

# NORTHEAST/MID-ATLANTIC



Racing at Laurel Park

COURTESY LAUREL PUBLICITY

## Big Rebound in Maryland

*Breeding, racing in Free State  
 enjoying comebacks*

BY DOUG McCOY

“MARYLAND, MY MARYLAND” is the title of Maryland’s state song, and for nearly 300 years the state has been home to the racing and breeding of the Thoroughbred. Since horsemen began running races at Bulle Rock in 1730, Thoroughbreds have been part of the fabric of the Free State.

Down through the years top flight breeding farms produced runners such as Cigar, Broad Brush, and other legends,

and some of racing’s best horsemen such as Frank Whiteley Jr. and Virgil “Buddy” Raines earned their spots in racing history with runners trained in Maryland.

Through much of the 20th century, Maryland racing and breeding were going concerns. But then came the gaming era, which featured marriages between racetracks and other forms of gambling. Legalized gaming at tracks in West Vir-

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NYRA Analyst

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# 2016 LEADING SIRES IN NEW YORK



For daily updated sire lists visit [BloodHorse.com](http://BloodHorse.com)

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2017 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2016 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	<b>FREUD</b> (98, Storm Cat), Sequel Stallions New York	\$10,000	193/98	5/7	3/5	(Sharp Azteca, \$358,250)	<b>\$5,168,822</b>	*1056	44	1.58	1.27
2	<b>BELLAMY ROAD</b> (02, Concerto), Dutchess Views Farm	\$7,500	215/110	6/8	1/6	(Land Over Sea, \$598,500)	<b>\$4,819,450</b>	*503	26	1.18	1.28
3	<b>BIG BROWN</b> (05, Boundary), Dutchess Views Farm	\$7,500	169/80	5/5	1/5	(Dortmund, \$270,000)	<b>\$3,648,427</b>	*550	17	1.23	1.65
4	<b>HOLD ME BACK</b> (06, Giant's Causeway), Irish Hill Century Farm	\$5,000	128/71	5/5	3/5	(Voluntario, \$179,140)	<b>\$2,969,326</b>	201	6	1.14	1.21
5	<b>FROST GIANT</b> (03, Giant's Causeway), Keane Stud	\$5,000	104/52	3/3	3/3	(Frosty Margarita, \$152,584)	<b>\$2,355,193</b>	*282	7	1.35	1.20
6	<b>BUSTIN STONES</b> (04, City Zip), Waldorf Farm	\$5,000	73/52	2/3	2/2	(Bust Another, \$252,201)	<b>\$2,319,950</b>	147	4	1.36	1.41
7	<b>DESERT PARTY</b> (06, Street Cry), Irish Hill Century Farm	\$2,500	89/39	0/0	0/0	(Saharan, \$177,660)	<b>\$1,962,707</b>	145	3	1.01	1.43
8	<b>DUBLIN</b> (07, Afleet Alex), Keane Stud	\$2,500	67/25	0/0	0/0	(Dr Blarney, \$178,100)	<b>\$1,487,713</b>	114	0	0.98	1.21
9	<b>NOBLE CAUSEWAY</b> (02, Giant's Causeway)	Died, 2014	67/27	1/1	0/1	(Samraat, \$165,100)	<b>\$1,019,252</b>	234	8	0.81	1.07
10	<b>DISCO RICO</b> (97, Citidancer)	Died, 2014	46/21	1/1	0/1	(Disco Partner, \$178,500)	<b>\$970,413</b>	262	12	1.35	1.21
11	<b>D' FUNNYBONE</b> (07, D'wildcat), Rockridge Stud	\$2,500	32/19	2/2	2/2	(Nobody Move, \$109,224)	<b>\$939,388</b>	*46	2	1.12	1.23
12	<b>COSMONAUT</b> (02, Lemon Drop Kid)	N/A	39/17	1/1	0/1	(Wonderment, \$142,060)	<b>\$927,227</b>	80	2	1.10	1.02
13	<b>HERE'S ZEALOUS</b> (97, Dehere)	N/A	41/26	1/1	0/1	(Green Gratto, \$149,024)	<b>\$917,297</b>	190	1	1.00	0.99
14	<b>COURAGEOUS CAT</b> (06, Storm Cat), Questroyal North	\$6,000	39/17	1/1	1/1	(Feeling Bossy, \$159,048)	<b>\$876,699</b>	73	1	1.04	1.18
15	<b>GIANT SURPRISE</b> (09, Giant's Causeway), Rockridge Stud	\$5,000	22/14	2/2	2/2	(Super Surprise, \$197,500)	<b>\$781,334</b>	34	2	2.20	1.20
16	<b>MISSION IMPAZIBLE</b> (07, Unbridled's Song), Sequel Stallions New York	\$7,500	22/8	1/1	0/1	(Silver Mission, \$179,102)	<b>\$653,108</b>	42	1	1.37	1.16
17	<b>MR. SEKIGUCHI</b> (03, Storm Cat)	N/A	22/17	1/2	0/1	(Yourdreamsormine, \$200,535)	<b>\$651,661</b>	*91	2	1.01	1.22
18	<b>HERE COMES BEN</b> (06, Street Cry), McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds	Private	36/14	0/0	0/0	(Sabrina Ballerina, \$74,755)	<b>\$499,419</b>	63	0	0.65	1.13
19	<b>GOLDEN MISSILE</b> (95, A.P. Indy), Milfer Farm, Inc.	\$3,500	39/14	0/0	0/0	(Estrada's Girl, \$83,893)	<b>\$360,958</b>	*641	14	1.02	1.48
20	<b>TEUFLESBERG</b> (04, Johannesburg), McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds	\$3,500	25/14	0/0	0/0	(Good Bye Greg, \$57,500)	<b>\$358,560</b>	83	4	1.47	1.17
21	<b>THE CLIFF'S EDGE</b> (01, Gulch)	Pnsd	32/14	0/0	0/0	(Frazil, \$74,261)	<b>\$305,960</b>	244	4	0.80	1.15
22	<b>ALEX'S PAL</b> (99, Valid Expectations)	Died, 2015	17/7	0/0	0/0	(Will, \$71,305)	<b>\$301,533</b>	106	2	1.22	0.92
23	<b>MIRACLE MAN</b> (02, Yankee Victor)	Died, 2015	6/4	0/0	0/0	(Jc's Shooting Star, \$102,941)	<b>\$296,106</b>	8	1	2.05	1.55
24	<b>BANK HEIST</b> (07, Maria's Mon), Kaz Hill Farm	\$5,000	12/7	1/1	1/1	(Won Dozen Banks, \$96,280)	<b>\$287,958</b>	17	1	1.29	1.32
25	<b>CONGRESSIONALHONOR</b> (01, Forestry)	N/A	14/7	0/0	0/0	(Superling, \$78,078)	<b>\$283,263</b>	161	1	0.73	0.94
26	<b>MARSH SIDE</b> (03, Gone West), Dutchess Views Farm	\$2,500	21/7	0/0	0/0	(Dr Luber's Kiss, \$67,220)	<b>\$254,995</b>	*132	0	0.34	1.21
27	<b>GRIFFINITE</b> (98, Unbridled's Song)	N/A	8/4	1/1	1/1	(Ribbonite, \$105,316)	<b>\$171,706</b>	68	1	0.61	0.88
28	<b>DR LARGE</b> (06, A.P. Indy), Oriskany Creek Farm	\$2,500	10/5	0/0	0/0	(Dr Smooth, \$37,960)	<b>\$130,298</b>	22	1	0.71	0.70
29	<b>WICKED RICH</b> (06, Yes It's True), Buckridge Farm	\$2,500	8/5	0/0	0/0	(Combee, \$41,820)	<b>\$108,840</b>	10	0	0.49	1.46
30	<b>BOYS AT TOSCONOVA</b> (08, Officer), Questroyal North	\$2,500	8/3	0/0	0/0	(Bertranda, \$25,800)	<b>\$103,201</b>	19	0	0.67	1.25

