Holloway Brings Pair Of Freshman Fillies Into Friday’s ISS

Trainer Joe Holloway will send out a pair of 2-year-old fillies in International Stallion Stake (ISS) action Friday afternoon at The Red Mile, including trotter Starita and pacer Zero Tolerance. Both fillies are driven by David Miller and owned by Val D’or Farms and Ted Gewertz who, like Holloway, will be inducted into harness racing’s Hall of Fame in early July in Goshen, N.Y.

Miller will line up in post 5 in the second $64,500 ISS division for first-year filly trotters (Race 4). Starita has three wins in 10 starts, including a career-best 1:55.2 effort over a “sloppy” track in her James Doherty Memorial elimination on July 27 at the Meadowlands. Starita followed that up with a fourth-place finish in the $357,450 Doherty final. After following up the Doherty with a pair of wins in splits of the Reynolds and Kindergarten at Tioga Downs. Starita finished third to world champion Woodside Charm in the $236,000 Kentuckiana Stallion Management at Hoosier Park and second last time out in a Bluegrass division behind The Ice Dutchess, who drew into another division on Friday.

“She’s a really nice filly. Not the best, but a real nice filly and consistent.”

–Joe Holloway about Starita

A daughter of Trixton, Starita was a $50,000 yearling purchase. Starita's second dam is the $2 million-winner and two-time Dan Patch divisional champ Passionate Glide. She comes into the ISS with $129,223 in earnings.

Race 5 is the second $61,250 ISS division for freshman filly pacers, and Zero Tolerance and driver Miller will start in post 6. Zero Tolerance is a seven-time winner (and two seconds) in nine starts, including a career-best 1:51 effort in a... (Continues on page 2)
Bluegrass division last time out at The Red Mile. Her ledger shows $241,291 in earnings.

Zero Tolerance finished a close second in her baby-race debut on June 2 at the Meadowlands behind the colt Blood Money.

“First baby race she was in against colts and she was second but David (Miller) raced her easy,” said Holloway. “He got off (the bike) and said ‘I could have won if I pulled her.’”

After then a posting a pair of baby-race wins, Zero Tolerance won a Big M overnight in 1:51.3, and then was second in a New York Sires Stakes (NYSS) at Tioga Downs. Zero Tolerance was then scratched “sick” from a NYSS on July 24 at Yonkers. Holloway said to ignore the scratch line.

“She had the ‘eight hole blues,’” Holloway said with a laugh. “I paid the starting fee.”

Holloway also doesn’t like racing 2 year olds on half-mile tracks, but he did so with the daughter of Heston Blue Chip at Monticello. In that Sept. 1 contest, Miller parlayed a two-hole trip with Zero Tolerance into a victory.

“Because she was New York-bred and I’m not a huge fan of the New York Sires Stakes, I went to the bigger tracks,” said Holloway. “I did go to Monticello because she would have had 25 days off and I was going to have to qualify her, so I figured I might as well race for money.

While Zero Tolerance had been racing on or near the lead in all her starts, in her Bluegrass victory she was raced off the pace by Miller. The filly rallied from fifth at the three-quarters with a final stanza of :26.1 to seal the three-quarter-length victory. Queen Of The Pride and Beautyonthebeach, who respectively finished second and third in the Bluegrass division last time out at The Red Mile. Her ledger shows $241,291 in earnings.

Like most horses, she’s going to be better with a trip. There’s not many that you can’t say that about. “

A $30,000 yearling purchase, Zero Tolerance is out of the mare Feelinglikeastar, a full sister to the 2004 Horse of the Year Rainbow Blue. — By Gordon Waterstone

