



MAKING NEW OWNERS, PRESENTED BY OWNerview: FOR WILL STROUD, A SATURDAY AT SARATOGA HE'LL NEVER FORGET



Will and Joy Stroud | Courtesy Will Stroud

by Bill Finley

Having been in the business for only about three years and with only six horses campaigning in the U.S., Will Stroud knew enough to have modest expectations. He had set a few goals, but wondered if he would ever achieve them. He doesn't have to wonder anymore. Over the course of one hour and 20 minutes, the owner won two Grade I races in Saratoga. It started with a win by Kensington Lane (Ire) (Starspangledbanner ({Aus})) in the GI Belmont Oaks. Two races later, his Title Role (GB) (Too Darn Hot ({GB})), won the GI Belmont Derby. Stroud is the majority owner of Title Role, along with David Fennelly and Carl Wilson, Susan Magnier, Michael Tabor and Derrick Smith. He is a co-owner of Kensington Lane through the Medallion Partnership. **Cont. p3**

OPTIONS ABOUND FOR 'TDN RISING STAR' MASHALLAH by Alan Carasso

'TDN Rising Star' presented by Hagyard **Mashallah** (Maxfield) was back to something approaching her best when romping by seven lengths in an age-restricted, first-level Saratoga allowance on July 4 (video) (96 Beyer), opening the door to bigger and loftier targets over the course of the next several weeks.

Named a 'Rising Star' after dominating a six-furlong Keeneland maiden by nearly four lengths Apr. 23--good for a massive 106 Beyer Speed Figure--the bay gave way readily to finish a well-beaten fifth trying a mile at Churchill Downs on May 30.

Suffice to say there was a collective sigh of relief emanating from Union Avenue and the faith-restoring success has her connections looking forward to what might be in store.

"For sure," said Restrepo when asked if it was good to see the filly atone for her last effort. The bloodstock agent signed the winning ticket on Mashallah at OBS March last year, going to \$1.25 million on behalf of Jose Aguirre's JR Ranch in the name of his Marquee Bloodstock. "She surprised all of us with that [first] performance because it's almost like she does just enough and she looks after herself in training. And when she did that, the way she did it her first time out, [trainer] Brendan [Walsh], he said it that he thought she could get a mile easily."

On pedigree, handicappers would almost certainly concur. Mashallah is a daughter of All in With Aces (Quiet American), whose 10 winners as a broodmare includes Hard Aces (Hard Spun), victorious in the GI Gold Cup at Santa Anita over a mile and a quarter and twice successful in Grade III contests over 12 furlongs. **Cont. p5**

IN TDN EUROPE TODAY

SEVEN DAYS: THE BEST IS YET TO COME

Emma Berry reflects on the weekend's action in Europe and beyond as Calandagan (Gleneagles) and Constitution River (Wootton Bassett) both won at the top level to tee up some mouthwatering clashes in the weeks and months ahead.



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Tuesday, July 7, 2026



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John Parisella, a top trainer in New York and California for decades and one of the sport's most colorful figures, passed away Friday July 3 at a Long Island hospital.



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Cont. from p1

A Texas-based private equity businessman who operates Stroud Companies, Stroud had been interested in racing for a few years but never quite took the plunge. That changed when he met Coolmore Director of Sales Charlie O'Connor at the 2023 Goffs Sale in Ireland. Stroud was so impressed by O'Connor and the whole Coolmore team that he was inspired to buy some horses.

"I quickly realized that these guys knew what they were doing," Stroud said. "Charlie very much became my guy."

O'Connor recalled the meeting at Goffs.

"He was over there on a golfing trip and he ended up coming to Goffs for a day and he immediately was intrigued going around the sales with myself and Wesley (Ward)," O'Connor said.



Title Role following his Belmont Derby win | Sarah Andrew

"And he ended up buying some yearlings when he had no intention of buying anything. Since then, we've become great friends and he has joined my syndicate with Dick Brodie, David Fennelly, and Mike Morgan with For The People Racing. He's bought a couple of yearlings every year."

Stroud was a newcomer to the business, but he understood how hard it can be to have success at the highest levels.

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2026 Sires by % BT Winners

Updated: July 6, 2026 10:06 AM | Data provided by [equineline.com](#)

RACING YEAR

2026

LIST TYPE

Leading Sires

STANDING LOCATION

New York

RACING AREA

North America

RACING SURFACES

All Surfaces

RELOCATED SIRES

Exclude

SORT BY

% Black-Type Winners

View List

Rank	Sire	2026 Stud Fee / Farm	Named Foals	Rnrs / Wnrs	BTWnrs / % Rnrs	BTHrs / % Rnrs	CSWnrs / C1Wnrs	AWD	Chief Earner (Earnings)	Progeny Earnings (Avg. Earnings per Rnr)
1	Leinster Majestic Warrior (2015)	\$7,500 Mountain View Farm, NY	54	30 / 13	3 / 10.0%	6 / 20.0%	0 / 0	6.25f	Lennilu (\$142,265)	\$944,707 (\$31,490)
2	Redesdale Speightstown (2013)	Moved	95	17 / 6	1 / 5.9%	2 / 11.8%	0 / 0	7.04f	Sculcos Folly (\$337,050)	\$712,818 (\$41,930)
3	Honest Mischief Into Mischief (2016)	\$7,500 Sequel Stallions New York, NY	167	53 / 17	3 / 5.7%	6 / 11.3%	0 / 0	5.9f	Walk Away Kaye (\$142,974)	\$1,342,430 (\$25,329)
4	War Dancer War Front (2010)	Private Mill Creek Farm, NY	270	44 / 11	2 / 4.5%	2 / 4.5%	0 / 0	6.84f	Twenty Six Black (\$170,000)	\$859,021 (\$19,523)
5	Bucchero Kantharos (2012)	\$12,500 Ironhorse Stallions, NY	251	113 / 48	3 / 2.7%	6 / 5.3%	2 / 0	5.78f	Book'em Danno (\$280,000)	\$2,330,901 (\$20,627)
6	Solomini Curlin (2015)	\$7,500 McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds, NY	220	89 / 36	2 / 2.2%	5 / 5.6%	0 / 0	7.06f	Helen's Revenge (\$170,350)	\$2,592,834 (\$29,133)
7	Central Banker Speightstown (2010)	\$7,500 McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds, NY	537	99 / 32	1 / 1.0%	7 / 7.1%	0 / 0	6.55f	Hot Currency (\$165,400)	\$1,838,270 (\$18,568)

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Belmont Oaks heroine Kensington Lane | Sarah Andrew

He describes his early experiences in racing as a series of "ups and downs." Never was that more true than with the filly Life of Joy (**Gun Runner**). She won this year's GII Fair Grounds Oaks and looked to be a serious candidate for the GI Kentucky Oaks only to be injured and retired.

But Stroud isn't one who gets discouraged easily.

"Horse racing is definitely my passion and it's great to be able to share it with friends, make new friends, and bring others into racing alongside us," he said. "It's been exciting and hopefully profitable; that's the name of the game."

Stroud is a big fan of the New York breeding and racing programs and wanted to find a horse in Europe that he thought could win races here and eventually become a stallion in New York.

For a few months, he and O'Connor had their eye on the colt Title Role who was owned by Coolmore and trained by Simon and Ed Crisford.

"Charlie and I had been looking for a horse to bring over from Europe for about a year to be a stud, particularly in New York."

"We found Title Role in February. The Crisfords thought he could be a really good American horse. We purchased him about three weeks before the race. The next thing we know, we won a Grade I race. That's as good an outcome as I ever could have expected."

Ridden by John Velazquez, Title Role won a thriller, winning by a nose over West End Kid (**Twirling Candy**).

Next up for Title Role will likely be the GI Saratoga Derby at 1 3/16-miles on Aug. 8. Stroud said the GI Fourstardave Stakes, a one-mile race also run on Aug., is a possibility. Stroud said there are concerns that the distance of the Saratoga Derby may be too much for Title Role. He will be trained for next race by the Crisfords, but will then be turned over to Brendan Walsh.

On the advice of Hunter Houlihan, Stroud bought into Kensington Lane before her Grade I win. Ridden by Joel Rosario and sent off at 23-1, Kensington Lane won by 1 3/4 lengths from trainer Donnacha O'Brien.



Charlie O'Connor and Johnny Velazquez celebrate after Title Role's Belmont Derby score last weekend
Sarah Andrew



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Phillip Shelton, racing manager for Medallion Racing, told NYRA prior to the race that Kensington Lane will stay in the U.S. following the Belmont Oaks and be transferred to California-based Phil D'Amato with an eye towards Grade 1 races such as the Del Mar Oaks, the Queen Elizabeth II Challenge Cup at Keeneland and the American Oaks at Santa Anita Park.

"I've been blessed with some incredible partners who are way smarter than me," Stroud said. "They know what they are looking for and how to do it. I've partnered with some great people and Charlie O'Connor had been a huge help to me as well as becoming a really good friend."

O'Connor said that such is Stroud's enthusiasm that keeping him focused on the goal has been the biggest challenge. "He was doing a little bit of everything," said O'Connor. "And I told him, 'we need to get a game plan here, Will. With the new Belmont opening, I thought the New York program would be great. He has a handful of mares and they're going to board with Dr. Stowe Burke in Saratoga. He's very enthusiastic in the business and my job is to try to get him to keep him controlled. I promised his father I wouldn't let him get too big and too involved and buy everything."

But right now, nothing is dampening that enthusiasm.

"I had two goals that I wanted to complete when I turned 35," said Stroud. "Two of them were to get married to a great girl

and to win a Grade I horse race, ideally at Saratoga. That came true. And I got married to an amazing woman in August. Then I win not one, but two Grade I's in Saratoga. This experience this weekend was amazing."

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Cont. from p1

But Restrepo thinks that oversimplifies things a bit.

"I think you can get fooled, because if you look at the rest of her family and her dam, they're all six-furlong horses," he said.

Indeed, All in With Aces's other black-type performer was Astrollinthepark (Divine Park), a dual black-type winner at sprint trips and runner-up in the GIII Winning Colors Stakes at three-quarters of a mile.

Soon after the mile allowance, the decision was made to cut Mashallah back in distance, but instead of allowing her to roll along on the front end as she had done her first two times to the races, there was a purposeful change in the tactics this time around.

"When Brendan breezed her back, he said, 'I'm going to stick to sprinting. There's a race at Saratoga six and a half and let's see how she goes.' And she had a great month and it's great to see her do that. Let her rate, let her get into a rhythm and not necessarily be on the engine flying. And she shut off, which was great.

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WINSTAR



Mashallah | Sarah Andrew

Cont.

"And when [jockey Tyler Gaffalione] called upon her, she responded and he felt there was a lot more to give and she's learning. But I mean clearly talent-wise, just raw talent and ability, she's got it."

Having cleared her first allowance condition, Mashallah could be headed into stakes company next time around.

"This is like one of those cliché tick-the-box answers, but you obviously watch her the next couple of weeks and look, the elephant in the room is the [seven-furlong Aug. 8 GI] Test [Stakes]. Obviously, and she'll be up there at Saratoga the whole time, so that is a possibility," Restrepo said. "There are races at Colonial and Ellis, so we could go that route and then come back for the [six-furlong Sept. 6 GIII] Prioress [Stakes]. So there are tons of ways to go about it, but the owner is a very patient man and leaves it up to the team to kind of get together."

At the end of the day, Restrepo and team are happy to defer that decision to the trainer.

"It's in Brendan's hands to make that final call," he said. "The options are laid before us and it's just see what's best for her and see how the field's shaping up, right?"

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RACING'S EXCESS CAPACITY PROBLEM: TOO MANY RACES, TOO MANY TRACKS

by Carter Wilkie

How many tracks and how many races does the U.S. Thoroughbred industry really need to satisfy shrinking demand for Thoroughbred racing? That's a question racing's decision makers ask behind closed doors, but choose not to ask in public.

Consider the state of Thoroughbred racing in metro New York before the closure of Aqueduct and the shrinking of Belmont Park: two aging, underutilized facilities from another era with

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excess capacity, facing high fixed costs to operate and maintain obsolete facilities that serve the same shrinking market.

Aqueduct's closure enables Belmont's rebirth, just as in Maryland, where the closure of Laurel Park will enable the rebirth of Pimlico. Economist Joseph Schumpeter called that creative destruction. Painful but necessary.

Racing is still adjusting to the structural shift that began in 1978 with passage of the Interstate Horseracing Act. Simulcasting and interstate off-track wagering allowed tracks to reach a much larger potential pool of customers. Allowing bettors access to more options meant tracks had to compete with one another for their attention.

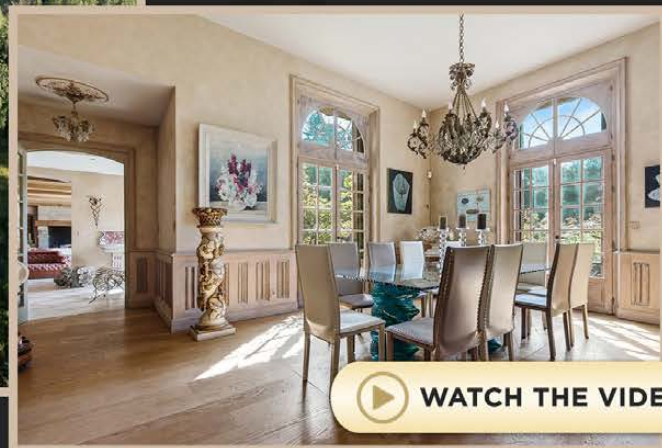
Last year, wagering by live attendees at U.S. tracks generated only six cents of every dollar in handle that tracks took in. Off-track wagering sources provided 94%. When struggling tracks compete for a shrinking audience, the outcome is weak betting pools, weak purses, weak fields, and little investment to improve or market the race-day experience for tomorrow's customers. The product and profitability suffer.

In 2003, when all-sources handle at U.S. tracks reached its peak, tracks collectively had \$15 dollars in handle coming in for every dollar in purses going out. Last year, that ratio was 8.6 to 1. The handle-to-purse ratio, a key metric of a track's viability, has been cut in half.



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To get track operators' handle-to-purse ratio back to the healthier level where it was, wagering on U.S. Thoroughbred tracks would have to grow from \$11 billion last year to more than \$19 billion. Or, conversely, if total wagering at Thoroughbred tracks in the U.S. remained flat at \$11 billion, then total purses in the U.S. would have to drop from \$1.3 billion last year by 43% to get back to a handle-to-purse ratio of 15:1. The first scenario is unrealistic. The second scenario is undesirable. So, without intervention to correct the imbalance, racing continues to contract.

Racing fans are frustrated by an industry that has done little collectively to grow the fan base for the sport. Instead, racing's board members speak in measured tones about how the industry is undergoing "contraction"--as if contraction is the ideal solution for what ails the business.

It's not hard to understand why. Increasing customer demand for racing's excess capacity is much harder to pull off. It takes vision. It takes imagination and creativity. Most of all, it requires money and serious investment in marketing. All with no guarantee that any of it will pay off.

To rationalize race dates and avoid cannibalizing each other's fields and handle, Maryland coordinates its summer schedule with Virginia. How many tracks are willing to give up something to a competitor to get something in return? How many legislatures and racing commissions would keep casino licenses and racing licenses intact at tracks if they were to reduce their race dates while keeping purse funding intact? Purses per race would go up. How many horsemen's groups would go along with fewer race dates for larger purses?

Letting weak tracks disappear through attrition is the path of least resistance, requiring no effort or money at all. So, racing's entities with the most resources have little financial incentive to solve the problem of excess capacity as they wait patiently to be among the last standing when the dust clears, expecting that another place's loss will be their gain in the long run.

The two exceptions are in South Florida and Southern California, jurisdictions which the industry considers too important to lose.

In the 1950's, Canada's legendary horseman E. P. Taylor looked at racing in Ontario and it looked a lot like Ontario's brewing industry in the 1930s: too many breweries chasing the same

finite market of customers. Taylor did for racing there what he did for brewing a generation before, he consolidated 14 underperforming boutique meets across the province into two tracks: Woodbine, in Toronto, and Fort Erie, near Buffalo. He reimagined racing for Ontario and reshaped it by the force of will. Seventy years later, Ontario is one of the most vital half dozen jurisdictions for racing in North America.

Which tracks or jurisdictions must die for others to survive is not a conversation industry leaders want to initiate. The answer points to a future where a niche sport becomes even more boutique and exclusive. Horsemen for whom money is no object

will survive the reckoning, as will low-end players where the costs to stay in the game are small. But the midmarket--racing's bread and butter--would be diminished.

In Boston, where I live, players at struggling Suffolk Downs shed no tears when live racing ended across the New Hampshire border at Rockingham Park in 2009. Competitors in Massachusetts naively cheered Rockingham's demise, unaware that losing it weakened racing's ecosystem in New England.

