



# THOROUGHBRED DAILY NEWS KENTUCKY DERBY SPECIAL EDITION

SEPTEMBER 5, 2020 • CHURCHILL DOWNS

## GETTING TO KNOW THE TIZ THE LAW PARTNERS *by Brian DiDonato*

GI Kentucky Derby favorite and Quadruple Crown hopeful **Tiz the Law** (Constitution) would no doubt be almost any owner's horse of a lifetime--unless you're Jack Knowlton or Lew Titterton. Of Sackatoga Stable's 35 co-owners in on Tiz the Law, they're the only two who were around for the group's *first* horse of a lifetime, 2003 Derby and GI Preakness S. winner Funny Cide (Distorted Humor). For some of the others, Tiz the Law is the payoff after many years of horse ownership. For several, the six-for-seven, \$2-million earning sophomore was, incredibly, their first horse ever. Get to know some of them below.

**Dave & Renee Boivin** • Blandford, MA • **Professional background?** Dave is a construction supervisor at EMCOR. Renee works on their farm caring for rescue farm animals • **How did you become a racing fan?** Dave went to racetracks with his father. Renee owned an OTTB from the Man



o' War line growing up. Currently have an OTTB in our barn from the Deputy Minister and Secretariat lines. It is this horse who brought us to his sire, Defrere, and his humans in Kentucky. Joe Jennings and Ronda Palmer own, breed, train, race and drive. They and trainer Don Combs (who conditioned 1970 Derby winner Dust Commander) are the ones who have been instrumental in getting us really involved in all aspects of racing • **How long have you owned horses?** Racing since 2019. Tiz was our first • **How many have you owned?** Currently seven • **Favorite thing about owning horses?** Being in a partnership. It is like having another family except the members possess the same racing passion you do • **Favorite Tiz the Law moment?** Travers for sure! • **Toughest Derby competition?** Our very wise trainers, Barclay Tagg and Robin Smullen, told us some time ago that this is horse racing. All horses entered are competition. We stay focused on Tiz.



Sackatoga partners in the Gulfstream winner's circle after Tiz the Law's GIII Holy Bull S. win Feb. 1 | *Coglianesse Photo*

**Dr. Robert Brent** • Bloomfield Hills, MI • **Professional background?** Retired urologist. Practiced over 30 years in the greater Detroit area • **How did you become a racing fan?** First saw a TV show prior to the 1948 Kentucky Derby and it fascinated me. My wife Dasi and I went to Saratoga Springs in 1977 and fell in love with the town and never missed an August until this year • **How long have you owned horses?** Have probably been in partial and syndicated ownership for at least 35 years • **How many have you owned?** Probably over 40 horses. One was MGSW King Cugat; another was 2014 GI Wood Memorial S. winner and Derby fourth finisher Wicked Strong • **Favorite Tiz the Law moment?** Winning the Travers, which I have attended in person many times. It was sweet revenge for Wicked Strong, who was beaten a nose in the Travers in 2014 • **Toughest Derby competition?** I'm more concerned about the status of the track in Kentucky and the large field than any particular horse. I think we have the best horse.

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**Tiz the Law Partners cont.**

**Kevin Danahy • Lancaster, SC •**

**Professional background?** Financial Information Systems • **How did you become a racing fan?** Growing up 20 miles north of Saratoga Race Course, I was always interested in horse racing and regularly watched the Triple Crown races on TV each year. My earliest memorable Saratoga on-track moment was watching General Assembly win the 1979 Travers by 15 lengths in the slop while setting the track record that stood until 2016 • **How long have you owned horses?** 4 years • **How many have you owned?** 5 (1 retired, 4 active). Tiz the Law was my second • **Favorite thing about owning horses?** Other than the excitement of having my horse in a race, I enjoy visiting the barn after watching morning workouts • **Favorite Tiz the Law moment?** Tiz's impressive 4 1/4-length maiden win which landed me in the Saratoga winner's circle for the first time in my life • **Toughest Derby competition?** Honor A. P.



**Larry Davis • Albany, NY •**

**Professional background?** CEO/Founder CommSoft, Inc. • **How did you become a racing fan?** Attending Saratoga Race Course as a youth • **How long have you owned horses?** More than 25 years • **How many have you owned?** Over 20 •



**Favorite thing about owning horses?** The excitement and action of racing and the comradery of ownership • **Favorite Tiz the Law moment?** Attending the Travers • **Toughest Derby competition?** The weather and the post position based on the size of the field.

**Robert Dompkosky • Mountain Top, PA • Professional background?** ER physician • **How did you become a racing fan?** My good friend, Bruce Phillips, was trying to get me involved for a couple years. He always talked how exciting it was to watch a horse you own race. He said even if your horse doesn't win, it's such an exciting time for all. Who would've ever thought, my first involvement would end up being with Tiz the Law?



Last year's GI Champagne S. winner's circle | *Coglianesse Photo*

**Robert Dompkosky cont.**

**How long have you owned horses?** 1 year. Tiz is my first • **Favorite thing about owning horses?** I would definitely say watching the races together with my entire family. Horse racing has brought us closer together. It's unfortunate that we have been unable to see any of Tiz's races in person. We planned on attending the Florida Derby; however, because of the current pandemic, spectators were not permitted. Actually, we have never been to any live horse races. As soon as tracks open, we'll be the first in line • **Favorite Tiz the Law moment?** Every racing moment with Tiz has been exciting, but I would have to say, next to the birth of my children, Tiz winning the Belmont S. was absolutely the most intoxicating moment of my life. I was so happy my family was here to share the moment with me • **Toughest Derby competition?** Honor A. P.

**Rick Funaro • Clifton Park, NY • Professional background?** Retired IT professional • **How did you become a racing fan?** Grew up in Mechanicville, NY (home of Chad Brown) and went to Saratoga when I was a teenager • **How long have you owned horses?** Have been with Sackatoga Stable since 2005 (stakes-placed Seattle Mission was my first horse) • **How many have you owned?** Around a dozen • **Favorite thing about owning horses?** Access to the backstretch, watching the horses work and being able to talk with and learn about racing with Barclay, Robin and Jack • **Favorite Tiz the Law moment?** Winning the Travers because we were able to witness it in person. Missed the Florida Derby and Belmont • **Toughest Derby competition?** The West Coast horses, Honor A. P. and Authentic.

**Michael Giacone • Delmar, NY • Professional background?** Co-owner Albany Foam & Supply • **How did you become a racing fan?** Father had some Trotters in the 60's and 70's at Saratoga. We used to go to the track and barn as kids to clean stables then started going with longtime friend of family and one of the Funny Cide owners, Gus Williams • **How long have you owned horses?** Got involved in ownership with Jack and Gus the year after Funny Cide won the Derby. Was asked to be a partner in Funny Cide, but everybody has a horse story, so here it is: Jack and Gus approached me to invest \$10,000 to buy in. I had recently purchased a building lot from Gus and they were starting the foundation for the house, but I couldn't justify spending money on a horse in the middle of building a house, so I declined. To make a long story short, after he won the Derby we were all at the Preakness getting ready to go to the track in the hotel room drinking our beer and Jack comes in and hands Gus a check for \$100,000. Gus turns to me and says, "Mikey, this is what a jerk you are for not getting in--this could be yours!" At that point my friends started laughing and ribbing me. I wanted

to jump out of the window. I got into Sackatoga #3 with [NYSS winner] Doc N Roll and have been in most of the Sackatoga partnerships since • **Favorite Tiz the Law moment?** The Holy Bull when we could all watch and cheer and get in the winner's circle • **Toughest Derby competition?** Authentic--you can never count Baffert out.