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE &amp; TRACK</th>
<th>EVENT WINNER</th>
<th>OWNER/BREEDER</th>
<th>SIRE-DAM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 27 Red Mile</td>
<td>$343,000 (div.) Bluegrass 2YOCT Aldebaranwalkabout 2:1:55.2f ($53,300)</td>
<td>Aldebaran Park Inc./Aldebaran Lodge Pty Ltd.</td>
<td>MUSCLE HILL Aldebaran Tumpike</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 27 Red Mile</td>
<td>$343,000 (div.) Bluegrass 2YOCT Green Manalishi S 2:1:53.4 ($343,257)</td>
<td>Courant Inc./AB Svensk Reklamflanins</td>
<td>MUSCLE HILL Naga Morich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 27 Red Mile</td>
<td>$343,000 (div.) Bluegrass 2YOCT Cantab Fashion 2:1:54.2f ($64,500)</td>
<td>Fashion Farms/Fashion Farms</td>
<td>CANTAB HALL Defiant Donato</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 27 Philadelphia</td>
<td>$85,000 (div.) Simpson 2YOFP Renaissance Lady K p,2,1:52.1f ($38,617)</td>
<td>Robert J. Key/Robert J. Key</td>
<td>WELL SAID Lady’s Portrait</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 27 Philadelphia</td>
<td>$85,000 (div.) Simpson 2YOFP Rockn Philly p,2,1:53.2f ($118,028)</td>
<td>CC Racing, J. Looney-King/Linwood Farm</td>
<td>A ROCKNROLL DANCE Philadelphia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 27 Philadelphia</td>
<td>107,410 (div.) Simpson 2YOFT American Kronos 2:1:55.3f ($49,335)</td>
<td>Marvin Katz, Al Libfeld, David Goodrow/Allevamento Kronos Srl</td>
<td>DONATO HANOVER Glide About</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 28 Red Mile</td>
<td>$273,100 (div.) Bluegrass 2YOFT Stonebridge Soul p,2,1:52.1 ($116,790)</td>
<td>Henderson Fms, R. Mondolli/Angie Stiller</td>
<td>SOMEBEACHESOMWHERE Rock N Soul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 28 Red Mile</td>
<td>$373,000 (div.) Bluegrass 2YOFT The Ice Dutchess 2:1:53.4 ($395,915)</td>
<td>Coyote Wynd Farms/Stephen Dey III, David Reid</td>
<td>MUSCLE HILL The Ice Queen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 28 Red Mile</td>
<td>$373,000 (div.) Bluegrass 2YOFT Cloud Nine Fashion 2:1:53.5 ($93,875)</td>
<td>Fashion Farms/Hanover Shoe Farms</td>
<td>MUSCLE HILL I’m On Cloud Nine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 28 Philadelphia</td>
<td>$98,800 (div.) Simpson 2YOCP Captain Malicious p,2,1:52.3f ($70,602)</td>
<td>Ray Schnittker, John Egoiff, John Frisch, Max Hempfl/Vieux Carre Farms, Linwood Higgins</td>
<td>CAPTAINTREACHEROUS Silky</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 28 Philadelphia</td>
<td>$98,800 (div.) Simpson 2YOCP Hervey Hanover p,2,1:52.1 ($29,862)</td>
<td>Brad Gray/Hanover Shoe Farms</td>
<td>SOMEBEACHESOMWHERE Her Music Rocks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 28 Philadelphia</td>
<td>$98,800 (div.) Simpson 2YOCP Aflame Hanover p,2,1:52.2f ($67,522)</td>
<td>Tony &amp; Linda Schadel/Hanover Shoe Farms</td>
<td>RUSSELL HANOVER Applique Hanover</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 28 Philadelphia</td>
<td>$96,000 (div.) Simpson 2YOCT Klutzey 2:1:57f ($84,082)</td>
<td>Stroy Inc./Hero Stables</td>
<td>CANTAB HALL Upside Hanover</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 29 Red Mile</td>
<td>$294,200 (div.) Bluegrass 2YOCP Lyons Night Hawk p,2:1:50.2 ($136,071)</td>
<td>Geoffrey Lyons Mound/Vieux Carre Farms</td>
<td>SWEET LOU Weapons Against</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 29 Red Mile</td>
<td>$294,200 (div.) Bluegrass 2YOCP Workin Ona Mystery p,2:1:50.3h ($69,400)</td>
<td>James Stambaugh, Alan Keith, M. Leeman, Wingfield Brothers/White Birch Farm</td>
<td>CAPTAINTREACHEROUS Dragon’s Tale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 29 Red Mile</td>
<td>$126,000 Bluegrass 3YOFP Kissin In The Sand p,3:1:49.3f ($904,795)</td>
<td>Marvin Katz, Hatfield Stables/Christina Taktel, J. John Fielding, RAW Equine, Concord Stud Farm</td>
<td>SOMEBEACHESOMWHERE Kiss Me Kate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 29 Meadows</td>
<td>$61,500 (div.) Keystone Classic 3YOFP Scuola Hanover p,3:1:52f ($192,031)</td>
<td>Arthur &amp; Andrew Stafford, Thomas Ireland/Hanover Shoe Farms</td>
<td>A ROCKNROLL DANCE So Artsi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 30 Red Mile</td>
<td>$183,000 (div.) Bluegrass 3YOCP Stay Hungry p,3:1:47.3 ($1,239,459)</td>
<td>Brad Grant, Irwin Samelman Est./AV &amp; Son Bloodstock</td>
<td>SOMEBEACHESOMWHERE My Little Dragon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 30 Red Mile</td>
<td>$183,000 (div.) Bluegrass 3YOCP Thinkbig Dreamb 2:3:1:48.2 ($450,537)</td>
<td>Brixton Medical, John Fielding, Goran Anderberg, Goran Falk/Kentuckiana Farms</td>
<td>BETTORS DELIGHT Extreme Dream</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 30 Red Mile</td>
<td>$242,000 (div.) Bluegrass 3YOCT Met’s Hall 3:1:51.2 ($964,754)</td>
<td>Stroy Inc., Andy Miller Stb./Winbak Farm</td>
<td>CANTAB HALL Met’s Inn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 30 Red Mile</td>
<td>$242,000 (div.) Bluegrass 3YOCT Tactical Landi 3:1:51.1 ($313,600)</td>
<td>Tactical Landing Stable/Steve Stewart, Black Creek Farm, Andrea Lea Racing Stables</td>
<td>MUSCLE HILL Southwind Serena</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 30 Red Mile</td>
<td>$206,000 (div.) Bluegrass 3YOFT Hey Blondie 3:1:51.1 ($473,935)</td>
<td>Steve Jones, Mary Arnold, Paul Bordogna, David McDuffee/Hanover Shoe Farms</td>
<td>CANTAB HALL Winbak Blonde</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 30 Red Mile</td>
<td>$206,000 (div.) Bluegrass 3YOFT Phaetosive 3:1:51 ($822,617)</td>
<td>Purple Haze Stables/Hanover Shoe Farms</td>
<td>EXPLOSIVE MATTER Phaeton</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
With 2 Supplements, Futurity Set To Be Raced With Six-Horse Elims