Suffolk Downs became an island

outpost and went underwater a decade later after the track failed to win a state casino license that would have kept it afloat.

New England's loss meant its wagering dollars flowed to tracks in other locales. Fans who wanted to see live racing drove 3.5 hours to Saratoga Springs or Long Island. The benefits of that contraction for the industry are short-lived, however, because Boston--a sports-mad town if there ever was one--has no live racing to introduce new fans to the sport.

The Stronach Group's closure of Golden Gate Fields in the Bay Area of Northern California two years ago may have consolidated more starters and handle at The Stronach Group's Santa Anita Park. But contraction of California's ecosystem has made the state more of an island, and Santa Anita struggles to fill fields for stakes races.

Related to all of this is the fact that the American Graded Stakes Committee of the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association has yet to rationalize the number of graded stakes races in the U.S. for the contraction in the number of starters over time.

Wagering at U.S. tracks has decreased by 58% since 2003 on an inflation-adjusted basis. Over the same period, the number of races held in a year has decreased by 45%.



Closing day at Aqueduct | Sarah Andrew

Even after that much contraction in races held, tracks in the U.S. generated roughly 25% less handle per race last year (\$375,000) than in 2003 (\$496,000, adjusted for inflation).

Contraction of racing's customer base is a vicious cycle that hurts track operators and horsemen nationwide. Without a collective effort to grow demand for the sport's product or rationalize excess capacity to optimize results, these trends point to a future of shrinking fields, smaller betting pools, and stagnant purses, where rewards for midmarket horsemen at midmarket tracks are too low to sustain the game economically.

Carter Wilkie, a lifelong fan of Thoroughbred racing who witnessed Secretariat win the Preakness at Pimlico at age five, is a second-generation racehorse ownership group partner who travels frequently to tracks in the U.S. and Canada. A former White House speechwriter and author, he has been a communications advisor to CEOs of Fortune 500 companies for more than 25 years.

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THE BEST THING ABOUT RACING: THE PEOPLE *by Liz Crow*

Editor's note: On the heels of our 'name one problem with racing and how you would fix it' series, bloodstock agent Liz Crow suggested that the TDN charge people with naming something that racing does right. We loved the idea, and suggested that she blaze the trail. Interested in participating in the series? Email garyking@thetdn.com with your submission.

The best thing about racing is the people.

The grooms, hotwalkers, trainers, owners all from different countries and backgrounds coming together and rooting for the same horse and celebrating the same win shoulder to shoulder in the winner's circle. It is hard to think of another industry that offers that conglomerate of people. Each person playing a key role in getting the horse there.

One of my favorite parts of the job is learning from the many owners we get to interact with. Almost every horse owner is exceptional at something. They had to be to create the success that allows them to own racehorses as a hobby. I love hearing how they built their companies, how they lead people, how they think through problems. Every owner has a different story and a different perspective, and I've learned lessons from many of them that have nothing to do with horses.

When I worked on the backside, the grooms, exercise riders, assistants, hotwalkers, veterinarians and blacksmiths all have stories that are just as remarkable. This is a seven-day-a-week profession. There are no holidays, no Christmas, no Thanksgiving, definitely no weekends, but also no complaining. For most, this is the only place they want to be. I don't think you will find harder-working people in any industry than at the

backside of a racetrack.

What makes racing special is that all of those worlds collide.

Where else do people from every economic background, every education level and every corner of the world have a common interest or goal? Where else do men and women compete directly against each other as trainers, jockeys, owners, breeders? Colts and fillies compete on the same stage. Almost every other sport is divided by gender, but ours isn't.

And despite being fiercely competitive, racing has a remarkable way of coming together when it matters most. When a groom gets sick, a rider is injured, or a trainer's family is facing hardship, the industry rallies. Fundraisers appear overnight. We spend every day trying to beat each other, but when someone in our community needs help, we show up.

At the center of all of it is the horse.

The horse has a unique ability to unite people who otherwise might never cross paths. That blend of backgrounds, experiences and perspectives creates a community unlike any other. Sometimes we can forget that our industry while plagued with it's fair share of problems has a lot of wonderful things going for it.

Now if only we could use this superpower to solve our problems by using all of the different opinions and perspectives, then we might really be on to something. But this is a positive piece, so I will say I love the melting pot of people this industry brings.

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U.S. WAGERING DECLINES DURING 2026 SECOND QUARTER

Wagering on U.S. races for the second quarter of 2026 declined 2.54% from 2025 figures, according to statistics released by Equibase Monday. Through two quarters of the current year, \$3,197,641,353 has been wagered on U.S. races, compared to \$3,280,921,802 for that same period in 2025.

Available purses increased 3.51%, from \$329,119,590 through two quarters in 2025 to \$340,661,621 this year. Race days during that period fell from 997 to 978, while total races fell from 8,004 to 7,897.

For the month of June, wagering on U.S. races was down 4.70% from 2025, with \$956,841,252 wagered in June 2025 and \$911,860,943 wagered during the month in 2026.

Available purses during the month rose 2.74%, from \$114,593,051 a year ago to \$117,737,891 this year. Race days declined from 380 in June 2025 to 374 in June 2026. There were a total of 2,948 U.S. races during the month this year, compared to 2,964 in 2025.

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JOHN PARISELLA PASSES *by Bill Finley***John Parisella (right) | Adam Coglianese**

John Parisella, a top trainer in New York and California for decades and one of the sport's most colorful figures, passed away Friday at a Long Island hospital. According to Wikipedia, he was 81.

The news was confirmed by family friend and fellow trainer Bruce Levine. Levine believes Parisella passed away as the result of a head injury he suffered in a fall.

"His health had been declining pretty good the last year, year and a half," Levine said. "For whatever reason, he kept falling and losing his balance. A friend of his went to see him last Sunday and found him unconscious in his apartment. There was blood all over the place. They took him to the hospital. He never regained consciousness from there. He fell all the time. Maybe two weeks before he died, he told me, 'Bruce I am going to die from falling.' It started about two years ago. He fell in a Dunkin' Donuts and they had to take him to the hospital and stitch him up. I begged him to go to assisted living. He wouldn't do it. He was stubborn about certain things."

Parisella began his career in 1976 and ran his last horse in 2016. He won 960 races during his career, including 22 graded stakes races. His best horse may have been Simply Majestic, a winner of 14 stakes races. He finished third in the 1984 GI Preakness Stakes with Fight Over and Simply Majestic finished third in the 1988 GI Breeders' Cup Mile.

Parisella was born in Brooklyn to an Italian Catholic family and started his career as an assistant to Tommy Gullo. His mentor later became Johnny Campo.

His primary owner in New York was Ted Sabarese. The two campaigned 1983 for GIII Nashua winner Don Rickles.

While in California, he trained for several actors, including Jack Klugman, Don Adams, Don Rickles, Telly Savalas and James Caan. It was Klugman who gave him the nickname "Trainer to the

Stars."

In 1975, Parisella married Bernadette Birk, the former wife of trainer Bobby Frankel. Parisella and Frankel were originally friends as well as competitors, but it was Parisella who has largely been given credit for raising his step-daughter Bethenny Frankel.

Levine worries that the new generation will forget the top trainers of the seventies and eighties like Parisella.

"John had a great run," Levine said. "The new generation, they don't know trainers like John or Frank Martin. Even Woody Stephens, if he didn't win five Belmonts no one would remember him. 'The Chief,' Allen Jerkens, I'm not sure people remember him."

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE KEY INGREDIENTS TO OUR INDUSTRY**Brutus Clay III and Catesby Clay | Keeneland Photo**

By Brutus Clay, III

I read **Sobhy Sonbol's State of the Industry** report with interest. It is both insightful and thought provoking--two things our industry needs more of.

One statement in particular prompted me to write:

"Horse racing has two revenue inputs. People buy horses and people bet on horses. Everything else--purses, salaries, track maintenance--is derived from those two."

This framing reflects how many in our industry view the business. However, I believe it defines our value proposition too narrowly. The Thoroughbred is more than an asset to be wagered on; the horse is a gateway to a wide range of experiences. By focusing too heavily on wagering alone, we risk missing the broader opportunity to grow the sport.

Cont.

Historically, racetracks operated on a model of low cost admission, with profitability driven primarily by handle. The on track experience--whether food, amenities, or service--was secondary, because the primary draw was the thrill of betting. A useful analogue is the traditional Las Vegas model, where casinos subsidized rooms and dining to drive gaming volume.

But that model has evolved. Today, Las Vegas generates increasing revenue from premium experiences--high end dining, entertainment, and hospitality--often at full price. People now go to Las Vegas for the experience itself, not just to gamble. As the old joke goes, people used to say they went to Vegas for the shows--now they actually do. The success of venues like the Sphere underscores this shift.

Horse racing is undergoing a similar transition. Consider Churchill Downs: on Kentucky Derby Week 2026, handle reached approximately \$487 million. With takeout rates between 17% and 22%, and the track retaining roughly half of that, the net share is about 9% of handle. After accounting for operating margins, the contribution to profit is a modest \$11-14 million out of approximately \$200 million in increased second quarter earnings. It is increasingly difficult to sustain the entire enterprise on wagering alone.

Encouragingly, tracks are adapting. Churchill Downs now derives a majority of Derby Week revenue from ticket sales and premium experiences--categories that carry significantly higher margins than wagering. Keeneland's premium paddock seating sells out within minutes. Del Mar and Santa Anita are exceptional live event venues. Saratoga's 1863 Club continues to perform strongly, and the redevelopment of Belmont Park is expected to expand similar offerings.

That said, as we pursue higher end experiences, we must be careful not to alienate our core audience. Accessible, high energy race days remain essential. Large crowds enhance the value proposition not only for fans but also for owners. Part of the appeal of ownership is the sense of occasion--the feeling that what you are participating in matters.

I was reminded of this when Lady Eli, a Runnymede-bred filly, won the Belmont Oaks on July 4, 2015. It was a remarkable achievement, yet the sparse attendance muted the moment. Contrast that with the energy of a packed grandstand at Churchill Downs, Keeneland, or Saratoga--whether 20,000 or 150,000 people--the difference in perceived significance is profound. The value of a racehorse is not solely economic; it also includes the emotional and experiential return, in addition to the "lottery ticket" effect--even millionaires and billionaires want to dream.



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One of our sport's greatest strengths is the diversity of experiences it offers. The appeal can come from the adrenaline of wagering, the pageantry, the fashion, the exclusivity, the setting, or the social atmosphere. But at the center of it all is the horse--our most powerful and underutilized asset.

Thoroughbreds are not only exciting to bet on; they are also capable of inspiring connection, admiration, and even healing. We have seen this through stories like **Cody's Wish** and initiatives such as Stable Recovery. I have firsthand experience of visitors to the farm being emotionally moved by the horses--even to the point of tears for them and for me. These examples highlight something unique to our industry: the emotional connection between people and horses. It is also why so many Horse Country visitors leave as racing fans.

If our industry treats the horse as a commodity whose sole purpose is to drive handle and then discards it when it can no longer fulfill that purpose, we lose--morally, reputationally, and economically.

As an industry, we should lean further into what differentiates us. We should continue to build experiences that bring people closer to the horse while enhancing the overall event. This is not simple, but by focusing on the horse as the centerpiece--and continuing to invest in both premium and accessible experiences--I believe we can position the sport for a stronger and more sustainable future.

To that end, my suggestion is that the industry focus on what is working:

- Race tracks, the Breeders' Cup, and sales companies should measure and publish their Net Promoter Scores alongside handle, attendance, and sales figures, with management compensation linked to these scores. This would place guest experience on equal footing with traditional financial metrics.
- It is difficult to provide elevated experiences in antiquated facilities. Race tracks in states with gaming revenue and dated infrastructure should allocate a portion of that gaming revenue to capital improvements. Modern venues make it easier to deliver premium racing experiences.
- Invest in people who can execute elevated dining and entertainment. Bring in talent from diverse backgrounds and from the broader entertainment world to inject new ideas into the racetrack and sales experience.



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July 1, 2026

**Steve Asmussen talks
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Letter to the Editor cont.

- Develop stronger linkages between racetrack fans and the farms. Horse Country member farms/venues currently receive an average Net Promoter Score of 92 from their guests--a potent form of "spiked Kool Aid" for our sport.
- Continue to focus on the welfare of our horses, land, and people. These are the key ingredients of our industry, and caring for them is both an ethical imperative and a business necessity.

**Brutus J Clay, III, Chairman & CEO of Runnymede Farm, LLC,
Horse Country co-founder**

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TURF WRITER MARY RAMPPELLINI PASSES AWAY AT 53

Mary Rampellini, a long-time correspondent for the *Daily Racing Form*, passed away on Saturday, July 4, reported the National Turf Writers and Broadcasters on Monday. She was 53.

According to *DRF*, the reporter and handicapper succumbed to complications from sepsis in a hospital in Grapevine, Texas.

Rampellini, the daughter of horseman Ralph Rampellini, who managed the racing stables of Nelson Bunker Hunt and John Franks, was also the author of the Ollie the Oaklawn Owl series, children's books aimed at educating a younger audience about the sport.

"All who came in contact with Mary were uplifted by her kindness and positivity," read a NTWAB release.

Rampellini is survived by her mother, Patricia; sisters Anna and Christina; and her brother, Ralph. Her father died in 2023. Funeral services are pending.

The Rampellini Family asks the racing community to share a prayer, memory, or story about Mary. Please mail a letter to:
Mary Rampellini and Family
P.O. Box 462
Roanoke, Texas 76262

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SIRES WITH NEW SWs/GSWs

**FOR THE WEEK ENDING JULY 5, 2026
ACTIVE NORTH AMERICAN-BASED STALLIONS**



Heeere's Johnny became the latest stakes winner for Mill Ridge Farm's **Oscar Performance** in the Saranac S. | Sarah Andrew

Sire (Sire's Sire)	#SWs	#GSW
Brethren (Distorted Humor) (Watson--Proud Man S.)	14	4
City of Light (Quality Road) (Viking--Smile Sprint S.-L)	20	6

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EMAIL CHRIS KNEHR**

Justify (Scat Daddy) (To a Flame--Wild Applause S.)	53	24
Leinster (Majestic Warrior) (Triskelion--Pea Patch S.)	3	---
Oscar Performance (Kitten's Joy) (Heeere's Johnny--Saranac S.)	22	10

**STANDING AT MILL RIDGE FARM • CLICK HERE FOR MORE
EMAIL PRICE BELL**

Roadster (Quality Road) (Hot Rod Honey--Sharp Susan S.)	1	---
---	---	-----

**STANDING AT OCALA STUD • CLICK HERE FOR MORE
EMAIL DAVID O'FARRELL**

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Soldat (War Front)	2	---
<i>(Spirited Sol--Karl Boyes S.)</i>		
Speaker's Corner (Street Sense)	1	---
<i>(Harper's Corner--Schuylerville S.-L)</i>		
Vekoma (Candy Ride {Arg})	24	12
<i>(Mi Bago--Kelso S.-GIII)</i>		
Yaupon (Uncle Mo)	12	2
<i>(Booked--Sanford S.-GIII)</i>		

Italics indicate new activity, statistics include Northern Hemisphere results only. Want to promote your stallion? Email suefinley@thoroughbreddailynews.com.



MARSHALL BUSH JOINS EQUITRACK EXECUTIVE TEAM



Marshall Bush
The Bush Foundation

Marshall Bush has joined the executive team at EquiTrack as director of strategic projects, the company announced Monday. In her new role, Bush will work closely with the EquiTrack leadership team on key strategic initiatives, including supporting the company's expansion efforts, strengthening global relationships, and helping drive marketing and partnership opportunities across the Thoroughbred industry.



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Originally from Texas, Bush currently resides between Washington, D.C. and Kennebunkport, Maine, while spending significant time in Saratoga throughout the summer. Her professional background includes working across strategic partnerships, business development, and high-level relationship management.

EquiTrack is a technology company focused on simplifying and modernizing the business operations of the Thoroughbred industry through integrated financial tools, communication solutions, and data-driven technology.

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NATIONAL MUSEUM OF RACING, AMPLIFY PARTNER ON WINNER'S CIRCLE SUMMER CAMP

The National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame and Amplify Horse Racing will once again partner to offer the Winner's Circle Summer Camp, an immersive four-day experience introducing high school students to the world of Thoroughbred racing.

The camp, first introduced last year, will take place July 28 through July 31 in Saratoga Springs and combines classroom-style learning at the museum with exclusive behind-the-scenes tours at Saratoga Race Course.

Cont. p14

The Winner's Circle Summer Camp is made possible through support of industry partners, including the New York Racing Association, New York Thoroughbred Breeders, and the New York Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association.

"Once again, the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame is proud to partner with Amplify Horse Racing to offer this unique four-day immersive learning experience," said Eric Ross, the Museum's educator. "This is a great opportunity for young people interested in the Thoroughbred industry, and we are proud to work with the New York Racing Association and our local industry partners to provide space to foster the next generation of Thoroughbred enthusiasts."

