

1st dam **SHE'S A WINNER**
 2nd dam **GET LUCKY**
 3rd dam **DANCE NUMBER**
 4th dam **NUMBERED ACCOUNT**
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DRAMEDY HORSE
 Keeneland G2 SW by
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Stays in Vegas | Benoit Photo

SOMETHING TO BELIEVE IN

by J.M. Severni

Stays in Vegas (City Zip) will contest Saturday's GI Starlet S. at Los Alamitos Race Course, which could prove a source of healing for the partnership of Jungle Racing LLC and KMN Racing LLC, who lost champion Shared Belief suddenly last week to colic.

"It's been a rough week and everybody has been trying to handle the grief in our own way," said Kevin Nish of KMN Racing. "We've seen a lot of tributes on the internet from fans and that helps us handle the grief, knowing that there are other people that share it with us."

Stays in Vegas, who was purchased by Solis/Litt Bloodstock on behalf of Jungle Racing, KMN and LNJ Foxwoods as a \$40,000 KEESEP yearling, took the Juan Gonzalez Memorial S. at Oak Tree Pleasanton July 4 and the Wine Country Debutante S. at Santa Rosa Aug. 14 in her first two career starts for trainer Jerry Hollendorfer. Fifth in the GI Del Mar Debutante Sept. 5., she then switched to the turf for her next two starts--both wins--in the Surfer Girl S. at Santa Anita Oct. 10 and the Pike Place Dancer S. at Golden Gate Nov. 1. The juvenile filly will return to the dirt for the Starlet and will try the 1 1/16-mile distance.

"We had her nominated for a turf race at Del Mar and, with the guidance of Jerry and Alex [Solis] and Jason [Litt], we opted for the race at Los Alamitos," Nish explained. "She has run well on dirt up in Northern California before, too."

Cont. p3

DOWN THE SHEDROW WITH MARK CASSE

by Christie DeBernardis

It has been quite a memorable year for trainer Mark Casse in 2015. The 54-year-old scored a career high just last month when landing his first Breeders' Cup victory courtesy of **Catch a Glimpse** (City Zip) in the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf Oct. 30. He didn't have to wait long for his second one as the talented **Tepin** (Bernstein) bested the boys with an impressive victory in the GI Breeders' Cup Mile the very next day. The Casse barn has a total of 17 graded stakes wins so far this year, with five of those being Grade Is. Casse gave the TDN's Christie DeBernardis the latest on all of his top runners and also pointed out some up-and-coming juveniles to watch for in the future.

Cont. p3

In **TDN Europe** today..

HKIR FIELDS TAKE SHAPE

Alan Carasso reports from Thursday's barrier draw for the four Longines Hong Kong International Races, which will be held at Sha Tin Sunday.

[Click or tap here to go straight to TDN Europe.](#)



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**PRESIDENT & CO-PUBLISHER**

Barry Weisbord @barryweisbord
barryweisbord@thetdn.com

SR. V.P. & CO-PUBLISHER

Sue Finley @suefinley
suefinley@thetdn.com

V.P., INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS

Gary King @garykingTDN
garyking@thetdn.com

EDITORIAL

editor@thetdn.com

Editor-in-Chief:

Jessica Martini @JessMartiniTDN

Managing Editor:

Alan Carasso @EquinealTDN

Senior Editor:

Steve Sherack @Steve SherackTDN

Racing Editor:

Brian DiDonato @BDiDonatoTDN

Associate Editors:

Justina Severni @JSeverniTDN

Christie DeBernardis @CDeBernardisTDN

Assistant Editors:

Heather Anderson @HLAndersonTDN

Ben Massam @BMassamTDN

ADVERTISING

advertising@thetdn.com

Director of Advertising: Alycia Borer

Art Director: Lia Kusch

Sr. Ad Coordinator/Dir. of Distribution:

Sarah K. Andrew @SarahKAndrew

Advertising Designer: Amanda Crelin

Advertising Assistant: Amanda Foster

Social Media Strategist: Nichola Henry

MARKETING STRATEGIST

Brittlan Wall @BrittlanWall

brittlanwall@thetdn.com

CUSTOMER SERVICE

customerservice@thetdn.com

Director of Customer Service:

Vicki Forbes

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Director of IT: Robert Williams

robertwilliams@thetdn.com

Director of Internal IT: Ray Villa

rayvilla@thetdn.com

WORLDWIDE INFORMATION

International Editor: Kelsey Riley

kelseynriley@gmail.com

Newmarket Bureau, Cafe Racing:

Sean Cronin & Tom Frary

caferacing@aol.com

60 Broad Street, Suite 100

Red Bank, NJ 07701

732-747-8060 | 732-747-8955 (fax)

www.thoroughbreddailynews.com

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in this issue...



"Obviously, Nyquist (Uncle Mo) is going to be the champion 2-year-old colt, but I think Airoforce should be in the final three," Mark Casse said.

Coady Photography.

Story page 3

DURKIN FINDS THE PLAY'S THE THING

9

Legendary racecaller Tom Durkin returns to the stage when "Miracle on 34th Street" opens in Saratoga Springs Friday.

NY STREAMING LIKELY TO CONTINUE

1RR

Buffalo Raceway has yet to sign off on an annual agreement that requires mutual consent among all of New York's pari-mutuel tracks and off-track-betting venues in order for the Internet streaming of live Thoroughbred and Standardbred races to continue in 2016. But an executive of the holdout harness track said on Thursday that even if he chooses not to sign the agreement, a new amendment to it appears to guarantee that the streams will continue.

from thetdn.com

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Domestic and international sales observations...standout stallions and stallions on the rise...you name it, Bill Oppenheim has written about it. All of his insights are archived and searchable on the TDN website so you don't have to miss a single one.

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Something to Believe In (cont. from p1)

Nish, Jungle Racing's Jim Rome, Solis, Litt and Hollendorfer will be present for Saturday's race, which Nish believes could help the group heal after their shocking loss.

"We'll never get over it, but maybe this race will help us work through it and get around it," Nish commented. "Jim will be at the race and I'll be there, so we'll get to see each other again. That's going to be a tough few hours, but we're hoping the excitement of the race also helps. We've had a lot of communication back and forth trying to help each other through the shock of the loss of the champ. Maybe the race will help focus us on the good things on the horizon, rather than the sense of loss we all feel right now."



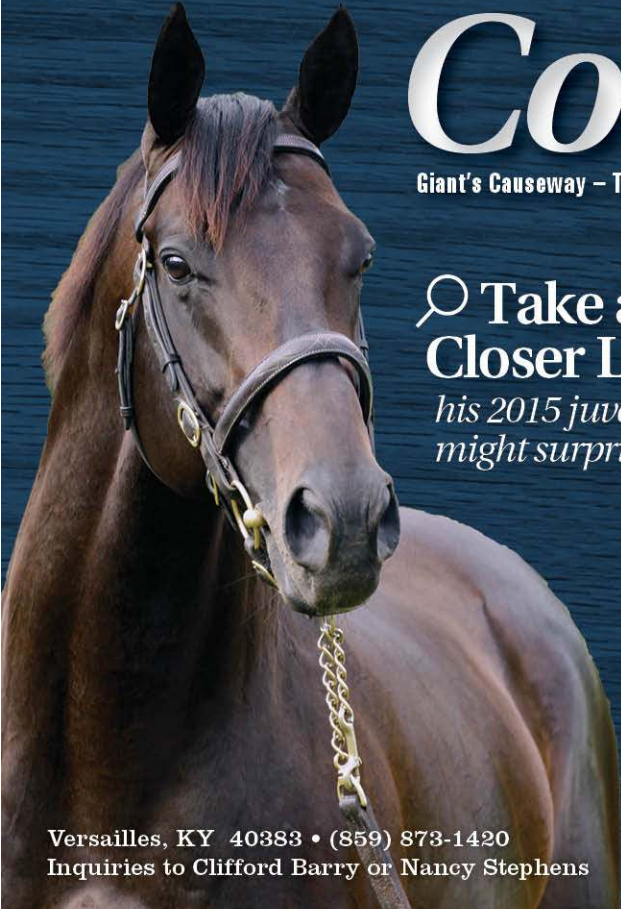

DOWN THE SHEDROW
with Mark Casse

● CATCH A GLIMPSE (f, 2, City Zip)

After a failed attempt in an off-the-turfer on debut at Saratoga July 30, Catch a Glimpse really came into her own when switched to the turf, starting with an impressive allowance win at Woodbine Aug. 22. Capturing the GII Natalma S. there next out Sept. 12, the Gary Barber, Michael Ambler and Windways Farm runner rose to the top of her division with a victory in the Juvenile Fillies Turf ([video](#)).

"She's doing great. She's actually at Palm Meadows. She is galloping and we are aiming for the [GIII] Sweetest Chant [S. Jan. 30]. We are just taking it one race at a time right now. I would say, we will aim her for the Sweetest Chant and then probably the [GIII] Florida Oaks at Tampa [Mar. 12]."

"It was special for sure [getting his first Breeders' Cup win in the Juvenile Fillies Turf]. What's so special about her is that we had a lot of issues with her early on. She was just so nervous. We wanted to run her on the grass, but then it came off and we had to run on the dirt. I thought she had ability, but boy, when she got on the grass she was just a totally different horse. It was a good race and she is a really good horse. I think she proved that."



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2015 Top 10 2YO Sires in Kentucky

By Percent of 2YO Blacktype Horses

NAME	STARTERS	WINNERS	BTH	% 2YO BTH/STRTRS
War Front	27	12	5	18.52
Munnings	29	14	5	17.24
Uncle Mo	65	26	11	16.92
Street Boss	30	13	5	16.67
Twirling Candy	43	21	7	16.28
► Cowboy Cal	33	15	5	15.15
Scat Daddy	80	34	12	15.00
Tapit	55	25	8	14.55
Bernardini	56	16	8	14.29
Sky Mesa	43	24	6	13.95

Based on TDN 2YO Sire List, 12/8/15, with at least 5 BTH

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Inquiries to Clifford Barry or Nancy Stephens



Pin Oak Stud

● **AIROFORCE (c, 2, Colonel John)**

A debut winner on the turf at Kentucky Downs Sept. 5, John Oxley's Airoforce followed suit with another success in Keeneland's grassy GIII Dixiana Bourbon S. Oct. 4. A gutsy second by just a neck in the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf Oct. 30, the gray proved to be quite versatile when capturing a sloppy renewal of the GII Kentucky Jockey Club S. on the Churchill main track Nov. 28 ([video](#)).

"He's in South Florida and he is just kind of chilling. He's just taking it easy. He's had a couple of weeks of just going around the shedrow. He starts back galloping Monday. I haven't really decided where we are going to bring him back yet. That's a discussion Mr. Oxley and I will probably have in the next couple of weeks. We'll see how he does. My only concern with running at Gulfstream would be how speed oriented that track is, so we'll see. We have had some luck going the Derby way through Tampa, so that would be a possibility."

"Going into the Breeders' Cup, I had a lot of confidence in him. I thought he was going to be very tough to beat. I thought he really struggled with the course on Breeders' Cup day. At the half-mile pole, if you told me he was going to be second, I would have hugged and kissed you. I really didn't think he was going to finish anywhere. My dad still talks about it. He says, 'I just wish that horse could have won, so you could have won three Breeders' Cup races instead of two.' I said, 'Dad, I'm okay with it!' [laughing]. At the half-mile pole, he was just struggling, so I think he ran second just on pure ability and pure determination. Of all our Breeders' Cup horses, he was the most exhausted after the race. He laid down for two or three days, which would go along with our feeling that he just didn't handle the turf that well that day."



Mark Casse | Coady Photography

"He always trained very well on the dirt. The only reason we ran him on the grass the first time was because I believe a maiden special at Churchill was only \$38,000 and a maiden special weight at Kentucky Downs was \$120,000. So, we ran him on the grass just because of the bigger purse, and because of his breeding, we figured he shouldn't have any problem handling the grass. We weren't sure that he would, but we didn't think he would have a problem with it. We were more sure he would handle dirt, obviously, but we tried him [on grass] and he ran so well that we didn't want to take him off of it. The first thing I thought when he won the way he won was the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf. In our mind, we always wanted to try him on the dirt, so that is how he ended up in the [Kentucky] Jockey Club."

