



Cromwell on the Rise cont.

Bell lives near Lexington with his wife Lauren and his two daughters, Eloise, 2, and the 4-month-old Daisy. He says his goals are simple--buy good horses and build his client base. And, hopefully, to do some more traveling: he reports that No Nay Never is being considered for next year's G1 St. James's Palace S. at Royal Ascot.

McCann: Sharp as a Whip...

When Bob McCann, who runs the Lexington-based McCann Bloodstock, saw that Sharp as a Whip (Successful Appeal) was entered in the 2011 FTKFEB sale, he jumped at the opportunity to buy the broodmare prospect for a modest \$8,700. He co-bred the filly and sold her three years earlier at KEESEP for \$90,000, and though she hadn't won, Sharp as a Whip had run some very strong races during Monmouth's Elite Summer Meet.

"She was a beautiful mare, but she got hurt and maybe didn't live up to her promise," said McCann. "I was actually in a casino in Louisiana [when she sold], so I had Sally Thomas bid for her."

Yesterday, McCann's faith in Sharp as a Whip was rewarded when he sold her first foal, a colt by Super Saver, for \$160,000. James Herbener, Jr. consigned the colt as [hip 2322](#).

"He's a good, correct, beautifully balanced colt," said McCann, who co-bred the youngster with Bart Mahan. "He's got a great mind, and he looks like a racehorse to me."

The family's been good to McCann over the years. He bought the colt's third dam, Sharp Tradition (Sharpen Up {GB}), for \$36,000 back at the 2001 Keeneland January Sale. In partnership, he bred several good runners out of her, including last year's GIII Hawthorne Derby upsetter Two Months Rent (Purim). McCann didn't breed one of Sharp Tradition's earlier stakes winners, Dynasharp (Dynaformer), but was so fond of the family he bought her privately when her racing days were through. Along with Ronald Kirk and Joint Venture Horses, McCann bred and sold Dynasharp's good performer Ballynoe (Distorted Humor), a \$310,000 KEENOV weanling in 2005 who later became a stakes winner for the Tom Proctor barn.

McCann was born and raised in Winchester, Kentucky. He played golf at Morehead State, and when he graduated went to work from the ground up in the horse business. He launched McCann Bloodstock in 1986.

"We mostly broker stallion seasons and shares," said McCann. "But we'll race a filly here and there and try to turn her into a broodmare. I enjoy playing in all aspects of the game, really."

One of McCann's biggest successes came with the Storm Cat filly Sardula, whom he bred in partnership with Pope McLean, Sr. and Overbrook Farm. Sardula won the GI Hollywood Starlet in 1993 and the following year's GI Kentucky Oaks.

EATON SALES

Hip # 2577 filly
Henrythenavigator - I'm Breathtaking

From Canadian Sovereign & TOBA Award winning breeder Windhaven Farm, this filly is a half sister to 2YO **Malabu Moon** colt **Matador** who was 4th in the Vandal S. his first start and 3rd in the G2 Summer S. at Woodbine Saturday

Look for this outstanding yearling selling today in **Barn 1** Keeneland September

EATONsales

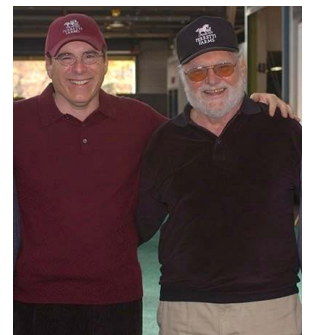
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McCann currently has about 10 mares that he splits between Thomas, Herbener and McLean's Crestwood Farm. He said that Sharp as a Whip has a Scat Daddy weanling on the ground and his currently back in foal to Midnight Lute.

Among the Best in Harness Racing, Perretti Farms Looks to Conquer Thoroughbreds...

Can a farm operate at the highest levels of harness racing, reverse course in mid-stream and be equally as successful in the Thoroughbred business? At Perretti Farms, they believe they can and that they will.

