

NEW RACING PARTNERSHIP LIVING UP TO ITS NAME



Sharp Shooters: Former NBA All-Star Rashard Lewis & Jake Ballis in the paddock at Saratoga | *Susie Raisher*

by Steve Sherack

DEL MAR, CA - With a tip on 2-year-old first-time starter Ocean Size (**Maclean's Music**), Jake Ballis watched with interest--and a win wager--on the fifth race at Colonial Downs Aug. 17.

When **Hidden Connection (Connect)**--the co-second choice at 5-2 on the morning line for Friday's GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies--ran away to a daylight score carrying the colors of Hidden Brook Farm with Ocean Size back in second, the frontman for the fledgling partnership Black Type Thoroughbreds quickly switched gears.

"When she drew off at the eighth pole, I looked down at the *Form* again and I saw that Hidden Brook owned her. As soon as she crossed the wire, I sent [Hidden Brook's Bloodstock Services & Client Relations] Bryan Cross a text and said, 'If she's for sale, please let me know,'" Ballis said.

She was. But with the filly not even back to the winner's circle yet, the folks at Hidden Brook, quite understandably, needed a little bit more time to digest.

"I spoke to him again the next day and they wanted to wait for the numbers to come out," the 41-year-old native of Houston, Texas said. "I made them an offer--I didn't care about any of the numbers--and they waited until Friday when the Rags came out and [Hidden Brook partner] Dan [Hall] called me and told me the figure. I told him that my offer stood. He came back with one other number and I just said, 'OK.'"

After working out a deal for a 40% minority interest for an undisclosed sum, the new partners and trainer Bret Calhoun began to set their sights on the first Friday in November at Del Mar via the 'Win and You're In' GIII Pocahontas S. Sept. 18.

"We were running back in four weeks off a really big effort going 5 1/2 furlongs and stretching to 1 1/16 miles and there were other options," Ballis said. "I talked to Bret [Calhoun] and he told me, 'I've been training this filly for the Pocahontas before she broke her maiden. I'm not gonna get off that plan.' That's how high he was on her."

You can certainly see why now.

Off as the 9-5 favorite while making her two-turn debut beneath the lights at Churchill Downs, Hidden Connection stalked and pounced her way to a second straight runaway decision, this time by 9 1/4 lengths, while establishing a new stakes record. She went two points higher on the Beyer Speed Figure scale as well, earning a very strong 87 rating.

Hidden Connection became the first of two graded black-type winners for Lane's End freshman sire **Connect**. The other, impressive GI Claiborne Breeders' Futurity winner Rattle N Roll, will miss the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile due to a foot abscess.

Hidden Connection went through the ring four times--RNA'ing for \$49,000 as a KEENOV weanling, selling for \$40,000 as a KEESEP yearling, RNA'ing for \$55,000 as an OBSAPR 2-year-old and selling for \$85,000 to Hidden Brook after breezing a quarter in :21 2/5 at OBS June.

Breeder St. Simon Place purchased Hidden Connection's dam C J's Gal (Awesome Again), a maiden of one career start from the family of GI King's Bishop S. winner Capo Bastone (**Street Boss**), for just \$9,500 at the 2016 KEEJAN sale.

"It's hard to be right in this game, so when you are, it's a lot of fun," Ballis said. "We brought 40-something people to the race, too. She was very impressive."

From just five horses to race, the early results for Black Type Thoroughbreds--launched in 2019--have been awfully impressive as well.

Pass the Champagne (Flatter), purchased privately along with R. A. Hill Stable, Rock Ridge Racing LLC, BlackRidge Stables LLC and James Brown following a debut second at Gulfstream in January, earned a trip to the GI Kentucky Oaks following a painful second to the brilliant MGISW and GI Breeders' Cup Distaff major player '**TDN Rising Star**' Malathaat (**Curlin**) in the GI Central Bank Ashland S. at Keeneland.

Black Type cont.

Up in Smoke (The Big Beast), a \$230,000 Fasig-Tipton Midlantic 2-year-old purchase by Black Type and R. A. Hill Stable, hit the ground running with three straight victories at Gulfstream before adding a win in the Game Face S. in Hallandale and a third-place finish in Saratoga's GI Longines Test S.

Black Type, R. A. Hill Stable, et al, joined Fergus Galvin on the ownership line to repatriate **Breaker of Chains (Bernardini)** to these shores after a pair of placings in Ireland and were immediately rewarded with a visually impressive maiden tally at Kentucky Downs. She gave herself a bit too much to do after a slow start in a paceless race and had to settle for sixth, beaten only 3 3/4 lengths, in Keeneland's GIII Rubicon Valley View S. over yielding ground Oct. 29.

