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SAM'S SISTER STRIKES AGAIN

Favored **Sam's Sister** (Brother Derek) overtook a game **Sweet Marini** (Marino Marini) in deep stretch to win the GII Santa Monica S. by 1 1/4 lengths at Santa Anita Monday. The chestnut filly, coming off a win in the GI La Brea S., settled into a stalking position as Sweet Marini was three wide in a three-way battle for the lead down the backstretch.

Dancinthenightaway (Indian Charlie) asserted control after a quarter in :22.10, but Sweet Marini battled back and loomed a threat after a half in :43.87. The gray filly grabbed the lead, but Sam's Sister was winding up for her run with a wide rally into the stretch.



Sam's Sister
Benoit

Sweet Marini gave way grudgingly as Sam's Sister swept to her second straight graded stakes tally. "We got :22 and :43 [fractions], so it makes it a little easier to close ground," admitted winning trainer and co-owner Jerry Hollendorfer. "We thought that might happen, but then when Dancinthenightaway kind of shook loose a little bit, it looked a little bit risky. But we were able to sustain and run her down in the end."

Cont. p3

ROMAN CHAPA SUSPENDED

by *T.D. Thornton*

Roman Chapa, a top Texas-based jockey who has been suspended twice before for carrying an illegal electrical device during a race, was removed from his mounts on Monday at Sam Houston Race Park while stewards launched an investigation into whether he used a similar "battery" or "buzzer" while winning a stakes race on Saturday night.



Quiet Acceleration and Roman Chapa
Coady Photography

Sam Houston stewards were apparently alerted to the possibility that Chapa might have carried an electrical stimulator after being shown a blown-up photograph of the stretch run of the \$50,000 Richard King S. **Cont. p8**

SINATRA TAKES MJC JOB BY STORM

by *Mike Kane*

Sal Sinatra isn't exactly easing into his new position as the vice-president and general manager of the Maryland Jockey Club. Now in his seventh week on the job, Sinatra, 50, has already made some changes and has others ready to be teed up. He is looking forward to helping shape the future of racing in the state and the region, which could involve the rebuilding of historic Pimlico and the renovation of once-grand Laurel Park, both aged venues.

Sinatra spent 16 years at PARX, formerly called Philadelphia Park, and as the director of racing was the architect of the makeover of the stakes program. His biggest success was the 2014 GII Pennsylvania Derby program, which featured GI Kentucky Derby and GI Preakness S. winner California Chrome(Lucky Pulpit)--named the Horse of the Year and 3-year-old male champ on Saturday--and Bayern (Offlee Wild), who followed his Pennsylvania Derby score with a win in the GI Breeders' Cup Classic, as well as 3-year-old filly champion Untapable (Tapit) in the GI Cotillion S. **Cont. p4**



Sal Sinatra
MJC photo

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Holy Bull Draws 10

Upstart (Flatter) signaled he was ready for Saturday's GII Holy Bull S. with a seven-furlong drill Sunday at Palm Meadows for trainer Rick Violette. The colt will break from post eight in the 10-horse field, while Godolphin's Frosted (Tapit) drew the rail



Leave the Light On holds off Frosted in Remsen.
A Coglianese

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Andrew Caulfield's Insights

Andrew Caulfield discusses the pedigree of Willis Horton's Take Charge Brandi (Giant's Causeway), who on Saturday was named 2014 Eclipse champion juvenile filly



Take Charge Brandi
Coady Photography

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NORTH AMERICAN NEWS

Sam's Sister Strikes Again (cont. from p1)

Sam's Sister was entered in Saturday's GII La Canada S. over 1 1/16 miles, but Hollendorfer opted to keep her at seven furlongs--the same distance at which she won the La Brea S. "I'm just taking these races one at a time," Hollendorfer said. "We thought she would run long, but we thought this was a more advantageous race, so that's why we went here."

Jockey Elvis Trujillo was always confident he was riding the winner Monday.

"It was the perfect trip," Trujillo said. "I knew there was going to be a lot of speed in there and I knew it would be fast early on. But I knew that sooner or later they would have to stop. She's a nice filly. I knew Martin [Garcia on Sweet Marini] would stop; it was too fast for three horses head-to-head."

Garcia admitted the pace was a factor late in the race.

"She got a little bit tired," Garcia said of the runner-up. "We were going pretty fast up front and when we got to the stretch the other horse just got by us today."

Sam's Sister has now been beaten just once in six trips to the post with her lone loss coming over the turf at Del Mar last November. The chestnut filly was a half-length upset winner of the Dec. 26 GI La Brea S. in her most recent start.

Sam's Sister is out of stakes-placed Kittery Point (Include), a half-sister to multiple stakes winner and multiple graded stakes placed Tiffany Diamond (Tiffany Ice), as well as to the dams of Grade I winners Sweet Talker, Check the Label and Include Me Out. The 11-year-old mare produced a colt by Proud Citizen in 2013 and a filly by Divine Park in 2014. She was bred to Istan last spring. Her Proud Citizen colt RNA'd for \$35,000 at last year's Keeneland September sale.

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Sam's Sister

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SANTA MONICA S.-GII, \$200,250, SAX, 1-19, 4yo/up, f/m, 7f, 1:22 2/5, ft.

1--**SAM'S SISTER**, 123, f, 4, by Brother Derek

1st Dam: Kittery Point, by Include

2nd Dam: Lucy Sims, by Northjet (Ire)

3rd Dam: Join the Waves, by Sailor

(\$125,000 yrl '12 KEESEP). O-Mark Dedomenico LLC, Jerry Hollendorfer & George Todaro; B-Brereton C Jones (KY); T-Jerry Hollendorfer; J-Elvis Trujillo. \$120,000. Lifetime Record: GISW, 6-5-0-0, \$427,450. **Werk Nick Rating: B.** [Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree.](#)



Recommended by Christina R. Jelm



2--**Sweet Marini**, 118, m, 5, Marino Marini--Excessing, by In Excess (Ire). O-Kaleem Shah Inc; B-BMWZ Stables (CA); T-Bob Baffert. \$40,000.

3--**Harlington's Rose**, 118, f, 4, Harlington--A Rose for You, by Orientate. (\$7,500 yrl '12 OBSAUG; \$20,000 yrl '12 BESOCT). O-Thomas Halasz, Ryan Johnson, Paul L Newhart, Martha Miller et al; B-Y-Lo Racing Stables LLC (CA); T-Steve Knapp. \$24,000.

Margins: 1 1/4, 2 3/4, 2 1/4. Odds: 1.20, 5.00, 10.90. Also Ran: Dancinthenightaway, Lexington Pearl, My Sweet Addiction. Scratched: Master the Blues.

[Click for the brisnet.com chart](#), [the brisnet.com PPs](#) or [the free brisnet.com catalogue-style pedigree](#). [VIDEO](#).

Sinatra Takes MJC Job by Storm (cont. from p1)

It was a landmark day for Philadelphia racing and among the job offers Sinatra received in the wake of that triumph was an opportunity to oversee the MJC, which owns the Pimlico and Laurel tracks and the Bowie training center. Sinatra succeeded Tom Chuckas, widely recognized for taking the tough stand that curbed the alcohol-fueled rowdiness of the Preakness infield and resulted in record attendance last year, and for negotiating a 10-year plan with Maryland horsemen.

The Maryland Jockey Club is part of the Stronach Group of racing properties founded by businessman Frank Stronach, long a top-level horseman and breeder.

"I've put my faith in Mr. Stronach," Sinatra said. "He seems to be the one man putting his money back into the sport. He truly loves horse racing. I truly love horse racing and I feel like I'm with a good company."

"Obviously the industry is in disarray and everybody is just trying to survive right now. I think he's the man putting his money where his mouth is. Santa Anita has been successful. Gulfstream is ultra-successful right now. Now we've got to focus on Maryland."

To that end, Sinatra and Tim Ritvo, the Stronach Group's COO of Racing based at Gulfstream, have been working together at Laurel Park since Sinatra came aboard on Dec. 8 to change the course of the MJC. Sinatra said the immediate goal is to eliminate an annual operating deficit of \$3-4 million by growing the handle and managing expenses. **Cont. p5**

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“Basically, Maryland has been a loser for Stronach. Tim and I are here to right that ship and get to zero,” Sinatra said. “As we improve what we’re doing here, it will give the Stronach Group faith to go to the next level with the master plan, which keeps changing, as Tim and I are getting acclimated to Maryland racing. There are two sets of groups, the Baltimore fan base and the Washington fan base. We’re trying to figure out what the master plan is going to be.”

During his first few weeks with the company, Sinatra adjusted post times at Laurel so they don’t conflict with Gulfstream and other tracks, added some wagers and re-worked the schedule to drop Thursdays and add Sundays as race days beginning in February.

“It seemed odd to me that we’re running on holiday Mondays and not on Sundays when people are off,” he said. “It allows us to run on days when people are off, so they can come and bet on the live product. You should be open.



Untapable wins Cotillion
Equi-Photo

“I’m a little late in the game with the Sunday racing. I’m working more toward after Pimlico, what I’m going to do with football. We’re doing a Sunday brunch. We are going to try and upgrade a lot of our television sets, some of the furniture. Little things to try and give the guests a better experience.”

