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## IMPRESSIVE

Justify Pleases Baffert in First Trip  
Over Belmont Oval

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Best of luck to trainer **Bob Baffert** and co-owner **WinStar Farm** as Kentucky Derby (G1) and Preakness Stakes (G1) winner **JUSTIFY** seeks to become the 13th Triple Crown winner in history in Saturday's **150th Belmont Stakes (G1)**, and to all the connections of the Hallway-fed runners looking to make history of their own in the Test of the Champion.

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*Trained by Chad Brown*

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## JUSTIFY

*Trained by Bob Baffert*

## RESTORING HOPE

*Trained by Bob Baffert*

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Justify gallops impressively June 7 at Belmont Park

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# JUSTIFY PLEASES BAFFERT IN FIRST TRIP OVER BELMONT OVAL

By Alicia Wincze Hughes

[@BH\\_AHughes](#)

One of the many things that has become evident in the last handful of weeks of Justify's career is that he doesn't need to take his racetrack with him.

He has won on fast and muddy surfaces at Santa Anita Park. He handled the rain-drenched Churchill Downs oval with no issue during his victory in the Kentucky Derby Presented by Woodford Reserve (G1). He was equally unbothered by the wet going at Pimlico Race Course during his half-length victory in the Preakness Stakes (G1).

In his first venture onto the 1 1/2-mile Belmont Park track where he will attempt to become the 13th horse to capture the Triple Crown in the June 9 Belmont Stakes Presented by NYRA Bets (G1), the son of Scat Daddy looked every bit at home as elsewhere. The unbeaten dual classic winner put in a gallop that could have doubled for a two-minute lick June 7, going straight off under exercise rider Humberto Gomez to about 1 3/8 miles to the satisfaction of his Hall of Fame trainer, Bob Baffert.

"It looked like he really took to the track well," Baffert said of Justify's first morning of training at Belmont



Bob Baffert watches Justify train June 7 at Belmont Park

after he arrived in New York the afternoon of June 6. "All my horses I brought up here floated over the track, and he just looked like he was just getting over it really well. He was a little aggressive, a little fresh today, but he couldn't have looked any better today coming around there. I was very happy that he looks like a horse who is flourishing and doing very well. It was nothing for him."

Though Belmont Park is nicknamed "Big Sandy," Baffert said the surface his horses are used to training over at Santa Anita Park is a deep one in its own right. The level of fitness they gain at their base is one the Hall of Fame conditioner says pays dividends when they come to a track like Belmont, which is known to throw some contenders off.

"We've been training over a really deep, tiring track in California, and for some reason my horses come here and they just float over it," Baffert said. "It was really nice."

Justify usually wears earplugs during training, but Baffert didn't put the noise mufflers in Thursday, thinking the setting would be more quiet than it was after the renovation break.

"A horse came up to him, and we usually have (his) earplugs in, but ... we'll put them back in tomorrow," said Baffert, adding that Justify does not race with earplugs.

Baffert said Justify will go through the same routine June 8 and will not school in the paddock or the gate before the race. **BH**

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# RESTORING HOPE THE 'OTHER BAFFERT' IN BELMONT STAKES

By Jeremy Balan

[@BH\\_JBalan](#)

Months ahead of the Triple Crown series, as talented 2-year-olds begin to progress or early season 3-year-olds emerge, in Barn 5 on the Santa Anita Park backstretch there is *the* horse.

The spotlight on the Bob Baffert stable is so bright during the Triple Crown prep season, even an unraced colt could be *the* horse. By February, the leading candidate for that title was Justify, who will look to complete a Triple Crown sweep June 9 in the Belmont Stakes Presented by NYRA Bets (G1).

But in December, even after Baffert stablemate McKinzie won the Los Alamitos CashCall Futurity (G1) via disqualification, an unraced homebred owned by Gary and Mary West was starting to get some buzz. A month before Restoring Hope debuted Dec. 17 at Los Alamitos Race Course, the race book at Wynn Las Vegas was taking wagers on him to win the Kentucky Derby Presented by Woodford Reserve (G1). The buzz was real.

"I always thought he would be a really nice horse," Baffert said of those early days when he was still figuring out what exactly he had from his 2018 3-year-old crop.

The dark bay by Giant's Causeway out of the Tapit mare Symbol of Freedom came up second in that debut sprint at Los Alamitos to eventual graded stakes-placed runner All Out Blitz, but he broke through two starts later when stretched out to two turns. He then came in a good third after a bad trip in the Wood Memorial Stakes Presented by NYRA Bets (G2) at Aqueduct Racetrack and misfired in the Pat Day Mile Stakes Presented by LG and E and KU (G3) over the slop at Churchill Downs. On Saturday, Restoring Hope will attempt to play spoiler to his stablemate at Belmont Park.

Gary West said there is no discomfort in trying to beat a stablemate seeking the immortality of a Triple Crown.

"One thing I can tell you unequivocally about Bob Baffert—he is an equal-opportunity trainer," West said. "If he had four other horses good enough for the race, he's a trainer that will do what he thinks is right for each individual horse.

"A lot of trainers going for the Triple Crown would make up excuses not to have horses run against their



COADY PHOTOGRAPHY

**Owner Gary West says he has mentally conceded the Belmont Stakes to Justify, but Restoring Hope deserves to run in the race at Belmont Park**

horse. He believes if his horse is good enough to win the Triple Crown, he'll win the Triple Crown."

To be fair, West doesn't think Restoring Hope will beat Justify. But as the owner of Symbol of Freedom, the value proposition of a classic-placed runner out of the mare was enough to attract him to the third leg of the Triple Crown.

"We're just taking a shot," the owner said. "If there's any such thing as a dirt horse who wants a mile and a half in North America, he is a stayer. ... I haven't really thought about (winning) because, mentally, I've conceded the race to Justify.

"But this horse deserves to run in this race. I don't have any expectations of him winning, but if Justify stubs his toe—for whatever reason—we have as good a chance as any to run well."

Although Baffert has never run a stablemate in the Belmont against his own Triple Crown hopeful in four tries, you don't have to look far to find an instance where "the other Baffert" upset *the* horse—and he has a photo to remind him on his phone, sent from a friend in a playful jab.

*(continued on page 6)*

# RESTORING HOPE THE 'OTHER BAFFERT' IN BELMONT STAKES

(continued from page 5)

"That feeling if Restoring Hope wins the Belmont," Baffert said, giving voice to the text message accompanying a photo of himself, his wife Jill, and his son Bode watching the finish of the 2017 \$1 Million TVG Pacific Classic (G1) in disbelief, when Collected upset Arrogate at Del Mar.

"What we want to see at this stage—I don't think about winning the Triple Crown," the Hall of Fame

trainer said. "I just want (Justify's) name remembered as the great horse that he is, (recognizing) what he's done in such a short period of time. The most important thing is the horse has to show up.

"I don't care who wins. You want to win it, and sometimes you need your backup to win it. I've had situations where you go, 'Oh no. Who is that? Oh, that's me.' I want to run 1-2. That's what we're trying to do."

A Restoring Hope victory would be a stunning upset on the grandest stage, but it wouldn't be the most shocking result ever from a West-owned horse. That distinction would probably go to Rockamundo, who won the 1993 Arkansas Derby (G2) at odds of 108-1.

"We've been involved in more than one big horse race when we weren't supposed to win, and we did," West said. "And we've been in horse races where we were supposed to win, and we didn't. It cuts both ways.

"But when you have a 3-year-old, you only have so many chances to run in the classics. He doesn't have a big closing kick or blazing speed—he's kind of a grinder—but a lot of Belmonts are won by grinders."

"He's a good-looking horse, he's a nice-looking horse, and he worked really well the other day (six furlongs in 1:13 flat June 4 at Churchill)," Baffert added. "I think he fits in there with those horses. (West) wanted to take a shot, so we're taking a shot. We'll see what happens." **BH**



ANNE M. EBERHARDT

Restoring Hope in a strong gallop June 7 at Belmont Park

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# GRONKOWSKI AIMS TO DEFY ODDS IN BELMONT STAKES

By Alicia Wincze Hughes

[@BH\\_AHughes](#)

He has never run beyond a mile. He has only been on this side of the ocean for about a month. He has yet to run a race over the dirt. And, by the way, he and his current conditioner are still getting acquainted with one another.

For all those reasons and then some, it would take an epic level of handicapping to come up with a scenario in which Phoenix Thoroughbreds' stakes victor Gronkowski ends up in the Belmont Park winner's circle June 9. His two-time Eclipse Award winning trainer, Chad Brown, acknowledges as much, knowing that as masterful as he is at getting European imports to thrive in his program, saddling the son of Lonhro to victory in the Belmont Stakes Presented by NYRA Bets (G1) would qualify as one of the biggest upsets this side of Sarava.

Gronkowski is up against a massive favorite in dual classic winner Justify, the horse who has yet to meet a circumstance he couldn't conquer in his quest to make the list of Triple Crown winners a baker's dozen. In case anyone is wondering why a trainer known for his ability to place his charges in just the right spot is taking such a seemingly wild swing, Brown only needs to glance at the evidence around him to know this is far from an off-base attempt.

"It's a situation where I look at my office and I see pictures from these group 1 races, and not



Gronkowski gallops June 7 at Belmont Park

every one of those pictures is the best horse," Brown said from just outside that Belmont Park office June 7. "The best horse doesn't always win. That's why it's a horse race. I've won a lot of big races to this point where I felt the best horse we had won, and I've won some other ones thinking we might not have had the best horse, but it worked out on that day—he or she had the best trip, had the best weather conditions, had the best racing luck within the race.

"Those things can happen."

If the unexpected transpires Saturday and Justify suffers his first loss, Gronkowski would be a shocker to play the role of conqueror, but a popular one nonetheless.

Named for the New England Patriots' ebullient tight end Rob Gronkowski, the dark bay colt garnered a following in the states thanks to his moniker even before he was transferred

from Newmarket-based trainer Jeremy Nosedo to Brown's barn last month. When the equine Gronkowski captured the March 30 32red Burradon Stakes at Newcastle to help secure an invitation to the Kentucky Derby Presented by Woodford Reserve (G1), the buzz was such that his human counterpart purchased a minority interest in him.

What figured to be a most interesting gathering of connections at Churchill Downs on the first Saturday in May went sideways in April, however, when Gronkowski was felled by a slight infection that prevented him from shipping. With the Belmont Stakes as the new target, the decision was made to see whether Brown's history of working wonders with international transfers could produce another remarkable success story.

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# GRONKOWSKI AIMS TO DEFY ODDS IN BELMONT STAKES

*(continued from page 7)*

"I didn't know what to expect (with Gronkowski)," said Brown, whose list of champions who began their careers in Europe include Stacelita, Zagora, and Flintshire. "First of all, when you see the horse, he's a very impressive-looking horse. He's a big, strong, chiseled, impressive animal. Then you get to training him a few days, and you see that he has a really good mind. I find him to be a very intelligent horse, a good mover, and he came in to me in really outstanding condition."

"He was sent to me with the first objective being the Belmont Stakes, but not at all costs if I didn't think it was the right thing to do once I got to know the horse. As I trained the horse, I did my part to at least put him on a path to get to the Belmont ... and in fairness, the horse passed all the tests."

Brown's ability to unearth new layers of talent from horses adjusting to stateside racing is an uncanny one—as his most recent such grade 1 winner, Coolmore Jenny Wiley Stakes (G1T) victor Sistercharlie,

demonstrates. Much of the reason he has such widespread success in that realm is that he doesn't adhere to a one-program-fits-all philosophy.

"We have a basic system when they come in, but once they arrive, they sort of separate into their own individual programs," Brown said. "We're getting horses from Europe or getting horses from South America ... some of them are coming in to make a race on a shorter time frame, some of them come over and there is no time frame and I have more time to work with them."

"They all come from different programs over there, different types of racing, so when they come in, I just try to evaluate each situation individually."

The transition is one Gronkowski has appeared to handle seamlessly. His stout frame has gotten over the Belmont oval as well as his trainer could have asked, with his first on-site breeze a four-furlong move in :47.99 May 26. He got another lung opener June 2, going five furlongs in 1:01.87, after which Brown said he felt not giving his new charge a chance in the 1 1/2-mile classic would be doing him a disservice.

"He's had two outstanding breezes to my eye," said Brown, who saddled champion Good Magic to a runner-up effort in this year's Kentucky Derby and won his first Triple Crown race last year when he

upset the Preakness Stakes (G1) with Cloud Computing. "The big unknown is ... you have a horse going a half-mile farther than he's ever gone, off a short layoff, after a brief illness where he missed a little bit of training, and he shipped over here. If I was handicapping the race, I would say, 'Wow, objectively this horse would have to overcome a lot to win.' I understand that. But I keep thinking about, man, he worked so well. So you have to try."

"I wish I had a little more time with the horse and had a better handle just for my own peace of mind that I knew exactly what his foundation was, exactly how fit he was. But from what I've seen, I've been extremely impressed." **BH**

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ANNE M. EBERHARDT

**Chad Brown believes Gronkowski deserves his shot in the Belmont Stakes**



# REPOLE TAKES DOUBLE AIM AT ELUSIVE BELMONT STAKES

By Teresa Genaro

[@BklynBckstretch](#)

On the evening of June 5, two of Mike Repole's sporting passions came together when the post position draw for the Belmont Stakes Presented by NYRA Bets (G1) was held at Citi Field, home of the New York Mets.

