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Stabell talk

Annike Bye Hansen's team

Geir Stabell's presentation of Annike Bye Hansen's horses in training for the 2023 season. The team is headed by **Hard One To Please, Horse of The Year** after an excellent 2022 campaign capped off by a win against older horses in Scandinavia's most important event, the Stockholm Cup International (G3), to add to impressive Derby wins in Sweden and Norway.

I Rest My Case, another award winning performer, was Champion Homebred in 2022, when she also became the top earner at Øvrevoll Galopp. She actually earned a bit more than Hard One To Please at home – though he made big bucks in Sweden of course, where he became the season's top moneymaker after just two runs on Swedish soil. These two are still in training, alongside others with strong achievements in 2022, like General de Vega, Takeko and Tambora Queen.

One change this year, compared to the past three seasons, is that Annike has more juveniles in her care, something that will make 2023 particularly interesting – though also affect the average number of starts per horse. Some of the older horses may be kept busy, the highest rated horses will get selective campaigns, while the youngsters will mainly be on a learning curve. Skoganstallen houses horses for just about every division on the flat and and we should have a lot to look forward to.



Annike presented with Hard One To Please's Horse of The Year Award

Admiral de Vega – on the right track



Admiral de Vega impressing on Derby day Photo: www.hesteguiden.com

Admiral de Vega, yet another talented son of Lope de Vega, won three of his five races last year and those three wins have one thing in common; they were gained in events that have worked out tremendously well. While improving with each start, Admiral de Vega was beating horses that were either coming off career best efforts or moving onto career best efforts in their subsequent starts. Normally, it's easy to pick a hole or two in handicap races – not so when it came to those Admiral de Vega won. Nor the 3yo contest that set the ball rolling, for that matter. It was all rock solid, and who know what this four-year-old can achieve in 2023. There are no guarantees in this sport, and to say that he absolutely will continue improving at four would be folly, though it does appear likely that he will.

His first win was gained over 1600 metres over a good turf course in late July, when he just pipped fellow sophomore Let's Go Crazy in a close photo finish. Trent was 5 ½ lengths back in third place. This form stood up to inspection all right. Not only did Admiral de Vega win on his next two runs, so did Let's Go Crazy, picking up a couple of nice races at Bro Park. >>>

Admiral de Vega became one of Annike's runners on what was to become a memorable Derby day, and he made his contribution by beating Harrier Hawk, Close To Perfect and Purple Ace in the competitive Sudost Handicap over 1600 metres. The race was worth 55.000 kroner to the winner. Admiral de Vega's final kick was impressive enough to start believing that he will one day be running for bigger purses. His runner-up had won his two preceding races and came to Derby day with a strong formline reading 6th, 1st, 2st, 1st, 1st. Close To Perfect went on to win next time out, while Purple Ace won his next two races.

Naturally, these two wins meant that Admiral de Vega would have to move up in class, though Annike wisely decided to stick to handicap company for his next outing, in the Victoria Prada Handicap over 1370 metres in September. Admiral de Vega won again, this time beating Herewegodandy by 1 ¾ lengths, with Miss Haven third and Intella fourth. The latter was the winner of the Norwegian 1.000 Guineas. Miss Haven went on to win the valuable Adalöpfung in Sweden the following month, and Herewegodandy was coming off win when meeting 'the Admiral' in the Victoria Prada.

Admiral de Vega was given one crack at a stakes event as his final outing at three, and ran respectably to take third, beaten by Running Rolf and Chianti, in the Mischa Kahns Minneslöpfung at Bro Park in October. That was on dirt, and whether he liked it or not is hard to say. His turf form has been so smart, however, and his turn of foot makes one to lean towards the belief that turf will always be his came. As they say; only time will tell.

LOPE DE VEGA (IRE) ch. 2007	SHAMARDAL (USA) b. 2002 [IC]	GIANTS CAUSEWAY (USA) ch. 1997 [C]
		HELSINKI (GB) b. 1993
	LADY VETTORI (GB) b. 1997	VETTORI (IRE) b. 1992
		LADY GOLCONDA (FR) ch. 1992
ASHAAQAH (IRE) b. 2010	DANSILI (GB) br. 1996	DANEHILL (USA) b. 1986
		HASILI (IRE)* br. 1991
	KAREEMAH (IRE) ch. 2005	PEINTRE CELEBRE (USA) ch. 1994
		RAHAYEB (GB) b. 1996

Case Closed – half brother to Semper Fi



A gelded son of Deceptor, the three-year-old Case Closed is out of the Academy Award mare Candyfloss, who won twice and was runner-up eight times in a career spanning 17 starts. Candyfloss was no star but she was a game and genuine handicapper who won over 1800 metres at Klampenborg in Denmark and over 2400 metres at Gothenburg in Sweden, where she defeated the six-time winner Sir Benjamin. Her best piece of form was probably when she ran second to Ray in the prestigious Sceptre Stakes over 2200 metres at Klampenborg as a four-year-old. She was also second best in the Breeders' Cup Consolation, run over 1800 metres at the same venue, during the same campaign. Bred by Stutteri Hjortebo in Denmark, Candyfloss earned handicap 79 at her best. She was trained by Søren Jensen. Her record at stud is a work in progress as she has thus far produced one smart winner, namely Semper Fi, a daughter of Scandinavian champion Appel Au Maitre. Semper Fi is a name racing fans warmed to fairly easily last year. She was a quick learner for trainer Raphael Freire and became one of the best juveniles around, winning the Breeders' Trophy Juvenile at Bro Park in her fourth career start. She beat Bearium, Smooth Operator and Titannia in the September feature and it is fair to say that expectations are high for this filly's classic season. When sent to Sweden, Semper Fi was coming off a good second to Hear The Drums in Skandinavisk Mesterskap for 2-åringer at Øvrevoll in August. Her maiden win happened over 900 metres on her second

start but she had no issues with 1400 metres in the Skandinavisk Mesterskap and 1370 metres at Bro Park, and she ran second to Intella in the Norwegian 1,000 Guineas - beaten just a quarter of a length over the 1600-metres trip, and went on to take third in Skandinavisk Mesterskap over 1800 metres - behind Hear The Drums and I Rest My Case. Semper Fi, who is now a broodmare, is by the high class middle distance stallion Appel Au Maitre.

Case Closed's sire Deceptor, on the other hand, is a son of a French champion miler, Machiavellian, and his dam, Satin Flower, won the Jersey Stakes (G3) over 7 furlong at Royal Ascot. Deceptor's pedigree is not that of a potential speed sire, but it does lend itself more to speed than stamina, that's for sure. That said, Deceptor is the sire of Giovanni Nobile, who Annike also trained. Giovanni Nobile was a winner of 8 races, and he stayed 2400 metres all right (winning three times over that distance). He was out of Born To Win, a Chilean bred mare by Special Quest, who won the Prix Noailles (G2) over 2200 metres in France as a three-year-old and did well over shorter distances in North America subsequently, winning the Millennium Mile Handicap (LR) at Golden Gate Fields.

Annike Bye Hansen's team

Half-brother to Swedish Dream

Catch a Dream – well related

A half-brother to Swedish Dream, who retired at the end of the 2022-season, Catch a Dream will be part of Annike's team in 2023. This French bred colt is a son of Postponed, a high class middle distance performer for trainer Roger Varian in Newmarket, who guided the son of Dubawi through an excellent career that included top level wins in the King George VI & Queen Elizabeth Stakes, Juddmonte International Stakes and Sheema Classic. The dam, Demeanour, was a Listed winner in Sweden and she comes from the solid female line that also produced Irish St. Leger (G1) winner Dark Lomond, Dubai Gold Cup (G2) winner Chartres as well as Gothic Dream, runner-up in the Ribblesdale Stakes (G2) and third in the Irish Oaks (G1).