Twelve horses were entered in the 126th Kentucky Futurity and the conditions of the race allowed for one 12-horse dash for the cash. But the Red Mile racing management opted for two six-horse eliminations instead. The field and the purse swelled with the supplements of Six Pack and Fiftydallarbill.

The cost of supplementing to the Futurity was $62,670. The total purse for the race will be $620,000, with $93,000 for each elimination and $434,000 set aside for the second and final heat.

There were no complaints from horsemen or owners about this decision for two eliminations, and driver Andy Miller, who together with his wife, Julie, owns an interest in Met’s Hall as the Andy Miller Stable, was particularly thrilled.

“This way everybody gets a chance. There is still a lot of strategy, but this way everybody gets a shot,” said Miller. “A couple of years ago (2016) we had two in (Sutton and Milligan’s School) and neither of them really got a chance and they finished seventh and ninth. Sutton was one of the favorites and he never even got a chance to get into the race.”

Miller’s recollection of the 12-horse Futurity two years ago is spot on. Sutton drew post position 8 and Milligan’s School post 9. With two trailers, both colts encountered traffic troubles, with Sutton three wide in the first turn. Marion Marauder started as a trailer and got into the outer flow which carried him to victory.

Andy’s wife, Julie, trains Futurity starter Met’s Hall, who drew post 3 in arguably the easier elimination.

“His race Sunday (a win in 1:51.2) shows he’s pretty sharp right now,” said Miller. “I think he’ll be fine.”

Met’s Hall is the 2-1 second morning-line choice in the second elimination. Tactical Landing, who has won two of his last three starts at the Red Mile, including last week’s Bluegrass in 1:51.1, is the 7-5 choice in the first elimination for trainer-driver Jimmy Takter.

Here are other drivers’ take on the draw.

Ake Svanstedt—SIX PACK (post 1, first elim)

“It’s a very good draw. We’ll see what happens but the most important thing is the horse is OK. It was a long ship getting here on Tuesday. It was expensive (to supplement) so he must be good (laughing). I like the two heats, it’s better for the horses.”

Yannick Gingras—ZEPHYR KRONOS (post 2, first elim)

“The post really doesn’t matter. I’ll see how the race goes. It could go a hundred different ways with a short field. You want to win or finish really close so you have a good post for the final. I think it’s a tough division, but both of them are tough divisions.”

Tim Tetrick—PATENT LEATHER (post 4, first elim)

“I like him. Last week he had the nine hole and we just went around there. I think he would have won the Hambo elimination if he gets out. When he’s right, he’s nice.”

David Miller—FASHIONWOODCHOPPER (post 5, first elim)

“He missed some time and he raced really well last time (third behind Met’s Hall). He raced very well for that. It’s a little tougher bunch but he’s gone with him all year so I think he’ll be fine.”

Brett Miller—FIFTYDALLARBILL (post 6, first elim)

“My horse can do anything I need to do; he’s versatile. And we’re starting closer in than we did in the (Canadian) Trotting Classic.”

David Miller—EUROBOND (post 1, second elim)

“I’m really happy with the post. Last week it was my fault because I had to hustle him out of there too much. We have Crystal Fashion and Tactical Landing as the ones to beat, but I think we’re in good shape there.”

Tim Tetrick—CRYSTAL FASHION (post 2, second elim)

“He’s good off the gate and everything. He can leave, duck, he’s pretty versatile. We have to try and make the final and try to win the final. He’s been good every start. I thought I had a Hambo horse but he came up short in the final. He bounced back good after that and won in Canada and won the Sires Stakes final. This is definitely a deep race.”

Yannick Gingras—YOU KNOW YOU DO (post 4, second elim)

“He has plenty of go. Jimmy said he was loaded with trot last week, so for me, definitely try and get him around there and make the final.”