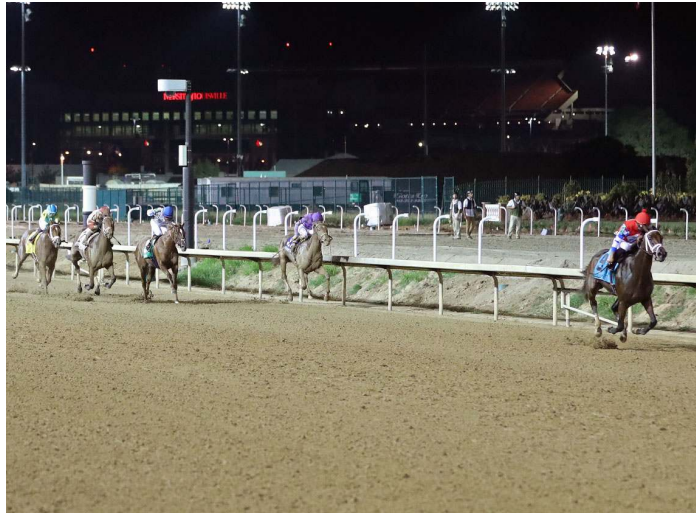
Black Type Thoroughbreds also has eight in the pipeline from this year's yearling and 2-year-old sales. Their current roster of

offerings includes unraced 2-year-old graduates **Wish You Well** (f, 2, **American Freedom**), a \$550,000 Fasig-Tipton Florida buy (**Hip 154; :10**) for Black Type and R. A. Hill; and the New York-

bred **Jackson Square** (c, 2, **Union Jackson**), a \$140,000 OBS Spring acquisition (**Hip 1140; :9 4/5***).

With Ballis's wife Maddie Mattmiller--the couple reside on a five-acre farm in Lexington, Kentucky--handling bloodstock duties at this fall's yearling sales, Black-Type acquired a trio at Keeneland September: **Hip 1014**, a \$255,000 **Mo Town** filly; **Hip 3182**, a \$120,000 Bolt d'Oro filly; and **Hip 3677**, a \$32,000 Shaman Ghost colt. She also signed for **Hip 3158**, a \$250,000 **Army Mule** filly on behalf of a George Weaver

client to top the Book 5 opener. Black Type Thoroughbreds and Mattmiller stayed active at Fasig-Tipton Kentucky as well, bringing home: **Hip 825**, a \$170,000 **Uncle Mo** filly; **Hip 816**, a \$150,000 Goldencents colt; and **Hip 658**, a \$43,000 **Connect** filly. **Cont. p3**



Hidden Connection all alone in the Pocahontas | Coady Photo



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“Originally, it was just me, a couple of buddies and my family, and we kept it in house, then two years ago, I finally decided that I needed to get more people involved like Eclipse and West Point and all those groups that I want to emulate,” Ballis said.

“We've had five horses that have run--and two of them are Grade I-placed--and Hidden Connection won a Grade III and will be second or third choice in the Breeders' Cup. It's really been a heck of a ride. Maddie helps me with private purchases and also at the sales. She previously worked with Josh Stevens Bloodstock and gives me another perspective. She is a huge part of Black Type Thoroughbreds's success and future growth.

He continued, “To get a lot of friends involved from Houston as well as new partners--we only had six people put up money on our very first horse, which was Up in Smoke, and now I think I have close to 30--it means everything for me to be able to grow quick and have success for these guys. They trusted me and this year alone we've been able to take a lot of partners to the Kentucky Oaks and the Breeders' Cup. [Longtime friend and former NBA All-Star] Rashard Lewis owned horses with me back in the day and he got in on Hidden Connection. He's pumped up and hopefully he'll make it out for the Breeders' Cup.”

Ballis, a former standout college basketball player and the son of John Ballis of champion sprinter and GI Breeders' Cup Sprint runner-up Groovy fame, decided it was time to get his family back into the game after graduating from University of Houston with a degree in business management in 2003. Enter Groovy's former Hall of Fame rider Angel Cordero, Jr.



Ballis, Lewis & Cordero chat with trainer Dallas Stewart at the 2014 Breeders' Cup | Breeders' Cup/Eclipse Sportswire



Win and You're In: Team Hidden Connection packs the winner's circle at Churchill Downs after the Pocahontas | Coady

“I grew up flying with my dad to New York to watch his horses run,” Ballis said. “I was six or seven years, so I don't remember a ton. But Cordero used to ride for my dad and he was the one that I reconnected with when I got out of college. He's been a mentor and has really helped us. Every horse that we buy I send him either replays, breezes, walking videos, etc. I value his opinion and he's still a big part of what we're doing. He was the guy that bought [2009 GII Pennsylvania Derby and GIII Tampa Bay Derby second and GI Kentucky Derby seventh] Join in the Dance (*Sky Mesa*) for us. That got the bug going for me.”

In addition to Join in the Dance, other previous success stories for Ballis include GSWs Cigar Street (*Street Sense*) and White Rose (*Tapit*) as well as three-time graded winner Race Day (*Tapit*), a \$285,000 KEENOV horse of racing age purchase on behalf of owner *Matthew Schera*.

“Join in the Dance was our first horse and we went to the Derby and I figured it was easy,” Ballis said with a laugh.

With the imposing unbeaten 'TDN Rising Star' and MGISW *Echo Zulu* (*Gun Runner*) the clear-cut horse to beat, the task ahead will be anything but easy in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies. Still, Ballis remains confident as ever in Hidden Connection and the team behind him, which will be rolling 70-plus deep at Del Mar this weekend.

“I feel really good about Hidden Connection and all the partners involved,” Ballis concluded. “We have every bit as good a shot to win that race as any filly in the country.”