Perretti Farms, an active buyer at the Keeneland September Sale, was founded in the late 1980s by auto dealer Bill Perretti and quickly became one of the top breeding operations in harness racing. It raced 1998 Hambletonian winner Muscles Yankee then developed him into one of the top trotting stallions in the sport. Perretti also stood Rocknroll Hanover, who became the most successful pacing sire of his era before his death earlier this year.



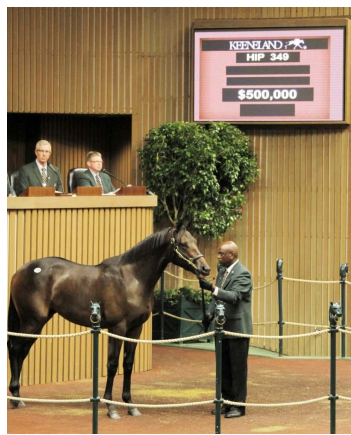
Father and son team of Anthony and Bill Perretti

Cont. p9



Perretti Farms Looks to Conquer Thoroughbreds cont.

But changes in the landscape of harness racing began to work against the Perretti operation, which is based in Cream Ridge, New Jersey. Where New Jersey used to be the center of the harness breeding universe, the industry there was



The Perrettis top Keeneland purchase was Hip 349, by Quality Road
Horsephotos

decimated by competition from slots-rich neighbors in Pennsylvania and New York and by the demise of the Meadowlands. The premature death of Rocknroll Hanover earlier this year at age 11 from a gastric impaction made it even more clear that it was in Perretti's best interests to try something else.

"We see opportunities and we see an upswing in the market with Thoroughbreds," said Anthony Perretti, Bill Perretti's son and the

general manager of Perretti Farms. "Getting into Thoroughbreds is something my father has always wanted to do. The death of Rocknroll Hanover certainly accelerated this decision. It took Mr. Perretti 25-30 years to get a pacing stallion like Rocknroll Hanover. Losing him took a physical and emotional toll on everyone at the farm. It was very difficult."

Bill Perretti, now 86, was prepared to make a splash in the Thoroughbred business in the mid-90s and bought some horses at that time. But when Muscles Yankee started to flourish and it was clear he was going to become a stallion, Bill Perretti sold his Thoroughbreds and used the money to buy Standardbred broodmares. He needed them to support Muscles Yankee and prop up the Perretti breeding operation.

Perretti's claim to fame in Thoroughbred racing thus far is that it is the owner of multiple stakes winner Forty Tales, who has won the GII Derby Trial S., GII Woody Stephens S. and GII Amsterdam S. this year. He was purchased for \$80,000 in 2011 at the Fasig-Tipton July yearling sale.

On the Thoroughbred side, there appeared to be little else going on with Perretti, an operation that appeared to be doing little more than dabbling in what harness racing folks like to call "the runners."

But that's no longer the case. Perretti has made its presence felt at Keeneland, where it has made it clear that it intends to play the Thoroughbred game at the highest level. Through Monday, Perretti had purchased eight yearlings, all colts, at Keeneland for a total of \$1.45 million. The top purchases were [hip 349](#), a Quality Road colt for \$500,000; and [hip 485](#), a half-brother to GI Bluegrass S. winner Brilliant Speed (Dynaformer), by Stormy Atlantic, for \$300,000. Four horses were purchased for less than \$100,000 each and are pinhooking candidates.

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"We have a pretty decent sized stable already," Anthony Perretti said. "We come from the breeding side in the Standardbred business and don't race a lot of horses ourselves. But with dad being 86 he wants the action of the racing. Ultimately, we are looking at colts and we want the colts to have the potential to be stallions. The way Mr. Perretti is looking at the scenario, the horse has to be eligible to go all the way, to become a stud. Hopefully in future we will be buying some more fillies, will buy some weanlings at the upcoming sale and maybe some broodmares."



The Perrettis developed 1998 Hambletonian winner Muscles Yankee into a top sire

US Trotting Photo

Jim Crupi signed for the Perretti purchases and is part of the Perretti team working Keeneland. Ed Rosen has been brought in as a pedigree expert. Working with people who have a background in Thoroughbreds and the sales has helped the Perrettis get over an obvious learning curve.

