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FRIDAY, JANUARY 27, 2017



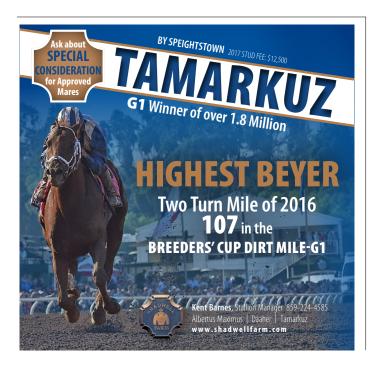
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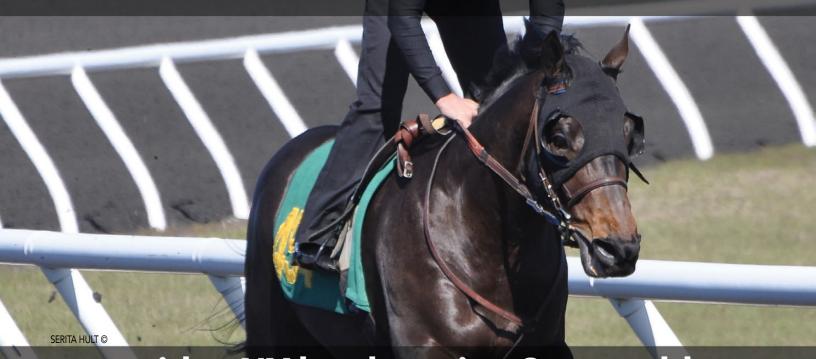
ALL BLUE GODOLPHIN DOMINATES DAY AT MEYDAN

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NY-BREDS START WITH AN ADVANTAGE

GODOLPHIN DOMINATES DAY AT MEYDAN

By Tom Hall 9 @lordatwar

Color the Meydan winner's circle blue, Godolphin blue more precisely, as Sheikh Mohammed's racing pipeline provided a steady supply of horses to win five of the six Thoroughbred races on the Jan. 26 card.

That number included both group 2 stakes of the day: the Al Rashidiya Empowered by IPIC and the Cape Verdi Empowered by CEPSA, an IPIC Group Company.

Godolphin trainer Charlie Appleby racked the first win, an about 12-furlong handicap, with Gold Trail (pictured on cover), an Irish-bred son of Teofilo (Galileo), who took the win by a length from Prize Money, another wearing the Godolphin blue but trained by Saeed bin Suroor.

Suroor evened the playing field in the nine-furlong Al Rashidiya with Promising Run, the lone filly in the field of seven that was making her 2017 debut.

Breaking from post 4, the 4-yearold daughter of Hard Spun (Danzig) ridden by Jim Crowley raced mid-pack as Mike de Kock's South African grade 2 winner Light The Lights (Western Winter) led until Promising Run passed him within the final furlong to win by a halflength. Kentucky-bred Earnshaw (Medaglia d'Oro) finished third.

Bred by Darley in Kentucky out of the Brazilian group 1 winner and group 1 producer Aviacion (Know Heights), Promising Run has been a bit of a globetrotter in her brief career.

At 2 she took the Shadwell

BH



Promising Run wins the AI Rashidiya over males by a half-length

Rockfel Stakes (G2) at Newmarket and after wintering in Dubai, where she ran second in the UAE One Thousand Guineas Sponsored by Friday, added the group 3 International Istanbul Trophy at Veliefendi. The bay filly has earnings of \$445,367 from her four wins and four placings in 13 starts.

Trading wins, Appleby gained the upper hand when his Kentuckybred Fly At Dawn posted a onelength victory in Meydan's prep for the UAE 2,000 Guineas.

The 3-year-old son of Discreet Cat—Emirates Girl, by Unbridled's Song, ran the seven furlongs on the dirt track in 1:24.28. Fellow Kentucky-bred Cosmo Charlie (Stay Thirsty) finished second, more than six lengths ahead of bin Suroortrained Godolphin runner Top Score (Hard Spun).

A field of 10 fillies and mares went to post in the Cape Verdi, contested over eight furlongs of Meydan's turf track. At the end of the 1:37.21 trip, Godolphin's Very Special, conditioned by bin Suroor, had a half-length advantage over Opal Tiara (Thousand Words), with Muffri'Ha (Iffraj) another neck behind.

Ballylinch Stud bred Very Special in Ireland, and John Ferguson bought the chestnut daughter of Lope de Vega (Shamardal) for \$473,252 out of the Tattersalls October yearling sale. Her dam, the Danehill mare Danielli, also produced Chriselliam (Iffraaj), who won the 2013 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf (G1T) at Santa Anita Park and the Shadwell Fillies Mile (G1T) at Newmarket.

Very Special also won the Cape Verdi last year and in 10 starts has only once finished worse than third. She has earnings of \$635,274. Her Cape Verdi victory also gave bin Suroor his 200th win at the Dubai World Cup Carnival, making him its most successful trainer.

In the final race on the Meydan card, Appleby runners led a Godolphin exacta, as 8-year-old Baccarat (Dutch Art) outfinished his younger stablemate, 5-year-old Jungle Cat (Iffraaj), by a neck. **BH**

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LATEST HEADLINES FROM BLOODHORSE.COM

PETROV TO JOIN UNCONTESTED IN

SOUTHWEST Lightly raced Petrov will make his next start in the \$500.000 Southwest Stakes (G3) for 3-year-olds Feb. 20 at Oaklawn Park, co-owner and trainer Ron Moquett of Hot Springs said Thursday morning.

FIRST FOAL FOR GRADED STAKES WINNER

MICROMANAGE Repole Stable's stallion Micromanage sired his first foal when graded stakes-placed Stopspendingmaria foaled a filly at Rockridge Stud near Hudson, N.Y., Jan. 23.

FIRST FOAL REPORTED FOR FLORIDA STALLION

YOUNG BRIAN Breeder John Liviakis reports the first reported foal from his stallion Young Brian, an impressive winner in his only start, is a colt out of Van Dien Avenue.

SHURMAN, WOLFSON SR. SELECTED TO NHC HALL OF FAME Paul Shurman and Steve Wolfson Sr. have been selected for induction to the NHC Hall of Fame, the National Thoroughbred Racing Association announced Jan. 26.