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Breeders' Cup Friday – POST TIMES (PT)

Juvenile Turf Sprint--2:50 p.m.	Juvenile Fillies--3:30 p.m.
Juvenile Fillies Turf--4:10 p.m.	Juvenile--4:50 p.m.
Juvenile Turf--5:30 p.m.	

BREEDERS' CUP JUVENILE TURF

A seemingly well-matched group of juvenile turfers from both the States and Europe are set to line up in this 15th renewal of the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf.



Albahr | Michael Burns

Trainer Charlie Appleby and Godolphin have won this event twice before (2013 with **Outstrip** {GB} and 2018 with **Line of Duty** {Ire}), and hold a strong hand this time around from the two inside slots. A Listed winner in his native country, four-for-five **Albahr** (GB) (Dubawi {Ire}) comes off a fast-finishing victory over **Grafton Street** (War Front) in the GI Summer S. at Woodbine Sept. 19. He'll be joined one to his inside by stablemate **Modern Games** (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}), whose European form may be a touch stronger. The chestnut was last seen dueling and drawing off to an impressive 2 1/2-length victory in the G3 Tattersalls Somerville S. at Newmarket Sept. 23, and his tactical speed could put him in a good spot Friday as long as he jumps alertly. Appleby's North American success this season has been incredible—he's won five Grade I events on this side of the pond with an additional two seconds and a Jockey Club Derby tally to boot.

Aidan O'Brien and the Coolmore partners each own a record four wins in the Juvenile Turf, and they'll be represented from a couple angles here. Mark Casse-trained **Grafton Street** will carry the colors of Mrs. John Magnier, while the O'Brien-trained **Glounthaune** (Ire) (Kodiac {GB}) races for Mrs. Evelyn Stockwell

(John Magnier's mother), Coolmore Stud and Westerberg. He runs back relatively quickly off a snug success in the GIII Killavullan S. at Leopardstown Oct. 16.

Stockwell homebred and O'Brien trainee **Hit It a Bomb** overcame a wide draw to take the 2015 Juvenile Turf, and he is now the sire of a top race contender in **Tiz the Bomb**. By far his sire's most expensive yearling last term when he cost \$330,000 at the Fasig-Tipton Select Yearling Showcase, **Tiz the Bomb** graduated by double digits on the Ellis dirt in July before resurfacing to take the lucrative Kentucky Downs Juvenile Mile S. Sept. 6. He broke through the gate before the race, but still managed to take down Keeneland's GII Bourbon S. Oct. 10 for trainer Ken McPeck.

With 'TDN Rising Star' Annapolis (**War Front**) forced to the sidelines with a hind ankle chip, narrow runner-up **Portfolio Company** (**Kitten's Joy**) will carry the flag for Belmont's GII Pilgrim S., which has produced three of the last five Juvenile Turf winners including the two most recent ones. A debut winner at Saratoga July 17, Klaravich colorbearer **Portfolio Company** was second best to **Coinage** (**Tapit**) in the GIII With Anticipation S. at Saratoga Sept. 1 and was a somewhat surprising pacesetter in the Pilgrim. The 88 Beyer Speed Figure he earned that day is the best of this bunch, and leading trainer Chad Brown snagged this title two years ago with **Structor** (**Palace Malice**). **Cont. p5**



Local hope Mackinnon | Breeders' Cup/Eclipse Sportswire

Best of Luck to **SLIPSTREAM**
and his connections in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf

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Juvenile Turf cont.

Mackinnon (**American Pharoah**) holds a significant home track advantage over his competition--he's the only entrant to have raced here, and is a perfect two-for-two over the surface, breaking his maiden on the stretch-out July 31 and annexing the Del Mar Juvenile Turf S. Sept. 6. The handsome chestnut added Santa Anita's Zuma Beach S. to his resume Oct. 3, and while he needs to get a bit faster to contend for the top spot, he possesses a nice closing kick and potentially advantageous mid-pack style.

New York-bred **Dakota Gold** (**Freud**) was a big-figure debut winner sprinting against open company in a rained-off Saratoga MSW Sept. 2, and was very visually impressive taking the well-funded Nownownow S. (named for the first winner of this race) at Monmouth Sept. 26. The aforementioned Coinage was never able to find his rhythm after being bumped at the start and he checked in third at odds-on in the Nownownow.

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Wild Card...

Jump Sucker Stable's **Slipstream** (**More Than Ready**) will attempt two turns for the first time here, having uncorked an impressive last-to-first rally to win Belmont's GIII Futurity S. going six panels Oct. 10. The Christophe Clement pupil broke his maiden emphatically over a next-out winner in his previous outing going seven furlongs Sept. 18. Sire **More Than Ready** can obviously produce one who can handle a mile, but Slipstream's dam never raced beyond 5 1/2 furlongs and his half sister and stablemate Too Sexy (**Quality Road**) is a confirmed turf sprinter. Clement has never won a Breeders' Cup race. --*Brian DiDonato*

Let's Go to the Videotape ...

