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OUTSTANDING

Casse, Wise Dan Selected
for 2020 Hall of Fame Class

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ANNE M. EBERHARDT

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Mark Casse at his training center in Ocala, Fla.

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CASSE, WISE DAN SELECTED FOR 2020 HALL OF FAME CLASS

By Frank Angst and Byron King

Seven new members have been selected to the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame, including the contemporary selections of trainer Mark Casse and two-time Horse of the Year Wise Dan.

The class of 2020 also includes jockey Darrel McHargue and racehorse Tom Bowling via the Historic Review Committee, and Pillars of the Turf selections Alice Headley Chandler, J. Keene Daingerfield Jr., and George D. Widener Jr.

The Hall of Fame induction ceremony is tentatively scheduled for Aug. 7 at the Fasig-Tipton sales pavilion in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. The museum is monitoring state and health regulations in regard to the COVID-19 pandemic and will be acting in accordance with those policies and best practices. A decision on the status of the induction ceremony will be forthcoming.

Casse, 59, a native of Indianapolis, took out his trainer's license in Massachusetts at the age of 17 and saddled his first winner at Keeneland with Joe's Coming, his first starter, in April 1979. According to Equibase, Casse has won 2,865 races with purse earnings of \$174,628,624 (No. 9 all time) through May 3. Successful in both the United States and Canada, Casse has won the Sovereign Award for Outstanding Trainer in Canada a record 11 times and was inducted into the Canadian Racing Hall of Fame in 2016. He



Mark Casse will join the U.S. Hall of Fame this year

won two-thirds of the American Triple Crown in 2019 when War of Will won the Preakness Stakes (G1) and Sir Winston (G1) prevailed in the Belmont Stakes Presented by NYRA Bets (G1).

Casse has trained Eclipse Award winners Classic Empire, Shamrock Rose, Tepin, and World Approval, as well as Canadian Horse of the Year honorees Catch a Glimpse, Lexie Lou, Sealy Hill, Uncaptured, and Wonder Gadot. He has won seven races in the Canadian Triple Crown series (the Prince of Wales four times, the Queen's Plate twice, and the Breeders' Stakes once), five Breeders' Cup races (the Mile, G1T, twice, as well as the Filly & Mare Sprint, G1, Juvenile, G1, and Juvenile Fillies Turf, G1T), and the Queen Anne Stakes (G1) at Royal Ascot with Tepin. Casse has trained 18 horses who have won \$1

million or more and has been the leading trainer at Woodbine (11 times), Turfway Park (four times), Keeneland (three times), and Churchill Downs (twice).

Upon hearing the news of his selection, Casse said his family was on his mind. His late father, Norman Casse, ran Cardinal Hill Farm in Ocala, Fla., and was one of the founders of Ocala Breeders' Sales, where he served as chairman for 27 years until retiring in 2006. Casse's wife, Tina, helps run the Casse operation, and his son Norman was an assistant with him before moving out on his own in 2018.

"That's what makes you think," Casse said. "I think about the people—and they're all in different times in your life—but without them, you wouldn't get there.

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CASSE, WISE DAN SELECTED FOR 2020 HALL OF FAME CLASS

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"Of course, my dad was No. 1. My dad is who made me love horse racing, and we always had that together. We loved it together, so that was special.

"I've had so many wonderful owners; some of them aren't even around anymore. Then I know a lot of people thank their wives, but I definitely wouldn't be here without my wife because she has been such a big part of this," Casse added. "And you know what, Norman, my son. Because I was quite content being in Toronto at Woodbine, but he's the one who pushed me to spread back out into North America. I don't think if I had just stayed and raced in Canada, I probably would have never made this Hall of Fame."

Casse had been a finalist for the Racing Hall of Fame in Saratoga Springs each year since 2017 and got the nod this year.

"I think the first time you're nominated, it's such an honor. They don't give this away very easily," Casse said with a laugh. "It's an honor to be nominated, but when you don't win, you can't help but having your pride hurt a little bit."

While ceremony plans are up in the air because of COVID-19, Casse said he looks forward to the honor no matter the form of the ceremony.

"If they want to come to my house like they do on 'American Idol,' we'll do it there," Casse said with a laugh.

Well-Deserved Induction for Wise Dan

Wise Dan (Wiseman's Ferry—Lisa Danielle, by Wolf Power) was bred and owned by Morton Fink and trained by Charles LoPresti. Named Horse of the Year in 2012 and 2013 and champion older male and champion male turf horse in both of those years, Wise Dan, a chestnut gelding, compiled a record of 23-2-0 from 31 starts and earnings of \$7,552,920 while competing from 2010-14.

Wise Dan won 19 graded stakes, including 11 grade 1 events. He won on turf, dirt, and synthetic surfaces at seven tracks. Wise Dan won the Breeders' Cup Mile at Santa Anita Park in both 2012 and 2013. He also won the Woodbine Mile (G1T), Shadwell Turf Mile (G1T), Maker's 46 Mile Stakes (G1T), Woodford Reserve Turf Classic (G1T), Fourstardave Handicap (G2T), and Firecracker Handicap (G2T) twice each.

"We were hoping he would get it," LoPresti said of Wise Dan being selected in his first year of eligibility. "I felt like he deserved it. We're really pleased for the horse and the Finks and everybody involved. We're really proud of the horse and what he accomplished. I think it was well deserved."

LoPresti said he'll never forget how much he enjoyed working with a horse of Wise Dan's level.

"When you look back on it, you realize what a wonderful, wonderful horse he was, a once-in-a-lifetime horse. It's hard to find horses like that," LoPresti said. "People spend millions, trainers have

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(L-R): Wise Dan wins the 2013 Woodbine Mile Stakes at Woodbine, the 2012 Breeders' Cup Mile at Santa Anita Park, and the 2014 Shadwell Turf Mile Stakes at Keeneland

CASSE, WISE DAN SELECTED FOR 2020 HALL OF FAME CLASS

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hundreds (of horses). It's really fantastic to have a horse like that and what he accomplished every time he went over there. After he's gone, you deal with mediocre horses, you realize how good he was, everything he overcame. Whether he got a bad post position, a bad break, a bad turf course, he ran every time. You don't see that in horses all the time."

LoPresti said Wise Dan is enjoying his retirement.

"He's living with his brother Successful Dan, here at our farm. He's happy as can be. He gets a lot of visitors to see him," LoPresti said. "We took him over to Old Friends last summer—they had a Wise Dan Day over there—it was really incredible the people that came to see him, the fans that came to see him, and how much money was raised on Wise Dan Day for Old Friends. We took him over there. He wasn't forgotten. He walked off that trailer, around that place, like he owned it. He's still a pretty incredible horse. He has a different personality than most horses."

One regret for the connections was that Fink did not live to see Wise Dan's selection for the Hall. Fink died in November.



Mark Casse and his wife, Tina, lead War of Will to the winner's circle after the 2019 Preakness Stakes at Pimlico Race Course

"He would be over the moon. He loved that horse. He used to tell me all the time that was the only thing that kept him going was that horse and to be able to watch him run, to call me and talk to me about him," LoPresti said. "When that horse retired, that was a big void in his life, a big void in all of our lives—the horse is still here, but the retirement from racing and everything. It was a big void. He lived for that every day.

"That horse did so much for all of us. As bad of health as Mr. Fink was in, that horse kept him going. That horse gave him something to live for every day. That's what he used to tell me all the time."

Chandler's Legacy Continues

Alice Headley Chandler, 94, founded Mill Ridge Farm in Lexington. She began the operation in 1962 after receiving four broodmares and 286 acres from her father, Hall of Fame member Hal Price Headley, upon his passing. Mill Ridge has since expanded to more than 1,100 acres. Chandler bred 1968 Epsom Derby winner Sir Ivor, establishing the farm as an international source of top performers as the colt became the first American-bred sold at public auction to win the prestigious race.



Wise Dan in 2014 with Charlie and Amy LoPresti at Keeneland

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CASSE, WISE DAN SELECTED FOR 2020 HALL OF FAME CLASS

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Attica, Sir Ivor's dam, was one of the original mares bequeathed to Chandler by her father. Sir Ivor was sold at the 1966 Keeneland July sale for \$42,000 to Raymond Guest. Sir Ivor's influence started the trend of American-bred European classic winners and was a major turning point for Keeneland and the American commercial market as foreign buyers began traveling to the United States to buy classic winners. Chandler was honored by the Thoroughbred Club of America as the Honored Guest at its Testimonial Dinner in 2005, and she received the 2009 Eclipse Award of Merit.

Chandler has served as chairperson of the University of Kentucky's Gluck Equine Research Foundation, president of the Kentucky Thoroughbred Association, and as a director of the Breeders' Cup, Keeneland Association, and the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association. Horses raised at Mill Ridge include Hall of Famer Point Given, Kentucky Derby (G1) winner Giacomo, and champion Havre de Grace. Since 2000, Mill Ridge has raised or sold 34 grade 1 winners, including six Breeders' Cup winners.