"All that being said, I'm quite proud of him because how many horses, especially 2-year-olds, can you say have the kind of record he has. He has shown ability on the dirt and on the turf. Obviously, Nyquist (Uncle Mo) is going to be the champion 2-year-old colt, but I think Airoforce should be in the final three."





Airoforce | Coady Photography

● **CONQUEST BIG E (c, 2, Tapit)**

A \$700,000 KEESEP purchase by Ernie Semersky's Conquest Stables last year, Conquest Big E was impressive enough in his second-out graduation at Keeneland Oct. 2 to give Casse the confidence to go to the Breeders' Cup (Click [here](#) for catalogue page). Eighth in the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Oct. 31, the gray bested late-running "TDN Rising Star" Unexplained (Ghostzapper) in a Churchill allowance last time Nov. 28.

"He is in the same boat as Airoforce. He got a couple of weeks of just going around the shedrow. He starts back Monday. That will be a conversation as he gets a little closer to running that Ernie Semersky and I will have on whether we will go the Florida route, the New Orleans route or the Hot Springs route. **Cont. p5**





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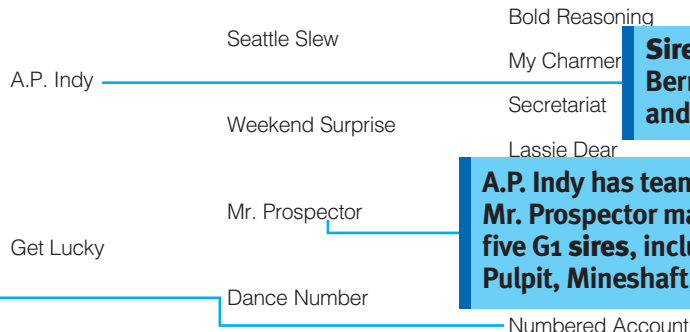
Girolamo: 19 winners to date from his first crop of two-year-olds.

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Sire line of the day:
Bernardini, Malibu Moon and champion sire Tapit.

A.P. Indy has teamed up with Mr. Prospector mares to produce five G1 sires, including Malibu Moon, Pulpit, Mineshaft, Congrats and Flatter.

By A.P. INDY (1989) Champion three-year-old colt in the US, Breeders' Cup Classic (G1), Belmont S (G1), etc. Sire of 1,224 foals aged three and up, 77% starters, 56% winners, 12% Black Type winners, including GIROLAMO, BERNARDINI, A P VALENTINE, APTITUDE, FRIENDS LAKE, GOLDEN MISSILE, JUST AS WELL, MAJESTIC WARRIOR, MINESHAFT, STEPHEN GOT EVEN, TAKE CHARGE INDY, TELLING, CONGRATS, PULPIT, SUAVE, OLD TRIESTE, etc.

This year's Spinster Stakes heroine is the latest of a remarkable 11 G1 winners and 27 Graded winners under Girolamo's first three dams.

1st dam:

GET LUCKY by Mr. Prospector. 5 wins (7f-8½f) at 3 and 4, Affectionately H (G3). Dam of 14 foals, 9 to race, 9 winners:

GIROLAMO (c A.P. Indy) 5 wins (6f-8f), 2 to 4, Vosburgh S (G1), Jerome H (G2), 3rd Cigar Mile H (G1). Sire, first crop are two-year-olds of 2015.

DAYDREAMING (f A.P. Indy) 7 wins (6½f-9f), 2 to 4, Top Flight H (G2), 2nd Gazelle H (G1), etc. (G1). Dam of:

IMAGINING (c Giant's Causeway) Man O'War S (G1).

BROWSE (f Medaglia d'Oro) Named TDN Rising Star with debut win on December 6th.

ACCELERATOR (c A.P. Indy) 4 wins (8f-12f) at 2 and 4, Pilgrim S (G3), 2nd Wood Memorial S (G2), 3rd Metropolitan H (G1), Remsen S (G2). Sire.

HARBORAGE (c Monarchos) 2 wins (8½f-9f) at 3, Victoria Park S. Sire.

Fighting Brave (c Storm Cat) Winner (7f) at 2, 3rd Amethyst S (G3).

SUPERCARGER (f A.P. Indy) 3 wins (6f-8f) at 3. Dam of:

SUPER SAVER (c Maria's Mon) Kentucky Derby (G1). Sire.

BRETHREN (c Distorted Humor) Sam F. Davis S (G3).

Quickest (f Forest Wildcat) Unraced. Dam of: **CALLBACK** (f Street Sense) Las Virges.

MALKA (f Deputy Minister) Winner (7f) at 2. Dam of:

GOT LUCKY (f A.P. Indy) Spinster S (G1), 2nd Personal Ensign S (G1).

She's A Winner (f A.P. Indy) Unraced. Dam of:

BLUEGRASS CAT (c Storm Cat) Haskell Invitational S (G1). Sire.

LORD OF THE GAME (g Saint Ballado) Cornhusker H (G2).

SONOMA CAT (c Storm Cat) Oak Hall S. Sire.

Six G1 winners under Girolamo's first dam.

A.P. Indy's only G1-winning sprinter. Averaged over 90 mares in his first four books.

Second-leading sophomore sire of 2015 and sire of three G1 winners, including Runhappy.

Graded stakes sire.

Sold for \$2.8 million at Fasig-Tipton November in 2015.

Sire of five G1 winners in Australia and New Zealand.

2nd dam:

DANCE NUMBER by Northern Dancer. 8 wins (6f-10f) at 3 and 4, Beldame S (G1), 2nd Spinster S (G1), 3rd Top Flight S (G1). Dam of 6 winners:

RHYTHM (c Mr. Prospector) **Champion two-year-old colt in America**, Travers S (G1), Breeders' Cup Juvenile (G1). Sire.

OSCILLATE (f Seattle Slew) Winner at 3. Dam of:

MUTAKDDIM (c Seeking The Gold) John Of Gaunt S. Sire.

Not For Love (c Mr. Prospector) Full brother to Rhythm. Sire.

Outstanding sire in South America with 21 G1 winners.

Graded stakes sire.

3rd dam:

NUMBERED ACCOUNT by Buckpasser. **Champion two-year-old filly in America**, 14 wins, 2 to 4, Frizette S.

Dam of 5 winners:

PRIVATE ACCOUNT (c Damascus) Gulfstream Park H (G1). Sire.

Polish Numbers (c Danzig) J.O. Tobin S. Sire.

A major sire with 16 G1 winners, including Hall of Fame fillies Personal Ensign and Inside Information.

G1 sire.

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Darley

"Conquest Big E is definitely a Derby horse and we will give him every opportunity to prove us right."

"[Airoforce and Conquest Big E] have different running styles, so off the top of my head, I would think Conquest Big E would like Gulfstream a little more than Airoforce. I think Airoforce would prefer to have a track where he can sit back and come with a bigger run, where a horse like 'Big E' likes to sit a bit closer to the pace."

● **TEPIN (f, 4, Bernstein):**

Robert Masterson's Tepin stamped herself as one of the best turf milers of either sex this term when taking down some of both Europe and America's top grass horses in the Breeders' Cup Mile ([video](#)). That was just the grand finale to an already sensational season following the filly's victories in the GII Churchill Distaff Turf Mile S. May 2, GI Longines Just a Game S. June 6 and GI First Lady S. Oct. 3. The bay was also second in both the GI Diana S. July 25 and GII Ballston Spa S. Aug. 29, respectively.



Tepin | Horsephotos

"Tepin is doing great. She is in South Florida and her goal is going to be the [GIII Endeavor S.] at Tampa [Feb. 13]. Our main goal for her would be to be back Derby day at Churchill and defend her title in the [GII] Churchill Distaff Turf Mile [S.]."

● **NOBLE BIRD (c, 4, Birdstone)**

Runner-up in the GII Alysheba S. May 1, John Oxley's Noble Bird got the better of favored Lea (First Samurai) with a neck victory in Churchill's GI Stephen Foster H. June 13. The chestnut exited a ninth-place effort in Saratoga's GI Whitney S. Aug. 8 with a hip injury and has been sidelined since.

"Noble Bird is just about ready to start breezing. I watched him train this morning. He is doing well. He will probably come back in an allowance race, probably at Oaklawn. He is in Florida, but we will send him to Oaklawn when it gets closer. He could start at Gulfstream. It would just depend as we get further along and where there is a race for him. He would start in an allowance race, more likely on the dirt."

● **LEXIE LOU (f, 4, Sligo Bay {Ire})**

Another runner Casse is nursing back from the sidelines is 2014 Queen's Plate S. victress Lexie Lou. The Gary Barber colorbearer captured the Woodbine Oaks prior to her defeat of males in the Queen's Plate and also took the 2014 Wonder Where S. **Cont. p6**

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- ✓ Won the G1 Champagne Stakes

From the desk of...

BILL OPPENHEIM



NOVEMBER WEANLING SIRES

Ashford's **Shanghai Bobby** was the unbeaten 2-year-old champion of 2012 and is by Harlan's Holiday, who seemingly can do no wrong at the moment and can claim successful sire sons Into Mischief and Majesticperfection since he died in Argentina in 2013.

Shanghai Bobby

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Closing out that season with a victory in Santa Anita's GIII Autumn Miss S. and a runner-up effort behind Horse of the Year California Chrome (Lucky Pulpit) in the GI Hollywood Derby, Lexie Lou has not been seen since finishing second when switched to the dirt in Arcadia's GII La Canada S. Jan. 17.

"Lexie Lou is just about a month [away] from running. She had just a small injury [after the La Canada]. We had her all ready. We actually had her in at Woodbine this

fall and she hurt her eye. She missed about 60 days because of her eye, but she's back and she's doing well. She'll pop up in the entries some time in January. She will probably run in some type of allowance race on the grass [at Gulfstream]."



Lexie Lou | Benoit Photo

• WORLD APPROVAL (c, 3, Northern Afleet)

Live Oak Plantation homebred World Approval comes from a long line of talented turf runners being a half-brother to champion Miesque's Approval (Miesque's Son), MGSW and MGISP Za Approval (Ghostzapper) and MGSW millionaire Revved Up (Sultry Song).

The sophomore already has a pair of black-type wins of his own with victories in the GIII American Derby at Arlington July 11 and Saratoga's GIII Saranac S. Sept. 5. The gray was last seen finishing fourth in Belmont's GIII Hill Prince S. Oct. 3.

"I just saw him [Wednesday]. He looks wonderful. He's at Live Oak. Mrs. Webber loves to bring the horses home for a little while and give them a break, so we sent him home after his last start. He's galloping and he looks better than ever. He will probably go down to South Florida at the beginning of the year and get ready down there."

• OL' FASHION GAL (f, 3, Sky Mesa)

Winner of last term's GIII Jimmy Durante S. at Del Mar, Bill & Vicki Poston Racing's Ol' Fashion Gal finished off the board in her next two tries in graded company, but captured Woodbine's GIII Selene S. when last seen May 24.

"She is just starting to breeze. We will probably do the same thing that we did with Tepin. I try, especially with our 3 year olds once they have to start competing in stakes against older horses, to give them some time off to grow up and that's what I did with her. I could see her being ready somewhere around the first of the year for an allowance race."

Cont. p7

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● SIDING SPRING (c, 2, Warrior's Reward)

A debut winner at Kentucky Downs Sept. 14, Siding Spring finished third behind stablemate Airoforce in the Bourbon. The Gabe Grossberg runner tried his hand at the dirt last time out, finishing 10th in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile.

"Siding Spring actually ran very well in the Breeders' Cup. I think overall he had the third best Thorograph number or something like that. He just had a difficult trip. I thought it was a really good race first time on dirt. He didn't get beat that far. My feeling is that he is a Derby horse as well. He did have a quarter crack after the Breeders' Cup and he has been back training now for maybe a week. He will get a couple of weeks of galloping and then breeze. We are hoping to get him started somewhere in the middle to the latter part of January and hopefully he is a Derby prospect as well."