Race	Juvenile Turf runner	Date
GII Bourbon S.	Tiz the Bomb	Oct. 10
GIII Futurity S.	Slipstream	Oct. 10
G1 Darley Dewhurst S.	Dubawi Legend (Ire)	Oct. 9
GII Pilgrim S.	Portfolio Company	Oct. 3
Zuma Beach S.	Mackinnon	Oct. 3
Nownownow S.	Dakota Gold	Sept. 26
G3 Tattersalls Somerville S.	Modern Games (Ire)	Sept. 23
G1 Summer S.	Albahr (GB)	Sept. 19
GIII With Anticipation S.	Coinage	Sept. 1



Dakota Gold | EQUI-PHOTO

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DERRYNANE

Juvenile Turf Sprint

Owner: Waterville Lake Stables
Breeder: Waterville Lake Stables
Trainer: Christophe Clement
Jockey: Joel Rosario



RUN CURTIS RUN

Juvenile Turf Sprint

Owner: Michael Dubb & Michael J. Caruso
Breeder: Larry Goichman
Trainer: Michael J. Maker
Jockey: Luis Saez



COINAGE

Juvenile Turf

Owner: D.J. Stable, Chester Broman & Mary Broman
Breeder: Chester Broman & Mary Broman
Trainer: Mark E. Casse
Jockey: Florent Geroux



DAKOTA GOLD

Juvenile Turf

Owner: Reeves Thoroughbred Racing
Breeder: Sequel Thoroughbreds & Ron Bowden
Trainer: Danny Gargan
Jockey: Luis Saez



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TVG BREEDERS' CUP JUVENILE PRESENTED BY TAA

The best of the East faces the best of the West as **Jack Christopher** (Munnings) and **Corniche** (Quality Road)--a pair of undefeated, Grade I-winning 'TDN Rising Stars'--face off in a contentious renewal of the GI TVG Breeders' Cup Juvenile.



Jack Christopher | Breeders' Cup/Eclipse Sportswire

The Chad Brown-trained Jack Christopher was no secret prior to his debut and lived up to the hype and then some with an 8 3/4-length demolition in a six-panel event at Saratoga on GI **Runhappy** Travers S. day Aug. 28. The flashy chestnut followed suit with another decisive score in Belmont's one-mile GI Champagne S. Oct. 2, defeating **Commandperformance** (Union Rags) by 2 3/4 lengths and earning a field-best 102 Beyer Speed Figure.

That Todd Pletcher-trained foe, who is still a maiden of two starts but who possesses a closing kick that could prove valuable here, will be joined in the gate by stablemate and GIII Bashford Manor S. winner **Double Thunder** (Super Saver). Double Thunder was last seen finishing second to last weekend's defection Rattle N Roll (**Connect**) in the GI Claiborne Breeders' Futurity at Keeneland Oct. 9.

Topping the OBS April sale at \$1.5 million (:10 flat), Corniche was the easiest of winners in his Del Mar debut Sept. 4, wiring the field for a 4 1/4-length score and 98 Beyer Speed Figure. The Bob Baffert pupil passed his two-turn test with aplomb, leading from gate to wire in the Oct. 1 GI **American Pharoah** S. at Santa Anita. **Cont. p7**

Best of Luck in the Breeders' Cup!

CORNICHE



CORNICHE winning the GI American Pharoah S. at Santa Anita

Breeders' Cup Juvenile

Owner: Speedway Stables, LLC
Breeder: Bart Evans & Stonehaven Steadings
Trainer: Bob Baffert

Thank you to Marette Farrell who purchased him from our OBS April consignment.

Purchased & Trained by Tristan & Valery de Meric
Consigned by de Meric Sales

KNICKS GO

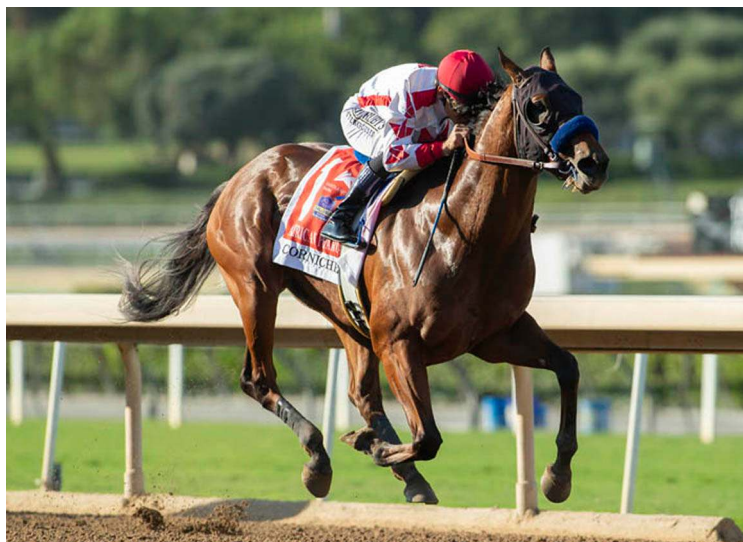


KNICKS GO winning the GI Breeders' Cup Dirt Mite at Keeneland

Breeders' Cup Classic

Owner: Korea Racing Authority
Breeder: Angie Moore
Trainer: Brad Cox

Started, Trained, & Consigned by de Meric Sales



Corniche | Benoit Photo

Second and third-place finishers **Pappacap** (**Gun Runner**) and **Oviatt Class** (**Bernardini**) also return here. The former annexed the GII Best Pal S. sprinting here in August.