Brian Sears—EVALUATE (post 5, second elim)

“He was second to Andy’s horse (Met’s Hall) last week and trotted home in :26.1. He’s real good. He had a couple weeks off so it was a good start for him.”
The “Big Three” Matched Up In Filly Futurity Elim

Sixteen 3-year-old trotters were divided into a pair of eliminations for Sunday’s $320,000 Kentucky Filly Futurity, with arguably the three biggest guns landing in the same heat. The top five finishers in each $48,000 elim (Race 2 and 3) will return for the same-day $224,000 final heat (Race 6).

The big three are Hambletonian champ Atlanta, Hambletonian Oaks winner Manchego, and Delvin Miller Memorial winner Plunge Blue Chip, whose 1:49.4 effort in that race is the fastest mile ever by a 3-year-old trotter regardless of sex. Not eligible to the race, Plunge Blue Chip was a $34,340 supplemental entry by her connections.

Manchego may have her work cut out for her as she drew the outside post 8 with driver Yannick Gingras in the second elim, listed as the morning-line favorite. Second-choice Atlanta and driver Scott Zeron will start from post 3, while third-pick Plunge Blue Chip and driver Ake Svanstedt will line up in post 6.

Manchego bested Atlanta in their first match-up after Hambo day in the Casual Breeze at Woodbine Mohawk Park when she started from that same post 8. From the two hole the following week in the Elegantimage she finished a close second (to Phaetosive, who was not entered in the Filly Futurity) with Atlanta third. Manchego then won the Moni Maker at Hoosier Park after starting from the trailing post 10.

“I really don’t think post 8 is that big of a deal for her,” said Gingras. “We have the whole race in front of us leaving the gate so we’ll see what happens. Going into the first turn I’ll see what everybody else is doing.

“I don’t see the race being wild, honestly, but you have to be ready for anything that could happen. If it goes wild we’ll get away somewhere mid-pack and get near at the top of the stretch. It doesn’t really matter, she can race either way.”

While Manchego went to Indiana, Atlanta remained at Mohawk where she finished second in the Sept. 25 Preferred against older horses.

“She needed a tighteren and the only race we could get her in was the Preferred,” said Ernie Hendry, assistant trainer in the Rick Zeron Stable. “She actually raced awesome. Just when they went to post parade it starting raining really bad. Rick (Zeron) drove her and he said she couldn’t have been any better. Full of trot down by the wire.”

Hendry said Atlanta arrived at The Red Mile on Sept. 26 and the daughter of Chapter Seven has spent some time away from the track.

“We took her to Walnut Hall and turned her out one morning, and she went to the hyperbaric chamber at Kesmarc a couple times,” said Hendry. “We’re just trying to keep her healthy and happy, and she seems really, really good.”

As for Plunge Blue Chip, the daughter of Muscle Mass was third in her Oaks elim and final, and then after finishing second in the Zweig Filly she has rattled off three straight victories, including a seven-length romp last time out on Sept. 22 in the $225,000 New York Sires Stakes final at Yonkers.

By Gordon Waterstone
Could There Be A Down Under Battle In Allerage Pace?

The $179,000 Allerage Pace, Race 8 Saturday at the Red Mile, is poised to be a very, very interesting race.

McWicked, winner of the Canadian Pacing Derby, will start from post 1; Lazarus N, dubbed the “Wonder From Down Under,” drew post 5; and Dontellmeagain, who was an impressive winner of the recent Dayton Pacing Derby, will start from post 10.

There most certainly will be other horses to contest the pace and the race, and one of them might be Heaven Rocks A.

Heaven Rocks A has been an underachiever since starting his U.S. racing career in May after being purchased by Eric Cherry’s Let It Ride Stables, Dana Parham and Misty Miller, the wife of driver David Miller. But his connections hope that changes on Saturday.

And they have reason to have high hopes. Heaven Rocks A turned in a qualifying effort last Saturday at the Red Mile that caught the attention of the judges for a couple of reasons. First, the horse broke stride before the start. But then the judges put a watch on him when he settled into pacing in front of the winner’s circle and clocked him in 1:47 and change.

“He knows where the draw gate is, and when he saw it he started cantering,” said Ross Croghan, who trains Heaven Rocks A, a 6-year-old son of Rock N Roll Heaven. “The horse was almost at a walk. Then he hit the pace and off he went. When he gets into gear, he stays in gear. He’s a big-going horse.”

Croghan said when Heaven Rocks A raced in Australia, drivers generally kept him a couple of lengths off the gate. “When we got him, we started putting him on the gate and he’s fine,” he added.

David Miller was driving Heaven Rocks A.

“First of all, this (horses breaking before the start) is something I’ve had to deal with before. And I don’t think that will be an issue Saturday,” said the Hall of Famer. “The outrider had him and I think something got loose and spooked him.”

As for the time?

“I told the judges I wasn’t so sure about the time,” said Miller. “I wasn’t carrying a watch. But it wouldn’t surprise me. If everything goes well, he’ll definitely be competitive.”