ginia became a reality in 1994 in the form of slot machines. Delaware legalized slots in 1995 and Pennsylvania in 2004. Later table games were included.

Maryland racing soon found itself caught in an economic squeeze play. From 2005 to 2014, the state's foal crop dropped 38%. There were 847 Thoroughbreds foaled in Maryland in 2005. In 2014 the number was 528. There was a real question whether the unthinkable would hap-

pen: Would pari-mutuel racing and the Thoroughbred breeding industry in Maryland cease to exist?

Then came 2011, perhaps the most critical year in the history of the sport in the Free State.

Two things happened that year to change the future of racing and breeding in Maryland in dramatic fashion.

First the Maryland legislature passed legislation that brought slots wagering

## 2016 NEW YORK SIRES BY WINNERS

Sire	Rnrs	Wnrs
Bellamy Road	215	110
Freud	193	98
Big Brown	169	80
Hold Me Back	128	71
Frost Giant	104	52
Bustin Stones	73	52
Desert Party	89	39
Noble Causeway	67	27
Here's Zealous	41	26
Dublin	67	25
Disco Rico	46	21
D' Funnybone	32	19
Cosmonaut	39	17
Courageous Cat	39	17
Mr. Sekiguchi	22	17
Golden Missile	39	14
Here Comes Ben	36	14
The Cliff's Edge	32	14
Teuflesberg	25	14
Giant Surprise	22	14
Mission Impazible	22	8
Marsh Side	21	7
Alex's Pal	17	7
Congressionalhonor	14	7
Bank Heist	12	7
Dr Large	10	5
Wicked Rich	8	5



Chanceland Farm's Katy Voss and Bob Manfuso (third and fourth from left)



spend **SMART** / breed **to WIN**



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of Stakes Winners at discounted prices

## ▲ **BIG BROWN**

Sign contract before March 1st for reduced fee of \$5,500

Sire of **42** Stakes horses, **21** Stakes winners, **7** Graded Stakes winners.

His top 10 money earners have average earnings **\$614,866**.

**12** winners in **2017** at 7 US tracks.

## ▲ **FROST GIANT**

Sign contract before March 1st for reduced fee of \$3,000

2016 **Leading 2YO Sire** in the Northeast - **18** winners, **6** stakes horses

**Co-second** in his crop by **ABC Runner Index**

- |                       |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| 1. Curlin             | 2.25        |
| <b>2. Frost Giant</b> | <b>1.83</b> |
| 2. Into Mischief      | 1.83        |

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# 2016 LEADING SIRES IN MARYLAND