Baffert also saddles GI Del Mar Futurity S. hero **Pinehurst** (**Twirling Candy**) and last-out maiden winner **Barossa** (Into Mischief). Pinehurst, a \$385,000 KEESEP buy for the powerful group known as The Avengers, debuted a winner here over five panels Aug. 1. He is bred on a version of the potent cross that has produced the likes of **Gun Runner** and champion juvenile Shared Belief. Barossa was a \$775,000 purchase by the same group at the same auction. The son of 2010 GIII Delta Princess S. heroine Bouquet Booth (Flower Alley) broke through third out Oct. 15. --Christie DeBernardis

Wild Card...

Japanese invader **Jasper Great** (Arrogate) is the definition of a wild card and a tough one to peg. The \$200,000 FTKSEL pick-up went to the front and completely dominated a group of newcomers at Hanshin by 10 lengths going 1 1/8 miles Oct. 9, but he'll be asked to wheel back pretty quickly here on the other side of the Pacific. Trainer Hideyuki Mori has been very active at the American auctions in recent years, but his forays into bringing those buys back here have not been particularly fruitful. Mori finished fifth with 89-1 Full Flat (**Speightstown**) in the lackluster 2019 renewal of this race, but that future Saudi Derby winner certainly didn't own a running line coming in like the one Jasper Great does. --Brian DiDonato

Let's Go to the Videotape ...

Race	Juvenile Runner	Date
Santa Anita MSW	Barossa	Oct. 15
Hanshin Newcomers' Race	Jasper Great	Oct. 10
GI Champagne S.	Jack Christopher	Oct. 2
GI American Pharoah S.	Corniche	Oct. 1
GI Del Mar Futurity S.	Pinehurst	Sept. 6
GII Best Pal S.	Pappacap	Aug. 7
GIII Bashford Manor S.	Double Thunder	June 26

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BREEDERS' CUP JUVENILE FILLIES' TURF

Schroeder Farms and David Bernsen's **Cairo Memories** (**Cairo Prince**) was tabbed a **'TDN Rising Star'** after her 4 1/2-length debut win over the same course and trip of the GI Juvenile Fillies Turf Sept. 5. She followed that win up with another impressive victory in the Surfer Girl S. at Santa Anita Oct. 3.



Cairo Memories | *Breeders' Cup/Eclipse Sportswire*

Shortleaf Stable's **Bubble Rock** (**More Than Ready**) could give her versatile sire his third win in the JF Turf--and eighth Breeders' Cup win--following More Than Real's win in 2010 and Rushing Fall's score in 2017. The dark bay filly graduated over 5 1/2 furlongs of the turf at Saratoga Sept. 3 and will be stretching out to a mile after winning the six-furlong GIII Matron S. at Belmont Park Oct. 9.

More Than Ready will also be represented in the race by Klaravich Stables' **Consumer Spending**, who cuts back to a mile after a win in the 8 1/2-panel Selima S. at Laurel Oct. 2; and **Koala Princess**, who will be making her first start since winning the Sept. 12 Ainsworth S. at Kentucky Downs.

A win by **California Angel** (California Chrome) would hands down be the feel-good story of championship weekend. The filly, a debut winner at the JF Turf's one-mile distance over the Kentucky Downs lawn Sept. 8, just got her head in front on the wire to earn her spot in the Breeders' Cup in the Oct. 13 GII JPMorgan Chase Jessamine S. as a 17-1 outsider. The filly was purchased for just \$5,500 off a :10 3/5 breeze at the OBS June sale by trainer George Leonard III, who has been plying his trade for years at the smaller Midwest tracks.



California Angel | *Breeders' Cup/Eclipse Sportswire*

Also earning an automatic berth in the JF Turf through the Breeders' Cup 'Win and You're In' series is **Hello You (Ire)** (Invincible Spirit {Ire}) who has shipped stateside after a win in the Sept. 24 G2 Unibet Rockfel S. at Newmarket.

Cachet (Ire) (Aclaim {Ire}) was second to Hell You in the Rockfel and third last out in Newmarket's Oct. 8 G1 Fillies' Mile--a nose to the good of **Miss En Scene (GB)** (Siyouni {Fr}), who found some traffic trouble that day. **Cont. p9**

JACK CHRISTOPHER
winning the Champagne S. (G1)
at Belmont Park on 10/2/2021



Good Luck in the Breeders' Cup!

JACK CHRISTOPHER (Juvenile)

PIZZA BIANCA (Juvenile Fillies Turf)

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Wild Card...

Haughty (Empire Maker) was 3 1/4 lengths in front at the end of her one-mile debut at Belmont Sept. 17 only to be disqualified and placed third for interference. After failing to draw into the field for the 'Win and You're In' Jessamine, she was rerouted to a 1 1/16-mile maiden special weight at Keeneland. And there was no doubt about her second start, as she romped to a four-length victory and was promptly tabbed a **'TDN Rising Star'** Oct. 17. While she is still untested against stakes company, she has yet to let another horse finish in front of her in two starts. A win by Haughty or Consumer Spending would extend trainer Chad Brown's record five wins in the race.
 --Jessica Martini



Haughty | Coady Photo

Let's Go to the Videotape ...

