntra.com) • Office: (859) 422-2616 • Mobile: (610) 322-7125

This event is not a fundraiser.



For more information contact Joe Bacigalupo, director of government relations and membership development, (859) 422-2677 or visit [www.SupportHorseRacing.org](http://www.SupportHorseRacing.org).



**HAVE YOU SEEN ME?**

# APB

**Steve Sherack Tracks Down Top Horses on the Sidelines**

### UNBEATEN MEAN SEASON NEARING RETURN

The sprint division is about to get a whole lot more exciting.

Unbeaten **Mean Season** (h, 5, Henny Hughes--Mean Imogene, by Silver Deputy)--last seen posting a jaw-



**Mean Season**  
 Coglianesse/NYRA

dropping six-furlong optional claiming win with a 107 Beyer Speed Figure over the Aqueduct inner last March ([video](#))--recorded his second straight bullet workout, covering four furlongs in :48.40 (1/12) at Payson Park Jan. 18. Owned by Jake Ballis and NBA player

Rashard Lewis, the **TDN Rising Star** was sidelined with a stress fracture to his front left foreleg following that aforementioned 7 1/2-length decision.

cont. p7



**APB cont.**

“Mean Season has been at Payson Park with [trainer] Bill [Mott] since November and has been coming along nicely,” Ballis commented. “Bruce Jackson rehabbed him at his place at Fair Hill and did a wonderful job getting him back to Bill.”

A debut winner at Laurel going a mile for Ginger Punch Racing and trainer Jose Corrales, the chestnut was acquired by longtime friends Ballis and Lewis for \$150,000 as a horse of racing age at the 2013 KEENOV sale. He posted another devastating performance at the Big A in his first attempt for these connections that December.

“Mean Season should be ready to run in about a month or so, but we have no particular race in mind as of today,” Ballis concluded. “Rashard and I are extremely excited to get him back and see how fast he actually is since he has never been asked to run before.”

[t f](#) [CLICK HERE TO SHARE THIS STORY](#)

**CHAMP BACK WITH MANDELLA**

Spendthrift Farm’s two-time champion **Beholder** (m, 5, Henny Hughes--Leslie’s Lady, by Tricky Creek)--forced to miss a title defense in the 2014 GI Breeders’ Cup Distaff as well as a trip to the sales ring for the Fasig-Tipton November sale due to a fever--has returned to Hall of Fame trainer Richard Mandella’s Santa Anita base.



**Richard Mandella & Beholder**  
*Sherackatthetrack*

“Richard [Mandella] said that she’s doing great, and that she’s filled out and has continued to develop,” Spendthrift Farm General Manager Ned Toffey commented.

Beholder mostly jogged and did a little bit of galloping under the supervision of Julie Adair-Stack in Chino, California. The six-time Grade I winner made three starts in 2014, most recently annexing Santa Anita’s GI Zenyatta S. for the second time Sept. 27.

“Their impression was that she looks better than ever,” Toffey continued. “But she just got back there and is galloping. There’s no target [for her return] right now. We just want to get her going and see where we are. She’s still a bit away from a breeze.”

After winning the 2012 GI Breeders’ Cup Juvenile Fillies and adding the following year’s Distaff, it’s no secret where the half-sister to GI CashCall Futurity winner and leading young Spendthrift sire Into Mischief (Harlan’s Holiday) will be aiming for in late October at Keeneland.

Florida Thoroughbred Farm Managers’, Inc.

**“HORSEMEN HELPING HORSEMEN”**

**Annual Charity Auction of No-Guarantee Stallion Seasons**



Auction Preview Friday, January 16th

**Auction goes LIVE on January 21st,**

**Auction Ends at 8:00 pm, EST,**

**Friday, January 23rd**

**[www.starquine.com](http://www.starquine.com)**

“It’s Breeders’ Cup and work backwards,” Toffey said of her projected 2015 campaign. “Maybe some of the same races that we pointed for last year, too. We’ll have to play it by ear a little bit and see how she does coming back.”

[t f](#) [CLICK HERE TO SHARE THIS STORY](#)

**DAREDEVIL POINTING FOR SWALE**

**Daredevil** (c, 3, More Than Ready--Chasethewildwind, by Forty Niner), a head-scratching last of 11 at odds of 5-2 in the GI Breeders’ Cup Juvenile at Santa Anita Nov. 1, is likely to kick off his sophomore campaign in the seven-furlong GII Swale S. at Gulfstream Park Feb. 28.

The Let’s Go Stable and WinStar Farm colorbearer, an ultra-impressive winner of Belmont’s GI Champagne S. in the slop Oct. 4, returned to the worktab with a three-furlong bullet in :36.53 (1/6) at Palm Beach Downs Jan. 17.

“He’s doing well,” Let’s Go Stable’s Bryan Sullivan confirmed. “He went by himself in his first three-eighths of a mile breeze back on Saturday. [Trainer] Todd [Pletcher] was very happy with the way he did it. He’s progressing nicely.”

Sullivan continued, “I think the idea is to use the Swale to get a gauge on where he’s at, and if he performs the way we think he can, we’ll look at one of the Grade I preps for the [Kentucky] Derby. He’ll most likely just have two prep races if that’s the route that we decide to go. We’re going to take it week by week at this point, though.”

The half-brother to GI Donn H. and Breeders’ Cup Dirt Mile winner Albertus Maximus (Albert the Great) ran to the money in his six-furlong debut in the Belmont mud Sept. 13, then returned in style on quick notice to add the one-turn mile Champagne. The \$260,000 KEESOP yearling graduate failed to land a blow after exiting from post 10 while making his two-turn bow at the Great Race Place.

“It’s puzzling,” Sullivan said of Daredevil’s Breeders’ Cup performance.

NEW FOR 2015

# ITSMYLUCKYDAY

RECORD-BREAKING  
G1-WINNING  
MILLIONAIRE

■ Won Saratoga's prestigious **Woodward S. (G1)**  
in 2014, earning a **108 Beyer**

■ **Gulfstream track record-setter at 3:**

Won Holy Bull S. (**G3**) in 1:41.81, handing  
champion Shanghai Bobby his first defeat

■ **One of the fastest 3yos of his crop:**

Paired **2 3/4 Ragozins** before February

*Available for inspection.*

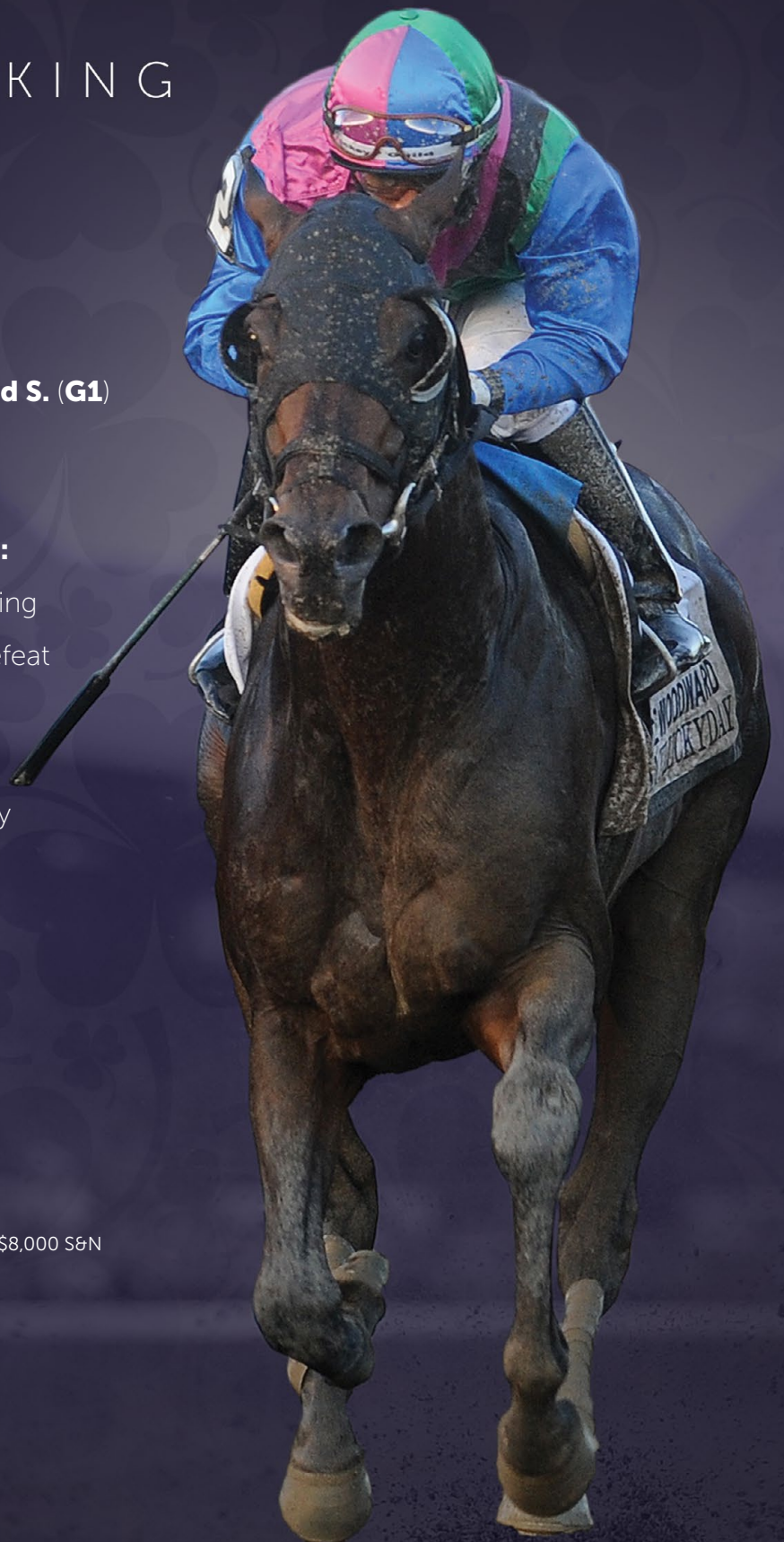
Call Des, Mark, or Brian to schedule  
your appointment today.

ITSMYLUCKYDAY

Lawyer Ron – Viva La Slew, by Doneraile Court • FEE: \$8,000 S&N

  
**SPENDTHRIFT**

The Breeders' Farm  
859.294.0030 • [www.spendthriftfarm.com](http://www.spendthriftfarm.com)





"We threw a lot at him in a short amount of time," Sullivan continued. "It was three big races probably too close together as well as shipping across the country. I think that caught up with us a bit, and in the end, even though American Pharoah scratched out, it was still a very competitive field. It just wasn't his day, but he came out of it perfect."

