



# Barretts March Selected Two-Year-Olds in Training Sale Preview

by DEBRA GINSBURG

On Tuesday, March 2, Barretts Equine Ltd. will conduct its annual March Sale of Selected Two-Year-Olds in Training in the Hinds Pavilion at Fairplex Park in Pomona, Calif. This year's catalogue features 175 2-year-olds, plus a dispersal of The Thoroughbred Corp. which includes 48 horses of racing age and five unraced 2-year-olds. The dispersal kicks off the March 2004 sale, which is scheduled to begin at 2 p.m.

The Thoroughbred Corp. was the racing name for Saudi Arabian Prince Ahmed bin Salman, often a major buyer at this particular Barretts sale, who sadly died of a heart attack during the summer of 2002. Salman campaigned many outstanding Barretts sale graduates, including California-breds Officer and Arabian Light.

Among the horses to be offered in the dispersal is multiple graded stakes winner Atlantic Ocean, the 2002 Barretts March sale topper. Also selling is Windsharp's 3-year-old Storm Cat colt, Ancient Art. A multiple grade I winner of \$1,191,600, Windsharp sold for \$6.1 million at Keeneland last November. The colt offered here is a half-brother to Johar, who dead-heated for first in last year's Breeders' Cup Turf. Also included are three California-bred juveniles by Event of the Year (Golden Eagle Farm). The dispersal is being handled by Kristin Mulhall, daughter of The Thoroughbred Corp.'s longtime manager, Richard Mulhall.

Prince Salman's absence was sorely felt at last year's March sale, which had to contend with a weak economy and impending war with Iraq. Led by Canadian-based diamond miner Charles Fipke, who bought a Sea of Secrets colt for a world record \$2.7 million, other wealthy buyers stepped in to take the Prince's place and spend \$12,228,000 for 86 horses. Still, the average of \$142,186 was down 5.2 percent from 2002 figures and the median declined 33.3 percent to \$60,000.

More alarming was the 48.9 buyback rate, as nearly half the horses catalogued failed to sell.

Hoping to get this year's March sale back on track, there should be enough juveniles to appeal to any kind of price range. The sale features 30 individual consignors with 36 consignments.

The consignor of the Sea of Secrets colt as well as the top-selling filly, Becky Thomas' Sequel Bloodstock is bringing 18 head to this year's sale. Highlighting her consignment is a Yan-



kee Victor half-sister to 2001 Eclipse and California Champion Gourmet Girl, as well as a Bernstein half-sister to multiple Cal-bred stakes winner Subtle Trouble (\$585,854). Thomas pinhooked Del Mar Yearling Sale graduates Arabian Light and Officer back into Barretts and her latest success story is House of Fortune, a frontrunner for California's juvenile filly title in 2003.

Chapman Farms, which sold an El Prado (Ire) half-brother to two-time Santa Anita Handicap winner Milwaukee Brew for \$1 million last year, is back with 13 more youngsters. One of these is a Souvenir Copy half-brother to Cal-bred stakes winners Only the Best and Remy Sexy. Also selling is a Mr. Greeley filly from the family of California Champion Gibson County and a Malibu Moon filly out of Ivory Mint, a stakes-winning half-sister to California sire Falstaff (Creston Farms).

Jerry Bailey Sales Agency is also bringing 13 horses, including a half-brother to Eclipse and Breeders' Cup Sprint Champion Kona Gold who is from War Chant's first crop.

The (Andy) Havens Bloodstock Agency is selling 11 juveniles, including a Charismatic filly from the family of stakes winners Shywing, Compelling Sound and Creston. This consignment also features a Mt. Livermore filly out of California Champion Approved to Fly and a Free House (Vessels Stallion Farm) filly out of Sixty Saint, a stakes-winning half-sister to California stallion Six Below (Cardiff Stud Farms).

Other notable youngsters to look out for in this year's sale include a gelded Paxos (Malibu Valley Farms) half-brother to 2002 California Champion Humorous Lady in Mary Knight's consignment. Newcomer Wavertree Stables Inc. (Ciaran Dunne) has consigned a Lord Carson (Tommy Town Thoroughbreds LLC) half-brother to 2002 California Champion and \$1.7 million earner Grey Memo, as well as a Swiss Yodeler (Pepper Oaks Farm) half-brother to 2003 multiple stakes-winning juvenile Don'tsellmeshort, a leading candidate for California's 2003 juvenile male honors.

In addition to the local stallions already mentioned, Anziyan (Creston Farms), Beau Genius (Ballena Vista Farm), Bertrando (River Edge Farm), General Meeting (Golden Eagle Farm), Vessels Stallion Farm's In Excess (Ire), Roar and Storm Creek (Rancho San Miguel), and Valid Wager (Tommy Tommy Thoroughbreds LLC) all have juveniles in the sale. The major national sires include A. P. Indy, Fasliyev, Giant's Causeway, Grand Slam, Kris S., Mr. Prospector, Sadler's Wells, Seattle Slew, Storm Cat and Unbridled.

There will be training previews on Feb. 23 and Feb. 29, starting at 10 a.m. For catalogues and additional information, contact Barretts at (800) 467-7379 or BarrettsEq@aol.com.