



West Virginia

THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

Newsletter

March 2022

Which stallions will step up?

The Reign of the noblest of Kings, may be considered to be in the twilight of his rule, initiating speculation, as to who will assume the mantle of greatness and draw the sword from the stone.

The sustainable boom of prosperity, during the dominion of **Fiber Sonde**, will never be replicated in my lifetime, while the line of ascension appears lengthy and unpredictable.

To be the best, you have to dethrone the best.

This is a glance back at some 2021 West Virginia stakes races and how the aspiring aristocracy fared.

On Saturday, **May 1**, the \$75,000 Confucius Say Stake gathered a worthy field of eight adversaries, with the winner being V. I. P. Ticket, a son of Windsor Castle.

The Taylor Mountain Farm stallion would be 24, and though having served with distinction in the breeding shed, including siring millionaire Down Town Allen, he would have to attain this distinction posthumously.

That same evening, Door Buster, a daughter of Speightster, convincingly won the Its Binn Too Long Stakes for breeders Catherine K Jennings and Scott Mallory.

The son of Grade III Champion sprinter Speightstown was euthanized after a paddock accident at his new home in Ontario, Canada.

May 8. The prize possession of the Ronney W. Brown barn, Golden Key, exhibited his customary fleet turn of foot and repulsed all challengers to capture the Coin Collector Stakes.

The chestnut son of Uncle Lino was bred by Francis Daniel III and Ronney Brown. Uncle Lino is a son of Uncle Mo and stands at Northview Stallion Station. Though in close proximity to the Mountain state, I foresee his opportunities being marginal.

May 29. Windsor Castle scored with his daughter Our Diamond Girl, in the Fancy Buckles Stakes for owner/breeders Tim and Judy Grams. The lanky filly embodies the traits inherent to his departed sire: consistency, versatility and resoluteness.

June 5. Featured the It's Only Money Stakes and the winning combination of trainer Crystal Pickett and breeder Francis Daniel III.

This time they gathered in the winner's circle alongside Hypothesis, a gelded son of Algorithms.

The son of Bernardini's new home, Uruguay, will make travel arrangements quite imposing.

September 18. Hosted the Henry Mercer Memorial and showcased a budding superstar in victorious, Run to Daylight. The son of Runhappy is bred by James Miller and made a shambles of the short field vying for the \$45,510 first-place prize.

Runhappy, a three-time Grade 1 winner and Eclipse champion, stands at Claiborne Farm in Paris, Ky., for \$12,500. We'll definitely see Run to Daylight on a frequent basis, I'm just not sure how many Runhappy offspring will grace our sandy oval.

The sixth race on the card tabbed Fancy Her Up, as divisional leader, with sheer blazing speed her weapon of choice. The daughter of Juba is owned, trained and bred by John Casey and handily raced her opposition into submission claiming the \$75,000 Rachel's Turn Stakes.

Juba is a son of Tapit and serves as a viable alternative to one of the world's leading bloodlines. Juba stands at Taylor Mountain farm for a \$1,500 fee.

The leader in the category of sprinting excellence was Dr. Feelgood, but with Hypothesis' success in the Last Enchantment Stakes, breeder Frances Daniel III is rapidly finding the next stable sensation for trainer Crystal Pickett.

The son of Algorithms is a stalking machine at 4½ furlongs, with a dynamic closing kick.

October 9. The West Virginia Breeders Classics are the pinnacle for statewide bragging rights, particularly breeders in the Thoroughbred industry.

Last year, the Triple Crown Nutrition went to The Sky is Falling, bred by Catherine K. Jennings and Scott Mallory. The compact daughter of Cupid was the

beneficiary of a hotly-contested pace assuring her a hard-earned victory. Cupid is a Grade 1 winner by Tapit and stands at Ashford Stud in Kentucky.

The West Virginia Lottery Breeders Classic provided another triumphant opportunity for breeder James Miller. Social Chic, a son of Upstart found his inside post position to be advantageous helping secure a narrow win and initial stakes success.

Upstart stands at Airdrie Stud in Kentucky for a \$10,000 fee.

The sixth race on the program welcomed an old friend, Penguin Power, back to the winner's circle.

The gifted son of Fiber Sonde bred by John D. McKee made every pole a winning one.

The hefty accolades bestowed upon the King of West Virginia stallions would fill a small library.

Fiber Sonde continues to stand at John and Cyndy McKee's Beau Ridge farm for the inconceivable low price of \$1,000.

The Cavada is the most coveted West Virginia race at Charles Town for fillies and mares. Last year a brilliant filly by Creative Cause, the 4-year-old Star of Night, emphatically

inscribed her name in the record books. Bred by Heinz J. Steinmann, the gray/roan filly boasts 11 wins and two seconds in 13 efforts.

Creative Cause is a son of Giant's Causeway and stands at Airdrie Stud in Midway, Ky.

It seems fitting that the West Virginia Breeders Classic was not only won by a son of Fiber Sonde, but in doing registered a perfect 6-for-6 seasonal tally to remain undefeated in nine lifetime starts.

Muad'dib was bred in West Virginia by John McKee and like his full sister, the remarkable graded stakes winner Late Night Pow Wow, was spawn from humble beginnings before exceeding all expectations on the racetrack.

Fiber Sonde, a son of Unbridled's Song, entered stud in 2008 and though 17 years old is still a cherished commodity.

The Roger Ramey Breeders Classic Distaff showcased Stowe Angel, a daughter of Warrior's Reward. Her breathtaking performance was a testament to her connections and breeder, Newborne Farm.

Warrior's Reward is a son of Medaglia d'Oro and stands at Wyn Oaks Farm in Pennsylvania.

November 27. The West Virginia Futurity for juveniles, valued for it's added monies, observed Jungle Beast swoop the field and draw away in a ferocious performance. The handsome youngster is by Golden Years and was bred at O'Sullivan Farms.

Golden Years is a youthful son of Not For Love and stands for the modest fee of \$1,500. Time is definitely on his side to further elevate regional popularity.

With a limited number of breeders in the state willing to part with young stock and only a handful of horsemen financial prepared to venture beyond it's borders, I see significant interest continuing for the following local sires: Fiber Sonde, Juba, Limehouse, Golden Years, Stormy's Majesty and Bullsbay.

January allowance wins by No Change (Fiber Sonde) and Youthinkthatsfunny (Fiber Sonde) remind us that the King is still capable of governing and worthy of his title.

Benefits of Owning a WV-Bred and/or -Sired racehorse *Some of the best incentives in the nation!*

- A minimum of three accredited races are written every day at Charles Town exclusively for registered WV-bred and/or -sired horses.
- West Virginia has the only program in the country that permits horses to win state-bred races that do not count against the horse's lifetime open conditions.
- The WV Thoroughbred Development Fund distributes over \$4.5 million to breeders, owners, and stallion owners of accredited WV-bred and/or -sired horses based the horse's annual earnings at Charles Town and Mountaineer Park racetracks.
- The West Virginia Breeders Classics pays out almost \$1 million in purses for WV-bred and/or -sired horses. It is held annually on the second Saturday in October.
- \$800,000 in purses are allocated for up to 16 WV accredited stakes races during the year.
- Supplemental Purse Awards of up to 10% of the winner's share of the purse to the owner, breeder, and/or sire owner of the accredited WV-bred and/or -sired winner.
- West Virginia offers year-round racing with approximately 300 race days per year.

West Virginia Thoroughbred Breeders Association

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