In addition, Sinatra said that he and Ritvo understand that the MJC’s horsemen, employees and fans have experience through the years with promises that have gone unfulfilled.

“So we’re just making minor changes to pick up the attitude of everybody,” he said.

It will take the cooperation of the horsemen, Sinatra said, to improve the product and grow the handle.

“You’ve got to think long-term, not short-term,” he explained. “They have good horsemen here and they get it. You’re going to probably start seeing a little less scratches, hopefully. I’d rather let a guy out of a race because he’s 20-1 and put him in another race. That’s fine, but don’t tell me the horse is sick and I’ve got to scratch him. Everybody has got to be honest. We’re in this together. Field size is a major component of handle.”

Sinatra aims to build big-event days by bundling stakes on Saturdays and restore to prominence the Pimlico Special and the De Francis Dash, both former Grade I stakes.

During their time together, Sinatra and Ritvo and adjusted plans for Bowie, the former track that is now a training center. **Cont. p6**

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In recent years, MJC and Stronach officials have been aiming to get rid of that property. That idea has been scuttled and Bowie will be retained, but downsized. Sinatra said that the facility will be closed temporarily in mid-April, which will save money, so that new barns can be built in the infield. Some of the acreage will then be available for redevelopment, which will produce revenue for other projects at Pimlico and Laurel.

“Whatever the master plan is going to be between Laurel and Pimlico, Bowie is important to us because we’re going to have to have horses to operate,” Sinatra said. [Racing Secretary] Georganne [Hale] is going to need her 1,500 to 2,000 horses to fill entries. Let’s just say if I’m going to do the barn area at either place, I’m going to need a place to put those horses to train while I’m working on barns.



Pimlico Racecourse

“We’re building two barns here [at Laurel]. The first 150 stalls will be ready Apr. 1, so I’m hoping that by Apr. 15 I have Bowie emptied. A lot of guys go to other tracks in the summer. We will empty Bowie out.

We can clean up some [environmental] issues and then that could be my pivot spot, so if I am working at Laurel and have to displace some horses they have a place to go. Or if I’m working at Pimlico, they have a place to go. For the next several years, Bowie is going to be necessary.”

Sinatra said Stronach corporate officials will decide the scope of the work to be done at Pimlico and Laurel.

“Obviously, Churchill Downs makes six to seven times as much on the Kentucky Derby as we make on the Preakness and that’s basically because of the facility,” he said. “So it’s a question of how grand of an operation you’re going to make Pimlico. I don’t think a coat of paint is going to work. Both buildings have been kept up pretty well, but they are dinosaurs.”

Sinatra wasn’t specific, but he said Pimlico is part of the new master plan that is taking shape this winter.

“We have the Preakness, a gem in the Triple Crown,” he said. “I know that Frank wants it to be in a palace ultimately. The question is going to become: How much of a palace is it going to be?”

When racing returns to Laurel after the summer hiatus, Sinatra is considering running Friday twilight programs and afternoon cards on Saturdays and Sunday. He said the MJC has approached Delaware Park to discuss a regional approach that could include sharing racing departments and other functions to control expenses.

Cont. p7



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“The Mid-Atlantic is pretty congested in the summertime with racing. Maryland currently doesn’t run in June and July and it would be foolish for us to run then when you have Delaware, PARX, Monmouth, everybody running,” he said. “So what we’re trying to do is work with Delaware to make possibly a year-round meet between the three sites, to give opportunities for our Maryland horsemen to run year round.”

“Our guys generally support Delaware when we’re dark, but we want to make it where that is their first option. That will help Delaware’s product and then Delaware’s backside can help us. It’s just what works the best for both places.”

In recent years, the MJC has raised the purse of the GII Black-Eyed Susan S., run the day before the Preakness, in hopes of attracting high-profile 3-year-old fillies. Sinatra said that approach probably won’t work because the Black-Eyed Susan is too close to the GI Kentucky Oaks.

“Unfortunately, horses don’t run back in 14 days, so I’m changing the focus,” he said. “I’m saying that the race to really look at is the Pimlico Special, which used to be a Grade I. It sits on a good spot on the calendar, so let’s adjust the purse on one and affect the purse on the other, where we might get some bang for the buck.”

“I think I’m going to go to the Pennsylvania Derby routine and probably bonus the race to try and get the better horses. One thing I’ve noticed with big, big purse stakes is sometimes you get the one horse.

I’d rather increase the purse based on the quality of the people in the race.”

Sinatra said the approach is to write the bonuses into the conditions of the race as he did at PARX.

“You could say it’s an appearance fee, but it’s the horse I want, the people I want,” he said. “It certainly worked with the Pennsylvania Derby.”

That bonus program brought the Kentucky Derby winner and Horse of the Year to PARX. Sinatra dared to be different with the Pennsylvania Derby and has brought that positive attitude to Maryland, where he says the MJC can be bigger, better and successful again.

“I can see the shift with Florida running year round and some horsemen

staying there that tracks are condensing their days and running less,” he said. “We’re trying to run more in Maryland and trying to be a force year round.

Monmouth and Delaware have condensed days. With the horses and horsemen we have in Maryland we want to expand on that.”

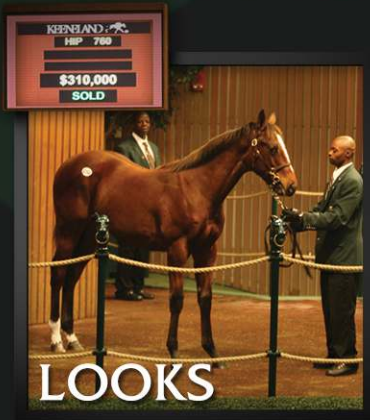


Bayern leads star-packed field in Pennsylvania Derby

Equi-Photo

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Roman Chapa Suspended (cont. from p1)

While riding 10-1 shot Quiet Acceleration to a half-length victory, what appears to be a tan, palm-sized device with protruding prongs can be seen in Chapa's partially closed left hand where the underside of his fist meets the reins.

Jack Coady, the Sam Houston track photographer, confirmed that he captured the image, but said he has been asked by track officials not to disclose how the shot came to the attention of the stewards.



Close-up of Chapa's hand
Coady Photography

"It is a shot that I took, and it was from the inside rail position. It's the normal shot that I try to get for stakes races," Coady said.

By Monday morning, copies of the photograph depicting the area of detail and the alleged buzzer were circulating both online and via social media.

Jamie Nielson, a Sam Houston spokesperson, confirmed that Chapa had been "summarily suspended" pending the results of the investigation, which is now in the hands of the Texas Racing Commission.

Chapa, who won with five mounts on Friday and Saturday nights, the first two programs of the 2015 Sam Houston meet, did not return a voicemail message from the *TDN* asking for his side of the story. His agent, Toby Cathey, also did not return a message requesting comment.

According a story in the *Paulick Report*, Chapa was suspended 19 months in Texas in 1993 for carrying an electrical device. In 2007, he was suspended five years by New Mexico officials for the same offense, but was granted a probationary license to return to riding in 2011.

Chapa's name surfaced in 2014 in surreptitiously recorded conversations distributed by the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals that alleged animal abuses by trainer Steve Asmussen and his assistant, Scott Blasi. In one of the recordings, Blasi can be allegedly heard describing how Chapa was known to hide a buzzer in his mouth.

For decades, outlawed electrical devices have been abused by jockeys under the assumption that a jolt of electricity will frighten a horse into running faster.

Anecdotal evidence suggests that instead of enhancing performance, a shock from a battery can instead cause a horse to bolt uncontrollably, sometimes through the inner rail if used during the stretch run of a race. Purportedly, more subtle signs that indicate the use of electrical stimulation can include a horse suddenly swishing its tail up and down or a jockey who does not switch the whip from hand to hand (for fear of the device being seen or dropped). **Cont. p9**



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Although the use of buzzers is generally associated with lower-level racing, there have been several prominent cases in the past 25 years involving major stakes races.

The improbable win by maiden Valhol in the 1999 Arkansas Derby resulted in a five-year suspension for jockey Billy Patin after a video showed him dropping an electrical item that was later recovered.

In 2003, jockey Jose Santos faced accusations of cheating after the *Miami Herald* published a blurry photograph and a story that alleged he might have concealed something in his hand while winning the GI Kentucky Derby aboard Funny Cide.

The photograph was subsequently determined to contain nothing more than an optical illusion made by the silks of a trailing horse, and in 2008 Santos reached an out-of-court settlement with the *Herald* on a \$48-million libel lawsuit.

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CALIFORNIA CHROME WORKS

California Chrome (Lucky Pulpit), who on Saturday night was named 2014 Horse of the Year, returned to the track Monday for a seven-furlong work at Los Alamitos. The chestnut covered the distance in 1:27 2/5 under regular rider Victor Espinoza. "He went easy and galloped out strong," said Alan Sherman, assistant to his father, trainer Art Sherman. "We're real happy with the work. He'll breeze again next Sunday." Los Alamitos head clocker Russ Hudak recorded fractional times of :25 1/5, :50 3/5 and 1:02 2/5, with a time of 1:14 1/5 for six furlongs at the wire. California Chrome is expected to make his 2015 debut in the Feb. 7 GII San Antonio S. at Santa Anita.