Heaven Rocks has a record of 6-2-2, with $82,211 earned, in the U.S. He had a couple of big money-winning opportunities, in the $500,000 Ben Franklin at Pocono and $471,100 W.R. Haughton Memorial at the Meadowlands. Both races were the only off-the-board finishes in the states for Heaven Rocks.

“At Pocono, he just didn’t get over the track well,” Miller shared. “Croghan is hopeful Heaven Rocks A will finally be able to show the form that made him recommend the owners purchase the horse.

“There have been a few setbacks with him. He had an abscess on the outside of his chest and he missed three months of work,” he said. “For five days, he wouldn’t move. He had a fever and wouldn’t eat. Finally, Dr. Patty Hogan came over and lanced the abscess.”

Since Heaven Rocks A will be facing the New Zealand-bred Lazarus N in the Allerage, it is worth wondering if the two have ever raced against each other before.

“Yes, they have. This February Lazarus N won the prestigious Hunter Cup, with Heaven Rocks A finishing third.

“When he raced against Lazarus, he drew post 10, because he had been classified unruly and it’s required you start from the outside,” said Croghan. “So we’ll see how the rematch Saturday goes.” — By Kathy Parker
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Trainer Noel Daley Leaving U.S. To Return To Australia

Trainer Noel Daley is going to become trainer Noel Daley A. The 56-year-old native Australian told Weekend Preview earlier this week that he is returning Down Under at the end of the year to become private trainer for Emilio Rosati, who is building a new training center in Sydney.

“I’m ready. I came for six months and stayed for 29 years,” said Daley.

Daley came to the U.S. in 1990 and worked for trainer Brett Pelling until 1998, when he went out on his own. He’s compiled a career resume of more than 2,500 wins and $61 million in purse earnings.

When Daley leaves in late November, he’ll be taking his 6-year-old son Max with him.

“Our school year there starts at the end of January and Max will turn six and start school there,” said Daley. “So it’s good timing for both of us.”

Daley’s stable is currently at 16 horses and he said a few will be retired and some will be sold. He’s not sure where his top older pacing mare Caviart Ally will go, or the two filly trotters he plans on starting in the Goldsmith Maid in late November in a last hurrah before he makes the long trip south.

“I’ve always been looking to go home and it’s good timing as I’ve got a good place to go,” he said. “I’ll be training for Emilio Rosati, who is building the best training center he could possibly build.”

Daley said he expects to train about 30 horses for Rosati.

“I hope we don’t have more than 30, that’s enough,” he said. “He has racehorses with people now that will stay where they are. He also has 14 homebreds that are being broken right now and he’ll buy some more.”

Without hesitation, Daley said the $3.5 million-winner Mr. Muscleman was his best horse.

“Mr. Muscleman was my best horse and probably his first Breeders Crown that we won with him, that was pretty special,” Daley said about the 2005 Trotter of the Year and three-time divisional champ.

Daley also noted Broad Bahn’s victory in the 2011 Hambletonian. “Obviously, winning the Hambo was our biggest victory,” he said.

Some of Daley’s other star horses over the years include two-time divisional champ My Little Dragon, Little Miss Dragon, Explosive Matter, All Speed Hanover and Napoleon, who won the 2008 Yonkers Trot.

Daley also without hesitation answered what he’d miss most about the U.S.

“I enjoy it here (in Lexington),” he said. “I’m just ready to go home.

“It’s been a very good run. We’ve made $60 million, so it’s been good and been a lot of fun.” — By Gordon Waterstone
Dance Blue A Great Partner
For Kissin In The Sand

By Gordon Waterstone

Trainer Nancy Johansson will send out a pair of 3-year-old filly pacers in the two divisions of Saturday afternoon’s $225,000 Tattersalls at the Red Mile, including Kissin In The Sand and Dance Blue. And while it’s Kissin In The Sand, fifth in the weekly harness racing poll, who has been making headlines for the Johansson Stable, Dance Blue has compiled a pretty nice resume of her own.

Kissin In The Sand’s nine wins this year include the James Lynch Memorial, the Mistletoe Shalee and the Pennsylvania Sires Stakes championship. The Somebeachsomewhere filly starts from post 6 in the second $113,750 Tattersalls division (Race 10) with Scott Zeron driving. She comes into the race off a 1:50 win in the lone $126,000 Bluegrass contest last Saturday, with Dance Blue finishing 3 3/4 lengths behind in third.

Dance Blue, whose 2018 ledger shows six wins, among them a sweep of the Kentucky Sires Stakes legs and final, starts from post 3 in the first $111,250 Tattersalls division. The daughter of Rock N Roll Heaven will be driven by Andy McCarthy.

Dance Blue’s season is a complete turnaround from her 2-year-old campaign when she went winless in 10 starts. Last year, Dance Blue was trained by Nancy’s father, Jimmy Tackett, but the Hall of Famer turned the lines over to his daughter for her 2018 season.

“My dad liked her training down, but then she got sick and got really grabby and unmanageable,” said Johansson. “I think what worked to her advantage was that she had good owners who realized she needed to be turned out. She got put away at the right time.