"We have looked at a lot of horses over last 30 years in the Standardbred business, so we feel like we have a little bit of a heads up in regard to racetrack soundness and conformation," Perretti said. "We just need to catch up with the pedigree aspects and in that area we have had ample help on all ends of the spectrum with Ed Rosen and Jim Crupi." **Cont. p10**



Perretti Farms Looks to Conquer Thoroughbreds cont.

Perretti wouldn't say how big the operation will grow to be, only that their hope is to develop a number of good horses. But they are not the types to go about this quietly or without big goals.

"We are going to use the same formula that we used for harness racing," Perretti said. "We want to stand stallions, we want quality mares and we will have some race horses. That's our background and how we've had success. It's probably more difficult to do so in the Thoroughbred game, but we'll try to look forward and try to be successful."

Bill Perretti may be an octogenarian, but his son says the farm is in the Thoroughbred business for the long haul. The Standardbred operation still has the sires Lucky Chucky and Muscles Yankee, but the latter has declined in popularity now that he is up there in years at 18. Both stallions have been moved to Pennsylvania.

"At this point and we need to go into a minimal situation with the harness and expand our profit potential and mobility into the Thoroughbred business," Perretti explained.

So far, Perretti's accomplishments in Thoroughbred racing amount to the five races Forty Tales has won and a second-place finish in a maiden race at Belmont earlier this week by a horse named Moonluck. That's not much. But this is an operation with a history of success, albeit with another breed of horse, and some major goals. You don't want to bet against them.

-Bill Finley

GRADED/GROUP RESULTS

Tuesday, Nakayama, Japan

ST.LITE KINEN-G2, ¥100,540,000, Nakayama, 9-17, 3yo, 2200mT, 2:12.30, firm

1--#**@YULE SINGING (JPN)**, 123, c, 3, by **Symboli Kris S**
 1st Dam: **Joli Noel (Jpn)**, by **Special Week (Jpn)**
 2nd Dam: **Christmas Tree (Jpn)**, by **Tony Bin (Ire)**
 3rd Dam: **Oak Tree (Jpn)**, by **Real Shadai**

O-Shadai Race Horse; B-Shadai Farm; T-Kazuhiro Seishi; J-Hiroshi Kitamura ; ¥53,078,000. Lifetime Record: 7-3-2-1. **Werk Nick Rating: A+++**Triple Plus****

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

2--**Derby Fizz (Jpn)**, 123, c, 3, **Jungle Pocket (Jpn)**--
 Manhattan Fizz (Jpn), by Sunday Silence. O-Shadai Race Horse; B-Shadai Farm; ¥21,308,000.

3--**Admire Spica (Jpn)**, 123, c, 3, **King Kamehameha (Jpn)**--
 Aile d'Ange (Jpn), by Sunday Silence. (¥41,000,000 yrl '11 JRHAJUL). O-Riichi Kondo; B-Northern Farm; ¥13,154,000.

Margins: NO, 3/4, 1. Odds: 5.20, 6.90, 10.50.

Click for the [free brisnet.com catalogue-style pedigree](#).



You can also pick up a copy of the TDN today at the Keeneland September Yearling Sale.

THE TALE OF EKATI

 GROWS AT KEESEP

\$400,000 Ellie's Moment filly
 Breeder: Phillips Racing Partnership
 Buyer: K. K. Eishindo

\$170,000 London Valley colt
 Breeder: Catherine Jennings
 Buyer: Garry Simms, Agent for James Driver

\$160,000 Perfect Paula colt
 Breeder: Extern Developments, Ltd
 Buyer: A.E.I. Investments

More first-crop yearlings sell this week.

The TALE OF EKATI continues at
DARBY DAN
 . C O M

Tale of the Cat - Silence Beauty (Jpn),
 by Sunday Silence
 Contact Ryan Norton: (859) 254-0424

Hip 861 sold for **\$400,000** at KEESEP by Darby Dan Sales