

August 2020 Issue 77

### **Freshman** sires get first winners

Social Inclusion and Uncle Lino hit with multiple winners in July.

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### **Social Media** postings

Retired race horses, Smarty Jones on Horse.TV and a PA-bred GSW back in training are a few of the news items found on the PA Bred Facebook page.

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**A Letter from Sanfratello** 

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## pabred.com





Photos by Maggie Kimmett.

The Pennsylvania Horse Racing Association's series on Pennsylvania-Bred millionaires celebrates and remembes some of the greatest racehorses the keystone state has produced. It kicks off with Smart Bid. Lord Admiral and Favorite Tale.

# PENNSYLVANIA'S DAY at the RACES



PA Day will be held on Labor Day, Monday September 7th at PARX Racing with over a half million in purses! The card will feature five PA-Bred Stakes and as usual the balance will consist of Pa Restricted Races. With the threat of the spread of Covid-19, there will be no luncheon. The ability of owners and their guests to attend and even be in the paddock or winner's circle will depend on protocols in place at that time.

Cancelation of the day was an option but we realized that many of our PA-Bred breeders and owners look to this day as a chance to showcase their horses and earn black type. With the help of PARX Racing and the PTHA, they'll still have that chance. Please note that late nominations for the Stakes will close on August 24th and may be made by contacting the PARX racing office. Good luck and Go Pa!!

Brian Sanfratello







## Howells are quietly growing Whysper Wynd Farm

by Emily Shields

There was never any doubt that Justine Howell would be involved with Thoroughbreds.

Her parents met as jockeys working for Howell's grandfather, who took up training in the 1970s. Her father, the all-time leading rider at Erie Downs, is now a trainer at Presque Isle Downs. But Howell herself had to find a way to be involved in the business without arriving at the track at 4 in the morning on a daily basis. "My dad thrives off that, but it's not what I wanted to do," she said.

Enter Howell's dual interests of breeding and retraining. After participating in pony club and eventing as a child, she broke her first horse as a young teenager.

Through it all, her parents were experimenting with breeding horses. "I always thought it was fascinating," Howell said. "It was like a dance between art and science. That's where my interests lie."

Howell went to school to be a veterinary technician, but working with broodmares called to her. She and husband Marc "branched out from my parents" and bought a Pennsylvania farm in 2010. The Everson property was just over 11 acres and ultimately proved too small to run a full-scale operation.

In 2017, they upgraded to a 26-acre Chester Springs property, now the home of their Whysper Wynd Farm. "We had to gut it and start a whole new barn," Howell said. "There was a barn that hadn't had any livestock in it since the 1970s, so we had a lot of work to do to set it all up, and it's still not finished. It's a work in progress, but it's been worth it because I've got the foaling facilities set up just how I want it."

Right now there are 16 horses on the property, but that number can fluctuate up to 20 depending on the time of year. Howell, her husband, and their two daughters are the only employees, doing all of the feeding and care themselves every day. "I do the

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## 2020 Pennsylvania-Bred Stakes Schedule

We are happy to say that with the help of PARX Racing and the PTHA we will be holding five Stakes on PA Day at the Races for purses of \$80,000 each. We will also be running the Nursery in December and most probably the Shamrock Rose in November. These races will be black type! With the uncertainty of a consistent revenue stream, it is too early to commit to any other Stakes at this time but please rest assured, that if it is at all possible, we will add to them going forward.

**PHBA Stakes Committee** 

**DAY AT THE RACES PENNSYLVANIA'S** 



#### Monday September 7

Early nominations July 27

Late nominations August 24

\$80,000 Banjo Picker Sprint Stakes 3 & up, 6 furlongs

\$80,000 Mrs. Penny Stakes 3 & up, fillies & mares, 11/16 miles, turf \$80,000 Marshall Jenney Handicap

3 & up, 5 furlongs, turf

\$80,000 Storm Cat Stakes 3 & up, 11/16 miles

\$80,000 Dr. Teresa Garofalo Memorial Stakes

3 & up, fillies & mares, 6 furlongs



Wednesday **November 25**  \$80,000 Shamrock Rose Stakes 2YO fillies, 6 furlongs



**Saturday December 5**  \$80,000 Pennsylvania Nursery Stakes

2YO, 7 furlongs

#### **HOWELL** continued from page 3

stalls," Howell said, "and then foal watch is a rotation. We have cameras that we can access through an app, so my husband watches remotely until I get up at midnight and watch through the early morning hours. The girls fill in if he's traveling to give me some time to sleep. All of the family works."

Howell pointed out that the lockdown caused by the coronavirus COVID-19 has actually been a blessing, because, "everyone has been at home, so I am getting more help than I'm used to this year!"

Howell foaled out seven mares this season, and prefers to keep it closer to a "boutique four. But this is the last spring that my daughter will be home before college, so we bred six and a friend of mine sent a mare as the seventh."