Demeanour ran 29 times for three wins, five second place finishes and eight third place finishes. Her win strike rate was thus just over 10% but note how often she finished in the top three - and she was competing in some tough races. Bred by Barronstown Stud in the USA, she was trained by Valmir De Azeredo. Her career high was the win in Jockeyklubbens Avelslöpning (LR) over 2400 metres on dirt at Jägersro, where she defeated the Wido Neuroth trained star La Zona to win by a head. The English raider Allannah Abu, representing Sir Mark Prescott's Newmarket team, finished third, a length and a half behind the two principles. La Zona was 92kg-rated winner of 11 races, including the following year's edition of the same event and also the Swedish Oaks, while Allannah Abu was a winner of three races in England, so it's safe to say that Demeanour produced a strong performance on this occasion. Theatrical Award was amongst the unplaced runners. Out of a mare with such stamina, and by Postponed - who won at the top level over 12 furlongs in England -, Catch a Dream is bred to stay further than Swedish Dream did. He was at his best from 1600 to 1800 metres. Whatever distance proves to suit him best, let's hope Catch a Dream one day runs to the same level of form as Swedish Dream did - though first things first; 2023 will probably be a learning season for this well bred import.

POSTPONED (IRE) b. 2011	DUBAWI (IRE) b. 2002 [IS]	DUBAI MILLENNIUM (GB) b. 1996
		ZOMARADAH (GB) br. 1995
	EVER RIGG (GB) b. 2005	DUBAI DESTINATION (USA) b. 1999
		BIANCA NERA (GB) br. 1994
DEMEANOUR (USA) ch. 2006	GIANTS CAUSEWAY (USA) ch. 1997 [C]	STORM CAT (USA) dkb/br. 1983
		MARIAH'S STORM (USA) b. 1991
	AKUNA BAY (USA) b. 1996	MR. PROSPECTOR (USA) b. 1970 [BC]
		DARK LOMOND (IRE) br. 1985

Annikе Bye Hansen's team**Electra Blue, unraced three-year-old**

Electra Blue, an unraced three-year-old filly by Mastercraftsman out of Jewel Of The Nile (FR), was bought at the Arqana Mixed Sale in February '23. As this filly's sire won the Irish 2,000 Guineas Stakes (G1) and her dam is a daughter of the brilliant Epsom Derby (G1) winner Authorized, there's good quality both top and bottom in her pedigree. Jewel Of The Nile (FR) raced just twice, running unplaced over 2400 metres at Maisons-Laffitte and Lyon Parilly as a three-year-old. A well related filly, she was trained by Francois Doumen.

Jewel Of The Nile is a daughter of Prix Penelope (G3) winner Diamond Dance, and as such a half-sister to Diamond Tango, who won the Prix de Pomone (G2). Diamond Dance, trained by Andre Fabre, was unraced at two and she was making only her second start when landing the Prix Penelope (G3) over 2100 metres at Saint-Cloud, where she beat Misbegotten by 1 1/2 lengths. Both fillies were coming off a Listed win on their seasonal bow, Diamond Dance having won the Prix Rose de Mai over the same course and distance three weeks earlier. Her spring form was very promising and she was considered a live contender for the Prix de Diane (G1) - French Oaks - at Chantilly in June, but Diamond Dance was sidelined and needed a break forcing her to bypass >>>

Annikie Bye Hansen's team

>>> the classic. She returned to action in late August, when she ran fourth in the Prix de la Nonette (G3) over 2000 metres at Deauville. This run set her up for a crack at the Prix Vermeille (G1) over 2400 metres at Longchamp but she came up short there, finishing sixth to the high class winner Sierra Madre. Diamond Dance raced evenly throughout and was beaten 3 1/4 lengths. It was a decent effort and she went on to run fourth and fifth in a pair of Group 3 contests in the autumn before her career came to a close.

Her best offspring to date is Diamond Tango, a daughter of Acatenango who was also handled by Fabre. She was a good fifth in the Prix Vermeille (G1) as a three-year-old and at four she won the Prix de Pomone (G2) over 2500 metres at Deauville. Diamond Tango has become the dam of smart performers both on the flat and over jumps. Her son Desert Skyline was a 112-rated stayer in England, where he won three races and earned £373,089. His best win came in the Doncaster Cup (G2), contested over 2 miles and 2 furlongs.

There is stamina the bottom half of this filly's pedigree, but she should get speed from her sire, who was a Guineas winner. He was also runner-up to the outstanding Sea The Stars in the Juddmonte International (G1) over a testing 10.5-furlong trip at York, and Mastercraftsman has sired both a St. Leger (G1) winner in Kingston Hill and a top class 10-furlong plus performer in The Grey Gatsby, so we know that this stallion can get runners that stay.

MASTERCRAFTSMAN (IRE) gr. 2006	DANEHILL DANCER (IRE) b. 1993	DANEHILL (USA) b. 1986
		MIRA ADONDE (USA) dkb/br. 1986
	STARLIGHT DREAMS (USA) gr. 1995	BLACK TIE AFFAIR (IRE) gr/r. 1986
		REVES CELESTES (USA)* b. 1979
JEWEL OF THE NILE (FR) 2012	AUTHORIZED (IRE) dkb/br. 2004	MONTJEU (IRE) b. 1996 [CS]
		FUNSIE (FR) blk. 1999
	DIAMOND DANCE (FR) br. 1991	DANCEHALL (USA) b. 1986
		DIAMOND SEAL (IRE) gr. 1984

General de Vega – have you missed him?



General de Vega, who was **Sprinter of The Year** in Norway in 2021 – and nominated as one of the finalists in the same category in 2022 – was restricted to just three starts last season, and he will be on a retrieving mission this year. Two of his runs in '22 were pretty strong, and it was unfortunate that illness prevented him from having a more productive campaign. After having won three of his eight races in '21, he resurfaced in a competitive handicap over 1170 metres / turf at Øvrevoll last June. The ground was soft, five others took him on, he was giving weight to all five, the betting public made General de Vega the even money favourite to come out on top and they were right. Ridden by Jacob Johansen, General de Vega took the race by half a length, chased home by his stable companion Youonlyliveonce. Backcountry was a well beaten third, while Prince Of Tides – the second favourite – wound up in fourth place, beaten 7 ½ lengths. It was what we could call a perfect seasonal debut, in a race contested by runners who all like to win. The first four home have captured no fewer than 37 wins between them.

The Bro Park Vårsprint was next on General de Vega's agenda. He had won the Listed contest a year earlier and he was strongly fancied to repeat, but his arch rival Could Be King just got the better of him, winning the race by a nose as the two high class sprinters fought out a nail biting finish. Brian Ryan, also representing Norway, completed the Trippel, passing the winning post 2 ½ lengths behind the two principals. It was one of the best sprint races all year, and augured really well for the rest of the season. Well, for General de Vega, the season would prove to be all but over, as he ran just once more, coming home last in the Zawawi Cup (LR) on dirt at Jägersro, while Could Be King franked the form by four straight wins in the second half of the season.

General de Vega has turned six now but there should be plenty of mileage left in this warrior. After all, he has had just 15 career start, not much for a horse of his age. He was May foal, so given just one run as a juvenile (winning a maiden) and no more than four at three (when trained by Lars Kelp). He has passed the million-kroner earnings mark and he has 6 wins plus 7 placings to date.