“Training back, I knew she had a tendency to get a little hot and a little grabby, so right away I put an ear hood on her and put her at the back of the pack. I told her, ‘You’re going to follow all winter. You will never go anywhere except off of somebody’s back.’ That helped her a lot. Plus, training on the sand track we don’t ask them for a lot of speed, so she settled a lot.”

Making up for lost time this year, Dance Blue has amassed $216,150, bringing her career total to $257,000 for owners Marvin Katz, Sam Goldband and Goran Anderberg.

“She really is good,” said Johansson. “If you look at her lines, she’s been three deep in the last turn in her last few starts, which isn’t easy to do.”

—Nancy Johansson about Dance Blue

“If you look at her lines, she’s been three deep in the last turn in her last few starts, which isn’t easy to do.”

—Nancy Johansson

Saturday Racing At The Red Mile

$145,000 ALLERAGE FARMS OPEN TROT (Race 5)

INTERNATIONAL MONI, post 6

“Last time he raced very good; he got beat by a horse coming home in :26.3. I’m very comfortable for this week that he’ll get a nice race with this group. It’s been very frustrating but we know the 4-year-old season is not easy. I’m looking forward to Saturday.” — trainer Domenico Cecere talking about International Moni being winless in 13 starts this year.

LINDY THE GREAT, post 5

“He won last time at Hoosier and he’d been racing the last three or four races up in Canada very good. He’s in good condition and he loves this track. I will not be surprised if he goes out in 1:51 or less.” — trainer Domenico Cecere

$63,000 INTERNATIONAL STALLION STAKE (Race 7)

CAPTAIN AHAB, post 6

“He showed a little bit of blood and little bit of mucous mixed with it. Here in Lexington it’s the perfect time because you can put them right on Lasix. It’s more allergy type than anything else; hopefully it will help clear his head up a little bit and help him out. We’re just going to make sure he’s back on track and this sets him up good for his next start in the Breeders Crown if everything goes well.” — trainer Tony Alagna. Captain Ahab won his first seven starts before finishing ninth as the beaten favorite in the $685,300 Metro final last time out on Sept. 22 at Mohawk. Captain Ahab will race in Lasix for the first time in the International Stallion Stake.

—By Gordon Waterstone

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HarnessRacing Weekend Preview

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Kentuckian Avritt Has Big Week In Lexington

It’s been nearly 23 years since Jim Avritt Sr. bought Dominique Semalu to serve as a broodmare, but Avritt is reminded regularly about the impact she’s had on his life.

“If I hadn’t been lucky enough to buy her, no one would have heard of me in this business,” Avritt said. “I sold a lot of high-priced yearlings out of her and kept a bunch of her daughters and they’ve all been tremendous producers. It was the luckiest day of my life.”

Dominique Semalu’s impact is apparent this week in Lexington. On Tuesday night, Avritt sold pacer Tall Dark Stranger for $330,000 at the Lexington Selected Sale. The colt, a son of Bettor’s Delight, is the second foal out of Avritt’s homebred star Precocious Beauty, a Dan Patch Award-winner whose granddam is Dominique Semalu.

Precocious Beauty’s first foal, now 2-year-old filly Beautyonthebeach, is a Kentucky Sire Stakes champion and races Friday in a division of the International Stallion Stakes at Red Mile.

In addition, Precocious Beauty’s full sister, Prescient Beauty, also races in a division of the International Stallion. She won a Bluegrass Stakes division last week and finished a dead-heat second in the She’s A Great Lady Stakes.

Prescient Beauty and Precocious Beauty are out of Precious Beauty, whose other foals included Dan Patch Award-winner Sportswriter.

Beautyonthebeach and Prescient Beauty, both trained by Gregg McNair and driven by Doug McNair, are being pointed toward the Breeders Crown and Three Diamonds Stakes following their races on Friday.

“After Precocious, I didn’t know if I’d ever get back to that level again,” Avritt said. “Now I’m fortunate enough to have Prescient Beauty and Beautyonthebeach, so I’m enjoying it to say the least.”

Beautyonthebeach has won five of nine races, never finished off the board, and earned $192,227. Prescient Beauty has won four of nine races, finished off the board only once, and earned $178,537. Both fillies share a love of bananas, but otherwise have different personalities.

“Prescient Beauty is a little more uptight; she can get a little upset in the paddock and warming up,” Avritt said.

“Beautyonthebeach, sometimes you think she’s going to sleep. If you let her put her head on your shoulder, she’ll just stand there all night.”

Beautyonthebeach competes in the second of four International Stallion divisions and is 4-1 on the morning line, third choice behind 5-2 Warrawee Ubeaut and 3-1 Zero Tolerance. Warrawee Ubeaut heads to the race off a win in the Kentuckiana Stallion Management Stakes, where Zero Tolerance finished second. Zero Tolerance rebounded to win a Bluegrass division last week.