She has been quietly collecting well-bred mares over the years, including several from the same female family. Howell is a big fan of three-time Grade 1 winner Curalina, and Grade 2 heroine Mylady Curlin, as well as Buckleup-buttercup, who won the Grade

3 Eight Belles Stakes at Churchill Downs in 2010. "One of my favorite mares I've got here is a half-sister to the dam of Curalina," Howell said. "I also bought a half-sister to Mylady Curlin, who is one of his top runners right now. I tracked down a Hard Spun mare who is a little more branched out from Curalina but it's the same female family. I've kind of become a collector."

Howell doesn't wager often, but she did on Buckleupbuttercup when she won the Eight Belles. "She paid a ton of money," Howell said of the \$17.80 winner. "I have a half-sister to her."

She has been using Kentucky-based stallions over the last few years, with mares bred to the likes of Malibu Moon and Breeders' Cup Classic-G1 hero Vino Rosso this season. Recently, however, she has become fond of some local sires.

"With the increased breeder awards and increasing quality of stallions in Pennsylvania, I definitely moved towards these sires a little bit," she said. "I have 50 percent Pennsylvania-bred and Pennsylvania-sired, with the others being Kentucky-sired but Pennsylvania-bred."

Howell is especially interested in Social Inclusion, whose first foals are juveniles this year. He stands at Diamond B Farm. "He's such a great looking horse, I can't wait to see his babies," Howell said. "I have a Smarty Jones on the farm that belongs to a client and is a really nice baby. And just recently I had an Eastwood foal."



Eastwood, by Speightstown, was graded stakes-placed at Santa Anita after winning allowance races at Keeneland, Saratoga and Belmont Park. He also stands at Diamond B. "I wasn't expecting a ton, but I am in love with this baby!" Howell proclaimed. "Such a little firecracker and a powerhouse. It's always cool to see where the surprises pop up. That's exactly what I like about breeding, because you never know where you'll get an awesome baby from."

While most of Howell's foals are bred for commercial purposes, she does like to keep a few to race. Her favorite homebred was Midnight Raven, a maiden special weight winner at Parx who is now being retrained for a sporting career. She also bred the hard-knocking Party Pants, who only won twice but finished in the top three 13 times.

Howell fills any spare time with the retraining of retired racehorses. She rides for the Mid-Atlantic Horse Rescue, and is the Presque Isle Downs contact for CANTER Pennsylvania. She also shows, taking horses to the annual Retired Racehorse Project Thoroughbred Makeover. This year she will have her first homebred in the event that shows off former racehorses as they succeed in their new careers.

Between breeding, foaling, and rehabilitating former runners, there isn't a lot of spare time in the Howell household, but the family matriarch wouldn't have it any other way. The work is grueling, but rewarding. "There's days when I wake up and think, 'Why did I do this?'" Howell joked. "But those aren't as frequent as the days when I think, 'I am so glad I did this!'"

## Pastures of Point Lookout sanctuary a Wyeth creation

**Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation Press Release** 

Pastures of Point Lookout: A generous gesture of love provides 10 retired racehorses a new home.

On Tuesday, July 23, 10 retired racehorses from the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation (TRF)'s Second Chances herd boarded a Brook Ledge van at the Wallkill Correctional Facility to begin a journey to their new home

at Pastures of Point Lookout (PPL) in Chadds Ford, Pa. Each horse has a unique story that led to his retirement with the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation, but on this day they all shared a similar stroke of good fortune thanks to an extraordinary gesture of kindness, love and generosity.

After decades spent teaching incarcerated inmates life skills and equine care, the 10 horses have begun the final chapter of their long lives in a sanctuary farm created to honor the memory of a beloved wife, muse and horsewoman.

Pastures of Point Lookout (PPL), a 501c3 nonprofit organization founded in early 2020, was created to provide for the lifelong care of 10 horses from the TRF for the remainder of their days. PPL was created by the world-renowned American artist, Mr. Jamie Wyeth, in loving memory of his late wife, Phyllis Mills Wyeth (1940-2019). On the anniversary of her passing Mr. Wyeth turned to longtime friends, Graham and Anita Motion of Herringswell Stables, to help bring this legacy to life.

"To honor my late wife, Phyllis Mills Wyeth and her Belmont Stakes winner Union Rags, I am transforming our farm into a retirement sanctuary for racehorses," Jamie Wyeth explained. "I view Pastures of Point Lookout as a lasting reminder of the contributions to the world of horse racing by Phyllis and her champion, Union Rags."

Anita Motion will serve as the Executive Director of Pastures of Point Lookout. She will implement the organization's guidelines and policies for equine care for the aging herd as well as providing oversight and hands-

on management for the full-time farm staff who will care for the horses and maintain the 250-acre farm where they reside. Most recently the home of Belmont winning Union Rags (2012), the farm used by PPL has been modified to support the "pasture lifestyle" to which the TRF horses have become accustomed over their many years at the TRF Second Chances Program at Wallkill.

"It has been a remarkable experience to participate in the creation of Pastures of Point Lookout and to enable Mr. Wyeth to realize his dream for a legacy in his wife's honor," shared Anita Motion. "Watching the horses

step off the van and soak in the beauty of their new home was genuinely like experiencing a dream come true."