Annie Montplaisir, Amplify's executive director, added, "Amplify's goal is to help young people connect with horses and the many career opportunities that surround them, regardless of whether they have ever been around horses before. The National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame is a natural educational partner in that mission, and this camp provides a wonderful opportunity for youth to learn about horses and develop an interest in the sport of Thoroughbred racing."

The camp is open to rising ninth through 12th graders. Enrollment is limited to 15 students, with a registration fee of \$50 per student (\$40 for National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame members and Amplify mentees or mentee graduates).

To learn more, or to register, [click here](#).

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RIDDLES SWEEP PHBA YEARLING SHOW

Dr. and Mrs. William E. Riddle Jr. bred both the grand and reserve champions at the second annual Pennsylvania Horse Breeders Association Yearling Show, which took place June 20 at Brandywine Polo Club. Four classes of Pennsylvania-sired and non-sired males and fillies competed for a share of \$1,000 per class, as well as an overall \$1,000 prize for Grand Champion and \$500 for Reserve Champion. This year's show was judged by Rick Abbott, who recently received PHBA's Lifetime Achievement Award.

GRADED STAKES ENTRIES

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Abbott named the Riddles' Golden Lad filly out of Zelica (Offlee Wild) his grand champion, while the couple's Cloud Computing filly out of Flatter's Secret (Flatter) was named Reserve Champion.

All participants of the Yearling Show became automatically eligible for up to \$40,000 in incentives during their racing careers. The highest-earning 2-year-olds of 2027 and 3-year-olds of 2028, regardless of where the money is won, will take home a share of \$20,000 at the end of each year.

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Friday, 7/10, Saratoga #9, post time: 5:40 p.m. EDT

VICTORY RIDE S.-GIII, \$225,000, 3yo, f, 6 1/2f

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Sippin Pretty 🐾	Yaupon	Bloch, Randall L., Six Column Stables LLC, Davis, Mike and Rice, Gene E.	Wilkes	Santana, Jr.	120
2	Iron Orchard 🐾	Authentic	KatieRich Stables LLC	Asmussen	Rosario	124
3	Carmel Coast 🐾	Omaha Beach	Legion Racing, MHM Stables LLC, Stefanski, Ed and Conlin, William	Beckman	Gaffalione	120
4	Sneaky Good 🐾	Into Mischief	NK Racing and LNJ Foxwoods	Cox	Ortiz	122
5	Tommy Jo	Into Mischief	Spendthrift Farm LLC	Pletcher	Velazquez	124
6	Peach Tie 🐾	Preservationist	Estate of Brereton C. Jones	Russell	Franco	124
7	Mythical	St Patrick's Day	Arindel	Delgado	Zayas	124
8	Tessellate 🐾	McKinzie	Magic Cap Stables, Braverman, Paul, Pinch, Timothy Castle Gate Farm LLC, BAG Racing Stables, Reinhardt, Jonathan and Thoroughbred Acquisition Group LLC	Joseph, Jr.	Davis	122
9	A Fine Chardonnay	Maclean's Music	Philip Griesinger	Wilkes	Hernandez, Jr.	124
10	Goodall	Yaupon	Spendthrift Farm LLC	Asmussen	Prat	122

Breeders: 1-Clarkland Farm LLC, 2-Pine Ridge Stable LLC, 3-Hunter Valley Farm, 4-Andrew N. Warren, 5-Spendthrift Farm, LLC, 6-Brereton C. Jones, 7-Arindel, 8-Castle Gate Farm LLC, 9-Alpha Delta Stables, LLC, 10-Mark Allen Toothaker, WilliamHeiligbrodt & Corrine Heiligbrodt

Not sure what happened to **Goodall** (Yaupon) in the GII Eight Belles Stakes, but, otherwise, she's been a terror at the sprint distance. Was easily the best in the Jersey Girl. **Tommy Jo** (Into Mischief) was quite the sensation when winning the GI Spinaway last year, but didn't live up to the hype. Can Pletcher get her back to her very best off the long layoff?

Iron Orchard (Authentic) debuts for Steve Asmussen after a dull effort in the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies. Shows a bullet work for her return. Dangerous.--**Bill Finley**

Saturday, 7/11, Saratoga #5, post time: 2:47 p.m. EDT

CARESS S.-GII, \$250,000, 4yo/up, f/m, 5 1/2fT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Zeitlos 🐾	Curlin	Peter Leidel	Asmussen	Ortiz	120
2	Movin' On Up	Accelerate	Kenneth L. Ramsey	Joseph, Jr.	Gaffalione	120
3	Italian Soiree	Uncle Mo	Hit The Bid Racing Stable and CMNWLTH	Motion	Davis	120
4	Sunna	Dominus	Leverett S. Miller	Sweezey	Rosario	122
5	Obstreperous	Sky Mesa	J A G Racing, Jettany Thoroughbred Corp. & Exclusive Equine	Simone	Rodriguez	120
6	In Our Time 🐾	Not This Time	Resolute Racing and Miller Racing LLC	Joseph, Jr.	Prat	124

Breeders: 1-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC, 2-Estate Of Harvey A. Clarke, 3-Repole Stable, Inc., 4-Leverett S. Miller, 5-Pillar Property Services Inc, 6-Brian Kahn

Sunna (Dominus) will be facing the toughest assignment of her career after winning three straight, but it looks like she could have a big advantage here as the primary speed in the race. **Italian Soiree** (Uncle Mo) is the horse to beat. She's coming off a strong second-place showing in the GII Intercontinental Stakes where she earned a 97 Beyer. Will be tough with a repeat effort. **In Our Time** (Not This Time) should also press the pace. Stumbling at the start in the Intercontinental didn't help her cause.--**Bill Finley**

Saturday, 7/11, Saratoga #10, post time: 5:39 p.m. EDT

BOWLING GREEN S. PRESENTED BY EMERALD EVOCATIONS-GII, \$250,000, 4yo/up, 1 3/8mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Ole Crazy Bone 🦋	Ghostzapper	Flying P Stable	Maker	Prat	124
2	Soleil Volant 🦋	Karakontie (Jpn)	Dupuis, Jr., Jacques, Bourque, Luke and Sutton, Bobby	Motion	Gaffalione	120
3	Desvio 🦋	Yoshida (Jpn)	Bonnie Rye Stable and Stonelea Stable	Meyers	Velazquez	124
4	Fort George (GB)	Territories (Ire)	Mrs. Fitriani Hay	Walker	Shoemark	122
5	Carson's Run 🦋	Cupid	West Point Thoroughbreds and Bouchey, Steven	Clement	Rosario	120
6	Minaret Station	Instilled Regard	OXO Equine LLC	Walden	Ortiz	120
7	Carcano 🦋	Bolt d'Oro	BBN Racing, LLC	Oliver	Franco	120
8	Yo Daddy	Yoshida (Jpn)	Winning Move Stable and Sigler, Wesley	Rice	Santana, Jr.	124
9	Kinetic	Street Sense	Goldfarb, Sanford J., Kantarmaci, Ilkay and Zilla Racing Stables	Kantarmaci	Prat	124
10	Dr. Kraft	The Lieutenant	Kantarmaci, I, Zilla Racing Stables, Black Jack Racing & Forst, S Kantarmaci	Gonzalez		124

Breeders: 1-Adena Springs, 2-G. Watts Humphrey Jr., 3-Eliza St George & Lee Mauberret, 4-K. A. Bartlett & J. M. Beever, 5-Frankfort Park Farm, 6-OXO Equine, LLC, 7-Scott and Debbie Pierce & Dermot and Emma Quinn, 8-Big Chief Racing LLC & Rocker O Ranch LLC, 9-Godolphin, 10-Sequel Stallions New York LLC

Fort George (GB) Territories ({Ire}) is an intriguing candidate. He finished only 5 3/4 lengths behind Ombudsman (Ire) Night of Thunder ({Ire}), arguably the best turf horse in the world, in the GI Dubai Turf Cup, and finished just behind Eclipse Award winner Rebel's Romance (Ire) (Dubawi ({Ire})) in his prior start. Should find this spot much easier. Turf-distance specialist Mike Maker will send out **Ole Crazy Bone** (Ghostzapper), who looks primed for a big effort. Won the GII Kentucky Turf Cup at Kentucky Downs at a mile-and-a-half and then had time off before returning in a middle distance allowance at Churchill. That race looks like a perfect prep for this. **Minaret Station** (Instilled Regard) is in good form, but is an unknown at the distance.--**Bill Finley**

Saturday, 7/11, Prairie Meadows #8, post time: 10:20 p.m. EDT

PRAIRIE MEADOWS CORNHUSKER H.-GIII, \$300,000, 3yo/up, 1 1/8m

PP	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Bullard 🦋	Gun Runner	By Talla Racing LLC, St. Elias Stables LLC, Three Chimneys and West Point Thoroughbreds	McCarthy	Kimura	118
2	Render Judgment	Blame	Baccari Racing Stable, LLC, Dream Walkin Farms, Inc., MJM Racing, Rocket Ship Racing and Magdalena Racing	McPeck	Esquivel	117
3	Heroic Move	Quality Road	Bennewith, Arnold, Wiest, Rick, Wiest, Clayton, Wiest, Lana Tremblay, Norman, R 6 Stable and Regan, Sheila	Diodoro	Vazquez	122
4	Cornishman 🦋	Curlin	Joseph A. Schumer	McFarlane	Gonzalez	119
5	San Siro 🦋	Classic Empire	Andrew Farm, Mountmellick Farm, Ocean Reef Racing White Mountain Stables and Stonecrest Farm	Walsh	Geroux	119
6	Gigante 🦋	Not This Time	L and N Racing LLC and Brewster, Clark O.	Asmussen	Smith	117
7	Spellmaker	Gun Runner	Osmel Nunez	Irion	Arrieta	110
8	Navajo Warrior 🦋	Candy Ride (Arg)	BAG Racing Stables, Miller Racing, LLC, Paul, Dr. Derek K. Mathis Stable, LLC, Braverman, Paul and Pinch, Timothy	Joseph, Jr.	Husbands	121
9	Spenard 🦋	Spun to Run	Joseph A. Schumer	McFarlane	Hernandez	115

Breeders: 1-Three Chimneys Farm, LLC, 2-Green Lantern Stables, 3-Gary & Mary West Stables Inc., 4-Godolphin, 5-Frankfort Park Farm, Bemart, Equinow, Valle Falcone & K. Byrne, 6-Ann Mudge Backer & Smitten Farm, 7-Winchell Thoroughbreds LLC, 8-Hinkle Farms, 9-Marylou Whitney Stables LLC

It looks like local trainer Dan McFarlane may have **Cornishman** (Curlin) set up for a repeat win in this race. Cornishman has won two straight, including the same prep that was used for this race last year. Trainer is winning at 38% at the meet. Saffie Joseph Jr. is always dangerous and he brings in **Navajo Warrior** (Candy Ride ({Arg})) He's coming off a win that isn't as good as it looks on paper since he stole the race in the GIII Pimlico Special. But there's little speed in here and the same thing could happen. **Heroic Move** (Quality Road) is a little inconsistent, but did earn a 99 Beyer when winning the GIII Steve Sexton Mile. A threat if he delivers his best.--**Bill Finley**

See European edition for upcoming European and international Graded Stakes Entries



2026 Leading Broodmare Sires, by Grade I Stakes Winners

Standing NA - 2026 Locations & Fees - Worldwide Earnings - NH Foals

Rank	Stallion	BTW	%	BTH	%	GSW	%	GSH	%	G1SW	%	G1SH	%	Earnings
1	Bernardini (2003) by A.P. Indy	14	2.72	32	6.23	9	1.75	17	3.31	4	0.78	8	1.56	\$29,633,777
	FYR: 2008/Crops: 13/Stands: Darley USA (Dead)													
2	Scat Daddy (2004) by Johannesburg	12	3.47	29	8.38	7	2.02	18	5.2	3	0.87	7	2.02	\$13,259,600
	FYR: 2009/Crops: 12/Stands: Coolmore Ashford (Dead)													
3	Street Cry (IRE) (1998) by Machiavellian	14	3.78	28	7.57	7	1.89	17	4.59	2	0.54	4	1.08	\$14,783,331
	FYR: 2004/Crops: 18/Stands: Darley USA (Dead)													
4	Speightstown (1998) by Gone West	7	1.71	19	4.65	5	1.22	8	1.96	2	0.49	3	0.73	\$11,045,952
	FYR: 2006/Crops: 15/Stands: WinStar Farm (Dead)													
5	Curlin (2004) by Smart Strike	11	3.28	25	7.46	5	1.49	14	4.18	2	0.6	3	0.9	\$10,644,803
	FYR: 2010/Crops: 12/Stands: Hill 'n' Dale at Xalapa/Fee: 225,000													
6	Blame (2006) by Arch	7	4.22	12	7.23	4	2.41	5	3.01	2	1.2	3	1.81	\$6,063,220
	FYR: 2012/Crops: 9/Stands: Claiborne Farm/Fee: 25,000													
7	Congrats (2000) by A.P. Indy	6	2.64	11	4.85	1	0.44	3	1.32	1	0.44	2	0.88	\$17,444,946
	FYR: 2008/Crops: 14/Stands: WinStar Farm (Dead)													
8	Giant's Causeway (1997) by Storm Cat	6	1.02	26	4.42	1	0.17	10	1.7	1	0.17	4	0.68	\$13,293,303
	FYR: 2002/Crops: 19/Stands: Coolmore Ashford (Dead)													
9	Malibu Moon (1997) by A.P. Indy	16	2.96	31	5.74	5	0.93	11	2.04	1	0.19	1	0.19	\$13,073,334
	FYR: 2001/Crops: 20/Stands: Spendthrift Farm (Dead)													
10	Uncle Mo (2008) by Indian Charlie	8	2.52	22	6.94	4	1.26	12	3.79	1	0.32	5	1.58	\$10,187,559
	FYR: 2013/Crops: 9/Stands: Coolmore Ashford (Dead)													
11	Distorted Humor (1993) by Forty Niner	7	1.57	22	4.92	3	0.67	9	2.01	1	0.22	1	0.22	\$9,909,886
	FYR: 2000/Crops: 21/Stands: WinStar Farm (Dead)													
12	Smart Strike (1992) by Mr. Prospector	8	1.99	19	4.71	5	1.24	13	3.23	1	0.25	1	0.25	\$9,734,489
	FYR: 1998/Crops: 24/Stands: Lane's End Farm (Dead)													
13	Lemon Drop Kid (1996) by Kingmambo	8	2.4	23	6.91	3	0.9	8	2.4	1	0.3	2	0.6	\$6,900,084
	FYR: 2002/Crops: 19/Stands: Lane's End Farm (Dead)													
14	Kitten's Joy (2001) by El Prado (Ire)	8	2.41	19	5.72	2	0.6	8	2.41	1	0.3	1	0.3	\$6,755,601
	FYR: 2007/Crops: 14/Stands: Hill 'n' Dale at Xalapa (Dead)													
15	Quality Road (2006) by Elusive Quality	8	3.67	17	7.8	5	2.29	8	3.67	1	0.46	1	0.46	\$6,678,823
	FYR: 2012/Crops: 9/Stands: Lane's End Farm/Fee: 100,000													

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LIFE IS GOOD'S SCARLETT BEGONIA THE NEWEST 'RISING STAR' BLOOM AT ELLIS



Scarlett Begonia | Coady Media

They may've outrun her early, but she was moving best of all late in this baby dash at Ellis Park. **Scarlett Begonia** (**Life Is Good**) rolled home in the stretch to break her maiden at first asking and become her sire's second 'TDN Rising Star, presented by Hagyard'.

Well-supported at the windows to the tune of 3-5 favoritism, she raced along in midpack as eager early leaders posted an opening quarter in :22.35 after distancing themselves from the rest. Finding her stride through the bend, Scarlett Begonia kicked into gear from the five path swinging for home, and was bearing down on the tiring frontrunners with every stride. Rallying for control passing the sixteenth pole, she drew off from Miss Anna (**Girvin**) to win by a comfortable 3 3/4-length margin.

Scarlett Begonia is **Life Is Good**'s second 'Rising Star' behind Hey Tuff Guy at Churchill Downs.

This victress is the latest to the races for Asiya, making her the half-sister to Zaajel (**Street Sense**), MGSW, \$258,640 and Ajaaweed (**Curlin**), MGSP, \$198,132. One of her sisters, Maqboola (Tamayuz {GB}) has produced two winners as a broodmare while Zaajel's first to the races will be a juvenile named Saytara (**Constitution**). Asiya has a yearling filly by **Up to the Mark** in the wings and had been bred to **Flightline** for 2026.