**Giacone with Tiz the Law's GI Champagne S. saddle towel**  
*Courtesy Michael Giacone*

**Eric Kordsmeier • Clearwater, FL (and Hot Springs, AR during Oaklawn) • Professional background?** Tax accountant/CFP/ Accredited Estate Planner • **How did you become a racing fan?** Grew up 40 miles from Oaklawn Park. My mom Lorene loved daily double bets and listening to each race on local radio. My dad Herb had a few cheap claimers with Tom Amoss and Larry Robideaux when I was a teen. Otto Thorwarth (who played Ron Turcotte in the Secretariat movie) was from Hot Springs and his first career win came on our horse, Homestretch Stride--a \$38 winner trained by a very young Amoss! After witnessing many greats at Oaklawn, but especially the Pine Bluff--Lil E. Tee stretch duel in the 1992 Arkansas Derby, hatched a dream to run a horse in the Kentucky Derby one day • **How long have you owned horses?** 10th year--started buying at LA and TX auctions in 2011 under my Saturday Racing Stable along with five friends. **How many have you owned?** 60--bought/claimed 12 over five years with SRS; then hooked up with Ten Strike Racing (~25 horses) and Twin Magnolia Farms (~15 horses) for partial units. I met Jack Knowlton at a TOBA OwnerView event at Santa Anita in 2016 and bought into Spa Jazz. Sackatoga sponsored a booth at the event and I liked the breeding of Jazz being out of a Dixieland Band mare. Tiz is my fourth horse invested with Sackatoga. I've bred/raced another handful of Arky-breds on my own.

**Cont. p4**

**Eric Kordsmeier cont.**

**Favorite thing about owning horses?** It has morphed over the years but one feeling remains... the thrill of seeing your horse and silks turn for home with a fighting chance and a rolled-up form/program clinched as you show the jockey how to get him home in front! As long as they each come back safe and had a chance to prove their calling, each horse can be a success. I started Saints N Angels Animal Rescue in 2014 to properly retire every horse that went through our barn--even claiming several back. I love getting updates on retired horses and visiting our retiree partner farms when able, especially Becky's Hope Horse Rescue in Frisco, TX • **Favorite Tiz the Law moment?** Holding the Holy Bull trophy with our partner Roger Sofer at Gulfstream Park (he's been fighting leukemia since March). Hearing Bruce Phillips's infectious laugh in the Champagne winners circle (he passed in his sleep two weeks later). Celebrating a special toast to "Derby dreams" with Jack and Aaron Knowlton in New York last fall • **Toughest Derby competition?** I have strong opinions about the Derby every year, but I'd rather not single one out due to respect for all the horses and their connections. Anything can happen based on post positions and which quarter of the field may get wiped out at the break. My largest futures bet is a Tiz--Enforceable exacta.



**Kordsmeier (left) & CA-based owner Don Palmer during Breeders' Cup '16 week at Santa Anita | Courtesy Eric Kordsmeier**

**Kathleen Sands Martin • Dunedin, FL • Professional background?** General Electric within the Human Resources arena--33 1/2 yrs • **How did you become a racing fan?** Residing approximately 40 minutes from Saratoga in Johnstown, NY, it was hard not to be a fan. My mother was one to drive us to Saratoga while growing up.

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**Kathleen Sands Martin cont.**

**How long have you owned horses?**

13 years • **How many have you**

**owned?** More than 25! • **Favorite**

**thing about owning horses?** Privilege

to attend races, watch training in the

morning while the fog is lifting at

Saratoga, visiting the barns, meeting

new individuals and winning is always

sweet • **Favorite Tiz the Law moment?** His pictures

demonstrate his character beyond what any human could

compose • **Toughest Derby competition?** The other 17 horses.

One can never be overconfident.



**Terry McCarthy •** Burnt Hills, NY •

**Professional background?** Finance

Manager for US Dept. of Energy

subcontractor • **How did you become**

**a racing fan?** My grandmother took

me to Saratoga Racecourse when I

was 12 and I was “hooked” • **How**

**long have you owned horses?** Two

years • **How many have you owned?** Five • **Favorite thing**

**about owning horses?** The ownership group and the fantastic

care the horsemen and women give to these horses • **Favorite**

**Tiz the Law moment?** His maiden victory at Saratoga. My first

experience winning a horse race and, in my backyard, no less •

**Toughest Derby competition?** The traffic at the start. Anything

can happen when the gates open.



**Ed Motter •** Lancaster, PA •

**Professional background?** Retired

business executive • **How did you**

**become a racing fan?** Watching Triple

Crown races on TV in high school •

**How long have you owned horses?**

13 years • **How many have you**

**owned?** 23 • **Favorite thing about**

**owning horses?** Friendships with partners and watching races

together • **Favorite Tiz the Law moment?** All of the following:

coming back from the November defeat at Churchill to win the

Holy Bull with most of the partners watching; winning the

Florida Derby with no fans validating the prior performances and

the hype; winning the Belmont S., the first leg of Triple Crown;

the 5:30 am workout on Aug. 1 at Saratoga with the huge media

presence; winning the Travers at 10 furlongs, second leg of the

Quadruple Crown and being there • **Toughest Derby**

**competition?** The post position and break from the gate.



**L to R: Jack Knowlton, Margaret Phillips, Manny Franco & Ed Mitzen before the Runhappy Travers | Courtesy Margaret Phillips**

**Margaret Phillips •** Dallas, PA • **Professional background?**

AT&T Management - National Accounts Sales • **How did you**

**become a racing fan?** Did a lot of horseback riding, have always

had a love of horses and a friend of mine Bobby Dwyer

introduced me to owning a horse and becoming a partner in

Warpath Stables. Then met Jack Knowlton with my husband

Bruce Phillips during the 2003 Preakness party for Funny Cide

and went into partnership with Sackatoga Stables • **How long**

**have you owned horses?** 20+ • **How many have you owned?**

22+ • **Favorite thing about owning horses?** The honor and

privilege of being part of such a wonderful and exciting sport

and meeting people from all parts of the world and having a

horse in the Kentucky Derby • **Favorite Tiz the Law moment?**

Being with my late husband Bruce Phillips at the Champagne S.

in New York watching Tiz the Law win and celebrating a victory

together before he died.

**Jim & Melania Serfass •** Harveys

Lake, PA • **Professional background?**

Jim, distribution and warehousing;

Melania, CFO • **How did you become**

**a racing fan?** We started off watching

the Triple Crown every year. The

Kentucky Derby was on our bucket

list. Once we went, we were “hooked”

• **How long have you owned horses?** 4 years • **How many have**

**you owned?** 4 • **Favorite thing about owning horses?** Meeting

other owners with the same love of horses and the sport •

**Favorite Tiz the Law moment?** The tactical move he made in the

Holy Bull--impressive! • **Toughest Derby competition?** In a race

with 18 horses, all of them! You never know what’s going to

happen with that many horses.



**Bob Slingsby** • Blauvelt, NY •

**Professional background?** Currently CEO and principal of Viking Pure Solutions, a company dedicated to pathogen control using powerful yet green solutions. Previously, practicing attorney specializing in litigation •

**How did you become a racing fan?**

The unparalleled and transcendent horses and races of the 70s got me for time eternal. Secretariat, Ruffian, Ruffian v. Foolish Pleasure, Slew, Affirmed v. Alydar, and Bid--need I say more? •

**How long have you owned horses?** Four years • **How many have you owned?** Seven • **Favorite thing about owning horses?**

The feeling of being part of a great, timeless sport. I cherish every aspect of it and have developed great respect for those who devote their lives to understanding, nourishing, developing and loving these Thoroughbreds • **Favorite Tiz the Law moment?**

The Holy Bull when I absolutely knew he was special by the way he ran and won that race • **Toughest Derby competition?** Authentic.