Also on hand to welcome the retirees were PPL board members Lisa Flagg and Katharine Maroney. On a very hot and humid afternoon, Lisa and Katharine were among several volunteers who helped unload and hose off the horses before hand-walking them down to their spacious new pasture.



"When I first received Anita's call to share this idea in late January of this year, I could scarcely believe what I was hearing. It simply seemed too good to be true," said Kim Weir, Director of Major Gifts and Planned Giving at the TRF. "In less than six months, and despite all the challenges we have faced around the world in 2020 due to COVID-19, the dream has become a reality. With this bold and generous gesture, Mr. Wyeth has given 10 horses the happiest possible final chapter of their lives while saving 20 total - the 10 adopted by PPL, and the next 10 retired racehorses that the TRF can accept into our herd to take their places over the months ahead."

The horses will live together, as they did for so many years at Wallkill, in a natural pasture setting. Run-in sheds will provide shelter from the sun and inclement weather, water is available from a nearby stream flowing through the farm, and the two full-time farm managers will manage their hay and grain, to supplement the abundant grass of their 20 acre pasture. All expenses for the operation of the farm along with the feed, farrier and veterinary care required by these horses will be covered by Pastures of Point

Lookout according to the TRF's Adoption Policies

The 10 TRF adoptees have become the "inaugural herd" of Pastures of Point Lookout. Consistent with the TRF's intake policies, all of these horses are registered Thoroughbreds and all have raced at least once. Six of the horses retired to the TRF when they were no longer able to continue their racing career and were unable to pursue second athletic careers, and four of the horses spent a number of years in adoptive homes, returned to the TRF when they had aged out of their second careers.

#### The residents of Pastures of Point Lookout

Wallkill Adoptees S	Sex Ag	e Years at TRF	
Canonize*	G	23	19
Creative Numbers*	G	17	14
Go for Two	G	11	6
Jaystone	G	14	10
Private Jones*	G	17	15
Swift Silver	G	18	12
Tame*	G	20	14
Tom's Dream	G	23	17
Tsuris	G	17	12
Vow	G	22	13
*!			

\*horses returned to TRF

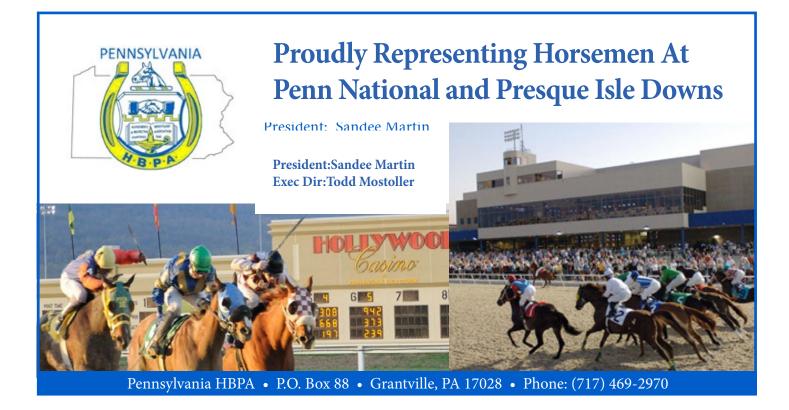
## A Letter From the Executive Secretary



Our annual Pennsylvania's Day at the Races at Parx is just around the corner with purses over a half million dollars. The event will take place on Monday, Sept. 7. The day will honor and celebrate the breeding industry in Pennsylvania, as well as provide the chance for some topnotch horses to showcase their talents and earn black type in our five \$80,000 stakes: the Banjo Picker Sprint for 3 & up at six furlongs; the Storm Cat for 3 & up at a mile and a sixteenth; the Marshall Jenney Handicap for sprinters 3 & up at five furlongs on the turf; the Dr. Teresa Garofalo Memorial for fillies and mares, 3 & up, at six furlongs; and the Mrs. Penny for fillies and mares, 3 & up, at a mile and a sixteenth on the turf. A 25 percent PA-sired bonus will again be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd in all stakes. To nominate your horse, please call Parx Racing at 215.639.9000. Late nominations close Aug. 24.

We thank the PTHA and PARX Racing for their generous donation to make this day a reality. Because of restrictions we won't be having the luncheon this year but the important thing is that the day is on and we want you to know that we will do everything we can to continue to move the PA program forward! Go PA!!

/Brian Sanfratello





## **Pennsylvania Stallion News**

#### FIRST WINNERS FOR PA FRESHMAN SIRES

#### **Social Inclusion - Diamond B Farm**

Quickest out of the gate among the state's 2020 freshman sires was Social Inclusion, with two winners in eight days in early July at Gulfstream Park. The former Florida stallion, who moved to Diamond B in Mohrsville for the 2019 season, shot immediately up the ranks among the nation's leading first-crop sires and through Aug. 1 ranked ninth, and with three runners to date, led all freshman sires with average earnings per start — \$24,020.