A lifelong Mets fan whose silks sport the orange and blue colors of the team, Repole will run two horses in the June 9 Belmont at Belmont Park, both owned in partnership: Vino Rosso, who drew post 8, and Noble Indy, who will break right next door from post 9.

"Hopefully," said Repole of the draw location, "that's a good sign."

A native of Queens who grew up going to Belmont and Aqueduct Racetrack, Repole has never made any secret of his desire to win New York's biggest races, and in a relatively short time, he's built an impressive résumé. His horses have won the Gotham Stakes (G3), the Jim Dandy Stakes (G2), the Wood Memorial twice (as both a grade 1 and grade 2), the Cigar Mile Handicap (G1), the Alabama Stakes (G1), and the TVG Coaching Club American Oaks (G1).

The race glaringly missing from that list is the Belmont Stakes. He's come close—Stay Thirsty finished second to Ruler On Ice in 2011.

"This is the pinnacle," Repole said. "I want to win this race more than I want to win the Kentucky Derby."

He owns Vino Rosso, who won this year's Wood Memorial Stakes Presented by NYRA Bets (G2), with St. Elias Stable, the nom de course of Vincent Viola, a fellow Italian-American and New Yorker who grew up in Brooklyn. The men have been friends since Viola got involved in racing about eight years ago, with Repole serving as a sort of mentor.

"After the Wood, his whole family and my whole family came back to my house," Repole said. "And I'll tell you, we drank a lot of vino rosso. It will be a great New York story if Vino wins."

Should Noble Indy win, it will be a different kind of story. Repole's partner in that horse is WinStar Farm, which also owns a share of dual classic winner Justify, setting up the possibility that one WinStar horse could derail the Triple Crown dreams of another.



Owner Mike Repole (center) cheers on Vino Rosso during the Wood Memorial at Aqueduct Racetrack

"(WinStar president and CEO) Elliott (Walden) and WinStar have been great," Repole said. "(Trainer) Todd (Pletcher) worked both horses together, and I told Elliott I'd stay home and he should go watch and then decide whether Noble Indy should run.

"Both horses freaked. They couldn't be separated, so we made the decision to run both horses."

Noble Indy is the longer shot of the two, with morning line odds of 30-1. Vino Rosso is 8-1 on the morning line. Javier Castellano will be in the saddle of the former, John Velazquez on the latter.

At one point, it was possible both Pletcher and WinStar would have three horses in the Belmont Stakes when Audible, winner of the Xpressbet Florida Derby (G1) and third in the Kentucky Derby Presented by Woodford Reserve (G1), was under consideration. The horse owned by WinStar in partnership with China Horse Club, Head of Plains Partners, and Starlight Racing—the same group that owns Justify—has been shipped to WinStar Farm near Lexington for a freshening.

Repole's sense of family extends beyond his blood relatives to his racing community, and he considers Pletcher a friend as much as he does a trainer. And, said the owner, he wanted to run Noble Indy as much for the trainer as for himself.

"In fairness to Todd," Repole said, "this horse deserves a chance."

And a Belmont Stakes trophy would go a long way toward soothing the hurt of yet another bleak Mets season, which is nothing new to Repole.

"Lately," he said, "my silks have performed a lot better than the Mets' uniforms." **BH**

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# CALUMET FARM CONTINUES AIM FOR CLASSIC SUCCESS

By Frank Angst

[@BH\\_FAngst](#)

With a long list of top racing wins of his own, Hall of Fame trainer D. Wayne Lukas is just fine with the top-level goals of Brad Kelley's Calumet Farm.

"They put their emphasis on grade 1. Brad Kelley doesn't even know how to spell 'grade 2,'" Lukas said. "If it isn't grade 1, it's just another race to him. A lot of people breed horses all their lives and would love to get a grade 2, but that doesn't mean a thing to him. He's only interested in the big ones."

Lukas and Calumet will take aim at one of the biggest races June 9 when they send out homebred Bravazo in the \$1.5 million Belmont Stakes presented by NYRA Bets (G1) at Belmont Park. Bravazo won the Risen Star Stakes presented by Lamarque Ford (G2) in February and earned a classic placing when he finished second in the Preakness Stakes (G1), where the son of Awesome Again closed to within a half-length of Justify.

Although Lukas thinks Justify will be tough to knock off Saturday, he said Bravazo also is doing well. Lukas would love to deliver another classic



ANNE M. EBERHARDT

Bravazo trains at Belmont Park

win for Calumet. In 2013, he saddled Oxbow, also a son of Awesome Again, to a victory in the Preakness and a runner-up finish in the Belmont.

Oxbow stands at Calumet for \$20,000. According to the farm's Jak Knelman, the Calumet racing program is about building families to support the Calumet stallions.

Calumet initially considered shipping Bandua from Europe to contest the 1 1/2-mile Belmont. The Kentucky-bred son of The Factor has won his first two starts at Cork in Ireland for trainer Dermot Weld. Calumet purchased Bandua for \$150,000 as a weanling at the 2015 Keeneland November breeding stock sale.

Calumet has fewer than 10 horses in training in Ireland with Weld and Joseph O'Brien.

In North America this year, not counting its partnerships, Calumet has a record of 29-35-30 and earnings of \$2.26 million from 222 starts.

In a different era for the farm, Lukas was the trainer of Calumet homebred Criminal Type, the 1990 Horse of the Year. He would love to add to the success of Kelley's Calumet, as well as the historical success of the Calumet operation, which boasts Triple Crown winners Whirlaway (1941) and Citation (1948).

"I was telling Brad Kelley, I want to get him back (to the top). They'll get there with or without me," Lukas said. "Brad Kelley is very intense on getting Calumet back into the No. 1 spot. He's very aggressive." **BH**

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## KUMIN LONG AND STRONG IN BELMONT DAY STAKES ACTION

By Lenny Shulman

What do you do for an encore after you become the first owner in 66 years to win both the Kentucky Oaks and Kentucky Derby in the same year?

If you're Sol Kumin, who has become the Prince of Partnerships, you serve up eight starters on Belmont Stakes Day June 9 in an effort to continue your hot streak on racing's biggest occasions.

Kumin's Head of Plains Partners is a minority owner in undefeated dual classic winner Justify, who triumphed in the May 5 Kentucky Derby Presented by Woodford Reserve and the May 19 Preakness Stakes (both G1), and his Monomoy Stables is a 50% owner of Longines Kentucky Oaks (G1) queen Monomoy Girl, who is a neck shy of being undefeated in seven starts.

Justify seeks to become the 13th Triple Crown winner and just the second undefeated one when he contests the Belmont Stakes Presented by NYRA Bets (G1).

Monomoy Girl shortens up to a flat mile in the Acorn Stakes (G1) on the Belmont undercard.

Those are hardly the only starters Kumin will be visiting in the paddock Saturday, however. The Massachusetts-based hedge fund manager will be beating a path to the saddling area throughout the day. Three-time grade 1 winner Beach Patrol runs in the Woodford Reserve Manhattan Stakes (G1T); three-time grade/group 1 winner Mind Your Biscuits and multiple grade 2 winner Good Samaritan try the Runhappy Metropolitan Handicap (G1); grade 2 winner Ivy Bell runs in the Ogden Phipps Stakes (G1); German highweighted older mare A Raving Beauty, who made her initial U.S. start a winning one in the May 12 Beaugay Stakes (G3T) at Belmont Park, returns in the Longines Just a Game Stakes (G1T); and World of Trouble, the Pasco Stakes victor, runs in the Woody Stephens Stakes Presented by Mohegan Sun (G2). All are owned in part by a Kumin-led partnership.

When you lead off with a grand slam, usually the only way to go is down. But Kumin, who purchased Lady Eli at auction as a 2-year-old with his friend Jay Hanley and saw her become a champion and superstar, has gone right on collecting extra-base hits since. He has bought horses privately and publicly with a variety of partners, and more often than not has found upside in his purchases. He proudly points out he has never bought into a horse that was already a grade 1 winner, yet he has collected dozens of grade 1 wins in just five years of ownership.



ANNE M. EBERHARDT

Sol Kumin (left) and trainer Brad Cox celebrate Monomoy Girl's Kentucky Oaks

(continued on page 12)

# KUMIN LONG AND STRONG IN BELMONT DAY STAKES ACTION

(continued from page 11)

Although Kumin's interest in Justify and Xpressbet Florida Derby (G1) winner Audible is a lease arrangement exclusively involving their racing careers and not their breeding rights, his ownership of Mind Your Biscuits and Beach Patrol, horses whose breeding rights have been sold to Japanese farms, includes a piece of that action.

"When people want the horse for breeding purposes, you do the deal and then get to race them for the remainder of the year," noted Kumin. "So you are out on the horse, yet still get to enjoy him on the track. It's usually a good deal."

While Justify is the obvious headliner on Belmont Day, Kumin is closer still to Monomoy Girl, who was purchased for him by Liz Crow for \$100,000 at the 2016 Keeneland September yearling sale. The chestnut daughter of Tapizar has won the Central Bank Ashland Stakes (G1) and Rachel Alexandra Stakes (G2) in addition to her Oaks score, and she represents a lot of firsts to her connections. She was trainer Brad Cox's first grade 1 winner and the first horse Crow signed a ticket for at auction. Also, rider

Florent Geroux and his family have become close to the Kumin clan.

"Winning the Oaks felt as good or maybe even slightly better than winning the Derby," said Kumin, who added he owns a lot of horses with Michael Dubb, The Elkstone Group, and Bethlehem Stables, his partners in the filly. "Those are moments I'll never forget. It was one of the greatest weekends of my life. Monomoy Girl has become my second-favorite horse behind Lady Eli. There is something about a filly and the relationship you build with them."



Monomoy Girl has breezed a few times since the Oaks, and Kumin feels eight to nine furlongs is her optimal distance.

As for keeping up with his myriad of partners Saturday, Kumin said that unlike the Preakness, where he brought a small crew, many of his friends plus a contingent of family members will be on hand at Belmont Park.

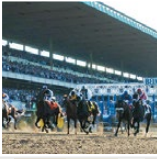
"We have a fun crew, and we've reserved a tent near the paddock and can hopefully get some boxes out front," Kumin said. "We'll be long and strong. It's one of those weekends where we have live shots and can either win nothing or five races."

And maybe that Triple Crown. **BH**


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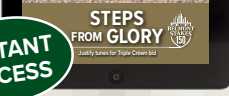
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# JUSTIFY BRINGS ATTENTION TO RACING-ONLY OWNERSHIP

By Frank Angst

[@BH\\_FAngst](#)

While a successful approach in horse racing and sports often spurs imitation, two owners involved in the uncommon practice of a racing-only interest in dual classic winner Justify don't see the option taking the industry by storm.

Starlight Racing and Sol Kumin's Head of Plains Partners each own a 15% racing-only interest in Justify, who will look to become the sport's 13th Triple Crown winner June 9 in the Belmont Stakes Presented by NYRA Bets (G1) at Belmont Park. They campaign the horse with WinStar Farm and China Horse Club.

Both Kumin and Starlight's Jack Wolf said it takes the right circumstance for a racing-only ownership interest to work.

"You have to find just the right fit for this to work," said Kumin, noting that a big part of success is a good relationship with the partners involved.

The 15% racing interests for Starlight and Head of Plains were purchased from SF Bloodstock, which retained breeding rights to the horse. Starlight and Head of Plains completed a similar deal with SF Bloodstock for a percentage of the racing interests in Audible, who went on to win the Xpressbet Florida Derby (G1) and run third in the Kentucky Derby Presented by Woodford Reserve (G1).

ESPN.com reported the breeding rights to Justify have been sold to Coolmore for about \$60 million, of which SF Bloodstock would receive 30%. In a statement, WinStar said nothing was finalized or would be in the foreseeable future. The racing-only partners would not benefit from any such deal.

Wolf said partners in Starlight understood how the deal would work and added it helps that Starlight partners' motivation always has been on the racing side. Starlight typically sells any stallion or broodmare prospects after their racing career.

Wolf saw the potential to compete in and win some top races, but he didn't think there was much chance of major financial gain. That changed when Justify won the Santa Anita Derby (G1), Kentucky Derby, and Preakness Stakes (G1), while Audible scored in the Florida Derby.



SKIP DICKSTEIN

**Jack Wolf (left) talks things over with trainer Bob Baffert at the Preakness Stakes draw at Pimlico Race Course**

"Going in, I didn't expect to come out too well financially on the thing, but I didn't realize we were going to win four grade 1 races," Wolf said. "We got fortunate that we landed on two live horses."

Wolf noted that just winning the Derby was special as six of the Starlight partners are from Louisville. After the Derby, he credited partners Clinton Glasscock and Jim Shircliff for backing the racing-only deal.

Kumin estimates he's bought into more than 100 horses in the past year, and only the Justify-Audible deal and one other deal were conducted as racing-only arrangements.

"There aren't enough situations where it comes up that I think it will become a trend," Kumin said.

Kumin credited Bradley Weisbord for putting the deal together. He noted that without deep pockets, it's difficult to buy into a classic-type 3-year-old, and this deal provided an option that worked for him.