McHargue's Accomplishments Worth Noting

McHargue, 65, a native of Oklahoma City, won 2,553 races and had earnings of \$39,609,526 in a career from 1972-88. In 1978, McHargue won both the Eclipse Award for Outstanding Jockey and the George Woolf Memorial Jockey Award. That year, he set a North American record with \$6,188,353 in purse earnings, led all riders with 37 stakes wins, and finished second nationally with 375 wins. McHargue won a career-best 405 races in 1974 (No. 2 in North America). He began a six-year stretch of ranking among the top 10 North American jockeys in earnings that year.

McHargue won the 1975 Preakness Stakes with Master Derby. According to Equibase, McHargue won 79 graded stakes from 1976-88. His grade 1 wins included the Arlington-Washington Futurity, Santa Margarita Invitational Handicap, San Juan Capistrano Handicap, Hopeful Stakes, San Antonio Stakes, Charles H. Strub Stakes, Swaps Stakes, Santa Anita Handicap, Sunset Handicap, San Luis Rey Stakes, Hollywood Invitational Handicap, Oak Leaf Stakes, Santa Anita Derby, and Hollywood Derby.



Alice Headley Chandler in 2005 at Keeneland

McHargue also spent some time riding in Ireland and England, winning several stakes, including the 1984 Irish St. Leger (G1) at the Curragh and the 1984 Jockey Club Cup (G2) at Ascot. McHargue won six graded stakes with Hall of Famer John Henry. He also won stakes aboard Hall of Famers Ancient Title and My Juliet, as well as General Assembly, Run Dusty Run, and Vigors, among others.

McHargue won six races on a single card at Santa Anita in both 1978 and 1979. He has been a steward in California since 1990 and was named the state's chief steward in 2015.

Tom Bowling Joins List of Greats

Tom Bowling (Lexington—Lucy Fowler, by Albion) was bred and owned by Hal Price McGrath and trained by Hall of Famer Ansel Williamson. A bay colt foaled in 1870, Tom Bowling lost his first two starts as a juvenile before winning 14 of his next 15 races. He broke his maiden in the 1872 Flash Stakes at Saratoga Race Course, then won the Thespian Stakes at Monmouth Park, covering six furlongs in 1:16 3/4, the fastest time to that date by a 2-year-old at the distance. Tom Bowling won seven of his eight starts as a 3-year-old, including the Jersey Derby at 1 1/2 miles, the Robbins Stakes at two miles, the Travers Stakes at 1 3/4 miles (defeating Belmont winner Springbok), the Jerome Stakes, the Annual Sweepstakes at two miles, and the Dixie Stakes at two miles.

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CASSE, WISE DAN SELECTED FOR 2020 HALL OF FAME CLASS

(continued from page 7)

Tom Bowling won all four of his races as a 4-year-old in 1874, including the 2 1/2-mile Monmouth Cup and the 2 1/2-mile Mansion House Stakes. He also won purse races at 1 1/2 and three miles. Tom Bowling was retired with a record of 14-3-0 from 17 starts and earnings of \$36,350. He was retrospectively recognized as the champion 2-year-old male of 1872 and Horse of the Year and champion 3-year-old male of 1873 by the editors of *The Blood-Horse* in the book "The Great Ones."

Daingerfield Jr.'s Life of Merit

J. Keene Daingerfield Jr. (1910-1993) was born in Lexington and attended the University of Virginia before becoming a trainer and eventually one of the most respected stewards in the sport's history. Daingerfield had moderate success as a trainer and wrote the book "Training for Fun (and Profit, Maybe)" before serving in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in World War II. He resumed training after the war before accepting a steward's position at Narragansett Park in 1948. Daingerfield went on to serve as chief state steward in Kentucky from 1973-85 and held the same role in New Jersey (1966-73) and Illinois (1953-56). He was an association steward at 17 tracks.

In 1985, Daingerfield was honored with the Eclipse Award of Merit. Following his retirement as state steward in Kentucky, Daingerfield served as a steward at Keeneland until 1989. He was elected to The Jockey Club in 1989. Daingerfield also was

presented the William C. Coman Humanitarian Award by the Kentucky Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association and the Joe Palmer Award by the National Turf Writers Association. Known for his integrity, dignity, and racing expertise, Daingerfield is widely considered one of the finest officials in racing history.

Widener Jr. Shaped the Sport

George D. Widener Jr. (1889-1971) was a Philadelphia native and one of the most prominent figures in American racing during the 20th century, influencing the sport as an owner, breeder, and leader. Widener was elected to The Jockey Club in 1916 and won his first race as an owner that year at Pimlico Race Course. The owner of Erdenheim Farm near Philadelphia and Old Kenney Farm near Lexington, Widener bred 102 stakes winners, including champions Jamestown, High Fleet, Platter, Stefanita, Evening Out, Jaipur, and What a Treat. He also bred and owned Hall of Fame member Eight Thirty, winner of the Travers, Whitney, Suburban, Metropolitan, Toboggan, and Massachusetts handicaps. Jaipur won the Belmont and Travers for Widener in 1962. Widener also owned champion Battlefield, another of his record-tying five Travers winners.

The chairman of The Jockey Club for 14 years, Widener also chaired the Greater New York Association (the forerunner of NYRA), served as president of the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame, and director of the Thoroughbred Club of America. He was the Thoroughbred Club of America's Honored Guest in 1942 and was named the first Exemplar of Racing by the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame in 1971. **BH**

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FIRST STARTERS OF FRESHMAN SIREs

Dancing in Fire, f, 2. (Firing Line–Thine, by Pulpit) is the 1st starter for Firing Line.

In 2020, Firing Line stands at Crestwood Farm in Kentucky for \$5,000

Dannyhill, f, 2. (Mshawish–Maggie Maggie, by Majesticperfection) is the 1st starter for Mshawish.

In 2020, Mshawish stands at Taylor Made Stallions in Kentucky for \$10,000

Race 2 (MSW) at GP on 5/7/2020

[Race Entry](#)



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LEADING THIRD-CROP SIREs



Rank	Stallion, YOB, (Sire) Farm, Stud Fee	Named Foals	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SW/ SHs	GSW	G1W	Chief Earner (Earnings)	'20 Earnings
1	Mucho Macho Man, '08, (Macho Uno) Adena Springs Kentucky, KY, \$10,000	125	44 / 14	1 / 2	1	1	Mucho Gusto \$3,162,000	\$3,646,208
2	Goldcents, '10, (Into Mischief) Spendthrift Farm, KY, \$25,000	295	115 / 33	2 / 3	2	0	By My Standards \$628,200	\$2,069,610
3	Will Take Charge, '10, (Unbridled's Song) Three Chimneys Farm, KY, \$15,000	261	83 / 32	0 / 1	0	0	Herrschaft \$134,924	\$1,240,056
4	Cairo Prince, '11, (Pioneerof the Nile) Airdrie Stud, KY, \$25,000	284	87 / 33	0 / 1	0	0	Sabeq'hom \$202,667	\$1,127,835
5	Verrazano, '10, (More Than Ready) Haras Old Friends, BRZ, Private	323	121 / 35	1 / 3	0	0	Vanzzy \$60,760	\$1,081,210
6	Cross Traffic, '09, (Unbridled's Song) Spendthrift Farm, KY, \$15,000	183	61 / 21	2 / 3	0	0	Ny Traffic \$266,400	\$990,087
7	Central Banker, '10, (Speightstown) McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds, NY, \$7,500	162	56 / 12	0 / 3	0	0	Bankit \$150,900	\$808,001
8	Fed Biz, '09, (Giant's Causeway) WinStar Farm, KY, \$7,500	242	70 / 20	1 / 3	0	0	Inthemidstofbiz \$80,500	\$744,918
9	Strong Mandate, '11, (Tiznow) Three Chimneys Farm, KY, \$5,000	164	55 / 19	0 / 0	0	0	Jennemily \$84,769	\$710,816
10	Uncaptured, '10, (Lion Heart) South Korea, KOR, Private	189	57 / 13	1 / 1	0	0	Two Sixty \$108,000	\$689,976

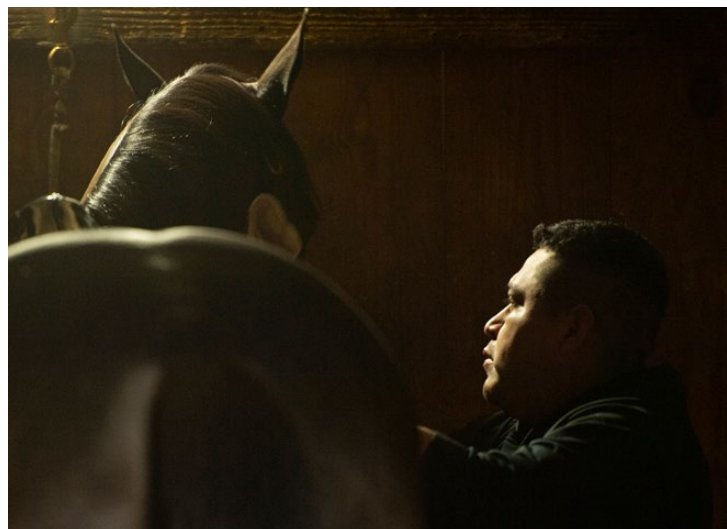
Listed above are the top 10 leading third-crop sires by 2020 Northern Hemisphere earnings through May 5, 2020. Only stallions that stand, will stand, or stood in North America (excluding stallions that died or were exported prior to the 2016 breeding season), and have runners in North America are included. Racing statistics are 2020 Northern Hemisphere only.