His bay daughter Social Exclusion became his first winner with a four and three-quarter-length score first time out on July 1. She shot to the lead in the five-furlong maiden special weight on the turf, posted fractions of :21.29 and :44.26, and finished in :56.50 over nine others while taking the lion's share of the \$65,000 purse. Bred by Steven Smith in Florida she is owned by Joe Imbesi and has earnings of \$43,000.

Special Inclusion became Social Inclusion's second winner in a five-furlong on the main track on July 8. Owned by Soldi Stable, she was bred in Florida by Manuel Azpurua out of the winning Drewman mare Right Special.

A son of Triple Crown sire Pioneerof the Nile out of the Grade 2-placed Saint Ballado mare Saint Bernadette, Social Inclusion won or placed in seven of nine starts while earning \$450,800. His first two starts were sensational, as he broke his maiden at Gulfstream Park by 7½ lengths in 1:09.35 for six furlongs, and followed with a 10-length allowance score over future champion Honor Code while setting a track record of 1:40.97 for the mile and a sixteenth. Three-times graded stakes-placed, Social Inclusion was third in the Grade 1 Preakness behind California Chrome, the Grade 1 Wood Memorial and Grade 2 Woody Stephens. He had four career wins, including a Parx allowance score by nearly 12 lengths.

A 9-year-old full-brother to stakes-placed Road to Damascus, Social Inclusion stands as the property of a partnership. He has 33 foals in his first crop and stood the 2020 season for \$5,000 live foal.

#### **Uncle Lino - Northview PA**

After finishing second in her debut at the end of June, the 2-year-old Uncle Lino filly Hipnotizada grabbed the lead out of the gate at Delaware Park and cruised home a six and a quarter-length winner as the odds-on favorite July 18. The dark bay filly has earned \$40,000 in her two starts for owner Black Cloud Racing Stable LLC, who purchased her as a yearling for \$40,000 at the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic Eastern Fall sale. Bred in Pennsylvania by White Diamond Inc., she is out of the Harlan's Holiday mare Precious Penny.

The first starter for Uncle Lino was Singlino, who debuted to finish fourth at Delaware Park on June 20. Just over a month later she led at every call in a five and a half-furlong maiden race, increased her lead throughout and scored by seven and a half lengths. Bred by Sycamore Hall Thoroughbreds LLC out of Signaling, by Smoke Glacken, she is owned and trained by John Worsley.

Uncle Lino became the first son of champion and top sire Uncle Mo to enter stud in the Mid-Atlantic region when he retired to Northview PA in 2017. A track record-setting, Grade 1-placed runner, Uncle Lino was a precocious 2-year-old, breaking his maiden at Del Mar, and proved his toughness at 3 when running six times from January through May 2016, five in stakes company.



He won Los Alamitos' California Chrome Stakes in track record time, leading throughout while getting the mile and a sixteenth in 1:40.82. He finished second to Mor Spirit in the Robert B. Lewis-G3 and was third in the Grade 1 Santa Anita Derby to Exaggerator and Mor Spirit.

Out of the Orientate mare Haysee, a full-sister to Alabama-G1 winner and \$987,094-earner Lady Joanne, Uncle Lino has as his second dam Broodmare of the Year Oatsee (by Unbridled), who also produced Preakness-winning \$3,090,101-earner Shackleford, as well as graded winners Baghdaria (\$725,433, Indiana Breeders' Cup Oaks-G3, etc.) and Afleeting Lady (\$473,526, Falls City H-G2, etc.) and stakes-winning, graded stakes-placed Stephanoatsee. Another of Oatsee's daughters, Grand Portege, is the dam of Canadian graded winner Florida Won.

Uncle Lino stood the 2020 season for \$4,000 live foal. He is represented by 61 current 2-year-olds.

## Millionaires Row by Averie Levanti

Over the course of summer 2020, the Pennsylvania Horse Racing Association has been chronicling a 10-part series featuring the select group of Pennsylvania-Breds who reached the milestone mark of \$1-million in racetrack earnings. Join us to celebrate and remember some of the greatest racehorses the keystone state has produced

### **SMART BID:** THE TOUGH LUCK TRYER

The Augustin Stable of George Strawbridge Jr. holds the distinction as one of the most accomplished names in Pennsylvania breeding. For nearly 50 years, Strawbridge, a philanthropist, historian, investor, and educator, has campaigned world class steeplechase and flat Thoroughbreds across the globe. A Philadelphia native himself, Strawbridge established his 700-plus acre Augustin Stable as a breeding and racing operation in Cochranville. Augustin Stable holds the title of all time leading steeplechase owner by earnings in North America.

To date, Strawbridge has bred five of Pennsylvania's state-bred millionaires, a record he holds alongside Brushwood Stable. The most recent to retire was Smart Bid.

Foaled March 22, 2006, Smart Bid is a fourth-generation Strawbridge Pennsylvaniabred. Third dam T. V. Ad produced six total stakes horses, including five-time stakes winner Ratings. A daughter of Caveat, Ratings was bred her first time to fellow Pennsylvania-bred Danzig, and the resulting foal was Grade 3 Sands Point Stakes winner Recording. For her sixth foal, Recording was bred to leading Kentucky stallion Smart Strike, and Smart Bid arrived in 2006.