Prescient Beauty is the 2-1 morning-line favorite in the third of the four International Stallion divisions.

As for the sale of Tall Dark Stranger, the price was the second highest of the opening night of the Lexington Selected Sale.

“I never get my expectations too high so I’m not disappointed, but a lot of people in the know were talking between $200,000 and $300,000,” said Avritt, who lives in Lebanon, Ky., about 65 miles southwest of Lexington. “He was a gorgeous colt, an absolutely gorgeous colt. Everything just fell into place.” (Ken Weingartner)
DVBK Principals in Lexington
For Sales, Racing

At future yearling sales, you will have the opportunity to buy horses bred by a new multi-national concern. DVBK, headquartered in Sweden, has been launched with a mission to breed elite horses both European and North American eligible.

The DVBK group includes Deo Volente Farms, Brixton Medical, Allevamento Kronos, Jerry Silva, Tom Pontone and Renato Bruni of Italy. All were in Lexington for the Lexington Selected Yearling Sale and elaborated on the new venture.

At this moment, equine assets of DVBK include the broodmares Pampered Winner (Credit Winner-Pampered Princess), who is in foal to Muscle Hill; Orange Kronos (Yankee Glide-Dame Kronos), the dam of Zephyr Kronos with a Bold Eagle weanling filly on the ground; and Unison Kronos (Donato Hanover-Zagabria Dei), a sister to champion Lisa America.

Johan Arneng of Brixton Medical said there is no set number of broodmares that DVBK will own.

“It is not easy to find the very good ones, and we will only be looking for those,” he said.

“It is our business plan that we focus on quality, not quantity,” added Sue Agopian, a principal in Deo Volente Farm. “Right now, we envision having about a dozen mares.”

Another reason for the careful consideration of mares is that DVBK’s business plan is for the foals of those mares to be “dual passport” yearlings at time of sale. This will be different than the “dual eligibility” for sires stakes. The eligibility of the foals will be dictated by the residence of their U.S.-based stallions and the individual foaling requirements of European-based dams in their respective countries of residence.

For example, Swedish rules require that the mare must be in Sweden during the year the offspring is born to be registered in that country. Both the mare and foal must stay in Sweden until all registration requirements have been fulfilled—markings noted and DNA tested for parentage.

Trainer Marcus Melander recently revealed that consideration will be given to shipping the Green Manalishi S following next year’s Hambletonian because he would have stakes worth $860,000 in purses in the Swedish Kriterium.

The purchasers of yearlings conceived and sold by DVBK will have the unique benefit of eligibility on both sides of the Atlantic. Foals will not have eligibility to French races (except for those open) because of the restrictions on the French stud book. However, Swedish registered foals—even those of U.S.-blooded stallions and mares—are permitted to race in any race in France.

DVBK’s present plan calls for mares to be bred to U.S. stallions, the resulting foals to be raised in Italy, then registered in Sweden before being offered for sale as “dual passport” yearlings.

Deo Volente, Brixton, and Allevamento Kronos have all been major players in international trotting bloodstock circles. Deo Volente stands 2014 Hambletonian champion Trixton at its farm in New Jersey and owns 20 trotting mares. Bengt Agerup’s Brixton Medical campaigned Trixton and still shares ownership of the stallion along with interests in other major sires, and has 25 broodmares. Allevamento Kronos, the stable name of Antonio Carraretto has been breeding top trotters for many years but made its mark internationally with the successful Viking Kronos (American Winner-Conch), who beat Varenne as a 2 year old and went on to become a top sire in Europe. “Kronos” also bred the $1 million trotting filly Lantern Kronos (a daughter of Viking Kronos), who has produced $1.1 million winner The Bank. Kronos presently has 15-20 broodmares.

Silva and Pontone are well known as major owners in American racing circles. Pontone campaigned and continues to own an interest in world champion Muscle Hill. Italian horse owner Renato Bruni also owns Thoroughbreds.—By Kathy Parker

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At The Lexington Selected Sale

ANVIL & LACE FARM, Beth Yontz
Hip 459 — colt, What The Luck (Artspeak-Calvados Hall)
“He’s flashy; a good mover; very athletic.”

Hip 670 — filly, Miss Money (Donato Hanover-Missys Mission)
“She’s a very flashy filly; and very smart.”

CAMEO HILLS FARM, Steve Jones
Hip 492 — filly, Girl Boss (Captaintreacherous-Gigi Deo)
“She’s a very nice individual, but she’s a June 21 foal and she’s small. She’s nice and correct.”

Hip 537 — filly, New Explosion (Explosive Matter-New Sensation)
“She’s a big, long, correct, athletic-looking filly.”

DUNROVEN STUD, Ron Foster
Hip 684 — colt, Born To Be Great (Conway Hall-Anandamide)
“This is the mare’s first foal. She was a $300,000 winner and a New York Sires Stakes winner. This colt is long, tall, and beautiful.”