[t f CLICK HERE TO SHARE THIS STORY](#) ✉



LGS principals Bryan Sullivan (left) and Kevin Scatuorchio lead Daredevil into the Belmont winner's circle  
*Coglianesse/NYRA*

**FAVORABLE FORECAST FOR CYCLOGENISIS**

Matt Schera's **Cyclogenisis** (c, 3, Stormy Atlantic--Mighty Renee, by Maria's Mon)--off since going a perfect two-for-two in the grassy Laurel Futurity Sept. 27 ([video](#))--continues to come along since having a chip removed last fall.

"Unfortunately, he had a small chip [around his knee] right after the Laurel race," Schera revealed. "We had it taken out right away--it was a very clean chip, so it shouldn't bother him. He should be fine."

Schera continued, "He's with Bill Recio in Ocala and he's galloping right now. As long as everything goes well, we'll send him back to [trainer] George Weaver and we'll hopefully have him racing by April or May at the latest."

A sharp debut winner over the Saratoga grass Aug. 18, the full brother to Gili Sorrento S. victress Mighty Caroline ran to his 2-5 odds in the Laurel Futurity, unleashing a serious turn of foot to win by 5 3/4 promising lengths, stopping the clock for 5 1/2 furlongs in 1:01 4/5. *cont. p9*



**Cyclogenisis**  
*Jim McCue/MJC*

**PAYNTER**  
awesome heart

RECENT HASKELL (G1) WINNERS

<b>RAGOZIN</b>	<b>PAYNTER</b>	<b>1 1/2</b>
	VERRAZANO	2 1/4
	BAYERN	3 1/2
	LOOKIN AT LUCKY	3 3/4

COMPARED TO 2014 3-YEAR-OLDS

<b>BEST RAGOZIN</b>	BAYERN	1
	SHARED BELIEF	2
	CALIFORNIA CHROME	3 1/2
	TONALIST	4 1/2

AWESOME AGAIN'S  
**FASTEST SON**  
SINCE GHOSTZAPPER

(859) 873-1717  
www.WinStarFarm.com

**WINSTAR** Awesome Again - Tizso, by Cee's Tizzy  
Fee: \$25,000 S&N



"I thought it was incredible," Schera said of the performance. "His acceleration and the way he just pulled away from the other horses, it looked like he did it fairly easily. It was ultra-impressive."

The \$500,000 GIII Penn Mile S. at Penn National in late May has been penciled in as a possible target, with a prep race beforehand, although Schera isn't ruling out a potential change in surface moving forward.

"I was just down in Ocala on Saturday," Schera commented. "He's bigger and stronger than he was before. According to Bill Recio, who also had him as a baby, his head is more in the game now, too. We're really excited for him to come back. We're not ruling out dirt for him, either."

Schera added that his promising 4-year-old **Race Day** (Tapit)--an eye-catching 8 1/2-length winner over subsequent Florida Sunshine Millions Classic S. hero Sr. Quisqueyano (Exclusive Quality) in a Gulfstream optional claimer Dec. 21--will make his stakes debut in the GIII Fred Hooper S. at Gulfstream Feb. 7. The gray, who earned a gaudy 109 Beyer that day, was purchased by Schera for \$285,000 as a horse of racing age at the 2014 KEENOV sale.

"Hopefully, this is just the beginning," Schera said.

For more on Schera & Cyclogenesis, click [here](#) for a TDN 'In Sharper Focus.'

[t f](#) CLICK HERE TO SHARE THIS STORY

UPCOMING MAJOR NORTH AMERICAN STAKES

Date	Race	Track
Jan. 24	GII Forward Gal S.	GP
	GII Holy Bull S.	GP
	GII Santa Monica S.	SA
	GIII Tampa Bay S.	TAM
	GIII Hutcheson S.	GP
Jan. 31	GIII Connally Turf Cup	HOU
	GI Las Virgenes S.	SA
	GII Arcadia S.	SA
	GII Palos Verdes S.	SA
	GIII Endeavour S.	TAM
	GIII Sam F. Davis S.	TAM
Feb. 1	GII San Vicente S.	SA
Feb. 7	GI Donn H.	GP
	GI Gulfstream Park Turf H.	GP
	GII Robert B. Lewis S.	SA
	GII San Antonio S.	SA
	GII San Marcos S.	SA
	GIII Withers S.	AQU
	GIII Toboggan S.	AQU
	GIII Fred W. Hooper H.	GP
	GIII Suwannee River S.	GP
	Feb. 14	GII Santa Maria S.
GII Barbara Fritchie S.		LRL
GIII El Camino Real Derby		GG
Feb. 15	GIII Hurricane Bertie S.	GP
	GIII Bayakoa S.	OP
Feb. 16	GII Buena Vista S.	SA
	GIII Southwest S.	OP

**ANALYZE THIS.**

**G1 WINNING MILLIONAIRE**  
BY DIXIE UNION

**WON** FUTURITY S. (G2) & REMSEN S. (G2) AT 2

**WON** \$1,000,000 ARKANSAS DERBY (G1) AT 3

FULL BOOK IN 2014 WITH 151 MARES BRED.

FIRST FOALS ARRIVE IN 2015.

**OVERANALYZE**

WINSTAR 859.873.1717 www.winstarfarm.com

DIXIE UNION - UNACLOUD, by UNACCOUNTED FOR | \$10,000 S&N



**CUOMO PROPOSES NYRA EXTENDER BILL**

*By Mike Kane*

An extender bill proposed by Gov. Andrew Cuomo could stretch New York State's authority over the New York Racing Association for up to one more year.

A provision of the 2012 legislation that allowed the state to take over NYRA says the association must be returned to private control three years after the majority of the public appointees to the Reorganization Board were named. Cuomo's office announced the names of the board members on Oct. 18, 2012. Since the 2012 bill did not specifically address what would happen if NYRA did not go back to private status by Oct. 18, 2015, Cuomo's proposal would assure continuity.

The one-sentence bill memo was included in a budget briefing book released on Jan. 21 - the day Cuomo delivered his annual State of the State address in Albany - and said: "This bill would put into place an extension of the NYRA Reorganization Board in the event a prospective governing structure is not enacted prior to the scheduled termination of the Board."

The Cuomo administration seized control of NYRA in May 2012 after a state Racing and Wagering Board report showed that officials of the beleaguered racing association had overcharged bettors by failing to lower takeout rates on some wagers.

Chaired by Cornell University president David Skorton, the Reorganization Board of 17 people, a dozen of whom were governmental appointees, met for the first time on Dec. 12, 2012 in New York City. At the Dec. 2014 meeting, NYRA President Chris Kay announced that the nation's largest racing association would end the year with a \$1.5 profit, its first time in the black in 13 years. Skorton announced his resignation at the meeting. He is leaving Cornell in June to lead the Smithsonian Institution.

[CLICK HERE TO SHARE THIS STORY](#)

**TDN** **twitter**

**Follow the TDN staff on Twitter**

<a href="#">Kelsey Riley</a>	<a href="#">Brian DiDonato</a>	<a href="#">Steve Sherack</a>
<a href="#">Christina Bossinakis</a>	<a href="#">Justina Severni</a>	<a href="#">Jessica Martini</a>
<a href="#">Christie DeBernardis</a>	<a href="#">Alan Carasso</a>	<a href="#">Heather Likins</a>
<a href="#">Ben Massam</a>	<a href="#">Mike Kane</a>	<a href="#">Barry Weisbord</a>
<a href="#">Sue Finley</a>	<a href="#">Gary King</a>	<a href="#">Nichola Henry</a>

[Thoroughbred Daily News](#)

**TAKE CHARGE...**

WINSTAR  
www.winstarfarm.com

These two words have been in more headlines than any in recent years, proving that this is the HOTTEST DIRT FAMILY IN THE WORLD.

By sire of sires A.P. INDY, Take Charge Indy has the hottest dirt pedigree in the world, TOP and BOTTOM.

G1 WINNER

**TAKE CHARGE INDY**

TOP & BOTTOM

[CLICK HERE](#)  
to view his interactive brochure

A.P. Indy - Take Charge Lady, by Dehere | \$20,000 S&M



## GALILEO TOPS BY 2014 ABC RUNNERS

(cont. from p1)

The accompanying table lists those top 8% thresholds (highlighted) for 2014: \$63,525 for North America; about €40,000 in France; about £20,000/€25,000 in Great Britain/Ireland respectively; about €18,000 in Germany and the equivalent of \$124,000 in Japan (note how steeply that has fallen-- about 35% since 2008). With the exception of Great Britain, the idea is that ABC Runners may also be described as 'break-even-or better' racehorses, meaning that even C Runners at least cover their training costs ([click here](#) to see the APEX earnings thresholds table).

Galileo sired a total of 60 ABC Runners in 2014, putting him well clear from a group of six other NA/EU sires with 43-47 ABC Runners each ([click here](#) to see the tables of top sires of ABC Runners in 2014).

Coolmore's Kentucky branch, Ashford, stands #2, Giant's Causeway (47), and the top North American sire of 'break-even-or-better' runners. The Irish National Stud's Invincible Spirit comes next, with 46, followed by three North American sires which all had their first foals in 2006: Gainesway's Tapit (45), tops on the 2014 North American General Sire List; and Darley's Medaglia d'Oro and WinStar's Speightstown (44 each). What a sire crop that was: Lane's End's Candy Ride (37, tied for ninth) is also an F2006 sire, as is Japan's King Kamehameha, the second-best sire in Japan, behind only Deep Impact. Ramsey Farm's Kitten's Joy (43), whose first foals arrived in 2007, rounds out the seven NA/EU



**Galileo**  
Coolmore

sires with 40+ ABC Runners in 2014.

Another Lane's End sire, City Zip, and WinStar's Tiznow are tied for ninth with Candy Ride, with 37 ABC Runners each last year, followed by a four-way tie, with 35 ABC Runners in 2014, to round out the top 15: Darley's Dubawi (at Dalham Hall, GB) and Shamardal (Kildangan, IR); Airdrie, then WinStar's deceased Harlan's Holiday; and Juddmonte's Oasis Dream. Dubawi and Shamardal both had their first foals in 2007, like Kitten's Joy; Harlan's Holiday and Oasis Dream both had their first foals in 2005.