Trained throughout his career by H. Graham Motion, Smart Bid showed promise from the start, hitting the board in his first two starts before breaking his maiden in his first try at two turns at Philadelphia Park on Dec. 8, 2008. Shipped west to Santa Anita Park for the winter, Smart Bid started his 3-year-old campaign winning a one-mile allowance race on the grass, the surface that would define the best moments of his career. He made his

turf stakes debut in the Grade 3 Transylvania at Keeneland, coming up short when losing to favorite Stormalory by a neck. It was the first of six graded stakes races that Smart Bid would finish runner up.

Following a seven-month lay-

off, Smart Bid returned on the Breeders' Cup undercard and scored a 14-1 shocker in the Damascus Stakes a seven furlongs over Santa Anita's all weather surface. From his first three victories, Smart Bid had won over all three track surfaces: dirt, turf and synthetic. His one-length victory ended up being his largest winning margin in a stakes race.

An abbreviated 4-year-old season featured tough second-place finishes in the San Fernando Stakes-G2 at Santa Anita and Autumn Stakes-G2 at Woodbine.

Smart Bid finally had his chance to shine when campaigning exclusively on grass at age 5 in 2011, starting his year with a length and a guarter loss while finishing third in the Grade 3 Ft. Lauderdale. He reeled back with one of the most impressive races of his career, losing a heartbreaking photo finish to 25-1 Teaks North, the longest shot in the field, in the Grade 1 Gulfstream Park Turf Handicap.

Shipped to New Orleans, Smart Bid went off the 3-1 second choice in the Mervin H. Muniz Jr. Memorial Handicap-G2 at Fair Grounds. Rolling down the center of the track under Edgar Prado, Smart Bid ranged up alongside favored Moryba (Brz) while longshot Expansion surged alongside late. All three hit the wire together, but Smart Bid had finally prevailed by a nostril. He closed out his season with three



more second-place stakes finishes in the Grade 1 Woodford Reserve Turf Classic, Grade 2 Sky Classic and the Colonial Turf Cup.

Rested for six months, Smart Bid returned to the site of his best victory, rallying late to nail Mr. Vegas on the wire to win the Fair Grounds Handicap-G3 by a head. Although he struggled to find the same form as the previous year, Smart Bid still recorded one final stakes victory in the East Hanover Stakes for Pennsylvania-breds at Penn National that July. Sent off the 1-2 favorite, Smart Bid still made sure to win in typical Smart Bid fashion, holding off the late charge of See Tobe to win by a head.

In his final start on Oct. 6, 2012, Smart Bid finished second in an allowance race at Keeneland. The \$10,240 second place prize pushed his earnings over the \$1 million threshold. Retiring with six wins, eight seconds, and four thirds in 26 starts, Smart Bid earned \$1,008,309 during a career that spanned five seasons. Winning four stakes races and placing in eight others, he competed at 12 different racetracks in seven different states and Canada. His victories spanned distances from seven to 12 furlongs.

Smart Bid retired to Highcliff Stallions in Stillwater, N.Y., for the 2013 breeding season. Moved west in 2016, he currently resides at





## LORD ADMIRAL: IRELAND'S RUNNER UP KING

The Jenneys' Derry Meeting Farm had an extensive history as the Jenneys bred top-class racing stock at their Cochranville farm. World renowned sire Danzig is one of many that Derry Meeting's name will forever be linked with, as well as multiple Grade/Group 1-winning half-sisters Mrs. Lindsay and Dame Dorothy.

Lord Admiral was a third-generation Derry Meeting-bred through his second dam, Sue Warner, and first dam Lady Ilsley. Lady Ilsley, stakes-placed from her racing days in France, was returned to the United States and bred to El Prado (Ire) for her first foal. Bred in conjunction with regular English partner London Thoroughbred Services, Lord Admiral was foaled on March 27, 2001.

Sent to the 2002 Keeneland September Yearling Sale, Lord Admiral was purchased for \$135,000 by prominent Irish bloodstock company BBA Ireland. He would come to be campaigned under the ownership of one of the greatest names the world of horse racing has ever known: Dr. Vincent O'Brien. O'Brien is considered by many in the Thoroughbred world as the single most influential horsemen to ever grace the sport, wielding the responsibility of building the Ballydoyle and Coolmore conglomerate into the global powerhouse it is today.

With Vincent O'Brien having retired from training in 1994, Lord Admiral was trained throughout his career by O'Brien's son, Charles. He broke his maiden in his second career try at Naas on Aug. 4, 2003. As a 3-year-old in 2004, he quickly developed a reputation that would follow him throughout his career: frequently hitting the board, but finding the winner's circle few and far between. He placed five times at 3, including a second-place finish in the Kilternan Stakes and a third behind eventual two-time champion Yeats in the Group 3 Ballysax Stakes.