Like Kumin, Wolf doesn't see a bunch of similar deals being made in the near future. He noted there could be a small increase fueled by interest in selling racing-only shares—despite Starlight's success in this venture. That increase could spark interest from potential buyers.

Such transactions, Wolf said, will be to the benefit of the seller.

He added, as is always the case for all parties, "if the price is right." **BH**

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# BELMONT TRAINER ROMANS SAVES WOMAN FROM CHOKING

By BloodHorse Staff

Should Albaugh Family Stables' Free Drop Billy deny Justify's quest for the Triple Crown in the \$1.5 million Belmont Stakes Presented by NYRA Bets (G1) on June 9, don't be surprised if trainer Dale Romans credits karma as much as the colt's credentials.

On the evening of June 5, his first night in New York for what will be his ninth Belmont Stakes, Romans attended a New York Mets game that followed a post-position draw and roundtable discussion for the race hosted at Citi Field in Queens.

At one point during the game, Romans left his seat in the left-field stands and came across a young woman in her mid-20s who appeared to be choking. Without hesitation, the Louisville native stepped in to help.

"I came up the back of the steps toward the restroom, and this lady and her daughter are there. She's kind of bent over a table, one of those little things around the post where you put your condiments and stuff. You could tell she was in distress," Romans said. "Her mother keeps telling the security guard, 'Get somebody, help her, get somebody.' I walked over and said, 'Do you want the Heimlich?' And she shook her head yes. She couldn't speak.

"I grabbed her, and two or three pops and she got rid of what was in her throat, got up and she was fine. She might not have died, but it definitely got her out of distress. She might have died; she couldn't breathe. It was interesting, to say the least," he added. "Maybe I get a little divine intervention Saturday."

Romans, who has finished third in the Belmont four times (including 2015 when American Pharoah ended a 37-year drought between Triple Crowns), said it was the second time he had performed the Heimlich maneuver. The other came several years ago on Buzz Chace, a prominent bloodstock agent who died of cancer in 2013.

"We were playing golf one day, and he got a hot dog stuck in his throat. He was bad. He would have died, but I got it out of him," Romans said. "Everybody should learn the Heimlich."

Free Drop Billy, the only grade 1 winner in the



Trainer Dale Romans at Churchill Downs on Kentucky Oaks Day

Belmont besides Justify, got his first look at Belmont Park with one lap around the 1 1/2-mile main track under exercise rider Juan Segundo shortly before 9 a.m. EDT Thursday. He arrived in New York on Wednesday afternoon on the same flight as Justify, and the two were on the track together Thursday morning.

"What'd you think? I thought he looked good, real good," Romans said of Free Drop Billy, a 30-1 outsider on the morning-line whose sire, Union Rags, upset Romans-trained favorite Dullahan in the 2012 Belmont. "He looked excellent, about as good as he's ever looked—ears up, happy, content. He just kind of bounced around there."

Romans said Free Drop Billy will get more familiar with the expansive Belmont surroundings on his way to the track Friday morning, also after the renovation break.

"The hard part's behind us now. It's just a matter of keeping him happy," Romans said. "We'll do the same thing tomorrow, but we'll go through the paddock. We'll just give him a chance to look around." **BH**

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# HOPPERTUNITY 'IN HIS OWN LITTLE GROOVE' FOR BROOKLYN

By Claire Crosby

[@BH\\_CNovak](#)

The main track at Belmont Park had just reopened after the harrow break June 7, and there went dual classic winner Justify for his first New York gallop. Jogging in the horse of the hour's wake—but equally recognized by the racing media—was the well-built bay whose efforts for Hall of Fame trainer Bob Baffert have put him in top company since the Triple Crown trail of 2014.

"I think Hoppertunity thought you guys were all out there to see him," Baffert cracked at a post-training press conference.

Before American Pharoah, Arrogate, or Justify came along, Hoppertunity was the one who could be any kind of runner. The Any Given Saturday colt was a straightforward type, self-confident and eager to learn.

Bill Betz co-bred the seven-time graded stakes winner out of the Unaccounted For mare Refugee

and consigned him to the 2012 Keeneland September yearling sale. The breeders were riding the success of Refugee's 2010 foal, the multiple grade 1-winning First Samurai filly Executiveprivilege, also trained by Baffert. Betz remembered bloodstock agent Donato Lanni inspecting Hoppertunity at the farm but said Baffert never personally saw the horse who eventually became a multi-millionaire for owners Karl Watson, Mike Pegram, and Paul Weitman.

"He called me and said, 'I needed to get back to California. Any chance you could let my guy take a picture and send it to me?'" Betz recalled. "I said, 'Well, I guess I can,' and they bought him for \$300,000 off that picture."

Hoppertunity took to the rhythms of training with natural talent and was soon under consideration for the 3-year-old classics. He even won the Rebel Stakes (G2) and shipped to Churchill Downs for his chance at glory—but a foot bruise sent him to the sideline two days before the Run for the Roses.

*(continued on page 16)*



Hoppertunity gallops under Dana Barnes June 7 at Belmont Park

# HOPPERTUNITY 'IN HIS OWN LITTLE GROOVE' FOR BROOKLYN

*(continued from page 15)*

"The first time I galloped him, I thought, 'Wow, I love this horse,'" exercise rider Dana Barnes said. "Then, when I found out it was Executiveprivilege's (half) brother, I was like, 'No wonder I like him so much!'"

"Now he's like the all-time favorite horse (in the barn). He's so fun, and he has so much personality."

While most of the contenders he faced have gone off to the breeding shed, 7-year-old Hoppertunity is well into his fifth year of racing, with earnings of more than \$4.4 million and at least one graded stakes score secured each season. Another is on the line June 9 in the \$400,000 Brooklyn Invitational Stakes (G2) at Belmont, the site of his 2016 Jockey Club Gold Cup (G1) victory.

"It's pretty cool to have bred a horse that has shown the class that he has for so long," Betz said. "It's rare these days, but I'm not surprised. Most horses, I think, get tired of the game after a while and start to worry about the effort it takes, but he seems to stay focused. He's one of those horses that doesn't worry about things. He goes out and does his job. He doesn't stress himself out."

"If he's good enough, he's good enough, and if he's not, he goes out and does it again the next time."

Baffert believes the 1 1/2-mile Brooklyn should be right up Hoppertunity's alley. With an 8-7-5 record from 31 starts, he is a closer whose seconds and thirds combined outnumber his win tally, including a third in the 2016 Dubai World Cup Sponsored by Emirates Airline (G1), a third in the 2015 Stephen

Foster Handicap (G1), and a second in the 2015 Gold Cup at Santa Anita Stakes (G1), to name a few.

Hoppertunity needs a good pace and some distance to put him in striking position for the win. He found both in races like the 2014 Clark Handicap (G1) and the 2016-17 editions of the San Antonio Stakes (G2). His only other start going 1 1/2 miles resulted in a 6 1/2-length score in the April 8 Tokyo City Stakes (G3) at Santa Anita Park.

"He likes a mile and a half. He feels more comfortable (and) gets in his own little groove," Baffert said. "Those shorter races—he has trouble closing. He needs a certain kind of pace."

Baffert said his horses tend to get over the Belmont surface well, and Hoppertunity is no exception.

"We've been training over a really deep, tiring track in California, and for some reason my horses, when they come here, they float over this surface," he said. "So it feels really nice."

Hoppertunity will be ridden by Flavien Prat, who has been aboard in his last three starts.

Another hard-knocking veteran, Imaginary Stables and Glenn Ellis' War Story, exits a close runner-up finish in the April 21 Charles Town Classic Stakes (G2) for trainer Jorge Navarro and is the 2-1 morning-line favorite.

Todd Pletcher has a one-two punch in Paul Pompa Jr.'s homebred Hard Study, a 5 1/2-length winner of the 1 3/8-mile Flat Out Stakes at Belmont on May 4, and Repole Stable's Outplay, who must rebound from a seventh-place finish in the Churchill Downs Stakes Presented by Twinspires.com (G2). Carlino, Take Your Guns, Mills, Backsideofthemoon, and Giant Payday complete the field. **BH**

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## Sales Update

OBS JUNE 2-YEAR-OLDS IN TRAINING AND HORSES OF RACING AGE SALE

### CAIRO PRINCE FILLY FASTEST IN OBS WORKS

By Ron Mitchell

[@BH\\_RMitchell](#)

A speedy filly from the first crop of Cairo Prince zipped through a quarter-mile in :20 2/5, the fastest work of the day during the June 7 first under tack session in preparation for next week's Ocala Breeders' Sales June 2-year-olds in training sale.

The under tack show, held at the OBS sale grounds in Ocala, Fla., began Thursday and continues through Sunday, starting at 7:30 a.m. EDT daily. The sale, which also has a horses in training component, will be held June 13-15 with daily sessions starting at 10 a.m.

Thursday's session was delayed about 15 minutes due to a heavy rainfall, but sales director Tod Wojciechowski said the artificial surface at OBS was fair and consistent throughout the day.

Produced from the winning Bates Motel mare Motel Lass, the Cairo Prince filly is consigned as Hip 61 by Price Thoroughbreds, agent, which purchased the bay miss for \$130,000 from the Hunter Valley Farm offerings at last year's Fasig-Tipton October yearling sale. Among the 12 offspring produced from Motel Lass are eight winners, including stakes winners Stormin' Lyon and Quick Flip. Hunter Valley Farm and Nekia Farm bred the filly in Kentucky.

The fastest eighth-mile time of :09 4/5 was shared by a colt from the final crop of the eminently



JOE DORIO

A Cairo Prince filly consigned as Hip 61 works a quarter-mile in :20 2/5

successful sire Scat Daddy and a filly by You Luckie Mann, who has been represented by 24 foals from three crops of racing age.

The Scat Daddy colt, Hip 211 from Top Line Sales, agent, was bred in Florida by Don Ming and is out of the Gone West mare Satulah. The colt's second dam, War Thief, won 14 races, including the grade 3 Modesty Handicap, and earned \$608,543. Among six winners produced from War Thief is grade 3 winner Boss Lafitte.

The Scat Daddy colt was bought back on a final bid of \$385,000 at last year's Keeneland September yearling sale.

Consigned as Hip 114 by Champions of the Future, agent, the You Luckie Mann filly named Diamond Gold was bred in Florida by George Gurrola. She is the first foal out of the Evansville Slew mare Party of Eight, a \$201,487-earner who tallied 16 wins from ages 4-11. **BH**

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# FRENCH-BRED LA SARDANE TOPS INTERCONTINENTAL FIELD

By Bob Ehalt

**I**t took founder and CEO Barry Irwin a little more than 30 years to notch his 300th stakes win with his Team Valor International partnership.

He needed only 10 days to collect No. 301.

European group 2 winner La Sardane rallied from fourth in a field of eight to post a neck victory over the Bob Baffert-trained Faypien in the seven-furlong, \$200,000 Intercontinental Stakes (G3T) at Belmont Park on the June 7 opening day of the Belmont Stakes Racing Festival.

"She was our 11th horse to earn black type this year," said Irwin by phone. "We're quite proud of that. It's been a nice roll for us."

The victory was La Sardane's second in three starts in the United States, following a May 3 optional-claiming allowance win at Churchill Downs for Team Valor and trainer Neil Drysdale.

"She's coming along well. She had a long time off, and Barry said take your time with her, so we gave her some extra time. The first race back didn't go quite according to plan, but in the next race we could see what she was," Drysdale said.

Unraced in 10 months since winning the 2017 Prix de Sandringham (G2) at Chantilly, La Sardane finished 10th in a Keeneland allowance race in her U.S. debut, but then quickly turned the corner and returned to the form she displayed in Europe.



La Sardane fights through the stretch to win the Intercontinental by a neck at Belmont Park

"It's a spectacle every time she runs," said Irwin, who purchased the Kingsalsa filly prior to her win in the Prix de Sandringham. "She was the second-best miler among 3-year-old fillies in Europe last year. I expect her to be a multiple grade 1 winner going a mile here. Today was a little short for her, and she still won."

The French-bred La Sardane was listed at morning-line odds of 20-1 for the fifth running of the Intercontinental but was sent off as the 4-1 third choice to return \$10.80, a turn of events that had Irwin in a sarcastic mood.

"I knew the morning line would not hold up," he said. "So very few people know anything about European racing. Simon Bray (of TVG) is the only one who can make an intelligent comment about it. Other people don't have a clue. This filly to me was an absolute slam dunk. I never thought for a second we would lose this race. We were actually thinking about running her in the (Longines) Just a Game (Stakes,

a grade 1 mile June 9 at Belmont Park)."

Grade 2 winner Faypien, making her turf debut, set the early pace in the Intercontinental, posting a half-mile in :45.43 on the firm turf. La Sardane, with Flavien Prat aboard, collared the leader in midstretch but could not go by as the two battled to the wire, with the Team Valor 4-year-old prevailing in a stakes-record time of 1:20.04 for the seven furlongs.

The previous mark of 1:20.05 was set by Mississippi Delta in last year's stakes.

The win was the fourth in 10 starts for La Sardane, who earned \$120,000 and now has career earnings of \$268,879. She was bred by SCEA Plessis and Jean Guillemin.

Heavenly Score, who was second early then dropped back to fourth, rallied to finish third, just a nose behind Faypien.