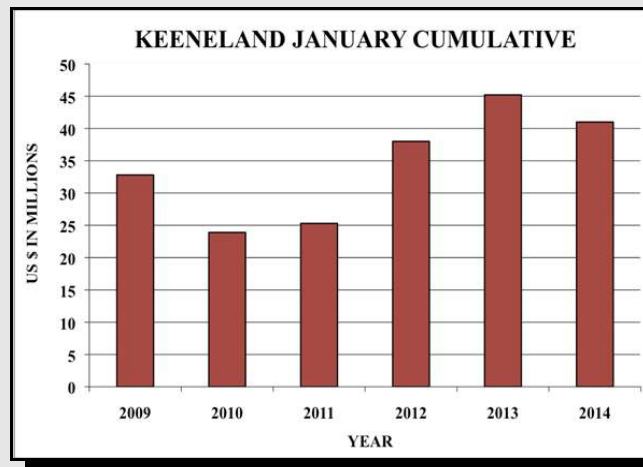
Splitting the top 15, ranking eighth, is Lane's End's Curlin, with 38 ABC Runners in the year his oldest crop were 4-year-olds. Curlin racked up some pretty impressive statistics in 2014: he sired 103 winners and the earners of more than \$7.8-million, over \$2.6-million in front of the next best third-crop sire (first foals 2010), including 12 black-type winners (BTW), and 24 BTH, of which 15 were GSH. Curiously, though, Curlin has only ever sired two graded stakes winners (GSW): Palace Malice, who won the GI Belmont S. in 2013 and the GI Met Mile last year; and the filly Moulin de Mougins, who won the GI John C. Mabee S. at Del Mar last year. **cont. p12**

## Weekly Sales Ticker

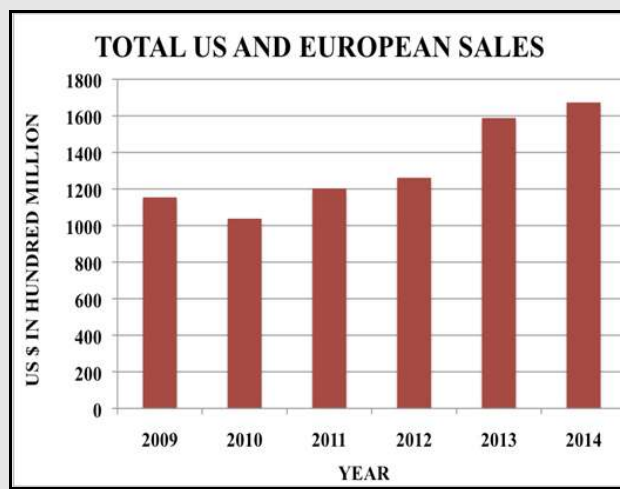
by Bill Oppenheim

"The key metrics were down at Keeneland January – gross down 14%, average down 7%, clearance rate from the catalogue down 5.7% - so there's always the temptation to declare it a bad sale. Yet when you looked at the pages of the 17 fillies or mares and six short yearlings which brought \$200,000 or more, you were more likely to say to yourself "that was expensive enough" than "that was cheap". In other words, as usual, it looked like the good stuff was bringing 'full retail'."

– Bill Oppenheim



YEAR	CAT	RING	SOLD	%W/D	%S/R	%S/C	GROSS	AVG
2015	1,610	1,267	948	21.3%	74.8%	58.9%	\$35,305,500	\$37,242
2014	1,590	1,277	1,027	19.7%	80.4%	64.6%	\$41,025,700	\$39,947
2013	1,893	1,477	1,105	22.0%	74.8%	58.4%	\$45,207,300	\$40,912
2012	1,594	1,250	1,003	21.6%	80.2%	62.9%	\$37,991,900	\$37,878
2011	1,827	1,406	1,021	23.0%	72.6%	55.9%	\$25,250,350	\$24,731
2010	1,753	1,345	982	23.3%	73.0%	56.0%	\$23,895,100	\$24,333



YEAR	CAT	RING	SOLD	%W/D	%S/R	%S/C	GROSS	AVG
2014	35,501	29,532	23,347	16.8%	79.1%	65.8%	\$1,673,244,266	\$71,668
2013	32,641	27,331	21,942	16.3%	80.3%	67.2%	\$1,588,286,765	\$72,386
2012	32,395	26,845	20,937	17.1%	78.0%	64.6%	\$1,261,600,684	\$60,257
2011	33,435	27,452	20,966	17.9%	76.4%	62.7%	\$1,202,881,458	\$57,373
2010	36,030	29,765	21,600	17.4%	72.6%	60.0%	\$1,037,956,006	\$48,054
2009	36,270	28,875	21,381	20.4%	74.0%	58.9%	\$1,154,378,927	\$53,991

Data compiled by Brianne Stanley



But the likelihood is this oversight is liable to be rectified in 2015, because there are some key pointers suggesting Curlin's shortage of GSW is temporary.

Though his A Runner Index so far is a good-without-being-great 1.86, he has a very strong 2.95 Index for B Runners; 2.02 for C Runners; and a combined 2.21 Index for ABC Runners. That means that, besides his proven good horses, there are plenty of others by Curlin knocking on the door. Moreover, as you know, we also measure sires' ABC indexes at given ages: for 2-year-olds;

3-year-olds; 4-year-olds; and 5-year-olds and up.

Through the end of 2014 Curlin's three crops of 2-year-olds rated 1.47; his two crops of 3-year-olds rated 2.21; and his single crop of 4-year-olds rated 3.08. They look very much like Giant's Causeway's ratings: better older. Curlin already has a total of 14 BTW and 30 BTH, of which 17 are GSH, yet only two GSW so far. We expect that gap to close in 2015. Curlin just could be in for a really big year; he was already ranked 12th on the TDN North American General Sire List last year ([click here](#)), so it wouldn't take much for him to make the top ten.



**Curlin**  
*Lane's End*

Speaking of 2014 NA-EU third-crop sires, Hill 'n' Dale's Midnight Lute was a respectably distant second behind Curlin, with 23 ABC Runners last year. Tiz Wonderful, sold to South Korea, had 21 ABC Runners last year, followed by Darley's New Approach (18); Ashford's Majestic Warrior (15); and Spendthrift's Into Mischief (14), though with far smaller foal crops, and fewer runners to date (therefore much higher indexes) than his contemporaries.

Among F2011 sires with their first 3-year-olds, the 2014 NA-EU leader by number of ABC Runners is Ireland's Giltown Stud's Sea The Stars (18), ahead of the F2011 group's runaway leader by A Runner Index, WinStar's Pioneer of The Nile, who had a total of 16 ABC Runners last year. France's Haras de la Cauviniere's Le Havre came next with 13, ahead of Coolmore's Mastercraftsman (11) and Taylor Made's Old Fashioned (9). Two horses are tied for the lead among F2012 Freshman Sires, with seven 2014 ABC Runners each: England's Highclere Stud's Paco Boy; and WinStar's Super Saver, number two Freshman Sire of 2014, in a narrow miss to Quality Road. Three freshman sires had five 2014 ABC Runners each: Ashford's Munnings; England's Whitsbury Manor Stud's Showcasing; and the Haras de Bonneval's Siyouni, a son of Pivotal. Lookin At Lucky, Lope de Vega, Rip Van Winkle, and Zebedee had four ABC Runners each from their first crops in 2014. *cont. p14*

**First crop weanlings sold for**

**\$280,000**

*The highest price of all the Freshman Sires in Book 1*

**\$240,000**

*2nd-highest price of all the Freshman Sires in Book 1*

**\$190,000**

*Highest price of all the Freshman Sires at Fasig-Tipton*



**“probably one of the most beautiful horses that I've bred”**

*Alex Venneri, on the \$280,000 colt*

**STAY THIRSTY**

**The leading earner by BERNARDINI**

• ASHFORD • ASHFORD • ASHFORD •

**COOLMORE®**

• ASHFORD • ASHFORD • ASHFORD •

A M E R I C A

Aisling Duignan, Dermot Ryan, Charlie O'Connor, Andre Lynch, Adrian Wallace or Scott Calder. Tel: 859-873-7088. Fax: 859-879 5756.





**LEADING NA-EU SIREs of 2014 ABC RUNNERS**

<u>Sire</u>	<u>1st Fls</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>Farm</u>	<u>2014 ABC</u>
Galileo	2003	Ir	Coolmore	60
Giant's Causeway	2002	Ky	Ashford	47
Invincible Spirit	2004	Ir	Ir Nat'l Stud	46
Tapit	2006	Ky	Gainesway	45
Medaglia d'Oro	2006	Ky	Darley	44
Speightstown	2006	Ky	Winstar	44
Kitten's Joy	2007	Ky	Ramsey Farm	43
Curlin	2010	Ky	Lane's End	38
Candy Ride	2006	Ky	Lane's End	37
City Zip	2003	Ky	Lane's End	37
Tiznow	2003	Ky	Winstar	37
Dubawi	2007	GB	Darley	35
Harlan's Holiday	2005		Dead	35
Oasis Dream	2005	GB	Banstead Manor	35
Shamardal	2007	Ir	Kildangan	35

**Other Sires with 25+ ABC Runners in 2014 (Alphabetically)**

Any Given Saturday	2009	S. Korea		26
Bernardini	2008	Ky	Darley	28
Broken Vow	2003	Ky	Pin Oak	26
Cape Cross	2001	Ir	Kildangan	25
Congrats	2008	Ky	Winstar	25
Dansili	2002	GB	Banstead Manor	26
Distorted Humor	2000	Ky	Winstar	26
Ghostzapper	2007	Ky	Adena Springs	31
Hard Spun	2009	Ky	Darley	25
Lemon Drop Kid	2002	Ky	Lane's End	32
Malibu Moon	2001	Ky	Spendthrift	30
Pivotal	1998	GB	Cheveley Park	26
Sky Mesa	2005	Ky	Three Chimneys	30
Smart Strike	1998	Ky	Lane's End	33
Street Cry	2004		Dead	31
Street Sense	2009	Ky	Darley	28
Successful Appeal	2002	Ky	Walmac	26
Teofilo	2009	Ir	Kildangan	32
War Front	2008	Ky	Claiborne	28
Wildcat Heir	2007		Dead	26

**Japanese Sires with 30+ ABC Runners in 2014**

Deep Impact	2008	Jp	by Sunday Silence	117
King Kamehameha	2006	Jp	by Kingmambo	82
Heart's Cry	2008	Jp	by Sunday Silence	54
Daiwa Major	2009	Jp	by Sunday Silence	50
Neo Universe	2006	Jp	by Sunday Silence	50
Symboli Kris S.	2005	Jp	by Kris S.	46
Gold Allure	2005	Jp	by Sunday Silence	40
Manhattan Café	2004	Jp	by Sunday Silence	38
Kurofune	2003	Jp	by French Deputy	37
Fuji Kiseki	1996	Jp	by Sunday Silence	34
Zenno Rob Roy	2007	Jp	by Sunday Silence	33
Stay Gold	2003	Jp	by Sunday Silence	32

**APEX EARNINGS THRESHOLDS 2008-2014 (US\$)**

**A RUNNERS (top 2%)**

	<u>NA</u>	<u>GB/IR</u>	<u>FR</u>	<u>GER</u>	<u>JPN</u>
2014	134,655	98,055	91,375	65,259	325,293
2013	131,410	85,511	92,160	61,617	348,782
2012	121,200	76,204	88,961	58,096	425,698
2011	113,114	74,070	91,784	61,095	424,320
2010	105,458	76,283	90,413	52,730	398,758
2009	107,370	87,814	98,113	58,465	506,275
2008	111,303	96,887	98,810	64,348	455,511