General de Vega's dam, Just Little (Grand Slam) had son by Almanzor at the Tattersalls October Sales last year, and he was bought by leading French trainer Jean Claude Rouget, who went to 115,000 guineas to secure him. This two-year-old colt has been named Adviento. Just Little also has a 2022-filly by Sea The Moon.

There's not much more new to report about General de Vega's family, other than the fun fact that he has a half-brother active over jumps in England these days. Trained by Gary Moore, this gelding has won twice on the flat (once in Listed company in Paris) and twice over hurdles. He is called Naturally High – a name that wouldn't be out of place at Skoganstallen, come to think of it!

General de Vega's pedigree appears on the next page.

General de Vega

LOPE DE VEGA (IRE) ch. 2007	SHAMARDAL (USA) b. 2002 [IC]	GIANTS CAUSEWAY (USA) ch. 1997 [C]
		HELSINKI (GB) b. 1993
	LADY VETTORI (GB) b. 1997	VETTORI (IRE) b. 1992
		LADY GOLCONDA (FR) ch. 1992
JUST LITTLE (FR) b. 2004	GRAND SLAM (USA) b. 1995	GONE WEST (USA) dkb/br. 1984 [IC]
		BRIGHT CANDLES (USA) ch. 1987
	JUST WOOD (FR) ch. 1997	HIGHEST HONOR (FR) gr. 1983
		JUST RAINBOW (FR) ch. 1993



Hard One To Please – Horse of the Year



Norwegian Derby winner - ridden by Jacob Johansen. Photo: hesteguiden.com

Last year's undisputed star in Scandinavia, Hard One To Please, was voted 2022 Horse of The Year in Norway, a title that was never in much doubt. What was, however, was his prospects of landing the odds in the Stockholm Cup International (G3), a race where he looked a certain loser turning for home – only to produce a tremendous finish and get up to beat the English challenger Outbox in a thrilling photo finish. That must have been one of the most exciting races of the season. Hard One To Please showed us a new dimension that day, as he proved that not only did he have the talent to get himself out of trouble, but also that he was well equipped for a street fight.

Landing a punch is one thing, and he had seen him doing that to some effect, but being able to take a punch is quite different. Some highly talented runners have been lacking in that department, many because they had become too accustomed to winning with ease. Not Hard One To Please. He knuckled down gamely as he was chasing the leaders coming down the home straight at Bro Park, and he found another gear in the closing stages. It was as easy as his two classic wins, in the Swedish Derby and the Norwegian Derby, both won comfortably. Actually, that's not quite right. His winning run at Jägersro, where he proved himself on dirt, did ask a lot more of him than his stroll back on turf in Norway, and perhaps it was a valuable learning experience. He came from off the pace to win the Swedish Derby by 2 measured lengths from Steinar, with the rest a long way further back. Steinar went on to win big himself next time out and it was rather obvious what horse they all had to beat when we came to the Norwegian Derby in late August. Derby Trial winner Pas de Faux had his supporters and was backed as as if he would have a serious chance, but looking at the formbook one might say "really?" The answer out of the course was an emphatic "not at all". Hard One To Please, who had been ridden by Oliver Wilson in the Swedish Derby but now had Jacob Johansen on board, absolutely trounced his rivals to win by 14 lengths. Pas de Faux was outstayed by the filly Sea Lodge for second as the two Neuroth trainees filled out the trippel. The runner-up went on to win the Danish Oaks two weeks later. That result made the Norwegian Derby form a bit easier to assess, it was undoubtedly the best seen amongst the three-year-olds in Scandinavia. >>>

The next test would be a lot more informative. Hard One To Please was being pointed at the valuable Stockholm Cup International (G3) at Bro Park in September, when he would be facing older horses. The Cup, often billed as Scandinavia's 'Arc', drew a solid field of 15 runners. Amongst them was the German trained Virginia Storm, who had run third to Prix de l'Arc winner Torquator Tasso and second to German Derby runner-up Alter Adler at home. Virginia Storm's best form made him one to fear. Then we had Outbox, flying the English flag for a second time at Bro Park, having run such a good second in the 2021 edition of the Stockholm Cup, Oslo Cup (G3) winner Quebello and local hero Espen Hill.



Norwegian Derby 2022: Hard One To Please demolishing the opposition.
Photo: hesteguiden.com

Ulf Zeider, one of the best judges of form in Sweden, gave this prediction in his racecard preview; Hard One To Please first, Outbox second, Virginia Storm third. He wasn't far wrong. Virginia Storm ran no sort of a race and finished second last, running as if something was amiss, while Hard One To Please pipped Outbox to win by a nose. Master Bloom, like Outbox another horse to have been placed in a previous edition of the event, ran third, while Quebello took fourth.

His win at Bro Park, where he was partnered by Pat Cosgrave, gave Hard One To Please a unique treble; the Swedish Derby on dirt, the Norwegian Derby over the undulating and testing course at Øvrevoll, and the Stockholm Cup at Bro Park, a flat, more US-style oval. Will this treble ever be repeated? It may, but it's probably long odds-on that he won't happen anytime soon. Väsby Häst AB's top performer is an unusually versatile performer, and a well deserving Horse of The Year. His 2023 campaign could be really exciting, though there will be no more cruising runs against his own age group only. The gloves will come off more than once in 2023, as he takes aim at the top races in Scandinavia. Those with similar aspirations have one thing in common; they all know that they will be up against a true champion.

FAST COMPANY (IRE) b. 2005	DANEHILL DANCER (IRE) b. 1993	DANEHILL (USA) b. 1986
		MIRA ADONDE (USA) dkb/br. 1986
	SHEEZALADY (GB) br. 1997	ZAFONIC (USA) br. 1990
ALYSSUM (IRE) ch. 2013		CANADIAN MILL (USA) b. 1984
	NEW APPROACH (IRE) ch. 2005	GALILEO (IRE) b. 1998 [CS]
		PARK EXPRESS (IRE) br. 1983
	ALASHA (IRE) ch. 1999	BARATHEA (IRE) b. 1990
		ALASANA (IRE) b. 1991

Hard One To Please



Swedish Derby winner – ridden by Oliver Wilson. Photo: Stefan Olsson



Stockholm Cup International winner – ridden by Pat Cosgrave. Photo: Eline Björklund

Hwin – half sister to I Rest My Case

A half-sister to I Rest My Case, the Sir Lando daughter Hwin - a new name on Annike's training list - certainly has a lot to live up to. She ran just twice as a juvenile, when trained by Raphael Freire, and showed talent already on her debut - finishing fifth in a particularly strong maiden race over 900 metres in August. Some of these event for horses in search of their first win become what we call 'key races' and this contest was obviously one of those - perhaps one of the most interesting key maiden heats of 2022.

The race was won by Fort Dodge, who went on to run second to Cotton Eye Joe in Skandinavisk Mesterskap next time out, before winning again at Bro Park. Cotton Eye Joe was one of the best two-year-olds around last term. He also ran second in the Breeders Trophy Juvenile, behind Maxmartin (a winner of three big races in '22) and Vinterfavoriternas Pris, behind Got A Lot (who was coming off a second in another top event).

Bazuca, who ran second in the race Hwin made her debut in, also gave the form a solid boost - running second in the prestigious Amacitalopning on her subsequent outing, beaten only by Starlight Song, who has landed the Heatherwold Cup on her previous start. And there's more to like when we look at Hwn's debut race; the fourth placed Little Crow graduated with a fine win on her next start. Hwin was thrown in at the deep end only ten days after her promising racecourse introduction, and it was probably asking a bit too much too soon for her - she ran unplaced in the aforementioned Skandinavisk Mesterskap.