The order of finish was completed by Malibu Stacy, Always Thinking, Delectation, 5-2 favorite Stormy Victoria, and Thundering Sky. **BH**

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# WARD TAKES ASTORIA WITH ATHENS QUEEN

By Jeremy Balan

[@BH\\_JBalan](#)

**I**t's not that trainer Wesley Ward has a niche. It's just that he does one thing far better than anything else.

Continuing an incredible streak of juvenile success in the first half of the year, Ward scored the \$150,000 Astoria Stakes for fillies by a neck June 7 at Belmont Park with James Reiley McDonald's homebred Athens Queen.

One of two Ward entries—along with Don Alberto Stable's Wonder Stone—who won their debut runs during the trainer's dominant meet for juvenile runners at Keeneland, Athens Queen got the benefit of an outside post in the 5 1/2-furlong Astoria.

With a stalking trip behind Wonder Stone—who set a pace of :22.06 through the first quarter—and even-money favorite Tijori, Athens Queen went by the two frontrunners in the stretch and held off an inside

closing effort from Lady Apple to finish the distance in 1:05.37 under jockey Albin Jimenez.

"She's learning a lot, and she surprised me in the end when she kept going and got away," Jimenez said. "My plan was to break and go, but it didn't work that way. But she seemed comfortable being behind."

In her debut win, the daughter of Majestic Warrior set the pace at Keeneland and held on late to win by a neck in the 4 1/2-furlong sprint.

"She was always a nice filly from day one, (when) we started breezing her over at Turfway (Park) in March, and she showed a lot of talent," Ward said. "She wasn't at this level like she was today, so it looks like she's getting better."

Lady Apple, who finished second in her debut at Keeneland in April, appeared to be loaded with run in the Belmont turn and made her bid on the rail in the stretch, but she may have been intimidated by the tight quarters inside of the tiring Wonder Stone. Once she got clear in the late stages, the Curlin filly nearly got to Athens Queen at the wire.

"She's a very nice filly," said Lady Apple's trainer, Steve Asmussen.

"Obviously pleased to have the opportunity to train her, and I think she's going to be very nice in the future."

Eyeinthesky made a wide bid outside of Athens Queen but couldn't get to the eventual winner and finished third. She was followed by Tijori, Wonder Stone, and Six Pack Gal.

Bred in Kentucky out of the Belong to Me mare Mine All Mine, Athens Queen has \$123,000 in earnings from her two starts. **BH**

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COGLIANESE PHOTOS/CHELSEA DURAND

Athens Queen wins the Astoria Stakes at Belmont Park



# LA SIGNARE UPSETS SIGNIFICANT FORM IN WONDER AGAIN

By Jeremy Balan

[@BH\\_JBalan](#)

When the :26.36 went up on the tote board for the first quarter-mile of the \$200,000 Wonder Again Stakes (G3T) at Belmont Park on June 7, it seemed curious.

By the end of the 1 1/8-mile grass test, it made a little more sense.

After setting dawdling fractions under jockey Joel Rosario, French-bred La Signare had plenty of run left and held to win by a length over heavy favorite Significant Form for her first graded victory.

The Brian Lynch trainee posted fractions of :50.95, 1:14.54, and 1:36.17 through a mile and finished the distance in 1:48.84.

"I don't know if the fractions were right on the board, but when she got the first quarter in :26, that's a very, very comfortable quarter for her. If she was able to relax, I had a feeling that she could get a mile and an eighth."

After a half-mile, the 3-year-old daughter of Siyouni had a 3 1/2-length lead on the favorite.

"This one had some speed, that's for sure," Rosario said after the race. "She ran very good. She ran nice early, and ran very good after that. She relaxed very nicely and had a long, slow gallop early, and before turning for home, I said, 'Well, it's great' because I know we were going slow, and she handled it really well."

Significant Form, off at 4-5, cut the margin to a half-length with a furlong to run, but La Signare kicked away again. Mighty Scarlett finished a neck back in third, followed by Daddy Is a Legend, Altea, Andina Del Sur, Camila Princess, Armoricaine, and Spinning Top.

It was the second start in the United States for La Signare after she broke her maiden in France in November. Her first stateside effort was a second-place finish in an April 11 Keeneland allowance. Owned by Madaket Stables, Tim Cambron, Anna Cambron, and Bradley Thoroughbreds, she has \$144,413 in earnings. **BH**

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COGLIANESE PHOTOS/USISE RASHER

La Signare scores by a length over favorite Significant Form in the Wonder Again Stakes at Belmont Park



# SCHWARTZ HOPEFUL FOR SECOND JUST A GAME WITH OFF LIMITS

By Bob Ehalt

Owner Martin Schwartz would love to see lightning strike twice, even if it's more than a decade later.

Schwartz first won the Longines Just a Game Stakes (G1T) in 2006 with Gorella, and he'll try for a long-delayed encore June 9 in the one-turn mile turf stakes for fillies and mares when trainer Chad Brown sends out Off Limits in one of six grade 1 stakes on the Belmont Stakes Presented by NYRA Bets (G1) undercard.

"It would be nice to win the Just a Game again," Schwartz said. "It's been 12 years since the last time, and the mile should be a perfect trip for Off Limits, who has a great affinity for Belmont Park."

Off Limits drew post 3 in a field of eight racing over Belmont's Widener turf course and was pegged as the 7-2 second choice, checking in just behind stablemate A Raving Beauty. A 6-year-old Mastercraftsman mare, Off Limits will look to regain her top form after a pair of disappointing efforts this year.

After winning five of six starts in 2017, capped by a one-length score in the Nov. 26 Matriarch Stakes (G1T) at Del Mar, Off Limits rallied belatedly to finish fifth in the Hillsborough Stakes (G2T) at Tampa Bay Downs. In her last start, she was carried wide in the stretch of the



KEENELAND/CODY PHOTOGRAPHY

Irish-bred Off Limits schools in the paddock at Keeneland

Coolmore Jenny Wiley Stakes (G1T) at Keeneland and finished a troubled third under jockey Joel Rosario. Brown recorded a 1-2-3 finish in the 1 1/16-mile turf stakes.

"I was led to believe she was loaded for the Tampa race and would do well, but it didn't work out," Schwartz said. "Keeneland is always a crapshoot because you never know how a horse will handle that track. The best horse won in the Jenny Wiley, but the interesting thing is that I use Racing Post ratings, and Off Limits got 110 while Fourstar Crook got a 108, even though she finished second. They gave Sistercharlie a 112 for winning the race. That's how they ranked the trips."

Saying, "It was time for a change," Schwartz was delighted to gain the services of Hall of Fame jockey and four-time Eclipse Award winner Javier Castellano for his stretch-running mare in the Just a Game.

"I have all the faith in the world in Javy," said Schwartz, who teamed with Castellano and Brown to win the 2012 Breeders' Cup Filly and Mare Turf with Zagora. "They call Mike Smith 'Big Money' Mike. I call Javier 'Saturday Javy' because he likes to be in the winner's circle on Saturdays, and I hope he can get me there."

Castellano and Brown also won last year's Just a Game with Juddmonte Farms' Antonoe.

*(continued on page 22)*

## SCHWARTZ HOPEFUL FOR SECOND JUST A GAME WITH OFF LIMITS

(continued from page 21)

Off Limits, another in a long line of turf runners purchased overseas by Schwartz and transformed into a graded stakes winner in the United States, has won 7 of 19 starts with earnings of \$675,680. She owns three victories and a second over the Widener course.

Much like the April 14 Jenny Wiley, her main rival in the Just a Game could prove to be another runner in Brown's prolific barn.

A Raving Beauty, also a daughter of Mastercraftsman, registered a three-length victory in her May 12 U.S. debut in the Beaugay Stakes (G3T) at Belmont for Brown and owners Michael Dubb, Madaket Stables and Bethlehem Stables.

The victory was the fourth in 18 starts for A Raving Beauty, who was second in Rome's Premio Lydia Tesio (G1) in her previous race.

Trainer Mark Casse is hoping for a little less noise at the start for La Coronel and a loud statement at the finish.

A grade 1 winner in Keeneland's Queen Elizabeth II Cup Stakes Presented by Lane's End (G1T) last fall, the usually speedy La Coronel had a miserable trip in the Longines Churchill Distaff Turf Mile Stakes (G2T) May 5 at Churchill Downs. According to Casse, jockey Jose Lezcano tried to tell the starter that owner John Oxley's 4-year-old filly was not ready for the break, but his words were drowned out by loud music from a speaker

near the starting gate. La Coronel broke 10th in a field of 11, was still 10th after a half-mile, and finished sixth, beaten 3 1/2 lengths by Just a Game third choice Proctor's Ledge.

"It was over before it started," Casse said. "Normally they can hear what the riders have to say, but they couldn't hear that Jose wasn't ready. Later on, the riders went to the stewards because the speakers were near the starting gate and the noise was blasting in their ears. It was kind of a mess. I don't think they'll be blasting music at Belmont Park, and I'm hoping she'll run a more typical race on Saturday. That's our plan."

Purchased for \$375,000 at the 2016 Ocala Breeders' Sales April 2-year-olds in training sale, the Kentucky-bred daughter of Colonel John is winless in four 2018 starts after closing her 2017 campaign with her victory in the QE II Cup.

She'll be joined in the starting gate once again by stablemate Dream Dancing, who is also owned by Oxley and was fourth in the Distaff Turf Mile. She, too, is winless in four starts since taking the 2017 Del Mar Oaks Presented by The Jockey Club (G1T).

"It's an extremely tough race. Both fillies are a little off form right now, and we're hoping they can recapture what they had last year," Casse said. "I think the mile is the best distance for La Coronel. She wants to be close to the pace, and the other filly comes from out of it. Pace is the big thing with her. If they go fast and come back to her, she'll come running. If they don't, she won't. La Coronel should make sure there's a quick pace, if she breaks." **BH**

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# KANTHAKA STICKS WITH SPRINTING IN WOODY STEPHENS

By Frank Angst

[@BH\\_FAngst](#)

Toss out a pair of efforts routing this year and West Point Thoroughbreds' Kanthaka will enter the \$400,000 Woody Stephens Stakes Presented by Mohegan Sun (G2) June 9 at Belmont Park on a three-race win streak.

In fact, Kanthaka is undefeated in three starts at the Woody Stephens distance of seven furlongs.

Trained by Hall of Famer Jerry Hollendorfer, Kanthaka closed out last season with a maiden special weight victory going seven furlongs at Santa Anita Park. The son of Jimmy Creed opened this season with a 3 1/4-length score in the San Vicente Stakes (G2) at the same distance.

Trying routes with an eye toward the classics, Kanthaka finished third in the San Felipe Stakes (G2) at Santa Anita but was off the board in the Toyota

Blue Grass Stakes (G2) at Keeneland. Hollendorfer then opted to return Kanthaka to sprinting, and he responded with a three-quarter-length score in the Lazaro Barrera Stakes (G3) May 12 at Santa Anita, again at seven furlongs.

Kanthaka is the 3-1 morning-line favorite in the Woody Stephens, which has attracted 12 3-year-olds.

"You have to see if you can go long. Sometimes, sprinters will do well the first time they go long and can fool you. The second time, he really didn't want to go that far," said Hollendorfer assistant Dan Ward. "If you have a 3-year-old who wins a stakes at seven-eighths from off the pace, you have to see if you can go long, because everybody wants a Derby horse."

Ward likes that, in terms of running style, Kanthaka has displayed versatility. Regular rider Flavien Prat has traveled east for Saturday's mount.

"He's been up close, far off the pace, inside, outside, big field, small field," Ward said. "He was up close (in the Laz Barrera) because there was no speed. He was on the inside, so (Prat) had to use him a little bit the first part, but he still finished well and ran a very professional race."

Michael Dubb, Madaket Stables, and Bethlehem Stables' World of Trouble returns to sprinting after a third-place finish in the Lambholm South Tampa Bay Derby (G2). He led the field into the stretch in that 1 1/16-mile race before fading to third.

In his previous race, World of Trouble turned heads with a 13 3/4-length score in the seven-furlong Pasco Stakes at Tampa Bay Downs for trainer Jason Servis. That marked the first stakes win for the son of Kantharos. **BH**

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BEVOT PHOTO

Kanthaka wins the Lazaro Barrera Stakes at Santa Anita Park

## GRONKOWSKI ONLY THE BEGINNING FOR PHOENIX THOROUGHBREDS

By Meredith Daugherty

 @BH\_MDaugherty

*Sidelined from the Kentucky Derby Presented by Woodford Reserve (G1) because of a fever, Phoenix Thoroughbreds' Gronkowski will make his North American debut June 9 in the Belmont Stakes Presented by NYRA Bets (G1). Founded in 2017 by Amer Abdulaziz Salman, Phoenix Thoroughbreds' rise in the industry has been just as powerful as its name would suggest, producing multiple graded stakes winners in the United States and abroad, and now represented by its first classic competitor. BloodHorse MarketWatch spoke with Tom Ludt, Phoenix Thoroughbreds' director of U.S. operations, about the future of Phoenix, its hopes for the Belmont, and what's next for Gronkowski.*

**MW:** Phoenix Thoroughbreds was founded in 2017 and is already competing at the American classic level.



PHOTOS BY Z

Tom Ludt, Phoenix Thoroughbreds' director of U.S. operations

That seems almost unprecedented for such a new enterprise.