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UPSTART TELLS VIOLETTE HE'S READY

Ralph M. Evans's **Upstart** (Flatter) showed trainer Rick Violette he was ready for a start in Saturday's GII Holy Bull S. with a sharp six-furlong drill at Palm Meadows Sunday in 1:12.30. "We needed to do something a little quick," Violette said of the work. "They need to be ready, even if they're not ready to have one of the best races of their lives, but they've got to be fit enough so they don't go out there and get exhausted and take 10 steps backward instead of 10 steps forward. We let him roll a little bit. It looked like he was still in an open gallop. He cooled out good. He was good this morning, so it's all systems go."

Upstart, who will break from post eight in the 10-horse field Saturday, will be making his first start since running third in the Nov. 1 GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile. He was also second after a wide trip in the Oct. 4 GI Champagne S.

"He ran a really good second and was kind of up against it in the Champagne," Violette recalled. "He confirmed his quality and he just got nailed for second in the Breeders' Cup despite not having a whole lot in his favor. He's underlining that he's a significantly good horse. Certainly, he belongs in the elite of the 3-year-olds this year, as long as he proves it. He's more than just a nice New York-bred; he's a nice horse."



Leave the Light On holds off Frosted in Remsen.
A Coglianesse

Violette said Upstart has matured over the winter.

"He's filled out," the trainer noted. "He was a little bit leggy as a 2-year-old. I don't think he's gotten any taller, but there's a little more muscle to him; he's a little bit squarer. He looks more like an older horse than a baby now. He's pretty sharp and confident, without being mean. He has a really nice eye. He's pretty correct. He's a pretty clever horse."

Godolphin's **Frosted** (Tapit), who overcome a speed-biased track to run a gallant second behind Leave the Light On (Horse Greeley) in the Nov. 29 GII Remsen S. breaks from the rail in Saturday's Holy Bull.

"He ran huge," trainer Kiaran McLaughlin said of his colt's effort in the Remsen. "He had the 13 hole, the track was a conveyor belt, and he was unlucky to lose. He's a very nice horse."

McLaughlin added, "He's been training great. He's doing great."

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Saturday, Gulfstream Park, post time: 4:34 p.m. EST

HOLY BULL S.-GII, \$400,000, 3yo, 1 1/16m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	WT
1	Frosted	Tapit	Ortiz Jr	McLaughlin	116
2	Keen Ice	Curlin	Zayas	Romans	116
3	High Noon Rider	Distorted Humor	Rosario	Weaver	116
4	Bluegrass Singer	Bluegrass Cat	Castellano	Vitali	118
5	Juan and Bina	Indian Charlie	Lezcano	Delgado	116
6	First Down	Street Sense	Maragh	Albertrani	116
7	Frammento	Midshipman	Saez	Zito	116
8	Upstart	Flatter	Ortiz	Violette Jr	116
9	Dom the Bomb	Bring the Heat	Hernandez	Rivelli	120
10	Decision Day	Macho Uno	Velazquez	Carroll	116

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.



*Graded Stakes Winner Kitten's Point
winning the Astra Stakes at
Santa Anita*

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Saturday, Gulfstream Park, post time: 5:06 p.m. EST

FORWARD GAL S.-GII, \$200,000, 3yo, f, 7f

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	WT
1	Tripocha (K)	Ready's Image	Lezcano	Delgado	116
2	Distinta (K)	Summer Bird	Zayas	Delgado	116
3	Taylor S	Medaglia d'Oro	Lanerie	Romans	116
4	Birdatthewire (K)	Summer Bird	Ortiz Jr	Romans	116
5	Seduire (K)	Elusive Quality	Rosario	Hollendorfer	120
6	Enchantress (K)	Malibu Moon	Velazquez	Pletcher	116
7	Ekati's Phaeton (K)	Tale of Ekati	Saez	Kaplan	118
8	Lassofthemohicans (K)	Indian Charlie	Prado	Walsh	116
9	Momameamaria	Quality Road	Maragh	Falcone Jr	116
10	By the Moon	Indian Charlie	Ortiz	Nevin	122
11	Skipalute	Midnight Lute	Castellano	Kenneally	116

Saturday, Sam Houston Race Park, post time: 9:56 p.m. EST

JOHN B. CONNALLY TURF CUP S.-GIII, \$200,000, 4yo/up, 1 1/8mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	WT
1	Devon's Iron	Giant Premeditation	Chapa	Elliott	118
2	Fleet Mitchy	Northern Afleet	Diego	Caldwell	118
3	Dreams Cut Short	Belong to Me	Graham	Maker	118
4	Michael's Gabriel	Dixieland Heat	Cabrera	Coats Jr	118
5	Trace Creek	Harperstown	Landeros	McPeek	118
6	Daddy's Kid	Scat Daddy	Boyce	Nagle	118
7	Coalport	Kitten's Joy	Castellano	Maker	123
8	Benwill	Leestown	Wade	Tubbs	118
9	Bim Bam	Deputy Wild Cat	Parker	Moquett	118

Saturday, Gulfstream Park, post time: 3:30 p.m. EST

HUTCHESON S.-GIII, \$150,000, 3yo, f

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	WT
1	Stanford (K)	Malibu Moon	Velazquez	Pletcher	116
2	Bridget's Big Luvy	Tiz Wonderful	Ortiz	Englehart	116
3	Dom the Bomb	Bring the Heat	Castellano	Rivelli	118
4	Richard the Great	Distorted Humor	Rosario	Nicks	116
5	Big Family (K)	Any Given Sturdy	Prado	Delgado	116
6	X Y Jet	Kantharos	Zayas	Navarro	116
7	Barbados (K)	Speightstown	Saez	Tomlinson	116
8	Bluegrass Singer (K)	Bluegrass Cat	Hernandez	Vitali	118

Saturday, Gulfstream Park, post time: 4:02 p.m. EST

SWEETEST CHANT S.-GIII, \$100,000, 3yo, f, 1mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	JOCKEY	TRAINER	WT
1	Cosmic Serenity	Cosmonaut	Saez	Serpe	116
2	Angel Falls (K)	City Zip	Contreras	Azpuru	116
3	Miss Temple City (K)	Temple City	Velazquez	Motion	116
4	Quality Rocks	Rock Hard Ten	Castellano	Mott	116
5	Ol' Fashion Gal (K)	Sky Mesa	Lezcano	Casse	122
6	Cardinal Cove (K)	Leroidesanimx (Brz)	Nunez	O'Connell	116
7	Consumer Credit (K)	More Than Ready	Zayas	Brown	120
8	Red Sashay (K)	Big Brown	Ortiz Jr	Cibelli	120
9	Loon River	Freud	Maragh	Kassen	116
10	Nicky's Brown Miss (K)	Big Brown	Saez	Capilupi	116

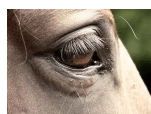
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TDN TODAY

Headline News..... 13 pages



PEDIGREE INSIGHTS

BY ANDREW CAULFIELD

STARLET S.-GI, \$350,500, LRC, 12-13, 2yo, f, 1 1/16m, 1:42, ft.

1--TAKE CHARGE BRANDI, 120, f, 2, by [Giant's Causeway](#)

1st Dam: Charming, by Seeking the Gold

2nd Dam: Take Charge Lady, by Dehere

3rd Dam: Felicita, by Rubiano

(\$435,000 yrl '13 KEESEP). O-Willis D Horton;

B-Charming Syndicate (KY); T-D Wayne Lukas;

J-Victor Espinoza. \$210,000. Lifetime Record:

8-4-1-0, \$1,620,126. **Werk Nick Rating: A + + +**

***Triple Plus*. Click for the [eNicks report & 5-cross](#)**

[pedigree](#). Click for the [brisnet.com chart](#), the [brisnet.com PPs](#) or the [free brisnet.com catalogue-style pedigree](#). [VIDEO](#).

As last week was quiet on the racing front, now seems an ideal chance to catch up on one of the Eclipse Award winners who had previously slipped through the Caulfield net. As American Pharoah (Pioneerof the Nile) will surely be adding to his pair of Grade I wins in the coming months, perhaps I should focus on Take Charge Brandi, the runaway winner of the 2-year-old filly award.

This daughter of the ultra-tough Giant's Causeway earned her award with a late-season campaign which erased all memories of the four straight defeats which had followed her winning debut. She posted courageous victories in the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies, GIII Delta Downs Princess S. and the GI Starlet S., and this sequence, together with her illustrious bloodlines, suggest that she will continue to be hard to beat, at least for the next few months.

That said, the list of the past winners of the Eclipse Award for 2-year-old filly doesn't exactly inspire confidence in any winner's ability to stay ahead of the game at three. Of the previous 30 holders of the title, only four succeeded in taking the Eclipse Award for 3-year-old filly. These four were Open Mind, Go For Wand, Silverbulletday and Beholder, with Beholder being the only holder of both titles since 1998.

