

FASIG-TIPTON ACQUIRED BY DUBAI COMPANY

Fasig-Tipton Board Chairman D.G. Van Clief Jr. announced Thursday that the sales company has reached an agreement to be acquired by Dubai-based Synergy Investments Limited. Explained Van Clief, "John Ferguson approached us to suggest Synergy might be interested in acquiring the company. Our agreement includes the understanding that Fasig-Tipton will be operated in a manner consistent with the principles of integrity, customer service and industry service which have been so critical to our success since controlling interest was acquired by the Hettinger family in 1991. These assurances were critical to John [Hettinger] and his son Bill, and our entire board of directors, in agreeing to this transaction." Ferguson added, "Synergy looks forward to building on the legacy which the Hettinger family's support has enabled Fasig-Tipton to achieve. They plan a seamless transition which includes the retention of current staff and management." According to a Fasig-Tipton press release, Abdulla Al Habbai, head of Synergy, is a close associate of Sheikh Mohammed. "We are delighted to be acquiring Fasig-Tipton," Al Habbai said. "The company has a long history of service to the North American Thoroughbred industry and has demonstrated significant growth in recent years. We believe there is potential for continued growth and superior levels of service in the future."

VERSATILE ARIEGE TAKES BEAUMONT

A maiden winner on the grass and a Grade I winner going two turns on Santa Anita's synthetic surface, **Ariège** (Doneraile Court) proved she could handle Keeneland's Polytrack and graded sprint company as well with a one-length score in yesterday's GII Stonerside Beaumont S. The dark bay filly was the 3-1 second choice off her half-length victory in the Mar. 8 GI Santa Anita Oaks. Saving ground while rating off a moderate half in :47.26, she angled outside when they raced into the stretch and gave it her all in the final furlong to get home on top. **Golden Doc A** (Unusual Heat), the 2-1 chalk after finishing runner-up in the Santa Anita Oaks, made up ground late, but once again had to settle for second. "I tried to edge my way out a couple of times; I couldn't really get out of there," said winning jockey Garrett Gomez. "I said, 'I'll just try to wait and try to explode out of there and move her back out towards the middle of the track.' She was real responsive to what I needed her to do." **Provenance**, p2-3



EquiSport

DEVILLE REDUX?

Kip Deville (Kipling) must have fond memories of Keeneland. The eye-catching gray first visited the track in October of 2006, winning the Bryan Station S., then returned last spring and captured the GII Maker's Mark Mile S. by a neck over Showing Up. The Maker's Mark has earned Grade I status for 2008, and Kip Deville will be back to defend his title, and his perfect Keeneland stats. "He's looking really good and I'm sure he'll run huge, assuming he's looking to run off the bench," trainer Rick Dutrow Jr. told *DRF*. The five-year-old has not been out since capping off 2007 with a victory in the GI Breeders' Cup Mile, but he has scored off the shelf before. The Oklahoma-bred opened last season with a neck win in the GI Kilroe Mile H. at Santa Anita. "The layoff, that's not a concern for me," Dutrow continued. "Ever since the Breeders' Cup, he's been perfect. Everything has gone like clockwork, like you can't even imagine."

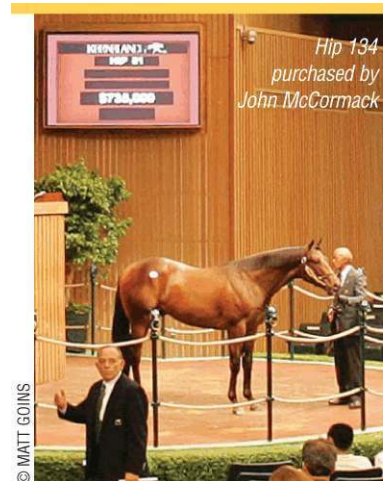


Pat Lang

Friday, Keeneland, post time: 5:10 p.m. EDT

MAKER'S MARK MILE S.-GI, \$300,000, 4yo/up, 1mT

PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER	ODDS
1	Kip Deville	Kipling	Dutrow Jr	5-2
2	Einstein (Brz)	Spend a Buck	Pitts	4-1
3	Parading	Pulpit	McGaughey	20-1
4	Ruff and Ready	More Than Ready	Pletcher	10-1
5	Thousand Words (GB)	Dansili (GB)	Frankel	10-1
6	Zann	Dynaformer	McLaughlin	10-1
7	Cosmonaut	Lemon Drop Kid	Serpe	6-1
8	Out of Control (Brz)	Vettori (Ire)	Frankel	10-1
9	Shakis (Ire)	Machiavellian	McLaughlin	8-1
10	War Monger	War Chant	Mott	10-1
11	Thorn Song	Unbridled's Song	Romans	15-1



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Thursday, Keeneland Race Course

STONERSIDE BEAUMONT S.-GII, \$250,000, KEE, 4-10, 3yo, f, a7f (AWT), 1:25 4/5, ft.