Hwins's dam Sweety was a fast and precocious lady who enjoyed a fine career with five wins and 710.794 kroner in total earnings. She was an instant hit in her first season, as she won two of her five races at two, both of them were valuable events. Sweety made an impressive debut when proving much too good for her 14 rivals in Norsk Rikstotos Rekrutteringsløp over 1170 metres on turf. Her lack of experience was no problem and she captured the race easily by 3 lengths, chased home by Fredde and Rock The Boat. Sweety was made favourite for Skandinavisk Mesterskap for 2-åringer next time out, but she had to settle for fifth place in that event, staged over 1370 metres. Dropped back down to 1170 metres, she regained winning form in Norsk Rikstotos Oppdrettsløp, this time securing the prize by the narrowest of margins, getting her nose in front of Daydream Believer. Twelve others were stretched out behind these two rivals.

Sweety's next two wins came on her first two starts as a three-year-old. She beat Rock The Boat in Norsk Rikstotos 3-Årsløp over 1100 metres on the dirt track, and followed up with a nice 6-length win in Forsommerløp For 3-Åringer, staged over 1170 metres on turf. Sweet as Candy ran second, while Daydream Believer filled third and Rock The Boat came home in fourth place. It was never going to be easy for Sweety to follow up on such good results as an older horse but she timed it well when gaining her fifth success. It happened in the Mini Cooper Sprint, a well paid minor event on dirt in Sweden. Out of Vista Hermosa, Sweety is a half-sister to win machine Al Buraq and Peer Gynt, both handled by Annike.



Hwin



Hwin

SIR LANDO (GB) b. 2007	LANDO (GER) b. 1990	ACATENANGO (GER) ch. 1982
		LAUREA (IRE) b. 1983
	BURQA (GB) ch. 2000	NASHWAN (USA) ch. 1986
		BARBOUKH (GB) ch. 1990
SWEETY (DEN) br. 2010	SPECIAL QUEST (FR) b. 1995	RAINBOW QUEST (USA) b. 1981 [CS]
		MONA STELLA (USA) b. 1984
	VISTA HERMOSA (IRE) 2005	ACCLAMATION (GB) b. 1999
		MIZILLABLACK (IRE) b. 1999

Annikе Bye Hansen's team**Homebred of the year****I Rest My Case – dream mile, dream run, dream girl**

Presenting the winner of the award as Best Homebred of The Year in 2022; I Rest My Case, Skoganstallen's popular poster girl.

I Rest My Case earned more prize money than any other horse in running in Norway last year, when she won the valuable Drømmemilen on Derby, picking up 312,000 kroner after what looked like a racecourse gallop, and the historic Brukseier Eivind Lyches Minneløp – an important event for homebred horses. She was also runner-up in the Breeders' Prize, Skandinavisk Mesterskap and against imports in the Derby Trial, a performance that posed the question “should she go for the Derby?”. Well, she didn't – instead taking in the mile race on Derby day, which she won with ridiculous ease, cantering home by 15 ¼ lengths from No Compromise. It was as hard to assess the value of this form as it was not to be impressed by the performance. I Rest My Case won the race with such ease and it would have taken a very good horse to keep up with her on this occasion. Her win in Lyches Minneløp was also a bit of a stroll, as she outclassed her rivals to win the 1980-metres turf contest by 5 ¼ lengths. Buckybelle finished second, and Queen of Antaktis filled third place, beaten almost nine lengths. This was also a case of I Rest My Case being far too good for her rivals. >>>



I Rest M Case winning Drømmemilen with ridiculous ease. Photo: hesteguiden.com

She was being tested against better performers though, and ran solid races to be placed in important events. She was second to Hear The Drums in the Skandinavisk Mesterskap for 3yos in July, going down by a neck at the end of a hotly contested race over 1800 metres / turf. Semper Fi was 1 ½ lengths behind her in third, with Sugar Crust fourth. The Derby Trial, run in early August, meant a step up in distance + a clash with good imports. The trip, 2160 metres, did not get the better of I Rest My Case, she stayed all right, but Pas de Faux did. He beat her by 3 lengths and soon became many people's idea of the 2022 Derby winner. As we know, Hard One To Please had other ideas, but Pas de Faux did frank the Derby Trial form by running third in the Derby – after having been committed far too soon.

Derby day results thus underscored the fact that I Rest My Case was a homebred somewhat out of the ordinary. Such horses are bound to end up in the top races for Scandinavian bred, and I Rest My Case next shipped to Bro Park, to contest the 15-runner Breeders' Trophy Classic. Things had gone pretty smoothly in her previous races but that was not the case at Bro Park, where she faced an impossible task after a very slow start. She stayed on gamely in the home straight but was beaten by five of her rivals. Titannia, the Danish Derby winner, came out on top, beating Giant Fortune narrowly. I Rest My Case passed the winning post 3 ½ lengths behind the winner. Compared to Titannia, who made all, I Rest My Case's start loss was about twice that margin. Her next run, in the Breeders' Prize Classic back home, was better – but also a bit unfortunate – as she ended up on the wrong side of the course when delivering her challenge. Hear The Drums beat her by a length and I Rest My Case was a quarter of a length in front of the third placed runner, Chianti. Good Fortune finished fourth and Titannia disappointed to come home third last.

I Rest My Case rounded her season off in the Norwegian Oaks, run in mid-October. She went off second favourite behind Sea Lodge, who had run second in the Derby. On paper, the classic looked like a two-horse affair, but 18-1 shot Crack The Sky upset the two leading contenders to win from the front. It was an excellent winning ride by Per-Anders Gråberg. Sea Lodge beat I Rest My Case by a neck for second.

What can we expect from I Rest My Case in 2023? It's dangerous to have too high expectations, as her four-year-old campaign must be altogether different to 2022. There will be opportunities in races for Scandinavian bred, but not as many as these horses enjoy when they are three, and I Rest My Case will have to step up against imports. Stakes events for fillies and mares are well worth considering, although the official handicapper has I Rest My Case 8kg below Ascot Brass, 6kg below Iron Butterfly and Silent Night, and 5kg below Takeko. There's a gap to close there, no doubt, but don't be too surprised if I Rest My Case proves to be up to it.

DECEPTOR (USA) b. 1999	MACHIAVELLIAN (USA) dkb/br. 1987	MR. PROSPECTOR (USA) b. 1970 [BC]
		COUP DE FOLIE (USA)* b. 1982
	SATIN FLOWER (USA) b. 1988	SHADEED (USA) b. 1982
		SATEEN (USA) b. 1976
SWEETY (DEN) br. 2010	SPECIAL QUEST (FR) b. 1995	RAINBOW QUEST (USA) b. 1981 [CS]
		MONA STELLA (USA) b. 1984
	VISTA HERMOSA (IRE) 2005	ACCLAMATION (GB) b. 1999
		MIZILLABLACK (IRE) b. 1999

Lady Foudine, unraced three-year-old

Roar Hoel, of Stall RH, imported an interesting young filly in 2021; the Danish bred Lady Foudine, a soon to be three-year-old daughter of Moohaajim. She did not run at two. This handsome gal is by a stallion who was both speedy and precocious but the bottom half of her pedigree is mainly about stamina, as she come from a French family full of winners over distances stretching up to 2,500 metres – some of them pretty smart.