Lord Admiral started his 4-year-old season off on the right foot, scoring a 12-1 upset in the Glencairn Stakes at Leopardstown before losing the Group 3 Meld Stakes by a neck to Tropical Lady. After a relatively abbreviated year, he was sent to Nad Al Sheba Racecourse in Dubai at the start of his 5-year-old year in 2006. And so began one of the most successful, albeit difficult, seasons of Lord Admiral's racing career.

From 10 races in 2006, all stakes, Lord Admiral finished second or third in every race. Runner up finishes in the Al Fahidi Fort-G2 and Jebel Hatta-G2 at Nad Al Sheba preceded his return to Ireland. Lord Admiral continued marching on to three straight third-place finishes in the Amethyst Stakes, Group 1 Tattersalls

Gold Cup behind 2005 Horse of the Year Hurricane Run, and Glencairn Stakes. Second place efforts in Group 3 company in the Ballycorus and Meld followed before a third in the Group 3 Kilternan. Lord Admiral was then shipped to the United States for the chance at a run in that year's Breeders' Cup World Championships. After running third behind Aragorn (Ire) in the Grade 2 Oak Tree Mile as a prep for the Breeders' Cup, Lord Admiral instead went postward in the Grade 3 River City Handicap, where he finished his season with one final second-place finish.

Lord Admiral finally secured the group racing success that had so long eluded him during his 6-year-old campaign, just hanging on to take Leopardstown's Group 3 Ballycorus Stakes by a head. His 2007 season also included runner up finishes in the Amethyst Stakes-G3, Zabeel Mile and Trigo Stakes, along with thirds in the Meld and Solonaway, both Group 3. He closed his season with a one-length score in the Knockaire Stakes at Leopardstown.

Lord Admiral continued to age like a fine wine, and at age 7 in 2008, he had the most successful season of his career. Spending his third winter in Dubai, Lord Admiral came alive, winning the Al Rashidiya-G3 and five weeks later the Jebel Hatta-G2, bookends to a third place in the Group 2 Al Fahidi Fort. He also landed runner up efforts in the Amethyst-G3 and Meld-G3 before a failed fall American campaign ended his near \$400,000 year.

With one more season left in the tank, Lord Admiral added one final stakes placing at age 8 when losing a photo finish to She's Our Mark in his fifth attempt at the Meld-G3, in which he hit the board every time. The always gallant and hard trying horse was finally retired after finishing second in a weight for age event at Dundalk that November.

From seven years on the racetrack, Lord Admiral faced the starting gate 55 times. Remarkably, 48 of his lifetime starts were stakes races. He finished his career with a total of six wins, 17 seconds, and nine thirds. In addition to his five stakes wins, Lord Admiral hit the board in 22 other stakes. Racing in Ireland, Dubai and the U.S., he earned a total of \$1,009,530.

Lord Admiral currently stands at Sans Craintes Stud in India where he's resided since 2010. ■

#### **MILLIONAIRES ROW**



### FAVORITE TALE: THE PHILLY SPEEDBALL

Paul Conaway had horses in his blood from birth and grew up breeding and raising Morgan horses with his father. Now serving as the Chairman and CEO of Wanamaker Entertainment Group, Paul runs the Philadelphia-based sports and concert ticketing company alongside his two sons. In the late 2000s, Conaway decided to put his horse breeding knowledge to good use by developing his own Thoroughbred breeding and racing operation.

Conaway privately purchased the broodmare Tricky Elaine from Padua Stables in late 2009. By Kentucky Derby winner Grindstone, Tricky Elaine was a half-sister to 1997 Eclipse Award-winning champion 2-year-old colt and Horse of the Year Favorite Trick. Bred to Tale of the Cat, Tricky Elaine was sent to Pennsylvania where she produced her first foal for Conaway on March 10, 2011.

Named Favorite Tale, the colt quickly developed a reputation for himself after being broken at Betsy and Ronnie Houghton's Sylmar Farm. Conaway worried that the colt was too hard on himself during his early training days, and

although he didn't want to geld Favorite Tale because of his strong pedigree, Conaway made the decision to proceed with the operation.

So, Favorite Tale was gelded, and Conaway said it was the smartest decision he ever made.

Favorite Tale completely transformed, with Conaway describing him as going "from an elephant to a deer in his movements." Sent to Parx Racing trainer Guadalupe Preciado, Favorite Tale debuted at the Bensalem oval on Jan. 4, 2014, for Conaway's PJG Stable. A star was born.

Tracking blistering early quarters in :21.74 and :43.95, Favorite Tale took command at the top of the stretch and bounded away under minimal urging to stop the clock in 1:07.66 for six furlongs. His final time was .15 seconds off the track record. He returned the following month in a six and a half-furlong allowance, led from start to finish and stopped the clock in 1:15.12, only .73 off the track record. After trouncing a first-level allowance race by 14 lengths to bring his unbeaten streak to three, Favorite Tale made his stakes debut in the Grade 3 Bay Shore

Stakes at Aqueduct, but the 12-day turnaround proved to be too much too soon, and he finished off the board.