"He is another horse who showed a lot of ability on the dirt. The only reason we started him on the grass is because of the economics of it. If I could do it, I'd love to start every first-time starter on the grass. I think it is a much better and easier first experience for them because if they get away a little bad or something, the kick back is not as severe on the turf. I just think it's a great learning experience for them."

● CONQUEST BEBOP (f, 2, Scat Daddy)

Conquest Stables' 2-year-old Conquest Bebop romped by 7 1/4 lengths in her career bow going 1 1/16 miles over the Woodbine synthetic Nov. 7 ([video](#)).

"She was [impressive]. She is in South Florida. We will see how she trains on the dirt, but most likely she will come back in an allowance race on the grass."

● CONQUEST BABAYAGA (f, 2, Uncle Mo)

Ernie Semersky stretched to \$425,000 to acquire Conquest Babayaga at the OBS June sale after the juvenile breezed a furlong in :09 4/5 (Click [here](#) for catalogue page). The dark bay earned her diploma by 6 3/4 lengths sprinting on the Woodbine synthetic Oct. 31 and finished second behind undefeated "TDN Rising Star" Ami's Mesa (Sky Mesa) in that venue's Glorious Song S. Nov. 21.

"She broke her maiden impressively and she was second in the Glorious Song. I think she got a 90 Beyer which is quite good for a 2-year-old. She will probably show up on the dirt in some type of allowance race."

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



Dynaformer's Best Son At Stud

TEMPLE CITY

Top 10 APEX Sires By A-Runner Index

Standing In Kentucky

Sire	Fee	A Index
War Front	\$200,000	3.98
Into Mischief	\$45,000	3.93
Lookin At Lucky	\$20,000	3.61
TEMPLE CITY	\$15,000	3.41
Ghostzapper	\$60,000	3.41
Speightstown	\$100,000	3.38
Medaglia d'Oro	\$150,000	3.33
Pioneerof the Nile	\$125,000	3.32
Line of David	\$3,500	3.23
Tapit	\$300,000	2.86

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Dynaformer - Curriculum, by Danzig

● **JENNIFER LYNNETTE (f, 2, Elusive Quality)**

Jennifer Lynnette was tabbed as a “TDN Rising Star” after an impressive 5 1/4-length success in her Woodbine unveiling Oct. 18 ([video](#)). The Conrad Farms colorbearer overcame a difficult trip to finish third last time in the Glorious Song.

“Jennifer Lynnette is a really good filly. She had a troubled trip in the Glorious Song. She finished strongly and galloped out well after the race. She is a Canadian-bred. I’m not exactly sure whether we will start her back on the dirt or the grass, but her main goal would be to try to get back to Canada for the Canadian Oaks next year. I don’t know how we are going to do that just yet, but we will let her tell us when she is ready to run. The [Queen’s Plate] is always a possibility [after the Canadian Oaks]. I have been impressed with her.”

● **CONQUEST DADDYO (c, 2, Scat Daddy)**

Conquest Daddyo graduated at first asking at Woodbine July 16 and finished second in that venue’s Vandal S. next out Aug. 15. Winner of the GII Summer S. there Sept. 12, the Conquest Stables runner finished fourth in the Breeders’ Cup Juvenile Turf.

“He will probably aim for an allowance race. He is definitely a nice grass horse. The thing with ‘Daddyo’ is the farther they run, the better. We will have to spot him around. I thought he worked

well enough on the dirt--Joe Bravo worked him--that he could possibly get a chance on the dirt as well.”

“I thought he ran really well [in the Breeders’ Cup]. I think he finished really strong. It was only a mile, so he is going to get better.”



Conquest Daddyo | Michael Burns

● **CONQUEST ENFORCER (c, 2, Into Mischief)**

Casse thought highly enough of Conquest Enforcer to debut him in the Summer, a move reminiscent of fellow Conquest colorbearer My Conquestadory (Artie Schiller), who bested the boys in the 2013 Summer and went on to take the GI Darley Alcibiades S. next out. Conquest Enforcer finished fourth to Conquest Daddyo in that test, but impressively earned his diploma next out in the Cup and Saucer S. going 1 1/16 miles on the Woodbine turf Oct. 11 ([video](#)).

“A horse we haven’t mentioned yet that is as good as any 2-year-old we have is a horse named Conquest Enforcer. He made his first start in the Summer S. and he was fourth to Conquest Daddyo. Patrick Husbands chose to ride him versus Daddyo and then we ran him back in the Cup and Saucer and he won by six or seven lengths. He was blocked the entire way down the lane and got loose at the eighth pole and just opened up. Patrick Husbands says he is as good a horse as he has ever sat on.” Cont. p9



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"Conquest Enforcer is a Canadian-bred. He is at the farm in Ocala, had a little time off and is just coming back. He is going to be aiming for the Queen's Plate."

● CONQUEST WINDYCITY (c, 2, Tiznow)

Conquest Windycity, who is out of a full sister to GSW and GISP Jump Start (A.P. Indy), brought \$800,000 from Semersky at the OBS March sale after breezing a quarter-mile in [:21 4/5](#) (Click [here](#) for catalogue page). Second on debut over the Saratoga lawn Aug. 8, the dark bay finished third in Churchill's GIII Iroquois S. Sept. 12 and graduated next out when switched to the dirt at Keeneland Oct. 2.

"He broke his maiden the same day Conquest Big E did at Keeneland. He is a nice horse. We gave him a little time off, but we feel he is possibly a Derby horse as well. He is in Ocala right now, but he will be going to South Florida pretty soon to get ready for the Derby."

● GREATEST GAME (c, 2, Giant's Causeway)

John Oxley's Greatest Game opened his account with a first out success sprinting over the Woodbine synthetic Oct. 18 and was third when stretched out to 1 1/16 miles in an allowance over that strip Nov. 8. The chestnut was second last time over that track and trip in the Display S. Nov. 29.

"He broke his maiden impressively first time out and then he was third in an allowance race. He was just third in the Display S. at Woodbine. He kind of got shut down on the rail, which may have cost him the win. They went very fast. He got a pretty good number. He is another horse that could possibly be a Derby horse. We are going to give him an opportunity to see."

● STREET GRAY (c, 2, Street Cry {Ire})

Out of a half-sister to GSW multi-millionaire Honey Ryder (Lasting Approval), Street Gray is an unraced juvenile colt purchased by Oxley for \$750,000 at the OBS April sale after he breezed a furlong in [:09 4/5](#) (Click [here](#) for catalogue page). The gray displays a steady string of works at Palm Meadows, most recently breezing five furlongs from the gate in 1:01 (2/25).

"One horse to watch for that hasn't started but we like a lot is a horse of Mr. Oxley's called Street Gray. He is a first time starter that is getting ready to run that we think a lot of, too. We are hoping he will be a good horse. He will [start in Florida]. We are hoping to get him started this year at the end of the month, and if not, the beginning of next year."

DURKIN FINDS THE PLAY'S THE THING

by Mike Kane

Fifteen months into retirement, Tom Durkin returns to a different--though familiar--form of live entertainment Friday in the opening night presentation of *Miracle on 34th Street* in Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

As a Communication Arts major focused on drama at St. Norbert College in De Pere, WI., Durkin appeared in 17 productions as an undergrad, but his distinguished career as a track announcer precluded work as an actor. Free of the demands of a daily job, he steps back onto the stage



Tom Durkin in *Miracle on 34th Street*

for a two-week run, a total of nine performances, in the cast of the Home Made Theater's family-oriented play.

During the fall, Durkin responded to Home Made Theatre's on-line notice of an open audition and is part of a cast of 28 for the stage adaptation of the well-known movie. He said that he has been having a blast.

"At least a dozen members of the cast are little kids. Another half dozen are high school kids," he said. "It's kind of fun being around them. I've really never been around kids that much. It's just nice to see their energy, their enthusiasm and their personalities. That's been a real nice part of it."

"And my fellow cast members are all really nice folks. Interesting and genuine and fun to be with. I'm just enjoying the experience."

Durkin said there was another reason beyond a love of theater that drew him to the audition for the play.

"I want to become a bona fide member of the Saratoga Springs community, as opposed to summer/snow bird," he said. "It's a great way to congregate and co-mingle with your fellow citizens. It's great."

This is Durkin's first acting role since he had a part in *Promenade, All!* at the Green Bay Community Theater in 1973. He said he could not consider getting involved in a theater group while he was calling races.

"It wasn't an option," he said. "I certainly would not have had the time."

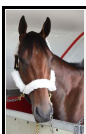
Durkin, 65, retired on the next-to-last day of the 2014 Saratoga meeting after calling Condo Commando's smashing victory in the GI Spinaway S. He has settled nicely into the next chapter of his life, splitting his time between Saratoga Springs and Florida, doing some promotional work for West Point Thoroughbreds, and pursuing his many interests. **Cont. p10**

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with comments for publication.

"I love it," he said. "I think it's about what I expected. I'm pretty busy. Last year, I probably gave 20 or 30 speeches. During the racing meeting it seemed like every night that I was emceeing some function.

"I have been doing some traveling and went to Italy twice. I've been busy but not to the point where I don't want to be any more or less busy. It's been hitting all the right notes."

Durkin participated in some high school productions during his youth in Chicago and got far more serious about the performing arts during his college days. Home Made Theatre, now in its 31st season in Saratoga Springs, stages its performances at the Spa Little Theatre, located in the state park between the Gideon Putnam Resort and the Saratoga Performing Arts Center. Durkin said he was invited to the audition for *Miracle on 34th Street* after completing an application.



Durkin on the mic again |
Mike Kane

"I read for a couple of parts that were age and gender appropriate," he said. "I have three parts. They are relatively small. I think I'm in five or six scenes in the whole show, but they are fun parts.

"My first piece is I play a drunken Santa Claus, which is a lot of fun to do. Any time you can play a drunk on stage it's pretty good. If you're Santa Claus and you're drunk it's twice as good. Another part I play, not completely against type, is a radio announcer. The biggest of the three parts I play is Mr. Macy, R.H. Macy."

As far as Durkin can see, the work involved in handling three characters is just about right.

"It's not an overburdening sort of thing," he said. "I'm glad I didn't have one of the lead roles because that would have been a little daunting after being away from it for so long."

As a track announcer, Durkin had to learn and then forget the names of horses and jocks and the silks owners of each race every day. That skill did not help him much in the preparation for the play.

"It's a different kind of memorization doing your lines, as opposed to memorizing horses's names," he said. "You'd have thought it would been an easy transition, but it just took me a little while to get the hang of it."

Durkin spent the final 24 years of his career as the track announcer for the New York Racing Association and is a well-known, beloved figure in the Saratoga Springs region. His retirement, which included a ceremony in the winner's circle, was an emotional high point of the 2014 season.

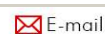
As a result, his involvement has brought some added attention to the play by a company that already has a great deal of respect in the marketplace.

"I was really surprised at the level of professionalism involved here, the directors and the lighting technicians and the sound technicians and stage and scenery builders. It's really first rate," he said. "Don't let the name community theater fool you. We've got a proper theater. The stage is a proper stage that can fly in scenery. It's pretty involved and it's far different than the last community theater play I was in. But the pay is the same."

Durkin laughed as he delivered his punch line. He is pleased with the life he is living away from the stress that was part of his career, pointing out that he has lost weight and is much more focused on his health than he was as a guy with binoculars and a microphone.

"It's all good," he said, chuckling. "I walk around with a Fitbit, not a Rolex."

For more information on Home Made Theatre's production of *Miracle on 34th Street*, click [here](#).



UPCOMING MAJOR NORTH AMERICAN STAKES

Date	Race	Track
12/12	GI Starlet S.	LRC
	GIII Rampart S.	GP
12/19	GI Los Alamitos Futurity	LRC
	GIII Mr. Prospector S.	GP
12/26	GI La Brea S.	SA
	GI Malibu S.	SA
	GII Mathis Brothers Mile	SA
	GIII Daytona S.	SA
	GIII La Prevoyante H.	GP
	GIII Sugar Swirl S.	GP
	GIII W.L. McKnight H.	GP
1/2	GIII Hutcheson S.	GP
	GIII Old Hat S.	GP
	GIII Dania Beach S.	GP
1/9	GII Fort Lauderdale S.	GP
	GIII Hal's Hope S.	GP
	GIII Marshua's River S.	GP
	GIII Sham S.	SA



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NY STREAMING LIKELY TO CONTINUE EVEN WITHOUT MUTUAL CONSENT *by T.D. Thornton*

Buffalo Raceway has yet to sign off on an annual agreement that requires mutual consent among all of New York's pari-mutuel tracks and off-track-betting venues in order for the Internet streaming of live Thoroughbred and Standardbred races to continue in 2016. But an executive of the holdout harness track said on Thursday that even if he chooses not to sign the agreement, a new amendment to it appears to guarantee that the streams will continue.