Her sire, the Cape Cross son Moohaajim, was trained by Marco Botti in Newmarket. Moohaajim was one of the best youngsters of his crop, winning the 6-furlong Mill Reef Stakes at Newbury before running second the Middle Park Stakes (G1) over the same distance at Newmarket, where he split high class rivals Reckless Abandon and Gale Force Ten in a close finish of necks. His win at Newbury came at the main expense of Rose Bowl Stakes (LR) winner Master Of War, who he beat readily by 1 ¼ lengths. Moohaajim opened his three-year-old campaign well enough, taking third to top class miler Olympic Glory in the Greenham Stakes (G3) back at Newbury in the spring, but his next to last finish in the 2,000 Guineas Stakes (G1) two weeks later was unfortunately to be his career finale. He was retired due to injury.

Lady Foudine is out of Fouqueville, a Le Havre daughter who won twice and earned French handicap 42,5kg at her best (approximately 95 on the international scale). Foqueville was successful over 1,900 metre and 1,950 metres, and she ran fifth in the Prix Occitane (LR) over 1,900 metres, a race her dam, Langrune (Fasliyev) had finished second in back in her racing days. Langrune raced only as a three-year-old, winning three of her six races. She entered the winners' circle after contests over 1,400 metres, 1,500 metres and 1,800 metres, and she has been a very productive broodmare. Five of her foals became winners, the best known being Orbec – a brother to Fouqueville. Orbec won three times in France, producing his best piece of form when capturing the Grand Prix de Clairefontaine (LR) over 2,500 metres at Deauville. He was subsequently exported to Australia, where he was runner-up in the Newcastle Gold Cup (G3) over 2,300 metres. Echauffour, another brother to Fouqueville, won eight races in France, proving effective from 1,900 metres to 2,400 metres, while two fillies by Air Vice Marshall out of Langrune were winners over 1,800 metres, 1950 metres and 2000 metres.

With a fast father, and with Le Havre, a son of Noverre, as her broodmare sire, one would be inclined to think that Lady Foudine will not be short of speed when her racing days get underway – but her dam's side tells us that she should not be short of stamina either. On paper, this filly is a truly fascinating prospect.



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Lady Foudine

MOOHAAJIM (IRE) b. 2010	CAPE CROSS (IRE) br. 1994 [C]	GREEN DESERT (USA) dkb/br. 1983
		PARK APPEAL (IRE)* br. 1982
	THIELLA (USA) dkb/br. 2004	KINGMAMBO (USA) b. 1990 [CS]
		THEORETICALLY (USA) dkb/br. 1997
FOUQUEVILLE (FR) b. 2015	LE HAVRE (IRE) dkb/br. 2006	NOVERRE (USA) b. 1998
		MARIE RHEINBERG (GER) blk/br. 2002
	LANGRUNE (IRE) b. 2006	FASLIYEV (USA) b. 1997 [B]
		HABILEA (FR) ch. 2001

Left U Speechless

APPEL AU MAITRE (FR) ch. 2004	STARBOROUGH (GB) ch. 1994	SOVIET STAR (USA) b. 1984
		FLAMENCO WAVE (USA) ch. 1986
	ROTINA (FR) b. 1988	CRYSTAL GLITTERS (USA) b. 1980
		RUDOLFINA (IRE) b. 1979
EKO PALACE BAY (DEN) b. 2012	SIYOUNI (FR) b. 2007	PIVOTAL (GB) ch. 1993 [IC]
		SICHILLA (IRE) b. 2002
	ACQUALINA BEAUTY (IRE) b. 2003	MONTJEU (IRE) b. 1996 [CS]
		COOLAMON (USA) ch. 1989

Annikе Bye Hansen's team

Left U Speechless – Good Fortune's brother



Good Fortune. Photo E Björklund

Left U Speechless is a full-brother Good Fortune, a highly successful runner trained by Sören Jensen. He won twice at his home venue Klampenborg as a juvenile, then developed into one of the best three-year-olds the following season, when he ran third in the Danish Derby before winning the Breeders' Trophy Classic and Jockeyklubbens Grand Prix at Bro Park in Sweden. He beat Hollywoodboulevard by 2 ½ lengths in the latter, while his win in the Breeders' Trophy Classic was gained at the main expense of Iron Butterfly, who was 1 ½ lengths behind him passing the winning post. Hollywoodboulevard was a well beaten third that day.

Keeping his form well at four, Good Fortune won the Breeders' Trophy Mile at Bro Park last September (this time beating Hollywoodboulevard by half a length over 1600 metres). He had earlier run second in the Listed Pokalløp at Klampenborg, where King David proved too good, and he opened his 2023 campaign by winning a valuable handicap at Meydan in Dubai, where he scored narrowly over 2000 metres. Good Fortune may be best from 1600 to 2000 metres, but Jockeyklubbens Grand Prix is contested over

2100 metres and he has also won over 2200 metres.

Left U Speechless actually looks a bit like his famous sibling, and he is an exciting newcomer at Skoganstallen. No races are won on paper, but he does have the pedigree to do well. His sire, Appel Au Maitre, was a Scandinavian champion and has done really well at stud, while his dam, the unraced Eko Palace Bay (Siyouni), has also produced Aperola with Appel Au Maitre. Aperola won 8 races from 1200 metres (at two) to 1800 metres. All of her wins have come on turf, the most notable in the Produce Stakes, and Aperola has also been placed in some tough stakes events, including a solid third behind Hollywoodboulevard and Master Bloom in the 2022 Skandinavisk Grand Prix (when Good Fortune had to settle for fourth place).

Acqualina Beauty (Montjeu), who is the second dam of Left U Speechless, is well known as an excellent broodmare. Imported from the US, where she ran fifth on her only start, Acqualina Beauty is the dam of smart stakes winners Steinway (Danish Breeders' Cup, Danish St. Leger etc.) and Brunello (Danish Oaks, Vinterfavoriternes etc.). Her dam, Coolamon (Saratoga Six) won twice at Arlington International as a juvenile, scoring over 6 and 6.5 furlongs on dirt.



Annike Bye Hansen's team

Money Mission – son of Frankel's brother

Money Mission, a son of Frankel's brother Noble Mission, was trained by Tina Smith as a two-year-old and he joined Annike's team late in 2022. He ran three times and was placed once in his first season, when second to Starlight Song over 1370 metres / turf on his racecourse introduction. Starlight Song went on to win the Tattersalls Heatheworld Cup and the Amacitalöpning, so one can safely say that Money Mission was a bit unlucky in picking the day to make his debut. Money Mission also ran in the Heatherwold, but could manage only fourth place. He next tried the Norsk Kriterium and came home in fifth behind the winner, Ami de Vega, Stripesof Stars, Give Me Space and Chadwick.



Money Mission's pedigree points to improvement with age. Noble Mission, who was much more than a training partner and brother to the incredible Frankel, has done well as a stallion, and it's well worth noting that he has sired high class performers on dirt in North America as well as on turf in Europe. In fact, his best offspring to date is Code of Honor, who was a star for New York trainer Shug "Easy Goer" McGaughey a couple of years ago. Code of Honor won the Travers Stakes (G1) at Saratoga – a race often referred to as the Midsummer Derby – and he beat subsequent Breeders' Cup Classic (G1) winner Vino Rosso in the Jockey Club Gold Cup at Belmont Park. He was also part of the controversial 2019 Kentucky Derby (G1), when Maximum Security was disqualified – something that handed the win to Country House, with Code of Honor third. Code of Honor was about to gain momentum in his career then, and he got better in the second hand of the season.