ANNE M. EBERHARDT

THROUGH THE LENS

with Anne M. Elmhurst





“An ambassador for racing, champion Midnight Bisou has raced at many tracks during her career and has accumulated fans worldwide.

I first saw the daughter of Midnight Lute as a 3-year-old in 2018 when she was at Churchill Downs for the Kentucky Oaks (G1) and already was a multiple graded stakes winner. I am fortunate to have photographed her at Churchill Downs, Saratoga Race Course, Santa Anita Park, and most recently at Keeneland, where the beautifully dappled mare — now a 5-year-old — is in training.”

—ANNE M. EBERHARDT



HILL 'N' DALE SECURES BREEDING RIGHTS TO CHARLATAN

By BloodHorse Staff

Hill 'n' Dale Farms has secured the breeding rights to undefeated grade 1 winner Charlatan, who won the first division of the Arkansas Derby (G1) last weekend at Oaklawn Park, bringing his record to 3-for-3. The farm announced the purchase May 6.

"Horses with Charlatan's immense ability combined with superior pedigree, conformation, depth of female family, and star-quality appeal are a very rare commodity," Hill 'n' Dale president John Sikura said.

Charlatan, who is owned by a partnership that includes SF Racing, Starlight Racing, Madaket Stables, and Stonestreet Stables, has captured the public's imagination, with trainer Bob Baffert and others comparing him to Triple Crown winner Justify. Prior to his gate-to-wire victory in the Arkansas Derby, the colt debuted Feb. 16 at Santa Anita Park, where he wired a field of four by 5 3/4 lengths. He then romped March 14 in a one-mile allowance optional claiming race at Santa Anita, going gate-to-wire and winning by 10 1/4 lengths.

"This horse is effortless and gets over the ground so easily," Baffert said. "He is just exceptionally fast and does it without asking. That's what the great ones do. To ship him to win a grade 1 in his third start shows you what I think of him. When you see him in person, you say, 'Wow.'"

A son of Speightstown, Charlatan is out of the multiple graded stakes-winning Quiet American mare Authenticity, who won or placed in 11 of 12 starts. She was third in the 2013 Breeders' Cup Distaff (G1) and second in three other grade 1s.

"I love Gone West (sire of Speightstown) as a prepotent sire influence, and both Quiet American and Deputy Minister (his first two broodmare sires) are foundational influences," Sikura said. "(Charlatan's) raw talent and athleticism enables him to carry his brilliant speed around two turns with ease. The SF Racing model continues to produce classic horses, and what a great thing that is for our game.

"Their whole team is to be commended for unprecedented results at the highest levels of racing. I look forward to watching Charlatan build upon his



“Horses with Charlatan’s immense ability combined with superior pedigree, conformation, depth of female family, and star-quality appeal are a very rare commodity.”

— JOHN SIKURA

impressive résumé under the management and guidance of their team until his retirement to Hill 'n' Dale."

"We were delighted to do the breeding rights deal with Hill 'n' Dale," said Tom Ryan of SF Bloodstock. "They have launched and managed the careers of several breed-shaping sires. Johnny's record speaks for itself. Charlatan will be given every chance at stud, given their track record of standing and developing elite stallions."

Bred by Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings, Charlatan was sold by Denali Stud at the 2018 Keeneland September Yearling Sale for \$700,000 to the partnership that includes Fred Hertrich III, John Fielding, and Golconda Stables.

"Physically, he's one of the best physical horses we've ever bred," Stonestreet Farm bloodstock adviser John Moynihan said. "What sets him apart is the way he moves. He moves like a great horse. He is just a real athlete. He is the epitome of what we've tried to breed up to this point. Charlatan is a perfect combination of the genes meeting the physical. He is an absolute standout." **BH**

 Share this story

GOLDEN GATE GETS GREEN LIGHT TO RESUME RACING MAY 14

By Claire Crosby and Byron King

After live racing was halted at Golden Gate Fields on April 2 because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Northern California track has been given provisional approval by the Alameda County Health Department to resume racing May 14.

There have been no known cases of COVID-19 at Golden Gate Fields, and the track has been closed to the general public and to all but essential personnel since March 12.

Racing will be conducted under strict protocols and without spectators "to protect the health, safety, and welfare of every person and every horse in the Golden Gate Fields community," according to a May 6 news release from the track.

"Finally, we have something to smile about," Golden Gate-based trainer Blaine Wright said.

The protocols are still being finalized with county officials and will be released in the coming days, as will the condition book.

"It was a lot of work, but we got there in the end," said David Duggan, Golden Gate's general manager and vice president. "We submitted a very comprehensive plan to the Alameda County Health Department, and they were receptive to that plan

last week. They were satisfied that it allowed them to reclassify us as a relatively low-risk business, per (California Gov.) Gavin Newsom's guidelines.

"We're in the process of sorting out the stakes races and the condition book, which will run to the end of this current meet."

The winter/spring meeting that began in December is slated to end June 14. Racing will be conducted four days a week on a Thursday-Sunday schedule with the exception of a special Memorial Day card May 25, with the track going dark May 28.

Duggan said the signature race of the meet, the \$250,00 San Francisco Mile (G3T), will be held on closing day.

"I'm very determined to keep the Mile, which is one of the great bastions of American racing," he said. "It's got a great history, so it's my absolute intention to run that the last day of the meet. We're going to do what we can to accommodate people with the remnants of the stakes schedule."

"We think it's an excellent development," Greg Avioli, the president and CEO of Thoroughbred Owners of California, said of the resumption of racing. "We have lots of horses and owners in Northern California that are ready to race. I expect they will have their fullest fields in many years."

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VASSAR PHOTOGRAPHY

Racing at Golden Gate Fields

GOLDEN GATE GETS GREEN LIGHT TO RESUME RACING MAY 14

(continued from page 13)

"I was just up there last week, and they made some basic improvements to the synthetic surface. Horses were training over it fantastically well. The turf course is amazing. It's just a great time to return to racing."

Approximately 1,200 horses are stabled at Golden Gate. Their care is provided by 400 backstretch workers, most of whom live on-site and are operating under stringent new measures for protection aligned with the best guidance from local and international health and government authorities on COVID-19.

"We've battled, hoping our (owners) would stay in the business and keep things rolling, which they have," Wright said. "The best thing that happened to me is I put together a couple of 20-person (texting) threads and said, 'Hey, they're opening next Thursday, guys. We're going to get our chance here.' I think that put a lot of smiles on a lot of people's faces."

Trainer Jonathan Wong, who also runs horses at Santa Anita Park, another California track closed for much of the spring due to COVID-19, lost some horses who were shipped away to race in other jurisdictions during the shutdown. Still, he praised his owners for

largely keeping their horses stabled at racetracks, leaving them poised to return when racing resumes.

"Everybody should be ready to run. I know my barn is ready to run. We're excited," he said.

Duggan said the highlight of his day was relaying the news that the track had received permission to resume racing.

"I think it's great for the owners, trainers, and backstretch workers. The morale just lifted when I spoke to them today, and that gives me a great feeling to be able to do that," he said.

“I think it's great for the owners, trainers, and backstretch workers. The morale just lifted when I spoke to them today, and that gives me a great feeling to be able to do that.”

—DAVID DUGGAN

"I've only been here for three years, but I've experienced everything in my tenure from the sublime to the absolutely ridiculous. Cancellations because of smoke, because the surrounding drains locked up and flooded the track, cancellations because of a leaking gas pipe, cancellations because of COVID-19. But I've been very determined since I've been here to bring Golden Gate Fields back into a position of relevance in the industry. This is a very legitimate racetrack. It's in incredible condition. The turf is fabulous. We've got a good bunch of trainers, a nice blend of veterans with years of experience and some nice young people coming through as well. I think the product is very competitive, and that's reflected in the figures we've posted in the past couple of years." **BH**


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THE STRONACH GROUP: PREAKNESS DATE REMAINS IN FLUX

By BloodHorse Staff

The Stronach Group, which owns Maryland Jockey Club tracks Pimlico Race Course and Laurel Park, announced May 6 that the date of the postponed Preakness Stakes (G1) has not been finalized. The TSG announcement came after WBAL-TV, the NBC affiliate in Baltimore, reported the Preakness would be run Oct. 3.