Cont. p11

TAKE CHARGE BRANDI, f, 2012

Giant's Causeway	Storm Cat	Storm Bird	Northern Dancer	
		Terlingua	South Ocean	
	Mariah's Storm	Rahy	Secretariat	
		Immense	Crimson Saint	
Charming 3-1-1-0 4 Fls, 1 Ch, 1 GSW	Seeking the Gold	Mr. Prospector	Blushing Groom (Fr)	
		Con Game	Glorious Song	
	Take Charge Lady 22-11-7-0 7 Fls, 1 Ch, 2 GSW	Dehere	Roberto	Deputy Minister
			Felicita	Sister Dot
		10 Fls, 2 SW	Rubiano	Grand Bonheur



Altogether, only 11 of the 30 enjoyed Grade I success at the age of three, with the Santa Anita Oaks being the richest hunting ground for them, supplying five victories.

But as I said earlier, Take Charge Brandi has the bloodlines to remain highly effective. Although Giant's Causeway was unbeaten as a juvenile, his Timeform rating rose from 119 at two to a thoroughly-merited 132 as a sophomore, when he raced 10 times between April to November.

Since then this champion sire has notched up 25 winners at Grade I level, 20 at Grade II and 32 at Grade III in the Northern Hemisphere. Of these 25 Grade I winners, Take Charge Brandi ranks alongside Carpe Diem, Creative Cause, First Samurai, Intense Focus and Shamardal as one of six Grade I juvenile winners, but this isn't simply a story of a son of Storm Cat being a powerful influence for precocity. Of the other 19, seven gained their first Grade I success as 3-year-olds, five as 4-year-olds, five as 5-year-olds and two as 6-year-olds. In other words, good Giant's Causeways come along at virtually every age.



Take Charge Brandi
Coady Photography

Take Charge Brandi is the fourth Grade I winner to emerge from Giant's Causeway's extensive partnership with daughters of Seeking the Gold. All four are fillies, the others being Carriage Trail, Internallyflawless and Swift Temper, but this partnership also produced Cowboy Cal, a colt who twice went close to winning at the top level, and Noble Causeway, the GI Florida Derby runner-up who sired the smart Samraat.

No wonder this route has become easily the most popular option where Giant's Causeway is concerned. However, his record with these daughters of Seeking the Gold acts as a reminder that breeders need to think before they heedlessly follow nicks. When this cross had 38 representatives of racing age it boasted four black-type winners (11%). Now that the total of racing age progeny stands at over 100, the percentage has been watered down to 7% (admittedly still not to be sniffed at). Remember that no nick--no matter how statistically tempting it may be--is likely to work unless the mare's conformation is compatible with the stallion's.

It is worth mentioning that the three previous Grade I winners from the Giant's Causeway-Seeking The Gold cross all stayed at least a mile and an eighth. Internallyflawless scored over that distance in the GI Del Mar Oaks on turf, while Carriage Trail took the GI Spinster S. on all-weather.

Swift Temper's Grade I success came over 1 1/16 miles, but she had earlier landed the GI Delaware H. over a mile and a quarter. Of course this degree of stamina is to be expected, as Giant's Causeway and Seeking the Gold both numbered a second in the GI Breeders' Cup Classic among their achievements.

Of course Take Charge Brandi's free-running style may affect her stamina potential, but her bloodlines give her a chance of staying a mile and a quarter, if required. Her famous second dam, Take Charge Lady, gained two of her three Grade I victories in the Spinster S. over a mile and an eighth and she has already produced a major winner at up to a mile and a quarter, in the form of the Eclipse Award-winning Will Take Charge. This tough son of Unbridled's Song will surely be much in demand in his first season at Three Chimneys Farm--his Florida Derby-winning half-brother Take Charge Indy covered 145 mares last year in his first year at WinStar.

Between them, Take Charge Indy and Will Take Charge helped Take Charge Lady take the title of Broodmare of the Year for 2013 and the emergence of Take Charge Brandi suggests that Take Charge Lady's legacy is going to be truly considerable.

Not that she is finished yet. Besides being the dam of two potentially high-class stallions, Take Charge Lady has four daughters. Take Charge Brandi is out of the eldest of them--the \$3.2-million Charming. Seven-figure prices are nothing unusual for this family and Charming's 2013 War Front filly Take Charge Tressa made \$1.25 million at Saratoga. The mare also has a late-foaled 2014 War Front colt.

Next comes her Storm Cat filly Elarose, who made \$800,000 as a yearling. Although she failed to win in nine attempts, Elarose's bloodlines have earned her consecutive visits to Tapit, sire of her 2014 colt called Hippocampus. Then there's I'll Take Charge, a so-far-unraced 3-year-old daughter of Indian Charlie who cost Whisper Hill Farm \$2.2 million as a yearling.

Next in line is Take Charge Lady's 2012 War Front filly, Conquering, so there are several more chapters still to be added to this story, which started when Take Charge Lady was sold for \$175,000 as a yearling. She must count as one of the greatest bargains of all time, as she earned nearly \$2.5 million on the track before selling for \$4.2 million while carrying Take Charge Brandi's dam.

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WORLD'S BEST CEREMONY STREAMED LIVE

Longines and the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities (IFHA) will provide a live video stream of the 2014 Longines World's Best Racehorse Ceremony Tuesday. The ceremony will take place in London's iconic Claridge Hotel and will begin at 12:55 p.m. GMT (7:55 a.m. EST). The live video stream will be available at both www.longines.com and www.ifhaonline.org. While the year's final rankings will be revealed during the ceremony, Japan's **Just a Way (Jpn)** (Heart's Cry {Jpn}) led the list for much of 2014 after winning the G1 Dubai Duty Free. The owner of the winning horse will be presented with a rose gold chronograph from the Conquest Classic collection and a replica of the vase of the Longines World's Best Racehorse.

UPGRADES TO IRISH PROGRAM FOR 2015

The Irish black-type program will see a number of enhancements this year. In a move to further improve the country's fillies and mares program, the Ridgewood Pearl S. will be upgraded to Group 2 status. Additionally, Cork Racecourse will host a new 12-furlong listed race for fillies and mares in early April, while Naas will have a similar event in mid-October.

The Curragh S. for 2-year-olds in late August will carry Group 3 status for the first time.



The Curragh
Racing Post

"[Horse Racing Ireland] is delighted to have secured European agreement for all our proposed Irish upgrades in 2015," said HRI's Director of Racing Jason Morris. "The promotion of the Ridgewood Pearl S. to

Group 2 status and the creation of two new fillies listed races over 12 furlongs will provide further encouragement to owners and trainers to put high-quality mares in training in Ireland and to carry on racing them here beyond their 3-year-old careers."

"The promotion of the Curragh S. to Group 3 status, along with the previously announced upgrades to three older horse sprints from Group 3 to Group 2 and the creation of the Lacken S. [Group 3 for 3-year-olds] at Naas in early June reinforces HRI's commitment to improve the Irish sprinting program, which will also see additional maiden race opportunities for both 2- and 3-year-olds over the shorter distances in 2015," Morris added.

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FUTURE CHAMPIONS DAY, MIDDLE PARK MOVED

Newmarket's Future Champions Day, which was held the day before Ascot's British Champions Day for the first time last year, will this year revert to Oct. 10, a week earlier. Future Champions Day will feature the G1 Dewhurst S., while the G1 Middle Park S.--which has been contested on the Future Champions card since 2011--will move to Sept. 26, back to its former slot two weeks before the Dewhurst.

These changes were unveiled yesterday by the European Pattern Committee following its annual meeting Jan. 15 as part of an ongoing review of Europe's autumn 2-year-old calendar. In other changes, the G1 Jean-Luc Lagardere on the G1 Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe undercard will be bumped up to a mile from 1400 meters, while the G1 Criterium International will see the reverse change and will be contested on the same day as the G1 Criterium de Saint-Cloud, which has been moved a week earlier.

"Changes in France have opened the door to move the Dewhurst and Future Champions Day back a week and the earlier date for the Middle Park does, we believe, represent a positive step towards producing a better balanced autumn 2-year-old program," said the BHA's Director of Racing Ruth Quinn. "We look forward to working with Newmarket on the precise make-up of their program."



Charming Thought, winner of the 2014 Middle Park
Racing Post

The EPC also approved upgrades for five pattern races. The Dahlia S. at Newmarket, the Ridgewood Pearl S. at The Curragh and the Baden Racing Stutenpreis at Baden-Baden--all for fillies--were upgraded to Group 2 status, as was the Baden Meile, for 3-year-olds and up, at Baden-Baden. The Curragh S. for juveniles has been upgraded to Group 3, and eight new listed races, including six for older fillies and mares, have been created for 2015.

The EPC has identified 22 pattern races at risk of downgrade in 2016. This could happen if the races fail to achieve their required performance rating in 2015. Amongst these races are the G1 Tattersalls Gold Cup at The Curragh, and the G1 Prix Royal-Oak at Longchamp.

The EPC also noted that the weight-for-age scale has been the subject of a review by handicappers in Britain and Ireland, and their findings were discussed by International handicappers in Hong Kong in December. The subject will be given further consideration at the next EPC meeting in June. Going forward, the committee will also consider Europe's staying and middle-distance programs to ensure European horses continue to thrive in this category. **Cont. p13**



"I would like to thank all the members of the committee, as I believe the outcome of this year's meeting has delivered significant progress, while recognizing that the autumn 2-year-old program, in particular, could be improved further in the years to come," said Brian Kavanagh, chairman of the EPC. "It is a challenge balancing the interests and ambitions of individual jurisdictions with those of other member countries, but there is also recognition that a strong European Pattern brings benefits to all. In conjunction with the notable changes announced last year to the European 3-year-old sprint program, I am delighted with what we have been able to achieve and implement for 2015."