**Diane Welsch** • Philadelphia, PA •

**Professional background?** Retired judge currently working as a private mediator • **How did you become a racing fan?** As a child my grandparents were racing fans. They loved going to the races when they vacationed in Florida. Our family

always watched the Kentucky Derby on TV and placed our bets through the local bookies • **How long have you owned horses?** Six • **How many have you owned?** Nine, all through Sackatoga Stables • **Favorite thing about owning horses?** Being an owner has allowed us to meet so many nice people from all walks of life. We have learned a lot about the sport. It has been a true honor to get to know our trainer Barclay Tagg. He is a humble gentleman, a consummate professional with no ego who only cares about what is in the best interest of the horse. At age 82, he inspires me to hope that I can continue to work in my career with the same energy and passion as he has • **Favorite Tiz the Law moment?**

The announcer calling the win at the Belmont: "The New York hero Tiz the Law wins the Belmont Stakes; 138 years since a New York-bred horse has won the Belmont. In a year when New York needs something to celebrate!" • **Toughest Derby competition?** Only weather and post position.



**Jim Webb** • Erie, PA • **Professional background?** Former collegiate basketball coach/public school administrator • **How did you become a racing fan?** Have been a fan since I was a teenager • **How long have you owned horses?** Six years • **How many have you owned?** 10 • **Favorite thing about owning horses?** Being able to have access to stable area and interact with Barclay Tagg and Jack Knowlton • **Favorite Tiz the Law moment?** Winning the Belmont and Travers.

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The Feb. 1 Holy Bull was the last race many Tiz the Law partners were able to attend due to subsequent COVID-19 restrictions

Coglianesse Photo



# #1 FINNICK THE FIERCE 50-1

(g, **Dialed In--Southern Classic**, by Southern Image)

O-Arnaldo Monge & Rey Hernandez | B-Paige Jillian Blu Sky Stables (KY)

T-Rey Hernandez | J-Martin Garcia

Lifetime Record: GISP, 9-2-1-2, \$191,290

**PROS:** Easily the purest blue-collar story of the Derby field, one-eyed Finnick the Fierce holds the distinction of being one of only two horses to have ever beaten odds-on favorite Tiz the Law (Constitution). The otherwise-unblemished 'Tiz' came up a bit short when third in the GII Kentucky Jockey Club S., and it was this gelding who first followed winner Silver Prospector (Declaration of War) past the wire at a tick under 88-1. That's been a theme for Finnick the Fierce--outrunning his odds. He was also third at over 62-1 in the GI Arkansas Derby, beaten just 1 1/2 lengths by contender King Guillermo (Uncle Mo). Overall, he's only been worse than fourth two times in nine tries, and his last two outings are better than they look on paper. The stalker/closer was forced out of his game when chasing and dueling early with Art Collector (Bernardini) before fading to third in a local allowance/optional claiming event two back, and made a big, wide middle move in the GII Toyota Blue Grass S. before flattening to finish seventh. Though he doesn't figure to be particularly forward, he's not a plodder, as he broke his maiden going five furlongs and traveled just a few lengths off

Nadal (Blame)'s pace of :46.21 and 1:09.85 in the Arkansas Derby.

**CONS:** His defeat of the Tiz the Law was only by a head, and it's apparent by now that he caught the chalk on a bad day, making it unlikely he can replicate that feat. Since then, he hasn't truly threatened in any of his stakes tries, and outside of his Arkansas Derby third, he hasn't run fast enough to be considered even a fringe contender on figures. The rail draw is arguably the worst place you can be in the Derby, and can quickly lead to disaster with a slow break and/or traffic issues going into the clubhouse turn.

**PEDIGREE:** Finnick the Fierce is modestly bred. He's the first foal out of a half-sister to Canadian SW Invitational (Peaks and Valleys), but there are no other black-type performers under the first two dams. Third dam Stutz Goldrush (Mr. Prospector) was a three-time stakes winner and is a half-sister to the dam of 1992 GI Alabama S. and GI Test S. heroine November Snow (Storm Cat). **Cont.**

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Kentucky Derby Contender

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**FINNICK THE FIERCE**

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**Dr. Arnaldo Monge**

**Owner:** Arnaldo Monge & Rey Hernandez  
**Trainer:** Ray Hernandez  
**Breeder:** Blue Sky Stables  
**Jockey:** Martin Garcia

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**VERDICT:** It's easy to dismiss Finnick the Fierce as an over-achieving also-ran in the Derby, but I'm not so sure. If he improves just a bit off his Arkansas Derby effort, he could crack the trifecta and he's surprised with on-the-board finishes at big numbers before. The key is going to be trip, as he is going to need plenty of need racing luck from the rail, but while the inside post hasn't produced a Derby winner since Ferdinand in 1986, Lookin At Lee (Lookin At Lucky) rode the rail to a runner-up finish three years ago after having a similar look to Finnick the Fierce pre-race. --*Joe Bianca*

**Finnick the Fierce's Video Highlights**

Date	Race	Finish
7/11/20	GII Toyota Blue Grass S.	7th
6/13/20	Allowance/Optional Claiming	3rd
5/2/20	GI Arkansas Derby	3rd
4/4/20	Allowance/Optional Claiming	1st
1/18/20	GIII Lecomte S.	4th
11/30/19	GII Kentucky Jockey Club S.	2nd



Finnick the Fierce's pilot Martin Garcia's best Derby finish was third aboard Dortmund in 2015 | *Coady*



Finnick the Fierce gallops at Churchill Downs | *Coady*



## #2 Max Player 30-1

(c, Honor Code--Fools in Love, by Not for Love)

O-George E Hall & SportBLX Thoroughbreds Corp. | B-K & G Stables (KY) | T-Steven M Asmussen | Ricardo Santana Jr.  
Lifetime Record: GSW & MGISP, 5-2-1-2, \$373,500

### PROS:

Max Player has steadily improved with every start, starting with a very green late-running second going a mile at Parx Nov. 12 and culminating in a third-place run in the GI Runhappy Travers S. behind Tiz the Law. That effort at the Classic distance earned him a career-best 99 Beyer Speed Figure. Max Player has been transferred from Linda Rice to Steve Asmussen since his last start. Asmussen has never won a Derby, but he's got two GI Preakness S. wins and one GI Belmont S. to his credit and is consistently atop the Churchill Downs trainer standings. The Hall of Famer will leg up his go-to rider Ricardo Santana, Jr., whose typically aggressive style might help put Max Player a bit more into the race early this time.

### CONS:

While Max Player was an impressive winner of the GIII Withers S. over nine furlongs Feb. 1, he got a set-up that day against a field that has not flattered that form in subsequent outings. While he was third to Tiz the Law in both the Belmont and Travers, he never came within five lengths of the favorite in either try. Asmussen's accomplishments are matched by few, but Rice is certainly no slouch either--there's no telling whether the trainer change was positive, negative or a wash.

### PEDIGREE:

Max Player is one of two blaze-faced dark bays in the Derby field from the first crop of 'TDN Rising Star' Honor Code (A.P. Indy), who took the GI Metropolitan H. and GI Whitney S. in

2015 before finishing a distant third to Triple Crown winner American Pharoah (Pioneerof the Nile) in the GI Breeders' Cup Classic. Dam Fools in Love (Not For Love) was a five-furlong debut winner as a July juvenile before scoring several more stakes placings at two and adding a two-turn, seven-furlong black-type tally at three. Fools in Love was an \$80,000 yearling and sold to Cheveley Park Stud for \$1 million at the 2017 Keeneland November sale in foal to Speightstown after having just produced Max Player. She had previously produced British Group 2 winner and \$750,000 KESEP buy Seahenge (Scat Daddy); Grade III-placed turfer Urban Bourbon (City Zip); and Frank's Folly (Mineshaft), who was stakes-placed in the slop. Fools in Love is a half-sister to International Star (Fusaichi Pegasus), who swept the 2015 Derby prep series at Fair Grounds. Max Player is bred on a version of the same A.P. Indy--Not For Love cross that produced 2014 Derby hero California Chrome (Lucky Pulpit).