Scarlett Begonia's dam is a half-sister to Indian Horse of the Year Miracle (Ind) (Multidimensional {Ire}) and to Majestic Opinion (Ind) (Dixie Union), mother of three stakes winners in her home country.

This is the female family of GISW Liason; MGSW United; GSW Harlan Punch; and the extended one of MSW Ascendancy (Classic Empire).

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4th-Ellis, \$99,830, Msw, 7-6, 2yo, f, 5 1/2f, 1:04.94, ft, 3 3/4 lengths.

SCARLETT BEGONIA, f, 2, by Life Is Good

1st Dam: Asiya (MSP, \$136,200), by Daaher

2nd Dam: Khalila, by Elusive Quality

3rd Dam: Indy Flash, by A.P. Indy

Sales history: \$285,000 RNA Ylg '25 KEESEP; \$220,000 RNA 2yo '26 OBSMAR. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$58,768. [Click for the Equibase.com chart.](#) [Click for the free Equineline.com catalogue-style pedigree.](#)

O-Hat Creek Racing, Ashview Farm and Upland Flats Racing; B-Gray Lyster & Gatewood Bell (KY); T-Brad H. Cox.



Raised at ASHVIEW FARM



GREATEST JOY BECOMES FIRST WINNER FOR GREATEST HONOUR AT PRESQUE ISLE

Greatest Joy became freshman sire Greatest Honour's first winner with a professional stalk-and-pounce effort at Presque Isle Downs Monday.

The longest shot on the board at 10-1 odds, she watched Castle Dark (Peace and Justice) set the early tempo through an opening quarter in :22.82 on an uncontested advantage. Responding when called on for a rally in the lane, she was on even terms with the long time leader by the eighth pole and had pulled clear of that one not long after. From there she extended her advantage to 1 1/4 lengths on the wire.

Greatest Joy is the second winner from as many to the races for Rossellini, a half-sister to GISW Red Knight (Pure Prize) and MSW Macagone (Artie Schiller). The broodmare has produce five fillies in a row thus far with her most recent being a yearling Khozan and a 2026 **Casa Creed**.

Cont.



Greatest Honour | *Spendthrift Farm*

Sire Greatest Honour is out of an unplaced daughter of 2007 Broodmare of the Year Better Than Honour (Deputy minister), making his dam a half-sister to champion 3-year-old filly MGSW Rags to Riches (A.P. Indy) and GI Belmont Stakes hero Jazil (Seeking the Gold). He hails from the immediate female family of GISW Streaming (Smart Strike) and Canadian champion older dirt male Tyson (**Tapit**) as well as being the extended one of Group 1-placed Arabian Hope (Distorted Humor); champion 3-year-old colt **Arcangelo** (Arrogate); and the late MGSW Cezanne (**Curlin**).

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1st-Presque Isle Downs, \$33,730, Msw, 7-6, 2yo, f, 5f (AWT), :57.84, ft, 1 1/4 lengths.

GREATEST JOY (f, 2, Greatest Honour--Rossellini, by Freud)
Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$18,600. **Click for the [Equibase.com](#) chart or VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV.**

O/B-Divine Light Healing Ministries (FL); T-Kevin Rice.



Corona de Oro | *Coady Media*

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IN ORDER OF PURSE:

8th-Ellis, \$102,000, Alw, 7-6, (NW2L), 3yo, 7f, 1:23.04, wf, 1 1/2 lengths.

CORONA DE ORO (c, 3, Bolt d'Oro--Lemon de Oro {SP}, by Lemon Drop Kid) broke his maiden back in March at Fair Grounds, and from there stepped up into tough company, running third in the GIII Lexington Stakes at Keeneland before an unsuccessful try at the GI Preakness Stakes May 16. They have him another try at graded company in the GIII Matt Winn Stakes last out June 7, but he faded to fifth late. Given 9-5 favoritism for this class relief, Corona de Oro broke a step slow but recovered well to track the action from the rear of the field going into the turn. **Cont.**



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Checked at the five sixteenths, he found some running room at the quarter pole via the inland route and was in command inside the furlong grounds. He steadily edged ahead of Volendam (Vekoma) to win by 1 1/2 lengths.

A late claim of foul from the runner-up was disallowed by the Stewards. Corona de Oro is a half-brother to Golden Alchemist (Nyquist), GSP, \$174,950 and is only the second foal to make it to the races for Lemon de Oro. He is also the last registered offspring for the mare, who hails from the female family of GISW Chelsey Flower. Sales history: \$100,000 RNA Ylg '24 FTSAUG; \$100,000 Ylg '24 OBSOCT; \$160,000 2yo '25 EASMAY. Lifetime Record: GSP, 8-2-1-2, \$167,832. **Click for the Equibase.com chart.**

O-On Our Own Stable, LLC, Commonwealth Stable, U Racing Stables, LLC, Saints or Sinners, Titledown Racing, LLC, Nichols, Jim, Barker, Edwin S., Rivers, Daniel, Haines, John and Stewart, Dallas; B-Willow Oaks Stable, LLC (KY); T-Dallas Stewart.

3rd-Ellis, \$99,860, Alw (NW2\$X)/Opt. Clm (\$62,500), 7-6, 3yo/up, 6f, 1:09.42, ft, 3 1/2 lengths.

TAYLOR'S VERSION (c, 4, Into Mischief--Taylor S {SW & GSP, \$121,519}, by Medaglia d'Oro) broke his maiden in his second jump last year, and two races later produced a career-best Beyer of 97 at Churchill Sept. 18 when defeating a first-level allowance group that included rising sprinter SW Hymn (McKinzie). His subsequent two starts--the GIII Perryville Stakes at Keeneland Oct. 18 and an optional claimer at Churchill Nov. 20--saw him finish off the board and he went on the shelf afterwards.

Gone since then, he was still well-supported on this season bow and Taylor's Version went off as the 4-5 favorite against this short field. Dueling with Banned for Life (Maximus Mischief) out of the gate, the pair rolled through an opening quarter in :22.43 before the eventual winner started pulling away on the turn. Clearing his early rival, Taylor's Version rolled into the lane with a comfortable advantage and held that long time shadow to 3 1/2 lengths on the wire.

The victor has an unplaced 3-year-old half-sister and a juvenile half-sister who was exported to Japan last year. The latter was named Frau Eva, and she changed hands for \$1.5-million at the 2025 Keeneland September sale to Naohiro Sakaguchi. The youngest for Taylor S is a 2026 **Constitution** colt. The dam is a half-sibling to leading sire **Not This Time** (Giant's Causeway) and **Liam's Map** (Unbridled's Song) as well as to SW & GSP Matra (Tapit). Lifetime Record: 7-3-0-0, \$223,012. **Click for the Equibase.com chart.**

O/B-Albaugh Family Stables LLC (KY); T-Dale L. Romans.

8th-Colonial Downs, \$72,000, Alw, 7-6, (NW2L), 3yo, 1mT, 1:35.80, fm, neck.

DR. AGNE (c, 3, Into Mischief--Lady Eli {Ch. Turf Female, MGISW, \$2,959,800}, by Divine Park) returned to the winner's circle for the first time since being named a 'TDN Rising Star' presented by Hagyard on his rained-off debut at Saratoga just shy of one year ago. An even sixth in Churchill allowance company when last seen June 5, the \$185,000 Keeneland September yearling was adding blinkers for this softer contest. The 2-1 favorite found himself forwardly placed through the opening stages and he raced fractionally keep in the hands of Jareth Loveberry while saving ground from behind the leaders. Tipped out three wide into the lane, he went to the always-prominent Lennox the Grey (**Liam's Map**) inside the furlong and edged away while perhaps not fully extended.

A winner at the top level at two and three, Lady Eli survived a near-fatal case of founder to not only make a winning return to the races, but was named U.S. champion turf female of 2017. Lady Eli topped the 2018 Keeneland November Sale on a bid of \$4.2 million from Hill 'n' Dale and her other winner is the foal she was carrying at the time of her acquisition, Hms Endeavour (**War Front**). Lady Eli's current 2-year-old **Justify** colt was exported to Japan last year and she is also the dam of a yearling filly by Uncle Mo. She was reportedly bred to **Not This Time** for her 2026 produce. Sales history: \$185,000 Ylg '24 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 6-2-0-0, \$140,524. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV.**

O-Madaket Stables LLC, Twin Brook Stables & Belladonna Racing LLC; B-Hill 'n' Dale Equine Holdings Inc (KY); T-Cherie DeVaux.



Dr. Agne | Coady Media

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9th-Ellis, \$99,800, Msw, 7-6, 3yo/up, f/m, 1m (off turf), 1:37.38, sy, 3/4 length.

QUEEN OF CAPRI (f, 3, **McKinzie--Amalfi Queen, by **Tapit**)** ran fifth in her Aug. 18 debut over this venue's turf course, but had to contend with the sloppy track this time when a sudden shower washed this maiden off the turf. Sent off at 11-1 with first-time Lasix, Queen of Capri set pressured fractions on the front end but had drawn clear of the field turning for home. Her advantage shortened at the end, but 6-5 favorite Paseo (Mendelssohn) came three-quarters of a length short of running her down. The victress is out of a daughter of GISW Lady of Fifty (After Market) and is the first to the races for that mare. She has a juvenile half-brother named Road to Ravello (**Corniche**) in the wings and her 2025 Ironwood half-sibling was stillborn. Sales history: \$75,000 Ylg '24 KEEJAN; \$150,000 Ylg '24 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, \$62,102. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#).**

O-Bradley Thoroughbreds, Dervenis, Steve, Northcutt, Allen, Areion Thoroughbreds, Cambron Equine, LLC, Starr, Kent, Starr, Sara and Hancock, Scott; B-Imagine (KY); T-Riley Mott.

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Queen of Capri | Coady Media



Caffeine Fix | Coady Media

2nd-Colonial Downs, \$68,900, Msw, 7-6, 2yo, f, 5 1/2f, 1:04.78, ft, 3 lengths.

CAFFEINE FIX (f, 2, Yaupon--Fashion Factor, by **The Factor)** was made the even-money favorite against an overmatched field of maidens and ran to her odds here, popping out of the gate to quickly take command. Posting an opening quarter of :22.85 and coming off the turn with a clear advantage after four furlongs in :46.23, Caffeine Fix safely kept Riva Red (Omaha Beach) at bay to win by three lengths.

The victress is the most recent to the races for Fashion Factor, a winning half-sister to GSW & GISP Graeme Six (Graeme Hall). After Caffeine Fix, the mare produced a yearling colt by Jackie's Warrior and a 2026 **Elite Power** filly. The aforementioned sibling to the mare is herself the mother of SW & MGISP Quickick (**McKinzie**); GSW Cali Star (Street Cry {Ire}); SW Seymourdini (Bernardini); and GSW Delightful Joy (**Tapit**). The last listed is the dam of GSW Window Shopping (**American Pharoah**). Sales history: \$125,000 Ylg '25 FTKFEB; \$250,000 Ylg '25 KEESEP. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$42,000. **Click for the [Equibase.com chart](#) or VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV.**

O-Storyteller Racing, Storyteller Thoroughbreds and Open Gate Horse Ventures; B-Scarteen Stud & Barry Donworth (KY); T-Rodolphe Brisset.

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5th-Presque Isle Downs, \$36,770, Msw, 7-6, 2yo, 5f (AWT), :58.23, ft, 1 3/4 lengths.

ETERNAL CITY (g, 2, Temple City--Classe Signora, by Bernstein) faded to sixth June 17 when he debuted at this venue going half-a-furlong shorter, but got the job done here as a 16-1 longshot. Again racing well off the pace, Eternal City steadily improved his position on the bend and was within striking contention from five wide turning for home. **Cont.**

Splitting rivals in midstretch, he overhauled them late to win by 1 3/4 lengths over Cash Cashel (Colonel Liam). The victor is a half-brother to Icona Mama (Maximus Mischief), SW & GSP, \$251,551. He is the most recent to the races and has a 2026 half-brother named Rain King (**Essential Quality**). Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, \$24,645. **Click for the Equibase.com chart or VIDEO, sponsored by FanDuel TV.**

O-Rojas, Murray L. and Montford, Karen; B-J. Patrick Morell, Murray Rojas & Karen Montford (PA); T-Murray L. Rojas.



IN JAPAN:

Blue McKinzie, c, 3, **McKinzie**. See 'US-Bred & -Sired Winners in Japan'

Mogensen, c, 3, **Mendelssohn**--Pioneer Queen, by Pioneer of the Nile. Fukushima, 7-5, Allowance, 1150m. Lifetime Record: 9-2-1-1, \$123,568. O-Naohiro Sakaguchi; B-Chiyoda Farm (KY); T-Makoto Saito.

IN SOUTH KOREA:

Circle A, c, 3, **Higher Power**--Rough Stuff, by Jimmy Creed. Seoul, 7-4, Hcp. (C3), 1600m. B-Dreamfields Inc, Don Brady & Brendan Burke (KY). *\$45,000 RNA Ylg '24 KEESEP; \$60,000 2yo '25 OBSAPR. **VIDEO (#2)**

K N Bigbang, g, 3, **Kantharos**--Sneaky, by Kitten's Joy. Seoul, 7-4, Hcp. (C4), 1200m. B-Bloom Racing Stable LLC & **Kantharos** Syndicate (KY). *\$40,000 Ylg '24 FTKOCT. **VIDEO (#2)**

Nice Force, c, 4, **Mor Spirit**--Citizen Emma, by Proud Citizen. Seoul, 7-5, Hcp. (C1), 1200m. B-Sugarland Thoroughbreds LLC (IN). *\$35,000 Ylg '23 FTKOCT. **VIDEO (#10)**

IN RUSSIA:

Aspect of Luck, c, 3, **Connect**--Thank You Marylou (GSW & MGISP, \$444,292), by Birdstone. Krasnodar, 7-4, Anilin S. (Rus-G2, NBT), 2000m. B-St Elias Stables LLC (KY). *\$20,000 Wlg '23 KEENOV; \$15,000 Ylg '24 KEESEP.

Magic Sun, f, 3, **Dialed In**--Momentiempo, by Medaglia d'Oro. Pyatigorsk, 7-5, Pyatigorsk Oaks (Rus-G1, NBT), 2400m (AWT). B-Phillips Racing Partnership (KY). *\$50,000 Ylg '24 KEESEP.

IN THE DARBY DAN TRADITION

Winter Cherry, f, 3, **Union Rags**--Brilliant Future (MSP, \$204,393), by Mingun. Krasnodar, 7-4, Krasnodar Oaks (Rus-G1, NBT), 2400m. B-Lawrence Marshall Opas MD & Frank Sinatra MD (KY). *\$50,000 Ylg '24 KEESEP. **Won by 11 Lngths.



IN PERU:

Mr Sabelon (Chi), c, 2, **Tacitus**--Musica **Idol** (Chi), by Seeking the Dia. Monterrico, 7-5, Allowance, 1600m. B-Haras Don Alberto. *SW-Per. **VIDEO (#1)**



Saturday's Results:

8th-Kokura, ¥15,620,000 (\$96,219), Allowance, 3yo/up, 1000m, :57.1, sy.

BLUE MCKINZIE (c, 3, **McKinzie**--Blueeyesintherein {GSW, \$209,313}, by Magna Graduate) aired by five lengths to graduate at third asking at Hanshin Feb. 28 and was a solid third in his first try against winners at Kyoto May 9. Crunched into 3-5 favoritism while shortening up to this minimum trip, the \$40,000 Keeneland November weanling was given an aggressive ride by Kohei Matsuyama and was in charge after an opening 400 meters in :22.1 over a rain-affected strip. Going very nicely approaching the stretch, the dark bay colt was firmly in front entering the final furlong and went on to score by a comfortable 1 1/2-length margin.

One of six winners from eight Japanese runners for his Gainesway-based stallion, Blue **McKinzie** was acquired in utero by Marequest for \$27,000 at the 2022 Keeneland November Sale and the colt is the latest of eight winners from as many to race from the 2012 GIII Debutante Stakes winner. Co-breeder Kim Valerio selected MGSW & MGI/G1SP Magna Graduate on behalf of her client Elisabeth Alexander. Blueeyesintherein is also represented by a yearling **Girvin** filly and a filly by **Speaker's Corner** foaled Apr. 13. Sales history: \$40,000 Wlg '23 KEENOV. Lifetime Record: 5-2-1-1, \$123,009.

O-Ryo Kotoura; B-Kim Valerio & Jon Green (KY); T-Yoshiaki Sugiyama.



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SECOND-CROP STARTERS TO WATCH: THURSDAY, JULY 2

2026 Stud Fees Listed

Engage (Into Mischief), Northview Stallion Station, \$2,500
84 foals of racing age/14 winners/0 black-type winners
5-Parx Racing, 2:28 p.m. EDT, Msw 6f, Fully Engaged, 3-1



STAKES RESULTS:

BALLADE S., C\$100,500, Woodbine, 7-5, (C), 4yo/up, f/m, 6f (AWT), 1:10.54, ft.