Italy Update...

Another topic of discussion at the meeting was Italian racing. The Italian Ministry of Agriculture noted that all purses owed to overseas connections for black-type races in 2012 and 2013 have now been paid, with the exception of a small number of owners for which bank account details have not been available. In addition, a commitment has been made to pay all domestic owners by the end of 2015, and purse payments for black-type races in 2014 have been paid within 90 days of the race in accordance with the European Pattern Ground Rules.

Four Italian pattern races have been downgraded for 2015--the Premio Ribot has been downgraded to Group 3 status, while the Premio Carlo Chiesa and the Premio Mario Incisa will this year be listed status. Four Italian Group 1s--the Premio Presidente Della Repubblica, the Premio Milano, Premio Jockey Club and Premio Roma--are at risk for downgrade in 2016.

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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
	GIII Connally Turf Cup	HOU
Jan. 31	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.
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

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WILDCAT RED SIDELINED

Wildcat Red (D'wildcat) exited his fifth-place effort in Saturday's Sunshine Millions Classic with a right hind injury, trainer Jose Garoffalo reported Monday. The 4-year-old will undergo a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) exam this week at the Palm Beach Equine Clinic in Wellington. "He had a problem in his back, probably a torn muscle or a torn ligament," Garoffalo said. "We're going to send him to the clinic and do all the tests. He's going to be out for a while. It's OK. Sometimes, things happen. The prognosis is positive. All he needs is some time off." Wildcat Red won last year's GIII Besilu Stables Fountain of Youth S. and GIII Hutcheson S.

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New York

Yesterday's Results:

JAZIL S., \$100,000, AQU, 1-19, 4yo/up, 1m70y, 1:41, my.

1--**MICROMANAGE**, 121, h, 5, [Medaglia d'Oro--Catnip \(MSW, \\$123,224\)](#), by [Flying Paster](#). (\$170,000 yrl '11 KEESEP). O-Repole Stable; B-Fiona Craig & Dermot Cantillon (KY); T-Todd A Pletcher; J-Manuel Franco. \$60,000. Lifetime Record: GSW & GISP, 24-7-4-5, \$761,881. *1/2 to Indescribable (Pleasant Tap), MGSW & GISP, \$476,159.

Trained at Crupi's New Castle Farm

WOODS EDGE FARM GRADUATE

2--**Turco Bravo (Chi)**, 121, g, 6, Caesarion (Ire)--Turkish Queen (Chi), by Barkerville. O-Winning Move Stable. \$20,000.

3--**Irsaal**, 117, g, 5, More Than Ready--Quiet Now, by Tiznow. (\$325,000 yrl '11 KEESEP). O-Shadwell Stable. \$10,000.

LANE'S END Sales Graduate

Margins: 3/4, HF, 2 1/4. Odds: 0.65, 18.10, 6.40.

Micromanage, winner of last year's GIII Skip Away S., wrapped up his 4-year-old season with a third in Belmont's grassy Bowl Game S. Oct. 19 and finished 10th in the GIII Red Smith H. over the turf course here Nov. 15, before finishing on a high note when taking the Queens County S. Dec. 13. The Repole colorbearer brought up the back of the pack through the first half, but steadily crept closer to the pace on the turn. Micromanage continued to rally down the lane alongside Turco Brave and registered a late charge to catch the fading Irsaal to win going away.

"Micromanage likes to be on the outside, so we were hoping wherever he broke he could leave from there," said Byron Hughes, assistant to winning trainer Todd Pletcher. "He tends to get lazy and [jockey Manuel Franco] did a great job keeping busy on him. They seem to get along well together; both races have been great. He's definitely a grinder. Once he gets outside, and once he gets something to run at, he tends to keep firing, so we're very happy he got up in time. When he tries, he can run with the best of them."

Click for the [brisnet.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#).

4th-AQU, \$55,000, Msw, (S), 3yo, 1m70y, 1:43 2/5, my.

TENCENDUR (c, 3, [Warrior's Reward--Still Secret](#), by [Hennessy](#)) was third at first asking against open company here Dec. 12, and was made the 6-5 pick to get it done in this second start. Tecendur stalked from the inside through the first half and moved closer to the pace as the field approached the turn. Full of run with nowhere to go, the bay squeezed through horses in the stretch, caught longshot leader Damage Control (Hard Spun) late and won by 3/4 of a length. The winner is a half to Mother Russia (Mayakovsky), MSW & MGSP, \$528,996. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-1, \$39,000. Click for the [brisnet.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#).

O/B-Philip S Birsh (NY). T-George Weaver.

Eastern U.S.

Elser Honored by SCTOBA:

Kip Elser was honored during the South Carolina Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association's annual awards dinner last Saturday at the National Steeplechase Museum in Camden. Thoroughbred Charities of America presented Elser, owner of Kirkwood Stables, with its Award of Merit for his work in repurposing Thoroughbred race horses and for his efforts as the former president of the South Carolina Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation and its Second Chances program at the Wateree River Correctional Institution in Rembert. Also honored Saturday was Dogwood Stable's Cot Campbell. Campbell, who was in Florida for the Eclipse Awards, was honored with the Frank Y. Whiteley Award for his outstanding service to the Thoroughbred industry.

• ON THE WORKTAB •

FAIR GROUNDS

Cassatt (Tapit), 5f, :59.80, 2/38
Shook Up (Tapit), 5f, 1:01.20, 13/38

LOS ALAMITOS

California Chrome (Lucky Pulpit), 7f, 1:27.40, 1/1

PALM MEADOWS

Clearly Now (Horse Greeley), 3f, :38.00, 4/8
Night Prowler (Giant's Causeway), 4f (T), :48.85, 9/35
Stephanie's Kitten (Kitten's Joy), 4f (T), :50.20, 23/35
Testa Rossi (Dr Fong), 5f (T), 1:01.45, 1/25
Wicked Strong (Hard Spun), 4f, :49.00, 16/32

PAYSON PARK

Puca (Big Brown), 4f, :49.40, 2/9
Tapicat (Tapit), 5f, 1:02.00, 1/6

SANTA ANITA

Big Macher (Beau Genius), 4f, :47.40, 4/44
Secret Circle (Eddington), 3f, :35.80, 3/12



▶ Florida

Csaba Retired to Pleasant Acres:

Bruce Hollander and Cary Shapoff's **Csaba** (Kitten's Joy--High Chant, by War Chant), his prolific turf sire's most-accomplished runner on the main track, has been retired from racing and will enter stud for the current breeding season at Pleasant Acres Stallion in Morriston, Florida. According to trainer Phil Gleaves, the 6-year-old will stand for an introductory fee of \$2,500.

Bred in Kentucky by Ken and Sarah Ramsey, Csaba pummeled his foes by 9 1/4 lengths to earn his first black-type victory in the El Kaiser S. at Calder and missed by a nose in an off-turf renewal of the Gill Hall of Fame S. at Saratoga in the summer of 2012. The 14-length winner of the rained-off Tropical Park Derby that fall, the bay defeated his elders by better than seven



Csaba

Leslie Martin

lengths in the Gill Fred Hooper H. and closed the season with a tally in the Harlan's Holiday S. across town at Gulfstream.

Csaba carried that solid form into his 4-year-old season, winning the Gill Hal's Hope S. in Hallandale before successfully

defending his Hooper title that December and added last year's Memorial Day H. and Skip Trial S., both over the Calder main. He retires with 13 wins from 36 starts and earnings of \$682,440.

"He retires sound, and he continues that prolific Northern Dancer sire line through Kitten's Joy," Gleaves commented. "He made 36 starts over four seasons at a very high level, and I think he'll be well received, most notably because he is the best son of Kitten's Joy on the dirt and his durability was without question."

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▶ Central U.S.

Yesterday's Results:

SMARTY JONES S., \$150,000, OPX, 1-19, 3yo, 1m, 1:38 2/5, ft.

1--**#FAR RIGHT, 117, c, 3, by Notional**

1st Dam: Zindi, by Vindication

2nd Dam: Inspired Hope, by Shadeed

3rd Dam: In Hopes, by Affirmed

(\$2,500 yrl '13 KEEJAN). O-Robert V LaPenta & Harry T Rosenblum; B-Nossab LLC & Patrick J Crowley (KY); T-Ron Moquett; J-Mike E Smith. \$90,000. Lifetime Record: GSP, 7-2-2-2, \$245,766.

IN THE DARBY DAN TRADITION

2--**Bayerd, 122, c, 3, Speightstown**--Cherokee Jewel, by Cherokee Run. (\$135,000 yrl '13 FTKOCT; \$170,000 RNA 2yo '14 OBSMAR; \$75,000 2yo '14 FTMMAY). O-Clark O Brewster; B-Alpha Delta Stables LLC (KY); T-Steven M Asmussen. \$30,000.