### VERDICT:

A win would be a surprise, but he always come with his run and could very well get a slice. *--Brian DiDonato*

### Max Player's Video Highlights

Date	Race	Finish
8/8/20	GI Runhappy Travers S.	3rd
6/20/20	GI Belmont S.	3rd
2/1/20	GIII Withers S.	1st
12/17/19	Msw-PRX	1st



Max Player | Coady



Max Player winning the Withers | Sarah Andrew



## #3 ENFORCEABLE 30-1

(c, ~~Tapit~~--Justwhistledixie, by Dixie Union) | (\$775,000 RNA KEESEP yrl '18)  
 O-John C. Oxley | B-Clearsky Farm (KY) | T-Mark Casse | J-Adam Beschizza  
 Lifetime Record: GSW & GISP, 10-2-2-2, \$367,150.

**PROS:** Expectations have always been high for this flashy gray colt, as he was a \$775,000 Keeneland September RNA from champion breeders Clearsky Farm before eventually ending up in the light blue and gold checkers of John Oxley, who won the 2001 Derby with another deep closer, Monarchos (Maria's Mon). Graduating in a rare nine-furlong juvenile race last summer at Saratoga, Enforceable followed that up with a third in the GI Claiborne Breeders' Futurity and a fourth, beaten just 1 1/4 lengths by Tiz the Law, in the GII Kentucky Jockey Club S. He earned his first black-type score with a furious rally from well back to take the GIII Lecomte S. at Fair Grounds and followed that up with two more good efforts, a runner-up in the GII Risen Star S. and a better-than-it-looks fifth in the GII Twinspires Louisiana Derby, where he broke slowly, got caught wide on both turns and was one of the few horses making up ground in a race that was dominated on the front end. He produced another late rush to be fourth in the GII Toyota Blue Grass S., missing third by a neck, a race that was flattered when one-two finishers Art Collector (Bernardini) and Swiss Skydiver (Daredevil) came back to win impressively next out. His consistency is a key asset and he runs like a horse crying out for more distance and a long stretch like the one at Churchill.

**CONS:** Though he always comes with his run and deserves marks for hitting the board in so many big races, Enforceable still has only two wins to his name in 10 career starts and several of his black-type placings were of the "clunk-up" variety. He was beaten six lengths in the Breeders' Futurity, 5 3/4 in the Louisiana Derby and 8 1/2 in the Blue Grass. Though he broke better in the latter effort, he has a tendency to be off slowly. His lack of early speed and inability to get over the hump against lesser competition will likely cost him in a Derby that figures to have a moderate pace and several faster contenders with more tactical foot. He drew inside and may be able to save ground on the clubhouse turn, but his running style will likely necessitate major ground loss on the far bend.

**PEDIGREE:** Enforceable's pedigree is littered with black-type, particularly in the immediate family, as he's a full-brother to four-time GSW as a juvenile and sophomore Mohaymen, and a half-brother to New Year's Day (Street Cry {Ire}), GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile winner and sire of champion Maximum Security. His dam Justwhistledixie was a dual graded stakes winner and runner-up in the 2009 GI Acorn S. as a 3-year-old. This is also the female family of MGISW turf mare Got Stormy (Get Stormy).

**VERDICT:** Enforceable is an admirable horse because of his reliability, but he will likely be up against it from a pace perspective and needs a lot of things to break right to get the victory, as evidenced by his 20% career strike rate. That being said, he figures to be a horse who relishes the 10 furlongs and long run down the lane and at 30-1 could easily spice up the trifecta and superfecta behind more logical, forward types.  
 --Joe Bianca

### Enforceable's Video Highlights

Date	Race	Finish
7/11/20	GII Toyota Blue Grass S.	4th
3/21/20	GII Twinspires Louisiana Derby	5th
2/15/20	GII Risen Star S.	2nd
1/18/20	GIII Lecomte S.	1st
11/30/19	GII Kentucky Jockey Club S.	4th
10/5/19	GI Claiborne Breeders' Futurity	3rd
8/22/19	Maiden	1st



Enforceable gallops at Churchill Downs | Coady

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## #4 Storm the Court 50-1

(c, Court Vision--**My Tejana Storm**, by Tejano Run) | (\$5,000 yrl '18 FTKFEB; \$60,000 2yo '19 OBSAPR)  
 O-Exline-Border Racing LLC, David A Bernsen LLC, Susanna Wilson & Dan Hudock |  
 B-Stepping Stone Farm (KY) | T-Peter Eurton | J-J Leparoux  
 Lifetime Record: Ch. 2yo Male, GISW, 9-2-1-3, \$1,310,451.

**PROS:**

Storm the Court won last year's GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile, and they can never take that away from him. He shocked the world that day at 45-1, and his sire completed his career with a 64-1 shocker in the 2011 GI Breeders' Cup Mile here.

**CONS:**

With Tiz the Law (Constitution) having skipped the Breeders' Cup last year with this year's Triple Crown trail in mind, Storm the Court found himself victorious in one of the weaker runnings of the Juvenile in recent memory. Runner-up Anneau d'Or (Medaglia d'Oro) came back to just miss in the GII Los Alamitos Futurity, but hasn't hit the board in four tries this year and was most recently eighth in the Runhappy Ellis Park Derby. Third finisher Wrecking Crew (Sky Kingdom) was 10th in an optional claimer here in June. Fourth finisher Scabbard (More Than Ready) has fared no better than fifth since that day at Santa Anita. Favored Dennis' Moment (Tiznow), practically eliminated at the start, failed to atone for that outing when 10th in his one try as a sophomore. Second choice Eight Rings (Empire Maker) has been fifth and seventh in his two 2020 tries. Japanese longshot Full Flat (Speightstown), who was fifth, did take the Saudi Derby Cup, but hasn't had any success since returning to Japan. Seventh finisher Shoplifted (Into Mischief) has done the most Stateside this year with a pair of Grade I thirds sprinting. Storm the Court, meanwhile, boasts just one second--in the GIII La Jolla H. on the Del Mar lawn Aug. 9--and two thirds, in the GII San Felipe S. and GIII Ohio Derby--from five outings this year.

**PEDIGREE:**

Sire Court Vision (Gulch), from the female family of A.P. Indy, was a MGSW at two and was third in the GI Wood Memorial S. at three before finishing 13th in Big Brown's 2009 Derby. He found his calling on the turf after that, taking the GI Hollywood Derby over 1 1/4 miles at three and scoring in highest-level miles in each of the next three seasons. Dam My Tejana Storm competed exclusively in dirt sprints at Philadelphia Park. Her three prior foals to race have not shown anything close to the ability that Storm the Court has. Storm the Court was a \$5,000 short yearling buy turned \$60,000 OBSAPR seller off of a **:21 2/5** breeze.

**VERDICT:**

Tough to imagine lightning striking twice with this one.  
 --Brian DiDonato

**Storm the Court's Video Highlights**

Date	Race	Finish
6/27/20	<b>GIII Ohio Derby</b>	3rd
11/1/19	<b>GI TVG Breeders' Cup Juvenile</b>	1st



Storm the Court | Coady

**CHAMPION JUVENILES TURNED DERBY WINNERS**

Count Fleet - 1943	Seattle Slew - 1977
Citation - 1948	Affirmed - 1978
Needles - 1956	Spectacular Bid - 1979
Riva Ridge - 1972	Street Sense - 2007
Secretariat - 1973	American Pharoah - 2015
Foolish Pleasure - 1975	Nyquist - 2016



**Wishing the Best of Luck to All the Connections!**

**SPEECH**

GI Kentucky Oaks  
 Breeder: Gail Rice

**STORM THE COURT**

GI Kentucky Derby  
 Breeder: Stepping Stone Farm

**From Kathie Maybee / Phoenix Farm**





## #5 MAJOR FED 50-1

(c, *Ghostzapper*-- *Bobby's Babe*, by Smart Strike)  
 O-Lloyd Madison Farms, IV LLC | B- Lloyd Madison IV, LLC (KY) | T-Gregory D Foley  
 J-James Graham. Lifetime Record: MGSP, 6-1-2-1, \$215,600



Major Fed | Hodges Photography

**PROS:** The stretch-running Major Fed has to be due for some good luck for hometown hero **Greg Foley**, right? After earning his diploma with a very impressive score in his two-turn debut at Fair Grounds on New Year's Day and rallying for second in the split-division GII Risen Star S., it really looked like the dark bay was in store for a big season. Then bad luck began to set in. A slow start from his rail draw led to a solid fourth-place finish after an impossible trip in the GII Twinspires. Com Louisiana Derby, then he lost all chance after getting hung out in the parking lot on the first turn in the GIII Matt Winn S. Major Fed was squeezed at the break in his latest, but still came running in the stretch to complete the exacta after a wide trip in the GIII Indiana Derby. The Classic distance could be exactly what this son of *Ghostzapper* out of a Smart Strike mare is looking for if he's good enough.