**B RUNNERS (next 2%)**

	<u>NA</u>	<u>GB/IR</u>	<u>FR</u>	<u>GER</u>	<u>JPN</u>
2014	92,290	57,337	68,833	39,845	210,376
2013	90,760	50,997	65,405	41,680	224,614
2012	87,750	43,663	64,593	33,775	264,781
2011	78,578	40,998	65,450	35,712	274,450
2010	74,103	43,106	61,877	30,950	256,982
2009	76,728	48,816	67,102	34,162	336,355
2008	79,300	52,610	71,736	35,547	324,139

**C RUNNERS (next 4%)**

	<u>NA</u>	<u>GB/IR</u>	<u>FR</u>	<u>GER</u>	<u>JPN</u>
2014	63,525	31,916	47,385	23,307	124,053
2013	62,256	27,684	46,386	21,246	129,200
2012	59,420	23,459	44,582	19,104	159,750
2011	53,400	22,250	44,914	19,986	161,191
2010	51,070	23,868	43,266	17,421	149,815
2009	51,880	26,424	46,396	20,039	215,288
2008	53,492	30,067	48,126	20,854	192,817



**Bill Oppenheim cont.**

Though we calculate the ratings the same way, Japan's racing setup is quite different from that in North American and Europe, so comparisons among the three regions are not always valid. Twelve sires had 30 or more ABC Runners in 2014, but Deep Impact is totally in a class of his own, with no fewer than 117 ABC Runners last year--almost twice as many as Galileo. King Kamehameha is a distant second, with 82, followed, again at a respectful interval, by Heart's Cry (54), Daiwa Major, and Neo Universe (each 50). Nine of the 12 Japanese sires with 30+ ABC Runners last year were sons of Sunday Silence.

**AFTERTHOUGHT:** While we applaud the idea of international rankings and we all appreciate Longines's beautifully targeted sponsorship at the top of the game, I think a little clarification about what we're actually looking at could be in order. To say Just A Way is the "World's Best Racehorse" and his contemporary Epiphaneia is the world's second-best racehorse makes an assumption which could be debated. Just A Way's 130 rating in the G1 Dubai Duty Free may have been the world's single best performance of 2014, and Epiphaneia's 129 for his four-length win in the G1 Japan Cup may have been the second-best performance, but 'best performances' do not necessarily equate to 'best racehorses'.

Historically North America and Europe have been the true 'major leagues' in horse racing. Look, I would be as strong an advocate as anyone of the rise of international racing-- Australian racing, Japanese racing, Dubai, Hong Kong-- it's all good, in fact it's great. But let's not let our enthusiasm run away with us. I know it's a two-mile race, but please note, in the last two runnings of the G1 Melbourne Cup, nine of the top ten finishers were bred in Europe. Sorry, but Treve was the best horse in the world last year, and Australia and Kingman, in either order, were the best 3-year-olds, along with California Chrome, Bayern, and Shared Belief; and, by the way, Toast of New York, Tonalist, and Wicked Strong didn't even hit the board at the Eclipse Awards. All those American-raced 3-year-olds of 2014 stay in training this year, by the way, which is fantastic, along with Treve, the Niarchos Breeders' Cup duo of Main Sequence and Karakontie, and Palace Malice. Should be some really good racing this year.

[t f](#) [CLICK HERE TO SHARE THIS STORY](#)

Bill Oppenheim may be contacted at [bopp@erb.com](mailto:bopp@erb.com) (please cc TDN management at [suefinley@thoroughbreddailynews.com](mailto:suefinley@thoroughbreddailynews.com)) follow him on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/billoppenheim](http://www.twitter.com/billoppenheim).

**By Bernardini and out of the top broodmare Marozia**



**GR.1 PERFORMER AT 2 YEARS**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Maiden, 6f., Saratoga by 5½ lengths.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Hopeful S.-Gr.1, 7f., to Boys At Tosconova.

**GR.1 WINNER AT 3 YEARS**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Travers S.-Gr.1, 10f., like Bernardini.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Jim Dandy S.-Gr.2, 9f., by 4 lengths, like Bernardini.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Gotham S.-Gr.3, 8½f., by ¾ lengths.

**GR.1 WINNER AT 4 YEARS**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Cigar Mile H.-Gr.1, 8f., from dual Breeders' Cup winner Groupie Doll.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Jockey Club Gold Cup-Gr.1, 10f., beaten a head by Flat Out with Fort Larned third.

**STAY THIRSTY**

**2015 FEE: \$10,000**

· ASHFORD · ASHFORD · ASHFORD ·

**COOLMORE®**  
A M E R I C A

· ASHFORD ·





**AN EXERCISE WORTH REPEATING**

*(cont. from p1)*

“Anaerobio is as honest as the day is long. He’s a genuine, capable horse and he’s doing well, he should run well again,” trainer Mike de Kock commented on his website.

The Al Fahidi Fort also marks the international debut of the De Kock-trained **Red Ray (SAf)** (Western Winter), winner of four of his 10 starts in South Africa. Campaigned by prominent owners Ingrid and Markus Jooste, the 4-year-old defeated Horse of the Year Legislate (SAf) (Dynasty {SAf}) in the G3 Cape Classic and has been placed three times at the highest level, including a third in the 2013 Cape Guineas and runner-up efforts when well bet in the Cape Flying Championship last January and in the Golden Horse Sprint in May.

“Red Ray has a big reputation and he’s showed us his talent in work, he is doing very well,” de Kock stated. “He steps into international Group 2 company after being shipped from South Africa and all our new arrivals have been short of their best, but if he reproduces his work he will contest the finish, we are hoping for a big run.”

Godolphin’s **Safety Check (Ire)** (Dubawi {Ire}) steps up in class off an impressive first-up victory in a course-and-distance handicap at the opening meeting of the Carnival and picks up the services of stable jockey William Buick. All but one of his six career tallies have come at tonight’s trip. The Mick Halford-trained **Eastern Rules (Ire)** (Golden Snake) looks up against it on paper, but his one Meydan appearance resulted in a good-looking victory over a next-out winner and **Zahee (NZ)** (Dylan Thomas {Ire}) last February.

[t f CLICK HERE TO SHARE THIS STORY](#)

**Thursday, Meydan, UAE, post time: 9:40 p.m.**

**AL FAHIDI FORT -G2, \$250,000, NH 4yo/up, SH 3yo/up, 1400mT**

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER
1	1	Shaishee	Indian Charlie	Hanagan	Al Muahiri
2	2	Safety Check (Ire)	Dubawi (Ire)	Buick	Appleby
3	3	Encipher	Elusive Quality	Ffrench	Al Raihe
4	4	Modern History (Ire)	Shamardal	De Sousa	Al Muhairi
5	5	Anaerobio (Arg)	Catcher in the Rye (Ire)	Soumillon	De Kock
6	6	Zahee (NZ)	Dylan Thomas (Ire)	Smith	De Kock
7	7	Red Ray (SAf)	Western Winter	Marcus	De Kock
8	8	Ertijaal (Ire)	Oasis Dream (GB)	O'Neill	Al Raihe
9	9	Eastern Rules (Ire)	Golden Snake	Foley	Halford
10	10	Decathlete	Medaglia d'Oro	Barzalona	bin Ghdayer

All horses carry 126 pounds.

**CAPE TOWN PLAYS HOST TO PREMIER SALE**

*by Liesl King*

Now a familiar landmark on the South African Sales calendar, the Cape Premier Yearling Sale once again has a bumper catalogue oozing with quality with the 200 lots on offer in the Cape Town International Convention Centre today and tomorrow representing 31 local and three international stallions.

The first viewing day is usually a quiet affair, but the minute the doors opened on Tuesday morning, consignors were swept off their feet with the high demand for horses to be paraded. CTS Chief Operating Officer Adrian Todd attributes this to the exceptional selection of horses on offer this year.

“The quality of the thoroughbred yearlings on offer has increased year on year and this year’s draft is truly exceptional,” he explained. “The two CTS \$500,000 races plus the Million Dollar bonus has attracted a lot of interest and we have buyers from eight countries, as well as a large contingent of local buyers here already.”

He continued, “Our extensive promotion of the sale seems to have paid off. Since the doors opened yesterday, it has been extremely busy and we look forward to an exceptional sale.”

The first foals from three outstanding racemares, including the much-awaited Var colt out of the globetrotting River Jetez (SAf) (Jet Master {SAf}) are some of the standout lots in the catalogue.

Globetrotting River Jetez retired with 12 victories, including a victory in G2 Balanchine S. at Meydan, a heart-stopping second in the G1 Singapore Airlines International Cup and a third in the G1 Beverly D. S. On offer from Avontuur Thoroughbred Farm as Lot [32](#) is her Var colt named Riverine (SAf).



**Lot 32** *Liesl King*

Imperious Star (SAf) (Navarone) followed in the footsteps of her superstar mother G1 J & B Met winner Imperious Sue (SAf) (Northern Guest), when she added her own Grade 1 victory, the Woolavington S. over 2000 meters at Greyville to her already impressive resume. Imperious

Star retired with five victories from 1200 meters to 2000 meters, showcasing her incredible versatility. Nutfield Stud consigns her first foal, a bay colt by Trippi named Double Appeal (SAf) as Lot [157](#).

By Galileo (Ire) out of the Danehill mare Freya (Aus), the impeccably bred Sidera (Aus), winner of the GIII Fillies Mile and the Listed Starling S., is another with a first foal on offer. Klawervlei Stud consigns her bay filly by Captain Al (SAf) as lot [49](#). **cont. p16**



There are also a number of yearlings with illustrious siblings in the catalogue, none more so than lot [3](#), a Western Winter half-sister to Champion 3-Year-Old Colt Vercingetorix (SAf) (Silvano {Ger}). Vercingetorix won the GI Daily News 2000, before embarking on an international career that included a victory in the



**Lot 3** *Liesl King*

G1 Jebel Hatta S., a second behind Longines World's Best Racehorse winner Just A Way (Jpn) (Heart's Cry {Jpn}) in the G1 Dubai Duty Free S. and a third to the classy Designs on Rome (Ire) (Holy Roman Emperor {Ire}) in the G1 Audemars

Piquet Queen Elizabeth II Cup in Hong Kong. With former Buckram Oak star Western Winter sadly deceased, buyers have been snapping up the last of his offspring, and lot [3](#) is sure to garner her fair share of attention.