For daily updated sire lists  
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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2017 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2016 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	<b>NOT FOR LOVE</b> (90, Mr. Prospector)	Died, 2016	97/51	4/6	3/4	(Lovable Lady, \$253,899)	<b>\$2,852,225</b>	956	80	1.68	1.45
2	<b>GREAT NOTION</b> (00, Elusive Quality), Northview Stallion Station	\$3,500	67/35	4/4	3/4	(Just Jack, \$204,853)	<b>\$2,056,406</b>	242	15	1.51	1.24
3	<b>FRIESAN FIRE</b> (06, A.P. Indy), Country Life Farm	\$4,000	71/38	1/2	0/1	(Morning Fire, \$129,675)	<b>\$1,781,181</b>	98	1	1.09	1.26
4	<b>LION HEARTED</b> (96, Storm Cat)	Died, 2015	78/37	0/0	0/0	(Worthy Lion, \$106,829)	<b>\$1,531,885</b>	*607	18	1.19	1.27
5	<b>ORIENTATE</b> (98, Mt. Livermore), Northview Stallion Station	\$5,000	87/43	1/1	1/1	(Woodland Walk, \$97,011)	<b>\$1,342,410</b>	*784	32	1.25	1.65
6	<b>PETIONVILLE</b> (92, Seeking the Gold), Murmur Farm	\$5,000	71/28	1/1	1/1	(Trace of Grace, \$148,919)	<b>\$1,170,966</b>	*712	42	1.29	1.27
7	<b>STREET MAGICIAN</b> (04, Street Cry)	N/A	47/21	1/2	0/1	(Rockin Jojo, \$150,560)	<b>\$999,438</b>	81	2	1.07	1.30
8	<b>LOUIS QUATORZE</b> (93, Sovereign Dancer), Murmur Farm	\$2,500	59/27	0/0	0/0	(Wowwhatabrat, \$87,210)	<b>\$969,653</b>	*976	21	1.14	1.31
9	<b>SCIPION</b> (02, A.P. Indy), Murmur Farm	\$2,500	45/22	0/0	0/0	(Grandiflora, \$119,967)	<b>\$905,118</b>	123	3	1.07	1.06
10	<b>OUTFLANKER</b> (94, Danzig), Shamrock Farm	\$3,000	42/20	0/0	0/0	(Outwithbigdaddy, \$90,084)	<b>\$828,228</b>	*531	21	1.36	1.14
11	<b>ROCK SLIDE</b> (98, A.P. Indy)	N/A	38/18	1/1	1/1	(Nicaradalic Rocks, \$125,618)	<b>\$825,455</b>	275	9	1.02	1.18
12	<b>CHEROKEE'S BOY</b> (00, Ciddancer)	Pnsd	27/10	0/0	0/0	(Cherokee Colours, \$49,208)	<b>\$312,770</b>	98	1	1.05	1.00
13	<b>ETCHED</b> (05, Forestry), Bonita Farm	\$3,500	19/4	0/0	0/0	(Chapel of Chimes, \$167,615)	<b>\$274,981</b>	27	0	0.53	1.04
14	† <b>REDEEMED</b> (08, Include), Northview Stallion Station	\$3,000	14/4	0/0	0/0	(Hatteras Bound, \$44,960)	<b>\$176,268</b>	37	0	0.59	1.01
15	<b>SIR SHACKLETON</b> (01, Miswaki), November Hill	To Be Announced	15/6	0/0	0/0	(Ameridude, \$48,354)	<b>\$147,849</b>	*98	1	0.72	1.02
16	<b>M EIGHTY</b> (99, Lite the Fuse)	N/A	6/2	0/0	0/0	(Star Eighty, \$95,284)	<b>\$147,429</b>	14	0	1.35	0.91
17	<b>ADMIRAL ALEX</b> (07, Afleet Alex), Shamrock Farm	\$1,500	8/3	0/0	0/0	(Admiral Blue, \$60,950)	<b>\$124,940</b>	10	0	0.70	0.89
18	† <b>CAL NATION</b> (08, Distorted Humor)	N/A	11/3	0/0	0/0	(Parade of Nations, \$48,846)	<b>\$122,655</b>	22	0	0.57	1.21
19	<b>GATORS N BEARS</b> (00, Stormy Atlantic)	Died, 2012	13/6	0/0	0/0	(Grey Gator, \$19,671)	<b>\$121,991</b>	151	5	1.02	1.17
20	<b>GREEK SUN</b> (01, Danzig)	N/A	7/5	0/0	0/0	(Tru Greek, \$37,974)	<b>\$108,101</b>	33	0	0.93	1.19

to the state, with part of the tax revenues from those slots earmarked for the tracks. Not long after that legislation was passed the racing take-out bill revamped the agreement between the state and race-track operators, an agreement that was more favorable to the tracks and horsemen as well as breeders in the state.

Then in July 2011 The Stronach Group purchased full control of the Maryland Jockey Club and became the owner of Pimlico Race Course, Laurel Park, and Bowie Training Center.

The management group, headed by former trainer and chief operating officer Tim Ritvo and president and general manager Sal Sinatra, faced a daunting task. The properties were rundown, the backstretch areas were abysmal—especially at Laurel—and there was even talk in the industry about moving the Preakness to another venue in another state.

As to the breeding picture, Maryland was a bit different from a lot of other states in that the owners of many breeding farms were deeply entrenched. The farms were family affairs and more than business sites; they were home. But even with the strong roots, many of these farms were



**Maryland Jockey Club general manager Sal Sinatra**

now in areas where the land had become more valuable as potential development sites. Reluctantly the owners began to look at other states as alternative spots to send their mares, and some sold breeding stock to stay afloat.

