

## BIG DAY AT FAIR GROUNDS FOR EA BLOODSTOCK

By Alastair Bull

**B**arring an elevated temperature that kept Market Rally out of the UAE Derby (UAE-II), EA Bloodstock would have connections to a trio of horses in top 3-year-old races around the world March 26.

As it is, the bloodstock-buying agency established in 2014 by Equine Analysis Systems has links to horses contesting preps for the Kentucky Derby and Kentucky Oaks at Fair Grounds Race Course & Slots. On behalf of Winchell Thoroughbreds, EA Bloodstock last year bought Fair Grounds Oaks (gr. II) contender Adore, and a half share in top Louisiana Derby (gr. II) prospect Gun Runner, who races for Winchell Thoroughbreds and Three Chimneys Farm.

"We only bought six horses last year, and one's Adore, one's Gun Runner, and one's Market Rally. Percentage wise it's been a good year," EA Bloodstock agent Catlyn Spivey said.

Equine Analysis Systems is a veterinary-run consultancy Dave Lambert started 20 years ago. It has a database of about 40,000 horses and connections to horses such as Favorite Trick, Countess Diana, Azeri, Roses in May, Thunder Gulch, and Tapit.

A couple of years ago Lambert founded EA Bloodstock, which focuses on traditional methods of selection along with scientific analysis.

"Like every other bloodstock agent out there, we look at horses, short list them, look at them conformationally, and look at their demeanor," said Spivey, whose background includes stints with leading trainers Jonathan Sheppard and Graham Motion.

"The only difference is that we use the veterinary model that Dave has set to kind of make horses jump through the proverbial hoops.

"We put them through the ringer: They'll have to pass the cardiovascular analysis, the conformation analysis, just all the different science that goes into the caliber of horses that we like to be involved with."

Both Gun Runner and Adore were bought privately—Gun Runner when he was preparing for a 2-year-old sale and Adore when she was getting ready for the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic 2-year-old sale.

Adore breezed a furlong in :10 before the sale but was withdrawn after contracting a fever; however, Spivey kept in touch with the consignors and bought her a couple of weeks later.

"I wasn't meant to be at the Midlantic sale to buy for anyone, but she just really stood out," she said. "She was just one that I couldn't let go of for some reason."

Market Rally was bought for a Dubai client, along with Top Clearance, fifth behind American Pharoah in the 2015 Travers (gr. I). Top Clearance has won in Dubai, but Market Rally has been the greater success after his easy UAE Guineas (UAE-III) victory.

Spivey says she's hopeful EA Bloodstock's early success can lead to a larger client base. **BH**



Risen Star (gr. II) winner Gun Runner is one of two 3-year-olds linked to EA Bloodstock seeking a graded victory at Fair Grounds