**TL:** Obviously, it's remarkable. Amer, the founder and CEO, has a very massive vision, and he's done a very good job of executing it by acquiring a lot of horses in a one-year period. It's remarkable. It's exciting to see the results paying off so quickly.

**MW:** How much has Phoenix grown?

**TL:** I think the thing that is amazing is that, although we're new, we're big in Europe, we're big in America, and we're big in Australia, so it's a pretty large organization. We're pretty diversified because we have mares, stallions ... we've always got something. We have so many horses and some really nice ones coming up. We have a really good 2-year-old crop, and we have Dream Tree, who won the grade 1 Starlet Stakes last year. She's with Bob Baffert and back in training now.



FASIG-TIPTON PHOTO

Phoenix Thoroughbreds went to \$1.2 million at the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic sale for this Medaglia d'Oro colt since named Lebron J

(continued on page 25)



## GRONKOWSKI ONLY THE BEGINNING FOR PHOENIX THOROUGHBREDS

(continued from page 24)

We probably have 150-plus horses now in our operation. We have a ton of 2-year-olds, and some are already running. We have four horses running at Royal Ascot in two weeks, so we will see. We will hopefully be a 'good' busy these next weeks.

**MW:** What is the story behind Gronkowski's famous name?

**TL:** Jeremy (Noseda, Gronkowski's former trainer) has two twin boys; there's a cute picture floating around the internet of them in football jerseys standing with the horse in the yard. Believe it or not, even though he's an English trainer, he is a die-hard Patriots fan, and we've got a couple other Patriots player names reserved. It was something that was thought out, and they held this name until they thought they had a horse that fit the description. Rob (Gronkowski, New England Patriots tight end) being a big, strong football player, that's why this horse's name was matched up with his. To have the horse be as good as his name is as unique as it is exciting, and to have Rob be involved has been spectacular for the horse. He's coming Saturday to Belmont Park, and it's been publicized, so there is no doubt that with his followers on Twitter and with his name in the sport's industry, that has helped our game get some more (publicity). It's good for our sport.

**MW:** What makes Gronkowski a standout horse?

**TL:** I wasn't with the company when they bought him at the 2-year-old sale in Europe. But, obviously, looking at him now, he has all the same characteristics, but he's bigger. He's a very strong, big, scopey horse. Amer has a desire to win the classics, so you need that. Especially going a mile and a half in the Belmont Stakes. I'm

assuming it was those characteristics that stood out. He's got a grand shoulder and a beautiful stride.

**MW:** Gronkowski's last few victories in England were run on synthetic, and he last raced in March before shipping to the U.S. How do you think he'll do on dirt?

**TL:** That's going to be the big question. We've always felt—and that's why we brought him here—that he could handle the dirt, but until he runs, I'm sure that's the one question everyone will be asking. We believe he belongs on dirt, he trains well on dirt, he's breezed very well,

and (he) seems to like Belmont, so we don't have any concerns there. But that is always going to be the tough one until it happens.

**MW:** How do you feel about the distance?

**TL:** We've always believed with his big stride, his shoulder, and the way he covers the ground that the distance would be to our advantage. But none of these horses know because they haven't run this distance as of yet. We believe it won't be an issue for us. Obviously, if there is an issue it's that we haven't run

since March, but that's the racing game. He got a little sick. He only missed one week, so we know he's back and he's healthy. So, hopefully, we are set for Saturday.

**MW:** Now that there is a Triple Crown hopeful, has your strategy changed going into this race?

**TL:** We're in a little bit of a different position for two reasons. No. 1, we didn't run in the Derby, and No. 2, we've got a new trainer (Chad Brown) and a new jockey. Jose Ortiz obviously knows Belmont as good as anybody. He's worked the horse the last two times, so he has at least a pretty good feel of what he has underneath him. The hope is to let the race unfold with him having a comfort level. These jockeys have to make constant adaptations in split seconds, but it obviously helps to have Justify on the inside, so we'll have a good eye because he's the horse to beat.

(continued on page 26)

“

*Amer, the founder and CEO, has a very massive vision, and he's done a very good job of executing it by acquiring a lot of horses in a one-year period.”*

—TOM LUDT

## GRONKOWSKI ONLY THE BEGINNING FOR PHOENIX THOROUGHBREDS

*(continued from page 25)*

We really feel the game-plan decision is to let the jockey know what he has and get him to the race. He has to react based off what he feels underneath him and how the other horses around him are acting. It appears that there is going to be a little bit of pace, so that will help us, hopefully. But I hope we can lay off it and be in the right spot coming down the lane. It's a lot better to not have that many horses and post 6. We're happy with that.

**MW:** Any plans for Gronkowski going forward? Is the Breeders' Cup still a goal?

**TL:** Absolutely. There are two different ways things happen when you come over here. We brought Gronkowski over here and went through the normal quarantine. He will stay here as long as he wants to. The plan is, if he wins, to look for the Travers (Stakes, G1) and those other classic races in the summer. But we will have to base that on how things go Saturday.

**MW:** Do you think Gronkowski's name attracted sports fans from across genres to racing this year?

**TL:** Yes, I think so. I think we get to double that up with the Triple Crown—you see the spike every year in the TV ratings, so we know that brings some new reach. We've seen so many different responses from the New England area, so there is no doubt it's reaching people. Any time you can get someone to watch our races, you hope that this can become a sport that they can enjoy as a hobby.

We just bought a (\$1.2 million) Medaglia d'Oro colt, and we named him Lebron J. He's out in California with Doug O'Neill. So, hopefully, we will get lucky again. We will focus on Saturday, hope for the best, and then look to the next one. **BH**

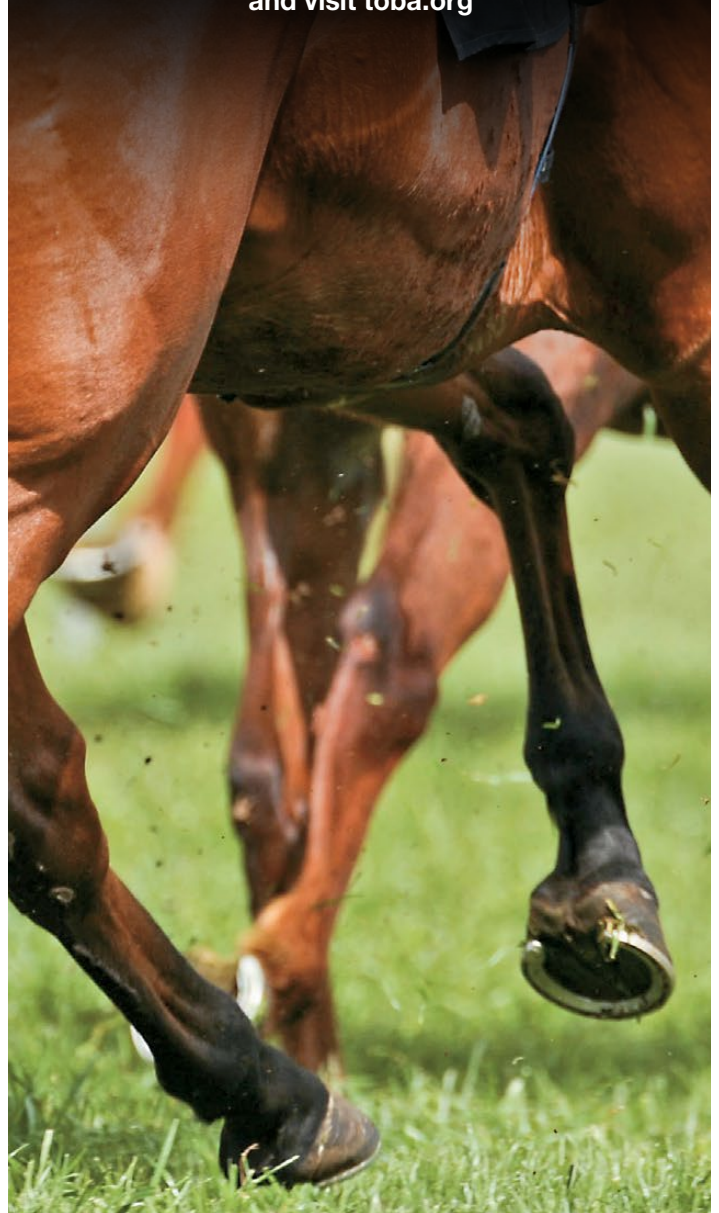
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## RACE RESULTS

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### STAKES RESULTS

#### Intercontinental S. (G3T)

Belmont Park, 6/7, \$200,000, 4yo/up, f/m, 7f (turf), 1:20.04, course firm.

1—**La Sardane** (FR), 123, b f, 4..... \$120,000  
Kingsalsa—Foresta (FR), by Forestier (FR)

O—Team Valor International, B—SCEA Plessis & Jean Guillemin (FR), T—Neil D. Drysdale, J—Flavien Prat

2—**Faypien**, 123, b f, 4..... \$40,000  
**Ghostzapper**—Mighty Eros, by **Freud**

O—Baoma Corporation, B—Off The Hook LLC (FL), T—Bob Baffert, J—Luis Saez

**Sale History:** 2016 OBSAPR, \$720,000.

3—**Heavenly Score**, 119, gr/ro f, 4..... \$20,000  
**Even the Score**—Celestial Crown, by Holy Bull  
O—Curragh Stables, B—McDowell Farm (AR), T—John P. Terranova, II, J—David Cohen

**Sale History:** 2016 OBSMAR, (\$70,000 RNA), 2015 OBSAUG, \$4,500, 2014 OBSOCT, \$5,000.

**Margins:** neck, nose, 1. **Others:** Malibu Stacy (\$10,000), Always Thinking (\$6,000), Delectation (GB) (\$1,334), Stormy Victoria (FR) (\$1,334), Thundering Sky (\$1,332). **Scratched:** Lady Alexandra, I'm Betty G. [View Equibase Chart](#)

#### Wonder Again S. (G3T)

Belmont Park, 6/7, \$200,000, 3yo, f, 9f (turf), 1:48.84, course firm.

1—**La Signare** (FR), 118, b f, 3..... \$120,000  
**Siyouni** (FR)—La Teranga (FR), by **Beat Hollow** (GB)

O—Madaket Stables LLC, Cambron, Tim, Cambron, Anna and Bradley Thoroughbreds, B—MOUSSA MBACKE (FR), T—Brian A. Lynch, J—Joel Rosario

2—**Significant Form**, 121, gr/ro f, 3..... \$40,000  
**Creative Cause**—Church by the Sea, by Harlan's Holiday

O—Stephanie Seymour Brant, B—Brereton C. Jones (KY), T—Chad C. Brown, J—Irada Ortiz, Jr.  
**Sale History:** 2017 OBSAPR, \$575,000, 2016 FTKJUL, \$75,000.

3—**Mighty Scarlett**, 115, ch f, 3..... \$20,000  
Scat Daddy—Thundering Emilia, by Thunder Gulch

O—Coleman, T., Doheny, M., Head of Plains Partners LLC and Long Lake Stable LLC, B—Teneri Farm Inc. & Bernardo Alvarez Calderon (KY), T—Chad C. Brown, J—Jose L. Ortiz

**Sale History:** 2017 OBSMAR, \$260,000, 2016 KEESEP, \$100,000.

**Margins:** 1, neck, neck. **Others:** Daddy Is a Legend (\$10,000), Altea (FR) (\$6,000), Andina Del Sur (\$1,000), Camila Princess (\$1,000), Armoricaine (GB) (\$1,000), Spinning Top (\$1,000). **Scratched:** Animosity. [View Equibase Chart](#)

#### Astoria S.

Belmont Park, 6/7, \$150,000, 2yo, f, 5.5f (dirt), 1:05.37, track fast.

1—**Athens Queen**, 120, b f, 2..... \$87,000  
**Majestic Warrior**—Mine All Mine, by Belong to Me

O—James Reiley McDonald, B—Athens Woods, LLC (KY), T—Wesley A. Ward, J—Albin Jimenez

2—**Lady Apple**, 116, b f, 2..... \$30,000  
**Curlin**—Miss Mary Apples, by Clever Trick

O—Phoenix Thoroughbred III and KatieRich Stables, B—Katierich Farms (KY), T—Steven M. Asmussen, J—Irada Ortiz, Jr.

**Sale History:** 2017 KEESEP, (\$100,000 RNA).

3—**Eyeinthesky**, 120, b f, 2..... \$15,000  
**Sky Mesa**—Ruliontome, by **Lion Heart**

O—Gary Barber, B—Rusty Kindratiw (FL), T—Mark E. Casse, J—Florent Geroux

**Sale History:** 2017 OBSOCT, \$22,000.

**Margins:** neck, ½, ¾. **Others:** Tijori (\$7,500), Wonder Stone (\$4,500), Six Pack Gal (\$3,000). **Scratched:** Gorgeouswitha G, Gallanor. [View Equibase Chart](#)

#### Ocala Flame S.

Gulfstream Park, 6/7, \$75,000, 3yo, 6.5f (dirt), 1:17.35, track fast.