Noble Mission was also a good three-year-old but he found his best form at five, when he won three Group One events; the Tattersalls Gold Cup over 10.5 furlongs at The Curragh in Ireland, Grand Prix de Saint-Cloud (G1) over 2400 metres in France and finally the 10-furlong Champion Stakes (G1) at Ascot on his swansong.

Money Mission is out of the the lightly raced maiden winner Beckoning (Kodiac). Beckoning is a granddaughter to Helvellyn, who is best known as the dam of Fast and Furious, a smart turf performer in France and North America, where he was second in the Hollywood Derby (G1) and third in the Shoemaker Mile (G1).

NOBLE MISSION (GB) b. 2009	GALILEO (IRE) b. 1998 [CS]	SADLERS WELLS (USA) b. 1981 [CS]
		URBAN SEA (USA)* ch. 1989
	KIND (IRE) b. 2001	DANEHILL (USA) b. 1986
		RAINBOW LAKE (GB) b. 1990
BECKONING (IRE) b. 2015	KODIAC (GB) b. 2001	DANEHILL (USA) b. 1986
		RAFHA (GB)* b. 1987
	SINGING FIELD (IRE) dkb/br. 2004	SINGSPIEL (IRE) br. 1992
		HELVELLYN (USA) dkb/br. 1990

Run For Justice – he's got the looks



Run For Justice is a well made, attractive juvenile is by Wentworth – a stallion that seems to be on the brink of making a name for himself in Denmark, where he was being trained by Bettina Andersen, after having been with Richard Hannon in his younger days. Wentworth, a son of high class sprinter and equally successful stallion Acclamation, was not a top flight performer – but he did well in his racing career, winning two of his three races as a juvenile before following up with strong handicap form at three, when he captured the valuable Betfred Mile at Glorious Goodwood. Wentworth beat the favourite Cape Peron at Goodwood, a rival that went on to win the Prix du Ranelagh (LR) at Chantilly in France on his next start. Wentworth had previously run well to check in fourth when favourite for the one-mile Britannia Handicap at Royal Ascot, where he went down by 1 ¾ lengths behind Beauty Flame, subsequent G2 winner with G1 placings in Hong Kong. Wentworth's best hour in Scandinavia was a win in the Pokalløb (LR) over 1800 metres at Klampenborg in 2014. He took that event with ease, beating Jubilance by 4 lengths, with Falconet back in third place.

Wentworth is a half-brother to Sandiva (Footstepsinthesand), a smart filly who ran fifth to Rizeena in the Coronation Stakes (G1) at Royal Ascot as a three-year-old, before being exported to the USA, where she won three Grade 3 events over 8.5 and 9 furlongs, all on turf at Gulfstream Park. >>>

Run For Justice is out of the lightly raced High Chaparral daughter Rivers Run, sold for €5,000 to York Stud at the 2017 Goffs February Sales. She had changed hands for 65,000 guineas in England as a yearling. Rivers Run career was far too brief. She ran only five times and won a maiden heat over 12 furlongs at Kempton Park as a four-year-old, beating Start Seven, a good handicapper that went on win three races. Rivers Run is a half-sister to Pas de Secrets, winner of the Songline Classic (LR) over 2100 metres on dirt at Bro Park (beating Red Hot Chili) and Jägersro Cup over 3200 m / dirt (from Momentum), runner-up to Our Last Summer in the Norwegian Derby and third to Privilegiado in the Oslo Cup (G3), both over 2400 metres turf at Øvrevoll. Pas de Secrets was trained by Wido Neuroth. Rivers Run and Pas de Secrets were out of Quiet Waters, a daughter of NYRA Mile (G1) winner Quiet American trained by Andre Fabre in France. Quiet Waters ran rust three times without troubling the judge, and it's fair to assume that she had some sort of a problem.

WENTWORTH (IRE) b. 2010	ACCLAMATION (GB) b. 1999	ROYAL APPLAUSE (GB) b. 1993
		PRINCESS ATHENA (IRE) b. 1985
	MISS CORINNE (GB) b. 2000	MARK OF ESTEEM (IRE) b. 1993
		PERCY'S GIRL (IRE) b. 1988
RIVERS RUN (IRE) b. 2012	HIGH CHAPARRAL (IRE) b. 1999	SADLERS WELLS (USA) b. 1981 [CS]
		KASORA (IRE) b. 1993
	QUIET WATERS (USA) b. 2003	QUIET AMERICAN (USA) b. 1986
		ZAWAAHY (USA) b. 1989



Takeko – classy, multi talented



Takeko winning the Wettermarks on Swedish Derby day. Photo: Stefan Olsson / Svensk Galopp

Takeko enjoyed a productive season in 2022, stepping up nicely on her form as a three-year-old in 2021. when she was runner-up in the Norwegian 1,000 Guineas and won the Giant Sandman Cup. Her four-year-old exploits were even better, with the peak performance coming when she landed the Margareta Wettermarks Minneslöping on Swedish Derby day at Jägersro. Switching to dirt, after having finished second to Iron Butterfly when making her seasonal debut in the Nagell-Erichsens Hoppeløp at home and filled the same place behind Ascot Brass in the Bloomers' Vase (LR) at Bro Park, Takeko proved much too good for her nine rivals in the 1730-metres long Wettermarks. She stayed on strongly at the finish and won most comfortably by 2 lengths from Thunderey, who beat Numeira by a head for second. Aperola occupied fourth place, beaten 7 lengths by Takeko, and the entire field was strung out to the tune of almost 25 lengths.

Continuing to as a regular player in the top division for fillies and mares, Takeko failed to win again but he ran solid races in defeat, and was arguably a bit unlucky when beaten a neck by Go On Calras in the Stockholm Fillies & Mares Stakes over 2100 metres / turf at Bro Park in October. She returned to Jägersro the following month and produced another game performance on the dirt track, taking third in the Jockeyklubbens Avelslöping, beaten 3 lengths behind the smart winner Scarlett. >>>

Takeko ended 2022 with over half a million kroner in earnings, thus climbing up to 790,475 kroner earned from 14 runs since she joined Annike's stable ahead of the 2021-season. She now has a half-sister, Yukochan, among her stable companions, and both these fillies seem likely to make a mark on the upcoming campaign. Takeko's class is undeniable and that she is just as good on dirt as she is on turf, is a big plus. Her programme as a five-year-old is more or less self explanatory, as she is likely to be seen in much the same events she ran in last year. Her results have naturally enhanced the value of her family and there was more good news for the dam, Ahd, last year. Her 2016-son by Zofanny, the Listed winner Hot Team, won twice in England, bringing his tally to six wins, and her 2017-daughter by Footstepsinthesand, One Small Step, won for a third time in Ireland. This family is full of winners and it's hard to imagine that there won't be more to come.

MEHMAS (IRE) b. 2014	ACCLAMATION (GB) b. 1999	ROYAL APPLAUSE (GB) b. 1993
		PRINCESS ATHENA (IRE) b. 1985
	LUCINA (GB) b. 2002	MACHIAVELLIAN (USA) dkb/br. 1987
		LUNDA (IRE) b. 1993
AHD (USA) b. 2011	ELUSIVE QUALITY (USA) b. 1993	GONE WEST (USA) dkb/br. 1984 [IC]
		TOUCH OF GREATNESS (USA) b. 1986
	ABBY ROAD (IRE) b. 2004	DANEHILL (USA) b. 1986
		BELLS ARE RINGING (USA) b. 1997

Annikie Bye Hansen's team**Tambora Queen – she's a real bonus**

Keeping Tambora Queen in the stable for another season must be seen a very nice bonus. Not because she is likely to win a Group race in 2023, but simply because it must have been so tempting for her owners, Stall RH, to retire this fine mare to the paddocks – or for a commercial breeder to buy her and do the same. Her days in the breeding should come, no doubt about that, but not quite yet. This daughter of Breeders' Cup winner Outstrip has been an excellent servant over the past couple of seasons, with a current record of 4 wins from 24 outings.