HRRN BEGINS 2017 SEASON WITH PEGASUS

COVERAGE The \$12 million Pegasus World Cup, which features the highly anticipated rematch between Arrogate and California Chrome, will be aired live from 4-6 p.m. ET on SiriusXM channel 93 and streamed live on the HRRN website.

BLOODHORSE THE JANUARY 28TH ISSUE OF BLOODHORSE IS NOW AVAILABLE **TWICE AS NICE** California Chrome takes Horse of the Year honors for a second time, becoming only the third to win the title in non-consecutive vears BLOODHORSE **2016 ECLIPSE AWARDS** A closer look at each of the sixteen 2016 Eclipse Award winners, including past performances INSTANT

HASKIN'S DERBY DOZEN

A Derby fever spikes as Steve Haskin compiles his first listing of the 2017 Triple Crown trail





SOUTHEAST - NEXT STEP Pinhooker Tristan de Meric's love of

horses gives him great enjoyment in seeing his graduates perform well on the track



PHOTOS BY Z (HORSE OF THE YEAR, ECLIPSE AWARDS), JOSEPH DIORIO (DEMERIC)

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PAGE 4 OF 20 -

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Love the Chase with her 2017 Tapit foal born Jan. 25

LOVE THE CHASE FOALS TAPIT HALF TO 'CHROME'

By BloodHorse Staff

ove the Chase, dam of two-time Horse of the Year California Chrome, foaled a Tapit half brother to North America's all-time leading money earner just before midnight Jan. 25.

The chestnut colt was born at Atlas Farm near Nicholasville, Ky., where Love the Chase has resided since selling for \$1.95 million to John McCormack Bloodstock as agent on behalf of SF Bloodstock at the 2016 Fasig-Tipton November sale.

"This colt has four big shoes to fill," Tom Ryan of SF Bloodstock posted when he announced the foal's arrival on Twitter. "He has loads of character and a peculiar white blaze."

The Tapit colt is the first live foal out of Love the Chase since the daughter of Not For Love produced a son of Lucky Pulpit in 2015 that is a full brother to California Chrome. California Chrome is set to make his final career start in the \$12 million Pegasus World Cup Invitational Stakes (G1) Jan. 28 at Gulfstream Park before retiring to stud at Taylor Made Farm.

Tapit, who stands at Gainesway for an advertised fee of \$300,000, has led the general sire list for the last three years.

Ryan previously announced that Love the Chase is booked to be bred to WinStar Farm stallion Pioneerof the Nile, sire of 2015 Triple Crown winner American Pharoah and 2016 juvenile champion Classic Empire, for 2017. BH



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SALES UPDATE

SON OF YES IT'S TRUE TOPS OBS OPEN SESSION

By BloodHorse Staff

A yearling son of Yes It's True consigned by Select Sales, agent, went to Zachary Kilgus for \$28,000 to top the open session of the Ocala Breeders' Sales Co.'s 2017 winter mixed sale, which concluded Jan. 26 with across-the-board declines.

The bay colt consigned as Hip 490 is out of Datttcatsgotrhythm, by Tale of the Cat, a half sister to graded stakes-placed Tenfold, from the family of grade 1 winner Chaposa Springs.

Hip 473, a dark bay or brown Florida-bred colt by Handsome Mike consigned by Beth Bayer, agent, was sold to Patriot Racing for \$22,000. He's out of Clever Dancer, by Old Fashioned, a daughter of stakes winner Ashville.



The OBS winter mixed sale came to a close Jan. 26 with overall declines

Will Brewer, agent, also went to \$22,000 for My Daddy Kan, a Florida-bred chestnut colt by Kantharos out of stakes-placed Daddy's Honor, by The Daddy,

(continued on page 8)

He's a beautiful horse and is training very forwardly. We are very pleased with him

JB McKATHAN, McKathan Brothers Training, on the colt ex Sleeping Beauty (€475,000 Goffs Orby - Ingordo/Casse for Zayat Stables)

His first crop sold as yearlings for \$530,000, \$495,000 etc. and are pleasing all the right people!

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SON OF YES IT'S TRUE TOPS OBS OPEN SESSION

(continued from page 7)

consigned by Summerfield (Francis and Barbara Vanlangendonck), agent.

Following recent trends, the open session suffered declines, as 177 horses sold for a total of \$677,700 compared with 163 horses bringing \$1,179,300 in 2016. The average price was \$3,829 compared with \$7,235 last year, while the median price fell to \$2,000 compared with \$4,000 a year ago. The buyback percentage of 38.9% was also higher than the 32.6% in 2016.

For the entire winter mixed sale, 326 horses sold for a total of \$2,970,700, compared to 361 horses bringing \$4,597,600 last year. The average was \$9,113 compared to \$12,736 in 2016, while the median price declined to \$4,500 compared with \$6,000 a year ago, and the buyback percentage went from 29.6% in 2016 to 36.8% this year.

The overall sale topper was Hip 10, a Florida-bred yearling daughter of Shanghai Bobby consigned by

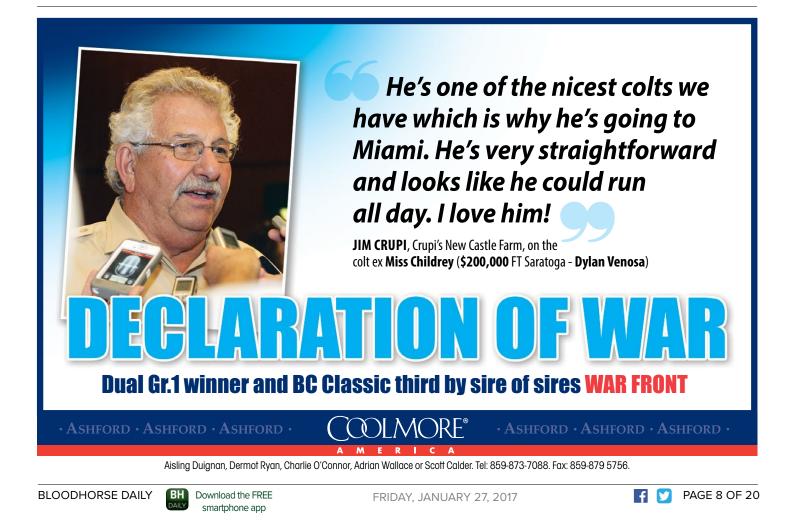
Summerfield (Francis and Barbara Vanlangendonck), agent, sold to East Hickman Bloodstock for \$110,000 to top the consignor preferred session. The dark bay or brown filly is out of stakes-placed Yankee Victoria, by Yankee Victor.