Joey Ramsden's stable star, Act Of War (SAf) is currently considered the best 3-year old colt in the country. On offer from Drakenstein Stud as lot [54](#), is his half sister by Seventh Rock (Aus) (Rock of Gibraltar {Ire}). The bay filly named Red Granite is also a half sister to Subastador (SAf) (Tara's Halls {SAf}) and Luna De Victoria (SAf) (Victory Moon {SAf}). Her paddock value alone is enormous, and Ramsden will have some serious competition, should he wish to add her to his stable.

With five victories on the trot, including the G2 Choice Carriers Championship and the G2 Sceptre Stakes, the title of top three-year-old filly in the Cape firmly belongs to Cold As Ice, who incidentally is also trained by Ramsden. Trippi, who currently heads the South African Sire log, is the sire of her half-sister, Live Life (SAf) consigned by Avontuur Thoroughbred Farm as lot [79](#).

With half-brother by Dynasty (SAf) consigned by Highlands Farm Stud as lot [152](#), Trip To Heaven (SAf) (Trippi)'s victory in the G2 Merchants S. on Sansui Summer Cup Day could not have come at a better time. The bay colt named Lainesberg Blue (SAf), is also a half-brother to the G1 Premier's Champion S. winner The Hangman (SAf) (Jallad) and is sure to



**Lot 152** *Liesl King*

have catalogues waving.

Last, but certainly not the least worth noting, are three yearlings by international sires. Klawervlei Stud has two such yearlings on offer as lot [102](#) and lot [159](#).

Lot 102 is an unnamed bay filly by the top sire and sadly recently deceased High Chaparral (Ire) out of the Belong To Me mare Attesa (Aus). While Attesa raced in the States, winning her maiden in seven starts for trainer Graham Motion, her half-sister Delta Form (Aus) (Marsday {Aus}) is no stranger to these shores, having won the 2000 G1 Summer H. (now called the Sansui Summer Cup). He also won the GII Del Mar H. and was twice Grade I placed in the U.S. while trained by Jenine Sahadi for Team Valor and Gary Barber.

Lot 159 is also a bay filly, this time by champion miler Canford Cliffs (Ire) out of Intelligent (First Samurai), an unraced half-sister to Drakenstein Stud's sire Philanthropist (Kris S.).

New Approach (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}) has been a revelation at stud and his offspring have been snapped up at sales across the globe. Highlands Farm Stud offers a bay colt by New Approach out of the unraced Redoute's Choice (Aus) mare Come Sunday (Aus) as lot [111](#). The colt is from the well-known female family of Lady Broadhurst (SAf), Announce (SAf) and Daphne Donnelly (SAf).

The sale commences at 6 p.m. tonight with an opening ceremony at 5:30 p.m. Click [here](#) for the full catalogue.

[t f](#) [CLICK HERE TO SHARE THIS STORY](#)

CAPE PREMIER YEARLING SALE							
Withdrawals (as of Wednesday evening)							
25	28	29	106	110	114	132	139 188

### *Avontuur Draft Catches the Eye at CPYS*

*By Liesl King*

When Pippa Mickleburgh first arrived at Avontuur Stud, situated at the foot of the Helderberg Mountains 25 years ago, she had no idea that she was about to embark on the adventure of a lifetime. Though if she understood the local language, Afrikaans, she might have had an inkling of what lay in store: Avontuur translates to Adventure.

Those days, the Stud was considered boutique by comparison to the rest of the Western Cape stud farms with only eight mares and no resident stallion. Today Mickleburgh is home to 47 broodmares, two top sires in Var (Forest Wildcat) and Oratorio (Ire) (Danehill), around 150 hectares of vineyards and an award-winning winery.

The broodmare band at Avontuur is not what anyone would consider large, but what they lack in numbers, they make up for in quality, and their 2015 Cape Premier Yearling Sale draft is considered to be one of the standout drafts of the sale. **cont. p17**



Conducted by the Cape Thoroughbred Sale Company (CTS), the CPYS is in its fourth year and while the consignors initially found it challenging to prepare horses this early in the year, they have certainly mastered the art.

Of the 13 yearlings consigned by Avontuur, six are by resident stallion Var, who to this day is the most expensive horse in training ever to be purchased for stud in South Africa.

Reigning champion sprint sire and the sire of recently crowned joint-third best horse in the world, Variety Club (SAf), Var produces consistently beautiful horses capable of performing up to a mile.

The standout of the Avontuur draft and a Var of course, is Lot 32, the first foal out of multiple Group winning mare River Jetez (SAf) (Jet Master{SAf}). Winner of the G1 J & B Met at home, River Jetez also embarked on a successful international campaign, which included a victory in the G2 Balanchine S. in Dubai, runner-up efforts in the G1 Singapore Airlines International Cup and the G1 Dubai Duty Free S. and a third in the G1 Beverly D. S.

Mickleburgh considers her colt to be an exceptional individual.

“He is medium sized and while I would have loved him to be 2 cm taller, one has to remember that he is a first foal,” she commented. “I couldn’t be happier with him and I think he will be an early individual. He has that star quality, that x-factor.”

Another yearling that has attracted a considerable amount of interest is Lot 200, a chestnut colt by G1 Dubai Duty Free S. hero Jay Peg (SAf) (Camden Park) out of the South African stakes-placed Argentinian-bred mare Muamba (Arg) (Pure Prize).

“He will be the last horse in the ring Friday night, but he is a really smart individual. He moves beautifully with a lovely elastic stride,” explained Mickleburgh. “Of course we are fortunate to be able to offer a half sister to the star 3-year-old filly, Cold As Ice (lot 79). Being by Trippi, who currently tops the South African sire log, she is a quality individual and is likely to be very precocious.”

Cold As Ice recently cantered home lonely in the G2 Sceptre S. over 1200 meters, winning easily by 2 1/4 lengths and is the current favourite for the 1600-meter G1 Majorca S. on the J & B Met undercard at Kenilworth Jan. 31. Hence buyers have been queuing to have a look at her half-sister named Live Life.

A Majorca winner herself, Avontuur’s star broodmare, Sarabande (SAf) (Goldmark{SAf}), has a filly, by sire of the moment Dynasty (SAf), on offer as Lot 37. The Sept. 15 foal is a half-sister to four winners from five to race, including MGSW Chesalon (SAf) (Fort Wood), SW La Volta (SAf) (Var) and G1SP Valeta (SAf) (Var).



River Jetez

Liesl King

“She is an outstanding physical specimen, but will be more of a classic horse”, Mickleburgh says.

Sire of 2014 Horse of the Year and G1 Vodacom Durban July winner Legislate (SAf) and superstar racemare Beach Beauty (SAf), Dynasty’s offspring are all the rage and seem to get better and better as they get older.

The Avontuur draft has been beautifully prepared and Mickleburgh attributes it to taking the time needed, while catering to each individual yearling’s needs without being too intrusive.

“You need to allow them to still be horses,” she suggests. “Ours grow up in large paddocks and locking them up in a stable would have a detrimental effect. So I work around that. You have to watch the colts, as they tend to play rough, and therefore I had several large rings built, where the colts can be close to each other, with enough space to run, but without the danger of injuring one another.”

The rest of Avontuur’s yearlings will be consigned at the CTS March Sale and the Bloodstock SA National Yearling Sale in April, but for now the spotlight is firmly on their outstanding draft of 13 yearlings that can be viewed daily at the Cape Town International Convention Centre, in the heart of city.

[t f](#) [CLICK HERE TO SHARE THIS STORY](#)

### MORE TROUBLE AHEAD FOR MOODY?

Trainer Peter Moody, who is under scrutiny from Racing Victoria stewards for a cobalt positive, could be facing action by Racing NSW officials after a horse under his care tested positive on two occasions for ibuprofen, a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug, *Racing and Sports* reports.



**Peter Moody**  
*Racing and Sports*

The horse in question is House of Hingis (NZ) (Swiss Ace {Aus}), who tested positive for the substance from a pre-race urine sample at Rosehill Gardens Nov. 15 and from a pre-race blood sample and post-race urine sample gathered prior to competing in a race at Warwick Farm Nov. 28. House of Hingis finished fifth at Rosehill and third at Warwick Farm.

Samples taken from all Moody runners in his Randwick stables Dec. 16 by Racing NSW Senior Official Veterinarian Dr Craig Suann and the Racing NSW Chief Steward Ray Murrhy did not return any positive results.

Moody, who is currently inspecting horses in New Zealand ahead of this weekend’s yearling sales, has been provided with reports from a Racing Victoria compliance team of an inspection of his Caulfield stables as well as a report from Nathan Hayward, chief investigator for the Racing NSW Investigation and Surveillance Unit, relative to the queries into the source of the ibuprofen.

An inquiry into the findings will be conducted at Racing NSW offices Feb. 2.

[t f](#) [CLICK HERE TO SHARE THIS STORY](#)



## OAKS CLOSING DATE PUSHED BACK

Entries for this year's G1 Investec Oaks will close Tuesday, Apr. 14, six weeks later than the original date in early March, officials at Epsom Downs announced yesterday. The G1 Investec Coronation Cup will also



**2014 Investec Oaks winner**  
**Taghrooda** *Racing Post*

close that day, a week later than originally programmed.

"We have felt for some time that the first week of March is early enough in this day and age for us to be seeking entries for a race of this nature in three months' time, particularly given how fillies can be slow to

come to hand in the spring," stated Andrew Cooper, head of racing at Epsom. "The extra time now available to connections before the entry deadline will mean they are better placed to judge their filly's potential for the Investec Oaks. The March closing date was purely historic, and we think it may have been costing us entries in recent years, particularly from overseas. To keep things simple for everyone, it makes sense to close the Investec Coronation Cup on the same day."

Trainer Ed Dunlop, who won the fillies' Classic with Ouija Board (GB) in 2004 and with Snow Fairy (Ire) in 2010, welcomed the news.

"As a trainer, in an ideal world, I would love the race to close even later but that is not possible," he commented. "It doesn't make a great deal of difference in terms of the trials, as the closing date is still before the trials start taking place. However, the change of date could certainly help in attracting more entries from overseas, for example from France, where the trials' season gets going much earlier in the year. The only fillies you would lose from the entries are those who were being aimed at the race and have a setback between March and April, or are disappointing in their work."

The 2015 Investec Oaks, set for Friday, June 5, carries purse money of £450,000, up from £425,000 in 2014. Accordingly, the entry fee has risen to £1,500 from £1,325 last season.