Recommended for purchase by Barry Berkelhammer 352•804•3000

3--**Mr. Z, 115, c, 3, Malibu Moon**--Stormy Bear, by Storm Cat. (\$60,000 RNA yrl '13 KEESEP; \$135,000 yrl '13 FTKOCT). O-Zayat Stables LLC; B-Richard D Maynard (KY); T-D Wayne Lukas. \$15,000.

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Margins: 1 3/4, HF, HF. Odds: 2.70, 5.90, 1.10.

Also Ran: Private Prospect, American Sailor, Hebronville, Paid Admission, Lucky Player, Runaway Bling.

Far Right began his career with two runner-up efforts for Jazdzewski and trainer William Helmbrecht at Keeneland Apr. 25 and Churchill May 9. After being privately purchased by his current connections, the chestnut graduated at Churchill Downs Sept. 13 before finishing fourth in the Gill Futurity S. at Belmont Oct. 5. Third in the Street Sense S. Oct. 26, Far Right then rallied nicely to complete the Gill Delta Jackpot trifecta Nov. 22. Far Right caboosed the field with a ground-saving trip along the rail early in this one. The 5-2 chance improved his position after the half and zipped up the inside on the turn to sit within striking position. As even-money favorite Mr. Z (Malibu Moon) veered out severely in the stretch, Far Right was able to gain command and finish well clear of Bayerd. "All the credit goes to the horse," said winning trainer Ron Moquett. "He got an awesome ride [from Mike Smith]. We felt like we could have won the last race with better luck and fortunately, things broke in our favor today. We're very grateful and happy." Jockey Jon Court, who was aboard Mr. Z said, "I felt like I was on the winner, I believed I was on the winner. He's had a tendency to lug out in some of his race, but today was a bolt. I'm not really sure of the reason. Once I was able to straighten him out, he ran straight and was fortunately able to hold third." **Click for the [brisnet.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#).**

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Condition Codes for Allowance Races

Code	Description
NW.....	Non-Winner of...
1-6.....	Number of Races
\$.....	Monetary Condition
R.....	Distance Condition
3M, 6M, 9M,	
Y, Y+, L.....	Time Period (ex: NW2L = NW 2 races lifetime)
X.....	Other-than Condition (ex: NW3X = non-winners of 3 races other than maiden, claiming, or statebred)
C.....	Other Conditions Not Specified



in sharper focus.

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When **Far Right (Notional-Zindi, by Vindication)** came dashing up the rail to capture yesterday's Smarty Jones S. at Oaklawn, co-owner Harry Rosenblum understandably felt a mixture of satisfaction and relief. A self-proclaimed student of the game for roughly 30 years, Rosenblum took a risk and purchased the modestly bred colt in July after two career races.

"I'm doing a lot better since that race was over," admitted Rosenblum, who was headed off to a celebratory dinner on Monday evening with his wife, Kay, and some family friends. "I'm fortunate that my wife enjoys the business like I do. She's pretty excited [about the win] herself."

In many ways, Rosenblum's careful study of racetrack performance and pedigrees was on full display with Far Right. The colt, who was purchased for just \$2,500 as a Keeneland January yearling by previous owner Jon Jazdzewski, had been on his radar ever since his Apr. 25 debut at Keeneland.

"I had watched this horse run his first race and I knew he was second to a good horse [Conquest Tsunami (Stormy Atlantic)]", explained Rosenblum. "And then the previous ownership ran him back in a couple of weeks and he was second to Cinco Charlie (Indian Charlie), and I knew that Cinco Charlie was a good horse. At that point in time, I started to try to buy the horse."

Rosenblum said that although he began to inquire about Far Right after his second start in early May, circumstances did not allow him to finalize a deal for another two months.

"It took me several months to get this horse bought," he noted. "My wife had back surgery May 30 and she had recuperated enough for me to travel, so I

drove to Lexington July 2 and made the deal to buy the horse then."

Rosenblum believes that Far Right's bloodlines--modest on a surface level--likely served as a deterrent to others who may have considered purchasing the colt. Still, the owner feels that there are underlying indicators of stamina in his charge's pedigree.

"You know, a lot of people wouldn't have bought this horse because he kind of has an obscure pedigree, but his father was second in the GI Florida Derby," Rosenblum noted. "One of the reasons why I bought him was that he has a dosage that indicates the further he goes, the better he's going to get, and he's got a very good turn of foot."

Transferred to the care of trainer Ron Moquett after the purchase, the colt returned immediate dividends and graduated from the maiden ranks with a dominant five-length score at Churchill Downs Sept. 13. He followed with a fourth-place finish in the GII Futurity S. at Belmont Oct. 5 and a rallying third-place effort in Churchill's Street Sense S. Oct 26. Shipped to Delta

Downs for the \$1-million GIII Delta Jackpot S. Nov. 22, Far Right encountered traffic problems, but uncorked a prolonged rally to check in third again, beaten just four lengths by Ocho Ocho Ocho (Street Sense).

"We just tried to bring him along judiciously, and the rest is history," remarked Rosenblum. "Robert LaPenta is a good friend of mine and we previously owned another horse together. We have a business relationship outside of horse racing, and he called me after the [Delta Jackpot] and asked me if he could buy a third of the

horse. So I sold him a third of the horse."

Rosenblum and LaPenta teamed up to campaign Truman's Commander (Friends Lake), who reached the starting gate for the GI Arkansas Derby in 2011, but was injured during the running of the race. Rosenblum is hopeful that Far Right can carry his colors at the highest level of the game.

"We probably will go in the GIII Southwest [Feb. 16] with the horse next, and we'll get another 10 Kentucky Derby points if we're fortunate enough to win that," revealed the owner. "With a little over 20 points, you can run in the Kentucky Derby. That's our obvious goal. Our other goal would be to run in the Arkansas Derby before the Kentucky Derby."

The Little Rock, Arkansas, native, who works as a financial advisor, recalls being captivated by the game since the first day he became involved.

"The very first horse we bought won, and then I was hooked, and I decided I was going to learn everything I can learn about it," he said. "I've tried to become a student of it."

Nevertheless, Rosenblum acknowledges that no matter how much work an owner or horseman puts into the game, it can be both extremely humbling and intensely gratifying at times. His stable endured some difficult times in 2014.



The winning connections of Far Right
Coady Photography



Far Right
Coady Photography



In Sharper Focus cont.

“You know, you have good years and bad years,” Rosenblum continued. “We were plagued with quite a few injuries in our modest-sized stable. We generally carry about 10 or 12 head. I think we have eight or nine right now, but we closed the year very well. We had another nice horse win the other day, a pretty nice horse by Curlin, that’s called Sakima.”

The owner concluded, “You never know everything in this business. No matter how long you’ve been in it, it can make a fool of you.”

Despite being well aware of the pitfalls of the game he follows so closely, Rosenblum can’t hide his optimism and excitement when it comes to his sophomore star of the stable.

“Far Right is a very game and determined horse and we’re fortunate to have him. We’re looking forward to him doing some very good things.”

--Ben Massam

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7th-OPX, \$60,500, Alw, Opt. Clm. (\$75,000), NW1X, 3yo, 1 1/16m, 1:46 2/5, ft.

INSTANT REPLAY (c, 3, [Lemon Drop Kid](#)--Run Kate Run, by Cherokee Run) graduated on debut at Parx Sept. 23, but finished sixth in his next two start in Churchill’s Street Sense S. Oct. 26 and an optional claimer there Nov. 29. The 12-1 shot rated towards the back of the field down the backstretch, but kicked into gear on the bend and quickly picked off rivals. Five wide at the top of the lane, Instant Replay rallied down the lane to take the advantage late and finish a length ahead of Phenomenal Phoenix (Summer Bird). Tekton (Bernardini) was eighth. The winner is a full-sibling to Kid Kate, MSW & MGSP, \$478,829; and is a half to Amie’s Dini (Bandini), SW & MGSP, \$296,814. Sales history: \$440,000 yrl ’13 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 4-2-0-0, \$63,542. [Click for the brisnet.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#).

O-Gary & Mary West Stables Inc. B-Dell Ridge Farm LLC (KY). T-Wayne M Catalano.

LANE’S END Sales Graduate

9th-OPX, \$60,000, Msw, 3yo, f, 6f, 1:11 1/5, ft.

EVERYTHING BLING (f, 3, [Too Much Bling](#)--Anythingmore, by Country Pine) was third on debut at Remington Park Dec. 6 and was installed as the 2-1 favorite here. Everything Bling broke on top from the outside stall, but settled into third right off the leaders. The gray bid from the three path at the top of the lane and shook free to finish 3 1/4 lengths clear of Sly Star (Colonel John). The winner is a full-sibling to Texas Bling, MSW, \$340,576. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-1, \$39,014. [Click for the brisnet.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#). O/B-Hall’s Family Trust (TX). T-Danele Durham.

7th-FGX, \$37,000, Msw, 4yo/up, f/m, a7 1/2fT, 1:32, fm. NILE EMPRESS (f, 4, [Pioneer of the Nile](#)--Terrell Cheney, by Mineshaft) was fifth in her first two starts against Empire-breds over the Aqueduct inner track last winter before a sixth-place effort trying the Belmont turf for trainer Chad Brown May 14. Off the bench and making her first start for conditioner Bret Calhoun here, the 20-1 shot raced in midpack along the pine though the opening exchanges. Nile Empress moved into contention on the turn and registered a late run to catch Liberty Bond (War Front) and hit the wire 3/4 of a length in front. Sales history: \$80,000 yrl ’12 FTNAUG; \$120,000 RNA 2yo ’13 OBSMAR. Lifetime Record: 4-1-0-0, \$25,550. [Click for the brisnet.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#).