For the consignor preferred session, 93 horses sold for a total of \$1,644,000 compared with 2016, when 137 horses grossed \$2,471,100. The average price was \$17,677 compared with \$18,037 a year ago, while the median price rose by \$1,500 to \$10,000 in 2017. The buyback percentage was 42.2% after it was 30.8% last year.

At the horses of racing age session, 56 horses grossed \$649,000 compared with 61 selling for a total of \$947,200 in 2016. The average of \$11,589 was down from \$15,528 a year ago, while the median price of \$8,000 dropped off by \$2,000. The buyback percentage of 13.8% was slightly lower than the 16.4% in 2016.

Next on the OBS agenda is the March sale of 2-year-olds in training, scheduled for March 14-15. The expanded format under tack show is set for March 9-11, beginning each morning at 8 a.m. **BH**

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KENTUCKY VOIDED CLAIM RULE MOVES FORWARD

By Eric Mitchell 🄰 @BH_EMitchell

ith relatively little discussion, a proposed rule outlining conditions that could void a claim was unanimously approved Jan. 26 by the Kentucky Horse Racing Commission Safety and Welfare Committee.

The proposal rule would allow a claim made at a Kentucky racetrack to be voided if the horse dies or is euthanized before it leaves the track or if it is put on the vet's list for an injury or unsoundness prior to be transferred to the person making the claim.

Under the proposal, the person making the claim has the option of agreeing to the claim even if the horse is put on the vet's list, which would apply to a horse that is valuable as a breeding prospect.

Under current rules, a claim can only be voided if the horse fails a post-race drug test or the paperwork was filled out incorrectly.

The main concern among committee members was that the new rule-particularly the provision requiring a declaration of whether the claim will be accepted if the horse is put on the vet's list-is clearly conveyed and understood by everyone involved. To address this, the committee proposed that the new provision be spelled out on the claim slip and be posted near the claim box.

"It has to be as clear as possible because it could get dicey if there is a misunderstanding," said committee member Bret Jones.

A person who puts in a claim also will have the right to request the horse be drug tested. If the horse had not already been identified for testing by the stewards, then the person making the claim would be required to pay for the test.

Marty Maline, executive director of the Kentucky Horseman's Benevolent and Protective Association, said he was concerned about voiding claims because a horse was injured during a race.

"I can appreciate what we're saying about a horse being lame, but for something that happens in a race, I'm having a hard time wrapping my arms around that," Maline said. "It seems the original owner should not be penalized for a racing accident. For so many years, this was buyer beware."

(continued on page 10)

They're big, powerful, good-actioned horses with very good temperaments. I couldn't be more positive on them. AIDAN O'BRIEN, who has five Declaration of War colts and a filly in training at Ballydoyle From the family of UNION RAGS, proven Gr.1 sire with his first crop in 2016

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KENTUCKY VOIDED CLAIM RULE MOVES

(continued from page 9)

KHRC medical director Mary Scollay said she researched the number of horses that had been put on the vet's list for a racing accident instead of lameness and found only a very small percentage of the racehorse population.

"It is a rarity," she said, adding that if a horse only got a superficial injury in a race then the original owner still has the opportunity to let the horse heal and run it again. "Given the frequency of the events, it didn't make sense to have a carve-out for that and then expect the veterinarians to discern what was a pre-existing pathology versus an accident-related injury."

Scollay also stressed that the proposed voided claim rule does not allow the person making the claim to take a horse back to a barn "take some radiographs and kick the tires to be sure they still want the horse." The decision regarding the vet's list are made by state-commissioned veterinarians who won't know whether a horse has been claimed at the time of the post-race exam.

"This incentivizes a longterm commitment to the health of the horse," Scollay said after the meeting. "It influences the decision-making by the trainer about running the horse if he knows there is a good chance the horse is coming back. Healthy horses compete better than compromised horses and that's



good for everyone, the owners, the trainers, and the bettors."

Seven other states—Arkansas, California, Delaware, Maryland, Minnesota, New York, and Pennsylvania—have adopted some version of a voided claim rule.

The proposed rule next goes to the full KHRC for review and approval. If approved, the proposed rule change would go through the standard procedures as any state law change, meaning review and approval by legislative committees and a public commenting period, before it can become law.

Other action taken by the Safety and Welfare Committee included approval of the following new rule proposals: • Requirement that

veternarians report all shockwave treatments prior to administration. Current law allows treatments to be reported within 24 hours of treatment.

• Requirement that all firsttime starters, 5 years old and older, must be approved by a commission veterinarian before starting,

• Requirement for any horse that has not raced within the previous 365 days get approval to start by a commission veterinarian, and

• all fillies and mares that have been in foal 120 days or more will be ineligible to race. **BH**

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ARROGATE 'SUPER CHERRY' FOR PEGASUS RUN

By BloodHorse Staff

A s he looked toward the \$12 million Pegasus World Cup Invitational (G1) at Gulfstream Park Jan. 28, Bob Baffert reached into his past for an expression to describe Arrogate's readiness for the world's richest race.

The Hall of Fame trainer delivered "super cherry." Baffert said that is how he wants Juddmonte Farms' Breeders' Cup Classic (G1) winner to be when jockey Mike Smith rides him in the 1 1/8-mile race. With the freshly minted 2016 champion 3-year-old male breaking from post No. 1 and Horse of the Year California Chrome starting from the outside post in the field of 12, Baffert was more focused on fitness and stayed away from strategy.

"That's Mike's concern," Baffert said Jan. 26. "My job is to make sure that he is super cherry for Mike when he gets on him. If he's super cherry he can do whatever he wants with him."

Super cherry? Baffert chuckled.