1--**ARIEGE**, 123, f, 3, by [Doneraile Court](#)

1st Dam: Kostroma (Ire) (Hwt. Older Mare-Ire at 7-9.5f, MGISW-US, GSW & G1SP-Ire, \$1,205,813), by Caerleon

2nd Dam: Katie May (GB), by Busted (GB)

3rd Dam: Cawston's Pride, by *Con Brio II (\$75,000 yrl '06 KEESEP). O-IEAH Stables & Pegasus Holding Group Stables; B-Calumet Farm (KY); T-Robert J Frankel; J-Garrett K Gomez; \$155,000. Lifetime Record: GISW, 7-3-1-1, \$387,531. *1/2 to Ballet Pacifica (Minardi), SW & GSP-Fr, GSP-US.

Click for the [eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree](#).

Werk Nick Rating: C.

2--**Golden Doc A**, 123, f, 3, Unusual Heat--Penpont (NZ), by Crested Wave. O-Ron McCauley; B-David Abrams (CA); T-Barry Abrams; \$50,000.

3--**Passion**, 119, f, 3, Came Home--Rajmata, by Known Fact. (\$260,000 2yo '07 KEEAPR). O-Michael Tabor, Mrs John Magnier & Derrick Smith; B-Trudy McCaffery (KY); T-Todd A Pletcher; \$25,000.

Margins: 1, 2HF, 3/4. Odds: 3.20, 2.40, 10.00.

Also Ran: Keep the Peace, Zee Zee, Tasha's Miracle, Officer Cherrie, Acacia, Armonk. Scratched: Minewander.

Click for the [brisnet.com chart](#), the [brisnet.com PPs](#) or the [free brisnet.com catalogue-style pedigree](#). [Video, sponsored by Taylor Made.](#)



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Purchased by Fast Track Bloodstock as a \$75,000 KEESEP yearling, Ariege was carrying Mrs. John



Beaumont Trophy Presentation
trackphotographer.com

Magnier's colors when she romped in her Killarney debut last July. She came back to finish a solid fourth in the Aug. 12 G2 Debutante S. at The Curragh. IEAH Stables and Pegasus Holding Group bought Ariege after that effort, but she

bled in the Sept. 13 G2 May Hill S. at Doncaster and beat just one. Things have improved since the dark bay returned to the States. Third in the Dec. 30 Blue Norther S. on the Santa Anita turf and second in the Feb. 2 GIII La Habra S. going down the hill at the Arcadia oval, she made her synthetic bow in the Santa Anita Oaks and scored her first U.S. victory. Ariege will have the chance to prove she can get the job done on a conventional dirt surface in the May 2 G1 Kentucky Oaks at Churchill Downs.

Golden Ring...

One of California's best turf mares of the early 1990s, Kostroma compiled a record of 26-12-2-3 and bankrolled over \$1.2 million. She was acquired by Henryk de Kwiatkowski's Calumet Farm for \$1.05 million at Keeneland November in 1994 while carrying her first foal by Forty Niner. Calumet sold most of her offspring at auction, getting \$300,000 for her 1995 Storm Cat colt and \$425,000 for her 1997 Danzig filly, but Kostroma wasn't represented by a black-type performer until Violet Eyed Diva (Swain {Ire}), a foal of 2000, finished third in the Denise Rhudy Memorial S. Calumet bought the mare back when she RNA'd for \$225,000 in foal to Aljabr in 2001. Her 2003 filly, Ballet Pacifica (Minardi)--a \$70,000 KEESEP yearling--captured a listed race in France and placed in Grade III events on both sides of the Atlantic. De Kwiatkowski passed away in 2003, but his children have maintained the Calumet operation. His daughter Arianne purchased Kostroma's 2006 Kafwain filly outright at KEESEP last year for \$150,000; now named Biswa, she is in training with Jim Bolger in Ireland. "She's a bigger, huskier filly than Ariege," said Arianne de Kwiatkowski, who added that she wanted to keep a filly out of Kostroma. The 22-year-old mare, barren last year, is due imminently to War Chant.