It was a time for hard decisions for a lot of families. Should they stick it out as owner/breeders and farm owners or sell

## 2016 MARYLAND SIRES BY WINNERS

Sire	Rnrs	Wnrs
Not For Love	97	51
Orientate	87	43
Friesan Fire	71	38
Lion Hearted	78	37
Great Notion	67	35
Petionville	71	28
Louis Quatorze	59	27
Scipion	45	22
Street Magician	47	21
Outflanker	42	20
Rock Slide	38	18
Cherokee's Boy	27	10
Sir Shackleton	15	6
Gators N Bears	13	6
Greek Sun	7	5
Etched	19	4
Redeemed	14	4
Cal Nation	11	3
Admiral Alex	8	3
Private Scandal	5	3
M Eighty	6	2
La Reine's Terms	5	2
Unbridled Mate	5	2
Cuba	4	2

MARYLAND JOCKEY CLUB

**Special Note For Sire Lists:**

For stallions that stand, will stand, or stood (deceased) in the states featured in this section (stallions that are dead or exported prior to 2012 are excluded), and have runners in North America. Listed below are all available statistics for the Northern Hemisphere through December 31, 2016. As supplied to BloodHorse by The Jockey Club Information Systems Inc., include adjusted money from Japan, Hong Kong, and Singapore. Adjusted earnings are put on par with average North American earnings from the previous year. For example, the average North American purse in 2015 is \$21,782 or 50% of the 2015 average purse in Japan. To put earnings on par, all Japanese progeny earnings are multiplied by 50% before being credited to a sire's progeny earnings. Hong Kong earnings are adjusted by 17%; Singapore by 57%. Current year stakes winners include all N.H.-foaled stakes winners worldwide and any S.H.-foaled horses that won a N.H. stakes. \*Foal counts include Southern Hemisphere. Cumulative stakes winners includes all countries. (A † indicates a sire represented by his first crop to race).

\*AVERAGE-EARNINGS INDEX and COMPARABLE INDEX: Lifetime AVERAGE-EARNINGS INDEX indicates how much purse money the progeny of one sire has earned in relation to the average earnings of all runners in the same years; average earnings of all runners in any year is represented by an index of 1.00; COMPARABLE INDEX indicates the average earnings of progeny produced from mares bred to one sire, when these same mares were bred to other sires. Only 32% of all sires have a lifetime AVERAGE-EARNINGS INDEX higher than their mares' COMPARABLE INDEX.

# V. E. DAY

English Channel - California Sunset, by Deputy Minister  
\$6,500 Live Foal

-Millionaire **G1** Travers S. winner  
defeated **G1** winners **Tonalist**, **Bayern**,  
**Wicked Strong**, and **Mr. Speaker**.

-By 6X G1SW Champion race horse  
and Champion sire **English Channel**



*"V. E. DAY was a beautiful chestnut colt with a gorgeous shoulder and a stride that covered immense ground. He ascended the three-year-old ranks in early summer in leaps and bounds as was evident by his big wins in the Curlin and Travers." -Jimmy Jerkens, trainer*

*Available for inspection*

*Waldorf*  
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Inquiries to: Dr. Jerry Bilinski, Waldorf Farm, P.O. Box 959, North Chatham, NY 12132  
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# 2016 LEADING SIRES IN WEST VIRGINIA



For daily updated sire lists visit [BloodHorse.com](http://BloodHorse.com)

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2017 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2016 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks	A-E	Comp
1	LIMEHOUSE (01, Grand Slam), O'Sullivan Farms	\$3,500	100/60	3/4	2/3	(Recount, \$181,100)	\$2,521,903	*390	21	1.22	1.17
2	WINDSOR CASTLE (98, Lord Carson), Taylor Mountain Farm	\$2,000	96/48	0/0	0/0	(Ellie's Lil Man, \$99,793)	\$1,729,071	295	10	1.04	1.01
3	CHARITABLE MAN (06, Lemon Drop Kid)	Died, 2016	68/41	1/2	0/1	(Charitable Annuity, \$299,490)	\$1,618,063	116	2	1.11	1.13
4	BOP (97, Rahy)	Died, 2012	53/32	0/0	0/0	(Summer Frock, \$89,470)	\$1,024,700	*192	4	0.93	0.85
5	DENIS OF CORK (05, Harlan's Holiday), Taylor Mountain Farm	\$500	45/23	4/4	4/4	(Return to Denis, \$107,447)	\$848,259	89	4	0.74	1.12
6	FIBER SONDE (05, Unbridled's Song), Beau Ridge Farm	\$1,000	41/19	2/3	2/2	(Bullets Fever, \$138,999)	\$830,882	120	7	1.28	0.84
7	SWISS YODELER (94, Eastern Echo), O'Sullivan Farms	\$2,000	48/28	0/0	0/0	(Swissarella, \$94,043)	\$781,915	758	15	1.00	1.04
8	PEAK DANCER (97, Mt. Livermore)	N/A	32/20	0/0	0/0	(Cashton Peak, \$48,580)	\$473,975	90	4	0.90	0.84
9	DURING (00, Cherokee Run), O'Sullivan Farms	\$1,500	22/10	1/2	0/1	(Lucy N Ethel, \$242,094)	\$365,782	195	4	0.84	1.08
10	LUFTIKUS (96, Meadowlake), Taylor Mountain Farm	\$750	33/13	0/0	0/0	(Blisstikus, \$64,878)	\$328,800	284	8	0.97	1.07
11	OFFICER ROCKET (GB) (04, Officer)	N/A	12/6	0/0	0/0	(Boppin Rocket, \$79,425)	\$317,370	20	0	1.04	0.64
12	REAL ESTATE (04, High Yield)	N/A	19/9	0/0	0/0	(March Wind, \$91,678)	\$301,958	39	0	0.68	0.82
13	FOREST GROVE (01, Forestry)	N/A	20/11	0/0	0/0	(Ravin About Richie, \$47,004)	\$220,294	111	2	0.81	1.14
14	HUNT CROSSING (09, Corinthian), O'Sullivan Farms	\$1,500	21/4	0/0	0/0	(Monavista Crossing, \$52,579)	\$189,600	53	0	0.39	0.69
15	XCHANGER (04, Exchange Rate)	N/A	15/6	0/0	0/0	(World Changer, \$48,845)	\$183,787	55	0	0.36	1.12
16	PROSPECT BAY (92, Crafty Prospector), Naylee Farm	\$1,000	10/8	0/0	0/0	(Gentlemen Dale, \$35,224)	\$181,115	286	7	0.93	1.44
17	GRAND RESERVE (02, Theatrical)	N/A	20/7	0/0	0/0	(Terian, \$34,080)	\$172,860	47	0	0.36	0.74
18	REPARATIONS (96, Forty Niner)	N/A	16/6	0/0	0/0	(Sea of Roses, \$24,548)	\$168,692	143	3	0.91	0.80
19	GHOSTLY MINISTER (97, Deputy Minister), Buckstud	\$2,500	17/10	0/0	0/0	(Racings My Game, \$27,746)	\$161,070	69	1	0.84	0.94
20	BALLADO'S GOLD (03, Saint Ballado), Witherow Farm	\$1,000	20/6	0/0	0/0	(Reyoro, \$33,008)	\$144,647	46	0	0.34	0.44
21	YARROW BRAE (95, Deputy Minister), O'Sullivan Farms	\$750	13/5	0/0	0/0	(Ever Amazing, \$44,824)	\$142,221	299	6	1.08	0.99
22	GARNERED (98, Holy Bull), Naylee Farm	\$1,000	17/4	0/0	0/0	(Nay's Back, \$49,297)	\$133,430	97	0	0.64	0.73
23	PRIDE OF BURKAAN (90, Burkaan)	N/A	18/6	0/0	0/0	(Pride Winner, \$31,075)	\$113,759	156	0	0.41	0.99
24	SIENTE EL TRUENO (07, City Zip), Stehr's Farm	\$500	4/3	0/0	0/0	(Siente El Viento, \$55,252)	\$104,899	7	0	0.85	0.61
25	ADMIRALTY ARCH (00, Arch)	Died, 2012	4/2	0/0	0/0	(Little Big Sime, \$71,597)	\$103,644	15	0	0.82	0.44