Although he wouldn't call it a "deadline," Buffalo Raceway's chief operating officer Jim Mango said he was asked to sign and return an amended streaming agreement to the New York State Gaming Commission by Friday. Mango told *TDN* that instead of signing the amendment, which he just received Tuesday, he has requested a meeting with the NYSGC to answer concerns he has about how the agreement adversely affects Buffalo Raceway.

"I don't even want to say I'm holding off on signing it," Mango said. "I just asked for the meeting. I made it clear that I don't think live streaming video has properly given protection to my little racetrack. That's clear, I'm not going to back off on my statement. But I do wish to discuss my issues with the regulatory body, which is what I should do as a license holder. This is not an act of war, it's a quest for knowledge. That's the best way I can put it."

The collaborative streaming agreement among New York pari-mutuel licensees dates to December 2010, when New York City Off-Track Betting Corp. ceased operations. As a way to compensate for lost OTB revenue and to give state residents easy access to live racing on the Internet, an agreement was forged pursuant to Racing, Pari-Mutuel Wagering and Breeding Law sections 1003 and 1012.

Mango explained that at the time, the mutual agreement clause was inserted as a safeguard to keep New York tracks and OTBs from fighting over customers in overlapping regions. But he said now he thinks that protection is not happening because competing advance-deposit wagering companies are signing up online customers from within his geographic region that used bet at his brick-and-mortar facility. Buffalo Raceway does not have its own online ADW portal.

Based on previous versions of the agreement, it is unclear whether the lack of mutual consent would mean that New York tracks and OTBs could not stream races only within the state, or if they would be prohibited from sending live Internet streams of races to ADWs nationwide. On Tuesday, Mango said that was "one of the major issues of confusion." Lee Park, the director of communications for the New York State Gaming Commission, underscored in an email Tuesday that the agreement would have "no bearing whatsoever on out-of-state ADWs."

But the new amendment to the agreement apparently gives a different NYSGC interpretation of the mutual consent rule. Mango, despite voicing concerns over the proposed amendment, would not disclose his copy of it. Park did not respond to a Thursday email request prior to deadline for this story that asked for a copy of the amendment, clarification on whether it was a public document, and if the NYSGC would be granting Buffalo Raceway the opportunity to meet over the issue.

"I'm not trying to be an antagonist here or an obstructionist," Mango said. "Unfortunately, what's happened in New York State is not favorable to my little racetrack, and my job is to do what I can to help this racetrack...Let me just say, on the record, that whether I sign or not, this is going to be dealt with in a favorable manner to those who still wish to have live streaming video in New York State."

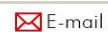
Mango continued: "My intent was never to disrupt that...Regardless of whether I sign the amendment or not, the language in it appears to protect the live streaming video issue in New York State. I have to still deal with my hopes that the gaming commission will give me the chance to sit down with them and discuss some of my issues and concerns."



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New York

Thursday's Results:

8th-AQU, \$65,660, Alw, 12-10, (NW1\$X), 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:10.92, ft.

MRS. HUDSON (f, 3, [Street Cry {Ire}](#)--Sara Louise {MGSW, \$400,435}, by Malibu Moon) was tabbed a "TDN Rising Star" after capturing her debut over the main track here Apr. 19 and finished third at Belmont June 17. Fifth next out at Saratoga Sept. 5, she was sixth last time in the slop in Elmont Oct. 28. Adding blinkers as the 6-5 chalk here, the dark bay seized the early advantage and clocked a moderate early pace beneath a motionless Jose Ortiz. Two-wide turning for home, Mrs. Hudson sidled back onto the rail in the lane and kept on finding to hold Stormy Sky (Sky Mesa) at bay by 1 1/2 lengths. The winner is the first foal out of Sara Louise, who carried the Godolphin colors to victory in the 2008 GIII Pocahontas S. and 2009 GIII Victory Ride S. and GII Top Flight H. Sara Louise has an unraced juvenile filly name Coronation Street (Street Cry {Ire}), a yearling colt by Medaglia d'Oro and a weanling filly by Street Sense. She was bred back to Street Sense this spring. Lifetime Record: 5-2-0-1, \$92,758. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton](#).**

O-Godolphin Racing LLC; B-Darley (KY); T-Kieran P. McLaughlin.



FROM THE GARY AND MARY WEST COLLECTION AT HILL 'N' DALE



\$7,500 payable out of proceeds or by 12/31/18

*Pioneer of the Nile, winner of the
Robert B. Lewis (G2)*

FLASHBACK IS BY LEADING SIRE TAPIT

Flashback won the Grade 2 Robert B. Lewis by 6 1/4 lengths in 2nd start, a race won by Leading Third-Crop Sire Pioneer of the Nile.

Narrowly defeated as the favorite in the \$750,000 Santa Anita Derby (G1).

Full-brother to MG1SW Zazu who sold for \$2,100,000.

One of the most popular Freshman Sires with first crop in foal mares selling for up to \$370,000.

*Flashback, winner of the
Robert B. Lewis (G2)*

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If you breed to Flashback, New Year's Day and Power Broker in 2016, the total is \$13,000 (based on \$5,000 for Flashback, \$4,000 for New Year's Day and \$4,000 for Power Broker) - payable out of proceeds or by 12/31/18.

TEAM WEST GUARANTEE APPLIES

From sales proceeds, the first \$7,500 going to breeders for weanling sales and the first \$15,000 going to breeders for yearling sales.



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6th-AQU, \$60,000, Msw, 12-10, 3yo/up, 6f, 1:10.43, ft.
PREPPER (g, 3, [Majestic Warrior](#)--Fancy Fusaichi {SW, \$236,499}, by Fusaichi Pegasus) was fifth on debut at Belmont May 16 and improved to second next out over that strip Oct. 16. Hammered down to 9-5 favoritism following a five-panel bullet in 1:00 2/5 over the Belmont training track Dec. 4, the bay broke on top and ticked off opening splits of :22.91 and :45.81. Showing the way into the lane, the gelding rolled clear to a dominant 6 1/4-length success over Amoral (Scat Daddy). Sales history: \$105,000 2yo '14 OBSAPR. Lifetime Record: 3-1-1-0, \$53,250. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton](#).**

O-Saul & Max Kupferberg; B-Kinsman Farm (FL); T-John Parisella.



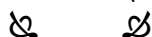
Central U.S.

Thursday's Results:

4th-FG, \$38,000, (S), Alw (NW2L)/Opt. Clm (\$30,000), 12-10, 2yo, f, 1mT, 1:40.87, fm.

BABY RUN TO ME (f, 2, Rahy's Secret--Kentucky Cat, by Mountain Cat), a soundly beaten ninth in her main track unveiling at Churchill Downs Sept. 13, romped by 13/14 lengths next out on the dirt at Remington Oct. 1 and was a non-factor seventh in a state-bred allowance on the Delta Downs main track last time Oct. 28. Sent off at 7-1 in this switch to the turf, the bay pressed from second early through moderate early fractions. She appeared to be fading in early stretch, but suddenly found another gear and powered clear to a 3 3/4-length victory over favored Zuzor (Pioneerof the Nile). Sales history: \$8,000 Ylg '14 ESLYRL. Lifetime Record: 4-2-0-0, \$42,658. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton](#).**

O-James McGuire; B-Keith Plaisance (LA); T-Steven Asmussen.



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"TDN Rising Star" Mrs. Hudson wins an allowance at Aqueduct

8th-FG, \$37,000, Msw, 12-10, 3yo/up, f/m, 5 1/2ft, 1:04.82, fm.
MI FIORI (f, 3, [Congrats](#)--Shoo In, by Dynaformer) finished second in her career bow sprinting on the synthetic at Arlington in September 2014 and was a non-factor 12th when switched to the turf and extended to 1 1/16 miles at Keeneland that October. Overlooked at 11-1, the dark bay stalked from second through an opening quarter in :22.32 and drew even with the leader as they hit the half in :46.87. Taking control in mid-stretch, the sophomore spurted clear to a two-length score over I Dream of Candy (Midshipman). Sales history: \$50,000 Ylg '13 FTKOCT; \$145,000 RNA 2yo '14 EASMAY. Lifetime Record: 3-1-1-0, \$28,560. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton](#).**

O-Brent Gasaway, John Padden, Karen Bublitz, John Adger, et al.; B-Highclere (KY); T-Michael Stidham.



California

Thursday's Results:

8th-LRC, \$46,000, Msw, 12-10, 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:10.15, ft.

SO SWEETITIZ (f, 3, [Grand Slam](#)--Sweetitiz, by El Prado {Ire}), second, beaten a half-length, over track and trip in her Sept. 18 debut, tired to finish a well-beaten fifth as the favorite going six furlongs at Santa Anita last time out Oct. 16. With the leaders in the early strides, the 6-1 shot was outfooted and fell back to mid-pack while racing wide down the backstretch in a compact field through an opening quarter in :21.96. She took closer order on the turn, was five wide into the stretch and forged ahead of a bevy of rivals to take the lead with a furlong to run before powering clear to score by 2 1/4 lengths. Game on at Midnite (Midnight Lute) was second after pressing the pace, a neck ahead of the late-closing Makena (Pioneerof the Nile). Cholena (Indian Charlie) was fourth. The winner's third dam is Cee's Song (Seattle Song), who produced MGSW Budroyale and Horse of the Year Tiznow, as well as the dams of Paynter and Oxbow.

Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or [VIDEO, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton](#). Lifetime Record: 3-1-1-0, \$38,040.

O/B-Pamela C. Ziebarth (KY); T-Martin F. Jones.

INDUSTRY INFO

Jockeys' Guild Releases Trading Card Set:

The Jockeys' Guild will commemorate its 75th anniversary with the release of a limited set of 152 trading cards. The set includes Hall of Fame members, Eclipse Award winners, George Woolf Award winners, Mike Venezia Award winners, champion Quarter Horse riders, Sam Thompson Award winners, riders with more than 5,000 wins, riders in the top 30 all-time in earnings, and other fan favorites who have had outstanding careers. The set can be purchased at www.JockeyTalk360.com. Proceeds benefit the Permanently Disabled Jockeys Fund.

Changing Leads to Rehome Dig Alittle Deeper

Dig Alittle Deeper (Stroll), a 4-year-old gelding who was stakes-placed in Canada at two, was claimed for \$4,000 by his former owners after failing to hit the board in six claiming races this year at Mahoning Valley Racecourse and has been retired to Changing Leads Thoroughbred Retraining Project. The gelding made 24 starts in 2 ½ years, but failed to hit the board in his last 10. An ownership group led by Gary Barber and Adam Wachtel raced Dig Alittle Deeper during his 3-year-old season before losing him for a claiming tag. "It's wonderful to see distinguished owners taking care of their horses—even their former runners," said Aly Goodrich, founder and president of Changing Leads. "Retiring horses while they are sound gives them every opportunity to excel in a second sporting career. It also gives a dignified ending to their career on the track." Changing Leads Thoroughbred Retraining Project, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization dedicated rehabilitating, retraining, and rehoming retired Thoroughbred racehorses, was founded in 2014 by Goodrich, along with professional hunter/jumper trainer Kirstin Murphy, and Team Valor International Vice President Megan Jones. To date, 38 horses have entered the organization's retraining program, and more than half of those horses have been placed in new homes and are enjoying second careers.

