

NEWS & VIEWS

You Can Use

MD-bred Knicks Go Wins Pegasus, Heads to Dubai World Cup

In early January, the Maryland Thoroughbred racehorse Knicks Go was named Top Mid-Atlantic-bred Horse of the Year for the second year in a row by a *Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred* and *The Racing Biz* poll. Bred in Maryland by



The Stronach Group

Maryland-bred Knicks Go wins the \$3 million Pegasus World Cup Invitational.

Angie Moore, the five-year-old grey just added the \$3 million Pegasus World Cup Invitational (G1) to his list of wins, bringing his career earnings up to \$3,088,995 as of press.

Trained by Brad Cox for owners KRA Stud Farm, Knicks Go broke early around the first turn of the 1 1/8-mile race to take the lead with Last Judgment and Tax close behind. With Joel Rosario in the irons, Knicks Go maintained control of the race throughout the far turn and down the homestretch. Rosario mildly encouraged Knicks Go in the final stretch to win by 2 3/4 lengths. "He's a very special horse. He just goes faster and faster," Rosario stated after the race.

Next up for the Maryland-bred is the 25th running of the \$12 million Dubai World Cup, set to run this month on March 27 at the Meydan Racecourse in the UA.

The son of Paynter, Knicks Go is out of the Outflanker mare Kosmo's Buddy.

Moscato Earns Eclipse Award

Bruton Street-US had a stand-out 2020 season with three horses making it as finalists for the Eclipse Award in Steeplechasing. Earning the Eclipse was Moscato, the British-bred 10-year-old gray gelding. His 2020 season included two wins in just three starts.

Trained by Jack Fisher and ridden by Michael Mitchell, Moscato won the Hurdle Handicap Stakes at the Middleburg Spring Races in June. The following month, he won the Hurdle

Stakes at the Saratoga Races before finishing third in the Hurdle Handicap Stakes, also at Saratoga, in August.

The Eclipse Awards are voted on jointly by the National Thoroughbred Racing Association, the *Daily Racing Form* and the National Turf Writers and Broadcasters.

Brynn Miller Receives AffloVest

Ten-year-old Brynn Miller of Dickerson received a surprise AffloVest donation from the Lea Marie Faraone Foundation as part of the organization's "Fly Me To The Moon" grant program. The program helps young people battling with chronic illnesses. Miller is a Cystic Fibrosis patient who hasn't let the illness slow her down as she foxhunts, shows and even races ponies.

The AffloVest is the first battery-operated High Frequency Chest Wall Oscillation therapy that lets patients with CF, bronchiectasis and other neuromuscular diseases receive state-of-the-art airway clearance therapy on the go.



Liz Zander

Potomac Hunt member Brynn Miller wearing the new AffloVest, donated by the Lea Marie Faraone Foundation.

The International Biosphysics Corporation out of Austin, TX, developed the vest.

The vest was presented to Miller on January 23 at her family's Furnace Ford Farm. "Donations like this are what the Lea Marie Faraone Foundation is all about," said Laura O'Donnell-Faraone, Director and Co-Founder of LMFF. "The AffloVest will improve Brynn's quality of life by allowing her to receive treatments on the go and not take away from time she can devote to things she is passionate about, like foxhunting."

Riders Raise Funds for KY 5*

On February 2, the organizers of the Land Rover Kentucky Three-Day Event announced it would be canceling the April 5* for the second year in a row due to the COVID-19 pandemic. "With so many uncertainties still remaining regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, it is premature for US Equestrian to remove its restrictions on spectators," stated Mike Cooper, President of Equestrian Events, Inc. (EEI), which produces the Kentucky 5*. The cancellation made the Maryland Five Star at Fair Hill, slated for this October, the only 5* on the U.S. FEI calendar for 2021.

Immediately after the announcement, upper level event riders and Kentucky 5* fans created a social media grassroots fundraising effort. By February 9, the effort had raised over \$550,000 for the event, prompting organizers to announce on February 10 that they will hold the event as scheduled. "We are humbled and honored by the response of the eventing community as they've stepped up in a mind-blowing way enabling us to go forward," Cooper stated.

EEI had previously stated it needed \$750,000 to run the event without spectators. In its February 10 press release, the organization stated they feel confident they can find the remaining funds needed to hold the event.

As of press, spectators still are not allowed at the event, however organizers have said that if restrictions are lifted, they will work towards allowing a limited number of spectators to attend in a COVID-19 safe way. Priority will be given to those who purchased tickets in 2020 and elected to roll over their tickets to 2021.

New Protocols for Claimed Horses at MD Tracks

On February 12, the Maryland Racing Commission implemented a new protocol concerning claimed horses at Maryland tracks. Claimed horses will no longer be picked up in the paddock and instead will be brought to a new Claim Only Barn by the horse's original groom. That groom will stay with the horse until it is released.

While in the Claim Only Barn, the horse will be observed during cooling out and will be required to jog for the State Veterinarian. At this point, the horse will either be cleared to leave with the new owner's groom or the claim will be voided.

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