their properties and move?

To many it boiled down to a simple question:

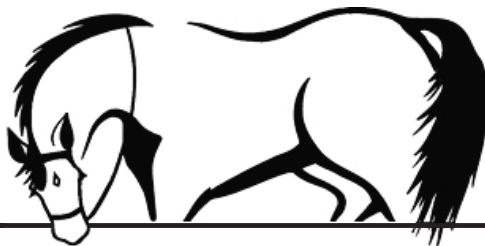
Would The Stronach Group be able to turn racing and breeding in Maryland around and revive a business that was basically on life support, or would it do what other ownership groups had done and squeeze what they could out of the tracks with little interest in long-term survival?

Owner/breeder Robert Manfuso had a unique perspective as an observer and

participant during those crucial times. Manfuso, whose family has owned and bred horses in Maryland since the 1930s, has seen things from both sides, having been involved as an owner/breeder as well as part owner and operator of racetracks. Part of the Fourbros Stable partnership that owned popular Maryland stallion Shelter Half, Manfuso, in partnership with Frank De Francis, purchased and operated Laurel and Pimlico in the mid-1980s and was in charge of the racing op-

## 2016 WEST VIRGINIA SIRES BY WINNERS

Sire	Rnrs	Wnrs
Limehouse	100	60
Windsor Castle	96	48
Charitable Man	68	41
Bop	53	32
Swiss Yodeler	48	28
Denis of Cork	45	23
Peak Dancer	32	20
Fiber Sonde	41	19
Luftikus	33	13
Forest Grove	20	11
During	22	10
Ghostly Minister	17	10
Real Estate	19	9
Prospect Bay	10	8
Grand Reserve	20	7
Ballado's Gold	20	6
Pride of Burkaan	18	6
Reparations	16	6
Xchanger	15	6
Officer Rocket (GB)	12	6
Yarrow Brae	13	5
Hunt Crossing	21	4
Garnered	17	4
Bailero (ARG)	7	4
Mesopotamia	5	3
Stored	5	3
Mikimoto's Mojo	4	3
Siente El Trueno	4	3



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# DUBLIN



Maddie May Stakes winner **DUBLIN GIRL** is 2-for-2 in January!

## Stakes Winner **DUBLIN GIRL (\$110,000)** Leading 2017 Money Winner by a NY Sire

On the board in four career starts, **DUBLIN GIRL** won a maiden special weight at Aqueduct on January 2nd and backed that 4 length win up with a determined victory in the Maddie May S. on January 29th.

Currently Second Leading NY Sire, **DUBLIN** has sired four additional winners this year and is one of only two NY sires with a 2017 stakes winner.

Leading Second Crop Sire in NY in 2016, **DUBLIN** is the sire of multiple stakes winner **DR. BLARNEY** (\$237,020), juvenile stakes winner **SAINT ALFRED** (\$58,561), multiple stakes placed **Taoiseach** (\$207,342) and stakes placed **Celtic Chaos** (\$193,580).