Race	JF Turf Runner	Date
Keeneland MSW	Haughty	Oct. 17
GII JPMorgan Jessamine S.	California Angel	Oct. 13
GIII Matron S.	Bubble Rock	Oct. 9
Surfer Girl S.	Cairo Memories	Oct. 3
GII Miss Grillo S.	Sail By	Oct. 2
G2 Rockfel S.	Hello You (Ire)	Sept. 24

*Best of Luck to
 Julie Davies Training & Sales Graduate*

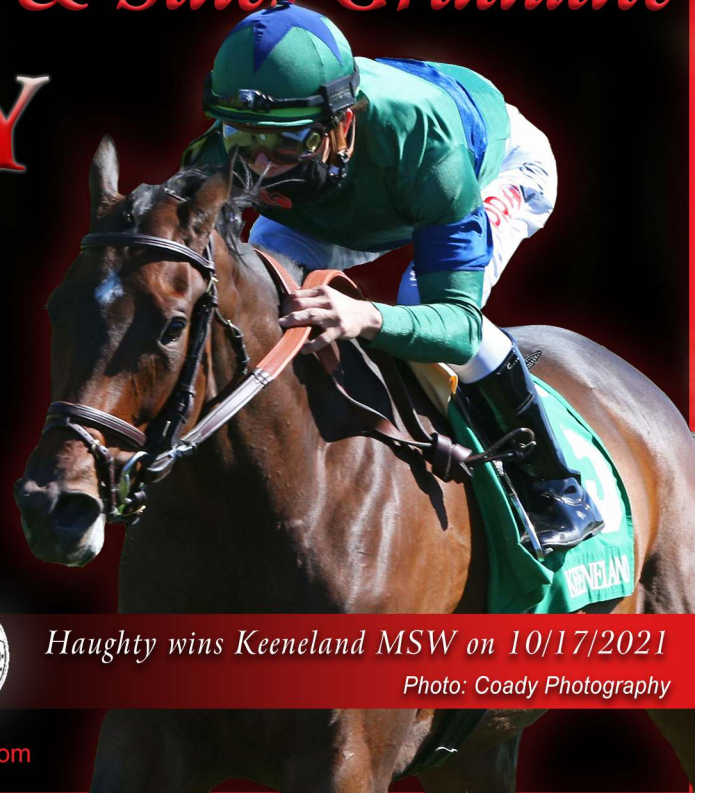
HAUGHTY

*and her connections in the
 BREEDERS' CUP
 Juvenile Fillies Turf*

OWNER: Bradley Thoroughbreds, Belmar
 Racing and Breeding, LLC,
 Tim & Anna Cambron & Team Hanley

BREEDER: Gainesway Thoroughbreds LTD

TRAINER: Chad Brown



Haughty wins Keeneland MSW on 10/17/2021

Photo: Coady Photography



Julie Davies, Agent

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BREEDERS' CUP JUVENILE FILLIES

The GI NetJets Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies can be a fickle race, with fillies either showing up like expected--as evidenced by 1990's Meadow Star (Meadowlake) remaining the heaviest favorite at 1-5 in all of Breeders' Cup history--or taking the racing community by complete surprise, as shown by Take Charge Brandi (Giant's Causeway) on the other end of the spectrum with a 61-1 shock in 2014. But overall, the number of superstars this race has churned out, from Go For Wand (Deputy Minister) to Beholder (Henny Hughes) to Songbird (**Medaglia d'Oro**) and so many more, is what the Breeders' Cup is all about. It's promise and performance all rolled up into one delightful package.



Echo Zulu Sunday at Del Mar | Breeders' Cup/Eclipse Sportswire

After the Monday defection of undefeated **'TDN Rising Star'** Ain't Easy (Into Mischief), just six contenders join the ranks of 2-year-old fillies hoping to be immortalized this year. Three stand head and shoulders above the rest as big-margin graded stakes winners. Undisputed at the top of the heap is **'TDN Rising Star'** Echo Zulu (**Gun Runner**), who is the only dual Grade I winner in the field. Echo Zulu has never put a foot wrong, debuting in July at Saratoga with a 5 1/2-length, 5 1/2-furlong maiden special weight romp. She added the GI Spinaway S. Sept. 5 and the GI Frizette S. Oct. 3 in facile performances. With her three wins by a combined 16 3/4-length margin and her Beyer figures all at 90 or above, the best in the field, the bay simply towers over the rest and is so formidable she'll likely be a single on many tickets.

The last time the Breeders' Cup was held at Del Mar, Echo Zulu's Hall of Fame trainer, Steve Asmussen, won the GI Classic with her sire. The only chink in the filly's armor is a lack of two-turn race experience, but her pedigree says distance shouldn't be a problem. She's answered every question, stretched out in

every start, and has acclimated in California for the past few weeks.