[t f](#) [CLICK HERE TO SHARE THIS STORY](#)

## Saturday, Trentham, New Zealand

### HARCOURTS THORNDON MILE-G1, NZ\$200,000 (US\$151,480),

3yo/up, 1600mT

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	WT
1	18	Pure Champion (Ire)	Ftspsinthsnd (GB)	Tinsley	O'Slvn/Sct	128
2	1	Nashville (NZ)	Darci Brahma (NZ)	Riddell	Bulls	128
3	4	Puccini (NZ)	Encsta de Lgo (Aus)	Johnson	McKays	126
4	10	Soriano (NZ)	Savabeel (Aus)	Htchns	Rogersons	123
5	8	Julinsky Prince (NZ)	Darci Brahma (NZ)	Parkes	Auret	123
6	14	Diademe (NZ)	Savabeel (Aus)	Bosson	Bkr/Frsmn	121
7	7	Ringo (NZ)	Fastnet Rock (Aus)	Innes	Price	121
8	16	Silverdale (NZ)	Castledale (Ire)	Colgan	Autridge	121
9	6	Mighty Solomon (NZ)	Darci Brahma (NZ)	K Myers	Latta	121
10	9	Benzini (Aus)	Tale of the Cat	R Myers	Bulls	121
11	2	Emerald Queen (NZ)	O'Reilly (NZ)	DuPlessis	Kndy/Frlng	119
12	5	Slice of Class (NZ)	Guillotine (NZ)	Johnson	Zmrmn	119
13	15	Abidewithme (NZ)	Redte's Chce (Aus)	DuPlessis	Bridgmn	118
14	17	Kisses (NZ)	Iffraaj (GB)	Thornton	Campins	118
15	11	Ponderosa Miss (NZ)	High Chaparral (Ire)	Harris	Hllnshead	117
16	3	Miss Three Stars (NZ)	Prfctly Ready (Aus)	Johnston	Beckett	117
17	13	Miss Pelear (NZ)	Mr. Nancho (Arg)	Stherley	Hawtins	117
18	12	Genius (NZ)	Savabeel (Aus)	Allpress	Bkr/Frsmn	117



## IN OTHER NEWS...

A Daily Roundup of Racing Articles in Non-Industry Media

**Meet The Dream Merchants** *Selling thoroughbred racehorses on auction is as much about the horses as it is about the people. The Cape Thoroughbred Sales team have been hard at work for months in co-ordinating and organising the logistics and hospitality for this week's Cape Premier Yearling Sale which is expected to be attended by over 1000 visitors from South Africa and across the globe. **Sporting Post***

**Racing Victoria must protect horses' welfare over cobalt doping** *As Racing Victoria heads into the second week of the cobalt saga, sadly we seem to be missing the most important point—horse welfare. **Patrick Bartley, The Sydney Morning Herald***

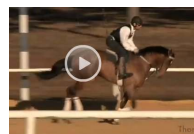
# ThoroStride

Filming Virtual Inspections.  
At the Sales. On the Farm. At the Track.

visit us @ [www.thorostride.com](http://www.thorostride.com)



Sale videos/Monthly farm videos



Great way to promote your horse



Keep clients informed on progress of their horses

Now booking for all upcoming sales

NHC OR BUST!

By Steve DeCaspers

For the past several weeks, I have reminded myself frequently that the NTRA/DRF National Handicapping Championship (NHC)--the first I've ever qualified for--is "just another handicapping tournament." It's like the scene from Hoosiers when coach Norman Dale measures the height of hoop and distance of the foul line to calm his awestruck players as they arrive at the big arena for the state final. "I think you'll find these are the exact same measurements as our gym back in Hickory," says Dale.



twitter.com/@SteveDeCaspers

With a dozen Vegas tournament starts under my belt, including multiple Pick The Ponies Invitational tournaments at the Las Vegas Hilton and the \$1000 Buy-In Horseplayer World Series last year, I should be immune to the size, scope and

hype that goes with the NHC. And I was...until Monday.

That's when tournament host Treasure Island announced that it would, for the first time ever, offer future wagering on the outcome of the NHC, and I saw my name on the board at 100-1.

I don't care what Gene Hackman's tape measure says, this is NOT just another handicapping tournament!

While the NHC Future Wager is a cute gimmick (I'll be booking instead of betting the \$10 my mom sent), it's among a number of things you simply won't find in other tournaments throughout the year. Others include:

- 1. Prize Money. While exact figures won't be announced until right before the start, last year's NHC Final paid out \$1.6 million, with \$750,000 to winner Jose Arias. It's reasonable to assume that this year may hit \$2 million. There's no other mythical bankroll tournament that comes close.
2. Competition. Players cannot "buy in" to the NHC. Each of my opponents earned their entry via a qualifying tournament over the last 12 months, meaning they had enough skill to win something to get here. As I look through the names of the well-known contestants--including several former NHC champions, prominent public handicappers and ESPN personality Kenny Mayne--I almost forget that I, too, earned my way here, placing fifth out of 324 entries in a tournament on www.nhcqualify.com in October.

- 3. Media. Coverage of the NHC has exploded over the last several years. Twitter will be abuzz throughout the 16th running of the tournament (#NHC16, #NHC2015) and Daily Racing Form has greatly expanded live video updates and interviews. Steve Byk is even originating 'At the Races' from Vegas the second half of this week. And now the TDN has joined the fray, giving me the opportunity to share my quest for handicapping immortality.

The Tournament Format

Officially, the NHC is a three-day handicapping tournament, but it plays more like three separate tournaments due to some format tweaks unique to the NHC, designed to reward consistent play and create drama.

The first two days are much like a typical tournament. Players have 15 \$2 Win/Place bets to make each day from a list of seven designated tracks: Aqueduct, Fair Grounds, Golden Gate, Gulfstream, Oaklawn, Santa Anita and Tampa Bay. Eight of the races will be designated by an NHC committee as "mandatories" and must be bet by all players. The remaining seven bets are known as "optionals" and are made at the player's discretion.

The end of day two is where the first round of drama comes in. Much like "making the cut" in a PGA Tour event, only the top 50 players will move on to Day Three. Players keep their cumulative scores throughout the contest, so the last day effectively becomes a 50-player tournament with 10 optional bets that must be made before 12:30 p.m. Pacific. That's when the third cut occurs, down to the Final 10 players.

The remaining players again carry their bankroll forward to a "Final Table," and face off by betting seven mandatory races designated by the NHC. With small gaps separating the players scores and everyone betting the same races, what was a tournament for handicapping horses soon turns into an exercise in speculative math, game theory and, frankly, handicapping human behavior.

In 2014, NHC runner-up Tony Brice actually picked the winner of the final race, but a late tick down in the odds left him \$1.60 short of first place, a difference in prize money of \$550,000. After the tournament, he told DRF's Peter Fornatale, "I had to go with the horse I loved in the last race, even though I knew it probably wouldn't be enough to win it."

Did Brice make the right decision? Should he have let the price dictate his selection (and ended up with a worse result)? There probably is no right answer. Since the final table only debuted last year, the final-table mindset remains a bit of a mystery, perhaps only truly understood by those fortunate enough to make it.

Cont. p2



## My Strategy

Instead of approaching the NHC with a set of rigid handicapping principles to abide by or a list of “if/then” type rules, I plan to strategize around maintaining a stable mindset throughout the tournament.

Until you experience it, you have no idea how fast things can get out of hand when you cram 500 horseplayers into a ballroom and have them yell and scream at a seemingly infinite number of televisions showing seven different tracks. For me, the most dangerous moment is when the first longshot wins and it feels like half the room had it and I've lost all chance. *My equilibrium is shot! Time to adjust! Time to stab at longshots!*

This time, I will remain steady. Here is my foolproof strategy to keep my emotions stable, my mind focused and my horseplaying skills primed this weekend:

1. **Enjoy Thursday.** I'll do most of my handicapping of the Friday card on Wednesday, the day that I travel to Las Vegas. On Thursday, I plan to capitalize on my newfound appreciation of bicycling and ride for a few hours in the Red Rock Canyon Conservation Area. While many of my opponents will be heads down in the racebook, I'll be clearing my head, getting some much needed exercise and taking in some beautiful scenery. In the afternoon, you'll find me at one of Vegas' fine spas. Let's hope this isn't the high point of my trip.
2. **Ignore My Opponents and the Scoreboard on Friday.** In order to make Friday completely about making good decisions and (hopefully) selecting a few winners, I will be completely self-centered and oblivious to what is going on around me. My wife tells me that I bring this talent to my daily life, so I should have no problems applying it here. Much like the first round of a golf tournament, there is no reason at this early stage to let circumstances influence my play. There will be plenty of time for that on Saturday.
3. **Play Horses I Truly Like.** I know this sounds crazy, but I often find myself making several plays in a tournament on horses I don't really like. Either I let the odds dictate the choice or I've passed on optional races earlier and find myself at the end of a nine-hour day in a windowless ballroom left with the choice of trying to beat a Hollendorfer-Baze favorite in a seven-horse nickel claimer from Golden Gate or taking the longest price in a five-horse classified allowance going down the hill at Santa Anita. From experience, I know that if it comes to this, I will not be part of the final table.
4. **Eat Well.** Although I will be playing plenty of long shots in the tournament, I plan to focus on the chalk when dining out in Vegas. I'm eager to try chef Mitsuo Endo's *izakaya*, *oden*, and *robata*-style dishes at **Raku**, a small off-strip spot that gets the highest praise from even the crabbiest of critics.

Also, it will be impossible not to make a return trip to Jose Andres' **China Poblano** at the Cosmopolitan. I would never have thought to put a Chinese-Mexican menu together, but I'm glad he did! Lastly, for this horse racing fan, a trip to Bobby Flay's **Bobby's Burger Palace** is a must (especially since there isn't one in Chicago yet!). The food will be delicious, but my stubborn failure to include the Flay-owned Dame Dorothy on top of a 37-1 shot I loved in last week's Sunshine Millions Distaff may haunt me throughout the meal.

The NHC is to tournament horseplayers what I imagine the Breeders' Cup is like to horsemen, owners and jockeys. In some ways, you are just happy to be competing at the highest level and simply feel fortunate to be there. On the other hand, you also know that with hard work, intense focus and a little luck, you could be a champion.

I know I'm just supposed to enjoy the moment, but my competitive instincts are beginning to take over. Who cares that I'm 100-1--I just might have a shot!

I'll let you know how things went next week.