2017 fee: \$2,500 live foal



# 2016 LEADING SIRES IN PENNSYLVANIA



For daily updated sire lists visit [BloodHorse.com](http://BloodHorse.com)

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2017 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2016 Earnings	2016 Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	<b>JUMP START</b> (99, A.P. Indy), Northview PA	\$10,000	190/96	4/6	2/4	(Disco Chick, \$285,500)	<b>\$5,316,026</b>	*1268	41	1.47	1.33
2	<b>ROCKPORT HARBOR</b> (02, Unbridled's Song)	Died, 2013	152/88	4/6	1/4	(Majestic Harbor, \$391,060)	<b>\$3,777,184</b>	470	25	1.33	1.42
3	<b>SILVER TRAIN</b> (02, Old Trieste)	Died, 2013	113/61	1/1	1/1	(Bawlmr Hon, \$123,532)	<b>\$2,458,363</b>	*510	11	0.98	1.28
4	<b>FAIRBANKS</b> (03, Giant's Causeway), Northview PA	\$2,500	103/45	0/0	0/0	(Cosmic Destiny, \$110,640)	<b>\$2,190,352</b>	213	3	1.08	1.27
5	<b>LORD SHANAKILL</b> (06, Speightstown), Pin Oak Lane Farm	\$4,000	72/31	1/2	0/1	(My Dream Boat, \$792,890)	<b>\$1,459,722</b>	130	1	1.24	0.93
6	<b>WEIGELIA</b> (01, Safely's Mark), WynOaks Farm	\$3,500	38/17	1/1	1/1	(Fat Kat, \$158,562)	<b>\$1,365,868</b>	*75	4	1.39	0.98
7	<b>CORINTHIAN</b> (03, Pulpit), Pin Oak Lane Farm	\$2,500	124/55	0/0	0/0	(Pancake, \$71,695)	<b>\$1,313,089</b>	*478	11	0.75	1.41
8	<b>TALENT SEARCH</b> (03, Catienus), Diamond B Farm	\$2,500	57/21	1/1	1/1	(He's Got Talent, \$112,520)	<b>\$957,217</b>	*107	2	0.96	1.23
9	<b>MEDALLIST</b> (01, Touch Gold), Northview PA	\$2,000	40/19	2/2	1/2	(Love Came to Town, \$130,900)	<b>\$930,294</b>	193	7	1.27	1.39
10	<b>RIMROD</b> (00, Danzig), Castle Rock Farm	\$1,500	30/20	0/0	0/0	(Candid Cathy, \$105,520)	<b>\$768,948</b>	101	2	1.32	1.15
11	<b>BULLSBAY</b> (04, Tiznow), Northview PA	\$3,000	29/12	2/4	1/2	(Greatbullsfire, \$190,390)	<b>\$754,735</b>	46	3	1.60	1.32
12	<b>ALBERT THE GREAT</b> (97, Go for Gin)	N/A	35/14	0/0	0/0	(She's Chubs, \$99,262)	<b>\$620,695</b>	*379	8	1.13	1.13
13	<b>LOVE OF MONEY</b> (01, Not For Love)	Died, 2012	37/16	0/0	0/0	(Money for Maria, \$70,804)	<b>\$523,902</b>	124	1	0.96	1.27
14	<b>CITY SHARPSTER</b> (99, Carson City)	N/A	24/8	0/0	0/0	(Poderosa, \$106,710)	<b>\$463,892</b>	59	0	0.71	0.70
15	<b>GIMMEAWINK</b> (00, Elusive Quality)	N/A	35/12	0/0	0/0	(Gimmeaclue, \$110,575)	<b>\$449,251</b>	*223	1	0.77	1.04
16	<b>PARTNER'S HERO</b> (94, Danzig)	N/A	23/7	0/0	0/0	(Two Notch Road, \$126,138)	<b>\$434,078</b>	451	15	1.19	1.32
17	<b>WISEMAN'S FERRY</b> (99, Hennessy)	Died, 2015	29/10	0/0	0/0	(Tough Weather, \$119,989)	<b>\$429,021</b>	*294	6	1.64	1.06
18	<b>ANDIRON</b> (06, A.P. Indy), Xanthus Farms, Inc.	\$2,000	18/8	1/1	1/1	(Roxbury N Overton, \$200,980)	<b>\$393,739</b>	38	1	0.96	0.55
19	<b>GOT THE LAST LAUGH</b> (04, Distorted Humor), Diamond B Farm	\$2,500	19/8	0/0	0/0	(Dixie's Last Laugh, \$96,660)	<b>\$389,178</b>	44	0	1.15	1.18
20	<b>LITE THE FUSE</b> (91, Buckaroo)	N/A	21/10	0/0	0/0	(Downhill Dale, \$68,552)	<b>\$380,110</b>	548	22	1.21	1.17
21	<b>TRAJECTORY</b> (97, Gone West)	N/A	24/12	0/0	0/0	(Line of Best Fit, \$95,925)	<b>\$340,291</b>	372	14	1.08	1.33
22	<b>ACTIVIST</b> (94, Wild Again)	N/A	16/8	0/0	0/0	(Pink Elephant, \$54,750)	<b>\$235,211</b>	178	3	0.92	0.88
23	<b>AISLE</b> (99, Pulpit)	N/A	13/9	0/0	0/0	(Kohl, \$45,398)	<b>\$229,764</b>	85	0	0.80	0.77
24	<b>EMPEROR TIBERIUS</b> (04, Storm Cat)	N/A	4/2	1/1	1/1	(Saratoga Jack, \$154,830)	<b>\$209,210</b>	12	1	1.74	0.74
25	<b>MORE SMOKE</b> (02, Smoke Glacken), Pin Oak Lane Farm	\$1,500	7/5	1/1	0/1	(Raging Smoke, \$111,550)	<b>\$201,973</b>	53	1	1.04	1.18
26	<b>SNOW RIDGE</b> (98, Tabasco Cat)	Died, 2012	18/9	0/0	0/0	(Overland Park, \$60,678)	<b>\$198,644</b>	*288	5	0.99	1.14
27	<b>IN THE WOODS</b> (04, Forest Wildcat)	N/A	10/3	0/0	0/0	(Through Appalachia, \$70,465)	<b>\$173,655</b>	21	0	0.67	1.26
28	<b>STONECOLD BROKE</b> (98, Unbridled)	N/A	8/4	0/0	0/0	(Ghazi's Stone, \$56,259)	<b>\$156,902</b>	50	0	0.61	1.15
29	<b>FORMAL DINNER</b> (88, Well Decorated)	N/A	15/9	0/0	0/0	(Formal Class, \$60,598)	<b>\$146,462</b>	*639	23	1.07	1.09
30	<b>IT'S A BIRD</b> (03, Birdonthewire)	N/A	7/4	0/0	0/0	(Nancy Pants, \$59,234)	<b>\$133,458</b>	14	0	0.61	1.03
31	<b>REFLECT TIMES (JPN)</b> (05, French Deputy)	N/A	4/2	0/0	0/0	(Hopeful Times, \$76,017)	<b>\$130,379</b>	18	0	1.27	0.31
32	<b>¶ MAD FLATTER</b> (05, Flatter), Diamond B Farm	Died, 2016	7/3	0/0	0/0	(Windcries, \$58,420)	<b>\$125,585</b>	18	0	0.90	1.18
33	<b>SOUTHERN SUCCESS</b> (03, Dixieland Band), Dana Point Farm	\$1,000	10/1	0/0	0/0	(Southern Kisses, \$61,742)	<b>\$122,373</b>	59	1	1.06	1.15
34	<b>DELAWARE TOWNSHIP</b> (96, Notebook), Maui Meadow Farm	\$1,000	14/6	0/0	0/0	(Taylors Bridge, \$41,040)	<b>\$120,393</b>	286	7	1.06	1.19
35	<b>COASTAL STORM</b> (99, Storm Cat)	N/A	8/3	0/0	0/0	(Just too Much, \$33,810)	<b>\$106,453</b>	147	3	1.05	0.79