1--**SINCLAIRITY**, 118, m, 5, Souper Speedy--Heres Mud Inyr Eye, by **Court Vision**. (C\$26,000 Ylg '22 CANSEP). **1ST BLACK TYPE WIN**. O-Canuck Racing Club; B-Tabitha Lee (ON); T-Kevin Attard; J-Pietro Moran. C\$60,000. Lifetime Record: 13-5-4-0, \$246,651.

2--**Home for a Rest**, 120, m, 5, Souper Speedy--Holidaying, by Harlan's Holiday. **1ST BLACK TYPE**. O-Frank D. Di Giulio, Jr.; B-Frank Digilio (ON); T-Robert P. Tiller. C\$20,000.

3--**Give Me the Boots**, 118, m, 6, Reload--Gerty's Turn, by Girolamo. (C\$7,500 Ylg '21 CANSEP). **1ST BLACK TYPE**. O-Rodolfo Diaz Pena; B-Northern Dawn Stables Inc, Brian Patterson & Kathy Biers (ON); T-Richard L. Morden. C\$10,000. Margins: 1HF, HF, 1 3/4. Odds: 10.80, 7.05, 19.70.

COPA 4 DE JULIO S., \$41,760, Camarero, 7-4, 3yo, 1 3/16m, 2:00.88, ft.

1--**MONAGUILLO**, 120, c, 3, by **Catholic Boy--Orient Hwin**, by **Shanghai Bobby**. (\$13,000 Wlg '23 KEENOV; \$19,000 Ylg '24 FTKOCT). **1ST BLACK TYPE WIN**. O-Sonata Stable; B-Redbob Farms Inc. (KY); T-Ramon Morales; J-Juan C. Diaz. \$24,221. Lifetime Record: 4-2-1-1, \$34,321.



2--**My First Legacy**, 118, f, 3, Midnight Storm--Naughty Matilda, by Indian Charlie. (\$6,500 Wlg '23 KEENOV). O-K.A.P. Stable Stud; B-Tiger Eye Thoroughbreds (KY); T-Edwin Texidor, Jr.. \$8,352.

3--**Imperdonable**, 120, c, 3, Frosted--Miss Challenge, by More Than Ready. (\$37,000 Ylg '24 FTKOCT; \$35,000 2yo '25 OBSMAR). O-A. Reyes Racing; B-Kip McCreery & Bill Oppenheim (KY); T-Jason Lisboa. \$4,176.

Margins: 1 3/4, HD, 15 1/4. Odds: 1.70, 3.30, 2.20.

ALLOWANCE RESULTS:

7th-Ellis, \$101,495, 7-6, (NW1X), 3yo/up, 1 1/16mT, 1:39.91, fm, 1 3/4 lengths.

TWO BEERS BY TEN (h, 5, Omaha Beach--Bahama Babe, by **Point of Entry**) Lifetime Record: 25-5-4-2, \$183,225. O-Turman Racing Stable LLC; B-River Oaks Farm (KY); T-Michael J. Maker. *\$110,000 Ylg '22 KEESEP; \$70,000 2yo '23 EASMAY. **1/2 to Resist (**Maclean's Music**), MSP, \$180,066.



11th-Woodbine, C\$78,318, (NW1X)/Opt. Clm (\$21,124-\$22,532), 7-5, 3yo/up, f/m, 1 1/16mT, 1:43.38, fm, neck.

POWER OF DESTINY (GB) (m, 5, **Sea The Stars {Ire}**--Rux Power {GB}, by **Kingman {GB}**) Lifetime Record: 19-3-3-3, \$110,470. O-Rancho Temescal Thoroughbred Partners, Upland Flats Racing, Wilmot, Jonathan and Bauer, Nick; B-King Power Racing Co. Ltd. (GB); T-James Bentley Begg. *40,000gns 4yo '25 TATMA.

5th-Colonial Downs, \$77,200, (C)/Opt. Clm (\$75,000), 7-6, 3yo/up, 6 1/2f, 1:14.34, ft, 1 length.

SUREMEANTTOOBE (c, 4, **Complexity**--Suremeantto, by **Candy Ride {Arg}**) Lifetime Record: 15-5-3-2, \$235,675. O-Best A Luck Farm, LLC; B-Best A Luck Farm LLC & Best Foot Forward Holdings INC. (MD); T-Michael J. Trombetta.





Cat On Time | Coady Media

9th-Prairie Meadows, \$50,446, (S), (NW26MX)/Opt. Clm (\$40,000), 7-5, 3yo/up, f/m, 6f, 1:10.99, ft, head.

SIPPING FIREWATER (f, 4, Echo Town--Cute Cash, by Exchange Rate) Lifetime Record: 13-5-2-1, \$151,835. O-West Stables LLC and McShane, David D.; B/T-Dave McShane (IA).

4th-Horseshoe Indianapolis, \$43,000, (S), 7-6, (NW2X), 3yo/up, f/m, 1mT, 1:36.22, gd, 1/2 length.

AMAZINGNESS (m, 7, Notional--Eden Star {GSP}, by Eddington) Lifetime Record: 57-4-13-16, \$289,025. O-Bruce E. Adelman and Anthony J. Granitz; B-Gary Patrick (IN); T-Anthony J. Granitz.

3rd-Horseshoe Indianapolis, \$41,000, (S), 7-6, (NW1X), 3yo/up, 5 1/2f, 1:02.70, ft, 1/2 length.

SILVER STERLING (g, 5, Europe--Silver Union, by Dixie Union) Lifetime Record: 14-3-4-2, \$109,230. O-Shelly Chavis; B-Triple D Partners LLC (IN); T-Anthony F Cunningham.

7th-Colonial Downs, \$40,400, (NW3L)/Opt. Clm (\$30,000), 7-6, 3yo/up, 1 1/16mT, 1:41.87, fm, 3 3/4 lengths.

PATRICK'S PROMISE (g, 4, Tonalist--Beechwood, by Forestry) Lifetime Record: 18-3-4-2, \$138,425. O-July Cavalry Racing and Taste of Victory Stables LLC; B-Pillar Investments, Inc. & Pillar Property Services, Inc (KY); T-Michael J. Trombetta.



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2nd-Thistledown, \$40,200, 7-6, (NW2X), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:11.20, my, 2 lengths.

BOOTS MALONE (g, 4, Gormley--Wakeeta, by Warrior's Reward) Lifetime Record: MSP, 18-7-3-1, \$251,676. O-Mast Thoroughbreds LLC; B-Robert M. Gorham & Mast Thoroughbreds LLC (OH); T-Robert M. Gorham.

5th-Horseshoe Indianapolis, \$38,880, (C)/Opt. Clm (\$50,000), 7-6, 3yo/up, 6f, 1:08.35, ft, 2 1/4 lengths.

CAT ON TIME (g, 6, Not This Time--Big Cat Walks Late {MSP, \$108,860}, by Stormy Atlantic) Lifetime Record: 20-8-5-0, \$434,948. O-Jacobson Racing; B-Silverton Hill, LLC (KY); T-David Jacobson.

1st-Thistledown, \$35,800, (S), 7-6, (NW2L), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:12.78, my, 7 1/2 lengths.

TEACHING MOMENT (g, 3, Mo Town--Jossy Do It {SW}, by Proud Accolade) Lifetime Record: 3-2-0-0, \$42,894. O-Boots N Bikinis, LLC; B/T-David Wolochuk (OH).

7th-Thistledown, \$31,400, 7-6, (NW4L), 3yo/up, f/m, 1m, 1:38.84, my, 11 1/2 lengths.

REIGN CHAMPAGNE (f, 4, Hard Spun--Unbridled Surprise, by Street Sense) Lifetime Record: 18-4-4-1, \$141,627. O-Puhl, Kim A. and Klein, Jr., Samuel; B-Randy Bloch, et al (KY); T-Kim A. Puhl.

9th-Emerald Downs, \$23,520, 7-5, (C), 3yo/up, 6f, 1:09.44, ft, 1/2 length.

SEÑOR TEQUILAS (c, 3, Misremembered--Art Director, by Tapit) Lifetime Record: 14-2-1-1, \$36,945. O-Jose Saldivar; B-Richard Barton Enterprises (CA); T-Jorge Rosales. *\$4,000 Ylg '24 NCAAU.

2nd-Fort Erie, C\$21,274, 7-6, (NW2L), 3yo/up, f/m, 5f, :58.30, ft, 6 1/4 lengths.

MO ARGENTO (f, 4, Mo Town--Silver Adventure, by Silver Deputy) Lifetime Record: 9-2-2-0, \$46,882. O-Bruno Schickedanz; B-Jennifer Leuty (ON); T-Nick Guy Mileni, Jr.. *\$70,000 Ylg '23 FTKOCT. **1/2 to Souper Classy (Souper Speedy), SP, \$206,816; 1/2 to Shaft of Light (Smart Strike), GSP, \$385,922.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Skedazzle, g, 2, Mobil--Razzledazzle Me, by Warrior's Reward. Thistledown, 7-6, (S), 5f, 1:01.44. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$21,018. B-Phantom Farms LLC (OH). *\$9,500 Ylg '25 OTBOMX. **1ST-TIME STARTER. *Won by 5 1/4 lengths.**

Cappuccino Cafe, f, 2, Sharp Azteca--Cafe, by Medaglia d'Oro. Prairie Meadows, 7-5, 5f, :59.88. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, \$22,375. B-Brandywine Farm (Jim & Pam Robinson) (KY). *\$9,000 Ylg '25 KEESEP; \$6,000 Ylg '25 ARZOCT.

BRANDYWINE FARM (Jim & Pam Robinson)

Cont.

Au Courant, f, 3, **Authentic**--De la Soul, by More Than Ready. Presque Isle Downs, 7-6, (S), 6f (AWT), 1:10.32. Lifetime Record: 4-1-1-0, \$25,000. B-Jon A. Marshall (PA). *\$20,000 Ylg '24 FTKOCT; \$80,000 2yo '25 EASMAY.

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Intimate, f, 3, **Connect**--City of Love (GB), by Exceed And Excel (Aus). Presque Isle Downs, 7-6, 1m 70y (AWT), 1:41.48. Lifetime Record: 10-1-4-1, \$44,285. B-Buck Pond Farm, Inc. (KY). *\$14,000 RNA 2yo '25 OBSAPR.

 Another Winner Bred by BUCK POND FARM 

Slush Fund, f, 3, **Frosted**--By Far, by **Nyquist**. Mountaineer Casino & Resort, 7-5, (S), 1m (off turf), 1:46.21. Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-1, \$13,300. B-Jonathan Dean (WV).

Jacklyn Lucas, f, 3, **Grazen**--Malibu Holiday, by Harlan's Holiday. Los Alamitos, 7-5, (S), 6 1/2f, 1:18.45. Lifetime Record: 7-1-3-1, \$85,100. B-Nick Alexander (CA). *Full to Johnny Podres, MSW & GSP, \$565,345.

Kay Road, f, 3, **Preservationist**--Dattts Lady Di, by Proud Citizen. Finger Lakes, 7-6, 5 1/2f, 1:05.84. Lifetime Record: 7-1-2-1, \$53,280. B-Bret Jones (KY). *\$7,000 Ylg '24 FTFEB; \$20,000 Ylg '24 FTKOCT.

Ad Majora, g, 3, **Social Inclusion**--Dream Vacation, by Harlan's Holiday. Parx Racing, 7-6, (C), 1m, 1:41.18. Lifetime Record: 7-1-1-0, \$25,850. B-Joseph Imbesi (FL). *Won by Seven Lengths.

Lit, g, 3, **Straight Fire**--Tapwater (MGSP, \$226,714), by **Tapit**. Los Alamitos, 7-5, (S), 5 1/2f, 1:03.61. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$30,000. B-LNJ Foxwoods (ON). *1ST-TIME STARTER. **Won by Five Lengths.

Something Sweet, f, 3, **Sweetontheladies**--Zoya, by Tapizar. Mountaineer Casino & Resort, 7-5, 6f, 1:14.51. Lifetime Record: 2-1-1-0, \$14,820. B-William A. Smith (FL). *\$4,500 Ylg '24 OBSOCT; \$20,000 2yo '25 OBSMAR.

 **RiceHorse** *Brandon & Ali Rice* | 352.817.0943

Lead the Charge, g, 3, **Take Charge Indy**--Bella Mia (MSW, \$177,373), by Harbor the Gold. Emerald Downs, 7-5, 6f, 1:09.90. Lifetime Record: 8-1-4-3, \$50,210. B-William T. Griffin (CA). *\$60,000 Ylg '24 WASSEP. **1/2 to Ship Cadet (**Midshipman**), SW, \$236,999. ***Won by 5 1/2 Lengths.

Contrary Mary, f, 3, **Uncle Mo**--Cat Fight, by Storm Cat. Horseshoe Indianapolis, 7-6, 1m 70y, 1:40.47. Lifetime Record: 9-1-0-2, \$36,007. B-Christopher Nolan (KY). *1/2 to Island Reward (Street Boss), MSP, \$222,154.

Angel Slippers, f, 4, **Big Brown**--Shoeless Angel, by Wildcat Shoes. Finger Lakes, 7-6, 5 1/2f, 1:06.22. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, \$19,560. B-Saul Kupferberg (NY). *1ST-TIME STARTER. **Won by 9 1/2 Lengths.

Ryzen, f, 4, **Cloud Computing**--Atlantic Zip, by Stormy Atlantic. Thistledown, 7-6, (S), 5 1/2f, 1:06.32. Lifetime Record: 7-1-0-2, \$28,906. B-Daniel J & Patricia J Yates (OH). *\$14,000 Ylg '23 FTKOCT. **1/2 to Dare Day (Can the Man), SP, \$165,856; 1/2 to Alwaysintomischief (Maximus Mischief), SP, \$173,990.

Bright Angel (Ire), g, 4, **Dark Angel (Ire)**--Witnessed (GB), by Authorized (Ire). Woodbine, 7-6, (C), 1mT, 1:38.10. Lifetime Record: 13-1-2-0, \$35,734. B-Paul & Billy McEnery (IRE). *€34,000 RNA Wlg '22 GOFNO1; €15,000 Ylg '23 GOAUJR. **Full to Stage Magic (Ire), GSW-Fr.

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TODAY'S FEATURED REPLAY



Scarlett Begonia (*Life Is Good*) becomes the newest Rising Star
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Authentic, Au Courant, f, 3, o/o De la Soul, by More Than Ready. MSW, 7-6, Presque Isle Downs

Big Brown, Angel Slippers, f, 4, o/o Shoeless Angel, by Wildcat Shoes. MSW, 7-6, Finger Lakes

Bolt d'Oro, Corona de Oro, c, 3, o/o Lemon de Oro, by Lemon Drop Kid. ALW, 7-6, Ellis

Catholic Boy, Monaguillo, c, 3, o/o Orient Hwin, by Shanghai Bobby. GI Copa 4 de Julio S., 7-4, Camarero

Cloud Computing, Ryzen, f, 4, o/o Atlantic Zip, by Stormy Atlantic. MSW, 7-6, Thistledown

Complexity, Suremeanttoobe, c, 4, o/o Suremeantto, by **Candy Ride (Arg)**. AOC, 7-6, Colonial Downs

Connect, Intimate, f, 3, o/o City of Love (GB), by Exceed And Excel (Aus). MSW, 7-6, Presque Isle Downs

Dark Angel (Ire), Bright Angel (Ire), g, 4, o/o Witnessed (GB), by Authorized (Ire). MOC, 7-6, Woodbine

Echo Town, Sipping Firewater, f, 4, o/o Cute Cash, by Exchange Rate. AOC, 7-5, Prairie Meadows

Europe, Silver Sterling, g, 5, o/o Silver Union, by Dixie Union. ALW, 7-6, Horseshoe Indianapolis

Frosted, Slush Fund, f, 3, o/o By Far, by **Nyquist**. MSW, 7-5, Mountaineer

Gormley, Boots Malone, g, 4, o/o Wakeeta, by Warrior's Reward. ALW, 7-6, Thistledown

Grazen, Jacklyn Lucas, f, 3, o/o Malibu Holiday, by Harlan's Holiday. MSW, 7-5, Los Alamitos Thoroughbred

Greatest Honour, Greatest Joy, f, 2, o/o Rossellini, by Freud. MSW, 7-6, Presque Isle Downs

Hard Spun, Reign Champagne, f, 4, o/o Unbridled Surprise, by **Street Sense**. ALW, 7-6, Thistledown

Into Mischief, Dr. Agne, c, 3, o/o Lady Eli, by Divine Park. ALW, 7-6, Colonial Downs

Into Mischief, Taylor's Version, c, 4, o/o Taylor S, by Medaglia d'Oro. AOC, 7-6, Ellis