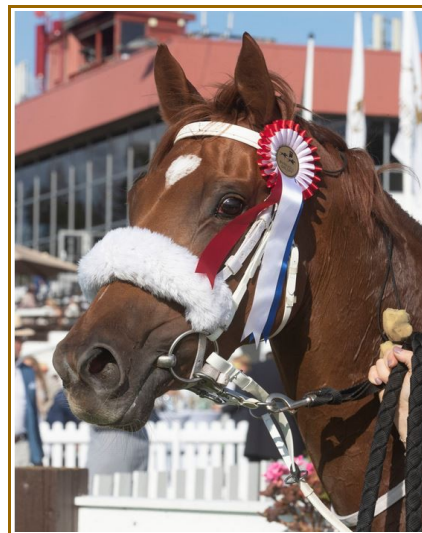
Two of her wins came in 2022, when she managed the unusual feat to win handicaps as early on in the season as April and as late on as November. Not many horses manage to show winning form both in the spring and in the autumn, especially handicappers. It is more common for such a thoroughbred to have one good spell, either in the first couple of months of the campaign, in the middle part, or late on in the racing year. Actually,

developing and campaigning horses that are competitive all season long has been one of Annike's strongest qualities. She had Tambora Queen ready for the Amolo Handicap over 1600 metres / dirt on opening day, and the race was won by 4 ½ lengths - a great start, not just for Tambora Queen but for the entire team. It was the beginning to a season to remember, as she outclassed race favourite My French Dream with some ease. Tambora Queen was racing off 79 on her reappearance, and that was her handicap mark also when she rounded the season off with a win in the Funinthesand Handicap over 1750 metres over the same track in mid-November. This was not a similar stroll though. Once more ridden by Jacob Johansen, she fought on to the winning post to prevail by half a length after having been hard pressed by Buckyboy. Interestingly, My French Dream was third, beaten 3 ½ lengths while receiving 2kg from Tambora Queen. She was giving that same rival 3kg when the met seven months earlier.

Her November win meant that Tambora Queen was raised to handicap 81 in the end of season rankings, which is 2kg below her career best, recorded after her visually impressive debut. She made the frame five times in between these two successes, performing well both on turf and dirt. Dirt racing may be what suits her best but, if at all, she's not far behind her dirt form when racing on the lawn. She captured the valuable Energima Derby Mile over 1600 metres on turf in 2021, absolutely hammering the strongly fancied Yellow Submarine by 5 lengths. Her runner-up was odds-on to win the contest, having performed so well to be third behind Iron Butterfly and Takeko in the Norwegian 1,000 Guineas on her previous outing, but she had no chance when Tambora Queen quickened away at the business end of the Derby Mile.

Can Tambora Queen follow up this year, as she is now aged five? There's every reason to believe that she can. She ended '22 on a high note and she has clearly been thriving on her racing. Many horses step up another notch at five. The late Charlie Whittingham was one of the first to argue that horses are at their best when they are five years old, and that it is wrong to push them hard when they are young. It has also been interesting to note how well five-year-olds have fared in European Group races over the years. Tambora Queen's breeding gives mixed messages when it comes to how she may develop as older horse, though nothing suggests that her current age will work against her. Her sire, Outstrip, was first and foremost a precocious runner but his most famous son, Melbourne Cup (G1) winner Gold Trip, definitely improved with age – taking the famous 2-mile handicap at Flemington when he was six. Tambora Queen is out of the unraced Dudley Queen, an Excellent Art mare that has also produced Poet's Dawn, a winner of eight races, including two aged seven last season.

Roar Hoel purchased Tambora Queen for 14,000 guineas as a yearling at Newmarket Tattersalls Sales, another example of how it is possible to recruit talented runners within a sensible budget. There must be breeders wishing they had bought her, and are now keeping an eye of this mare but, as mentioned initially, 'not quite yet'.



Tambora Queen



Derby day winners!

OUTSTRIP (GB) gr. 2011	EXCEED AND EXCEL (AUS) b. 2000	DANEHILL (USA) b. 1986
		PATRONA (USA) ch. 1994
	ASI SIEMPRE (USA) gr/r. 2002	EL PRADO (IRE) gr. 1989 [BI]
		SIEMPRE ASI (USA) ch. 1995
DUDLEY QUEEN (IRE) ch. 2011	EXCELLENT ART (GB) b. 2004	PIVOTAL (GB) ch. 1993 [IC]
		OBSESSIVE (USA) dkb/br. 1993
	ROYAL BOUNTY (IRE) b. 1995	GENEROUS (IRE) ch. 1988
		QUEEN HELEN (IRE) b. 1983

Annike Bye Hansen's team**Youonlyliveonce,
versatile and consistent**

A son of the little known sire Sidesteps (a dual Group 2 winning son of top class sprinter Exceed And Excel), Youonlyliveonce took another step up in 2022. Going up against the fastest turf performers in Scandinavia on a couple of occasions, he fared well enough to be nominated in the Sprinter of The Year category – alongside his stable companion General de Vega and Could Be King. Just to be mentioned with these two stars was some achievement for Youonlyliveonce, who improved his best handicap rating from 86 in 2021 to 89 last year. It's when horses start creeping up



towards the crucial 90-mark that the going gets really tough. Such performers will often be burdened by top weights in handicaps and thus forced to run against the elite on conditions events and stakes races. Youonlyliveonce won twice during our most recent campaign, but his best run was probably when he grabbed second behind Could Be King in the Giant Sandman Polar Cup (LR) at Øvrevoll in August. One of the strong undercard events on Derby day, the Polar Cup, contested over 1370 metres, represented a step up in class for Youonlyliveonce. He took it all in his stride, and came home as a game runner-up. He could never pose a serious threat to the favourite, who beat him by 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ lengths at level weights, but Youonlyliveonce had some smart performers well behind him and suddenly Väsby Häst had two high class sprinters on their hands. He was not able to reproduce the form in the Bro Park Sprint Championship (LR) in September (finished eighth, 6 lengths behind Could Be King) but he gained another Listed placing when third in the one-mile Arnfinn Lunds Minneløp back on home soil in October. Like A King captured that event from Wishformore.

Youonlyliveonce's main assets are his consistency and versatility. He kept his form well to the end of the season, winning Birkebeinern Handicap over 1730 metres on the dirt track (photo above) 18 days after the Arnfinn Lunds. Running off 88, he was conceding weight all round and ran out a game winner from Monjazaat, with Tambora Queen third and We Got The Boss fourth. Of the race's total pot of 80,000 kroner, 66,400 went to horses trained at Skoganstallen. Looking at the form of the one that denied Annike a clean sweep, we see that Monjazaat is no slouch. She has three wins to her name and was beaten just a neck when second to Flambeau Rouge in the 2021 Norwegian Oaks. Giving Monjazaat 3kg, Youonlyliveonce beat her by half a length. He wasn't done yet, however. Three and a half weeks further into the autumn, he turned up for a competitive mile handicap on the dirt track at Jägersro Galopp, and finished second, beaten less than two lengths by Plantstepsdream. This was Youonlyliveonce's 13th start in 2022. He finished in the top three on no fewer than nine occasions. His first win of the year came in a sprint handicap on the turf course in early June, a race he won narrowly from Herewegodandy.