"At this point, there is no definitive date set and we continue to explore options," TSG said in a statement. "Once a date for Preakness 145 has been finalized, an official announcement will be made."

The Preakness, typically the second leg of the NBC-televised Triple Crown, was originally scheduled for May 16 at Pimlico, but it was indefinitely postponed this spring as the COVID-19 pandemic developed. So, too, was the first leg of the series, the Kentucky Derby Presented by Woodford Reserve (G1) at Churchill Downs, though it was pushed to an established date, Sept. 5.

Shortly after the Churchill Downs announcement, Mike Ricci, the communications director for Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan, tweeted that "we are in

active discussions to postpone the Preakness Stakes until September."

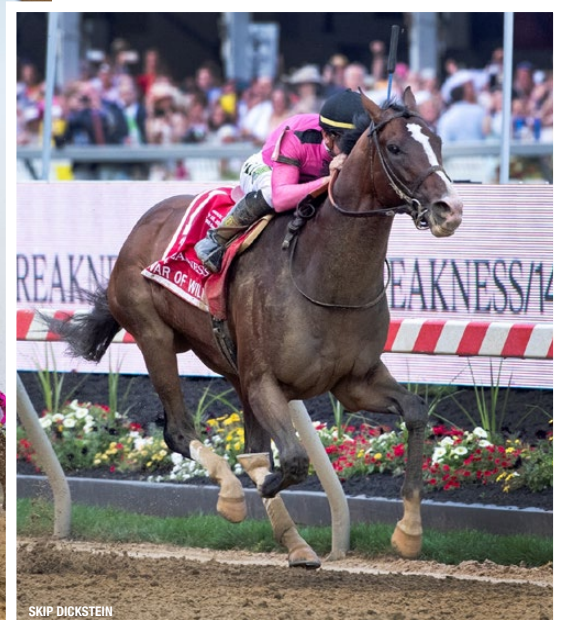
The Wednesday statement from TSG did not indicate whether the Preakness would remain at Pimlico or move to Laurel Park, where most racing is conducted in Maryland.

The New York Racing Association, which operates Belmont Park, the track that hosts the Belmont Stakes (G1), has yet to announce postponement plans for that leg of the series. Customarily five weeks after the Derby, it was slated for June 6 this year prior to COVID-19 developments.

There is no ongoing racing in New York, considered the epicenter for COVID-19 in the U.S., nor in Maryland. Racing in Kentucky is set to resume May 16 at Churchill Downs without spectators, and other tracks across the country that had racing suspended by the pandemic are beginning to receive government authorization to race.

"NYRA is in the process of working with state and local officials to safely resume live racing at Belmont Park," NYRA communications director Patrick McKenna said. "A determination about the timing of the 2020 Belmont Stakes will be made only after we have clarity on the opening of the Belmont spring/summer meet. The Belmont Stakes is a New York institution and we look forward to its 152nd edition in 2020." BH

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War of Will (inside) wins the 2019 Preakness Stakes at Pimlico Race Course

ZAYAT STABLES SENT 'UNORTHODOX' INVOICES FROM CLIENTS

By Eric Mitchell

[@BH_EMitchell](#)

The third monthly report from a court-appointed receiver who is managing Zayat Stables revealed the uncovering of "unorthodox" and "possibly fraudulent" billing practices from trainers and other care providers doing business with the racing stable.

Elizabeth Woodward, the director of forensic accounting and litigation support at the Lexington accounting firm Dean Dorton, was appointed Jan. 22 to oversee the day-to-day operation of Zayat Stables at the request of MGG Investment Group, which has sued the racing stable for fraud and breach of contract. In its lawsuit, MGG has claimed Zayat Stables and members of the Zayat family have sold horses and breeding rights that had been used as collateral on tens of millions in loans without disclosing these sales to MGG.

In her third monthly report summarizing activity from March 22 through April 24, Woodward stated she has reconciled billing records for Zayat Stables with invoices submitted by service providers for the purpose of calculating statutory liens against various horses. She also has uncovered "unorthodox, possibly fraudulent, billing practices and billing errors in which trainers and other care providers effectively overbilled costs as a means of increasing the Receiver's statutory lien obligations, resulting in a significant savings to the Receivership."

The report does not specify any trainers or the providers associated with the overbilling.

As of April 24, Zayat Stables had an ownership interest in 32 horses in 17 locations. Woodward, with consultant Gatewood Bell, has so far sold six horses publicly for \$379,000 and another five were sold privately for \$795,000. The private sales include three sold for more than \$100,000: multiple stakes



COGLIANESE PHOTOS/SUSIE RANISHER

Ahmed Zayat at Belmont Park

winner/grade 3-placed Gidu (by Frankel) was sold for \$100,000; broodmare Mojgan (Flatter), who is in foal to American Pharoah, was sold for \$300,000; and grade 1-placed grade 2 winner Desert Stone was sold for \$325,000. The buyers of these three horses were not identified in court documents, but Desert Stone raced March 7 under the ownership group of Slam Dunk Racing, Michael Nentwig, and Joey Platts. Gidu has not made a start since he was sold.

As of March 21, Woodward reported collecting approximately \$1,293,808 in purses and other funds held for Zayat Stables and from the sales of horses. She has spent approximately \$442,665 on operations, such as boarding bills, veterinary bills, and administrative fees and commissions necessary to be paid for the sales to date. The total expenses do not include receivership expenses paid directly by MGG.

A hearing to address several motions related to the MGG lawsuit had been scheduled for an afternoon video conference May 6 before Fayette County (Ky.) Judge Kim Bunnell. The hearing was postponed, and a new date has not been set. **BH**

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SHARING, FOUR WHEEL DRIVE AIMED TOWARD CHURCHILL RACES

By Byron King

[@BH_Bking](#)

Leading 3-year-olds are a regular sight at Churchill Downs in the spring, though this year because of COVID-19 they're aimed toward races in the middle to late part of May, not on the first Saturday.

Besides Claiborne Breeders' Futurity (G1) winner Maxfield, whom trainer Brendan Walsh said May 5 is a strong possibility to return in the May 23 Matt Winn Stakes (G3) at Churchill, Breeders' Cup winners Four Wheel Drive and Sharing are pointed toward starts in Louisville for a delayed meet that begins without spectators May 16. Four Wheel Drive is a candidate for an open allowance for 3-year-olds at 5 1/2 furlongs on turf May 17, trainer Wesley Ward said, and Sharing is aimed toward the \$100,000 Tepin Stakes for 3-year-old fillies May 23, according to a tweet from co-owner Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners. All three horses are unraced in 2020.

Maxfield and Sharing were Eclipse Award finalists last year, Maxfield in the 2-year-old male division and Sharing in the 2-year-old filly category. Each finished third in voting toward championships that went to Storm the Court and British Idiom, respectively.

Sharing, a daughter of Speightstown owned by Eclipse and Antony Beck's Gainesway Stable, won three of four starts in 2019. Following a debut third at Saratoga Race Course, the Graham Motion trainee captured a seven-furlong dirt maiden race there that was rained off the turf before winning the Selima Stakes at Laurel Park and Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf (G1T) at Santa Anita Park.

After an interruption in her workout schedule this winter in Florida, she has recorded a steady string of breezes at Fair Hill Training Center since March 21. Her most recent breeze was a six-furlong workout on the Tapeta surface there May 2 in 1:13 3/5.



ANNIE M. EBERHARDT

Sharing and jockey Manny Franco after winning the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf at Santa Anita Park

Like the Juvenile Fillies Turf, the Tepin is a grass race at a mile.

Breeze Easy's Four Wheel Drive, a son of American Pharoah, went 3-for-3 as a juvenile, all in stakes. He won the Rosie's Stakes in his debut at Colonial Downs Aug. 31 before scoring in the Futurity Stakes (G3T) at Belmont Park and the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf Sprint (G2T) at Santa Anita.

Ward said he is also planning to run Karak, a dual stakes winner for the same owner, in an open grass allowance for 3-year-old fillies May 16. Both allowance races offer purses of \$84,000.

"We've got those two right off the bat, which is nice," he said.

Four Wheel Drive was slotted to race at Keeneland, which announced in mid-March that it would cancel its spring meet due to

COVID-19. At around that time, Churchill Downs postponed the Kentucky Derby Presented by Woodford Reserve (G1) from May 2 to Sept. 5.