**CONS:** For a horse that seems to keep finding trouble, an 18-horse field is probably not what you're looking for. His career-high Beyer Speed Figure of 87--earned last out in the Indiana Derby--is nowhere near what it's going to take to make an impact here. With only a maiden win to his credit, he's still eligible for a first-level allowance.

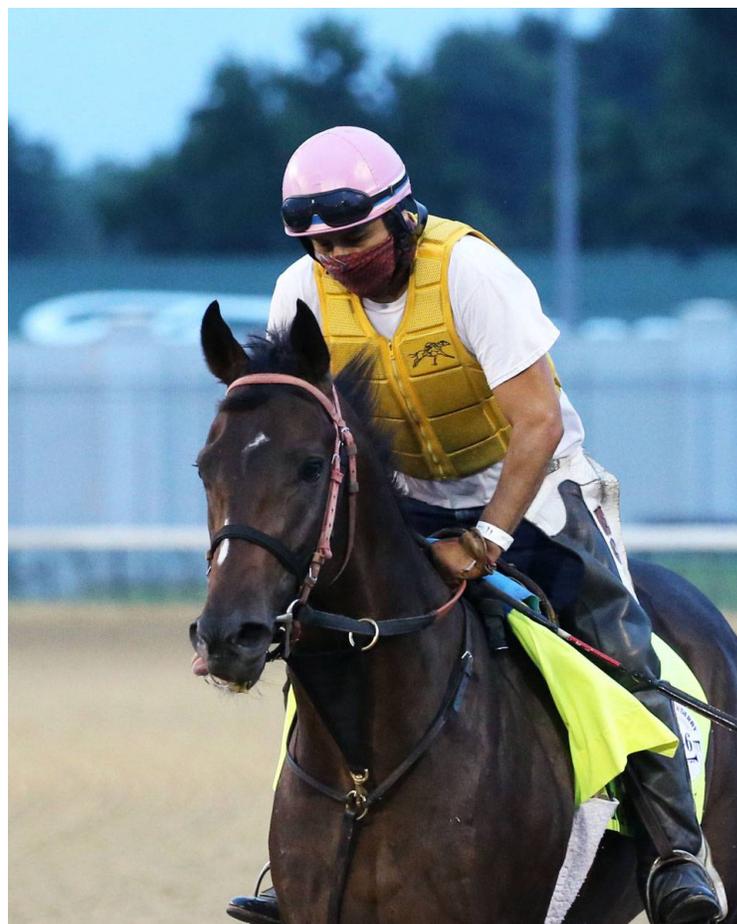
**PEDIGREE:** Horse of the Year and leading sire *Ghostzapper* needs little introduction. He is the sire of 12 Grade I winners, including 10-furlong GI Santa Anita H. hero *Shaman Ghost*. Major Fed's dam *Bobby's Babe* won one of 12 career starts--a six-furlong maiden special weight over the Turfway synthetic on

debut--for these same connections. She has also produced the stakes winner *May Lily* (*Broken Vow*) and graded placed *Zapperini* (*Ghostzapper*). Smart Strike is the broodmare sire of 44 graded winners, including 2009 Kentucky Derby upsetter *Mine That Bird* (*Birdstone*) and GI TVG Pacific Classic S. winner and Derby third *Dullahan* (*Even the Score*). This is the extended female family of champion European sprinter *Tamarisk* (*Ire*) (*Green Desert*) and G1 Prix Saint-Alary heroine *Treble* (*Riverman*).

**VERDICT:** If he gets a hot pace to close into and can finally get a clean trip, the best-case scenario has him picking up some late pieces for third or fourth at a hefty price. --*Steve Sherack*

### Major Fed's Video Highlights

Date	Race	Finish
3/21/20	<a href="#">GII Twinspires.com Louisiana Derby</a>	4th
2/15/20	<a href="#">GII Risen Star S.</a>	2nd
1/1/20	<a href="#">Maiden Special Weight-FG</a>	1st



Major Fed | Coady



## #7 MONEY MOVES 30-1

(c, **Candy Ride {Arg}**--**Citizen Advocate**, by Proud Citizen)

O-Robert V. LaPenta & Bortolazzo Stable LLC | B-Whitehall Lane Farm (KY) | T-Todd Pletcher | J-Luis Saez.

Lifetime Record: 3-2-1-0, \$67,400



Money Moves | Lauren King

### PROS:

Money Moves was well supported in his career bow going six furlongs in the Gulfstream slop Feb. 15 and did not disappoint, reporting home a 1 1/4 length winner for trainer Todd Pletcher. Kept closer to the pace while stepping up to a mile against optional claiming company at the Hallandale oval Mar. 27, the colt used his early speed to his advantage to post a facile 2 3/4-length victory. Facing his elders for the first time in a nine-furlong optional claiming event at Saratoga July 25, the bay tracked the early pace the entire way and was only a neck behind 5-year-old Prioritize (Tizway) at the wire. His tactical speed and ability to rate in the early going will be very important weapons in his holster come Derby Day.

Importantly, the colt's trainer is no stranger to the Derby, having already won twice--the first with Super Saver in 2010 followed by a win by Always Dreaming in the 2017 renewal.

### CONS:

The last horse to win the Kentucky Derby while unraced at two is Justify, who went on to sweep the remainder of the 2018 Triple Crown, but prior to that it had been 136 years since the feat had been accomplished. And while Money Moves has obvious ability, it is unlikely that he is another Justify.

This season also marks the 17th consecutive year that Pletcher will have at least one runner in the 3-year-old Classic. The trainer's latest representative, who is ranked 18th on the list of contenders with one point, will be making his stakes debut.

### PEDIGREE:

A black-type winner sprinting on the dirt, turf and synthetic, Citizen Advocate's 2014 Arch filly--subsequently named Remarked--realized \$320,000 at OBS the following August. However, the mare hit it out of the park for connections when her 2017 Candy Ride colt summoned a \$975,000 final bid from agent Steve Young at OBS April after breezing an eighth of a mile in :10 flat for consigner Wavertree Stables.

The colt's sire, GI Pacific Classic hero Candy Ride, is responsible for six champions, including 2018 Horse of the Year and Champion Older Dirt Male Gun Runner, who recorded his most notable career score in the 2017 GI Breeders' Cup Classic at 10 furlongs. Notably, Money Moves was the highest priced juvenile for his sire in 2019 and was well above the \$185,561 average for the 19 Candy Ride juveniles sold last year.

### VERDICT:

Unraced at two and lightly-raced this term, Money Moves lacks the seasoning often seen in a Derby winner's past performances. While post position seven will offer an advantage given his speed and athleticism, it appears he'll have plenty of company with him in the vanguard which will likely complicate things for him. Obviously endowed with talent and ability, Money Moves will be facing the stiffest test of his abbreviated career and will require a big step up in class to walk away with the roses Saturday.