Hip 728 — filly, Solid Delight (Bettor’s Delight-Penguin)
“She’s a beautiful filly; she’s roan. And there is speed and money in her pedigree.”

HUNTERTON SALES AGENCY, Steve Stewart
Hip 593 — colt, Joshua Speed (Donato Hanover-Chilitodayhotamale)
“He’s a great, big handsome colt. He’s from a wonderful family—he’s the first foal of the dam, who was a 1:52 winner and who is a sister to $1 million winner Like-abatoutahell. I’m not really sure why he wasn’t in an earlier session.”

HIP 655 — colt, Deligence (Rockin Image-Stonebridge Beauty)
“He’s big, and he’s really nice. We raised his brother, Bourbon Chase. It’s a great Indiana pedigree.”

MIDLAND ACRES, John Mossbarger
Hip 501 — filly, Roll Julie Roll (Roll With Joe-Juliana Grace)
“It’s a first foal. We bought the mare at Harrisburg. This filly showed class when she was born. She is put together well, but she’s a little small. She’s a half sister to two $500,000 earners.”

Hip 541 — Precious Moment (Mach Three-Oh That’s Impressive)

Hip 579 — colt, Steal The Moment (Mach Three-Trinksntreasures)
“We’re agent on these two and they are very nice Mach Three yearlings.”

WALNUT HALL LTD., Alan Leavitt
“Because four of our five yearlings are by Ohio or Indiana sires, the sales company will only sell yearlings by sires standing in those two states on Saturday night. As we wanted to keep our consignment selling together in the same session, our Ontario-sired colt is also selling on Saturday night. All five of our yearlings are also eligible to the Kentucky Sires Stakes program.

Hip 683 — colt, Coventry Hall (Cash Hall-Canland Hall)
“This is the star of our show. He’s a three-quarter brother to Cantab Hall and numerous other stakes winners who earned big money. He has a great video, and he trots the same way anytime he’s in the paddock. His full 2-year-old brother, Chin Chin Hall, last week won a division of the Bluegrass Stakes in 1:55.4. There has been considerable interest in him.”

Hip 622 — colt, Oxford Hall (E L Titan-On With The Show)
“He’s eligible both in Ontario and Kentucky and he can fly on the trot, as his video shows.”

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Prices Strong Through First Three
Lexington Selected Sessions

Although the average price generated in the third session on Thursday night declined, overall there is no doubt the Lexington Selected Yearling Sale is strong.

The third session showed strength with the sale of nine yearlings for prices of $100,000 or more. Hip 323, a filly named Muzzle The Yakker, by Explosive Matter out of a sister to the great Casual Breeze, was purchased for $200,000 by Swedish horseman Reijo Liljendah.

The third session of the Lexington Selected Yearling Sale showed strength even though the average price fell from last year’s comparable session. This year 162 yearlings were sold in the third session, generating an average of $41,740. That’s down 12.4 percent from the figure of $47,594 posted in 2017. Overall, through three sessions 427 yearlings had been sold for an average price of $78,002, up from $73,954 in 2017. Gross sales totaled $33,307,000.

The median price through three sessions—the point where half the yearlings sold for more and half for less—was $60,000. Burke Racing Stable and its new entity Elite Trotting—a partnership formed to exclusively buy trotting yearlings, hopefully Hambletonian contenders—spent $1,762,000 for 15 yearlings. Last year Burke Racing Stable bought 12 yearlings in Lexington for $925,000.

Sire averages show that Muscle Hill’s strength in the trotting sector is still very strong, and the Father Patrick and Chapter Seven yearlings offered were more popular this year than last with those sires posting substantial increases in average—Chapter Seven’s average climbed by 17.4 percent while Father Patrick’s average is up 10.7 percent.

On the pacing side of the ledger, much like the trotting sector, the prior years of dominance by Somebeachsomewhere continued. His yearlings averaged $2,821 more this year. On the other hand, the now 20-year-old Bettor’s Delight climbed into second place in pacing sire averages through three days. Last year he didn’t even crack the top five list.

The success on the track of the first crop by Captaintreacherous gave that stallion a huge boost as the average price for his offspring soared by 22.5 percent. He had 21 offspring sell for prices of $100,000 or more, with five sold for prices of $200,000 or more. Two yearlings, Das Deo (Hip 41), a full brother to this year’s top colt De Los Cielos Deo, and Force N Fury (Hip 54), a Captain brother to Cane Pace and Messenger winner Stay Hungry, were each sold for $300,000. Last year just five yearlings by Captaintreacherous were sold for six-figure prices in Lexington.—By Kathy Parker
### Standardbred Poll

Hambletonian Society/Breeders Crown Poll compiled by Harness Racing Communications for the week of October 2, 2018

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### Leading Breeders

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### Leaders Of The Week

Ranked by wins for Sept. 26-Oct. 2 from results at major North American pari-mutuel tracks.

#### Drivers

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#### Trainers

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Friday, October 19 & Saturday, October 20

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