ROOKIES

First-crop starters to watch: Friday, December 11

*Sire (Sire's Sire), current farm, 2012 Fee, #foals of racing age/Winners/BlackTypeWnrs * Race #-track, race type, distance, runner, odds (if available)*

ARCHARCHARCH (Arch), Spendthrift Farm, \$10K, 123/13/2
8-TP, Alw, 5 1/2f, Tia Flor, \$2K KEE SEP yrl, 9-5
4-AQU, Msw, 1m, Arch Or Nothing, \$40K KEE SEP yrl, 15-1
7-TP, Msw, 6f, +Mercer Slough, \$60K OBS MAR 2yo, 15-1
BIG DRAMA (Montbrook), Bridlewood Farm, \$10K, 68/11/1
4-AQU, Msw, 1m, Smile Big, \$105K OBS APR 2yo, 7-5
COURT VISION (Gulch), Spendthrift, \$10K, 53/10/0
8-CT, Msw, 6 1/2f, Song and a Vision, 20-1
DROSSELMAYER (Distorted Humor), WinStar Farm, \$18K, 96/6/0
7-TP, Msw, 6f, Mystical Steal, \$7K OBS MAR 2yo, 8-1
DUBLIN (Afleet Alex), Keane Stud, \$8K, 71/3/0
7-AQU, Aoc, 1 1/16m, Celtic Chaos, \$55K OBS APR 2yo, 8-1
7-AQU, Aoc, 1 1/16m, Taoiseach, \$4K OBS APR 2yo, 20-1
FRIESAN FIRE (A.P. Indy), Country Life Farm, \$4K, 61/8/0
7-LRL, Msw, 1 1/16m, Hell of Afire, 20-1
GIROLAMO (A.P. Indy), Darley, \$15K, 87/17/1
7-AQU, Aoc, 1 1/16m, Charming Indy, \$40K SAR AUG yrl, 7-2
INTERACTIF (Broken Vow), Red River Farms, \$, 33/2/0
5-FG, Aoc, 1mT, Rocketringo, 6-1
JAGERMAN (Fusaichi Pegasus), 3/0/0
5-HAW, Msw, 6f, +Seeyalaterbye, 15-1
LIKE MINDED (Mineshaft), 7/0/0
5-HAW, Msw, 6f, +Little Nubb, 10-1

NOBLE COURT (Doneraile Court), 2/0/0

2-LRC, Mcl, 5 1/2f, +Noble Edition, \$19K RNA BAR MAY 2yo, 2-1
PADDY O'PRADO (El Prado {Ire}), Spendthrift Farm, \$15K, 106/12/0
5-HAW, Msw, 6f, Sync O'Paddy, 20-1
SIDNEY'S CANDY (Candy Ride {Arg}), WinStar Farm, \$15K, 87/9/0
7-LRL, Msw, 1 1/16m, Divine Confection, \$60K OBS AUG yrl, 12-1
3-GP, Aoc, 6f, Barbarenda, 7-2
SIENTE EL TRUENO (City Zip), 4/1/0
8-CT, Msw, 6 1/2f, Siente El Viento, 10-1
TIZWAY (Tiznow), Spendthrift Farm, \$25K, 73/5/2
7-TP, Msw, 6f, Quality Street, 20-1
TWIRLING CANDY (Candy Ride {Arg}), Lane's End Farm, \$15K, 92/21/0
7-TP, Msw, 6f, Sweet Ruth E., 15-1
8-TP, Alw, 5 1/2f, Twirlabout, 4-1
UNCLE MO (Indian Charlie), Ashford Stud, \$35K, 165/26/7
7-LRL, Msw, 1 1/16m, Securely, \$375K EAS MAY 2yo, 6-1
WILBURN (Bernardini), Spendthrift Farm, \$7K, 106/15/0
4-AQU, Msw, 1m, Native Crossing, \$85K OBS AUG yrl, 6-1
7-LRL, Msw, 1 1/16m, Whatifiwaswilling, \$10K OBS OPN 2yo, 8-1
1-DED, Msw, 5f, Looks Like Thunder, \$20K KEE SEP yrl, 5-1

First/second-crop starters to watch: Friday, December 11

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

OFFICER ROCKET (GB) (Officer), 15/2/0
8-CT, Msw, 6 1/2f, +Officer Buster, 10-1
TALE OF EKATI (Tale of the Cat), Darby Dan Farm, \$15K, 129/44/2
7-TP, Msw, 6f, +My Ekati Princess, 15-1

BREEDERS' EDITION AMERICA

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

7th-LRC, \$46,000, (S), (NW1\$X)/Opt. Clm (\$20,000), 12-10, 3yo/up, 5 1/2f, 1:02.57, ft.

CARTOONIST (g, 3, Comic Strip--Ivy Lane {SW}, by Devil On Ice)
Lifetime Record: SP, 9-4-1-0, \$80,390. O-Scott Herbertson; B-Dr. & Mrs. William Gray (CA); T-Jonathan Wong.

7th-FG, \$41,000, (S), 12-10, (NW1X), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:11.29, ft.

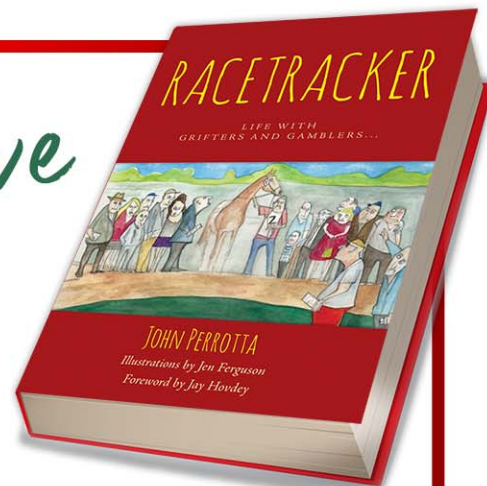
GRANDE BASIN (g, 3, Good and Tough--Silver Rail {SW, \$321,449}, by Dispersal) Lifetime Record: MSP, 15-2-5-5, \$120,085. O-William Deckwa Jr. & John Carbo; B-Coteau Grove Farms (LA); T-Edward J. Johnston.

9th-GP, \$35,000, (NW1X)/Opt. Clm (\$25,000), 12-10, 3yo/up, f/m, 7f (off turf), 1:24.70, ft.

COMET SIXTY TWO (f, 4, Stroll--Romance Dance, by Vision and Verse) Lifetime Record: 19-3-7-2, \$113,872. O-Michael Dubb; B-Ken Meeker & Phillip Cooper (FL); T-Chad C. Brown. *1/2 to Four Left Feet (Trippi), SW, \$354,948; and Perfect Step (Congrats), SW, \$264,630.



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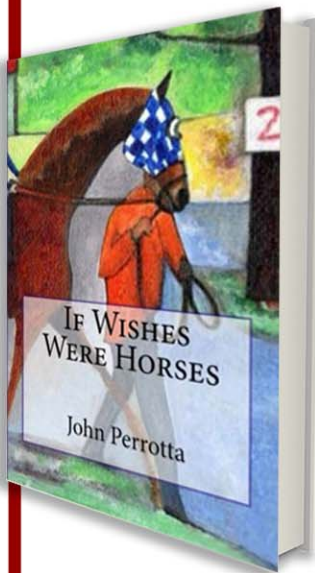
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- Amazon Customer Review

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-Amazon Customer Review

4th-PEN, \$34,717, (NW2X)/Opt. Clm (\$25,000), 12-10, 3yo/up, 6f, 1:10.34, ft.

MAXWELL SMARTY (g, 3, Smarty Jones--Sultry Katrina, by Decarchy) Lifetime Record: 6-3-0-2, \$71,383. O-Thomas Finacchio; B-Thomas Finacchio & Caroline Rebecca Finacchio (PA); T-Flint W. Stites.

8th-DED, \$33,950, (NW26M)/Opt. Clm (\$30,000), 12-9, 3yo/up, 6 1/2f, 1:20.07, ft.

HAZARDS OF LOVE (g, 8, Saint Liam--Spring Rush {MSW, \$226,475}, by Wild Rush) Lifetime Record: SP, 72-26-18-11, \$556,208. O-Maggi Moss; B-Hinkle Farms (KY); T-Thomas M. Amoss. *\$50,000 Ylg '08 KEESEP; \$12,000 RNA 2yo '09 OBSMAR.

3rd-PEN, \$33,300, (S), 12-9, (NW1X), 3yo/up, 1m 70y, 1:44.69, ft.

BARLOVENTO TIGER (c, 3, Big Brown--Mine Sweep, by End Sweep) Lifetime Record: 16-4-2-2, \$99,426. O-Arthur Geller; B-IWIN Farms LLC & IEAH Stables (PA); T-Patricia Farro. *\$6,000 Ylg '13 OBSAUG.

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7th-DED, \$32,300, 12-9, (NW2L), 2yo, 7f, 1:29.06, ft.

TEXAS JAMBALAYA (g, 2, Notional--A Wee Gift, by Jambalaya Jazz) Lifetime Record: SP, 8-2-1-2, \$61,396. O-Terry Eoff; B-Derby Lane Farm, LLC (KY); T-Terry Eoff. *\$5,000 Ylg '14 KEESEP.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Borderline, c, 2, **Line of David**--Golden Kiss, by Golden Missile. CT, 12-9, (S), 4 1/2f, :53.04. B-Denise Lingenfelter (WV). *\$30,000 Ylg '14 OBSAUG.

American League, c, 2, **Old Fashioned**--Queen Dancing, by Grand Slam. LRC, 12-10, (C), 5 1/2f, 1:04.07. B-Charles Deters (KY). *\$50,000 Ylg '14 FTKJUL; \$85,000 2yo '15 OBSMAR.

Daiquiri, f, 2, **Rock Slide**--Miss Bananas, by Mystery Storm. CT, 12-9, (S), 7f, 1:30.96. B-Olbin Farm (WV).

Johanna's Delight, g, 2, **Roman Ruler**--Tamdiid, by Horse Chestnut (Saf). CT, 12-9, 6 1/2f, 1:22.10. B-Sun Valley Farm (KY). *\$23,000 Ylg '14 FTKJUL; \$20,000 Ylg '14 EASSEP.

His Girl Friday, f, 4, **Freud**--Allens Blessing (SP, \$202,440), by Allen's Prospect. AQU, 12-10, 6f, 1:11.88. B-Nunzio & Dorothy DeMola (NY).

Mexican Miss, f, 4, **More Than Ready**--Laguna Plateada (Chi) (Ch. 3yo Filly & G1SW-Chi), by Sir Cat. FG, 12-10, 1mT, 1:39.45. B-Patinack Farm (KY). *\$37,000 RNA 3yo '14 FTKHRA.

Wade, g, 5, **Marino Marini**--Excessiveability, by In Excess (Ire). LRC, 12-10, (S), 5 1/2f, 1:04.07. B-Dennis Conner & Wade Jacobsen (CA).

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SIYOUNI SHARE SELLS ONLINE FOR €355,000



Siyouni, Europe's leading second-crop sire | Aga Khan Studs

A 1/50th share in Europe's leading second-crop sire **Siyouni (Fr)** (Pivotal {GB}) was purchased by Ireland's Merriebelle Farm for €355,000 on Arqana Online in a virtual auction that concluded Thursday. The price matched that paid by Hesmonds Studs for another 1/50th share in the Aga Khan Studs sire on Arqana Online Nov. 13.

Siyouni was France's leading 2-year-old sire last year and his profile was greatly bolstered this year thanks to his three-time Group 1 and Classic-winning daughter Ervedya (Fr), as well as Group 3 winner Bourree (Ger) and unbeaten juvenile Group 3 winner Trixia (Fr). Siyouni will stand for €30,000 at Haras de Bonneval next year, up from €20,000 this year. Siyouni's weanlings sold this year averaged \$92,383 off a €7,000 stud fee, and on the eve of last week's Arqana December Breeding Stock Sale, agent Mick Flanagan purchased a nomination to Siyouni for €52,000.

A total of 27 breeders and agents from France, Ireland and Britain registered, and 10 bids were placed.

"It is interesting to see that bidders who did not get the other share were still very active for this one, and that new bidders appeared to be interested as well," noted Arqana President Eric Hoyeau. "We will be happy to welcome more sales like these in 2016."