*About the author: Steve DeCaspers leads a marketing strategy group at a wireless phone company and lives in Chicago with his wife Bethany and their dog Popeye. He was an assistant editor at the TDN from 1998 to 2001 and is responsible for creating the first "TDN Rising Star" designation.*

[t f](#) [CLICK HERE TO SHARE THIS STORY](#)

THE 16TH NATIONAL HANDICAPPING CHAMPIONSHIP			
TREASURE ISLAND			
FRI-SAT-SUN, JANUARY 23, 24, 25, 2015			
WAGER NUMBER	TEAM	ODDS as of 01/23/2015	WAGER NUMBER
3001	J ARIAS	50/1	3046
3002	J ACCAVALLO	100/1	3047
3003	V ACHILARRE	100/1	3048
3004	A ACIERNO (2)	40/1	3049
3005	P ACOCELLA	100/1	3050
3006	C ADIMANDO	40/1	3051
3007	J AHLWEDE	100/1	3052
3008	T ALEXANDER	100/1	3053
3009	D ALLEN	100/1	3054
3010	J ANDERSON	100/1	3055
3011	A ANTHONY	100/1	3056
3012	R ARROYO (2)	100/1	3057
3013	J ARTHUR	100/1	3058
3014	W ATWELL (2)	40/1	3059
3015	B AUGER	100/1	3060
3016	J BALLARD (2)	40/1	3061
3017	S BARNETT	100/1	3062
3018	P BEHR	40/1	3063
3019	J BEDETTI	100/1	3064
3020	V BENES (2)	50/1	3065
3021	BENES (2)	100/1	3066
3022	BEYCHOK	100/1	3067
3023	BLOOM	25/1	3068
3024	BOSSER (2)	50/1	3069
3025	WIDEN (2)	100/1	3070
3026	D	40/1	3071
3027	D	40/1	3072
3028	D	40/1	
3029	D	40/1	
3030	D	40/1	
3031	D	40/1	
3032	D	40/1	
3033	D	40/1	
3034	D	40/1	
3035	D	40/1	
3036	D	40/1	
3037	D	40/1	
3038	D	40/1	
3039	D	40/1	
3040	D	40/1	
3041	D	40/1	
3042	D	40/1	
3043	D	40/1	
3044	D	40/1	
3045	D	40/1	
3046	G CHUTE	40/1	
3047	J CIANCI	40/1	
3048	S CINGOLANI	40/1	
3049	W COLLIER (2)	40/1	
3050	J CONNORS (2)	100/1	
3051	D CONOVER	40/1	
3052	L CONSTAN	40/1	
3053	J CONTE	50/1	
3054	N COSATO	100/1	
3055	K COX	100/1	
3056	N COX	100/1	
3057	W COX	100/1	
3058	P CRONIN	100/1	
3059	R CROWE (2)	100/1	
3060	J CRUZ-AEDO	100/1	
3061	I CUELLAR	100/1	
3062	D CURRY	40/1	
3063	G DANGELO	100/1	
3064	A DAVENPORT (2)	100/1	
3065	D DECAPERS	40/1	
3066	B DECAUWER (2)	100/1	
3067	S DIAZ	100/1	
3068	A DILTS	25/1	
3069	M DOHENY	40/1	
3070	T DO...	40/1	
3071			
3072			



# TODAY'S INSIGHTS

2nd-GPX, \$48k, Opt. Clm./NW1X, 3yo, f, 6f, post time: 12:59p ET Stonestreet Stables' homebred **PERCHANCE** ([Distorted Humor](#)), who debuted with an easy 1 1/2-length victory at Aqueduct Dec. 14, makes her second trip to the post today for trainer Kiaran McLaughlin. Out of MGISW Dream Rush (Wild Rush), the dark bay filly is a half to GISW Dreaming of Julia (A.P. Indy) and MSW Atreides (Medaglia d'Oro)--both named ☆ **"TDN Rising Stars"** ☆. [Brisnet.com pps](#)

twinspires.com **GET A \$100 SIGN-UP BONUS.**



**ULTIMATE EAGLE** (Mizzen Mast--Letithappencaptain, by Captain Bodgit), winner of the 2011 GI Hollywood Derby, stands at Special T Thoroughbreds in Temecula, California (\$3,500).

● Storm Birdy (Tropical Storm) produced a bay filly Jan. 17.

## American-Bred Winners Abroad

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



Thanks for flying IRT.  
Phone +1 630 377 2300  
Click here to visit [irt.com](http://irt.com)

### IN SOUTH KOREA:

**Finish Blow**, c, 3, **Closing Argument**--B L's Girl (SP), by Master Derby. Seoul, 1-18, Cond. (*\$58k*), 1400m. B-Greg Osterloh (KY). \*1/2 to B L's Sweep (End Sweep), SW, \$184,987; B L's Appeal (Valid Appeal), GSW, \$224,723. \*\*\$46,000 yrl '13 FTKOCT; \$30,000 2yo '14 OBSAPR.

**Aqualitygiftforme**, f, 3, **Exclusive Quality**--Heavenly Gift, by Belong to Me. Busan, 1-18, Maiden (*\$37k*), 1000m. B-Angela M Ingenito (FL). \*Won by nine lengths as the 9-10 favorite. \*\*\$10,000 yrl '13 OBSAUG; \$27,000 2yo '14 BESMAY.

**Hay Queen**, f, 3, **Hold Me Back**--Jack's Touch, by Touch Gold. Seoul, 1-17, Maiden (*\$46k*), 1300m. B-Haymarket Farm LLC (KY). \*1/2 to Presley Boy (Bandini), SW-Per. \*\*\$20,000 yrl '13 OBSAUG; \$37,000 2yo '14 OBSAPR.

SELECT SALES Graduate...Exceeding Expectations

**Yeongung Champ**, c, 3, **More Than Ready**--Word of Mouth, by Saint Ballado. Busan, 1-18, Cond. (*\$53k*), 1300m. B-The Robert & Beverly Lewis Trust (KY). \*Won by five lengths as the 3-10 chalk to take his record to two wins and a second from three starts. \*\*\$12,000 yrl '13 KEESEP.

**Cheon Gu**, c, 3, **Old Fashioned**--So Much Fun, by Speightstown. Seoul, 1-17, Cond. (*\$37k*), 1200m. B-Capistrano Bloodstock LLC (NY). \*\$11,000 yrl '13 FTNAUG; \$25,000 2yo '14 FTMMAY.

**Jinmyeong Lion**, c, 3, **Western Outlaw**--Cuddleskin, by Nabeel Dancer. Seoul, 1-18, Maiden (*\$46k*), 1000m. B-Jerry Rock Ayer (IN). \*Full to Lone Star Cowboy, SW, \$123,441. \*\*\$40,000 yrl '13 FTKOCT; \$28,000 2yo '14 OBSJUN.

**Clean Up Cheonha**, c, 4, **El Corredor**--Loh Collado, by More Than Ready. Seoul, 1-18, Hcp. (*\$83k*), 1800m. B-Dixiana Farms LLC (KY). \*1/2 to La Rambla (City Zip), SP. \*\*\$77,000 yrl '12 KEESEP; \$30,000 2yo '13 OBSJUN.

**Beolmaui Kkum**, h, 5, **Put It Back**--Wild Dixie Gal, by Wild Event. Busan, 1-18, Hcp. (*\$87k*), 1900m. B-Bridlewood Farm (FL). \*Exiting a third in the Korean Grand Prix last time, Florida-bred was winning for the 12th time from 19 outs and took his career earnings to over \$755,000. \*\*SW-Kor. \*\*\*Full to Kkakkaengi, SW-Kor. \*\*\*\*\$6,500 RNA yrl '11 OBSJAN; \$20,000 yrl '11 FTKOCT.

### IN PERU:

**Batul**, f, 3, **Bernstein**--Profumo, by Gone West. Monterrico, 1-16, Cond., 1000m. B-Castleton Lyons & Kilboy Estate (KY). \*\$16,000 wnlg '12 KEENOV; \$20,000 yrl '13 KEESEP.

**Salama**, f, 3, **Desert Party**--Duchess Maggie, by Royal Academy. Monterrico, 1-18, Premio Luis Rodriguez Mariategui-Listed, 1900m. B-Frankfort Park Farm (KY). \*\$20,000 yrl '13 KEEJAN; \$13,000 yrl '13 KEESEP.

**Giant's Lexis**, c, 3, **Giant's Causeway**--Blissful, by Mr. Prospector. Monterrico, 1-16, Cond., 1200m. B-Commonwealth (KY). \*3/4 to Where's That Tiger (Storm Cat), GSP-UAE, \$100,661; and One Great Cat (Storm Cat), MGSP-Eng & SP-Ire. \*\*\$60,000 yrl '13 KEESEP.

**Mi Evita**, m, 6, **Sky Mesa**--Flying Afleet, by Afleet. Monterrico, 1-17, Premio Adolfo Vasquez Pequeno-Listed, 1300m. B-John C Oxley (KY). \*1/2 to Flying Jazz (Jambalaya Jazz), SP, \$179,591; and Queen Hazel (Monarchos), GSP. \*\*\$20,000 RNA wnlg '09 KEENOV; \$17,000 yrl '10 KEESEP.



Congratulations to last week's [JockeyTalk360.com](#) Jockey of the Week James Graham, who won the Gill Colonel E. R. Bradley H. aboard String King (Crowned King) and the Marie G. Krantz Mem. H. aboard Notte d'Oro (Medaglia d'Oro).

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



## INDUSTRY INFO

### NTRA NHC Charity Challenge to be Held Saturday:

The NTRA NHC Charity Challenge will be held Saturday in Las Vegas with proceeds going to Old Friends Thoroughbred retirement facility. Celebrities set to participate in the charity handicapping contest include political commentator James Carville, actress Bo Derek, and former NBA coach Avery Johnson, amongst other. The winner will have \$5,000 donated to Old Friends and another \$5,000 to the charity of their choice. "The NHC Charity Challenge is another exciting new addition to the NHC designed to raise awareness and funds for Thoroughbred aftercare and broaden exposure for the Championship," said NTRA Senior Vice President Keith Chamblin.

### Feb. 1 Deadline for Naming Foals of 2013:

The Jockey Club requests owners and breeders make a valid attempt to name foals of 2013 by Feb. 1 or face a \$100 fine. The Jockey Club has a list of over 46,000 names released from active use online at registry.jockeyclub.com. "You never know when a great name will come to you--whether you are sitting at your computer or in the field with your smartphone--and our online and mobile resources enable you to reserve or claim a name wherever you are," said Matt Iuliano, The Jockey Club's executive vice president and executive director. "The Jockey Club's recently released names list and Online Names Book give you suggestions on names and let you immediately know if they are in use."