"I always used super cherry when I was younger,"

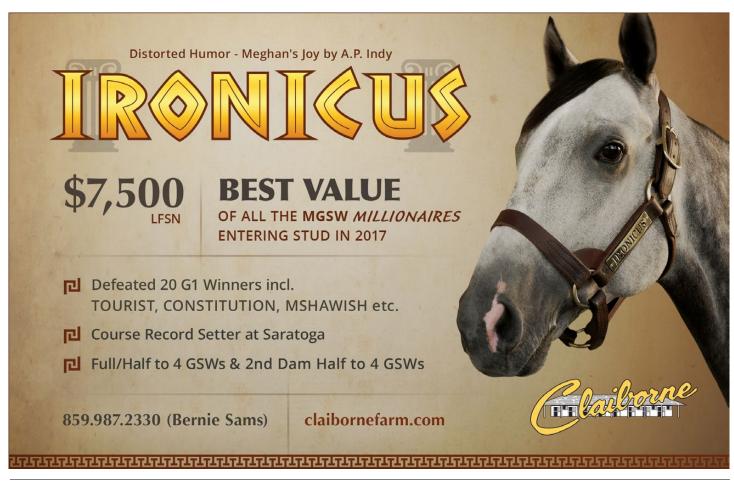


Arrogate walks the shedrow at Gulfstream Park Jan. 26

Baffert said. "If he's super cherry then he can do whatever he wants. If he's not, I don't care whether he breaks or whatever. My job is to have him ready and throw (Smith) on there. He will know."

That said, Baffert acknowledged that he was very happy about the way Arrogate is coming into the race. "We're good," he said. "Everything is good."

(continued on page 12)



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ARROGATE 'SUPER CHERRY' FOR PEGASUS RUN

(continued from page 11)

Baffert and his family were in London, England this week to attend the ceremony in which Arrogate was honored as the Longines World's Best Racehorse. The Bafferts flew to South Florida Wednesday afternoon and Baffert was at the track Thursday morning to watch the colt go out for his morning gallop.

Arrogate flew in from Southern California Tuesday and had a spirited gallop Wednesday morning. He was kept to a slower tour of the oval by exercise rider Dana Barnes Thursday morning. A few hours later, Arrogate schooled in the paddock.

The Pegasus World Cup will be Arrogate's first start since he rallied in the stretch to edge California Chrome by a half-length in the Nov. 5 Breeders' Cup Classic at Santa Anita Park. Talking about how the post position draw turned out, Baffert joked that it looked like one of the big horses was placed on the inside, the other was put on the outside and others were sprinkled in between. He did say he preferred Arrogate's post.

"I didn't want to be in the 12. I'd rather have the 1," Baffert said. "He can save ground. All my horses get the 1-hole, so they're used to it. They're cool with it."

Although he would rather be on the inside in the Pegasus than in post 12, Baffert made the case that it was a good spot for California Chrome. Post 12 at Gulfstream has yielded just one winner in the 18 races at 1 1/8 miles—Big Brown in the 2008 Florida Derby (G1).

"I don't know if I have an edge," Baffert said. "If we don't break, we don't have a edge. (California Chrome) has a lot of speed and all the horses on the outside they're not really quick away from there. He's much quicker, so I would say he has a little bit of an edge. Chrome likes to be on the outside in the clear. If he was on the inside, in the 1, and broke a little slow and got behind horses he's not effective at all. He needs to be in the clear, so that's probably a better draw for him." BH

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DYNATAIL AIMS AT FLORIDA OAKS AFTER OBS WIN

By BloodHorse Staff

ven before heading to Ocala Jan. 24 for the \$100,000 Ocala Breeders' Sales Championship Stakes (Fillies Division), trainer Mike Dini stated his intention to point Dynatail to the \$200,000 Florida Oaks (G3T) March 11 at Tampa Bay Downs.

If Dini or owner Alan Lustig of Ballybrit Stable were harboring any doubts about their level of ambition, they disappeared with the 3-year-old's impressive front-running score in the 11/16-mile event on the Ocala Training Center's all-weather track.

"She sort of plays with the other horses," Dini said after Dynatail posted a 1 3/4-length victory over On Her Honor in a time of 1:46 1/5. "(On Her Honor) got in front of her at the eighth pole and it looked like Dynatail might be tiring, but as soon as (jockey Orlando Bocachica) hit her, she took off."

The victory was the third in a row for Dynatail, who broke her maiden Dec. 3 as the first winner for her sire, Hightail, and posted a 5 3/4-length victory Jan. 1. Both of those races were on the Tampa Bay turf course.

"We put blinkers on her (for the Dec. 3 race) and she's gotten real good since then," Dini said. "If you look at her numbers, she's good enough to take most of them on. I've been watching Gulfstream and there aren't many (3-year-old fillies) who have run faster."

Dini trains about 15 horses for Ballybrit Stable, including such accomplished individuals as 2015 Manila Stakes-winning 5-year-old Gallery, graded stakesplaced 4-year-old Quick Release, and multiple graded stakes-placed 3-year-old Bird's Eye View.

Bred in Kentucky by Calumet Farm, Dynatail is out of Southern Dynamo (by Dynaformer). Dini purchased Dynatail



Dynatail easily wins the OBS Championship Stakes (Fillies Division)

on behalf of Lustig for \$5,000 at last year's OBS June 2-year-olds and horses of racing age sale. She has earned \$89,740 and \$60,140 of that amount was the winner's share of the OBS Championship purse.

"She had run well on the (Tapeta) surface at Presque Isle Downs (finishing second Sept. 8), so we thought she would be OK at Ocala, especially for that kind of money," Dini said.

Hightail, winner of the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Sprint in 2012, stands for \$2,500 at Trophy Club Training Center near Royal, Ark. BH

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WATCH AND WAGER EXPRESSES CONCERNS TO CHRB

By Jeremy Balan У @BH_JBalan

E d Comins, the president of advance-deposit wagering company and racetrack operator Watch and Wager, expressed concern over his company's standing in California Jan. 26 during a California Horse Racing Board session at Santa Anita Park.

The concern stems from Monarch Content Management, an arm of The Stronach Group, not allowing Watch and Wager's ADW platform to offer wagering on Monarch tracks to California customers. Monarch similarly does not allow the ADW BetAmerica to offer wagers on Monarch tracks to California customers.

According to The Stronach Group website, Monarch tracks include Santa Anita, Del Mar, Gulfstream Park, Pimlico Race Course, Laurel Park, Lone Star Park, Golden Gate Fields, Los Alamitos Race Course, the California Authority of Racing Fairs, Portland Meadows, Meadowlands, and Monmouth Park.

Watch and Wager operates the Standardbred harness racing at Cal Expo in Sacramento.

"Our business is rather small, but it has had a material impact on our California business," Comins told the CHRB during a discussion about ADWs providing financial information to the board as requirement for licensing. "I'm very, very disappointed in the



situation as it currently stands. We are a racetrack operator in the state and we did sign a longterm deal with our landlords at Cal Expo for five years until 2022 in a good-faith gesture and we've supported the track for a very long time.