Spectatorless racing in Kentucky has been on hold since late March, when Turfway Park ended its meet a few days early under a state directive that closed many nonessential businesses. **BH**

Eclipse Thoroughbred
@EclipseTBP

"Game on @ChurchillDowns! @BreedersCup Champ Sharing takes aim at Soph debut May 23rd for @GrahamMotion @Gainesway @jockeyfranco in the Tepin Stakes! The Speightstown filly @WinStarFarm is in the zone at Fair Hill and is looking forward to invading the 'Ville! #BelieveBig"

4:26 PM - May 5, 2020

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MILLER 'LEAVING NO STONE UNTURNED' IN BUYING EFFORT

By Ron Mitchell

[@BH_RMitchell](#)

In a perfect, pre-COVID-19 world, Patrice Miller would spend most of March and April in Florida, attending the 2-year-olds in training sales conducted by Ocala Breeders' Sales and Fasig-Tipton, followed by a sojourn to Lexington for Keeneland's juvenile auction.

That routine was disrupted by the coronavirus outbreak. Only one OBS sale has taken place, and the other auctions were canceled or postponed.

Rather than return to her home in Pennsylvania, Miller remained in northwest Florida following the March 17-18 OBS sale, visiting training centers and farms in an attempt to buy 2-year-olds that she would otherwise be able to see work out during the pre-sale under tack show and then go through the sales ring.

Trying to buy prospective athletes on a one-on-one basis, rather than in the sales ring where the atmosphere is more conducive to spirited competition that can drive prices skyward, is considered less efficient than the auction process and is somewhat daunting.

"What I've learned from all this? It's that having a sale with workouts and barns—that's really nice," said Miller, the vice president of Equine Biomechanics & Exercise Physiology. "I haven't been home for six or seven weeks. A lot of people have been nice enough to call and say they have a nice horse. There are a lot of really nice, sound horses here. The greatest thing about the 2-year-old sales is they offer the best pre-selected group of horses you will find anywhere. These guys really know what they're doing, and they are very good conditioners."

Miller said she and EQB founder and CEO Jeff Seder decided to pursue the private purchase route once it became obvious that any 2-year-old sales taking place

this year would be later on the calendar than normal, delaying the ability of buyers to add the individuals to their stables.

"Our concern was that being so late, by the time the 2-year-old sales came around, it would kill a 2-year-old's chance of running," Miller said. "For those owners who like to play in the 2-year-old races in the summer and early fall, it's going to be hard to get them to buy 2-year-olds late."

Though it's harder to assess a 2-year-old's value without the sales arena dynamic in which the marketplace tells a seller what it deems it is worth, Miller said she has been fortunate to negotiate prices that are acceptable to both buyer and seller. For horses that were previously bought to be resold as 2-year-olds, there is already a value placed on each individual, with an expectation of a price that also reflects maintenance costs and any improvement in form.



FASIG-TIPTON PHOTOS

Patrice Miller

(continued on page 19)



MILLER 'LEAVING NO STONE UNTURNED' IN BUYING EFFORT

(continued from page 18)

"I am very lucky to have great clients who have been in the horse business a long time, and they understand the value of a horse is how well it can race," she said. "They don't have a feeling they are going to rob these (sellers) blind. They have been very reasonable. A lot of these (sellers) are having to carry horses longer than they thought they would have to. They all have been great by saying, 'I paid X amount, and would your client be happy with this price?' I think it's a great opportunity."

Miller said one positive of the private sale process is that while she is able to view the prospects in timed workouts, the horses are not subjected to pressure placed on them to get an under tack show time faster than the other horses in the sale.

"There is a side of this that my clients really like," she said. "The 2-year-old sales have become so speed-crazy. These horses will not have to breeze an eighth-mile in :09 4/5, which is something they will not have to do again in their lives (except at the sale). Athletes need stress so they can withstand stress—to a limit. This just takes the stopwatch out of it. I say it's not how fast they go, it's how they go fast. The sellers know what to do to get a horse sound and fast and that meets the criteria."

Though she has encountered other agents who are also trying to buy 2-year-olds privately, Miller said few have been as diligent as she is.

"There are others here, but I don't think they are as crazed as I am," Miller said. "I'm leaving no stone unturned. Right now, I'm looking under every rock. I keep finding more."

Miller said that during her time in Florida, her sister, who resides in a rehabilitation center, was hospitalized with a bout of the novel coronavirus and is now recovering, but the agent has not been

“

For those owners who like to play in the 2-year-old races in the summer and early fall, it's going to be hard to get them to buy 2-year-olds late.”

—PATRICE MILLER

concerned about risks associated with her farm and training center visits.

"Everybody is careful and doing all the things you have to do," she said. "I travel with a spray bottle and wash down everything."

Like many others in the horse industry, Miller hopes that more tracks will be able to reopen, even with spectatorless grandstands, in an effort to provide opportunities for horses to race.

"What boggles my mind is that here you have an opportunity where horse racing had a chance to get back a ton of people who used to bet on racehorses, and they're not allowed to race," she said. "The betting handle of the tracks that have managed to stay open, it's just outstanding. It's a real opportunity for racing, and why they can't race, I don't understand. They have shown they don't have to have fans." **BH**

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PHOTOS BY Z

WARD, ARINDEL CLASH AGAIN IN GULFSTREAM JUVENILE RACE

By Byron King

[@BH_Bking](#)

A 4 1/2-furlong scramble for 2-year-old fillies, the richest race on the May 7 card at Gulfstream Park, was preceded by a scramble at the entry box. Thirteen were entered for the \$65,000 sprint for maidens, though the conditions of the race allow only eight to start.

As with other 2-year-old contests this year at Gulfstream, the diuretic Lasix is not permitted for treatment within 24 hours of the race.

Trainer Wesley Ward, whose entries Tharos and Gem Thief drew in the body of the field, said he submitted a scratch for Tharos due to a sore shin, leaving one of five also-eligibles with the chance to gain entry.

Ward is still left with the 9-5 morning-line favorite, Gem Thief, a filly bred for 2-year-old success. She is a daughter of Shanghai Bobby, the champion juvenile colt of 2012, and is out of the multiple stakes-placed Aldebaran mare Corderosa, who won her only start at 2 in a six-furlong race at Aqueduct Racetrack in December 2011.

"A very, very nice filly, very precocious, kind of following her sire," Ward said. "She's a tight-knit filly, a fast-looking filly. She should have a good accounting."

An \$85,000 purchase by owner Merriebelle Stable from the Bluegrass Thoroughbred Services consignment at the 2019 Keeneland September Yearling Sale, Gem Thief is related to two winners from three foals to race. One winner, Orecchiette (by Harlan's Holiday), was stakes-placed, and the other, Invigorous (by Congrats), twice scored as a juvenile, though not on debut.

Irad Ortiz Jr. will ride.

Two fillies in the race, Awesome View and Sister Aurora, already have experience, having run fourth and sixth, respectively, in the first maiden race at Gulfstream on April 16.

Arindel's Quinoa Tifah won that race, followed a day later by the colt Gatsby, another Arindel baby, who triumphed in a maiden special weight. In both races, the Arindel-owned and Juan Alvarado-trained runners outran Ward trainees.



ANNE M. EBERHARDT

Trainer Wesley Ward

The Arindel team is again represented Thursday with Lyrical, a homebred daughter of Brethren out of the Lemon Drop Kid mare Boa Twelve. Boa Twelve won her two races in turf routes.

"I think she might want to go a bit further, but she's been pretty quick," Arindel president Brian Cohen said. "Her full sister won a maiden special (weight) down there last weekend, Key Biscayne, a race that came off the turf."

The victory from Key Biscayne came at 1 1/16 miles.

Also entered for Arindel is Tequa, though Cohen was pessimistic that the daughter of Dialed In would draw into the race as the fourth also-eligible. He suggested she could return in an upcoming maiden race on turf, a surface for which she is bred, being out of the Tiznow mare Pink Poppy, a three-time stakes winner on turf.

Edgard Zayas will ride Lyrical.

Thursday's race has one runner who is a sibling to a stakes winner: Briella. She is by Cajun Breeze out of Clara Bow (by Way West), making her a full sister to Cajun Firecracker, the winner of the Dr. Fager Division of the FTBOA Florida Sire Stakes at Gulfstream Park in 2018.

Michael Yates of Shadybrook Farm trains Briella, as he did Cajun Firecracker for his first two starts, including the stakes score, before the juvenile was sold to William and Corinne Heiligbrodt. Yates also trained Cajun Breeze for a portion of his career.

Miguel Vasquez will be aboard.

Race Day Speed and Princess Secret are the other two fillies in the body of the race. **BH**

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JOCKEY CLUB OUTLINES PLAN TO ENSURE DERBY RUNS AT EPSOM

By James Stevens/Racing Post

Details of the Jockey Club's plans for running the Investec Derby (G1) and Oaks (G1) behind closed doors have emerged after it submitted a proposal to the local council detailing how it would stage the two classics at Epsom ahead of a crucial council meeting next week.