--Christina Bossinakis

### Move Moves Video Highlights

Date	Race	Finish
6/25/20	\$62.5K Opt. Clm.	2nd
3/27/20	\$75K Opt. Clm.	1st
2/15/20	Maiden Special Weight	1st



Money Moves | Coady



## #8 SOUTH BEND 50-1

(c, Algorithms--Sandra's Rose, by Old Trieste) | (\$47,000 RNA yrl '18 FTKJUL; \$70,000 2yo '19 OBSMAR)  
 O-Gary Barber, Wachtel Stable, Peter Deutsch & Pantofel Stable LLC |  
 B-Highclere Inc. (KY) | T-Bill Mott | J-Tyler Gaffalione.  
 Lifetime Record: SW & MGSP, 12-3-2-2, \$390,114

**PROS:**

South Bend opened his account with a trio of wins as a juvenile, two of which came over this track, including the Street Sense S. He rallied from well back to be a close second in the nine-furlong GIII Ohio Derby June 27 following five grass attempts, after which he was privately purchased and transferred to Bill Mott. The bay was a respectable fourth behind Derby favorite Tiz the Law when making his first start for his new connections in the GI Runhappy Travers S. Aug. 8. Mott is known for his conservative nature, so it says something that he chose to run this horse here and the Hall of Famer did inherit the Roses via DQ last year.

**CONS:**

South Bend has already proven to be a cut below Tiz the Law and likely below California's best and brightest as well. The bay has not been able to find the winner's circle at all this year and that was in much softer spots than this. He will have to do a lot better than a 97 Beyer to compete here. Tyler Gaffalione is one of the sport's up-and-coming young pilots, but is inexperienced

in the Triple Crown races and climbs aboard this horse for the first time in his career.

**PEDIGREE:**

South Bend is a son of Algorithms, who only made three starts, but won all of them, including the GIII Holy Bull S. Algorithms in turn is a son of GI Preakness S. and Travers hero Bernardini. On the other hand, his dam Sandra's Rose was a turf sprinter, but her sire Old Trieste was a graded winner at nine furlongs. South Bend's MSW half-brother He's the Reason (The Factor) also won at 1 1/8 miles.

**VERDICT:**

South Bend will be one of the longest shots on the board Saturday and deserves to be as it will take more than a Hall of Fame trainer to beat Tiz the Law. --Christie DeBernardis

South Bend's Video Highlights		
Date	Race	Finish
8/8/20	GI Runhappy Travers S.	4th
6/27/20	GIII Ohio Derby	2nd



South Bend | Coady

# THIS IS WHY WE DO THIS

Thank You to everybody for  
being a part of this journey!

Highclere, Inc. (Jeffry Morris)  
Joe Pickerrell & Courtney Roberts

Stuart Morris

Bill Mott

Sagamore Farm

Stanley Hough

Current owners Gary Barber,  
Wachtel Stable, Peter Deutsch  
and Pantofel Stable, LLC



**GOOD  
LUCK**  
in the  
**Kentucky  
Derby!**

**SOUTH BEND** winning  
the Street Sense S. at  
Churchill Downs on 10/27/19

© Coady Photography

  
**STUART  
MORRIS**  
AGENT

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*Pick View  
LLC*

Joe Pickerrell  
352.875.0118  
[joepickerrell@yahoo.com](mailto:joepickerrell@yahoo.com)



## #9 MR. BIG NEWS 50-1

(c, **Giant's Causeway**--**Unappeased {Ire}**, by Galileo {Ire}) | (\$95,000 yrl '18 FTKOCT)  
 O-Allied Racing Stable LLC | B-Don Alberto Corporation (KY) | T-Bret Calhoun | J-Gabriel Saez.  
 Lifetime Record: SW, 7-2-1-0, \$168,553

**PROS:**

Mr. Big News is certainly bred to go the distance both top and bottom. He has yet to try 10 furlongs, but did close well to win going nine panels in the slop in the Oaklawn S. Apr. 11, putting himself in the Derby picture.

**CONS:**

Mr. Big News could only manage sixth last time in the GII Toyota Blue Grass S. behind Art Collector (Bernardini), who likely would have been second choice to Tiz the Law, but was a late defection due to a minor hoof issue. He did earn a career-best Beyer of 88 for that effort, but that is well below the triple-digit numbers earned by his leading opponents Tiz the Law, Honor A. P., Authentic and Thousand Words. The \$95,000 FTKOCT buy is also a one-run closer, lacking the prowess and versatility of his more-fancied rivals.

**PEDIGREE:**

Mr. Big News is by the late, great Giant's Causeway, who did his best work at 10 furlongs. Though that racing legend did most of his running on turf, he was a close second in the GI Breeders' Cup Classic, coming up a neck short of Tiznow, and has produced many great dirt runners, such as champion Take Charge Brandi and MGISW Carpe Diem. His dam Unappeased failed to find the winner's circle, but is a half to a Grade I winner at 1 1/4 miles in talented grass runner Sligo Bay (Ire) (Sadler's Wells). Her sire is European superstar Galileo, who was also an accomplished distance runner on the grass.

**VERDICT:**

It would certainly be big news if this colt found the winner's circle Saturday.

--Christie DeBernardis

**Mr. Big News's Video Highlights**

Date	Race	Finish
7/11/20	<b>GII Toyota Blue Grass S.</b>	6th
4/11/20	<b>Oaklawn S.</b>	1st



Mr. Big News winning the Oaklawn S. | Coady



## #2 THOUSAND WORDS 15-1

(c, *Pioneerof the Nile--Pomeroy's Pistol*, by Pomeroy)

O-Albaugh Family Stable LLC & Spendthrift Farm LLC | B-Hardacre Farm (FL) | T-Bob Baffert | J-Flavien Prat.

Lifetime Record: MGSW, 7-4-1-0, \$327,000

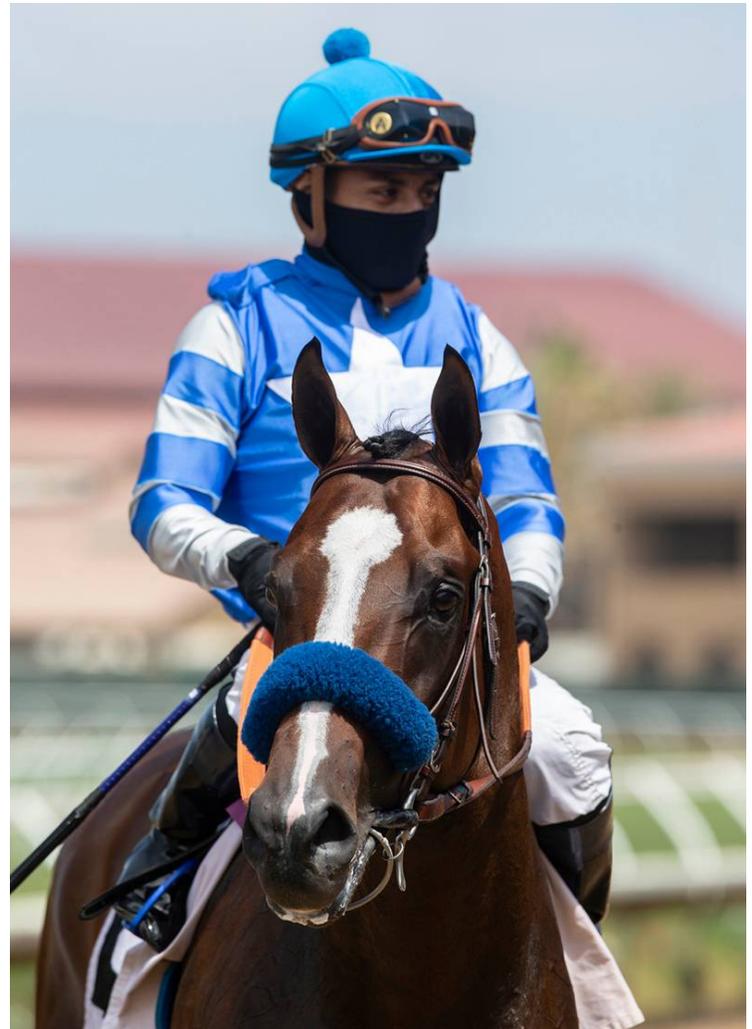
### PROS:

Thousand Words showed enough precocity early on to win his 6 1/2-panel career debut at Santa Anita last October before handling the step up to graded company with aplomb when taking the 8 1/2-furlong GII Los Alamitos Futurity in December. Back on top in his sophomore bow in the GIII Robert B. Lewis S. Feb. 1, the \$1-million KEESEP buy threw in a pair of forgettable efforts in the Mar. 7 GII San Felipe S. and Apr. 11 Oaklawn S., prompting a three-month freshener which appeared to work wonders for the Florida-bred colt, who returned with a much-improved second behind his well-regarded stablemate Uncle Chuck (Uncle Mo) in the July 4 GIII Los Alamitos Derby. Sent off no better than third betting choice in the four-horse Shared Belief S. Aug. 1, Thousand Words went straight to the front and was never headed, holding a narrow 3/4-length advantage over Grade I winner Honor A.P. (Honor Code) at the wire.