"I'm not saying and I'm not threatening anything at all, but if this situation continues, then my board back in London will have to take a long, hard review at our Californian strategy."

In December, The Stronach Group executive Scott Daruty said Santa Anita and Golden Gate Fields would exclude Watch and Wager and BetAmerica from taking wagers on races at the two racetracks for customers in California, but did not indicate that policy would also include other Monarch tracks.

After hearing Comins' statement, CHRB members also voiced concerns.

"I'd direct (CHRB counsel) Phil (Laird) to get involved, because of the interconnection between the parties," said CHRB member Madeline Auerbach. "It doesn't pass the smell test at this point, and I hope you guys resolve it. I don't know what is going on and I don't want to know, but I'd sure like to see it resolved."

CHRB member George Krikorian also voiced unease.

"It seems like a conflict of interest to me," Krikorian said in reference to the relationship with The Stronach Group's racetracks, content management, and its own ADW, Xpressbet. **BH**

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FASIG-TIPTON GULFSTREAM SALE CATALOG ONLINE

By BloodHorse Staff

asig-Tipton has cataloged 162 juveniles for the Gulfstream sale of selected 2-year-olds in training, to be held March 1 in Hallandale Beach, Fla. The sale, which will be conducted in Gulfstream Park's walking ring, will begin at 4 pm.

The under tack show is scheduled for Feb. 27, beginning at 10 am.

"This sale has a lot of momentum coming off two highly successful renewals since moving to Gulfstream Park in 2015," said Fasig-Tipton president Boyd Browning. "This catalog reflects that momentum, with increased numbers and outstanding quality."

This year's catalog cover features 2015 sale graduate Nyquist, who captured last year's Kentucky Derby Presented by Yum! Brands (G1) to become the latest classic success for the Gulfstream sale.

"There is no better advertisement for a sale than selling the Kentucky Derby winner," Browning said. "It's a great testament to the quality of horses our consignors offer at Gulfstream, and to the success that buyers are finding from purchasing these horses off a



Last year's sale topper was a son of Tapit that sold for \$1.8 million

proven dirt track. Prior to winning the Kentucky Derby, Nyquist won the (Xpressbet.com) Florida Derby (G1) at Gulfstream 13 months after he had performed over the very same racetrack in our under tack show."

Last year's sale-topper was a son of Tapit that brought \$1.8 million.

The catalog is available online and will also be available via the Equineline sales catalog app. **BH**

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VINTERNATIONAL REPORT: JAPAN

JAPANESE COLTS TAKE AIM AT U.S. TRIPLE CROWN

By Naohiro Goda

picharis, one of nine Japanese nominees for the 2017 U.S. Triple Crown, was recently named the 2016 Japanese champion dirt 2-year-old.

With an official rating of 110, which Epicharis earned when he won the Hokkaido Nisai Yushun on dirt at Monbetsu Nov. 1 by 14 lengths, he equalled the highest rating earned by a 2-year-old in Japan. The rating was previously earned by Suni, a five-length winner of the 2008 Zennihon Nisai Yushun, and Obruchev, the eightlength winner of the 2011 Hokkaido Nisai Yushun.

Epicharis is by Gold Allure, the 2002 Japanese dirt champion son of Sunday Silence, who has sired the two Japanese champions Copano Rickey and Espoire City.

Bred by Masatsugu Kamada, Epicharis was bought by Northern Farm during the foal session of the 2014 JRHA select sale for ¥26,000,000 (US\$254,902).



Levante Lion, winner of the Hakodate Nisai, is being pointed toward the Hyacinth on dirt

The colt, trained by Kiyoshi Hagiwara for Carrot Club, is unbeaten in three starts and his next scheduled start is the Feb. 19 Hyacinth Stakes at Tokyo, a race with qualiying points toward the "Japan Road to the Kentucky Derby".

Levante Lion, another Japanese nominee for the U.S. Triple Crown, was given a rating of 104 when he won the Hakodate Nisai Stakes (G3) on turf in July. While he has made his first four starts on the turf, the colt by Pioneerof the Nile is now training for the Hyacinth as well. **BH**

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INTERVIEW

OBS CHAMPIONSHIPS' EVOLUTION

By Eric Mitchell
@BH_EMitchell

The Ocala Breeders' Sales Co. introduced its OBS Championship racing series in 1990 to attract buyers to its March 2-year-olds in training sale and add value to horses it offers by creating a special stakes series just for them. OBS president Tom Ventura talked with BloodHorse MarketWatch editor Eric Mitchell about how the championship races fit the sale company's overall marketing strategy 27 years later.

BloodHorse MarketWatch: How has the OBS Championship series evolved since it began and does it still accomplish the desired results?

Tom Ventura: Initially it was very beneficial because it brought people into town and then they stayed for the sale. Over time, because the purses for maiden races in many places now approach \$50,000, it does not offer as much of an incentive. It has become more difficult at times to fill the races with top horses, but they still give people a chance to run in a restricted race for decent money. Also, OBS has grown by leaps and bounds since the races were instituted so the promotional value is still there but not as significant.

BH: OBS experimented with the date of the races, moving it from March to February and finally to January. Is it in the best spot now?

TV: We originally held it in March when that sale was starting to grow in standing and stature. The races became difficult logistically because we had three days of breeze shows, then we had to squeeze the races in between the breeze shows and the sales. We moved it to February because it was a one-day sale and less busy. When we combined the February sale and the March sale, we moved the races to January because at the same time we added the horses of racing age component. We thought that made it a better



Tom Ventura

fit there. Trainers now can come up here and take care of other business in the Ocala area. A lot of them have horses being broke or 3-yearolds getting started for the year. It is another opportunity, like they have during the March sale and April sale.

BH: Isn't there an advantage to holding the races on the front end of Florida's winter racing season?

TV: It helps because it is our busiest time of the year, not just at the tracks but also at Payson Park, Palm Meadows, and here. Putting it in January provides a chance for horses to go around two turns early in the year in a decent race but not an overpowering field. Trainers can test their horses in this spot.