O-Double Infinity Ranch. B-Grapestock LLC (NY). T-W Bret Calhoun.

NY-BRED. WHY BREED ANYWHERE ELSE? [nybreds.com](#)
VINERY SALES GRADUATE

1st-FGX, \$37,000, Msw, 3yo, f, a5 1/2fT, 1:04 2/5, fm.

MIZZ MONEY (f, 3, [Mizzen Mast](#)--Abbeyville Miss, by Grand Slam) was seventh when unveiled for Bernie Flint at Churchill Downs June 22 and was third next out for Jeff Greenhill at Indiana Downs July 9. Trying the turf for the first time here under the care of Bobby Barnett, the gray led the way along the rail through an opening quarter in :22.43. Pressured on the turn, the 9-5 chance found more in the tank to remain in charge and finish 2 1/2 lengths clear of Titfortat (Northern Afleet). Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-1, \$25,634. [Click for the brisnet.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#).

O-Hillerich Racing LLC. B-Bernie Flint, Ron Hillerich & LTB In (KY). T-Bobby C Barnett.

California

Yesterday’s Results:

3rd-SAX, \$57,250, Msw, 3yo, f, 6f, 1:09, ft. FANTASTIC STYLE (f, 3, Harlan’s Holiday--Ruby Summer, by Mr. Greeley) sold to these connections for \$525,000 as an OBSAPR juvenile after RNA’ing for \$40,000 as a KEESEP yearling. The bay set the pace and held on for second behind Ben’s Duchess (Munnings) in her 5 1/2-panel unveiling here Dec. 27, and was hammered down to 2-5 favoritism for this second try. Away to an alert beginning, she set the pace through a half-mile in :45.05 and raced uncontested into the lane. Asked for more, the filly strode clear to register a three-length victory, with first-time starter Never Ends (Successful Appeal) rallying for second. Lifetime Record: 2-1-1-0, \$44,800. [Click for the brisnet.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#).

O-Kaleem Shah Inc. B-C Kidder, N Cole & E Voute (KY). T-Bob Baffert.

Purchased by Donato Lanni/Hill ‘n’ Dale Bloodstock
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TDN TODAY
Headline News..... 7 pages



6th-SAX, \$57,250, Msw, 4yo/up, a6 1/2fT, 1:13 1/5, fm.

GUGGENHEIM (c, 4, [Smart Strike](#)--Belleski {MGSW, \$374,586}, by Polish Numbers) was runner-up in his second start last June behind subsequent GI King's Bishop S. winner The Big Beast (Big Brown) at Belmont before going on hiatus for the summer. The Moss homebred returned in the mud there to finish third Oct. 24 before a fourth-place effort at Aqueduct Nov. 20. Guggenheim rated just off the early pacesetter of this one, but gained the advantage leaving the hill. The chestnut opened up down the straight en route to a geared-down 3 1/4-length victory as the 5-2 second choice. Dead Easy (Eddington) was second. Lifetime Record: 5-1-1-1, \$59,350. [Click for the brisnet.com chart](#) or [VIDEO](#).

O/B-Mr & Mrs Jerome S Moss (KY). T-John A Shirreffs.



SHANGHAI BOBBY (Harlan's Holiday--Steelin', by Orientate), Ch. 2yo and winner of the 2012 GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile and GI Champagne S., stands at Ashford Stud (\$15,000).

- Opulence (Giant's Causeway--Rags to Riches, by A.P. Indy) produced a colt at Creekview Farm Jan. 16. The mare will be bred back to Declaration of War.
- "We are delighted with Shanghai Bobby's first foal. He's a correct colt with plenty of substance and is a strong color just like his sire," commented Ashford Stud manager Dermot Ryan.

ANIMAL KINGDOM (Leroidesanimaux {Brz}--Dalia {Ger}, by Acatenango {Ger}), Ch. 3yo and winner of the 2011 GI Kentucky Derby and 2013 G1 Dubai World Cup, stands at Darley (\$35,000).

- Garden District (Dixie Union--Brisquette, by Unbridled's Song) produced a bay filly at Herbener Farm Jan. 17.

INDUSTRY INFO

Thomas/Casse Join Forces to Sell Juveniles:

Becky Thomas and Justin Casse have announced they will partner to break, train and sell 2-year-olds for the 2015 season and beyond. The new operation will operate under the name Thomas & Casse and will offer its first consignment at the Fasig-Tipton Florida Sale Mar. 4. Thomas & Casse will also sell at this year's juvenile sales at OBS and at Barretts May. "Justin is a terrific young horseman who has a great eye for talent," said Thomas. "Teaming up makes sense on many different levels, and we're both excited about the venture."

Added Casse, "Becky is one of the most respected horsewomen in the U.S. who has broken and trained Grade I winners like Officer, Creative Cause and Artemis Agrotera. Partnering gives our clients more options and expertise." Thomas previously sold under the Sequel Bloodstock banner, and will continue to operate as Sequel Bloodstock. She'll sell as Sequel at the upcoming Barretts Select 2-Year-Olds Feb 23. Casse sold under the name Casse Sales. Both are based in the Ocala area.

Stronach Group Extends Jockeys' Guild Support:

The Stronach Group has made a three-year extension to its longterm support of the Jockeys' Guild and its member jockeys, according to a release from the organization Monday. The six Stronach Group tracks will make payments to the Jockeys' Guild to help subsidize health and life insurance, disability benefits, and benefits for jockeys who are members of the Guild and ride in the United States.

"We're extremely pleased to work with the Jockeys' Guild," said Tim Ritvo, COO of The Stronach Group. "We're honored to support the men and women of the Guild who risk their lives every day while continuing to work as ambassadors for our sport. As someone who rode and now has a son who rides, I know the importance of health, life and disability insurance as well as benefits for all Guild members."

Terry Meyocks, National Manager of the Guild, said, "We are truly appreciative of The Stronach Group and what they have done over the years for the Guild. It's important we work together in all aspects to promote racing and promote a safe racing environment for everyone. The Stronach Group has supported us for many years and we are grateful for all their support."

Mayo, Rippey Elected to NHC Hall of Fame:

Mike Mayo and Ron Rippey will be the inaugural inductees into the National Handicapping Championship Hall of Fame, the National Thoroughbred Racing Association announced Monday. Mayo, who passed away last September, was an accomplished tournament player and longtime chairman of the NHC Players' Committee. An 11-time qualifier, Rippey won the NHC championship in 2006 and was a longtime public handicapper for the Newark *Star-Leger*. He passed away last August. "Both Mike and Ron left indelible marks on the National Handicapping Championship and, through it, contributed to the widespread promotion of Thoroughbred racing in general," said NTRA President and CEO Alex Waldrop. Mayo and Rippey will be inducted at the NHC Champions Dinner Jan. 25, at the conclusion of the 16th *Daily Racing Form*/NTRA NHC Presented by Racetrack Television Network, Sovereign Stable and Treasure Island Las Vegas.

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



ROOKIES

First/second-crop starters to watch: Tuesday, January 20

*Sire (Sire's Sire), current farm, 2010 Fee, #foals of racing age/Winners/BlackTypeWnrs * Race #-track, race type, distance, runner, odds (if available)*

CONCORD POINT (Tapit), Hill 'n' Dale, \$8K, 91/12/1

2-HOU, Msw, 5 1/2f, Chancellorsville, 5-1

DROVER (Storm Cat), 16/1/0

2-HOU, Msw, 5 1/2f, Nym (MEX), 6-1

WARRIOR'S REWARD (Medaglia d'Oro), Spendthrift Farm, \$13K, 173/14/1

2-HOU, Msw, 5 1/2f, +Ready Reserve, 8-1

BREEDERS' EDITION AMERICA

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

3rd-AQU, \$67,000, NW1\$X, 4yo/up, 6f, 1:10 4/5, my.

MR. MASTERPIECE (g, 7, Greeley's Galaxy--Paradice Vice, by Vice Regent) Lifetime Record: 28-3-2-5, \$144,042. O-Christina Pringle. B-Mr & Mrs Rocco Buetti (NY). T-Edmund Pringle.

4th-SAX, \$63,774, NW1\$X, 4yo/up, 1mT, 1:35 4/5, fm.

HOME SCHOOL (IRE) (c, 4, Intense Focus--Lavender Blue {GB}, by Galileo {Ire}) Lifetime Record: MSP-US & GSP-Ire, 17-2-4-5, \$152,734. O-Steven Keh, Gerardo Pasquel, Michael Ryan & Lisa Fedick. B-J S Bolger (IRE). T-Doug F O'Neill.

7th-SAX, \$59,348, Opt. Clm. (\$40,000), NW1\$X, 4yo/up, 1m, 1:35 4/5, ft.