Undeterred, Favorite Tale returned the following month in the Gold Fever Stakes at Belmont Park, facing off against the previous year's Champagne Stakes-G1 winner and Breeders' Cup Juvenile-G1 runner up Havana. With Havana sent off the 1-4 odds-on favorite, Favorite Tale dueled early with Pure Sensation before taking the lead approaching the second quarter. He never looked back, landing his first stakes victory by a comfortable one-length margin, with Havana finishing nearly three lengths behind in third.

As the summer wore on, Favorite Tale encountered a streak of tough luck, finishing second by a neck in the Oh Say Stakes at Delaware, third beaten a nose and a head in his turf debut in the Quick Call at Saratoga, and second, beaten three-quarters of a length, in the Jersey Shore-G3 at Monmouth. Attempts made to harness Favorite Tale's blistering early speed by rating him off the pace had failed, and his connections realized that utilizing his lethal frontrunning ability was perhaps best for the gelding.

So, when Favorite Tale made his return to Parx in the Grade 3 Gallant Bob Stakes on the Pennsylvania Derby undercard, he was sent straight to the lead. Hooking up with 3-5 heavy favorite Fast Anna, the dueling pair blitzed through eye popping fractions of :21.33 for the opening quarter and :43.38 for the half. With Fast Anna beginning to crack, Favorite Tale spun into the stretch with a two-length lead and remarkably found more as he charged to the wire. This time he was .65 off the track record as he stopped the clock in 1:08.16.

From the start of Favorite Tale's career, Conaway had fielded multiple different offers from buyers hoping to purchase the gelding. He had grappled with the decision for months, but the Gallant Bob victory and a conversation with Dick Jerardi had finally made up his mind. Conaway decided to keep Favorite Tale. He thought of the horse as a part of his family and realized that owners spent years in racing without getting a horse like him.

At year's end, Favorite Tale had won five of 11 starts and was named Pennsylvania-bred

continues on page 12

#### MILLIONAIRES ROW - FAVORITE TALE continued

Horse of the Year and champion 3-year-old male.

Favorite Tale began his 4-year-old season in the Decathlon Stakes at Monmouth in May with a strong runner up effort off the long lay-off. Having not attempted the Breeders' Cup the previous year, Conaway and Preciado had their sights set on the World Championship event for their gelding in 2015. Shipped to Florida, Favorite Tale was entered in the Grade 2 Smile Sprint Stakes at Gulfstream Park, a

prep, the gelding returned to his home track at Parx for an allowance race. He registered a comfortable two-length victory, bringing his Parx tally to a perfect 5-for-5.

The stage was set for the Breeders' Cup World Championships at Keeneland. Favorite Tale unluckily drew the far outside post 14 in the Breeders' Cup Sprint. Coupled with his unconventional final prep in a Parx allowance and his disadvantageous post, he was disregarded at 23-1 odds when the gates sprung.

third behind graded stakes winners Stall-walkin' Dude and El Deal in a first-level allow-ance. Afterward, Favorite Tale remained on the sidelines for 17½ months. He finally returned in September 2017 in the Banjo Picker Sprint Stakes at Parx, where he faced off against fellow local buzzsaw The Man, who was unbeaten in five 2017 starts. The two geldings dueled for the entire six furlongs, but the near year and a half layoff proved too much for Fa-



Win and You're In event for the Breeders' Cup Sprint.

The Smile Sprint had also attracted the likes of Work All Week, the previous year's Eclipse Award champion sprinter, who culminated his championship season with a win in the 2014 Breeders' Cup Sprint. With Work All Week sent off at odds of 4-5, Favorite Tale was discounted as the 7-1 fourth choice. Favorite Tale did what he did best, taking the lead early through fractions of :21.84 and :44.09, and crushing Work All Week by more than four lengths in a final time of 1:08.85, only .73 off of Gulfstream's six-furlong track record. He had earned his spot in the Breeders' Cup Sprint starting gate with ease.

Sent to Saratoga for his Grade 1 stakes debut, Favorite Tale finished third, beaten two lengths after setting the early pace, in the Alfred G. Vanderbilt Handicap. Instead of another graded stakes try for his final Breeders' Cup

Settling fifth in the early going, Favorite Tale lost ground when hung six wide around the turn but still managed to turn for home only three lengths behind the leaders. Meanwhile, 3-1 second choice Private Zone had already opened a length and a half lead on favorite Runhappy, who was bearing down on the frontrunner. Favorite Tale chugged on gallantly, closing the gap to one and three-quarter lengths at the wire, finishing a respectable third. His 23-1 odds paid \$10.80 to show.

Favorite Tale had one last hurrah in 2015, returning to Pennsylvania to run in the Fabulous Strike Handicap at Penn National. The result was never in doubt as he led gate-to-wire to score by two lengths as the 1-2 favorite. He was rewarded with Pennsylvania-bred champion older male and champion male sprinter honors for his efforts.

Favorite Tale's unbeaten Parx record was snapped in his 5-year-old debut, finishing

vorite Tale to overcome, finally surrendering to his foe by a half-length at the wire. He closed out his short year with half-length loss in the Fabulous Strike.