These races can certainly be a kicking-off point, like with Lady Shipman, who won here and went on to a much bigger career. Master Plan, who won the OBS Championship colts and gelding division, won impressively and looks like he has a future in front of him. Any time you can attach your name to not only a horse that sold here, but sold here and won here, adds legitimacy. **BH**

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RACE RESULTS

WATCH RACE REPLAYS OF NORTH AMERICAN RACES BY CLICKING ON THE RACE NAME

ALLOWANCE RESULTS

Aqueduct, Race 7, ALW

1/26, \$57,000, 4yo/up, f/m, 6f (dirt), 1:14.13, track fast. 1–Lead Us to the Bar, 122, b f, 4, Dublin–Fast Laner, by Mutakddim, \$34,200, O–Dubb, Michael, Bethlehem Stables LLC and The Elkstone Group LLC, B–Spendthrift Farm LLC (NY), T–Rudy R. Rodriguez, J–Irad Ortiz, Jr. Sale History: 2014 FTNAUG, \$105,000. Margin: 1.7 starters. View Equibase Chart

Aqueduct, Race 8, AOC

1/26, \$69,000, 4yo/up, f/m, 6f (dirt), 1:12.25, track fast. 1–Indulgent, 123, dk b/br f, 4, Bernardini–Fast Cookie, by Deputy Minister, \$41,400, 0–Godolphin Racing LLC, B– Darley (KY), T–Kiaran P. McLaughlin, J–Irad Ortiz, Jr. Margin: 1¼, 9 starters. View Equibase Chart

Charles Town, Race 7, ALW

1/25, \$24,500, 4yo/up, 6.5f (dirt), 1:18.88, track fast. 1–Weekend Liberty, 115, b g, 4, Midshipman–Hard to Get, by Not For Love, \$14,700, 0–Coleswood Farm, Inc., B– Coleswood Farm, Inc. (WV), T–Jeff C. Runco, J–Jan C. Batista

Margin: ½, 6 starters. View Equibase Chart

Delta Downs, Race 8, ALW

1/25, \$29,000, 4yo/up, 7f (dirt), 1:27.02, track fast. 1–Dakota Candy, 118, dk b/br g, 4, Twirling Candy–Winter Romance, by Benchmark, \$17,400, O–Alice Mettler, B–T/C Stable, LLC (IL), T–Joel Berndt, J–Timothy Thornton Sale History: 2013 KEENOV, (\$34,000 RNA). Margin: 1¾, 9 starters. View Equibase Chart

Fair Grounds, Race 4, AOC

1/26, \$43,000, 4yo/up, 8.32f (dirt), 1:42.90, track fast. 1–General Downs, 119, b g, 4, Mineshaft–Plaid, by Deputy Commander, \$25,800, O–West Point Thoroughbreds, B–Dixiana Farms LLC (KY), T–Dallas Stewart, J–Florent Geroux

Sale History: 2014 FTSAUG, \$300,000. Margin: ¾, 7 starters. View Equibase Chart

Fair Grounds, Race 6, ALW

1/26, \$40,000, 4yo/up, f/m, a5.5f (turf), 1:03.22, course good.

1-Snow Mesa, 119, gr/ro m, 5, Sky Mesa-Snow Dia-

mond, by El Prado (IRE), \$24,000, O-Team Block, B-Team Block (IL), T-Richard R. Scherer, J-Miguel Mena **Margin:** head, 8 starters. View Equibase Chart

Gulfstream Park, Race 4, AOC

1/26, \$48,000, 3yo, 6f (dirt), 1:10.14, track fast. 1–One Liner, 118, b c, 3, Into Mischief–Cayala, by Cherokee Run, \$24,000, O–WinStar Farm LLC, China Horse Club and SF Racing LLC, B–Kingswood Farm (KY), T–Todd A. Pletcher, J–John R. Velazquez

Sale History: 2015 KEEJAN, \$150,000.



Margin: 21/2, 6 starters. View Equibase Chart

Gulfstream Park, Race 8, ALW

1/26, \$49,000, 4yo/up, f/m, 7.5f (turf), 1:29.05, course firm.

1–Peru (GB), 121, b f, 4, Motivator (GB)–Bolsena, by Red Ransom, \$24,600, O–Tango Uniform Racing LLC, B–Langton Stud (GB), T–Christophe Clement, J–Julien R. Leparoux **Sale History:** 2013 TATFOA, \$34,058. **Margin:** neck. 9 starters. **View Equibase Chart**

Wargin: neck, 9 starters. View Equidase Chart

Gulfstream Park, Race 9, AOC

1/26, \$49,000, 4yo/up, 6f (dirt), 1:09.81, track fast. 1–French Quarter, 121, dk b/br g, 6, Shakespeare–Cent Nouvelles, by Storm Bird, \$32,600, O–Howard Walton, B– Kathleen A. Taylor (FL), T–John Mattine, J–Nik Juarez **Sale History:** 2012 OBSJAN, (\$23,000 RNA). **Margin:** 1¼, 6 starters. **View Equibase Chart**

Oaklawn Park, Race 8, AOC

1/26, \$76,000, 4yo/up, 6f (dirt), 1:10.52, track fast. 1–Alsvid, 118, b g, 8, Officer–Reagle Mary, by Afternoon Deelites, \$45,600, 0–Black Hawk Stable (James Rogers), B–Yanagawa Stud LTD. (KY), T–Chris A. Hartman, J–Channing Hill

Sale History: 2011 OBSAPR, \$55,000. Margin: 1, 6 starters. View Equibase Chart

Penn National, Race 4, ALW

1/25, \$29,500, 3yo, f, 8f (dirt), 1:41.46, track fast.

1–Spring Away, 118, dk b/br f, 3, Jump Start–One More Lillian, by Mutakddim, \$21,240, O–Paul F. Spears, B–Paul F Spears (PA), T–T. Bernard Houghton, J–David Cora **Margin:** nose, 8 starters. View Equibase Chart

Penn National, Race 5, ALW

1/25, \$33,300, 4yo/up, 5.5f (dirt), 1:05.10, track fast. 1–Yeah Rocky, 119, dk b/br g, 4, Silver Train–Disco Flirt, by Disco Rico, \$19,980, O–Freedom Acres, Inc., B–Y. Jerry Kolybabiuk (PA), T–Miguel Penaloza, J–Ruben Silvera **Margin:** ¾, 6 starters. **View Equibase Chart**