The Jockey Club has requested special dispensation from the local Epsom and Ewell council in order to run the two classics. A council meeting will discuss giving approval to the plans the evening of May 12 with the critical issue surrounding the closure of the Downs, a public space, for the day.

One key local councilor has given the plan a cautious welcome but suggested more work needs to be done to gain public support.

Under the 1984 Epsom & Walton Downs Act, the land is a public right of way but the Jockey Club's submission points out that the act also details the Downs should not "confer with the ability to hold race meetings." The Jockey Club is now seeking an agreement to close the Downs on a Saturday in July—but potentially also for a day in August—with the classics provisionally scheduled for July 4.

The Jockey Club's plan confirms races would be staged at a similar time to usual. The Oaks and Derby would be run on the Saturday along with five other races.

In order to stage the meeting, the racecourse will in effect create a huge exclusion zone. The Jockey Club has requested closure of footpaths running through the Downs and the site to be sealed off with fencing and pedestrian barriers, maintained with strict stewarding. Horses would be permitted to gallop on the track that morning.

The Jockey Club warns in its submission that if it was unable to stage the Derby and Oaks, the rest of Epsom's fixture list for 2020 would be in doubt.

David Gulland, Liberal Democrat councilor for Epsom and Ewell, suggests the Jockey Club needs to provide more clarity for local residents as to why they would be restricted access.

"The Derby is important, and I'm really pleased the Jockey Club is trying to find an innovative way of having it, but we need to think about the wider issues, obviously the health aspect," Gulland said, speaking on BBC Radio Surrey this morning. "The plans seem sensible on paper and if the Jockey Club explains why it has to go ahead in this way, the local residents will support it—if it's done the right way. But it needs the open communication as to why it has to be done this way.

(continued on page 22)



EDWARD WHITAKER/RACING POST

Anapurna takes the 2019 Investec Oaks at Epsom



JOCKEY CLUB OUTLINES PLAN TO ENSURE DERBY RUNS AT EPSOM

(continued from page 21)

"The paper is quite broad, it explains why the race has to happen to support the whole industry but it doesn't go into detail about why that's the case. I imagine it has to do with TV money or prize-money and the sponsorship, and that makes sense. It gives it a bit more transparency and, with more evidence as to why it has to happen in this manner, then I'm sure people will support it."

Gulland added: "What we don't want is the appearance that it's happening to suit a small section of the community. Also, we don't want to encourage people to gather in groups when it's not yet healthy to do so."

"Nobody knows what the health situation will be in July or August and, even if it is fenced off, there's a danger that people will be attracted up there. It's a huge open area. We don't want to encourage behavior, which might not be appropriate, even in July or August. We just don't know yet."

A spokesperson for Epsom Downs said: "We're exploring the feasibility and practicality of staging the Investec Derby and Investec Oaks at the racecourse with no crowd present, given their importance to the Thoroughbred racing and breeding industries. This is part of the racing industry's resumption planning, which will be guided fully by the government, local authorities, and delivery partners."

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COMEBACK MEETINGS IN FRANCE DRAW 1,069 ENTRIES

By David Carr/Racing Post

The appetite for a resumption of racing in France was writ large May 5 when three comeback meetings scheduled for May 11 drew more than 1,000 entries in a tidal wave of enthusiasm for resumption.

A total of 1,069 horses have been entered for the Monday fixtures at ParisLongchamp, Toulouse, and Compiègne, which will be the second round of meetings to take place in Europe since racing shut down in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic in March. Racing will return in Germany May 7.

There is quality to stand alongside the quantity, with the André Fabre-trained Victor Ludorum listed as the 10-11 favorite with Ladbrokes for the Prix de De Fontainebleau (G3) at ParisLongchamp. Unbeaten classic hope and Victor Ludorum's stablemate Earthlight was scratched from the race May 6.

Fabre, quoted on Godolphin.com, said:

"Earthlight pulled up slightly sore after work yesterday and upon examination appears to have a fetlock sprain. He will have a couple of easy days and won't run next week."

Earthlight is a 7-2 second favorite for the group 1 Poule d'Essai des Pouliches (French Guineas), with Victor Ludorum the 11-4 market leader, and Fabre is looking forward to seeing his star 3-year-olds on the track this season.

"Earthlight has done really well over the winter and we are looking forward to seeing him back on the track soon," Fabre added.

Elsewhere on a star-studded card, last year's Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe (G1) third Sottsass is the 4-7 favorite for the Prix d'Harcourt (G2).

Trainer Freddy Head was not surprised by the staggering entry.

(continued on page 24)



EDWARD WHITAKER/RACING POST

Horses race during the 2019 Arc weekend at ParisLongchamp



COMEBACK MEETINGS IN FRANCE DRAW 1,069 ENTRIES

(continued from page 23)

"We have missed two months of races, so people are eager to run—and to get some money," he said. "All the horses are going to be running, which means it is going to be very competitive and the races are going to be very tough.

"It hasn't been too bad for me because we weren't stopped and we were able to train the horses normally. We still have the good races in front of us and for the good horses it won't be a problem but for some trainers and the smaller owners this has been tough."

Felix de Giles is among those looking forward to riding for the first time since racing shut down in March. The British jump jockey has been based in France since 2016.

"They've done very well to get it back on. France made a public announcement there was no sport until September so everyone was a bit worried but French racing falls under the subcategory of agriculture so it looks like that is the way they have got around it," he said. "There has been frustration, everyone was left in limbo a little bit and the deadlines kept getting moved, but in the circumstances that is understandable with the death rates changing the whole time.

"The death toll probably needs to stay quite low, if it goes up again they might change, but the French have been respectful of the regulations. The French death rates have been slightly lower so there's no reason why they're suddenly going to pull the plug before May 11."

De Giles acknowledged racing has been more fortunate than other sports in the speed of its resumption after lockdown.

"I'm surprised it has come back quite so fast and if I was a rugby fan or made my life in rugby I'd be a bit annoyed that racing can go ahead and sports like rugby can't," he said. "It's the same for tennis—you can have a big game with only 10 people involved.



EDWARD WHITAKER/RACING POST

Freddy Head at the Les Aigles gallops at Chantilly

"If it were the other way around, everyone in the racing industry would probably be quite annoyed so I hope that's not going to cause a problem. It's understandable where they could be coming from and I hope that won't impact racing further on down the line."

De Giles will be at Compiègne where jump racing resumes with a card that features two listed races.

"I've been trying to keep fit at home," he said. "I've been riding out every morning and I've been doing a bit of running, a bit of work on the equicizer, and been boxing a little bit. I'd like to think I'll come back as fit as I left off. We had just started back at the Parisian tracks and everyone had their yards full with their good horses ready to go. A lot of trainers have given their horses a bit of time off but they've been ticking them over."

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GERMANY GIVEN GO-AHEAD TO RACE BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

By Peter Scargill/Racing Post

Horse racing will return in Germany May 7 at Hanover after clearance was given by the local authorities for action to resume for the first time since March 15.

German racing officials had been hopeful of returning at Dortmund on Monday before the fixture was called off, and Saturday's meeting at Munich has also been canceled.

However, a 12-race card, which will be streamed live on the Deutscher Galopp website, is set to go ahead at Hanover under strict hygiene measures and without spectators, with Cologne's card Friday and Berlin's on Sunday also scheduled.

"We are relieved and grateful to authorities such as the (Hanover) racing club that people in racing companies can now go back to work," Deutscher Galopp president Michael Vesper told galopponline.de.

Trainer Dominik Moser has 16 runners declared Thursday for Hanover and hopes the return of racing in Germany is an encouraging sign for the rest of Europe.

"We're very happy that racing is on, but now we hope we can give a good impression for all of Europe so future horse racing can go ahead in other countries after us; we are all in this together," he said. "We need to make sure we do a good job and set a good example. We must make sure that nobody gets sick and that we follow all of the rules to make sure we can put on racing in the safest way."

According to Moser, those attending Hanover are being asked to wear face masks, maintain strict social distancing, and ensure tack is disinfected thoroughly after use.

Moser added that the return of racing offered reassurance for stable staff and owners who had been unsure about their futures. He is eager to return with horses to Britain, where he has enjoyed

group 3 success with the likes of Gracia Directa and Waldpfad in recent years.

"We have been having a lot of discussions with owners and staff over the last two weeks, and everyone has been a bit scared about their future, so having racing back is good for them," he said. "When I go to (English news) and see how sad people are there right now about no racing, I hope that we can all return soon. I would like to come back and be able to have runners at great places such as York and Newmarket again. We must all come together."

The racing authorities in Germany are taking a tentative approach to getting the sport up and running, with fixtures needing approval at a local level to go ahead.