In a game of musical jockeys, Echo Zulu's regular rider, Ricardo Santana, Jr., was replaced by Joel Rosario Monday when he was freed up due to Ain't Easy's defection. Asmussen and Santana, normally an imposing team, have been in a slump the last month and Asmussen surely doesn't want to take any chances with this exceptional filly. In addition, Santana has won two Breeders' Cup races, while Rosario has 13 to his credit. Rosario has three leading rider titles at Del Mar, while Santana has only ridden two races at the seaside track, both off-the-board finishes at the 2017 Breeders' Cup.

Juju's Map (Liam's Map) was runner-up in her first outing in July at Ellis Park, but it's easy to chalk that up to a learning experience as she scored next out Sept. 3 by 5 3/4 lengths in a visibly impressive performance over the same surface when stretched out to a mile. Next was a 4 1/4-length romp at the same distance as the Juvenile Fillies in Keeneland's GI Darley Alcibiades S. Oct. 8. Her Beyers have improved with every start, she's the second of two Grade I winners in the field, and trainer Brad Cox won this race two years ago with British Idiom (Flashback) and the male equivalent last season. The Eclipse-winning conditioner is bringing a large contingent of serious contenders to this year's Breeders' Cup after winning seven championship races in the last three years.

Cont. p11

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JuJu's Map in her final Churchill move Friday | Coady Photo

Completing the trifecta of graded winners in the field is **Hidden Connection (Connect)**, whose sublime 9 1/4-length score in the GIII Pocahontas S. at Churchill Sept. 18 was even more dominating than her 7 1/2-length maiden victory at Colonial Downs. Trainer W. Bret Calhoun, who won two Breeders' Cup races in 2010, went on record early in her career saying she was something special. She looked it in the Pocahontas.

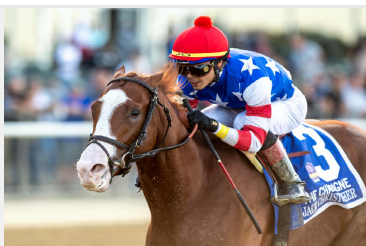


Hidden Connection was ultra-impressive in the Pocahontas | Coady

DID YOU KNOW?

Jack Christopher (Munnings) was tabbed as a "TDN Rising Star"

View all **TDN Rising Stars**



Wishes **Good Luck** to
HIDDEN CONNECTION
 and her connections in the
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Wild Card...

If Echo Zulu gets company on the lead and a pace duel develops, it may open the door for someone else to pick up the pieces. **Tarabi (First Samurai)** is surely knocking on the door of a big effort. The Cherie DeVaux trainee broke her maiden Aug. 7 at Ellis at first asking in a 5 1/2-length romp and reappeared a month later at the Spa, slamming into the gate at the break and still finishing an excellent second behind Echo Zulu in the Spinaway. She missed another prep race as she needed some time to recover from scrapes resulting from that Spinaway start, but she's rested and looks ready for battle with two consecutive bullets before an easier move at Keeneland in preparation.

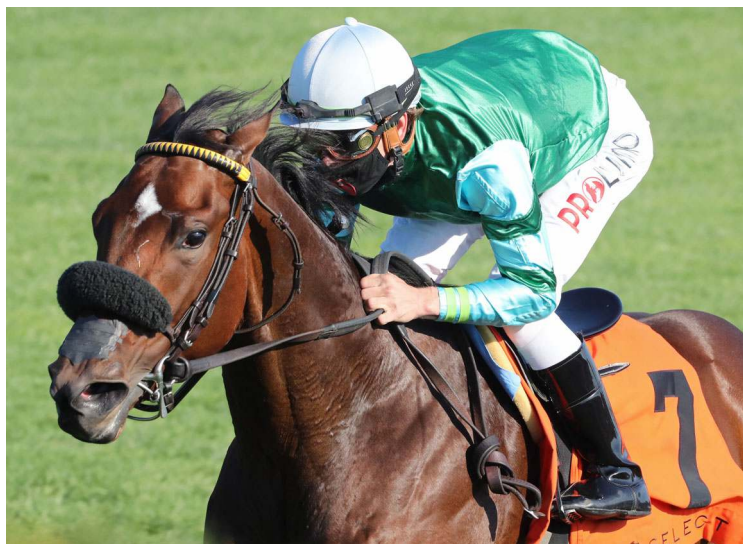
--Jill Williams

Let's Go to the Videotape ...

Race	Winner	Date
GI Darley Alcibiades S.	JuJu's Map	Oct. 8
GI Frizette S.	Echo Zulu	Oct. 3
GIII Pocahontas S.	Hidden Connection	Sept. 18
GI Spinaway S.	Echo Zulu	Sept. 5

BREEDERS' CUP JUVENILE TURF SPRINT

Unbeaten speed demon **Averly Jane (Midshipman)** will look to bump her perfect win tally to five as she seeks to become the third straight Wesley Ward trainee to take the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf Sprint in its fourth total renewal. A romping debut winner at Keeneland in April, the \$35,000 FTKOCT bargain buy wheeled back in 13 days to best the boys in the Kentucky Juvenile S. at Churchill Downs. She resurfaced after some time off to again dominate males in a rained-off running of Saratoga's Skidmore S. Aug. 20, and was last seen besting stablemate **Kaufmaker (Jimmy Creed)** by three lengths in Keeneland's Oct. 10 Indian Summer S.