Life Is Good, Scarlett Begonia, f, 2, o/o Asiya, by Daaher. MSW, 7-6, Ellis

McKinzie, Queen of Capri, f, 3, o/o Amalfi Queen, by **Tapit**. MSW, 7-6, Ellis

Misremembered, Senor Tequilas, c, 3, o/o Art Director, by **Tapit**. ALW, 7-5, Emerald Downs

Mo Town, Mo Argento, f, 4, o/o Silver Adventure, by Silver Deputy. ALW, 7-6, Fort Erie

Mo Town, Teaching Moment, g, 3, o/o Jossy Do It, by Proud Accolade. ALW, 7-6, Thistledown

Mobil, Skedazzle, g, 2, o/o Razzledazzle Me, by Warrior's Reward. MSW, 7-6, Thistledown

Not This Time, Cat On Time, g, 6, o/o Big Cat Walks Late, by Stormy Atlantic. AOC, 7-6, Horseshoe Indianapolis

Notional, Amazingness, m, 7, o/o Eden Star, by Eddington. ALW, 7-6, Horseshoe Indianapolis

Omaha Beach, Two Beers by Ten, h, 5, o/o Bahama Babe, by Point of Entry. ALW, 7-6, Ellis

Preservationist, Kay Road, f, 3, o/o Dattts Lady Di, by Proud Citizen. MSW, 7-6, Finger Lakes

Sea The Stars (Ire), Power of Destiny (GB), m, 5, o/o Rux Power (GB), by **Kingman (GB)**. AOC, 7-5, Woodbine

Sharp Azteca, Cappuccino Cafe, f, 2, o/o Cafe, by Medaglia d'Oro. MSW, 7-5, Prairie Meadows

Social Inclusion, Ad Majora, g, 3, o/o Dream Vacation, by Harlan's Holiday. MCL, 7-6, Parx Racing

Souper Speedy, Sinclairity, m, 5, o/o Heres Mud Inyr Eye, by Court Vision. Ballade S., 7-5, Woodbine

Straight Fire, Lit, g, 3, o/o Tapwater, by **Tapit**. MSW, 7-5, Los Alamitos Thoroughbred

Sweetontheladies, Something Sweet, f, 3, o/o Zoya, by Tapizar. MSW, 7-5, Mountaineer

Take Charge Indy, Lead the Charge, g, 3, o/o Bella Mia, by Harbor the Gold. MSW, 7-5, Emerald Downs

Temple City, Eternal City, g, 2, o/o Classe Signora, by Bernstein. MSW, 7-6, Presque Isle Downs

Tonalist, Patrick's Promise, g, 4, o/o Beechwood, by Forestry. OCL, 7-6, Colonial Downs

Uncle Mo, Contrary Mary, f, 3, o/o Cat Fight, by Storm Cat. MSW, 7-6, Horseshoe Indianapolis

Yaupon, Caffeine Fix, f, 2, o/o Fashion Factor, by **The Factor**. MSW, 7-6, Colonial Downs

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SEVEN DAYS: THE BEST IS YET TO COME



Calandagan, so good he has his own plushie | *Scoop Dyga*

By Emma Berry

Let's not think in terms of the best ever--we all have our personal favourites--or even the best this season, not yet anyway. Let us instead relish the fact that across the next six weeks, as long as they all remain hale and hearty, we can look forward to seeing Calandagan take on his Japan Cup runner-up Masquerade Ball once more in the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes, followed by Bow Echo potentially clashing with Notable Speech in his first outing against his elders in the Qatar Sussex Stakes, and **Constitution** River going toe to toe with Ombudsman in the Juddmonte International Stakes.

These contests, by the way, at Ascot, Goodwood and York, are respectively worth £2 million, £1.5 million and £1.5 million. Who says British prize-money is rubbish? At the top end, it is far from it.

Calandagan (**Gleneagles**) and **Constitution** River (Wootton Bassett) were the undoubted stars of last weekend's action and for once the Grand Prix de Saint-Cloud eclipsed the Eclipse. It wasn't just the appearance of Calandagan in the line-up. He was given a proper race by last year's Prix du Jockey Club runner-up Cualificar (Lope De Vega), who came within a neck of being the first top-level winner for the new training partnership of Andre and Lavinia Fabre, and by stable-mate Sunly (Night Of Thunder), both of whom are surely Group 1 winners in waiting.

Cont. p3

'NO DOUBT THERE ARE A FEW JEWELS IN THE JULY SALE - THERE ALWAYS ARE'

By Brian Sheerin

With his Castlebridge Consignment offering 86 horses over the course of the next three days, it may not come as a major surprise to hear that Bill Dwan labelled himself as busy on the eve of the Tattersalls July Sale.

Within that 86-strong draft, Castlebridge boasts the Cheveley Park Stud-owned Listed winner Chancellor (**Kingman**), one of the highest-rated horses in the sale.

However, Dwan identified Donnacha O'Brien's Aegina (Havana Grey), who has already achieved black-type and has the scope to progress into a classy three-year-old, along with Joseph O'Brien's Blenheim Stakes winner Yaupon De Replay (Yaupon), as two classy fillies who might be best equipped to ring a bell.

"We now have 86 horses left in the sale and there has been plenty of people around--we've been busy," Dwan said. [Cont. p7](#)

IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

MAKING NEW OWNERS: WILL STROUD

New owner Will Stroud enjoyed a banner day at Saratoga on Saturday when winning a pair of Grade I races.

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TODAY in **TDN** **EUROPE**

Tuesday, July 7, 2026



Asfoora (Flying Artie), pictured here with trainer Henry Dwyer, is likely to have "one last hurrah" before the multiple Group 1-winning sprinter returns home to Australia to begin life as a broodmare. See p8 for details. | Bronwen Healy

8 | BAKER'S DOZEN CONFIRMED FOR JULY CUP

Royal Ascot winners Venetian Sun (Starman) and Mission Central (No Nay Never) feature among the contenders for Saturday's Darley July Cup at Newmarket.

9 | SUSSEX STAKES RECEIVES CASH INJECTION

Goodwood Racecourse has announced that the Visit Qatar Sussex Stakes will be run for a record £1.5 million in 2026.

9 | NATIONAL STUD HOSTS GRADUATION CEREMONY

The National Stud celebrated the class of 2026 at the historic Jockey Club Rooms in Newmarket on Friday.

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Seven Days

by Emma Berry



Cont. from p1

The Coral-Eclipse may be informative in hindsight by the end of the season, but it wasn't quite the spectacle it can be. We expected **Constitution** River to win and he did so. He's clearly the best middle-distance three-year-old we've seen so far this season, while Bow Echo (Night Of Thunder), rated 3lbs higher by Timeform on 131p, prevails among the milers. How they each progress from here is where it starts to get really exciting.

It was a 1-2-3 for the three-year-olds, with the Prix du Jockey Club form holding up well in the Eclipse. A Boy Named Susie (**Starspangledbanner**) posted a terrific performance for Donnacha and Ana O'Brien, who had to settle for second to their most competitive of competitive dads. The consistent Hawk Mountain (Wootton Bassett)--who would be the star in almost

anyone else's stable--maintained the O'Brien trifecta, having previously finished second to **Constitution** River at Chantilly.

We discussed the dearth of older challengers from home and aboard in last week's column so we won't bang on again, other than to say let's hope this is a mere blip for the Eclipse regarding its strength in depth. As time goes on, we will see if this year's running really has thrown up a proper champion. **Cont. p4**



Francis Graffard and Princess Zahra Aga Khan all smiles after Calandagan's sixth Group 1 win | [Racingfotos.com](https://www.racingphotos.com)

5 GROUP 1 HORSES IN 2026. ONE CROP!

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Kensington Lane wins the Belmont Oaks | Sarah Andrew

A Starspangledbanner on the Fourth of July

It was 16 years ago that **Starspangledbanner** won first the Golden Jubilee Stakes, then the July Cup, after being transferred from Australia to Ireland, and from Leon Corstens to Aidan O'Brien. The Ballydoyle maestro has had plenty of good stallions through his hands, but the son of Choisir must by now be one of the favourites of the entire O'Brien clan.

First Joseph trained State Of Rest to win four Group/Grade 1 races in four different countries. Aidan hasn't done too shabbily this year with the Classic-winning duo of Gstaad and Precise, the two champion juveniles of 2025. But it was Donnacha who provided the most fitting winner of the weekend when sending out **Starspangledbanner** filly Kensington Lane to win the Belmont Oaks at Saratoga on the Fourth of July, only hours after A Boy Named Susie had finished second in the Eclipse. The latter could now attempt to emulate State Of Rest in Australia's Cox Plate later this year.

Previously fifth behind Precise in the Irish 1,000 Guineas after winning the G3 Athasi Stakes, Kensington Lane initially ran in the colours of Annemarie O'Brien before Mark McStay brokered a deal to buy her on behalf of the partnership of Medallion Racing, Agave Racing Stable and Evan Trommer. Her dam Almost Always, an unraced daughter of two brilliant parents in Galileo and Ramruma (Diesis), was bought by Joseph O'Brien for €23,000 at Arqana when carrying to Threat. The resulting foal, One Horse Town, won a juvenile hurdle for Harry Derham last October and was second in the G2 Adonis Juvenile Hurdle.

In association with Philip Shelton of Medallion Racing and others, McStay has ploughed a successful furrow in buying horses privately from Donnacha O'Brien and his parents, and Kensington Lane joins the top-class Porta Fortuna (Ten Sovereigns) in this regard, while the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies' Turf winner Balantina (Ten Sovereigns) was bought as a yearling at Arqana. **Cont. p5**



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Seven Days cont.

"It's very much a joint effort and Philip Shelton deserves a lot of credit as he's very knowledgeable in being able to appraise the European form and how it might convert to America," said McStay. "He has a group of loyal clients who value his opinion and trust him. One of the main things about Medallion is that it's attached to a commercial enterprise in Taylor Made and it has to make commercial sense.

"A long time ago someone said to me that racing is a people game and it's so true. I'm lucky to be dealing with very good people, including Donnacha, who is a gent to deal with."

Oppenheimer breeding to the fore

With Ireland snatching the first of Saratoga's two Grade 1s on Saturday--albeit for American owners--England took the other, the Belmont Derby, with the Simon and Ed-Crisford-trained Title Role (Too Darn Hot), who gave the Coolmore triumvirate of Derrick Smith, Sue Magnier and Michael Tabor their second top-flight win of the day.

Title Role was continuing a successful season for his breeder Anthony Oppenheimer of Hascombe & Valiant Studs. His dam Valiant Girl (Lemon Drop Kid) is a sister to Crimson Ribbon, whose offspring include the Gold Cup winner Courage Mon Ami (**Frankel**) and Danielle, by homebred stallion Cracksman, who won the G3 Bronte Fillies' Cup in May and has an entry back at York for the Yorkshire Oaks.

Their dam Victoria Cross (Mark Of Esteem) has been a mainstay of the Hascombe & Valiant broodmare band and had a particular affinity with Lemon Drop Kid, having also produced the G2 Hardwicke Stakes and G2 Jockey Club Cup winner Bronze Cannon by him.

Another of the Oppenheimer families has been seen to good effect this season through the G2 Ribblesdale Stakes winner Earth Shot (Time Test), a daughter of Precious Ramotswe (Nathaniel). The Irish Oaks hopeful represents six generations of Oppenheimer breeding and traces back to the yearling purchase Lora (Lorenzaccio), the dam of Sir Philip Oppenheimer's 1,000 Guineas and Sussex Stakes winner On The House (Be My Guest).

Soldier still on parade

Thirty-six years after In The Wings won the Grand Prix de Saint-Cloud for Andre Fabre, his influence is still hanging in there, most notably in Germany, where his sons Soldier Hollow and Adlerflug have each been champion sire. Alas, they are both gone now--Soldier Hollow died two years ago at the age of 24, while Adlerflug was taken cruelly early at just 16, in the spring of 2021, while he was reigning champion.

In The Wings was a neat and well balanced rocking horse of a stallion with a super temperament and, as a son Sadler's Wells and the terrific race mare High Hawk (Shirley Heights), winner of the Premio Roma, Ribblesdale and runner-up in the Irish Oaks, he did pretty much as he was expected to do. He became his illustrious sire's first ever winner and developed into a top-class mile-and-a-half performer, also winning the Coronation Cup and Breeders' Cup Turf in addition to the Grand Prix de Saint-Cloud.

In The Wings will be best remembered for his brilliant globetrotting son Singspiel. A half-brother to Rahy (Blushing Groom), Singspiel also won the Coronation Cup along with the Juddmonte International, Japan Cup, Canadian International, and the Dubai World Cup.

If In The Wings was on the small side, his son Soldier Hollow was another size down again and could nearly have had a career on the pony racing circuit had he not been such a good racehorse himself. Bred in Britain by Car Colston Hall Stud,

he was bought as a yearling by Helmut von Finck and was trained throughout his career in Germany by Peter Schiergen. Though he missed his own chance at Deutsches Derby success when injury ruled him out of the remainder of his three-year-old season after he finished fourth in the G2 Mehl-Mulhens-Rennen (German 2,000 Guineas), he made up for it by racing for four subsequent seasons, his ten Group victories including three Group 1s.

As a sire, he has cast a fair shadow over the German Classics, and on Sunday the outsider Dardanos became his third 'home' Derby winner following Pastorius (2012) and Weltstar (2018). Another Group 1-winning son, Dschingis Secret, was third in the race, while Soldier Hollow's daughter Serienholde won the Preis der Diana (German Oaks). Fittingly, he is also the broodmare sire of von Finck's homebred German Derby winner Sammarco (**Camelot**). **Cont. p6**



Belmont Derby winner Title Role (left) | Sarah Andrew



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TOO DARN HOT

Classic winner **Title Role** follows up in the G1 Belmont Derby at Saratoga, becoming **a fifth European-bred G1 winner for the international supersire**. That's more G1 winners than Kingman, Sea The Stars, New Bay, Zarak and Night Of Thunder at the same point in their stallion careers.

Too Darn Hot joins **Galileo, Frankel** and **Kingman** as the only European stallions since 2000 to sire a G1-winning three-year-old in each of their first three crops.

Seven Days cont.

Since Soldier Hollow's demise after long and honourable service at Gestut Auenquelle, he has also been represented by the G1 Sun Chariot Stakes winner Tamfana. She had been picked up at the BBAG Yearling Sale for €20,000, which in hindsight was a terrific bargain, and Dardanos was even more so, having been bought for just €10,000 from his breeder Barbara Holubova.

Perhaps one of the keys to Soldier Hollow's success in Germany, along with the fact that he was plainly a sound and durable racehorse, was that he provided a good outcross option. Among his seven Group 1 winners, Tamfana carries the closest inbreeding of 3x4 to Sadler's Wells, while Dschingis Secret is inbred 4x4 to Northern Dancer. For the remaining quintet you have to go back to the fifth generation or even farther to find any replication. Dardanos has two helpings of Sharpen Up in his fifth generation through Kris, sire of Soldier Hollow's damsire Common Grounds, and Selkirk, whose daughter Independence is the dam of Dardanos's broodmare sire Mount Nelson.

Easy for Al Aasy

Our golden oldie of the week award must go to Al Aasy ([Sea The Stars](#)). He may have to fight it out with Hamish (Motivator) to be the best golden oldie in his own stable, but while the heatwave means that the ten-year-old mud-loving Hamish is largely confined to barracks, Al Aasy has been adding to his rather impressive stakes record.

Now nine and reportedly not the easiest of characters, the Shadwell gelding took Saturday's Listed Charlie Wood Stakes at Beverley almost six years to the day since he notched his first black-type win in the G3 Bahrain Trophy at Newmarket. Though he has never struck beyond that level, he has nonetheless compiled a fine record by winning at least one stakes race every year between 2020 and 2026. Even when he ran only once in 2022, he collected a win in the Listed Buckhounds Stakes. From 30 starts, his 12 victories now include eight Group 3s and three Listed wins. Al Aasy, we salute you.

Sunlit and on the up

Rae Guest is much missed in the Newmarket training ranks but it was great to see his name, along with that of his wife Rachel Flynn, feature among the list of Group-winning owners over the weekend.

Upon Guest's retirement from training, he sent the 94-rated filly Sunlit Uplands (Sands Of Mali) to the stable of his neighbour Stuart Williams. Can there be anything more stressful in the racing world than training for a trainer? Fortunately, Guest is one of the nicest men on the planet and, even if things had gone awry, it would be hard to imagine him tearing a strip off the hugely capable Williams. As it is, after the filly picked up her first bit of black type when second in a Listed contest in Milan last month, things have continued to go swimmingly on her European tour and she won the G3 Hamburger Stuten Meile on Sunday's German Derby undercard.

Along with the trainers past and present, it is Flynn who deserves much of the credit as, while Guest had been struck down with a chest infection during the 2023 yearling sales, it was she who selected the filly for 16,000gns from Book 3, sold by pinhooker Harry Dutfield.