The hope is that running fixtures such as Hanover, Cologne, and Berlin will act as templates for other organizations to allow racing to restart.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel said Wednesday that "the first phase of the pandemic is behind us," as lockdown restrictions were partially eased following discussions with the country's 16 regional heads of state. These include restarting Bundesliga football, which will return in the second half of the month.

Germany will be the first major racing nation in Europe to restart the sport after the COVID-19 lockdown, with racing set to return Monday in France.

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Horses race at Hanover



WHAT'S GOING ON HERE

EDITORIAL COMMENT FROM BLOODHORSE MAGAZINE

LOSS LEADERS

By *Evan Hammonds*

🐦 @BH_EHammonds

While Louisville and Churchill Downs remain quarantined—at least for another week as the backside is set to open May 11 with racing expected to resume May 16—Oaklawn Park's 2020 season ended in a blaze of glory. Racing in Hot Springs, Ark., continued as most other major-market tracks were closed for the past two weeks amid COVID-19 shutdowns and offered the sport a national lifeline hopefully getting us to the "other side."

To no one's surprise, trainer Bob Baffert unleashed a 1-2 punch with Charlatan and Nadal to take both halves of a split Arkansas Derby (G1). Chester Thomas' Allied Racing's By My Standards proved to be among the best older horses in training with his score in the Oaklawn Handicap (G2). Handle of more than \$41 million on the track's closing day was encouraging.

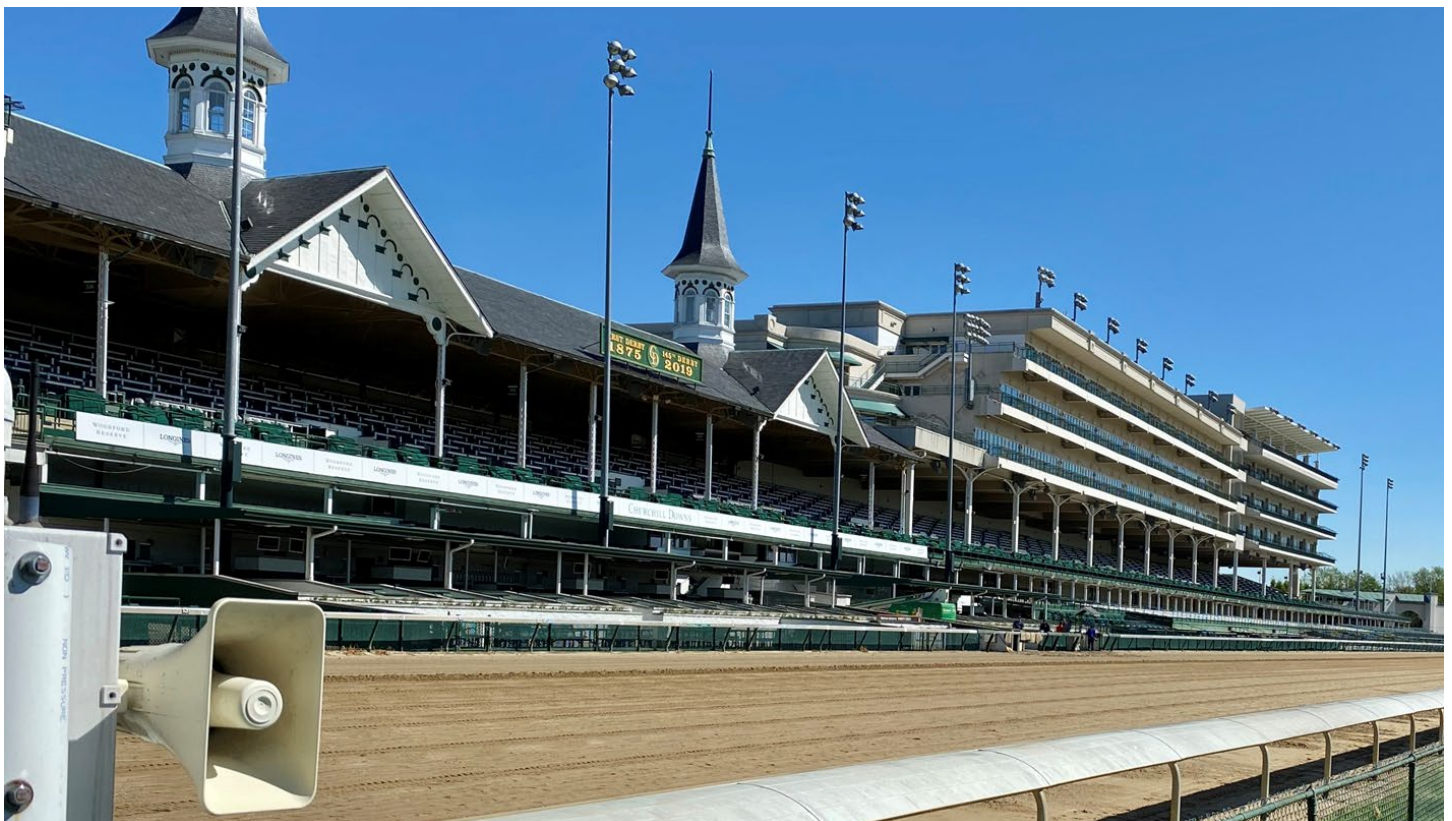
Those were the big winners. Sadly, there were far more losers on the weekend.

The city of Louisville, specifically the surrounding neighborhood around Churchill Downs, took a tremendous financial hit. Hotels were empty of patrons and employees; Uber drivers idled; bars and restaurants that might have customers lined up to the curb to gain entrance were closed or only able to serve "curbside."

Take a moment to think of all the additional part-time help Churchill Downs hires each spring for the Derby/Oaks (G1) weekend. Temporary tellers missed a big weekend of extra pay; extra security wasn't signed on to work; and food prep, hospitality, and bartenders were shut out of a weekend that conservatively generates gratuities in the seven figures each day. And we've yet to consider the plight of the local horsemen, grooms, and riders who missed out on one of the bigger paydayes of the year.

Of course, we're counting on a Kentucky Derby this year—Sept. 5—but with concerns for gatherings of any size and social distancing, it is hard to imagine it being the same size and scope of what it would have been last weekend.

(continued on page 27)



EVAN HAMMONDS

The Churchill Downs grandstand sits empty the first weekend in May



WHAT'S GOING ON HERE

EDITORIAL COMMENT FROM BLOODHORSE MAGAZINE

LOSS LEADERS

(continued from page 26)

Thoroughbred sales companies, however, had one of their better weeks, even though they failed to sell a horse. In a perestroika move with Fasig-Tipton and Keeneland, it was announced the Fasig-Tipton Kentucky July yearling sale and its Saratoga select yearling sale and sale of preferred New York-bred yearlings will slide down the calendar to just after the Derby and all take place in Lexington before Keeneland's September yearling sale. While a blow to the city of Saratoga Springs, it's an efficient move for the industry to continue the life cycle of the industry. The added time will also allow for the results of the 2-year-old sales, which have been moved to June and July, to be tallied and the money distributed so yearling-to-juvenile pinhookers will have some working capital.

There was further collaboration April 30 with a joint announcement from Fasig-Tipton and Keeneland regarding medication policies that will restrict the use of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, corticosteroids, and bronchodilators, including Clenbuterol, at all sales. As Thoroughbred racing has come under intense scrutiny regarding medication use, it is a smart move to ensure further transparency in the auction process. Anything that can be done to instill confidence in the buyer is a positive.

A negative note in the sales arena is the loss of Dennis Henry Lynch, a 25-year veteran of the Fasig-Tipton team who lost his battle with cancer May 1. The 68-year-old horseman worked at The Blood-Horse back in the late 1970s before running his own bloodstock agency. He joined Fasig-Tipton in 1995 and "had unique skills of both getting along with people and identifying really good horses,"



FASIG-TIPTON PHOTOS

Fasig-Tipton will host the consolidated Selected Yearlings Showcase sale at its Lexington venue in September

according to the sale company's president, Boyd Browning Jr.

To add to that was the glint in Lynch's eyes when he launched into one of his many stories, as well as his enthusiasm and spark when he got behind a cause. His departure might well be the industry's biggest Derby weekend loss. **BH**

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SUNSHINE FOREVER A TURF SUCCESS STORY FOR DARBY DAN

By Tom Hall

[@lordatwar](#)

Kudos to Gulfstream Park for naming one of its two newly carded overnight stakes to honor Darby Dan Farm's Sunshine Forever, who in 1988 went from maiden winner to Eclipse Award champion in the breadth of 12 starts and never finished worse than third, earning more than \$2 million.

Typical of the horses coming from John Galbreath's Kentucky enterprise that sits on part of what used to be the Idle Hour Farm of noted breeder E.R. Bradley, Sunshine Forever is a homebred both top and bottom.

