

TEAM VALOR SELLS THREE HIGH-PRICED MARES AT KEENELAND AUCTION SO AFRICAN (\$1,050,000), GERMAN (\$750,000) 6YO MARES LIGHT UP BIG BOARD

Team Valor International had a big day today at the Keeneland November Breeding Stock Sale in Lexington, Kentucky, where three females sold for big balloons. Here are their stories, as follows:

GYPSY'S WARNING sold for \$1,050,000 as a racing/broodmare prospect to The Niarchos Family's Flaxman Holdings. They outbid Richard and Sue Ann Masson of Green Lantern Farm and Golden Age Farm, who bid \$1 million. Barry Irwin, bidding for himself, went to \$900,000. The 6-year-old mare was sold to dissolve a partnership between The Massons and Team Valor. The mare was sent back to Graham Motion, who will run her in the Grade 1 Matriarch later this month at Hollywood. She won the Grade 1 event last season. Gypsy's Warning was bought at the beginning of her season at 3 in South Africa, where she was a two-time Grade 1 winner. Irwin said "She was the complete package, except for her non-descript sire Mogok, who was unraced. This mare is a multiple Grade 1 winner from a top family. We did very well both racing and selling her and are thrilled that she will be joining such a top stable and farm as those of The Niarchos Family. Other than Irridescence (\$2 million), Ipi Tombe (\$1.8 million) and Ebony Flyer, she is the highest-selling South African mare sold by us and the second highest-priced South African mare ever sold at public auction anywhere in the world.

DAVERON sold for \$750,000, which was exactly the instruction from Team Valor's consignor Craig Bandoroff, acting on directions from Barry Irwin, who told his partners that at \$750,000 she was sold, but at anything less he felt it made more sense to retain her. Daveron originally was bought by B. Eye as a yearling in Germany and was syndicated for \$170,000. Over the years, Irwin sold parts of her for as much as \$350,000. She enjoyed a spectacular season at 6 in 2011, winning 3 of her 4 starts, including a pair of New York Graded stakes and finished a close third in a Keeneland Grade 1 in her lone loss. Her close relative Animal Kingdom increased her value substantially. She was bought by Charlotte Weber's Live Oak Plantation of Ocala, Florida and also has been returned to Graham Motion, for whom she could race in the Matriarch at Hollywood Park. "I would have loved to keep her, but for that kind of money, it made to sense to wave goodbye to her," said Irwin. "Graham did a fantastic job with her and she advertised the brilliance of training high-strung fillies at Fair Hill."



MISS SINGHSIX sold for \$485,000 to The Vinery, which outlasted an Australian group. Irwin planned to bid \$300,000 on her, but when he waved his catalogue the bidding went right by him to \$325,000, at which point he put on his sun glasses and cap, then walked out of the pavilion. The mare was in foal on a February 23 cover to The Vinery's More Than Ready. The mare sold for more than 10 times the stud fee, which is huge. The daughter of Singspiel raced for Team Valor and Dave Munro of Highfield Stock Farm of Canada, and was developed into a consistent Graded runner when she was transferred from Paddy Gallagher to Marty Wolfson, who switched her from synthetic and grass to the dirt, where she found a home. The Grade 3 winner is among two stakes winners produced by her Miswaki dam Whatamiss, a mare that is owned in partnership by Irwin and Munro.



'Warning' Tracks at \$1.05 Million...

The 6-year-old mare **Gypsy's Warning (SAf)** (Mogok--Gypsy Queen {SAf}, by Royal Chalice {SAf}) will defend her title in the GI Matriarch S. at Hollywood Park Nov. 25. But, unlike last year, she won't be carrying the red-and-green silks of Barry Irwin's Team



Hip 338, Gypsy's Warning LM

Valor International. That after Team Valor and partner Green Lantern Stable sold the racing or broodmare prospect to the Niarchos family's Flaxman Holdings for \$1.05 million yesterday. The family's racing manager Alan Cooper signed the ticket out back. Craig and Holly

Bandoroff's Denali Stud consigned the mare as [hip 338](#).

"She'll go back to [trainer] Graham Motion, with a view at repeating in the Matriarch at the end of the month," said Cooper, who said the mare will ultimately be retired for the 2012 breeding season. Cooper said the mare will likely stay as part of Flaxman's U.S.-based broodmare band.

"She was being sold to dissolve a partnership, so it's the fair-market price," added Cooper.

The Niarchos family had reason to take an interest in the granddaughter of Storm Cat, as they bred and raised her sire Mogok. "He was the last foal from Coup de Folie and is a grandson of Raise the Standard," said Cooper. "He was trained by Pascal Bary and never actually ran, but he was a lovely, quality horse. He was a much darker horse [than Gypsy's Warning], and she's probably a lot calmer."

Selling as a stallion prospect at the 2003 Goffs France summer sale, Mogok, a half-sibling to Machiavellian (Mr. Prospector) and from the family of Northern Dancer, topped the event on Kern Lillingston's €135,000 bid and was shipped to stand stud in South Africa. In addition to Gypsy's Warning, Mogok is the sire of South African Group 1 winners Orbison (SAf) and The Apache (SAf).

Gypsy's Warning herself started her racing career in South Africa, where Irwin purchased her shortly after winning the G1 S.A. Fillies Classic in 2009. Gypsy's Warning captured her stateside debut in the GIII Eatontown S. at Monmouth in May of 2010, ran third in the GI Beverly D. and GI Yellow Ribbon S., then beat Wasted Tears (Najran) in the Matriarch. For Irwin, departing with a mare less than three weeks from defending a Grade I title wasn't easy, but that's what the business plan called for.

"I'm not the richest guy in the world, and it's just something we had to do as part of the partnership," said Irwin, whose operation won the GI Kentucky Derby this year with Animal Kingdom (Leroidesanimaux {Brz}).

UPDATE FOR HIP 1442

Contrary to catalog this mare is **IN FOAL to War Front,**
Don't miss her

Dyna's Destiny selling
Friday, November 11th
Barn 7



About a half hour before Gypsy's Warning sold, another successful Team Valor runner went through the ring. [Hip 311](#), the 6-year-old **Daveron (Ger)** (Black Sam Bellamy {Ire}--Darwinia {Ger}, by Acatenango {Ger}), went to Charlotte Weber's Live Oak Plantation for \$750,000. "I purchased her as a yearling in Germany," said Irwin of the €100,000 BBASEP acquisition. A stakes winner in her native country, Daveron was

later moved to American shores and is enjoying her best season to date. She won the GIII Beaugay S. at Belmont in May, took the GII Ballston Spa S. at Saratoga in late August and finished a close-up third in the GI First Lady S. at Keeneland Oct. 8. Daveron, selling as a racing or broodmare prospect, was produced by a full-sister to Dalicia (Ger), dam of none other than Animal Kingdom. Team Valor acquired Dalicia a month after buying Daveron, going to €400,000 for the then 4-year-old.

Irwin said both Gypsy's Warning and Daveron sold for just about what he'd pegged their value at. -LM



Team Valor's Barry Irwin (right) and COO Brad Weisbord