With strong form both on turf and dirt, and proven from 1170 metres to 1600 metres, this six-year-old still has many options and, although he meets the season on a handicap mark that makes things a notch more difficult, there's no reason to doubt that Youonlyliveonce can do well also in 2023.

Annike Bye Hansen's team



Yukochan - ready to step up at three

Given how her famous half-sister Takeko improved from two to three, it's fair to assume that Yukochan can improve in 2023 - though will she be as good as Takeko? That, as they say, remains to be seen - but the way she shaped as a juvenile suggests that she is one to look forward to seeing race on. She is a maiden, but that's down to bad luck, not for want of trying. In fact, this filly has yet to finish worse than second. She was beaten half a head coming up against Stripeof Stars when making her second start last November, tackling 1600 metres on the dirt track. The two had the race between them through the final furlong and, as Yukochan ran a bit greenly, her rival's experience probably became the telling factor. That said, the photo could have gone either way and who wouldn't fancy Yukochan in a rematch? Stripesof Stars was the odds-on favourite, having run second, beaten just two lengths behind

Ami de Vega, in the Norsk Kriterium on his previous outing. Flower Power, who checked in a length and a half behind Yukochan in third place, had also won previously, and the form looked good.

Yukochan turned out once more before the season came to a close, taking part in a similar contest eleven days later. She was sent off favourite and ran another fine race, though her market rival, Chadwick, proved too good, denying her by open lengths. It's hard to know which of these two performances was the better. It may have been the run against Stripesof Stars but note that Chadwick was coming off a fifth place finish in Vinterfavoriternas Pris at Bro Park, a race won by the smart Got A Lot from Cotton Eye Joe, another high class youngster based in Sweden. Either way, Yukochan ought to be strongly fancied were she to stick to maiden company early in the 2023-season. After that, we shall see how she can progress. All of her runs in '22 came on dirt (she was runner-up to Soulofchess over 1100 metres on her debut). It will be interesting to see her on turf.

ACCLAMATION (GB) b. 1999	ROYAL APPLAUSE (GB) b. 1993	WAAJIB (IRE) b. 1983
		FLYING MELODY (IRE) b. 1979
	PRINCESS ATHENA (IRE) b. 1985	AHONOORA (GB) ch. 1975
		SHOPPING WISE (IRE) b. 1965
AHD (USA) b. 2011	ELUSIVE QUALITY (USA) b. 1993	GONE WEST (USA) dkb/br. 1984 [IC]
		TOUCH OF GREATNESS (USA) b. 1986
	ABBY ROAD (IRE) b. 2004	DANEHILL (USA) b. 1986
		BELLS ARE RINGING (USA) b. 1997

Annike Bye Hansens's team

Annikе sharing a quiet moment with I Rest My Case

Annikе Bye Hansen

Annikе comes from a racing family. Her father Ingvar and her uncle Herluf were both highly successful trainers at Øvrevoll. Annikе, who has also partnered winners as an amateur rider, took out her license in 1996, and she has been based at Skoganstallen since 2012. Having produced strong results and built up an improved team over the years, Annikе enjoyed a fantastic 2022-season, when Hard One To Please led the way with three big wins and a Horse of The Year title, well supported by the likes of I Rest My Case, Norway's top earner and Homebred of The Year, Takeko, General de Vega and Youonlyliveonce.

"I prefer to work with a relatively small team of good quality horses", she says, "as I like to be hands on, working hard to get the very best out of each individual. I'm lucky to have excellent staff, and I am pleased to say that we are all thriving here, two legged team members as well as those on four legs are enjoying their work - which is crucial to achieve good results."

Annikе won the Norwegian Derby, Swedish Derby and Stockholm Cup International with Hard One To Please and she is widely respected as one of the best trainers in Scandinavia. Her first classic win came when Unwanted Beauty captured the Norwegian 1,000 Guineas in 2019.

Supported by serious, and above all loyal owners who understand the sport, Annikе once more finished the season as runner-up in the trainers' championship. Given the relatively small number of horses, that was an incredible feat, and Annikе's horses showed by far the highest average earnings per start. As she put it on her Facebook page at the eand of the campaign: "No pressure at all 2023". No pressure indeed. It will be hard to follow up on last year's success but, with some new additions, the stable's list of horses has the look of a well balanced team ready to aim for more success in all divisions. >>>

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>>> Annike was second in the trainers' championship also in 2017, like last year beaten only by Niels Petersen, who had three times as many horses in his care. This championship is decided in terms of prize money.

Annike selected Ragazzo for just 75,000 kroner as a yearling, and developed him into a true champion who won 2.5 million kroner for his owners, Jan Andersen, Marina Lie and Ida Large. I Rest My Case is another example of how she has recruited high quality homebreds to her stable.

Annike trained "Handicapper of The Year" in 2017, Calcaterre, a winner of six races that season, and the stable's top sprinter Captain America has captured the Bro Park Vårsprint (LR) twice (2017 and 2019). He was voted "Sprinter of The Year in 2019", while the win machine Al Buraq took the title as "Handicapper of The Year".

Top Trainers, Norway 2022

Nr	Trener	St	1	2	3	Øvr	Opl	Sum	Seire%	Plass%	Pr	st
1	Niels Petersen	205	38	26	24	55	62	4 484 101	18,5	42,9	21	874
2	Annike Bye Hansen	75	16	18	8	16	17	2 775 249	21,3	56,0	37	003
3	Cathrine Erichsen	171	24	22	18	50	57	2 633 075	14,0	37,4	15	398
4	Wido Neuroth	72	15	10	16	19	12	2 026 625	20,8	56,9	28	148
5	Raphael E Freire	79	12	9	8	14	36	1 161 090	15,2	36,7	14	697

Skoganstallen's Awards 2022

HARD ONE TO PLEASE

Horse of The Year, 3yo of The Year and Stayer of The Year

I REST MY CASE

Norwegian Bred of The Year

ANNIKE BYE HANSEN

Achievement of The Year



Racing dates, Norway 2023

1	27.04.2023	Torsdag	17.30
2	04.05.2023	Torsdag	17.30
3	11.05.2023	Torsdag	17.30
4	17.05.2023	Onsdag	12.00
5	25.05.2023	Torsdag	17.30
6	01.06.2023	Torsdag	17.30
7	08.06.2023	Torsdag	17.30
8	15.06.2023	Torsdag	17.30
9	24.06.2023	Lørdag	17.30
10	29.06.2023	Torsdag	17.30
11	05.07.2023	Onsdag	12.00
12	13.07.2023	Torsdag	17.30
13	20.07.2023	Torsdag	17.30
14	27.07.2023	Torsdag	17.30
15	02.08.2023	Onsdag	12.00
16	10.08.2023	Torsdag	17.30
17	17.08.2023	Torsdag	17.30
18	20.08.2023	Søndag	12.30
19	31.08.2023	Torsdag	17.30
20	07.09.2023	Torsdag	17.30
21	14.09.2023	Torsdag	17.30
22	20.09.2023	Onsdag	12.00
23	01.10.2023	Søndag	12.00
24	05.10.2023	Torsdag	17.30
25	11.10.2023	Onsdag	12.00
26	19.10.2023	Torsdag	17.30
27	26.10.2023	Torsdag	17.30
28	05.11.2023	Søndag	12.00
29	09.11.2023	Torsdag	17.30
30		16.11.2023Torsdag	17.30