## ROOKIES

### First-crop starters to watch: Thursday, Jan. 22

*Sire (Sire's Sire), current farm, 2011 Fee, #foals of racing age/Winners/BlackTypeWnrs \* Race #-track, race type, distance, runner, odds (if available)*

- AFLEET EXPRESS** (Afleet Alex), Gainesway, \$5K, 49/5/0  
7-OP, Aoc, 6f, Chocolate Cherries, \$15K TEX APR 2yo, 20-1
- ESKENDEREYA** (Giant's Causeway), Taylor Made, \$18K, 194/12/0  
8-FG, Msw, 1m, Escalate, \$200K KEE SEP yrl, 8-1
- HOLD ME BACK** (Giant's Causeway), Winstar, \$6K, 153/9/1  
7-OP, Aoc, 6f, Big Red Seven, \$11K KEE SEP yrl, 15-1
- JUSTENUFFHUMOR** (Distorted Humor), McMahon of Saratoga NY, \$3K, 51/1/0  
8-AQU, Msw, 1m, +Justenuffdior, \$9K RNA SAR AUG yrl, 30-1
- KANTHAROS** (Lion Heart), Ocala Stud, \$5K, 74/18/1  
2-GP, Aoc, 6f, Savingtime, 3-1
- MIDSHIPMAN** (Unbridled's Song), Darley, \$8K, 117/19/1  
7-OP, Aoc, 6f, Batten Down Belle, \$18K OBS OPN 2yo, 15-1
- TALE OF EKATI** (Tale of the Cat), Darby Dan Farm, \$15K, 127/15/1  
8-FG, Msw, 1m, Tale of Beaucette, 4-1
- 8-FG, Msw, 1m, Tale of Verve, \$440K KEE APR 2yo, 4-1
- WARRIOR'S REWARD** (Medaglia d'Oro), Spendthrift Farm, \$13K, 173/15/1  
7-OP, Aoc, 6f, Lady Paislee, \$57K KEE SEP yrl, 6-1



### Wednesday Cancellations

PENN NATIONAL  
(weather)

## BREEDERS' EDITION AMERICA

### ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

**8th-TAM, \$23,400**, Opt. Clm. (\$32,000), NW2X, 4yo/up, 6 1/2f, 1:16 4/5, ft.

**PALACE BARISTA** (h, 5, Lido Palace {Chi}--Lady of Prestige, by Unreal Zeal) Lifetime Record: SW, 8-3-1-0, \$74,370. O/B/T-Lynne M Scafe (FL).

**10th-HOU, \$21,000**, 1-20, NW1X, 4yo/up, 6f, 1:11 4/5, ft.

**WILDCAT SHOALS** (g, 4, Mr. Nightlinger--Sweet Caprice, by Golden Gear) Lifetime Record: 3-2-0-0, \$21,331. O-Flying V Ranch. B-Tim & Marianne Visnieski (OK). T-W Bret Calhoun.

### ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

**Moon Princess**, f, 3, Songandaprayer--Moonlit Lake, by Salt Lake. MVR, 1-21, (S), 6f, 1:15 4/5. B-Labhras Draper (OH). \*\$9,000 RNA yrl '13 KEESEP.

### • ON THE WORKTAB •

#### GOLDEN GATE

Shared Belief (Candy Ride {Arg}), 6f, 1:13.20, 1/4

#### PALM MEADOWS

First Down (Street Sense), 4f, :51.90, 18/18

Mawthooq (Distorted Humor), 5f, 1:00.00, 1/3

#### SANTA ANITA

Awesome Baby (Awesome Again), 5f, 1:00.60, 13/44

Conquest Typhoon (Stormy Atlantic), 5f, 1:00.40, 10/44

Dortmund (Big Brown), 7f, 1:23.40, 1/3

Hoppertunity (Any Given Saturday), 4f, :47.40, 5/44

Lord Nelson (Pulpit), 7f, 1:23.80, 2/3

#### STONESTREET TRAINING

Cavorting (Bernardini), 4f, :52.00, 6/6

Rock Fall (Speightstown), 4f, :49.60, 1/6

## BRITAIN

results  
sponsored by



Destination  
Europe

www.destinationeurope.com

### Yesterday's Results:

**2nd-KMP, £4,750, Mdn**, 3yo/up, f, 7f (AWT), 1:26.35, ft.

**WALDNAH (GB)** (f, 3, **New Approach {Ire}**--Waldmark {Ger} {GSP-Eng}, by Mark of Esteem {Ire}), who sported a hood after disappointing when 10th in a mile maiden at Kempton in December, broke alertly and stalked the pace against the rail in third. Left in front at the top of the stretch, the 5-1 shot drew away to win with authority by three lengths from Hollie Point (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}). The winner is a half-sister to the 2011 G1 St Leger winner Masked Marvel (GB) (Montjeu {Ire}), Hwt. Colt-Eng at 14f+, G1SW-Eng & GSP-Aus, \$623,608; and to Waldlerche (GB) (Monsun {Ger}), GSW-Fr & SP-Ger. Lifetime Record: 5-1-3-0, £5,575.

**VIDEO, courtesy Racing UK.**

O/B-Newsells Park Stud (GB). T-John Gosden.

# GROUP I-WINNING MILER AT 2

# BIONDETTI



- ◆ Son of champion and leading sire **BERNARDINI**
- ◆ Undefeated in first 3 starts at 2 including the **Group I Gran Criterium** at a mile
- ◆ On the board in the **Grey Goose Breeders Cup Juvenile-GI** in his first start on the dirt
- ◆ 3/4 brother to **INDY FIVE HUNDRED (GI)** and MGSW **DELTA PRINCESS**, dam of dual Breeders' Cup Champion **ROYAL DELTA (GI)**

**\$150,000**  
**KEENOV WEANLING**



HIP 275 - Filly from BIONDETTI's first crop,  
out of Classic Approval

### BRED TO 161 MARES HIS FIRST TWO YEARS

Bernardini / Lyphard's Delta, by Lyphard Fee: \$4,000 LF/SN  
— Inquire about our multiple mare incentives —

**DON'T MISS HIS FIRST YEARLINGS  
OFFERED AT AUCTION  
OBS JAN. 28 - 29**

  
**WOODFORD  
THOROUGHBREDS**  
FLORIDA KENTUCKY

**BIONDETTI • CROWN OF THORNS • CURRENCY SWAP • HE'S HAD ENOUGH  
MAGNA GRADUATE • MARK VALESKI • SOLDAT • VINEYARD HAVEN**



## OBSERVATIONS

on today's European racing scene

**12.30 Cagnes-sur-Mer, Debutantes, €24,000, 3yo, 10f (AWT)**  
**TEAM COLORS (Street Cry {Ire})** debuts for the longstanding Joseph Allen-Jean-Claude Rouget partnership and is the latest progeny out of the high-class Teammate (A. P. Indy) to hit the track. Well known for her graded-stakes winning exploits, she is also a half-sister to the influential sire War Front.



## EUROPEAN-BRED WINNERS

### IN HONG KONG:

**Got Fly (Fr)**, g, 4, **Early March (GB)**--Godream (Fr) (SW-US), by Loup Solitaire. Sha Tin, 1-18, Hcp. (\$193k), 1800mT. B-Earl Haras de Magouet. \*SW-Fr. \*\*€4,000 RNA yrl '12 ARQNOV. \*\*\*While several of his contemporaries were fighting out the Classic Mile earlier in the day, Got Fly was posting a second straight victory and announcing himself a serious contender for the Hong Kong Classic Cup and Hong Kong Derby down the road. Got Fly won twice and finished runner-up on two occasions in four starts over all-weather tracks in France, then landed the Listed Georges Trabaud S. at Marseille-Borely last May. A running-on fifth in a Class 3 test over an insufficient 1400 meters Nov. 23, the bay overcame post 13 to score over this distance on International Day Dec. 13 and was even money to keep the streak alive here. Drawn lower this time around, Got Fly settled midpack for Douglas Whyte and was patiently handled before getting under way in earnest approaching the stretch. He followed the move of Winning Leader (Aus) (Rock of Gibraltar {Ire}) into the stretch, came off that one's heels into the final furlong and a half and prevailed by about a neck in the finish while in receipt of 11 pounds from the runner-up. [VIDEO](#).

## BREEDERS' EDITION

### EUROPE

### CONDITIONS RESULTS:

**5th-LIN**, £19,000, 4yo/up, 15f 169y (AWT), 3:19 3/5, ft.

**ANGLOPHILE (GB)** (g, 4, **Dubawi {Ire}**--Anna Palariva {Ire} {GSP-Fr}, by Caerleon) Lifetime Record: 13-6-3-1, £79,413. O-Godolphin. B-Darley (GB). T-Charlie Appleby. \*1/2 to Advice (GB) (Seeking the Gold), MSW & GSP-Fr, \$257,925; and to Iguazu Falls (Pivotal {GB}), SW & MGSP-Eng, GSP-UAE, \$275,364; and to Anna Salai (Dubawi {Ire}), GSW-Fr, G1SP-Ire & SP-Eng, \$158,794.

### ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

**Ershaad (Ire)**, g, 3, **Acclamation (GB)**--Emerald Peace (Ire) (SW & GSP-Eng), by Green Desert. LIN, 1-21, 6f (AWT), 1:12 2/5. B-Corduff Stud Ltd & D Egan (IRE). \*75,000gns yrl '13 TATOCT.

## Asia

### Yesterday's Results:

**TCK JO-OH HAI-Listed**, ¥37,400,000, Oi, 1-21, 4yo/up, f/m, 1800m, 1:52.30, yl.

1--**SAMBISTA (JPN)**, 126, m, 6, **Suzuka Mambo (Jpn)--White Carnival (Jpn)** (SW-Jpn, \$532,483), by Misil.

O-Hidaka Breeders Union; B-Grand Farm; T-Katsuhiko Sumii; J-Cristian Demuro; ¥22,000,000. Lifetime Record: 20-8-2-5.

2--**Acti Beauty (Jpn)**, 123, m, 8, Bago (Fr)--Foundry Obokko (Jpn), by Wassl Touch. O/B-Miyauchi Farm; ¥7,700,000.

3--**So Miraculous (Jpn)**, 119, m, 5, Fuji Kiseki (Jpn)--So Alert (Jpn), by Helissio (Fr). O-Sunday Racing; B-Northern Farm; ¥4,400,000.

Margins: 2HF, NK, 3/4. Odds: 0.80, 19.00, 2.80.

### CATALOG AVAILABLE ONLINE

### [Arqana February Mixed Sale](#)

**Feb. 9 & 10 at the Sale Elie de Brignac, Deauville**

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

### SINGAPORE RACING AWARDS – 2014

Horse of the Year, Ch. Miler, Ch. 3yo & Social Media HOY  
**WAR AFFAIR (NZ)** (O'Reilly {NZ})

Champion Older Horse  
**EL PADRINO (NZ)** (Mr. Nancho {Arg})

Champion Stayer  
**QUECHUA (ARG)** (Pure Prize)

Champion Sprinter  
**ZAC SPIRIT (AUS)** (Flying Spur {Aus})

Champion 4-Year-Old  
**SPALATO (NZ)** (Elusive City)

Champion Polytrack Horse  
**JOHNNY GUITAR (ARG)** (Lode)

Champion 2-Year-Old  
**AFFLECK (NZ)** (Battle Paint)

Most Improved Horse  
**GOODMAN (NZ)** (Alamosa {NZ})

### Human Categories:

Champion Trainer

Laurie Laxon

Champion Jockey

Manoel Nunes

Champion Apprentice

A'isisuhairi Kasim

Leading Owner (wins/earnings)

Oscar Racing Stable

Racing Media Award

Michael Lee

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, a (C) will be used for maiden-claiming races and an (R) will be used for other restricted races.