erations during a time that saw a rebirth of the racing industry in the state.

Today Manfuso and owner/breeder/trainer Katharine (Katy) Voss own and operate Chanceland Farm, a 191-acre breeding and training complex. Last spring Cathryn Sophia, who was foaled at

Chanceland Farm, won the Longines Kentucky Oaks (G1).

Manfuso said Cathryn Sofia is a prime example of how Maryland's improving breeding picture is paying dividends.

"I'll be very honest with you; had The Stronach Group not come in here and

begun doing the things they've been doing, there's a very good chance Cathryn Sophia would have been foaled in another state," Manfuso admitted. "I'm about as loyal to Maryland as you'll find, but I'm also a businessman whose livelihood and business future depend on the things they've been doing, there's a very good chance Cathryn Sophia would have been foaled in another state," Manfuso admitted. "I'm about as loyal to Maryland as you'll find, but I'm also a businessman whose livelihood and business future depend on the things they've been doing, there's a very good chance Cathryn Sophia would have been foaled in another state," Manfuso admitted.



Racing in Maryland is on the improve with enhanced breeder and owner bonuses



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# 2016 LEADING SIRES IN NEW JERSEY



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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2017 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2016 Earnings	Cumulative			
								Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	HEY CHUB (00, Carson City)	N/A	18/13	1/3	0/1	(Chublicious, \$149,414)	\$667,047	28	2	1.73	1.53
2	DON SIX (00, Wild Escapade)	N/A	16/11	0/0	0/0	(Don's Marsh, \$91,878)	\$500,286	79	3	1.19	1.25
3	DEFRERE (92, Deputy Minister)	N/A	36/14	0/0	0/0	(Maybe Tonight, \$98,408)	\$493,937	*589	22	1.21	1.18
4	CABLE BOY (04, Jump Start), Colonial Farms	\$1,000	6/4	1/2	0/1	(She's Hot Wired, \$212,810)	\$310,241	18	1	1.26	0.91
5	PARK AVENUE BALL (02, Citidancer)	Died, 2015	7/4	0/0	0/0	(Park Avenue Appeal, \$82,230)	\$198,303	34	0	0.79	1.32
6	KING PUMA (06, Forest Wildcat), Sleeter Farm	Private	6/2	0/0	0/0	(Shot Gun Red, \$51,950)	\$115,924	14	0	0.81	1.58

make regarding our mares. Several years back we looked to some other states like New York as alternative spots to send our mares simply because the breeding programs in those states were on the upswing. The purses were going up as well as the breeding awards, and it would have been stupid not to consider those programs for the future.”

Manfuso said it's been the passion and commitment of The Stronach Group that began to convince him and others that Maryland racing and breeding have bright futures for the long term.

“The improvements they've made to the backstretch, improvements that are continuing, have made the area a place where you no longer cringe and shake your head when you go through the stable gate,” he said. “And the changes they've made to the plant at Laurel for the fans have made it a nice place to go again. They've got some sports bars with easy access for you to go outside and watch the races live; there are entertainment areas, and the place is clean and modern. The big thing with them (the Stronach executives) is they're all racing people from Tim (Ritvo) on down. Where you had to fight

to get time to discuss problems in the old days, the Stronach people encourage discussion and openness. There's a meeting once a month where horsemen, breeders, and management get together with some coffee and pastries and talk about what's going on. If we have questions or suggestions, or they have the same, we talk about them. We don't always agree, but we talk and that's a refreshing change.