1—**King Humor**, 117, ch c, 3..... \$46,035  
**Distorted Humor**—Taptam, by Pleasant Tap

O—Heczor Investments Corp., B—SF Bloodstock LLC (KY), T—Victor Barboza, Jr., J—Edgard J. Zayas

**Sale History:** 2017 OBSJUN, \$50,000.

2—**Powerful Venezuela**, 117, b c, 3..... \$14,850  
**Poseidon's Warrior**—Gold Point Gal, by Deputy Commander

O—Orlyana Farm, B—Orlyana Farm (FL), T—Victor Barboza, Jr., J—Emisael Jaramillo

3—**Noble Drama**, 121, dk b/br g, 3..... \$7,425  
**Gone Astray**—Queen Drama, by **Burning Roma**

O—Harold L. Queen, B—Harold L. Queen (FL), T—David Fawkes, J—Tyler Gaffalione

**Margins:** ½, ¾, 1¾. **Others:** Take Your Place (\$3,713), Gran King of Kings (\$2,227), Fafa (\$750). [View Equibase Chart](#)

### GLENCAIRN STAKES

Leopardstown, 6/7, €42,300, 3yo/up, 8f, 1:41.91, gd-f.

1—**Zorion** (GB), 135, b c, 4..... €26,550  
Smart Strike—Zofzig, by Danzig

O—Godolphin, B—Darley (GB), T—BOLGER JIM, J—MANNING KEVIN

2—**Allegio** (IRE), 135, b g, 5..... €8,550  
**Galileo** (IRE)—Song of My Heart (IRE), by **Footstepsinthesand** (GB)

O—RAYMOND TREACY, B—Sir Robert Ogden (IRE), T—HOGAN DENIS, J—HEFFERNAN SEAM-IE

**Sale History:** 2016 DONNOV, \$6,733.

3—**Belle Boyd** (GB), 130, b f, 4..... €4,050  
**Oasis Dream** (GB)—Portrayal, by Saint Ballado

O—Godolphin, B—Darley (GB), T—MCCREERY WILLIE, J—LEE BILLY

**Margins:** head, 2, ¾. **Others:** TENNESSEE WILDCAT (IRE), MAMBA NOIRE (FR), MARSHALL JENNINGS (IRE).

### KING GEORGE V CUP

Leopardstown, 6/7, €41,850, 3yo, 12f, 2:34.45, gd-f.

1—**Giuseppe Garibaldi** (IRE), 129, b c, 3 €26,550  
**Galileo** (IRE)—Queenscliff (IRE), by Danehill Dancer (IRE)

O—DERRICK SMITH & MRS JOHN MAGNIER & MICHAEL TABOR, B—Longfield Stud (IRE), T—O'BRIEN AIDAN, J—O'BRIEN DONNACHA

2—**Cimeara** (IRE), 124, b f, 3..... €8,550  
**Vocalised**—Gold Mirage (IRE), by **Galileo** (IRE)

O—MRS J S BOLGER, B—J S BOLGER (IRE), T—BOLGER JIM, J—MANNING KEVIN

3—**Lucius Tiberius** (IRE), 129, b c, 3..... €4,050  
**Camelot** (GB)—Keegsquaw (IRE), by Street Cry (IRE)

O—MICHAEL TABOR & DERRICK SMITH & MRS JOHN MAGNIER, B—ECURIE PEREGRINE SAS (IRE), T—O'BRIEN AIDAN, J—HEFFERNAN SEAMIE

**Sale History:** 2016 ARQAUG, \$223,260.

**Margins:** 2½, 2¾, 4½. **Others:** BURGUNDY BOY (IRE), CARLO BIRAGHI (IRE).

## ALLOWANCE RESULTS

#### Belmont Park, Race 2, ALW

6/7, \$90,000, 3yo/up, 6.5f (dirt), 1:16.19, track fast.

1—**Street Vision**, 124, dk b/br g, 5, **Street Sense**—Emmy's Storm, by **Stormy Atlantic**, \$54,000, O—Drawing Away Stable, B—Affirmed Investment Corp (KY), T—David Jacobson, J—David Cohen



## RACE RESULTS

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**Sale History:** 2014 KEESEP, (\$75,000 RNA).

**Margin:** 1, 7 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

### Belmont Park, Race 5, AOC

6/7, \$90,000, 3yo/up, 11f (turf), 2:15.26, course firm.

1—*Bird's Eye View*, 124, gr/ro g, 4, *Mizzen Mast*—Lavish Outlook, by *Smarty Jones*, \$54,000, O—Ballybrit Stable, LLC, B—Cloyce C Clark & Jay Goodwin (KY), T—Michael Dini, J—Jose Lezcano

**Sale History:** 2016 OBSMAR, \$50,000, 2015 KEESEP, \$52,000.

**Margin:** nose, 10 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

### Charles Town, Race 2, ALW

6/7, \$24,500, 3yo/up, 8.5f (dirt), 1:48.54, track fast.

1—*On the Strait Arrow*, 120, dk b/br g, 5, *Smarty Jones*—On the Rail, by Montbrook, \$14,700, O—Leslie A. Condon, B—Leslie Ann Condon (WV), T—Leslie A. Condon, J—Victor Rodriguez

**Margin:** 4½, 6 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

### Charles Town, Race 3, ALW

6/7, \$24,000, 3yo/up, f/m, 7f (dirt), 1:26.89, track fast.

1—*Lies and Scandals*, 120, dk b/br f, 4, *Fiber Sonde*—Hold, by *Include*, \$14,400, O—John D. McKee, B—John D. McKee (WV), T—John D. McKee, J—Wladimir Rocha

**Margin:** 1, 6 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

### Churchill Downs, Race 7, ALW

6/7, \$57,500, 3yo/up, 8.5f (dirt), 1:43.76, track fast.

1—*Iconic*, 122, gr/ro c, 4, *Paddy O'Prado*—Divine Cat, by *Tale of the Cat*, \$35,700, O—Michael Lauffer, B—Mike Lauffer (KY), T—Dale L. Romans, J—Robby Albarado

**Margin:** 2¼, 7 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

### Delaware Park, Race 2, AOC

6/7, \$36,000, 3yo, 6f (dirt), 1:09.21, track fast.

1—*My Boy Lenny*, 119, ch g, 3, *Wildcat Heir*—Now My Precious, by *Doneraile Court*, \$21,600, O—J J Brevan Stable LLC, B—JJ Brevan Stable LLC (FL), T—Gerald S. Bennett, J—Daniel Centeno

**Margin:** 3¾, 5 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

### Delaware Park, Race 3, AOC

6/7, \$36,000, 3yo/up, a5f (turf), :58.44, course firm.

1—*Piper Hill*, 115, dk b/br g, 4, *Emperor Tiberius*—Miss Islander, by Gulch, \$21,600, O—You See Vee Gee Stable, B—Robert G Rutherford (PA), T—Dale Capuano, J—Weston Hamilton

**Margin:** neck, 8 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

### Delaware Park, Race 7, AOC

6/7, \$40,000, 3yo/up, a8.5f (turf), 1:43.70, course firm.

1—*O Dionysus*, 124, b g, 4, *Bodemeister*—Safe Journey, by *Flatter*, \$24,000, O—Marathon Farms, Inc., B—Dark Hollow Farm (MD), T—Gary Capuano, J—Jevian Toledo

**Sale History:** 2015 FTMSEP, \$190,000.

**Margin:** 1¼, 9 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

### Evangeline Downs, Race 2, ALW

6/6, \$23,000, 3yo/up, f/m, 5f (turf), :56.59, course firm.

1—*Eye Craft*, 112, ch f, 3, *Song and a Prayer*—I have my eye on you, by *Crafty Prospector*, \$16,200, O—Brad Raney, B—Coulee Croche Thoroughbred, LLC (LA), T—Karl Broberg, J—Timothy Thornton

**Sale History:** 2017 ESLMAY, (\$35,000 RNA), 2016 ESLSEP, \$27,000.

**Margin:** 4, 6 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

### Evangeline Downs, Race 8, ALW

6/6, \$25,000, 3yo/up, 8f (turf), 1:39.96, course firm.

1—*Drewcitable*, 115, b c, 3, *Artie Schiller*—Native Trinket, by *Dove Hunt*, \$15,000, O—Norman Stables, LLC, B—Jay Adcock (LA), T—Lonnie Briley, J—Diego Saenz

**Sale History:** 2016 ESLSEP, \$31,000.

**Margin:** 2¼, 8 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

### Finger Lakes, Race 6, AOC

6/7, \$20,400, 3yo/up, 6f (dirt), 1:10.73, track fast.

1—*Final Chapter*, 120, ch g, 6, *Thunder Gulch*—Comedy of Errors, by Colonial Affair, \$12,240, O—Michael S. Foster, B—John A Nerud Revocable Trust (NY), T—Charlton Baker, J—Andre Shinnarine Worrie

**Margin:** 8, 7 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

### Golden Gate Fields, Race 5, AOC

6/7, \$29,000, 3yo/up, f/m, 8f (turf), 1:36.59, course firm.

1—*Rebarules Again*, 125, ch m, 5, *Tribal Rule*—Reba Is Tops, by *He's Tops*, \$22,620, O—Jarnig, Gordy, Marshall, Kenny and Schweiger, Eric M., B—Eric Schweiger, Gordy Jarnig & Kenny Marshall (CA), T—Tim McCanna, J—Frank T. Alvarado

**Margin:** 1¼, 6 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

### Golden Gate Fields, Race 7, AOC

6/7, \$27,000, 3yo/up, 8f (all-weather), 1:38.11, track fast.

1—*Kitten's Royal*, 123, dk b/br g, 4, *Kitten's Joy*—Queen Stephanie, by Proud Citizen, \$16,200, O—Alvernaz, Grant and Ribeiro, Steve, B—Kenneth L. Ramsey & Sarah K. Ramsey (KY), T—Tim McCanna, J—Ricardo Gonzalez

**Sale History:** 2016 OBSAPR, \$50,000, 2015 FTKOCT, \$20,000.

**Margin:** 2¾, 9 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

### Gulfstream Park, Race 7, AOC

6/7, \$47,000, 3yo/up, 8.5f (turf), 1:42.66, course firm.

1—*Archer Road*, 122, b g, 4, *Leroidesanimaux* (BRZ)—Baggio, by Formal Dinner, \$28,900, O—Arindel, B—Arindel Farm (FL), T—Stanley I. Gold, J—Jeffrey Sanchez

**Margin:** neck, 7 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

### Presque Isle Downs, Race 7, AOC

6/6, \$28,000, 3yo/up, f/m, 6f (all-weather), 1:10.58, track fast.

1—*Time to Play*, 115, b f, 3, *Medaglia d'Oro*—Game Face, by *Menifee*, \$16,800, O—Godolphin, LLC, B—Godolphin LLC (KY), T—Eoin G. Harty, J—Pablo Morales

**Margin:** head, 7 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

### Presque Isle Downs, Race 7, ALW

6/7, \$28,000, 3yo/up, f/m, 8.32f (all-weather), 1:43.11, track fast.

1—*No Interest*, 121, b m, 5, *Tale of the Cat*—King's Interest, by Kingmambo, \$16,800, O—James Fisher, B—R. S. Evans (KY), T—S. Matthew Kintz, J—Pablo Morales

**Sale History:** 2017 KEENOV, \$7,500.

**Margin:** head, 7 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

### Santa Anita Park, Race 1, AOC

6/7, \$61,000, 3yo/up, f/m, a6.5f (turf), 1:13.77, course firm.

1—*Queen Bee to You*, 123, b f, 4, *Old Topper*—Silk Queen, by Touch Gold, \$36,600, O—Christopher St. Hilaire, B—Tommy Town Thoroughbreds, LLC (CA), T—Michael Pender, J—Kent J. Desormeaux

**Margin:** 1, 8 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

### Santa Anita Park, Race 7, AOC

6/7, \$61,000, 3yo, f, 6f (dirt), 1:11.18, track fast.

1—*Best of Me*, 122, b f, 3, *Super Saver*—Lemon Gin, by *First Samurai*, \$36,600, O—Hansen, Todd and Shawn, B—John D. Gunther (KY), T—Peter Miller, J—Martin A. Pedroza

**Sale History:** 2016 KEESEP, \$50,000.

**Margin:** 2¼, 6 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

## MAIDEN RESULTS

### Belmont Park, Race 1, MSW

6/7, \$72,000, 3yo/up, 6f (turf), 1:08.30, course firm.

1—*Fast Getaway*, 118, b g, 3, *Into Mischief*—Stolen Star, by *Cat Thief*, \$43,200, O—Broman, Sr., Chester and Mary, B—Chester Broman & Mary R. Broman (NY), T—Linda Rice, J—Manuel Franco

**Margin:** 1, 9 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

### Belmont Park, Race 3, MSW

6/7, \$85,000, 3yo/up, f/m, 6.5f (dirt), 1:17.86, track fast.

1—*Cosita Mia*, 118, ch f, 3, *Distorted Humor*—Calais, by A.P. Indy, \$51,000, O—Don Alberto Stable, B—Don Alberto Corporation (KY), T—Thomas Albertrani, J—Joel Rosario

**Margin:** 1½, 7 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

### Belmont Park, Race 9, MSW

6/7, \$85,000, 3yo/up, f/m, 8f (turf), 1:33.92, course firm.