Beaumont Provenance cont.



Beaumont Provenance cont.

While racing in Europe, Ariege caught the eye of former trainer and current TVG analyst Frank Lyons, as well as partner Andy Smith. "Andy Smith recommended this filly in Ireland last year," Lyons said from Keeneland when reached by phone yesterday. "I looked at her and told [IEAH co-president] Mike Iavarone that he had to have this filly. She's very well-balanced, flawless to look at and very sound. She's as well balanced a race-horse as you're going to see. She disappointed in the [G2] May Hill S. [finished 11th, Sept. 13] while carrying IEAH silks for the first time, but she bled that day. I knew we had to bring her to California. She seemed much more like an American type. There's nothing she can't do. She ran great going down the hill at Santa Anita, stretched out to win a Grade I on the Cushion and cut back again to win here. The options are endless with this filly."

Thursday, Oaklawn Park

COUNT FLEET SPRINT H.-GIII, \$150,000, OPX, 4-10, 4yo/up, 6f, 1:09 3/5, wf.

1--**@SEMAPHORE MAN**, 118, g, 6, by **Formal Gold**
 1st Dam: **Semaphore Ms.** (MSW, \$133,393), by **Lost Code**
 2nd Dam: **Ms. Emily Ann**, by **Conquistador Cielo**
 3rd Dam: **Teacher's Joy**, by ***Daryl's Joy** (\$52,000 yrl '03 KEESEP). O-Double Bogey Stable; B-Mr & Mrs John D Murphy (KY); T-Kelly R Von Hemel; J-Timothy T Doocy; \$90,000. Lifetime Record: 21-7-5-5, \$397,110. **Werk Nick Rating: C+**. Click for the [eNicks report and 5-cross pedigree](#).

2--**Junior College**, 118, g, 6, Ide--Smithie, by **Beau Genius**. O-Mjaka Stables; B-Mjaka I Stable (KY); T-Anthony L Reinstedler; \$30,000.
 3--**Lovango**, 116, c, 4, Capote--Humming Sound, by **Hansel**. (\$47,000 yrl '05 KEESEP). O-Barry Butzow; B-Latitude 27 LLC (KY); T-M Robertson; \$15,000. Margins: 1 1/4, NK, 1. Odds: 1.80, 2.90, 7.10. Also Ran: **Evening Reward**, **Vicarino**, **Piratesonthelake**, **Saalb**. Click for the [brisnet.com chart](#) or the [brisnet.com PPs](#). [Video, sponsored by Taylor Made](#).

Count Fleet cont.

Six-for-10 at Oaklawn, Semaphore Man added to that stellar record with this game score. The six-year-old gelding returned after nearly eight months on the shelf to be third behind undefeated Euroears in a stakes at Fair Grounds Jan. 12, then took the King Cotton S. over this track Feb. 2. He failed to get the better of Euroears once again in the D.F. Kenner S. in New Orleans Mar. 8, but was one to watch with the return to Hot Springs. Quick from the gate, Semaphore Man vied for the early lead and was still fighting at the eighth pole, but edged clear late to win handily.

Today's Graded Stakes
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9:20a **Prix Penelope-G3**, SCL

5:10p **Maker's Mark Mile-G1**, KEE

All Times Eastern Daylight Time.

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☆ PREVIEWS ☆

Friday, Saint-Cloud, France, post time: 3:20 p.m.

PRIX PENELOPE-G3, €80,000, 3yo, f, 1 5/16mT

SC	PP	HORSE	SIRE	TRAINER
1	3	Vadsalina (Ire)	Sagacity (Fr)	de Royer-Dupre
2	5	Sanjida (Ire)	Polish Precedent	de Royer-Dupre
3	2	La Fresca (GB)	Peintre Celebre	Bollack-Badel
4	6	Top Toss (Ire)	Linamix (Fr)	de Nicolay
5	4	Quarayed	Dynaformer	Rouget
6	1	Gagnoa (Ire)	Sadler's Wells	Fabre

All carry 126 pounds.



Todd Pletcher,
Trainer

"From his very first works he showed us he was a horse of the highest class. He had great tactical speed and a marvelous will to win. He's a Grade 1 winner at 2 and 3 and is also a very correct horse. I have no doubt he will go on and make his name as a top stallion."

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