If Sunlit Uplands was named with a nod towards Guest's impending retirement, she is certainly playing her part in ensuring that it is a deservedly happy and prosperous one.



Sunlit Uplands puts her best foot forward | [Racingfotos.com](#)

Goodwood and York publish reform strategy

The aforementioned 'big three' independent tracks of Ascot, Goodwood and York are increasingly playing a more public role in attempting to shape the future structure of British racing. In May, the Ascot team [stated its intention](#) to withdraw from the Racecourse

Association (RCA) at the end of this year because "sufficient progress has not been made" when it comes to overhauling that organisation's governance structure. Ascot's chief executive Felicity Barnard said that the decision had been made "in the interests of the long-term health of the sport".

Officials at Goodwood and York clearly share some of these concerns and have co-published a paper titled *Governing British Racing*, which outlines their view of how the sport should be shaped while the BHA awaits a new chair to replace Lord Allen.

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Seven Days cont.

The six-page document, which calls for three specialist panels to oversee 'Elite Flat' and 'Foundation Flat' racing, as well as jump racing, outlines three key changes that Goodwood and York would like to see brought in amid significant proposed structural reform:

1. The RCA returns to being a true trade body--representing racecourses on standards, services and lobbying, and out of fixtures and funding.
2. A strong, independent BHA Board--with the racecourse block vote removed, so decisions reflect contribution rather than headcount.
3. A clear, written mandate for the incoming BHA Chair--broadly supported across the industry--to take up on appointment.

Broad support across the industry has proved to be something of a sticking point in British racing for many years now, and it surely needs to start with the urgent appointment of a BHA chair in whom the participants can place their faith.

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Bill Dwan | Tattersalls

Tattersalls July Sale preview cont. from p1

"There are plenty of buyers here from the Middle East, which is great to see," Dwan continued. "The private market has become exceptionally strong, especially in the build-up to Royal Ascot, but no doubt there are a few jewels in the July Sale--there always are. But 86 horses would be a normal number for us and it's definitely busy which is very encouraging."

He added, "Aegina (Havana Grey) is a good-looking filly and has good form. There is a lot more racing left in her and she should sell well. Yaupon De Replay (Yaupon) should also sell well. She was only beaten a short head at Naas the other day and she isn't short of admirers. I think Aegina and Yaupon De Replay could be the two of ours to hit the mark because they

have the racing and breeding angles. Buyers have two chances, really, and they are both proving popular."

Some of the fillies and mares on offer are sure to generate plenty of buzz in the ring. Potentially none more so than the unraced Renaissance Lady (Pinatubo), who is consigned by Godolphin and hails from the outstanding producer Reem Three (Mark Of Esteem), the dam of eight individual black-type winners, including top-class miler Triple Time.

Along with Godolphin, powerful owner-breeders like Shadwell and Juddmonte are again supporting the July Sale with strong drafts, and Dwan says there is little doubt that there will be jewels on offer for anyone in search of breeding stock.

He concluded, "Certainly, there are opportunities in this sale for people looking for breeding stock, and there have been some good results from this sale down through the years. You do tend to come up against the Australians, who buy those types of mares as well. But certainly, looking at the catalogue, one of the most interesting parts of the sale is the breeding stock on offer.

"We're all trying to upgrade and trying to get the ones in the top 30 per cent. It's getting harder and harder to find them because the market has become more selective. Whereas before, where we could probably be a bit more gung-ho with what we bought, people tend to be a little more cautious, so we'd rather spend a little bit more on the good ones."

Meanwhile, Tom Dascombe's Capall Rasa ([Footstepsinthesand](#)) brings recent Royal Ascot form to the table and is one of the more interesting horses in training up for grabs. The gelding was beaten only two lengths in the Britannia Stakes at the royal meeting and is sure to generate plenty of attention.

Dascombe said of his stable star, "His run at Royal Ascot was obviously pretty good. In fact, he was very unlucky not to finish a little closer. He ran slightly disappointingly the time before that, but our horses just weren't running well then. He's a very, very nice horse. If we don't sell him, I'll be happy, and if we get a good price for him, I'll also be happy."

The trainer added, "He's a gorgeous-looking horse. I had been holding onto the name Capall Rasa, which means racehorse in Irish, for some time. I had a few very nice yearlings that I thought might fit the name but, as soon as I saw this guy, I said, 'Right, that's Capall Rasa.' He has been a racehorse since day one when we saw him at Tattersalls Ireland. A proper horse."

The three-day Tattersalls July Sale kicks off on Tuesday at 10am.

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Hamburger Stutenpreis, Group 3

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EUROPEAN NEWS

VENETIAN SUN AND MISSION CENTRAL ON COURSE FOR BLOCKBUSTER JULY CUP



Venetian Sun | *Mathea Kelly*

Royal Ascot winners **Venetian Sun** (Starman), **Mission Central** (No Nay Never), **Almeraq** (Dark Angel) and **Double Rush** (Blue Point) are on course to meet in what is shaping up to be a blockbuster renewal of the G1 Darley July Cup at Newmarket on Saturday.

Venetian Sun has reverted to sprinting since failing to see out a mile in the 1,000 Guineas and Karl Burke's filly is unbeaten in six races over six furlongs, with that latest success coming in the Commonwealth Cup.

Aidan O'Brien's Mission Central was a brilliant winner of the King Charles III Stakes last time, while Double Rush steps into Group 1 company for the first time after his victory in the Wokingham.

Almeraq came of age in the Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Stakes, proving he was definitely over the fall at York last season that has seen jockey Jim Crowley sidelined since. He is one of two potential runners for William Haggas, along with **Division** (Kingman), who was third to Venetian Sun in the Commonwealth Cup.

Satono Reve (Lord Kanaloa), so narrowly defeated in the last two renewals of the Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee, will aim to give Japan a second winner in the race after Agnes World 26 years ago.

Last year's runner-up **Big Mojo** (Mohaaather) is back again for Mick Appleby and **Comanche Brave** (Wootton Bassett) will represent Donnacha O'Brien, with **Coppull** (Bated Breath), **Flora**

Of Bermuda (Dark Angel), **Powerful Glory** (Cotai Glory), **Prince Of India** (Wootton Bassett) and **Quinault** (Oasis Dream) completing the list of 13 contenders.

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"ONE LAST HURRAH" BEFORE RETIREMENT FOR TOP-NOTCH SPINTER ASFOORA

Asfoora (Flying Artie) is likely to have "one last hurrah" at Goodwood before being retired to the paddocks, according to her trainer Henry Dwyer, who said he cannot put his finger on why the multiple Group 1-winning sprinter ran so poorly at Sandown on Saturday.

"We've not made a decision, we're just going to give ourselves the next couple of weeks," Dwyer told SEN's Giddy Up show.

"She's booked to go into quarantine on July 31, so she can't really come home earlier anyway. The race that she can run in here [King George Qatar Stakes] is that same day, so we've got four weeks up our sleeve.

"I just want to give her a week off in the paddock and just reassess after that. That will give us the chance to consider the realities of everything and make a more educated decision.

"There's nothing wrong with her, she's pulled up super and that is probably the problem, she just looked after herself. She lurched at the gates and was then just on the back foot and missed it by a couple of lengths. Oisín [Murphy, jockey] never knocked her around and she pulled up like she hadn't had a run.

"There's nothing wrong, there's no reason she's run poorly other than she just didn't turn up on the day. She does that from time to time and that is probably showing us that she doesn't want to be there any more, but we're also conscious she has done that over the last couple of years and then come out and run a blinder after it."

[Cont. p9](#)



Asfoora | *Bronwen Healy*

Asfoora cont.

He added, "Given there's nothing wrong with her, I'd be inclined to maybe give her one last hurrah at Goodwood and then she can come home and go to stud, but we'll make that decision after we've given her a week."

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VISIT QATAR SUSSEX STAKES RECEIVES PRIZE-MONEY BOOST TO £1.5M



Qirat winning last year's Sussex Stakes at Goodwood | Getty Images

Goodwood Racecourse has announced that the Visit Qatar Sussex Stakes will be run for a record £1.5 million in 2026, further establishing the Group 1 contest as the most valuable mile race in Europe.

The Duke of Richmond, CBE DL, chairman of Goodwood Racecourse, said, "We are very proud to announce, alongside Visit Qatar, record prize-money for the Visit Qatar Sussex Stakes to £1.5 million. The uplift demonstrates a shared ambition to continue strengthening the Qatar Goodwood Festival presented by Visit Qatar's global profile and to maintain its position among the world's leading racing events."

Run on the Wednesday of the Qatar Goodwood Festival, the Sussex Stakes is one of the defining mile races of the British Flat season, bringing together the Classic generation and older horses at the height of the summer programme for the first time.

The 32 entries for the 2026 edition include no fewer than 16 individual Group 1 winners, including the unbeaten 2,000 Guineas and St James's Palace Stakes hero Bow Echo (Night Of Thunder), Irish 2,000 Guineas scorer Gstaad ([Starspangledbanner](#)) and Godolphin's talented older horses Notable Speech (Dubawi) and Opera Ballo (Ghaiyyath).

His Excellency Saad bin Ali Al Kharji, chairman of Qatar Tourism and chairman of the Board of Visit Qatar, added, "Our

commitment to supporting the Qatar Goodwood Festival presented by Visit Qatar is rooted in our mutual appreciation for sporting excellence and one of British racing's most storied traditions.

"This year, we are delighted to demonstrate that commitment through a significant investment, bringing record prize-money to the Visit Qatar Sussex Stakes. This enhanced level of support reflects our understanding of the power of sport to bridge cultures and underscores Visit Qatar's dedication to elevating the festival as a premier meeting point where our cultures unite to celebrate shared values and sporting heritage."

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CHARLOTTE MALLETT EARNS TOP HONOURS AT NATIONAL STUD GRADUATION



Charlotte Mallett receives the Tim Dunlop Memorial Award from Sir Mark Prescott | *The National Stud*

The National Stud celebrated the class of 2026 at the historic Jockey Club Rooms in Newmarket on Friday.

MC Rod Street led the proceedings and awarding of certificates to the 42 graduates alongside legendary trainer Sir Mark Prescott. In his keynote address, Prescott encouraged students to make the most of every opportunity, maintain a professional attitude and always be on time, before sharing some insightful stories from his prolific career.

The annual ceremony recognises the achievements of the graduates who have completed the Level 1 and 2 Thoroughbred Industry Access course and the Level 3 Stud Management and Sales Consignment Course.

A number of students were also recognised with special awards for their achievements:

- **Tim Dunlop Memorial Award for Best Student:**
Charlotte Mallett

Cont. p10

National Stud graduation cont.

- **Watership Down Best Practical Award:** Erin Wickham
- **Alborada Trust Most Improved Award:** Siddharth Naik
- **John Pearce Foundation Award of Merit:** Michelle Lage
- **The National Stud Certificate of Recognition:** Isshin Sunazaki
- **Gerald Leigh Charitable Trust Scholarship for Career Development in the Thoroughbred Industry:** Daisy Hydes and Charlotte Mallett
- **Thoroughbred Industry Access Award for Best Student:** Alexander Robinson

"The National Stud's annual graduation ceremony is always the most uplifting evening. Celebrating the hard work and dedication each graduate has put in over the course of their time with us is hugely rewarding for everyone involved," said Anna Kerr, CEO of The National Stud. "I would like to particularly thank our funders, without whom we would not be able to deliver this programme. Their support and input are invaluable."

The National Stud Education programme consists of the flagship Level 3 Stud Management and Sales Consignment course, the entry level Thoroughbred Industry Access course and a range of continued professional development awards covering topics such as foaling, transport and stud administration. The Education team welcomed more than 1,000 education visitors during 2025 and 89% of graduates from the past six years are working in the thoroughbred industry.

The 26-week Level 3 course begins on Monday, September 21, with applications due to close on Friday, August 7. Students gain hands-on experience across both the breeding and sales seasons, alongside practical training in stud management, foaling, neonatal care and sales preparation. Practical aspects of the course are complemented by the extensive Evening Lecture Programme, industry work placements and career guidance.

For further information, [click here](#).

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WOMEN IN RACING AND THE NATIONAL STUD PARTNER UP FOR PANEL EVENT

Women in Racing (WiR), in partnership with the National Stud, will host its first panel event at the historic stud on Friday, July 17.

Featuring a panel led by the National Stud CEO Anna Kerr, the event will bring together people from across the industry for networking, discussion and shared learning within the stud's idyllic surroundings.

Highlights include a panel discussion examining the different forms leadership can take; the importance of lifting others; and the role each individual can play in shaping a more inclusive and supportive industry. The programme also includes opportunities

to connect with fellow attendees over lunch, as well as an exclusive tour of the stud.

The list of panelists is as follows:

- Anna Kerr, CEO of the National Stud
- Linda Nguyenova, founder and CEO of KONEKTT
- Zoe Elliott, head of careers marketing at the BHA
- Sophie Buckley, owner of Culworth Grounds Stud
- Naomi Mellor, CEO of the Thoroughbred Breeders Association
- Eileen Harte (host), therapeutic coach

WiR chair Cheryl Caves said, "Leadership is about far more than a job title. It's about influence, confidence, advocacy and creating opportunities for others. Join us at the National Stud in Newmarket for a day dedicated to exploring what leadership means in horse racing today, and how we can encourage, support and champion more women to step forward and lead in their own way. Whether you hold a senior position, manage a team, or are simply looking to make a difference, this event will challenge traditional ideas of leadership and celebrate the impact women have across every level of racing."

The cost of the event is £35 to members of Women in Racing and £45 to non-members. To find out more or to book tickets, [click here](#).

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TOMASZ SZUMSKI JOINS TATTERSALLS IRELAND AS POLISH REPRESENTATIVE



Tomasz Szumski | *Tattersalls Ireland*

Tattersalls Ireland has appointed Tomasz Szumski as its official representative in Poland. The announcement follows a notable result on Sunday when Time For The Star won the Polish Derby, having previously been purchased by Szumski and trainer Adam Wyrzyk for €22,000 at the September Yearling Sale.

[Cont. p11](#)

Tomasz Szumski cont.

"I am delighted to officially join Tattersalls Ireland as its representative in Poland," said Szumski, who previously held both jockey and trainer licences in Poland.

"Having worked closely with Polish buyers over the past few years, I have seen first-hand the increasing appetite for sourcing quality bloodstock from Ireland. Tattersalls Ireland offers an outstanding range of horses across its Flat and National Hunt sales, and I look forward to continuing to build relationships within the Polish racing industry and welcoming even more buyers to Fairyhouse in the years ahead."

He added, "Seeing Time For The Star win the Polish Derby was a very proud moment for me. I was delighted to help source him at the September Yearling Sale and his success is another example of the quality and value available at Tattersalls Ireland."

Tattersalls Ireland CEO Simon Kerins said, "We are delighted to officially welcome Tomasz to the team. He has already established excellent relationships with our Polish clients and has played an important role in growing our business in this market. His previous experience in Polish racing as both a jockey and trainer, combined with his understanding of the Polish and Irish racing industries, makes him an invaluable addition to our international representative team."

The announcement also coincides with the renewal of Tattersalls Ireland's sponsorship of one of Warsaw's premier racedays in August, where both Tattersalls Ireland and Tattersalls will sponsor feature races.

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DATE CONFIRMED FOR LE NATIONAL DE L'OBSTACLE AT HISTORIC HARAS DU PIN

A total of 90 foals, yearlings and two-year-olds will parade before judges at Haras du Pin on Thursday, July 23 for the latest edition of **Le National de l'Obstacle**, the conformation show dedicated to young National Hunt-bred horses.

Organised by the ANCCO (Association Normande de Chevaux de Course d'Obstacle) at the Olympic-standard equestrian complex on the historic Haras du Pin estate, Le National de l'Obstacle has showcased a whole host of future winners over jumps, including the great mare L'Autonomie and the high-class Asterion Forlonge.

More recently, King Rasko Grey proved himself one of the leading novice hurdlers in Britain and Ireland during the latest season, having previously appeared at Le National de l'Obstacle in 2020 when presented as a foal by breeders Michael Douguet and Laura Pilard. Now trained by Willie Mullins, the son of Galiway won the G1 Turners Novices' Hurdle at the Cheltenham Festival and G1 Champion Novice Hurdle at the Punchestown Festival earlier this year.



Cheltenham Festival winner King Rasko Grey (yellow and brown silks), who was presented at Le National de l'Obstacle in 2020

This year's judge of honour is Jerome Delaunay, who is now firmly established as one of the top 10 National Hunt trainers in France. As in previous years, the top graduates in each category will be rewarded with nominations to leading stallions such as Beaumec de Houelle, Jigme, Leon du Berlais and 2027 newcomer Shannon Maestro, among other prizes.