1—*Emmy Performance*, 118, ch f, 3, *Point of Entry*—Devine Actress, by Theatrical (IRE), \$51,000, O—Amerman Racing LLC, B—Mrs. Jerry Amerman (KY), T—Brian A. Lynch, J—Joel Rosario

**Margin:** head, 11 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

### Churchill Downs, Race 1, MSW

6/7, \$51,000, 2yo, 5.5f (dirt), 1:04.65, track fast.

1—*Dream Maker*, 118, gr/ro c, 2, *Tapit*—To Dream About, by Monarchos, \$30,600, O—John C. Oxley, B—John C. Oxley (KY), T—Mark E. Casse, J—Julien R. Leparoux

**Margin:** 3, 6 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

## RACE RESULTS

WATCH RACE REPLAYS OF NORTH AMERICAN RACES BY CLICKING ON THE RACE NAME

### Evangeline Downs, Race 5, MSW

6/6, \$21,000, 3yo/up, f/m, 8f (turf), 1:38.71, course firm.  
1—**Garci**, 118, b f, 3, **Super Saver**—Got Bling, by **Langfuhr**, \$12,600, O—Oakwood Stables Inc, B—Langsem Farm, Inc (OH), T—John Ney, J—Ashley Broussard  
**Sale History:** 2016 KEESEP, \$55,000.  
**Margin:** 1¼, 9 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

### Golden Gate Fields, Race 6, MSW

6/7, \$26,000, 3yo/up, 6f (all-weather), 1:11.54, track fast.  
1—**My Friend Tony**, 125, ch g, 4, Decarchy—Where's My Heart, by Romanov (IRE), \$20,280, O—Michael Jawl, B—Roberto Gonzalez, Wright Batlin, Marc Batlin & Kathleen Parnello (CA), T—Andy Mathis, J—Irving Orozco  
**Margin:** 1, 7 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

### Presque Isle Downs, Race 5, MSW

6/7, \$27,000, 3yo/up, f/m, 6f (all-weather), 1:11.13, track fast.  
1—**Amazon Lizzie**, 118, ch f, 3, **Kantharos**—Seven Two Offsuit, by Robyn Dancer, \$16,200, O—Endeavor Bloodstock, B—Endeavor Bloodstock LLC (PA), T—Teresa Connelly, J—Pablo Morales  
**Margin:** 1, 10 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

### Santa Anita Park, Race 4, MSW

6/7, \$59,000, 2yo, f, 5f (dirt), :59.47, track fast.  
1—**Reflect**, 122, ch f, 2, **Trappe Shot**—Scat Patty, by Scat Daddy, \$35,400, O—Impact Thoroughbreds LLC and Madaket Stables LLC, B—T/C Stable, LLC (KY), T—J. Keith Desormeaux, J—Kent J. Desormeaux  
**Sale History:** 2017 KEESEP, \$70,000.



**Margin:** 5¾, 9 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

### Santa Anita Park, Race 5, MSW

6/7, \$59,000, 3yo/up, 8f (dirt), 1:39.19, track fast.  
1—**Canadian Game**, 120, b c, 3, **Curlin**—Party Chatter, by Pleasant Colony, \$35,400, O—Reddam Racing LLC, B—Fox Straus KY (KY), T—Doug F. O'Neill, J—Mario Gutierrez  
**Sale History:** 2017 OBSMAR, \$375,000, 2016 FTKOCT, \$350,000, 2016 FTSAUG, (\$275,000 RNA).  
**Margin:** neck, 7 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

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# TODAY'S ENTRIES

## NEW YORK S. PRESENTED BY NYRA BETS (G2T)

Belmont Park, Friday, June 8, Race 9

10f (turf), \$600,000, 4yo/up f/m, 5:14 PM (local)

P #	PP	Horse	Sire	Age/Sex	Jockey	Weight	M/L	Owner
1	1	<a href="#">Fahan Mura</a>	English Channel	4/f	Edwin A. Maldonado	117	12/1	Bran Jam Stable and Clark, David W.
2	2	<a href="#">Holy Helena</a>	Ghostzapper	4/f	Manuel Franco	121	6/1	Stronach Stables
3	3	<a href="#">Snowy Winter</a>	Elusive Quality	4/f	Javier Castellano	115	20/1	Watson, Archie
4	4	<a href="#">Empress of the Nile</a>	Pioneer of the Nile	4/f	Jose L. Ortiz	115	30/1	Clifton, Jr., William, L.
5	5	<a href="#">Sistercharlie (IRE)</a>	Myboycharlie (IRE)	4/f	John R. Velazquez	123	9/5	Brant, Peter, M.
6	6	<a href="#">Daddys Lil Darling</a>	Scat Daddy	4/f	Mike E. Smith	123	4/1	Normandy Farm
7	7	<a href="#">Esquisse (GB)</a>	Dansili (GB)	4/f	Flavien Prat	115	20/1	Wertheimer and Frere
8	8	<a href="#">Fourstar Crook</a>	Freud	6/m	Irada Ortiz, Jr.	121	7/2	Dubb, Michael, Bethlehem Stables LLC and Aisquith, Gary
9	9	<a href="#">Mom's On Strike</a>	First Dude	5/m	Adam Beschizza	119	5/1	Grady, Brad and Moore, Carl R.

**Breeders:** 1—Michael J. Moran; 2—Adena Springs; 3—Darley; 4—Pam Doddridge; 5—Ecurie Des Monceaux; 6—Normandy Farm; 7—Wertheimer Et Frere; 8—Kathleen M. Feron; 9—Courtney Meagher & Chad Meagher.

**Trainers:** 1—Vladimir Cerin; 2—James A. Jerkens; 3—Archie Watson; 4—H. James Bond; 5—Chad C. Brown; 6—Kenneth G. McPeck; 7—H. Graham Motion; 8—Chad C. Brown; 9—Joe Sharp.

## BELMONT GOLD CUP INVITATIONAL S. (G2T)

Belmont Park, Friday, June 8, Race 10

16f (turf), \$400,000, 4yo/up, 5:46 PM (local)

P #	PP	Horse	Sire	Age/Sex	Jockey	Weight	M/L	Owner
1	1	<a href="#">Call To Mind (GB)</a>	Galileo (IRE)	4/c	Javier Castellano	115	7/2	Her Majesty, The Queen
2	2	<a href="#">Cooptado (ARG)</a>	Equal Stripes (ARG)	8/g	Dylan Davis	115	30/1	Bukhtoyarov, Valentin and Kappushev, Eugeny
3	3	<a href="#">Prince of Arran (GB)</a>	Shirocco (GER)	5/g	Irada Ortiz, Jr.	117	12/1	Rabbah Bloodstock
4	4	<a href="#">Funny Kid</a>	Lemon Drop Kid	5/h	Maxime H. Guyon	121	5/1	Wertheimer and Frere
5	5	<a href="#">Canessar (FR)</a>	Kendargent (FR)	5/g	Feargal Lynch	115	6/1	Pariente, Guy
6	6	<a href="#">Nessy</a>	Flower Alley	5/g	Mike E. Smith	121	5/2	Hudon, Edmond A. and Sharon
7	7	<a href="#">Run Time</a>	Gio Ponti	5/h	Luis Saez	115	15/1	Bloom Racing Stable and Allen Racing LLC
8	8	<a href="#">Postulation</a>	Harlan's Holiday	6/g	Florent Geroux	121	10/1	Runnymede Racing LLC
9	9	<a href="#">Focus Group</a>	Kitten's Joy	4/c	Jose L. Ortiz	117	10/1	Klaravich Stables, Inc. and Lawrence, William H.
10	10	<a href="#">Rocketry</a>	Hard Spun	4/c	John R. Velazquez	117	8/1	Centennial Farms

**Breeders:** 1—The Queen; 2—Abolengo; 3—Rabbah Bloodstock Limited; 4—Wertheimer Et Frere; 5—Haras De S.A. Aga Khan S.C.E.A.; 6—Sierra Farm; 7—Indian Creek; 8—Juddmonte Farms Inc; 9—Dixiana Farms LLC; 10—Gainesway Thoroughbreds Ltd..

**Trainers:** 1—William J. Haggas; 2—Thomas Morley; 3—Charlie Fellowes; 4—Christophe Ferland; 5—Arnaud Delacour; 6—Ian R. Wilkes; 7—Michael J. Maker; 8—Edward L. Graham; 9—Chad C. Brown; 10—James A. Jerkens.

## TRUE NORTH S. (G2)

Belmont Park, Friday, June 8, Race 8

6.5f (dirt), \$250,000, 4yo/up, 4:42 PM (local)

P #	PP	Horse	Sire	Age/Sex	Jockey	Weight	M/L	Owner
1	1	<a href="#">Recruiting Ready</a>	Algorithms	4/c	Mike E. Smith	124	8/1	Sagamore Farm
2	2	<a href="#">Joking</a>	Distorted Humor	9/g	Manuel Franco	116	6/1	Baker, Charlton
3	3	<a href="#">Imperial Hint</a>	Imperialism	5/h	Javier Castellano	124	9/2	Mamone, Raymond
4	4	<a href="#">Bobby Abu Dhabi</a>	Macho Uno	4/c	Victor Espinoza	122	5/2	Rockingham Ranch and Bernsen, David A.
5	5	<a href="#">Limousine Liberal</a>	Successful Appeal	6/g	Jose L. Ortiz	124	7/2	Ball, Katherine, G.
6	6	<a href="#">Westwood</a>	Bernardini	4/g	John R. Velazquez	122	6/1	Godolphin Racing, LLC
7	7	<a href="#">Always Sunshine</a>	West Acre	6/h	Kendrick Carmouche	116	15/1	Stonehedge LLC
8	8	<a href="#">Whitmore</a>	Pleasantly Perfect	5/g	Ricardo Santana, Jr.	124	6/1	LaPenta, Robert V., Moquett, Ron and Head of Plains Partners LLC

**Breeders:** 1—Claiborne Farm; 2—Darley; 3—Shade Tree Thoroughbreds Inc; 4—T/C Stable, LLC; 5—Mike Ball & Katherine Ball; 6—Darley; 7—Gilbert G. Campbell; 8—John Liviakis.

**Trainers:** 1—Horacio DePaz; 2—Charlton Baker; 3—Luis Carvajal, Jr.; 4—Peter Miller; 5—Ben Colebrook; 6—Kieran P. McLaughlin; 7—Edward T. Allard; 8—Ron Moquett.

## TODAY'S ENTRIES

### BED O' ROSES INVITATIONAL S. (G3)

Belmont Park, Friday, June 8, Race 3

7f (dirt), \$250,000, 4yo/up f/m, 1:52 PM (local)

P #	PP	Horse	Sire	Age/Sex	Jockey	Weight	M/L	Owner
1	1	Ivy Bell	Archarcharch	5/m	Javier Castellano	121	7/2	China Horse Club International Ltd., Madaket Stables LLC and Mathis Stable LLC
2	2	American Gal	Concord Point	4/f	Jose L. Ortiz	124	9/5	Kaleem Shah, Inc.
3	3	Chalon	Dialed In	4/f	Paco Lopez	119	8/1	Lael Stables
4	4	Union Strike	Union Rags	4/f	Corey S. Nakatani	117	20/1	Ruis, Mick and Ruis, Wendy
5	5	Divine Miss Grey	Divine Park	4/f	Kendrick Carmouche	119	9/2	Corms Racing Stable and R. A. Hill Stable
6	6	Lewis Bay	Bernardini	5/m	Irad Ortiz, Jr.	119	4/1	Alpha Delta Stables
7	7	Cairenn	First Dude	4/f	Jorge A. Vargas, Jr.	119	20/1	Heider Family Stables LLC, Madaket Stables LLC and Kisber, Michael E.
8	8	Highway Star	Girolamo	5/m	Luis Saez	121	8/1	Chester and Mary Broman, Sr.

**Breeders:** 1-T/C Stable, LLC; 2-Kaleem Shah, Inc.; 3-J. K. Griggs & Linda Griggs; 4-Pollock Farms, Brian Kahn, Taylor Brothers Property, et al; 5-Brereton C. Jones; 6-Alpha Delta Stables, LLC; 7-Best A Luck Farm LLC; 8-Chester Broman & Mary R. Broman.

**Trainers:** 1-Todd A. Pletcher; 2-Simon Callaghan; 3-Arnaud Delacour; 4-Mick Ruis; 5-Danny Gargan; 6-Chad C. Brown; 7-H. Graham Motion; 8-Rodrigo A. Ubillo.

### TREMONT S.

Belmont Park, Friday, June 8, Race 5

5.5f (dirt), \$150,000, 2yo, 2:56 PM (local)

P #	PP	Horse	Sire	Age/Sex	Jockey	Weight	M/L	Owner
1	1	Our Braintrust	Freud	2/c	Javier Castellano	121	12/1	Lynch, Cathal A and Smith, Jr., Stanton J.
2	2	Sombeyay	Into Mischieff	2/c	Luis Saez	121	6/1	Starlight Racing
3	3	Social Fan	Overanalyze	2/c	Manuel Franco	121	10/1	Repole Stable
4	4	Outshine	Malibu Moon	2/c	John R. Velazquez	121	7/2	Let's Go Stable and Schibell, Richard D.
5	5	Girls Love Me	Girolamo	2/c	Kendrick Carmouche	121	15/1	Coombs, Michael
6	6	Sir Truebadour	More Than Ready	2/c	Ricardo Santana, Jr.	121	2/1	Whispering Oaks Farm LLC
7	7	Mae Never No (IRE)	No Nay Never	2/f	Gary L. Stevens	116	9/5	Ice Wine Stable

**Breeders:** 1-Barak Farm; 2-J D Stuart & Mueller Farms, Inc.; 3-Maurice F. Casey III; 4-T. F. VanMeter & Ricky Stivers; 5-Sycamore Hall Thoroughbreds, LLC; 6-Two Stamp Stables; 7-Ice Wine Stable.