“And the racing's getting better. The fields are full; the races are tough and competitive. While it may be tougher to win a race, when you do win you get rewarded,” Manfuso added. “If you own a registered Maryland-bred, you get a 30% bonus, and if you're the breeder you get an additional 30%. Let's say you win a race with a \$40,000 purse. You get 57% or \$22,600, then as owner of a Maryland-bred you get \$6,840 and an additional \$6,840 if you're owner/breeder. So as an owner/breeder your horse can earn \$36,480 for winning a race with a \$40,000 purse.

“That's why I kept Cathryn Sophia here in Maryland, and you're seeing that happen more and more in the state. And the big thing is that while racing and the

breeding does get some funds from gaming sources in the state, the success of racing here is predicated on the racing product, not how much we get from other sources as is the case in so many other states. I'm very bullish on the future of rac-

## 2016 PENNSYLVANIA SIRES BY WINNERS

Sire	Rnrs	Wnrs
Jump Start	190	96
Rockport Harbor	152	88
Silver Train	113	61
Corinthian	124	55
Fairbanks	103	45
Lord Shanakill	72	31
Talent Search	57	21
Rimrod	30	20
Medallist	40	19
Weigelia	38	17
Love of Money	37	16
Albert the Great	35	14
Gimmeawink	35	12
Bullsbay	29	12
Trajectory	24	12
Wiseman's Ferry	29	10
Lite the Fuse	21	10
Snow Ridge	18	9
Formal Dinner	15	9
Aisle	13	9
City Sharpster	24	8
Got the Last Laugh	19	8
Andiron	18	8
Activist	16	8
Partner's Hero	23	7
Comedy Show	13	7
Delaware Township	14	6
More Smoke	7	5
Stonecoldbroke	8	4
It's a Bird	7	4
Capitano	12	3
In the Woods	10	3
Coastal Storm	8	3
Mad Flatter	7	3
Cetewayo	6	3

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## 2016 LEADING SIRES IN VIRGINIA



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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB, Sire), Where Stands	2017 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2016 Earnings	Cumulative			
								Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	<b>REBELLION (GB)</b> (03, Mozart)	N/A	27/15	0/0	0/0	(Blurrricane, \$136,524)	<b>\$604,619</b>	*42	1	1.17	1.25
2	<b>¶ FRIEND OR FOE</b> (07, Friends Lake), Smallwood Farm	\$1,000	2/2	0/0	0/0	(Code Red, \$76,763)	<b>\$129,353</b>	4	0	2.97	2.14
3	<b>COSA VERA</b> (05, Dynaformer), North Cliff Farms	Private	15/4	0/0	0/0	(Max Crown, \$35,750)	<b>\$123,215</b>	25	0	0.46	1.45

ing and breeding here.”

The figures bear out Manfuso’s confidence. In 2016 the number of mares foaled in the state rose 15.6%. Kentucky, with a modest increase of 1.7%, was the only other state in the country to show an increase in this category. According to figures released by the Sage Policy Group in a study titled “Maryland’s Horse Industry Turns a Corner,” the stallion population in the state has risen 23% over the last year.

Also, according to the study, direct horse industry spending exceeded \$660 million in 2015. The report also points out that in 2014 Country Life and Merryland Farms produced 45 foals, their largest crops since 2003.

Trainer Tim Keefe is president of the Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen’s Association.

“When they (The Stronach Group) zeroed in on Maryland, there was definitely a change in direction,” the trainer said. “I think from a breeding standpoint we’re lucky a lot of trainers in this state are also owner/trainers. I worked for people like Ron Cartwright and Gretchen Mobberley and they both owned and bred horses as

well as trained them, so there’s a lot of people dug in deep here.”

As to the changes he’s seen as a trainer, Keefe said, “There have been inquiries from new people wanting to discuss getting in the business as owner/breeders, and we’re producing more yearlings in the state, which is a solid sign things are headed in the right direction.”

Sinatra said he was flattered at some of the comments about the progress that has been made.

“Mr. Stronach looks for people with a knowledge of the business to be on his team,” Sinatra said. “The hands-on approach goes back to Tim’s background as a trainer and the time in the business most of our team has. A lot of the things we’ve done on the racing front have been good, common-sense measures regarding areas that had been overlooked or badly managed in the past.

“We’re always looking to make things a little easier for the horsemen if we can. For example, when we closed the training center at Bowie, we brought the starting gate to Laurel and positioned it in a spot where trainers could bring their horses to

that gate just to school and stand them. That way the other gate is free strictly for workers and breakers. It’s a little thing, but it helps to make the trainer’s job a little easier and that helps us.”

Sinatra also pointed out while 2.5% of slot machine proceeds in the state go toward the Racetrack Facilities Renewal Account, any improvement projects must go through review by the Maryland Racing Commission before being approved. Once they have been approved the state will pay 50% of the cost of the project.

“We’ve got a unique dynamic in Maryland right now, one where all parties are willing and eager to participate in the improvement of racing and breeding in the state. We’re partners in the racing product we produce, and we have a strong interest in the improvement of the breeding industry in the state. We have a 10-year contract, and I have confidence that once again, like the glory days of the past, there will be more champions bred in the state of Maryland.” **BH**

*Doug McCoy is a freelance writer based in Tampa, Fla.*



The mare population and foal crops in Maryland are on the rise

# GIANT SURPRISE



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