Santa Anita Park, Race 3, AOC

1/26, \$56,000, 4yo/up, 8f (dirt), 1:36.79, track fast. 1–Ultimate Luck, 120, dk b/br g, 5, Lucky J. H.–Ultimate Honor, by Norquestor, \$33,600, 0–Reed Saldana, B–Harris Farms & Summer Mayberry (CA), T–Jose Jesus Avalos, J– Agapito Delgadillo

Sale History: 2014 OBSJUN, \$52,000. Margin: ½, 6 starters. View Equibase Chart

MAIDEN RESULTS

Aqueduct, Race 3, MSW

1/26, \$55,000, 4yo/up, 6f (dirt), 1:11.69, track fast. 1–Nevisian Sky, 121, ch g, 4, Sky Mesa–Cades Bay, by Fusaichi Pegasus, \$33,000, 0–Alpha Delta Stables, B– Alpha Delta Stables, LLC (NY), T–Chad C. Brown, J–Jose L. Ortiz

Margin: 2¾, 6 starters. View Equibase Chart

Aqueduct, Race 5, MSW

1/26, \$55,000, 4yo/up, f/m, 8f (dirt), 1:44.08, track fast. 1–Votre Coeur, 121, b f, 4, Flatter–Empress Josephine, by Empire Maker, \$33,000, O–Robert Brooks, B–Berkshire Stud & B. D. Gibbs (NY), T–Leah Gyarmati, J–Rajiv Maragh Sale History: 2016 FTKFEB, \$30,000, 2014 FTNAUG, \$140,000.



Margin: 4, 7 starters. View Equibase Chart

RACE RESULTS

WATCH RACE REPLAYS OF NORTH AMERICAN RACES BY CLICKING ON THE RACE NAME

Charles Town, Race 3, MSW

1/25, \$23,000, 3yo, f, 6.5f (dirt), 1:19.98, track fast. 1–Dominus Effect, 123, dk b/br f, 3, Dominus–Danzing Celtic, by Danzig, \$13,740, 0–Country Life Farm, B–Malibu Farm (MD), T–Michael J. Trombetta, J–Jose Montano



Margin: 1¾, 7 starters. View Equibase Chart

Charles Town, Race 5, MSW

1/25, \$23,000, 4yo/up, 8.5f (dirt), 1:49.79, track fast. 1–Jeffery Scott, 121, ch g, 4, Windsor Castle–Alaska Ash, by Weshaam, \$13,680, O–Lawrence E. Perry, Jr., B–Lawrence E. Perry Jr. (WV), T–Lawrence E. Perry, Jr., J–Antonio Lopez

Margin: 934, 8 starters. View Equibase Chart

Charles Town, Race 8, MSW

1/25, \$23,000, 3yo, f, 4.5f (dirt), :54.13, track fast. 1–Screen Vision, 124, b f, 3, Court Vision–Soul of Hollywood, by Perfect Soul (IRE), \$13,740, 0–Jay L. Armstrong, B–Charles Fipke (KY), T–Jay L. Armstrong, J–Joseph Schneider

Sale History: 2015 FTK0CT, \$6,500. Margin: neck, 7 starters. View Equibase Chart

Delta Downs, Race 3, MSW

1/25, \$34,000, 3yo, f, 6.5f (dirt), 1:22.24, track fast. 1–Air Guitar Star, 121, dk b/br f, 3, Star Guitar–Labadeel, by Forest Wildcat, \$20,400, 0–Hall, Jason, Brooks, Gina and Dark Horse Racing LLC, B–Larry Romero (LA), T–J. R. Caldwell, J–Dusty Ryder Shepherd

Sale History: 2016 OBSAPR, (\$65,000 RNA), 2015 OB-SAUG, \$15,000.



Margin: 11/4, 7 starters. View Equibase Chart

Fair Grounds, Race 5, MSW

1/26, \$41,000, 3yo, f, 6f (dirt), 1:10.71, track fast.

1–My Miss Chiff, 120, b f, 3, Into Mischief–Carl's Frosty Girl, by Pulling Punches, \$24,600, O–Town and Country Racing, LLC, B–Steve Holliday (LA), T–Albert M. Stall, Jr., J–Mitchell Murrill

Sale History: 2015 FTKJUL, \$110,000, 2014 OBSOCT, \$60,000.



Margin: 6,9 starters. View Equibase Chart

Fair Grounds, Race 7, MSW

1/26, \$41,000, 3yo, 8.32f (dirt), 1:42.49, track fast. 1–Local Hero, 120, dk b/br c, 3, Hard Spun–Liam's Dream, by Saint Liam, \$24,600, 0–e Five Racing Thoroughbreds, B–Three Chimneys Farm LLC (KY), T–Steven M. Asmussen, J–Florent Geroux

Sale History: 2016 FTFFEB, \$500,000, 2015 KEESEP, \$180,000.

Margin: 71/4, 10 starters. View Equibase Chart

Santa Anita Park, Race 2, MSW

1/26, \$54,000, 3yo, f, 6f (dirt), 1:09.63, track fast. 1–Delitefull Lady, 122, dk b/br f, 3, Dialed In–Bird Chatter, by Birdonthewire, \$32,400, O–Paymaster Racing LLC, B– Catesby W. Clay Investment 2 LLC (KY), T–Richard Baltas, J–Rafael Bejarano

Sale History: 2016 BARMAR, \$72,000, 2015 KEESEP, \$100,000.

Margin: 3¾, 6 starters. View Equibase Chart

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MADDIE MAY S.

Aqueduct, Sunday, January 29, Race 7 8.32f (dirt), \$100,000, 3yo f, 3:20 PM (local)

P #	PP	Horse	Sire	Age/Sex	Jockey	Weight	M/L	Owner
	1	Treatherlikestar	Kitten's Joy	3/f	Eric Cancel	116	-	Delgado, Gustavo
	2	Bliss to You	Freud	3/f	Rajiv Maragh	116	-	Birnbaum, Joseph
	3	Dublin Girl	Dublin	3/f	Kendrick Carmouche	116	-	Joemar Racing Stables LLC
	4	Bree's Got Heart	Colonel John	3/f	Frankie Pennington	116	-	LC Racing
	5	Toni Tools	Roaring Fever	3/f	Manuel Franco	122	-	St. Elias Stable, MeB Racing Stables LLC and Brook- lyn Boyz Stables
	6	Cha Cha Heels	Mission Impazible	3/f	Irad Ortiz, Jr.	116	-	Carl Lizza Racing Stables, LLC

Breeders: 1–Kenneth L. Ramsey & Sarah K. Ramsey; 2–Joseph Birnbaum; 3–Joemar Racing Stables, LLC; 4–Doug Branham & Felicia Branham; 5–Barry Ostrager; 6–Burleson Farm.