His sire, Roberto, was a multiple champion in Europe and won the Epsom Derby for Galbreath in 1972. Roberto has close ties to this particular parcel of land as his third dam, Bleebok, walked many of the same pastures that Roberto walked when she belonged to Bradley's Idle Hour stable. Her half brother Brokers Tip is one of Bradley's four Kentucky Derby winners. On the advice of his farm manager, Olin Gentry, who had also been Bradley's farm manager, Galbreath purchased Bleebok. A further tie to the Bradley empire is Roberto's 4x4 inbreeding to Blue Larkspur, bred by Bradley and an Idle Hour foundation sire.

Out of the Graustark mare Outward Sunshine, Sunshine Forever is a second-generation homebred on his momma's side. Following the death of Isabel Dodge Sloane in 1962, Galbreath formed a syndicate to purchase the 38 broodmares who formed the nucleus of her famed Brookmeade Stable. Among the 13 mares Galbreath kept was a winning 4-year-old Hasty Road mare in foal to Native Dancer.

Across the years, this mare, Golden Trail, has paid huge dividends for Darby Dan with such successful sires as Dynaformer, Darby Creek Road, and Brian's Time (all by Roberto) and still does today through

the family's grade 1 winner Memories of Silver (by Roberto's son Silver Hawk), the dam of grade 1 winner Winter Memories (El Prado).

Trained for Darby Dan by John Veitch, Sunshine Forever didn't find his stride until late in his juvenile season, placing in a pair of two-turn races, one of which was on turf.

Veitch kept Sunshine Forever out of action until late April of his sophomore year, when the colt broke his maiden at 1 1/16 miles on the turf at Aqueduct Racetrack, a victory that he backed up over nine furlongs two weeks later.

The eight furlongs of the Saranac Stakes (G2T) proved too short as he finished second after closing from sixth late. His first stakes victory came by six lengths in the 1 1/16-mile Hill Prince Stakes (G3T) at Belmont Park. His final race against his peers resulted in a narrower-margin score in the 10-furlong Lexington Stakes (G2T).

Satisfied with Sunshine Forever's dominance among his age group, Veitch threw the Roberto colt in among older horses in the Sword Dancer Handicap (G1T) at Belmont, where he finished second to European invader Anka Germania.

A trip to Woodbine for the Arlington Million (G1T) saw him finish well but third in a closely contested stretch drive.

Back in the U.S., Sunshine Forever turned in three peak performance races, winning the 11-furlong Man o' War Stakes (G1T) and the 12-furlong Turf Classic (G1T)—both at Belmont—and the 10-furlong Budweiser International (G1T) at Laurel Park.

Coming into the Breeders' Cup Turf (G1T), Sunshine Forever faced a good turf course and high-class foes at Churchill Downs. In as game an effort as you might find,

Sunshine Forever failed to pass Great Communicator by a half-length.

Sunshine Forever's gritty performances in defeat and outstanding overall record for the year earned him an Eclipse Award as champion turf male. **BH**



Sunshine Forever wins the Man o' War Stakes at Belmont Park

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RACE RESULTS

WATCH REPLAYS BY CLICKING ON THE RACE NAME

ALLOWANCE RESULTS

Tampa Bay Downs, Race 4, AOC

5/6, \$20,000, 3yo, f, 7f (dirt), 1:23.19, track fast.

1—[Hopeful Growth](#), 118, dk b/br f, 3, [Tapiture](#)—Maiden America, by Rock Hard Ten, \$12,000, O—St. Elias Stable, B—Phillips Racing Partnership (KY), T—Anthony R. Margotta, Jr., J—Antonio A. Gallardo

Sale History: 2018 KEESEP, \$160,000.



Margin: 3¾, 6 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

Tampa Bay Downs, Race 5, ALW

5/6, \$20,000, 4yo/up, f/m, 8f (turf), 1:37.57, course firm.

1—[Clear as Day](#), 119, b f, 4, [Sky Mesa](#)—Much Obligated, by Kingmambo, \$11,800, O—Pin Oak Stud, B—Pin Oak Stud, LLC (KY), T—Michael Stidham, J—Angel Suarez

Margin: neck, 9 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

Will Rogers Downs, Race 3, ALW

5/6, \$26,400, 3yo/up, f/m, 8f (dirt), 1:38.61, track fast.

1—[Keena](#), 124, ch m, 5, [Chitoz](#)—Miss Snow Nose, by [Broken Vow](#), \$15,256, O—Francisco Bravo, B—Francisco Bravo (OK), T—Francisco Bravo, J—Ry Eikleberry

Margin: 4, 8 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

Will Rogers Downs, Race 9, ALW

5/5, \$20,900, 3yo/up, f/m, 8f (dirt), 1:39.54, track

good.

1—[Kertara](#), 121, b f, 3, [Raison d'Etat](#)—Sitara, by Point Given, \$12,396, O—Short, Tommy C. and Heyer, Robert, B—Calumet Farm (KY), T—Paul McEntee, J—Ty Kennedy

Sale History: 2018 KEESEP, \$2,200.

Margin: ½, 8 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

MAIDEN RESULTS

Tampa Bay Downs, Race 8, MSW

5/6, \$20,000, 3yo, 8f (turf), 1:36.69, course firm.

1—[Talako](#), 120, b c, 3, [Karakontie](#) (JPN)—Sobinka (IRE), by Sadler's Wells, \$12,000, O—Gunther, John D. and Eurowest Bloodstock Services, B—John D. Gunther (KY), T—Jorge R. Abreu, J—Wilmer A. Garcia

Sale History: 2018 KEESEP, (\$37,000 RNA).

Margin: 3, 8 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)



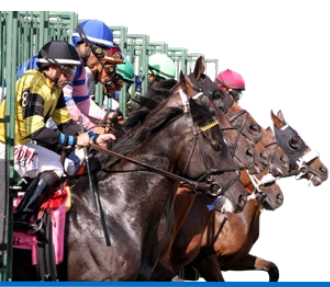
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UPCOMING ENTRIES

SUNSHINE FOREVER S.

Gulfstream Park, Saturday, May 9, Race 9
8.5f (turf), \$75,000, 4yo/up, 4:29 PM (local)

P #	PP	Horse	Sire	Age/Sex	Jockey	Weight	M/L	Owner
1		Just Whistle	Pioneerof the Nile	5/h	Luis Saez	118	-	Helen K. Groves
2		Sand Dancer	Eskendereya	5/g	Marcos Meneses	118	-	Sea Gull Capital
3		El Tormenta	Stormy Atlantic	5/g	Dylan Davis	126	-	Sam-Son Farm
4		Aquaphobia	Giant's Causeway	7/h	Irad Ortiz, Jr.	123	-	Paradise Farms Corp., David Staudacher and Hooties Racing Inc.
5		Cullum Road	Quality Road	5/g	Joe Bravo	118	-	Daniel Kessler
6		Halladay	War Front	4/c	Luis Saez	123	-	Harrell Ventures, LLC
7		Hawkish	Artie Schiller	5/g	Emisael Jaramillo	121	-	Robet V. LaPenta, AJ Suited Racing Stable, LLC and Madaket Stables LLC
8		Regally Irish	Regal Ransom	4/g	Rajiv Maragh	118	-	Isabelle de Tomaso
9		Social Paranoia	Street Boss	4/c	Edgard J. Zayas	126	-	The Elkstone Group, LLC
10		Highland Sky	Sky Mesa	7/g	Miguel Angel Vasquez	123	-	Joyce B. Young, Gerald McManis and Jerrie Stewart McManis
11		Admission Office	Point of Entry	5/h	Joel Rosario	118	-	Amerman Racing, LLC
12		War of Will	War Front	4/c	Tyler Gaffalione	121	-	Gary Barber

Breeders: 1—Helen K. Groves Revocable Trust; 2—Seagull Associates, LLC; 3—Sam-Son Farm; 4—Mr. & Mrs. M. Roy Jackson; 5—Hargus and Sandra Sexton & Silver Fern Farm, LLC; 6—Gainesway Thoroughbreds Ltd. & Winchell Thoroughbreds, LLC; 7—AJ Suited, LLC; 8—Isabelle Haskell de Tomaso; 9—Mineola Farm II, LLC & Silent Grove Farm, LLC; 10—Bonner Young; 11—Mrs. Jerry Amerman; 12—Flaxman Holdings Limited.

Trainers: 1—Michael R. Matz; 2—Timothy A. Hills; 3—Gail Cox; 4—Michael J. Maker; 5—Ignacio Correias, IV; 6—Todd A. Pletcher; 7—James J. Toner; 8—H. Graham Motion; 9—Todd A. Pletcher; 10—Barclay Tagg; 11—Brian A. Lynch; 12—Mark E. Casse.



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