Called a 'quirky' horse by his trainer Bob Baffert, Thousand Words won't have to contend with the usual Derby Day masses this time, given Churchill's decision to restrict spectators for the 2020 renewal. Always armed and dangerous in the Run for the Roses, Baffert—who already has five Derbies to his credit—has indicated that the 10-furlong distance should be a good fit for the high-spirited colt and will likely help him settle into a comfortable rhythm when asked to go farther.

### CONS:

Well reputed for being keen during his morning works, Thousand Words will need to call on the more tractable side of his personality to see out the 1 1/4-mile distance. Appearing to have some crisis of spirit earlier this season, the colt benefitted from some time off, but it remains unclear if he might need a return to the 'couch' in the future. Also, half of his four lifetime wins have been registered while facing three rivals, including the most recent in the Shared Belief, and his 10-hole draw will place him squarely in the middle of the calvary charge on Derby day.



Thousand Words | Benoit

### PEDIGREE:

Both of Thousand Words's parents—Pioneerof the Nile and Pomeroy's Pistol—enjoyed their best seasons on the racetrack as sophomores. In the lead up to the 2009 GI Kentucky Derby, the late Pioneerof the Nile reeled off four straight graded victories—including two at the Grade I level—chief among them the GI Santa Anita Derby. **Cont.**

# BEST OF LUCK *to* THOUSAND WORDS

Albaugh Family Stables & Spendthrift Farm, Bob Baffert and all his connections



Selected by BARRY BERKELHAMMER | Received early preparation at ABRACADABRA FARMS

[www.abracadabrafarm.com/bbbloodstock.html](http://www.abracadabrafarm.com/bbbloodstock.html)

**Thousand Words Pedigree cont.**

By GI Belmont S. hero Empire Maker, who in turn is by Kentucky Derby winner Unbridled, Pioneerof the Nile proved the 10-furlong distance of the Derby was within his scope when runner-up in the 2009 renewal of the Classic.

Conversely, Pomeroy's Pistol, a sprint specialist who won at 5 1/2 to seven furlongs during her racing career, collected the GII Forward Gal S. at Gulfstream and Monmouth's Just Smashing S. in the first half of her 3-year-old season before annexing the GII Gallant Bloom H. and GIII Sugar Swirl S. later in the year. She also finished runner-up in Saratoga's GI Test S. and the GI Prioress S. at Big Sandy. With four live foals to her credit, the most recent a Hard Spun colt produced last term, she was bred back to Horse of the Year and Classic winner Curlin this year.

**VERDICT:**

One thing is clear about Thousand Words--when he is on his game, he's tough to beat. While he might be knocked for never having recorded a victory at the highest level, he appeared to get the tightener he needed last time out in the Shared Belief while beating a legitimate rival in GI Runhappy Santa Anita Derby hero Honor A.P. Should he take another step forward off that effort, as Baffert believes he could, the colt should be in the thick of things coming down the stretch at Churchill Downs Saturday. --Christina Bossinakis

Thousand Words Video Highlights		
Date	Race	Finish
10/1/20	Shared Belief S.	1st
7/04/20	GIII Los Alamitos Derby	2nd
2/01/20	GIII Robert B. Lewis S.	1st
12/7/19	GII Los Alamitos Futurity	1st
10/26/19	Maiden Special Weight	1st



Thousand Words | Horsephotos



## #11 NECKER ISLAND 50-1

(c, **Hard Spun--Jenny's Rocket**, by Mr. Greeley) (\$250,000 Ylg '18 KEESEP)  
 O-Raymond Daniels, Wayne Scherr & Will Harbut Racing LLC | B-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC (KY)  
 | T-Chris Hartman | J-Miguel Mena. Lifetime Record: GSP, 10-2-0-3, \$199,730

**PROS:** This late addition to the Derby field, ostensibly named for an island in the British Virgin Islands owned by Sir Richard Branson, is one of just two of Saturday's entrants to have posted a victory beneath the Twin Spires (both he and South Bend have two wins each). Having made seven starts for Sagamore Farm and co-owner and trainer Stanley Hough, Necker Island has earned back about half of the money invested by these connections when claiming him for \$100,000 out of the June 13 Churchill allowance won by subsequent GSW Art Collector (Bernardini). The chestnut gave a good account of himself in graded company in his first start for this barn, finishing third to Shared Sense (Street Sense) in the GIII Indiana Derby July 8 ahead of a longshot third to Art Collector in the Runhappy Ellis Park Derby Aug. 1.

**CONS:** A consistent sort, Necker Island has topped out at 87 on the Beyer Speed Figure scale, which leaves him several lengths behind the chief protagonists in the Derby.

**PEDIGREE:** Sired by the 2007 Kentucky Derby runner-up, Necker Island is one of two in this year's race out of a daughter of Mr. Greeley, whose female family happens to include 2007 Derby winner Street Sense. Necker Island's second dam is a multiple stakes-placed half-sister to GI Frizette S. winner Adieu (by Mr. Greeley's son El Corredor) and was herself responsible for MSW Laurie's Rocket (Bluegrass Cat) and Jenny's Rocket's SW full-sister Greeley's Rocket. In addition to Adieu, Necker Island's third dam includes GSWs Direct Line (Tiznow) and Rapport (Songandaprayer) and SW Speak Wisely (Smart Strike).

**VERDICT:** Can't fault connections for taking a once-in-a-lifetime chance at Derby glory, but figures to be 'marooned' when all is said and done. --*Alan Carasso*

Necker Island's Video Highlights		
Date	Race	Finish
8/1/20	Runhappy Ellis Park Derby	3rd
7/8/20	GIII Indiana Derby	3rd
11/30/19	Allowance/Opt. Clm.	1st
9/29/19	Maiden	1st



Necker Island | Coady



## #12 SOLE VOLANTE 30-1

(g, *Karakontie* {Jpn}--*Light Blow*, by Kingmambo) | (\$6,000 yrl '18 KESEEP; \$20,000 2yo '19 OBSAPR)  
 O-Reeves Thoroughbred Racing & Andie Biancone | B-Flaxman Holdings Ltd (KY) | T-Patrick Biancone | J-Luca Panici.  
 Lifetime Record: GSW, 7-4-1-1, \$323,310

### PROS:

Sole Volante opened his career with a pair of wins over the turf, but the versatile gelding proved he could be a Derby contender with a win in the GIII Sam F. Davis S. in February and was second behind King Guillermo (Uncle Mo) in the Mar. 7 GII Lambholm South Tampa Bay Derby before COVID-19 sent the world spinning off its axis. Off for three months and aiming for a start in the GI Belmont S., connections opted to skip a work and instead enter him in an allowance just nine days before the Classic. It was hoped his gritty victory in the one-mile allowance at Gulfstream would set him up for the Belmont, but Sole Volante was a dull sixth June 20. Andie Biancone, co-owner and assistant trainer to her father Patrick, called the move a learning moment.

"During their 3-year-old seasons, these horses are still babyish and changing every day," Biancone said. "We took a chance going into the Belmont off a really short turnaround. But doing our research since then, he looks the best when he's had a long break."