The show is reserved for foals, yearlings and two-year-olds from across France, whether thoroughbred, AQPS or Anglo-Arab, provided their pedigree points towards a career over jumps.

Beyond the competition itself, Le National de l'Obstacle remains a social fixture on the Normandy breeding calendar. A welcome dinner with live music will be held on Wednesday, July 22, with breeders also gathering at midday the following afternoon for a traditional Normandy aperitif hosted by La Federation des Eleveurs (French TBA).

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FIRST-SEASON SIRES WITH RUNNERS

Tuesday, July 7, 2026:

UNITED KINGDOM

Bayside Boy (Ire) (New Bay {GB}), Ballylinch Stud

85 foals of racing age/10 winners/0 black-type winners

18:50-BRIGHTON, 7f, **Serenity Bay (GB)**

10,000gns RNA Tattersalls December Foal Sale 2024; 10,000gns

Tattersalls October Yearling Sale (Book 3) 2025



Golden Pal | Coolmore

FRANCE

Blackbeard (Ire) (No Nay Never), Coolmore Stud
116 foals of racing age/7 winners/0 black-type winners
1-CHANTILLY, 1200m, **Say My Name (Fr)**
€21,000 Arqana Deauville October Yearlings 2025

Golden Pal (Uncle Mo), Coolmore Ashford
204 foals of racing age/7 winners/0 black-type winners
2-CHANTILLY, 1400m, **Quinte Flush Aas (Ire)**
£30,000 RNA Goffs UK Premier Yearling Sale 2025; £7,000 Goffs
UK 2yo Breeze Up Sale 2026

BRITAIN

Monday's Results:

2nd-Lingfield, £12,000, Nov, 7-6, 2yo, 7f 2y (AWT), 1:25.66, st.
PERFECT NATION (IRE) (c, 2, **Sioux Nation--Giuliana {Ger}**
{GSP-Ire}, by Muhaarar {GB}), a June 22 first-up second over six
furlongs at Windsor when last seen, broke well and gained early
control of this return. Holding sway throughout, the 6-5
favourite kicked clear off the home turn and kept on strongly in
the latter stages to defeat Drum Bay (New Bay) by 2 3/4 lengths.

Perfect Nation, full-brother to a yearling filly, is the second of
three foals and first scorer produced by G3 Anglesey Stakes
third Giuliana (Muhaarar), herself a half-sister to Listed Premio
Carlo Chiesa third Geraldine (Royal Applause).

His second dam, Listed Hannoverscher Herbst Stutenpreis and
Listed Baden-Baden Cup victrix Golden Whip (Seattle Dancer), is
a daughter of the dual stakes-winning G3 Premio Dormello
runner-up Genevra (Daneshill). Sales history: €52,000 Ylg '25
TATIRY; €195,000 RNA 2yo '26 ARQBRU. Lifetime Record:

2-1-1-0, \$11,993.

O-Basher Watts Racing 9; B-R Galway; T-George Boughey.

WILL DOUGLASS BLOODSTOCK Breeze Up Purchase

1st-Ayr, £10,000, Nov, 7-6, 2yo, 7f 50yT, 1:29.65, gd.
REDLINE (GB) (f, 2, **Bayside Boy {Ire}--Elas Ruby {GB} {SW-Eng**
& GSP-Fr}, by Raven's Pass), who incurred a seven-pound
penalty for annexing her June 15 debut tackling six furlongs at
Carlisle last time, broke smartly and asserted for an early lead
here. On the front end throughout, the 4-1 joint-second
favourite was shaken up approaching the final furlong and came
under a late drive to hold Ten Clarets (Ten Sovereigns) by a
neck.

Redline is the fourth of five foals and one of three scorers out
of the stakes-winning G2 Prix de Malleret placegetter Elas Ruby
(Raven's Pass), herself a half-sister to Listed Pipalong Stakes
runner-up Espresso (Dark Angel) and to the dam of stakes-
winning G1 Fillies' Mile runner-up Novakai (Lope De Vega). The
winner is half to a yearling colt by Kodi Bear. Sales history:
10,000gns RNA Wlg '24 TADEWE; 10,000gns RNA Ylg '25
TATOCT. Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, \$14,447.

O-Shaun Henley & Partner; B-Newsells Park Stud; T-Charlie
Johnston.

2nd-Wolverhampton, £10,000, Novice, 7-6, 2yo, f, 5f 21y
(AWT), 1:02.02, st.

ROXELINA (GB) (f, 2, **Havana Grey {GB}--Roxie Lot {GB}, by**
Exceed And Excel {Aus}), out of her depth in the Albany, was
able to dictate back in her comfort zone. Never in any trouble,
the 2-9 favourite registered a 4 3/4-length success from
Delightfully Hot (Too Darn Hot) to restore confidence.

The dam, who has produced Havana Grey's dual Listed winner
Holguin, also has a yearling by the same sire, plus a colt foal by
Dragon Symbol. The former was a 200,000gns purchase by
Newsells Park Stud at Tattersalls December.

Sales history: 170,000gns Wlg '24 TADEWE. Lifetime Record:
3-1-0-1, \$8,897.

O-Amo Racing Limited; B-Whitsbury Manor Stud; T-Kevin P De
Foy.

1st-Ripon, £9,000, Novice, 7-6, 2yo, f, 6fT, 1:12.52, gd.
LADY ROSALIND (GB) (f, 2, **Starman {GB}--Lambeth Walk {GB}**
{SP-Eng}, by Charm Spirit {Ire}), back out quickly after
underperforming on debut at Yarmouth, shadowed the early
leader Eleven Eighty Two (Ardad) in second. Wearing that rival
down inside the final furlong, the 4-1 shot asserted to score by
3/4-of-a-length.

Cont. p13

1st-Ripon cont.

The winner is the third foal out of the Listed-placed dam, whose first two were the Group 3-placed Excellent Believe (Make Believe) and Starman's Listed scorer Soul Love. A half to this year's Listed Pretty Polly Stakes third Spinning Lizzie (Kameko) from the excellent family of Showcasing's Sussex-winning sire Mohaather and last year's Coronation Stakes heroine Cercene (Australia), Lambeth Walk's yearling colt by Pinatubo was a 60,000gns purchase by WH Bloodstock at Tattersalls December. She also has a 2026 full-sister to the winner and Soul Love.

Sales history: 38,000gns Ylg '25 TATOCT. Lifetime Record: 2-1-0-0, \$6,287.

O-The Four Fillies Partnership; B-Northern Star Bloodstock Ltd; T-William Haggas.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Victory Gold (Ire), c, 2, **Space Blues (Ire)**--Jollify (Ire) (SP-Fr) by Manduro (Ger). Lingfield, 7-6, 7f 2y (AWT), 1:25.46. Lifetime Record: 4-1-1-0, \$18,117. B-Godolphin. *1/2 to Tiernan (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}), SP-Eng.

Alterity (GB), f, 3, **Bobby's Kitten**--Alta Moda (GB), by Sadler's Wells. Ripon, 7-6, 8fT, 1:42.42. Lifetime Record: 4-1-0-2, \$10,823. B-Miss K Rausing.

Rogue Defence (GB), g, 3, **Dark Angel (Ire)**--Rehn's Nest (Ire) (GSW & G1SP-Ire), by Authorized (Ire). Lingfield, 7-6, 8f 1y (AWT), 1:38.71. Lifetime Record: 3-2-0-0, \$13,074. B-Rabbah Bloodstock Limited. *16,000gns Ylg '24 TATFEB; 30,000gns Ylg '24 TADEY. **1/2 to Meraas (GB) (Oasis Dream {GB}), GSW-UAE.

FRANCE**Monday's Results:**

1st-Clairefontaine, €20,100, Mdn, 7-6, unraced 3yo, c/g, 12fT, 2:45.60, gd.

OPERATOR (FR) (g, 3, **Night Of Thunder {Ire}**--**Enchanting Skies {Ire}** {SP-Fr}, by **Sea The Stars {Ire}**) was caught napping at the break and recovered to stalk a sedate tempo in third passing the judge first time in this newcomers' contest. Sent to the front approaching halfway, the 3-5 pick came under pressure when threatened with a quarter-mile remaining and was pushed out to easily account for Noble Dream (Flintshire) by 2 1/2 lengths.

Operator, a €850,000 Arqana August graduate, is the third foal and scorer produced by Listed Prix de Thiberville runner-up Enchanting Skies (**Sea The Stars**), herself a sale-topping €500,000 Baden-Baden September yearling in 2016.



Operator makes a winning debut at Clairefontaine in the Wathnan
Racing silks | Scoop Dyga

The winner's dam is one of four black-type performers out of the Listed-placed Estefania (Acatenango), headed by G1 Preis von Europa victor Empoli (Halling). Estefania, in turn, is out of a half-sister to multiple Group 1-winning G2 German 1,000 Guineas and G2 Preis der Diana (German Oaks) heroine Elle Danzig (Roi Danzig).

Operator is a half-brother to the multiple Group 1-placed three-time Group winner Beauvatiere (Lope De Vega), Prix Miesque runner-up Lhakpa (**Siyouni**) and a yearling colt by Lope De Vega. Sales history: €850,000 Ylg '24 ARQAUG. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, €10,050.

O-Wathnan Racing; B-Ecurie des Monceaux, Qatar Bloodstock Ltd & Mme Barbara M Keller; T-Francis-Henri Graffard.

2nd-Clairefontaine, €20,100, Mdn, 7-6, unraced 3yo, f, 12fT, 2:35.40, gd.

HOLLOW LEGS (GB) (f, 3, **Nathaniel {Ire}**--**Omessa Has {Fr}**, by **Martaline {GB}**) broke well and raced on the front end from the outset of this debutantes' heat. Holding sway throughout, the 163-10 chance was rowed along at the top of the straight and lengthened clear inside the final quarter-mile to overpower Nova Moon (Madhmoon) by an impressive 3 1/2 lengths.

Hollow Legs is the fourth of six foals and first scorer produced by a winning daughter of Ombre Folle (Celtic Swing), herself a half-sister to Listed Derby de l'Ouest third Enfant De Lune (Inchinor) and to the dam of stakes-winning G1 Gran Premio di Milano runner-up Billabong (Gentlewave).

The winner is kin to a weanling filly by Jack Hobbs, while her 2025 half-sister by No Risk At All died last year. Sales history: £33,000 Wlg '23 GOUKNH. Lifetime Record: 1-1-0-0, €10,050. O-Mme Linda Shanahan; B-Mme Scarlett Knipe; T-Nicolas Clement & Flo Hermans.

CONDITIONS RESULTS:

6th-Vittel, €11,000, Cond, 7-6, 3yo, 10 1/2fT, 2:12.60, gd.
MAPAQUITA (FR) (f, 3, Battle Of Marengo {Ire}--One And Only {Fr}, by Muhtathir {GB}) Lifetime Record: 5-2-0-0, €16,484.
 O/B-Christophe Mongin; T-Tim Donworth.

3rd-Vitteaux, €9,500, Cond, 7-5, 3yo, 13fT, 2:50.80, fm.
BELBEST FAL (FR) (f, 3, Best Solution {Ire}--Belle De Belle {Fr} {SP-Fr}, by Big Bad Bob {Ire}) Lifetime Record: 7-2-0-1, €9,950.
 O/B-Fal Stud SAS; T-Stephanie Haesmans.

ADDITIONAL MAIDEN WINNERS:

Testana (Fr), g, 3, Anodin (Ire)--Testigreat (Fr), by Pedro The Great. Molieres, 7-5, 14 1/2fT, 3:28.05. B-Thierry Pigeon.
Freerider (Ire), g, 3, Bated Breath (GB)--South Sister (GB), by Sakhee. Clairefontaine, 7-6, 8fT, 1:36.80. B-Salabi Racing & Ecurie de Montlahuc. *€28,000 RNA Ylg '24 ARQOCT. **1/2 to Jadoomi (Fr) (Holy Roman Emperor {Ire}), GSW & G1SP-Eng, GSW-Ire, SW & G1SP-Fr.
Statistic (Ire), f, 3, Dubawi (Ire)--Matematica (Ger) (SW & G1SP-Fr), by Rock Of Gibraltar (Ire). Clairefontaine, 7-6, 8fT, 1:37.80. B-Wertheimer et Frere.
Lana Zain (Fr), f, 3, Hello Youmzain (Fr)--Lana Girl, by Arch. Pompadour, 7-5, 8fT, 1:42.70. B-Mme Marie-Claude Biaudis. *€50,000 RNA Ylg '24 ARQOCT. **1/2 to Landfall (GB) (Myboycharlie {Ire}), MGSW & MG1SP-HK, GSW-Ire, MGSP-Aus.
Trivial (Fr), f, 3, Siyouni (Fr)--Galima (GB), by Galileo (Ire). Vitteaux, 7-5, 13fT, 3:20.10. B-Wertheimer & Frere.
Nebulae (Fr), f, 3, St Mark's Basilica (Fr)--Celestial Beast, by Kitten's Joy. Clairefontaine, 7-6, 8fT, 1:36.80. B-Al Shira'aa Racing Ltd.
It's Pistachio (Fr), g, 3, Stunning Spirit (GB)--Misva (Fr) (SP-Fr), by Evasive (GB). Vittel, 7-6, 6 1/2fT, 1:16.34. B-Haras de Beaumont.



IN JAPAN:

Good Piece (GB), c, 3, Kingman (GB)--Fiducia (SW & GSP-Jpn, \$1,425,976), by Medaglia d'Oro. Kokura, 7-4, Cond., 1200mT. Lifetime Record: 7-2-0-1, \$141,426. O-Koji Maeda; B-North Hills Co Ltd; T-Tomokazu Takano.



IN JAPAN:

Best Me Ever (Jpn), m, 5, No Nay Never--Delphinia (Ire) SW & G1SP-Eng, G1SP-Fr & MGSP-Ire, \$332,191), by Galileo (Ire). Fukushima, 7-5, Cond., 1800mT. Lifetime Record: SP-Jpn, 11-3-5-3, \$357,253. O-Silk Racing; B-Northern Farm; T-Kazutomo Mori. *1/2 to Lila Emblem (Jpn) (Kizuna {Jpn}), GSW-Jpn, \$329,131; and M's Begin (Jpn) (Kitasan Black {Jpn}), GSP-Jpn, \$158,669.



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TDN Rising Stars

A signature TDN product. [\[click here\]](#) to view the designated Rising Stars

Wednesday, Fairyhouse, post time: 18:50

DARLEY IRISH EBF STANERRA STAKES-G3, €42,000, 3yo/up, f/m, 13f 200yT

SC	HORSE	SIRE	OWNER	TRAINER	JOCKEY	WT
1	Floresta (Ire)	Waldgeist (GB)	Newtown Anner Stud Farm Ltd	John Patrick Murtagh	Ben Coen	135
2	Galileo Dame (Ire)	Galileo Gold (GB)	Annus Mirabilis Syndicate/Sean O'Driscoll/Middle Cow Unlimited	Joseph Patrick O'Brien	Scott McCullagh	135
3	Goodie Two Shoes (Ire)	Fastnet Rock (Aus)	John P McManus	Joseph Patrick O'Brien	J M Sheridan	135
4	Jannah Star (Ire)	Sea The Stars (Ire)	Al Shira'aa Racing	Joseph Patrick O'Brien	Chris Hayes	135
5	Nuit (Ire)	Sea The Stars (Ire)	Nuit Partners	Henry de Bromhead	Colin Keane	135
6	Perfect Your Craft (Ire)	Mastercraftsman (Ire)	Cheeky Pups Syndicate	P Twomey	Billy Lee	135
7	Bloom (Ire)	Wootton Bassett (GB)	Mrs John Magnier & Michael Tabor & Derrick Smith	A P O'Brien	Wayne Lordan	122
8	Dreamkeeper (Ire)	Gleneagles (Ire)	Mrs H Shanahan & Mrs Jane Shanahan	Noel Meade	Gavin Ryan	122
9	Ice Dancer (Ire)	Wootton Bassett (GB)	Michael Tabor & Derrick Smith & Mrs John Magnier	A P O'Brien	Ronan Whelan	122

Breeders: 1-Newtown Anner Stud, 2-Tally-Ho Stud, 3-Mrs Noreen McManus, 4-Sunderland Holdings Inc, 5-Sunderland Holding Inc, 6-Newstead Breeding, 7-Coolmore, 8-Bawnfune Bloodstock & Jane Millington, 9-Coolmore

Last year's winner **Goodie Two Shoes** is a warm order to being up the repeat, given that she has been runner-up in the Melbourne Cup in the interim. **Perfect Your Craft** and **Floresta** are probably the main dangers, with the latter already a winner at Listed level and still unexposed. [Tom Frary].

Check out TDN videos on



Breeders' Cup Breakthrough: Donnacha O'Brien Reaching Higher



Hands On History: Gun Runner at Three Chimneys Farm



Reliving Speciosa's 1000 Guineas Victory