Remaining in training that winter, Favorite Tale debuted as a 7-year-old in the Dave's Friend Stakes at Laurel Park. It was almost as if an ode to his earlier years with the gelding setting the pace and never looking back to score the final stakes victory of his career. The \$60,000 winner's purse pushed his earnings past the seven-figure mark.

Although never formally retired, Favorite Tale made his final start next out in the Fire Plug Stakes on Jan. 20. From five years on the racetrack, Paul Conaway's gallant gelding won nine races, with five seconds, and four thirds in 24 career starts. He won five stakes races and placed in eight others for total earnings of \$1,026,300.

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## Recent PA-Bred Stakes Horses



#### **VIOLENT TIMES**

m, 5, Violence - Make Time Won - ANA T. S, Gulfstream Park, \$60,000, 3YO/UP, F/M, 6F, 7/25.

Multiple stakes-placed Violent Times broke through to collect her first stakes victory in Gulfstream Park's Ana T. Stakes on July 25 while completing six furlongs in 1:10.89. Bred by C Biscuit Racing, Island Peak Stables, Squire Thoroughbreds, et al, the 5-year-old mare is owned by Thoroughbred Acquisition Group LLC, who purchased her as a yearling at the 2016 Fasig-Tipton Kentucky July sale for \$41,000. The daughter of Violence out of the Empire Maker mare Make Time has earned \$228,101, with 11 on-the-board finishes in 15 starts. Three of her four wins have been at Gulfstream, the other at Saratoga, and she has two stakes-placings, both coming at Gulfstream.

"It's a matter of keeping her healthy. When she's good, she's shows up and tries," said her trainer Ralph Nicks.

#### **JAKARTA**

m, 5, Bustin Stones - T J's Stormy Wit 2nd - CARESS S, Saratoga, \$200,000, 4YO/UP, F/M 5 1/2F, T, 8/1.

#### TROOPER JOHN

g, 6, Colonel John - Shouldn't We All 2nd - JOURNAL H, Century Mile, \$40,000, 3YO/UP, 6F, 7/19.

#### **PARSIMONY**

c, 4, Dominus - Lil Cora Tee 3rd - SUBURBAN S-G2, Belmont Park, \$200,000, 4YO/UP, 1 1/4M, 7/4.

#### **SWEET BYE AND BYE**

m, 5, Sky Mesa - Twiggles 3rd - CARESS S, Saratoga, \$200,000, 4YO/UP, F/M 5 1/2F, T, 8/1.

#### SAFFRON SPIRIT

m, 5, Ghostzapper - Amber Grace 3rd - ROBERT G. DICK MEMORIAL S, Delaware Park, \$125,000, 3YO/UP, F/M, 1 1/4M, 7/11.

#### **MIDTOWNCHARLYBROWN**

h, 6, Uptowncharlybrown - Torchwood 3rd - OCEANPORT CENTENNIAL S., Monmouth Park, \$75,000, 3YO/UP, 5F, 7/3.

### **PHBA Dates to Remember**

#### **Reminders for Breeders**

**PHBA Membership Form and Dues**: March 31

**Broodmare Domicile**: Dec. 1 or 14 days after a public sale

**Yearling Registration**: Dec. 31 of the yearling year

**Early Registration**: Within 365 days of foaling

Stallion Registration for next breeding season:

Feb. 15 of year breeding.

Follow #PABred on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for more reminders and upcoming PA-Bred stakes, members' events, and more.



## **Social Media Snippets**

#### PA BREEDING AND RACING NEWS ON THE WEB

A look at a few of recently posted items on the PA Bred Facebook page that you may have missed

#### **Presque Isle Downs is off and running**

After a long wait during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Erie horse track opened its 50-date meet in late July.

#### Parx cancels 2020 PA Derby and Cotillion

Also scrapped are the Gallant Bob, Turf Amazon and Parx Dirt Mile. Purses will be reallocated into the overnight program.

#### #NationalInternDay

On #NationalInternDay the Pennsylvania Horse Racing Association thanked intern Averie Levanti for all of her hard work for the past two summers.

#### **GSW #PABred All the Way Jose!**

RRP Thoroughbred Makeover hopeful All the Way Jose practicing some turns with a 12-year-old rider at pony camp.

#### The true story of the race horse Smarty Jones on Horse.TV

One of the most genuine tales about overcoming obstacles, exceeding expectations, and of course, winning! Streaming at www.horse.tv.

#### Multiple graded stakes winner Daddy is a Legend galloping at Keeneland

The daughter of Scat Daddy had six months off after her runner up performance in the G1 Matriarch Stakes in December and is now working regularly for trainer Rusty Arnold.



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#### **PARX Racetrack & Casino**

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#### **PA Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association**

P.O. Box 300, Bensalem, PA 19020 Phone: 215-638-2012 http://www.patha.org



#### **Penn National Race Course**

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**Pennsylvania Racing Commission** is a departmental administrative commission within the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture which supervises all thoroughbred racing at which pari-mutuel wagering is conducted. 2301 North Cameron Street Harrisburg, PA 17110. Phone: (717) 787-4737

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