Trainers: 1–Gustavo Delgado; 2–Russell J. Cash; 3–Dominick A. Schettino; 4–Robert E. Reid, Jr.; 5–Todd A. Pletcher; 6–Rudy R. Rodriguez.

CLOCKER'S CORNER S.

Santa Anita Park, Sunday, January 29, Race 9 a6.5f (turf), \$75,000, 4yo/up, 4:30 PM (local)

P#PP	Horse	Sire	Age/Sex	Jockey	Weight	M/L	Owner
1	Horse Laugh	Stormello	6/g	Tyler Baze	119	-	BSM Stbl, DeMaio Racng Ventures LLC or LMJ Investments, Et Al
2	Blameitonthelaw	Blame	4/c	Luis Contreras	119	-	Doubledown Stables, Inc.
3	Stylistics United	Langfuhr	5/h	Jose L. Verenzuela	119	-	3-Wheel Joe, CEO
4	Indriya	Stormy Atlantic	5/m	Tiago Josue Pereira	114	-	South American Thoroughbreds, LLC
5	Snow Cloud (IRE)	Kodiac (GB)	5/m	Santiago Gonzalez	114	-	DP Racing
6	McHeat	Unusual Heat	5/g	Corey S. Nakatani	119	-	M. Auerbach LLC
7	Cape Wolfe (GB)	Piccolo (GB)	5/g	Stewart Elliott	119	-	Tom Mansor
8	Forever Juanito	Badge of Silver	6/g	Agapito Delgadillo	119	-	Juan Garcia
9	Moonlight Drive (ITY)	Red Rocks (IRE)	4/g	Rafael Bejarano	119	-	Bienstock or Winner or Williford
10	Stormy Liberal	Stormy Atlantic	5/g	Norberto Arroyo, Jr.	119	-	Rockingham Ranch
11	Tribal Fighter	Tribal Rule	4/g	Flavien Prat	119	-	Little Red Feather Racing, Neumann or Dupuis
12	Aotearoa	Good Journey	6/g	Drayden Van Dyke	119	-	Paul A. Viskovich

Breeders: 1–H & E Ranch; 2–Northern Bloodstock Inc; 3–Haymarket Farm LLC; 4–South American Thoroughbred & Racing LTD.; 5–Vincent Kelly; 6–Madeline Auerbach; 7–Fernham Farm Ltd; 8–Brereton C. Jones; 9–CENTRO EQUINO ARCADIA SRL; 10–Dapple Bloodstock & Gryphon Investments LLC; 11–Michael Neumann & Francoise Dupuis; 12–Paul Viskovich.

Trainers: 1–Gerard Piccioni; 2–John W. Sadler; 3–Kenneth E. Nettles; 4–Felipe N Souza; 5–James M. Cassidy; 6–Craig Anthony Lewis; 7–Gary Sherlock; 8–Victor L. Garcia; 9–Bob Baffert; 10–Peter Miller; 11–Richard Baltas; 12–Leonard Powell.



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TOP HORSES

Listed below are the top 10 leading horses by 2017 North American earnings through January 25, 2017. Racing statistics are 2017 North American only.

Rank	Name	Starts	Wins	Places	Shows	Earnings	Win%	WPS%
1	Hy Riverside	2	1	0	0	\$124,600	50%	50%
2	Blue Tone	1	1	0	0	\$120,000	100%	100%
3	Vale Dori (ARG)	1	1	0	0	\$120,000	100%	100%
4	Unique Bella	1	1	0	0	\$120,000	100%	100%
5	Guest Suite	1	1	0	0	\$120,000	100%	100%
6	Finest City	1	1	0	0	\$120,000	100%	100%
7	Midnight Storm	1	1	0	0	\$120,000	100%	100%
8	Flatlined	1	1	0	0	\$115,320	100%	100%
9	Sandiva (IRE)	1	1	0	0	\$91,140	100%	100%
10	Farrell	1	1	0	0	\$90,000	100%	100%
11	Uncontested	1	1	0	0	\$90,000	100%	100%
12	El Areeb	1	1	0	0	\$90,000	100%	100%

TOP TRAINERS

Listed below are the top 10 leading trainers by 2017 North American earnings through January 25, 2017. Racing statistics are 2017 North American only.

Rank	Name	Starts	Wins	Places	Shows	Earnings	Win%	WPS%
1	Todd A. Pletcher	50	15	10	3	\$725,960	30%	56%
2	Jerry Hollendorfer	76	15	12	10	\$618,985	20%	49%
3	Steven M. Asmussen	62	11	13	3	\$493,772	18%	44%
4	Michael J. Maker	62	18	6	8	\$389,975	29%	52%
5	Doug F. O'Neill	47	6	10	9	\$378,743	13%	53%
6	Mark E. Casse	55	10	10	8	\$375,450	18%	51%
7	Ron Moquett	28	7	3	5	\$365,234	25%	54%
8	Kiaran P. McLaughlin	34	7	6	3	\$361,337	21%	47%
9	Linda Rice	33	10	6	6	\$360,178	30%	67%
10	Brad H. Cox	26	8	7	5	\$360,050	31%	77%

Data provided by EQUIBASE

TOP JOCKEYS

Listed below are the top 10 leading jockeys by 2017 North American earnings through January 25, 2017. Racing statistics are 2017 North American only.

Rank	Name	Starts	Wins	Places	Shows	Earnings	Win%	WPS%
1	Jose L. Ortiz	75	15	13	11	\$834,772	20%	52%
2	Javier Castellano	82	15	12	12	\$691,990	18%	48%
3	Irad Ortiz, Jr.	56	12	15	10	\$676,954	21%	66%
4	Kendrick Carmouche	59	14	9	6	\$661,791	24%	49%
5	Luis Saez	108	25	12	7	\$656,550	23%	41%
6	Manuel Franco	73	12	11	11	\$624,115	16%	47%
7	Trevor McCarthy	88	17	17	14	\$612,573	19%	55%
8	Rajiv Maragh	71	14	11	11	\$595,659	20%	51%
9	Paco Lopez	106	18	13	15	\$540,310	17%	43%
10	Miguel Mena	68	21	14	2	\$536,960	31%	54%