LONGINES HKIR 2015 HAVE OPEN FEEL

by Alan Carasso

Nearly every year, each of the four events that comprise the Longines Hong Kong International Races has a decided favorite, whether it be a local or a highly regarded visitor. When the fields were drawn Thursday for Sunday's main events, it became abundantly clear that this year's HKIR are competitive and wide open, giving punters the world over plenty of directions to turn.

Three of the four defending champions from 2014 are back looking for more, but even **Able Friend (Aus)** (Shamardal), so imperious in smacking his rivals around in the G1 Longines Hong Kong Mile last December, is anything but a sure thing. His shock defeat last time out at the hands of 36-1 **Beauty Flame (Ire)** (Footstepsinthesand {GB}) in the G2 Jockey Club Mile only hammered home the fact that races are not run on paper.

Cont. p5

in TDN America today...

DOWN THE SHEDROW WITH MARK CASSE

Christie DeBernardis chats with leading conditioner Mark Casse about his stable stand-outs and up-and-coming prospects.

Story in today's TDN America.

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YORK SPEAKS ON BETTING PARTNERS

York Racecourse will not enter into new sponsorship deals with bookmakers not signed on as Authorized Betting Partners, however, it will continue to accept sponsorship from bookmakers who already sponsor its races. York currently has race sponsorship agreements with Betfred and Sky Bet, among others, who are not ABPs.

Authorized Betting Partners are bookmakers deemed by British racing to have a fair funding relationship with the sport in relation to offshore digital operations and Levy contributions. The Jockey Club Racecourses and Arena Racing Company, which own many of the country's major tracks, announced in October that they would not enter into any new sponsorship agreements with bookmakers that do not meet ABP standards. York is the first of Britain's four major independent racecourses to state its position on ABPs; Goodwood, Ascot and Newbury have yet to comment.

"York welcomes both the positive action already taken by some digital bookmakers to sign up as ABPs, as well as the support York receives through the strong, long-standing partnerships that already exist with bookmakers who sponsor at York," said a statement from the racecourse. "Whilst working to deliver for its existing and valued bookmaker sponsors, the course hopes that it can encourage them and other betting companies to reach a wider settlement with the racing industry. As agreements for 2016 are already in place, there are no renewals pending with non ABP bookmakers. To demonstrate its support for the principle of the scheme, in the short term, the course will not sign sponsorships with any new betting brands that are not authorised betting partners. As this is an important matter for the sport, York and the other large independent racecourses will continue to engage with interested parties of all perspectives, as the detail and operation of the scheme develops."



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LEADING EUROPEAN FIRST CROP SIRES IN 2015

In order of worldwide prize money (Northern Hemisphere crops)

#	Sire	Rnrs	Wnrs	Wins	BT Wnrs	% Wnrs/Rnrs	Total £
1	Zoffany	85	30	41	5	35	815,834
2	Dream Ahead	52	17	26	2	33	526,060
3	Canford Cliffs	73	33	43	3	45	503,281
4	Roderic O'Connor	50	18	26	2	36	432,089
5	Poet's Voice	64	17	29	3	27	283,199
6	Lilbourne Lad	71	25	30	0	35	250,613
7	Frozen Power	71	20	26	0	28	187,224
8	Wootton Bassett	15	6	9	1	40	148,566
9	Pour Moi	30	9	11	1	30	120,335
10	Sehrezad	3	1	3	0	33	106,150

Statistics supplied by Hyperion Promotions Ltd. Results received to Dec. 8.

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FLYING START ALUMNI CONFERENCE BEGINS

Michael Smith, Darley Flying Start 1st Year Trainee

Thursday marked another Darley Flying Start milestone with the beginning of its two-day inaugural Alumni Conference at the Moller Centre in Cambridge, UK. With 130 graduates spread across the world to date, Darley Flying Start brought its network of graduates

together again, giving them a two-day continuing education opportunity. Over 40 graduates from Europe and America are attending this conference, titled

Masterclass: Reputation and Brand, which is taking a

progressive approach by looking outside the Thoroughbred industry box to other world-class organizations in order to enhance the personal development of its graduates and, through them, the fortunes of the greater racing industry.

While education has always been one of the defining hallmarks of Darley Flying Start, a portion of the conference is also dedicated to promoting and facilitating leadership by harnessing the collective brainpower of alumni to discuss and address the global horse racing brand.

In the first section of day one, attendees looked to entrepreneur Philip Turner of the Chestnut Group; Barbara Clancy, legal counsel of World Rugby; and Chairman of Irish Sports Council Kieran Mulvey on how to build their own brands and manage crises in today's dynamic and fast-changing world. One of the topics covered in depth by the speakers was the challenges relating to brand that today's up-and-coming generation are going to face as they move through their careers in an increasingly connected and shrinking world. To paraphrase the emcee of the day Jocelyn Targett, one can spend a lifetime building a reputation and brand, but in today's world, all of that can be lost in 140 characters. As such, one of the key aspects that Phillip Turner highlighted was understanding the currency of individual or company brand.

Essentially, the question was "what is it that customers or clients truly find valuable when a service or product fails to meet expectations?" Another challenge discussed in relation to Kieran Mulvey and Barbara Clancy's experience of working in the professional sports industry was the importance of reputation on an industry-wide scale and how other international sports and their governing bodies are facing tremendous scrutiny and investigation worldwide because of their tarnished reputations.



Clodagh Kavanagh and '05 graduate Francis Graffard, recipient of the Alumni Business Award | Mary Ellet

TIMEFORM

Aidan O'Brien's Top Rated 2-Year-Olds

Horse	Rating	Year
Minardi	119p	2000
Beckett (Ire)	116	2000
Hemingway (Ire)	115p	2000
Johannesburg	127	2001
Rock of Gibraltar (Ire)	118	2001
Hawk Wing	116p	2001
Tomahawk	118	2002
Hold That Tiger	117p	2002
Brian Boru (GB)	117p	2002
One Cool Cat	118p	2003
Troubadour (Ire)	114	2003
Colossus (Ire)	114	2003
Ad Valorem	121p	2004
Oratorio (Ire)	119	2004
Footstepsinthesand (GB)	114p	2004
Horatio Nelson (Ire)	123+	2005
George Washington (Ire)	118p	2005
Rumplestiltskin (Ire)	116	2005
Holy Roman Emperor (Ire)	125	2006
Eagle Mountain (GB)	118	2006
Admiralofthefleet	116p	2006
Listen (Ire)	117p	2007
Henrythenavigator	115	2007
Lizard Island	114	2007
Mastercraftsman (Ire)	120	2008
Rip Van Winkle (Ire)	115p	2008
Westphalia (Ire)	110	2008
St Nicholas Abbey (Ire)	126p	2009
Jan Vermeer (Ire)	119p	2009
Beethoven (Ire)	117	2009
Roderic O'Connor (Ire)	119p	2010
Zoffany (Ire)	116	2010
Seville (Ger)	116p	2010
Wrote (Ire)	118p	2011
Maybe (Ire)	117p	2011
Camelot (GB)	117p	2011
Kingsbarns (Ire)	120p	2012
Battle of Marengo (Ire)	116p	2012
George Vancouver	116	2012
War Command	120p	2013
Australia (GB)	116p	2013
Giovanni Boldini	115p	2013
John F Kennedy (Ire)	116p	2014
Found (Ire)	115p	2014
Smuggler's Cove (Ire)	115	2014

Turf annual ratings for all horses that were Aidan O'Brien-trained on their last 2-year-old start. For more on Timeform, click [here](#).

Flying Start Conference cont.

The consensus among alumni was that it is this generation's responsibility to maintain and collectively lift even higher the Thoroughbred industry brand and reputation through both business and personal interactions.

Following the lively panel discussion, the conference moved into its second phase where Darley Flying Start Manager Clodagh Kavanagh presented the alumni with a case study entitled *Global Horseracing: What's Our Brand?* and opened up the floor to discussion. Attendees then broke up into small groups to brainstorm the topic before reconvening and presenting their collective findings to the group. One of the comments that was consistent in the various group discussions was that racing, regardless of how it is branded on a global or national level, must maintain a reputation of integrity in both business practices and horse care.



ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

+Sweet Temptation (Ire), f, 2, **Amadeus Wolf (GB)**--Summer Spice (Ire), by Key of Luck. CHD, 12-10, 7f (AWT), 1:25.83. B-Irish National Stud (IRE). *€9,000 Ylg '14 TISEP; 15,000gns 2yo '15 TATHIT.

Kelly's Finest (Ire), f, 3, **Intense Focus**--Priory Rock (Ire), by Rock of Gibraltar (Ire). CHD, 12-10, 13f 66y (AWT), 2:52.17. B-Ballylinch Stud (IRE). *25,000gns Ylg '13 TAOCT; £7,200 3yo '15 DONNOV.



GOFFS CLOSES SALE SEASON

Goffs brought down the curtain on its 2015 sale season Thursday with the second and final session of the December National Hunt Sale. A total of 325 horses changed hands for €3,250,500, compared to €2,743,200 for 34 fewer sold 12 months ago. The average and median were up 6% and 7%, respectively, to €10,002 and €7,500. The buyback rate was up substantially to 33.5%.

Topping trade was [lot 301](#), a French-bred colt foal by Walk In The Park (Ire). He was hammered down to LG Walker for €70,000 Thursday. The 8-year-old mare Polly's Present (Ire) (Presenting {GB}) ([lot 558](#)) sold in foal to Fame And Glory (GB) for €50,000 to BLM Bloodstock, while another colt foal, [lot 318](#) by Robin des Champs (Fr), filled the third spot when selling for €40,000 to Redpender Stud.



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GOFFS DECEMBER NH SALE

CUMULATIVE	2015	2014
• Catalogued	566	423
• No. Offered	489	372
• No. Sold	325	291
• RNAs	164	81
• % RNAs	33.5%	21.8%
• High Price	€70,000	€72,000
• Gross	€3,250,500	€2,743,200
• Average (% change)	€10,002 (+6%)	€9,427
• Median (% change)	€7,500 (+7%)	€7,000



Thursday's Result:

5th-PAF, €16,000, Mdn, 12-10, 2yo, f, 7 1/2f (AWT), 1:34.90, st.

AJOU (FR) (f, 2, Siyouni {Fr})--Azucar {Ire}, by Desert Prince {Ire}, runner-up over seven furlongs at Chantilly Nov. 2, was sent off the 4-5 favorite and broke well to stalk the early pace. Sent to the front approaching the furlong pole, the €70,000 ARQAUG yearling stayed on strongly to score by 2 1/2 lengths from Villa Bonita (Elusive Quality). The winner, whose dam is a half to the G1SP Reply (Ire) (Oasis Dream {GB}), is a half-sister to King David (Fr) (Iffraaj {GB}), SP-Fr, \$344,354. Lifetime Record: 2 starts, 1 win, 1 place, €13,000. [Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.](#)

O-Gerard Augustin-Normand; B-G L Ferron & Mme P Chailleux (FR); T-Jean-Claude Rouget.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Little Ghetto Boy (GB), g, 2, **Lawman (Fr)**--Ahea, by Giant's Causeway. LYS, 12-9, 9f (AWT), 1:54.65. B-Litex Commerce Ad (GB). *20,000gns Ylg '14 TATOCT.

+Mrs Lovett (Ire), f, 2 **Sir Percy (GB)**--Madame Boulangere (GB) (SP-Eng, \$241,558), by Royal Applause (GB). LYS, 12-9, 9f (AWT), 1:55.46. B-Mount Coote Partnership (IRE).

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Longines HKIR 2015 Have Open Feel

cont. from p1

Able Friend's trainer John Moore--who will saddle 10 of the day's 55 entrants--is impressed by the depth of talent that has descended on Hong Kong for the week.

"Overall, the Jockey Club has attracted some really talented horses this year, which makes our job much tougher, but that's what the event is all about," he said. "We want to see the best horses to really fully test our Hong Kong horses and see that our best are equal to world class on the day. That's what it's all about."

Designs on Rome (Ire) (Holy Roman Emperor {Ire}), provided Moore with an HKIR double last year, just outgaming his one-time stablemate **Military Attack (Ire)** (Oratorio {Ire}) in the G1 Longines Hong Kong Cup, but that 5-year-old underwent surgery on both front fetlock joints and will have just his second run of the year in his title defense.