**Trainers:** 1-Cathal A. Lynch; 2-Todd A. Pletcher; 3-Todd A. Pletcher; 4-Todd A. Pletcher; 5-Anthony Farrior; 6-Steven M. Asmussen; 7-Wesley A. Ward.

### PRAIRIE MILE S.

Prairie Meadows, Friday, June 8, Race 8

8f (dirt), \$65,000, 3yo, 9:07 PM (local)

P #	PP	Horse	Sire	Age/Sex	Jockey	Weight	M/L	Owner
1	1	Analyze This Jet	Overanalyze	3/c	Sasha Risenhoover	113	5/1	Johnny B. Evans and Terry Eoff
2	2	Land Battle	Istan	3/g	Kevin Roman	113	10/1	Norman Stables, LLC (Robert A. Norman)
3	3	Sonny Smack	Successful Appeal	3/g	Ken S. Tohill	122	12/1	Dream Walkin Farms Inc. (Toby Keith)
4	4	Fortified Effort	Ez Effort	3/g	Glenn W. Corbett	119	4/1	J. Lloyd Yother, Kevin Eikleberry, William Matthews and Marvin Fleming
5	5	Zanesville	Tiznow	3/c	Ramon A. Vazquez	119	2/1	Rosemont Farm LLC (Tom Eigel)
6	6	Lionite	Quality Road	3/c	David Cabrera	122	9/5	Winchell Thoroughbreds LLC (Ronald W. Winchell) and Willis Horton Racing LLC (Willis Horton)
7	7	Call a Cop	Into Mischieff	3/c	Terry J. Thompson	115	15/1	Danny R. Caldwell

**Breeders:** 1-Jay Goodwin, Al Adams & Chip Montgomery; 2-Brereton C. Jones; 3-Dream Walkin' Farms, Inc.; 4-Fleming Thoroughbred Farm LLC; 5-Rosemont Farm LLC; 6-Alpha Delta Stables, LLC; 7-John James Revocable Trust.

**Trainers:** 1-Karl Broberg; 2-Scott Gelner; 3-Don Von Hemel; 4-Kevin Eikleberry; 5-Thomas M. Amoss; 6-Steven M. Asmussen; 7-Federico Villafranco.



## UPCOMING ENTRIES

### HENDRIE S. (G3)

Woodbine, Sunday, June 10, Race 8

6.5f (all-weather), \$125,000, 4yo/up f/m, 4:57 PM (local)

P #	PP	Horse	Sire	Age/Sex	Jockey	Weight	M/L	Owner
1		<a href="#">Moonlit Promise</a>	Malibu Moon	5/m	Gary Boulanger	123	-	Hill 'n' Dale Equine Holdings, Inc. and Windsor Boys Racing
2		<a href="#">Just Be Kind</a>	Sky Mesa	4/f	Christopher Husbands	116	-	Jus Luk Stable, Ten Lee Mah Stable and Reade Baker Racing Stable, Inc.
3		<a href="#">Code Warrior</a>	Society's Chairman	5/m	Luis Contreras	118	-	Zilli Racing Stables
4		<a href="#">Lady Oak (IRE)</a>	Arcano (IRE)	5/m	David Moran	116	-	Breeze Easy, LLC
5		<a href="#">Jennifer Lynnette</a>	Elusive Quality	5/m	Eurico Rosa Da Silva	118	-	Conrad Farms
6		<a href="#">Moon River (IRE)</a>	Exceed And Excel (AUS)	6/m	Steven Ronald Bahen	116	-	Fred Seitz, Jon Kelly and Danny Ward
7		<a href="#">Let It Ride Mom</a>	Into Mischief	4/f	Patrick Husbands	120	-	Live Oak Plantation
8		<a href="#">Scotty's Model</a>	Mr. Scotty	8/m	Rafael Manuel Hernandez	118	-	Bruno Schickedanz
9		<a href="#">Tulsa Queen</a>	Cactus Ridge	4/f	Huber Villa-Gomez	118	-	Shagbark Farm, LLC

**Breeders:** 1—Hill 'n' Dale Equine Holdings, Inc.; 2—John C. Oxley; 3—Pamela Edel; 4—Mrs J. Norris; 5—Christine Katherine Hayden; 6—Rockhart Trading Ltd.; 7—Tim Thornton, Robert Watt, Doug Glass & Greg Foley; 8—Bruno Schickedanz; 9—Anne L. Walsh.

**Trainers:** 1—Josie Carroll; 2—Reade Baker; 3—Michael P. De Paulo; 4—Glenn S. Wismer; 5—Mark E. Casse; 6—Frederick J. Seitz; 7—Mark E. Casse; 8—Norman McKnight; 9—Ryan D. Walsh.

### AFFIRMED S. (G3)

Santa Anita Park, Sunday, June 10, Race 8

8.5f (dirt), \$100,000, 3yo, 4:00 PM (local)

P #	PP	Horse	Sire	Age/Sex	Jockey	Weight	M/L	Owner
1		<a href="#">Run Away</a>	Run Away and Hide	3/c	Flavien Prat	120	-	Kaleem Shah, Inc.
2		<a href="#">King Cause</a>	Creative Cause	3/g	Kyle Frey	120	-	Kramer Racing, Nice Guys Stables or Keh
3		<a href="#">Afleet Ascent</a>	Northern Afleet	3/c	Stewart Elliott	120	-	Ed or Susie Orr
4		<a href="#">Axelrod</a>	Warrior's Reward	3/c	Alonso Quinonez	120	-	Slam Dunk Racing
5		<a href="#">Solomini</a>	Curlin	3/c	Martin Garcia	120	-	Zayat Stables, LLC, Magnier, Tabor or Smith
6		<a href="#">Draft Pick</a>	Candy Ride (ARG)	3/c	Joseph Talamo	120	-	C R K Stable LLC

**Breeders:** 1—Erv Woolsey & Ralph Kinder; 2—Bret Jones; 3—Jason Hall; 4—Hidden Point Farm Inc.; 5—Glenna R. Salyer DVM; 6—Hinkle Farms.

**Trainers:** 1—Simon Callaghan; 2—Doug F. O'Neill; 3—Jerry Hollendorfer; 4—Michael W. McCarthy; 5—Bob Baffert; 6—Peter Eurton.

### JERSEY GIRL S.

Belmont Park, Sunday, June 10, Race 9

6f (dirt), \$150,000, 3yo f, 5:50 PM (local)

P #	PP	Horse	Sire	Age/Sex	Jockey	Weight	M/L	Owner
1		<a href="#">Devine Mischief</a>	Into Mischief	3/f	Joel Rosario	117	-	Breeze Easy, LLC
2		<a href="#">Pacific Gale</a>	Flat Out	3/f	David Cohen	115	-	Morton, Tobey, L.
3		<a href="#">Buy Sell Hold</a>	Violence	3/f	John R. Velazquez	121	-	Robison, J. Kirk and Judy
4		<a href="#">Sower</a>	Flatter	3/f	Irad Ortiz, Jr.	117	-	Green, Leonard, C.
5		<a href="#">Strategic Dreams</a>	Archarcharch	3/f	Javier Castellano	123	-	Pick Six Racing (David Wilkenfeld), Behar, Ian and Cotrone, Theresa
6		<a href="#">Take Charge Paula</a>	Take Charge Indy	3/f	Paco Lopez	123	-	Deutsch, Peter
7		<a href="#">Lezendary</a>	Zensational	3/f	Jose L. Ortiz	121	-	Zayat Stables, LLC

**Breeders:** 1—Spendthrift Farm LLC; 2—Bally Breeders; 3—Hill 'n' Dale Equine Holdings, Inc & Stretch Run Ventures, LLC; 4—Claiborne Farm & Adele B. Dilschneider; 5—Karen J. Silva; 6—Extern Developments LTD.; 7—Zayat Stables, LLC.

**Trainers:** 1—Joe Sharp; 2—John C. Kimmel; 3—Steven M. Asmussen; 4—Linda Rice; 5—Rudy R. Rodriguez; 6—Kiaran P. McLaughlin; 7—Rudy R. Rodriguez.

### KENT S.

Emerald Downs, Sunday, June 10, Race 7

6.5f (dirt), \$50,000, 3yo f, 5:09 PM (local)

P #	PP	Horse	Sire	Age/Sex	Jockey	Weight	M/L	Owner
1		<a href="#">Bella Mia</a>	Harbor the Gold	3/f	Julien Couton	119	-	John & Janene Maryanski
2		<a href="#">Spot On</a>	Nationhood	3/f	Austin B. Solis	117	-	Blue Ribbon Racing #16
3		<a href="#">Brilliant Bird</a>	Einstein (BRZ)	3/f	Kevin E. Orozco	117	-	Ron Crockett, Inc
4		<a href="#">Ima Happy Cat</a>	Smiling Tiger	3/f	Rocco Bowen	123	-	Sue & Tim Spooner
5		<a href="#">Downwind</a>	Curlin	3/f	Jose Luis Zunino	117	-	Ten Broeck Farm
6		<a href="#">Diamonds R</a>	Alternation	3/f	Leonel Camacho-Flores	117	-	George Todaro

**Breeders:** 1—Mr. & Mrs. William T. Griffin; 2—Mr. & Mrs. Frederick L. Pabst; 3—Bret Christopherson; 4—Dale Mahlum; 5—Machmer Hall; 6—Nicholas M. Lotz.

**Trainers:** 1—Blaine D. Wright; 2—Kay Penney Cooper; 3—Terry Gillihan; 4—Dan L. Markle; 5—Blaine D. Wright; 6—Tom Wenzel.

## TOP HORSES

Listed below are the top 10 leading horses by 2018 North American earnings through June 6, 2018. Racing statistics are 2018 North American only.

Rank	Name	Starts	Wins	Places	Shows	Earnings	Win%	WPS%
1	Gun Runner	1	1	0	0	\$7,000,000	100%	100%
2	Justify	5	5	0	0	\$2,998,000	100%	100%
3	West Coast	1	0	1	0	\$1,600,000	0%	100%
4	Gunnevera	1	0	0	1	\$1,300,000	0%	100%
5	Fear the Cowboy	4	0	0	3	\$1,203,500	0%	75%
6	Magnum Moon	5	4	0	0	\$1,177,800	80%	80%
7	Good Magic	4	1	1	1	\$1,128,400	25%	75%
8	Audible	3	2	0	1	\$1,003,520	67%	100%
9	Monomoy Girl	3	3	0	0	\$984,200	100%	100%
10	War Story	3	1	1	0	\$937,000	33%	67%

## TOP TRAINERS

Listed below are the top 10 leading trainers by 2018 North American earnings through June 6, 2018. Racing statistics are 2018 North American only.

Rank	Name	Starts	Wins	Places	Shows	Earnings	Win%	WPS%
1	Steven M. Asmussen	809	171	150	129	\$14,137,838	21%	56%
2	Todd A. Pletcher	426	116	72	60	\$10,128,192	27%	58%
3	Bob Baffert	164	51	29	20	\$8,725,386	31%	61%
4	Chad C. Brown	278	85	53	35	\$7,504,124	31%	62%
5	Brad H. Cox	374	104	61	42	\$5,637,330	28%	55%
6	Mark E. Casse	447	85	73	58	\$5,327,388	19%	48%
7	Karl Broberg	824	232	141	99	\$3,572,971	28%	57%
8	Michael J. Maker	489	78	65	66	\$3,478,181	16%	43%
9	Linda Rice	267	61	50	39	\$3,170,894	23%	56%
10	Philip D'Amato	210	41	38	37	\$3,050,393	20%	55%

Data provided by [EQUIBASE](#)

## TOP JOCKEYS

Listed below are the top 10 leading jockeys by 2018 North American earnings through June 6, 2018. Racing statistics are 2018 North American only.

Rank	Name	Starts	Wins	Places	Shows	Earnings	Win%	WPS%
1	Florent Geroux	473	95	77	55	\$12,081,649	20%	48%
2	Jose L. Ortiz	629	120	94	96	\$10,029,420	19%	49%
3	Irad Ortiz, Jr.	692	158	134	90	\$8,584,892	23%	55%
4	Luis Saez	633	130	94	105	\$8,305,421	21%	52%
5	Javier Castellano	416	88	77	57	\$8,029,189	21%	53%
6	John R. Velazquez	294	76	43	28	\$7,417,745	26%	50%
7	Mike E. Smith	111	25	20	12	\$6,129,220	23%	51%
8	Ricardo Santana, Jr.	434	91	66	64	\$5,947,437	21%	51%
9	Manuel Franco	497	103	91	77	\$5,869,875	21%	55%
10	Tyler Gaffalione	636	119	99	95	\$5,357,172	19%	49%