SNUGGLE BEAR (c, 4, Sharp Humor--Rangey Lil, by Lion Heart) Lifetime Record: 17-2-6-3, \$165,170. O-Carlson Family Limited Partnership. B-Vic Carlson (KY). T-Julio C Canani.

Hidden Brook Foaled & Raised for Vic Carlson

10th-GPX, \$42,000, Opt. Clm. (\$25,000), NW1X, 4yo/up, 1m, 1:35 4/5, ft.

GHAREEB (g, 5, Tapit--Rite Moment {MGSW, \$399,303}, by Vicar) Lifetime Record: 13-2-1-3, \$84,550. O-Matthew Schera. B-Craig B Singer (KY). T-George Weaver. *\$280,000 yrl '11 KEESEP.

WOODS EDGE FARM GRADUATE

9th-SUN, \$32,985, Opt. Clm. (\$25,000), C, (S), 4yo/up, f/m, 1m, 1:38 3/5, ft.

DONT ASK GHOST (m, 5, Ghostly Moves--Ask Nicely, by In Excessive Bull) Lifetime Record: SP, 35-5-2-10, \$112,449. O/T-Johnathan Lemons. B-Geraldine Shipler & V J Callaway (NM).

5th-GGX, \$30,240, Opt. Clm. (\$40,000), NW1\$X, 3yo, f, 6f (AWT), 1:11 1/5, ft.

RYDER'S STARLIGHT (f, 3, Kodiak Cowboy--Star in the Corner, by Holy Bull) Lifetime Record: 6-2-2-0, \$45,460. O-John Carver, Jerry Hollendorfer & Allan Lerch. B-John R Penn (KY). T-Jerry Hollendorfer. *\$37,000 yrl '13 KEESEP; \$65,000 2yo '14 OBSAPR.

Purchased by Christina R. Jelms



2nd-TUP, \$22,500, 3yo, 1m, 1:38, ft.

HIGHWAY BOSS (g, 3, Street Boss--Sage Mist, by Henny Hughes) Lifetime Record: SW, 11-3-2-2, \$100,442. O-Kenneth E Fishbein. B-Ernest C Frohboese (KY). T-Molly J Pearson. *\$32,000 yrl '13 KEESEP; \$20,000 yrl '13 ARZOCT.

1st-HOU, \$21,000, NW1X, 4yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:12 1/5, ft.

BEHIND CLOSEDDOORS (m, 5, Yes It's True--Mystery Dance, by Sword Dance {Ire}) Lifetime Record: 17-4-6-1, \$43,665. O-Ron & BJ Kincade. B-Susan Kahn (FL). T-Amy McAnally. *\$26,000 yrl '11 KEESEP. **1/2 to Lucky Revival (Yankee Victor), MSP, \$306,461; full to Yeshecandance (Yes It's True), SW, \$161,967.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

+ **Easter Indy, f, 3, A. P. Million--Anniano, by Jamiano.** OPX, 1-19, (S), 6f, 1:11 4/5. B-John & Libbie E Thiel (AR).

Berry Be Gold, f, 3, Gold Alert--Be Berry Quiet, by Real Quiet. HOU, 1-19, (S), 1m, 1:42 3/5. B-Gentry Farms (TX).

Princess Annie, f, 3, King of Scat--Avie Blue, by Harriman. HOU, 1-19, 5 1/2f, 1:07. B-Raywood Farm (OK). *\$0 RNA yrl '13 OKCAUG.

Nejma, f, 3, Latent Heat--Miss Special Salsa, by Mr. Greeley. AQU, 1-19, (C), 6f, 1:13. B-Dr J David Richardson (KY). *\$15,000 yrl '13 KEESEP.

Jademarie, f, 3, Malibu Moon--Jill Robin L (GSW, \$167,270), by Precocity. GPX, 1-19, (C), 7 1/2fT, 1:32. B-Spendthrift Farm LLC (KY). *\$140,000 yrl '13 KEESEP; \$50,000 2yo '14 FTMMAY. **1/2 to Capitol Appeal (Successful Appeal), GSP, \$147,545.

Chicas Ministerett, f, 4, Minister Eric--Chica Rosa, by Unbridled. SUN, 1-19, (S), 1m, 1:38 4/5. B-Jim Volk (NM). *1/2 to Chica's Minister (Minister Eric), SW, \$187,898.



Monday Cancellations
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IN BRITAIN:

Urban Castle, f, 4, [Street Cry \(Ire\)](#)--Cloud Castle (GB) (GSW & G1SP-Eng, G1SP-Fr, \$156,874), by In the Wings (GB). WOL, 1-19, 13f 194y (AWT). B-Rabbah Bloodstock LLC. *\$285,000 RNA yrl '12 FTSAUG. **1/2 to Reverie Solitaire (Ire) (Nashwan), SW & MGSP-Fr, \$126,149; and to Queen's Best (GB) (King's Best), GSW-Eng & GSP-Ire, \$191,333.

Hidden Brook Consigned

IN JAPAN:

With Reverece, c, 3, [Henrythenavigator](#)--Glorificamus (SW-US), by Shinko Forest. Nakayama, 1-18, Mdn, 8fT. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$50,847. O-Silk Racing; B-Sierra Farm; T-Noriyuki Hori. *\$55,000 RNA wnl '12 KEENOV; \$180,000 yrl '13 KEESEP. **1/2 to Fasnacloich (Any Given Saturday), GSP-US, \$120,072.

Avenement, c, 3, [Lantana Mob](#)--Princes Melissa (GSP-US), by Marquetry. Kyoto, 1-18, Novice Race, 6f. Lifetime Record: 4-1-0-0, \$48,729. O-Makoto Kato; B-Justice Farm & Greg Justice; T-Kazuya Nakatake. *\$40,000 yrl '13 KEESEP; \$90,000 2yo '14 BESMAR. **1/2 to Shigeru Sosai (Tale of the Cat).

Northern Barows, c, 3, [Pulpit](#)--Word o' Wisdom, by Hennessy. Kyoto, 1-17, Mdn, 7f. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$50,847. O-Hirotsugu Inokuma; B-Craig D Upham; T-N Katsuhiko Sumii. *\$155,000 yrl '13 KEESEP; \$300,000 2yo '14 FTFMAR. **1/2 to Advice (Chapel Royal), GSW-US, \$305,879.

Amour Briller, f, 4, [Smart Strike](#)--Heavenly Romance, by Sunday Silence. Kyoto, 1-18, Alw, 9f. Lifetime Record: 12-4-1-1, \$515,000. O-Koji Maeda; B-North Hills Co Ltd; T-Mikio Matsunaga. *SP-Jpn.

A Shin Salty, f, 4, [Tapit](#)--Eightyfivebroadst, by Unbridled's Song. Chukyo, 1-17, Alw, 7fT. Lifetime Record: 12-2-4-4, \$235,085. O-Eishindo Inc; B-Redmon Farm LLC; T-Masato Nishizono. *\$150,000 wnl '11 KEENOV; \$210,000 yrl '12 KEESEP.

BRITAIN

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SIXTIES OFFER AT TBA PARADE

Breeders attending the TBA Stallion Parade, held annually at Tattersalls prior to its February Sale, will be able to take advantage of an offer by Norman Court Stud that will give them a 25% discount, with a free filly return, to the stud's Sixties Icon (GB) (Galileo {Ire}). Stud Director Tania Trant said, "This is a wonderful shop window for studs to show their stallions and we are grateful to the TBA and Tattersalls for organizing it again. It provides a wonderful opportunity for breeders to view stallions they may be considering all in one place, and we hope our 'special offer' gives another reason for breeders to be there on the day."

FRANCE

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Yesterday's Results:

2nd-CAG, €36,000, Cond, 3yo, 8f (AWT), 1:36.45, ft. DJOKO (FR) (g, 3, Air Chief Marshal {Ire}--Regal Step {GB}, by Royal Applause {GB}), who took his record to a perfect two-for-two over 7 1/2 furlongs at Deauville last time Jan. 3, enjoyed the perfect stalking trip in third against the rail early. Swinging out to take over with 150 meters remaining, the 2-1 pick readily asserted to score by 1 3/4 lengths from Growing Glory (Fr) (Orpen). Lifetime Record: 3 starts, 3 wins, €40,500. [Click for Equidia VIDEO](#).

O-Gerard Augustin-Normand. B-J M Queron (FR). T-Philippe Sogorb.

BREEDERS' EDITION EUROPE

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Whitchurch (GB), g, 3, [Mawathee](#)--Silvereine (Fr), by Bering (GB). WOL, 1-19, 9f 103y (AWT), 2:04 4/5. B-D R Tucker (GB). *10,000gns yrl '13 TATOCT.



EUROPEAN-BRED WINNERS

IN JAPAN:

Neoattraction (GB), c, 3, [Montjeu \(Ire\)](#)--Attraction (GB), by Efsio (GB). Kyoto, 1-18, Mdn, 8fT. Lifetime Record : 1-1-0-0, \$50,847. O-Masamichi Hayashi; B-Floors Farming; T-N Katsuhiko Sumii. *450,000gns yrl '13 TATOCT. **3/4 to Cushion (Ire) (Galileo {Ire}), GSP-US & MSP-Eng, \$113,117; 1/2 to Fountain of Youth (Ire) (Oasis Dream {GB}), GSW-Ire.



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