"Designs On Rome galloped [Thursday] morning and he had a good blow," Moore commented. "We know he's all heart and he'll be running hard until he hits the line." But, he cautioned, "There's always going to be that doubt second race up." [Click for the HKJC race form guide.](#)

Japan's Cup?

With the stalls set up right in front of the Sha Tin grandstand, the run into the first turn for the Hong Kong Cup is reasonably short, putting a decided premium on a good draw. **Staphanos (Jpn)** (Deep Impact {Jpn}), one of three in the race for his sire and one of six on the program, returns to Hong Kong for the first time since belying odds of 17-1 to finish two lengths' second to **Blazing Speed (GB)** (Dylan Thomas {Ire}) in the G1 Audemars Piguet Queen Elizabeth II Cup over this course and distance in April. Exiting a longshot third in the G1 Tenno Sho (Autumn), Staphanos saw his task turn slightly tougher when he was assigned post 11 in the field of 14.

"We may have to think about our strategy now or simply let our jockey ride him as he sees fit," said assistant trainer Kazuo Fujiwara of the 4-year-old, who typically settled midpack.



Dr. Cornel Li selects gate 10 for Able Friend for Sunday's G1 Longines Hong Kong Mile | HKJC photo

In contrast to that one's style, his compatriot **A Shin Hikari (Jpn)** (Deep Impact {Jpn}) prefers to strut his stuff from the head of affairs. Able to use that front-running prowess to best **Satono Aladdin (Jpn)** (Deep Impact {Jpn}) in the G2 Mainichi Okan Oct. 11, he went too hard in the Tenno Sho and faded to be a well-backed ninth. The gray, who quickened up well down the straight Thursday drew just to the outside of Staphanos, and his track rider Tomoyasu Sakaguchi said, "there is no option but to lead from the draw."

Sunday, Sha Tin, Hong Kong, post time: 4:30 p.m.

LONGINES HONG KONG CUP-G1, HK\$25,000,000 (US\$3,225,574), 3yo/up, 2000mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER
1	Military Attack (Ire)	Oratorio (Ire)	Purton	Fownes
2	Blazing Speed (GB)	Dylan Thomas (Ire)	Callan	A Cruz
3	Nuovo Record (Jpn)	Heart's Cry (Jpn)	Moore	Saito
4	Free Port Lux (GB)	Oasis Dream (GB)	Jarnet	Head
5	Lucia Valentina (NZ)	Savabeel (Aus)	Oliver	Lees
6	Designs on Rome (Ire)	Holy Roman Empr (Ire)	Moreira	Moore
7	Gailo Chop (Fr)	Deportivo (GB)	Soumillon	de Wtrgnt
8	Dan Excel (Ire)	Shamardal	Berry	Moore

LONGINES HONG KONG CUP-G1 cont.

9	Free Eagle (Ire)	High Chaparral (Ire)	Smullen	Weld
10	Beauty Only (Ire)	Holy Roman Empr (Ire)	Mosse	A Cruz
11	Staphanos (Jpn)	Deep Impact (Jpn)	Tosaki	Fujiwara
12	A Shin Hikari (Jpn)	Deep Impact (Jpn)	Take	Sakiguchi
13	Criterion (NZ)	Sebring (Aus)	Williams	Hayes
14	Satono Aladdin (Jpn)	Deep Impact (Jpn)	McDonald	Ikee

All carry 126 pounds, bar Lucia Valentina & Nuovo Record, 122.

Chief Protagonists Alongside One Another in Mile

Able Friend will attempt to give Hong Kong-based horses their 10th consecutive victory in the Mile and will be favored to do so, despite his aforementioned loss to Beauty Flame in the JC Mile 22 days ago. As the strapping chestnut did last year en route to his 4 1/4-length romp, he has drawn post 10 for this attempt.

"I'm not worried about the draw with Able Friend. He's the type of horse who gets back in any case and I can ride my own race on him from there," his jockey Joao Moreira said.



Maurice | HKJC photo

Cont. p6

Mile cont.

Maurice (Jpn) (Screen Hero {Jpn}), winner of five straight and widely regarded as the best chance to cause an upset in the Mile, will eyeball Able Friend to his outside in gate 11. Hat Trick (Jpn) (Sunday Silence) is the last non-Hong Kong horse to take out the Mile back in 2005. Maurice exits a victory in the G1 Mile Championship, the same event used as a springboard to his Hong Kong success by Hat Trick.

In contrast to the Cup, the horses in the Mile have the better part of 900 meters to slot in and get a spot, making the draw somewhat less relevant. **Mondialiste (Ire)** (Galileo {Ire}), who finished with a flourish to win the GI Woodbine Mile this past September and came with a similarly stinging late rally to finish runner-up to Tepin (Bernstein) in the GI Breeders' Cup Mile Oct. 31, drew gate 13, but the result was of little concern to his connections.

"It (gate 13) really doesn't have a big effect [on us]," said assistant trainer Fearghal Davis. "We're going to be taking our time anyway. From out there with a long run into the turn we can make our own trip, hopefully."

Sunday, Sha Tin, Hong Kong, post time: 3:50 p.m.

LONGINES HONG KONG MILE-G1, HK\$23,000,000 (US\$2,967,535),

3yo/up, 1600mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER
1	Giant Treasure	Mizzen Mast	Soumillon	Gibson
2	Red Dubawi (Ire)	Dubawi (Ire)	Suborics	Mader
3	Esoterique (Ire)	Danehill Dancer (Ire)	Boudot	Fabre
4	Fiero (Jpn)	Deep Impact (Jpn)	Demuro	Fujiwara
5	Beauty Flame (Ire)	Footstepsinthesand (GB)	Mosse	A Cruz
6	Secret Sham (Aus)	Shamardal	Berry	Moore
7	Danon Platina (Jpn)	Deep Impact (Jpn)	Ebina	Kunieda
8	Romantic Touch (Aus)	Northern Meteor (Aus)	Callan	A Cruz
9	Toormore (Ire)	Arakan	Doyle	Hannon
10	Able Friend (Aus)	Shamardal	Moreira	Moore
11	Maurice (Jpn)	Screen Hero (Jpn)	Moore	Hori
12	Contentment (Aus)	Hussonet	Rawiller	Size
13	Mondialiste (Ire)	Galileo (Ire)	Tudhope	O'Meara
14	Rewarding Hero (GB)	Exceed and Excel (Aus)	Bowman	Mooore

All carry 126 pounds, bar Danon Platina, 125; and Esoterique, 122.

Take Your Pick in the Sprint

If the G1 Longines Hong Kong Sprint were a sporting event between two teams, the line would very likely read 'pick-em.' A case can easily be made for half of the 14 rivals, but the shortest of the four races and another abbreviated run into the bend could wreak havoc on those with double-digit draws.

That fact applies to a horse no more than it does **Peniaphobia (Ire)** (Dandy Man {Ire}), the 2014 Sprint runner-up who was saddled with the riverside gate in 14. He has Joao Moreira calling at the controls, but a similar scenario from gate 11 last time in the G2 Jockey Club Sprint saw the 4-year-old ridden for pace. He set fast fractions and held grimly deep into the final 100 meters before being overtaken by Gold-Fun (Ire) (Le Vie Dei Colori {GB}). The 'Magic Man' has his own ideas on what sort of trip he'd like to sit this time around.



Peniaphobia | HKJC photo

"I will ride the horse however I'm instructed to do, but I would think it might be best to ride him a bit quieter, looking for some cover, from that gate," the Brazilian explained.

There is no Lord Kanaloa (Jpn) (King Kamehameha {Jpn}) among the trio of Japanese short-trackers signed on, each of whom drew in double digits.

"There were only two options left. It could not be helped," said assistant trainer Kazuo Fujiwara of G1 Sprinters' S. winner **Straight Girl (Jpn)** (Fuji Kiseki {Jpn}). "She always breaks well from the gate and, at least, we have no concern about being boxed in."

Americans Satisfied With Post Positions

The connections of both American-bred sprinters were at peace with the results of Thursday's draw.

Trainer Wesley Ward arrived in Hong Kong late Wednesday and made his first appearance at Sha Tin to oversee the return to the track of **Green Mask** (Mizzen Mast). The 4-year-old has been under something of a minor injury cloud after appearing a bit lame the day after zipping 800 meters in :47.3. The



Green Mask | HKJC photo

conditioner shed some light on the situation.

"He trains in glue-on shoes and he went quicker than I wanted him to go on a pretty firm track," Ward explained. "Sometimes that glue bruises their inside heel, and that's what happened. He initially came out of the work beautifully, but the next

morning, he was a little sore when they pulled him out of the stall. We pulled the shoe off for the last two days and soaked it with hot water and Epsom salts and pulled the soreness out. When I pulled him out first thing [Thursday] morning, he was completely sound. He trained beautifully—I trained him barefoot and I don't see any problems at all. It happens all the time when you train a horse with glue-on shoes. They breeze a little quick and that glue sort of jams into the quarter." **Cont. p7**

A few hours later, Ward and his son were the last ones to be assigned their gate for the Sprint, and he pronounced himself happy with the result.

"The 11 is good," he commented. "He's not a guy with a ton of speed anyways, so he's going to break, sit back there and come with a run."



Mongolian Saturday | HKJC photo


Mongolian Saturday (Any Given Saturday), who defeated Green Mask into third in the GI Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint Oct. 31, drew the four hole. Trainer Ganbat Enebish was not overly disappointed, saying, "We wanted

eight or nine. Four is so-so, but it is my owner's lucky number." Jockey Florent Geroux was decidedly more satisfied. "I think it's a good post," the Frenchman indicated. "We'll be able to save some ground right off the bat. But with him, I don't think it really matters. He breaks very sharp from the gate and he can do pretty much anything you ask him to do. If no one wants to go, he can take the lead, but if somebody wants to go faster than he, I can just let them go. He's very flexible and I like my post."

Sunday, Sha Tin, Hong Kong, post time: 2:40 p.m.

LONGINES HONG KONG SPRINT-G1, HK\$18,500,000

(US\$2,967,535), 3yo/up, 1200mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER
1	Dundonnell	First Defence	Whyte	Gibson
2	Not Listenin'tome (Aus)	Dylan Thomas (Ire)	Bowman	Moore
3	Rich Tapestry (Ire)	Holy Roman Emperor (Ire)	Berry	Chang
4	Mongolian Saturday 	Any Given Saturday	Geroux	Enebish
5	Lucky Nine (Ire)	Dubawi (Ire)	Prebble	Fownes
6	Gold-Fun (Ire)	Le Vie Dei Colori (GB)	Soumillon	Gibson
7	Charles the Great (Ire)	Holy Roman Emperor (Ire)	Mosse	Moore
8	Sole Power (GB)	Kyllachy (GB)	Hayes	Lynam
9	Strathmore (Aus)	Fastnet Rock (Aus)	Moore	Millard
10	Mikki Isle (Jpn)	Deep Impact (Jpn)	Hamanaka	Otonashi
11	Green Mask	Mizzen Mast	Rosario	Ward
12	Sakura Gospel (Jpn)	Sakura President (Jpn)	Purton	Ozeki
13	Straight Girl (Jpn)	Fuji Kiseki (Jpn)	Tosaki	Fujiwara
14	Peniaphobia (Ire)	Dandy Man (Ire)	Moreira	A Cruz

All carry 126 pounds, bar Straight Girl, 122.

Flintshire Draws Mid-Gate for Vase Repeat

When Juddmonte Farms' representative Ric Wylie stepped up onto the stage to select a gate for 2014 G1 Longines Hong Kong Vase winner **Flintshire (GB)** (Dansili {GB}), one of the options remaining was

something connections could live with, the others significantly more dreadful. Fate was on Wylie's side, however, as he peeled off the sticker to reveal gate eight for this year's GI Sword Dancer

Invitational S. winner and G1 Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe runner-up.

"I felt I was under a bit of pressure there, the good gates were disappearing fast, so I was happy to draw the eight post," Wylie commented.

Dariyan (Fr) (Shamardal), who will try to repeat the feat of his dam, the 2009 Vase heroine Daryakana (Fr) (Selkirk), will load a couple of gates further to the inside in stall six.