Averly Jane | Coady Photo

Ward will send out a second filly in '**TDN Rising Star**' **Twilight Gleaming (Ire)** (National Defense {GB}). The Stonestreet colorbearer aired second out when switched to the Belmont sod in May, but was second as the favorite to Monday defection Quick Suzy (Ire) (Profitable {Ire}) in the prestigious G2 Queen Mary S. at Royal Ascot June 16. Twilight Gleaming has been off since taking the Prix de la Vallee d'Auge at Deauville Aug. 7.

Derrynane (Quality Road) is yet another member of the fairer sex with a solid chance here as she bids to become trainer Christophe Clement's belated first Breeders' Cup winner. The Waterville Lake Stable colorbearer opened her account with a win over fellow state-breds at Saratoga in July, but didn't do much running over yielding going there in the Aug. 18 Bolton Landing S. She found firm going and this distance very much to her liking when kicking home impressively in the Woodbine Cares S. Sept. 19, earning an 81 Beyer Speed Figure that puts her behind only Averly Jane.

The main male American hope here looks to be **One Timer (Trappe Shot)**, a convincing winner of his first two attempts on all-weather before annexing the "Win and You're In" Speakeasy S. at Santa Anita Oct. 1 from **Time to Party (Kantharos)**. Trainer Larry Rivelli, like his friend Ward, is particularly adept with turf sprinters. Pilot E.T. Baird retains the mount and seeks his first Breeders' Cup victory at the age of 54.



One Timer | Benoit Photo

Cont. p13

Best of Luck to **ONE TIMER**

and his connections in the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf Sprint!

O-Patricia's Hope LLC and Richard Ravin / B-St. Simon Place LLC / T-Larry Rivelli

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Juvenile Turf Sprint cont.

The Europeans haven't won this since it became an official Breeders' Cup race, but Richard Hannon did run a close third when Euros took the top four slots in a the equivalent undercard event the last time the Breeders' Cup was held at Del Mar in 2017. Hannon's **Armor (GB) (No Nay Never)** was a clear-cut winner of the G3 Molecomb S. during the Glorious Goodwood meeting back in July, but was fourth as the favorite in Deauville's G1 Darley Prix Morny Aug. 22 and second by a neck--again as chalk--in Doncaster's G2 Flying Childers S. Sept. 10. He was off slowly and found a bit of traffic trouble in the G1 Juddmonte Middle Park S. Sept. 25, and was ultimately beaten just 3/4 of a length when third in a blanket finish. He may be best over this sharper five-furlong trip and seems to possess the best form among the foreign contingent.



Armor | Breeders' Cup/Eclipse Sportswire

Wild Card...

There haven't been many juveniles in the history of the Breeders' Cup who headed into the World Championships with 10 prior starts, but **Twilight Jet (Ire)** (Twilight Son {GB}) will do just that. The Michael O'Callaghan pupil made two starts in May, three in June, two in August and two more in September and finally broke through at the stakes level when justifying favoritism in the GIII Cornwallis S. at Newmarket Oct. 8. He had dead-heated for fifth prior to that in the Middle Park. American owners Michael and Jules Iavarone have bought into the rail-drawn bay since his last appearance. --*Brian DiDonato*

Let's Go to the Videotape ...

Race	Juvenile Turf Sprint runner	Date
Indian Summer S.	Averly Jane	Oct. 10
G3 Cornwallis S.	Twilight Jet	Oct. 8
Speakeasy S.	One Timer	Oct. 1
G1 Middle Park S.	Armor (GB)	Sept. 25
Woodbine Cares S.	Derryanne	Sept. 19
Prix de la Valey d'Auge	Twilight Gleaming (Ire)	Aug. 7
G2 Railway S.	Go Bears Go (Ire)	June 26

BREEDERS' CUP JUVENILE

Recent Winners/Ky Derby Finish

BC J	Winner	Derby Finish
2020	Essential Quality (Tapit)	4th
2019	Storm the Court (Court Vision)	6th
2018	Game Winner (Candy Ride {Arg})	5th
2017	Good Magic (Curlin)	2nd
2016	Classic Empire (Pioneerof the Nile)	4th
2015	Nyquist (Uncle Mo)	1st
2014	Texas Red (Afleet Alex)	DNS
2013	New Year's Day (Street Cry {Ire})	DNS
2012	Shanghai Bobby (Harlan's Holiday)	DNS
2011	Hansen (Tapit)	9th
2010	Uncle Mo (Indian Charlie)	DNS
2009	Vale of York (Ire) (Invincible Spirit {Ire})	DNS
2008	Midshipman (Unbridled's Song)	DNS
2007	War Pass (Cherokee Run)	DNS
2006	Street Sense (Street Cry {Ire})	1st
2005	Stevie Wonderboy (Stephen Got Even)	DNS
2004	Wilko (Awesome Again)	6th
2003	Action This Day (Kris S.)	6th
2002	Vindication (Seattle Slew)	DNS
2001	Johannesburg (Hennessy)	8th
2000	Macho Uno (Holy Bull)	DNS

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