"Barrier six is a good draw over the 2400 meters. It gives us plenty of options," his trainer Alain de Royer-Dupre commented.



Flintshire | HKJC photo

Sunday, Sha Tin, Hong Kong, post time: 2:00 p.m.

LONGINES HONG KONG VASE-G1, HK\$16,500,000 (US\$2,128,911),

3yo/up, 2400mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER
1	Helene Super Star	War Front	Whyte	A Cruz
2	Dominant (Ire)	Cacique (Ire)	Purton	Moore
3	Ming Dynasty (Fr)	King's Best	U Rispoli	Delzangles
4	Ensuring (GB)	New Approach (Ire)	Prebble	Size
5	Helene Happy Star (Ire)	Zamindar	Moreira	Moore
6	Dariyan (Fr)	Shamardal	Soumillon	de Ryr-Dpre
7	Khaya (NZ)	Librettist	Williams	Size
8	Flintshire (GB)	Dansili (GB)	Cheminaud	Fabre
9	Highland Reel (Ire)	Galileo (Ire)	Moore	O'Brien
10	Preferment (NZ)	Zabeel (NZ)	Bowman	Waller
11	Harbour Master	Mizzen Mast	Berry	Moore
12	Cirrus des Aigles (Fr)	Even Top (Ire)	Peslier	Brnde-Barbe
13	Cannock Chase	Lemon Drop Kid	Smullen	Stoute

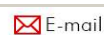
All carry 126, bar Highland Reel, Ming Dynasty & Dariyan, 121.



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'FRIEND' READY AND 'ABLE'

Compiled by Alan Carasso, quotes from HKJC notes team

If trainer John Moore is lacking in confidence that **Able Friend (Aus)** (Shamardal) can bounce back from an unexpected loss in the G2 Jockey Club Mile Nov. 21, he certainly isn't showing it. The Australian, already the owner of six victories on Hong Kong International day, is looking forward to adding to that total, and his hopes were boosted after the stable stalwart shone in a Thursday morning work down the Sha Tin backstretch.

After warming up beneath an exercise rider around the tight trotting ring in the stable area, Able Friend walked off and the



Able Friend working beneath jockey Joao Moreira | HKJC photo

reins were handed over to Joao Moreira. The duo stepped on to the track at the top of the chute, right at the 1800-meter start, and broke off into an easy gallop, getting that opening two furlongs in :27.8. Moreira gradually increased the tempo and

allowed the nearly 1300-pound chestnut to stretch out over the next 400 meters, completing the work in :25.6.

"I'm happy with him, that was just to keep him turning over," Moore commented. "All he needed was a freshen-up after his race in the mile a couple of weeks back and he's there now, he's cherry ripe. Joao had a big smile on his face when he came back."

The victory in the 2014 Mile was the second of six on the bounce, culminating with a success in the G1 Champions Mile that was as ridiculously easy as the one he'd recorded six months prior. It all came crashing down on the opening Tuesday at Royal Ascot, as Able Friend was undone by the track, or the surroundings or Solow (Ire) (Singspiel {Ire}) or some combination of all those. Despite the loss, Moore believes that experience could make Able Friend a better horse.

"He might have been beaten at Ascot, but the time Able Friend had in the paddock at Newmarket after that race did him the world of good," Moore opined.

Able Friend did not face the starter again until the Premier Bowl H. over a 1200-meter trip that was supposed to be way too sharp. In spite of that, a 133-pound impost and the presence of

nearly all the best local sprinters, Able Friend whooshed past late. That effort may have left him on the dull side for the Jockey Club Mile, but given the impression he made Thursday morning, there's no reason to believe a title defense is out of reach.

JAPANESE RUNNERS GET FINAL POLISH

Japan will field no fewer than 10 starters at Sunday's International meeting, and, as is their custom, several of the runners finished off their main preparations with some fast work Thursday morning.

Straight Girl (Jpn) (Fuji Kiseki {Jpn}), third to the sidelined Aerovelocity (NZ) (Pins {Aus}) in last year's race, had her race-day rider Keita Tosaki in the irons as she clocked a relatively easy :25 flat for 400 meters while looking a touch unfocused.

"I did not ask her a lot, just tried to run comfortably today, so I asked her to drive strongly at the end," said the jockey, who was a

creditable third in Wednesday's Longines International Jockeys' Championship at Happy Valley. "She responded very well and seemed to be able to shift into top gear. She looks well."

Her fellow Sprint contestants worked over a bit further. **Mikki Isle (Jpn)** (Deep Impact {Jpn}) went 800 meters in :50.7 (:28.4, :22.3), while **Sakura Gospel (Jpn)** (Sakura President {Jpn}) galloped over 1200 meters in 1:26.4 (:33.6, :30.3, :22.5).

Hong Kong Cup candidate **A Shin Hikari (Jpn)** (Deep Impact {Jpn}) was put through his paces by Yutaka Take and was given the time of 1:28 for his six-furlong 'breeze,' which was capped off by an ultimate 400 meters in :24.3.

"He sometimes has an issue with his temperament and it is new for him to gallop on turf," Take explained. "But I think he is in good condition and looks well. Hopefully he will be settled on race day."

Maurice (Jpn) (Screen Hero {Jpn}) did not do any fast work Thursday morning and was relegated to a soft canter twice past the stands. He was noticeably wet in his left shoulder as he made his way past the press on his way back to the barn on a morning that was neither especially warm nor humid.

"He cantered nicely," offered Masanori Watanabe, assistant to trainer Noriyuki Hori. "The only concern with him is that he is tense. He is a bit nervous with the new surroundings, but other than that, things have gone smoothly up to now." **Cont. p9**



Straight Girl with jockey Keita Tosaki
HKJC photo

Japanese Runners cont.

One of the more unexposed Japanese runners is the 3-year-old **Danon Platina (Jpn)** (Deep Impact {Jpn}). The gray colt, winner of the G1 Asahi Hai Futurity S. at two, has made a favorable impression on track this week and impressed again Thursday by finishing 800 meters of work in :23.3.

"He concentrated on his work today," commented Keisuke Miyata, assistant to trainer Sakae Kunieda. "It was raining last night, but the track condition seemed to be better than expected. He was happy and moved nicely in the stretch. He is looking well."

PREFERMENT A FIRST FOR WALLER

Trainer Chris Waller oversees some 120 horses at Sydney's Rosehill Gardens and has topped the city's trainers' premiership on five consecutive occasions. The 41-year-old will be represented by his very first Hong Kong runner when



Preferment and jockey Nash Rawiller
HKJC photo

Preferment (NZ) (Zabeel {NZ}) loads the gates for Sunday's G1 Hong Kong Vase.

The 4-year-old colt, winner of the 2014 G1 Victoria Derby, was a near-miss runner-up in the G1 Rosehill Guineas three starts later, but was spelled off an eighth-place effort as the favorite in the

G1 Australian Derby this past April. He upset the G2 Hill S. at Randwick in his second-up run Sept. 19 and backed up that effort with a rallying success in the G1 Turnbull S. at Flemington Oct. 4. He can be excused for his ninth behind stablemate Winx (Aus) (Street Cry {Ire}) in the G1 Cox Plate and 20th in the G1 Melbourne Cup and returns to arguably his preferred 2400-meter trip Sunday afternoon.

Working over 1200 meters on the course proper with jockey Hugh Bowman in the saddle, Preferment was timed in an easy 1:29.1, with a final 400 meters in a smooth :25 flat.

"He's well. He brushed home 400 [meters] this morning," the New Zealander said on his first morning at trackwork. "I just wanted to take the edge off him, as he's quite a masculine horse and he was proving a bit of a handful yesterday. He's a pretty good horse and I would rate him a top-three chance. He's ready to fight. You can forgive his past two runs at home and he comes here quite fresh. He didn't really have a run in the Melbourne Cup the way it panned out. They went very slowly and he wasn't taxed. If they'd gone 10 seconds quicker in the [Melbourne] Cup and he'd had a tough run, he probably wouldn't be here."

IN OTHER NEWS

A daily roundup of racing articles in non-industry media

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[The Griffin's international value plays for the Hong Kong International Races](#)

Andrew Hawkins looks at four different markets from around the world and the best bet for each country on Sunday's big races. **Andrew Hawkings, South China Morning Post**



Thursday's Result:

QUEEN SHO-Listed, ¥35,700,000, Funabashi, 12-9, 3yo/up, f, 1800m, 1:53.60, gd.

1--**#DEAR MY DARLING (JPN)**, 117, f, 3, by Heart's Cry (Jpn)

1st Dam: **Honestly Darling (GSP-US, \$152,260)**, by Kingmambo

2nd Dam: **Reluctant Guest**, by Hostage

3rd Dam: **Vaguely Royal**, by Vaguely Noble (GB)

O-Yasushi Kubota; B-Oiwake Farm; T-Takanori Kikuzawa; J-Norihiro Yokoyama; ¥21,000,000. Lifetime Record: MGSP-Jpn. 9-3-1-2. *1/2 to Irrefutable (Unbridled's Song), GISP-US, \$286,980.

2--**Trois Bonheur (Jpn)**, 125, m, 5, Bago (Fr)--Chunyi (Jpn), by Sunday Silence. O-Koji Murano; B-Shadai Farm; ¥7,350,000.

3--**Not Authority (Jpn)**, 115, f, 4, Swept Overboard--Friendly Manner(Jpn), by Sunday Silence. O-Teruya Yoshida; B-Shadai Farm; ¥4,200,000.

Margins: NK, 3/4, HF. Odds: 7.10, 0.70, 12.90.

RACING NSW APPOINTS DIRECTORS

John Messara and Russell Balding have been re-appointed to the Racing NSW board as directors, in addition to new directors Saranne Cooke and Jennifer Owen.

"Chair John Messara and new Deputy Chair Russell Balding will continue to offer exceptional leadership of the board, delivering dividends for the industry," said New South Wales's Deputy Premier and Minister for Racing Troy Grant. "I congratulate Saranne Cooke and Jennifer Owen, who bring their own considerable business, finance, industry and management skills and greater female representation to the board while Ms. Cooke, from White Rock near Bathurst, will also be a passionate advocate for country racing." **Cont. p10**

Racing NSW cont.

The announcement of the new board comes just weeks after the New South Wales state government legislated wagering tax parity with Victoria, meaning the state will see an additional A\$235 million for racing over the next five years and A\$90 million each year after.

"Racing is so important to our state's economy, with Thoroughbreds alone contributing A\$2.6 billion annually and providing full-time employment to over 21,000 people," Grant added. "I have faith in the board to guide Racing NSW through this exciting time, ensuring the money is invested wisely in order to grow the sport for the benefit of all race goers."



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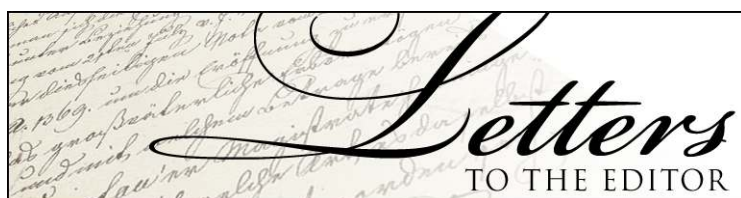
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Alberto Stein, Haras La Leyenda

I am writing to let TDN readers know that business-friendly conservative Mauricio Macri was sworn in as Argentina's new president Thursday, turning the page on 12 years under left-wing power couple Nestor and Cristina Kirchner.

The son of a wealthy businessman, he rose to fame as the president of Argentina's most popular football club, Boca Juniors, during a storied string of trophy wins. A father of four, Macri had been mayor of Buenos Aires since 2007.

He has stressed his pro-business credentials, naming a cabinet with ministers from the ranks of companies like IBM, Shell, General Motors and Deutsche Bank.

During his campaign, Mr. Macri promised to lift all export and import barriers, in order to start an economic reconstruction of Argentina.

We are very happy having Mr. Macri as the new President. We will have more freedom, he promised zero poverty, and there will be better security. In connection to the horse industry, his promise to lift import/export barriers will allow Argentinians and the world horse community to restart the flow of horses from North to South, and from South to North.



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