A long break is what Sole Volante has had since the Belmont, while working over the turf at Palm Meadows. He had a pair of mile works in August before a five-furlong move in :57.80 (1/4) Aug. 28.

"Going into the Belmont, I walked him off the van and he was like a pony, he was very quiet," Biancone said. "[At Churchill], he dragged me off the van. He has just been very fresh and ready. He's never felt better. Just getting on him now, he's never felt this good."

### CONS:

Sole Volante's runner-up effort in the Tampa Bay Derby and sixth in the Belmont seems to put him below the top-tier Derby horses and his start-stop season is unlikely to have him ready for the biggest race of his life.

*Cont.*



# KARAKONTIE



SIRE OF KY DERBY CONTENDER

# SOLE VOLANTE

Good luck to owners Reeves Thoroughbred Racing & Andie Biancone and breeder Flaxman Holdings Limited.



GAINESWAY.COM + 859.293.2676

**PEDIGREE:**

Despite a graded stakes win over the main track, Sole Volante's pedigree screams turf. He is from the first crop of GI Breeders' Cup Mile winner Karakontie (Jpn) and his dam Light Blow earned her lone win in five starts came going 1 7/8 miles over the grass at Warwick. So, while his affinity for the dirt may be a surprise based on his pedigree, the Derby distance should be no problem.

Sole Volante's year older half-brother Explode (Trappe Shot) has also had graded success on the main track in the 2019 GIII Canadian Derby.

**VERDICT:**

Clearly a talented runner, Sole Volante may be just a cut below the top Derby runners on the main track. --*Jessica Martini*



Owner Dean Reeves (r) & trainer Patrick Biancone have both hit the board in the Derby, but have never won | *SV Photography*

**Sole Volante's Video Highlights**

Date	Race	Finish
6/20/20	GI Belmont S.	6th
6/10/20	GP Alw/Opt Clm	1st
3/7/20	GII Lambholm South Tampa Bay Derby	2nd
2/8/20	GIII Sam F. Davis S.	1st
1/4/20	Mucho Macho Man S.	3rd
11/30/19	Pulpit S.	1st
10/12/19	GPW Msw	1st



Sole Volante | *Ryan Thompson*



## #13 ATTACHMENT RATE 50-1

(c, **Hard Spun**--**Aristra**, by Afleet Alex) | (\$100,000 wnlg '17 KEENOV; \$200,000 yrl '18 KEESEP)  
 O-Jim Bakke and Gerald Isbister | B-Mr & Mrs C Oliveriselin III (KY) | T-Dale Romans | J-Joe Talamo.  
 Lifetime Record: GSP, 8-1-3-1, \$143,732

**PROS:**

Jockey Joe Talamo, in his first season riding on the Kentucky circuit, has been aboard Attachment Rate in his two most recent starts, finishing fifth behind Art Collector in the July 11 GII Toyota Blue Grass S. and second, 3 1/4 lengths adrift of that colt, in the Aug. 9 Runhappy Ellis Park Derby. The transplanted California rider thinks the colt is improving at the right time.

“His last two races, he has really moved forward from race to race,” Talamo said. “The first time I rode him in the Blue Grass, I thought he ran a pretty good race. It seemed like he wanted to go a little bit farther. Even in the Ellis Park Derby, he came up to Art Collector, but couldn’t quite stay with him down the lane, but galloping out I was really impressed. He still had a lot of energy after the wire, he wasn’t getting too tired. So I really think 1 1/4 mile is going to suit him well.”

**CONS:**

Attachment Rate has only one win in eight career starts. He seems to be often in the mix, hitting the board in three stakes to date, but has yet to look primed for a star turn all his own.

**PEDIGREE:**

Attachment Rate’s hard-knocking sire Hard Spun is a veteran of the 2007 Triple Crown, finishing second in the GI Kentucky Derby, third in the GI Preakness S. and fourth in the GI Belmont S. His damsire Afleet Alex was third in the 2005 Derby and famously avoided tragedy when clipping heels at the top of the stretch and going on to win the GI Preakness S. His dam Aristra is a half-sister to the dams of Grade I winners Hymn Book (Arch) and Data Link (War Front).

**VERDICT:**

A dependable sort, Attachment Rate will find his time to shine, but it likely won’t be on the First Saturday in September.

--Jessica Martini

**Attachment Rate’s Video Highlights**

Date	Race	Finish
7/11/20	<b>GII Toyota Blue Grass S.</b>	5th
5/23/20	<b>GIII Matt Winn S.</b>	4th
4/25/20	<b>Unbridled S.</b>	2nd
3/7/20	<b>GIII Gotham S.</b>	3rd
2/15/20	<b>GP Msw</b>	1st



Attachment Rate | Coady



## #14 WINNING IMPRESSION 50-1

(g, *Paynter*--Unbridled Sonya, by Unbridled's Song) | (\$17,000 KEESEP yrl '18; \$77,000 OBSAPR 2yo '19)  
 O-West Point Thoroughbreds & Pearl Racing | B-WinStar Farm (KY) | T-Dallas Stewart | J-Joseph Rocco, Jr.  
 Lifetime Record: 9-1-1-2, \$98,552

**PROS:** A last-minute Derby entrant, Winning Impression goes out for connections who have done well in recent Runs for the Roses. Co-owner West Point Thoroughbreds took home the trophy with Always Dreaming (Bodemeister) in 2017, while trainer Dallas Stewart has built a reputation for scoring with longshots in big races. He conditioned Golden Soul (Perfect Soul {Ire}) to a runner-up finish at 50-1 behind Orb (Malibu Moon) in 2013 and did the same with West Point's 37-1 Commanding Curve (Master Command) the following year. Winning Impression was one of the only horses to make up ground when fourth--later elevated to third via Charlatan (Speightstown)'s disqualification--in the GI Arkansas Derby and suffered wide trips in his last two races, both off-the-board finishes. Churchill is the gelding's home base, and he rattled off a :59 1/5 (2/36) five-furlong breeze here Aug. 28.

**CONS:** Simply put, Winning Impression is the slowest horse in the race on paper. His 82 career top Beyer is five points slower than the next-lowest top figure (Major Fed and Necker Island). While he ran respectably at Oaklawn, he was never a threat to the top three finishers and, wide trips or no, was beaten double digits when seventh in both the GIII Indiana Derby and Runhappy Ellis Park Derby. His late-running style doesn't seem conducive to success in a race that doesn't have a ton of early speed signed on.

**PEDIGREE:** Winning Impression is the first black-type performer under the first two dams in his pedigree. Second dam Barynya (Broad Brush) is a half-sister to 2002 GI Breeders' Cup Classic upsetter Volponi (Cryptoclearance).

**VERDICT:** Winning Impression has the right trainer for an unexpected on-the-board finish in the Derby, as Stewart has made people look silly for tossing his horses in the past. That being said, the gray is thus far way too slow to win and, unless he benefits from a total pace meltdown, is up against it to crack the top five finishers. --*Joe Bianca*



Winning Impression | Coady

Winning Impression's Video Highlights		
Date	Race	Finish
5/2/20	GI Arkansas Derby	3rd
4/4/20	Allowance/Optional Claiming	2nd
12/21/19	Maiden	1st



## #15 NY TRAFFIC 20-1

(c, Cross Traffic--**Mamie Reilly**, by Graeme Hall) | \$27,000 RNA 2yo '19 FTIMAY  
 O-John Fanelli, Cash is King LLC, LC Racing & Paul Braverman | B-Brian Culnan (NY) | T-Saffie A Joseph, Jr.  
 J-Paco Lopez. Lifetime Record: GISP, 9-2-3-2, \$565,470



Ny Traffic | Sarah Andrew

**PROS:** There's simply no quit in this front-running, over-achieving gray, who enters the Derby following a career-high 101 Beyer Speed Figure while coming up just a nose short in a

thrilling renewal of the GI TVG Haskell S. Ny Traffic continues to improve in all five of his starts at three since joining the up-and-coming Saffie Joseph, Jr. barn, including a game runner-up finish in the GII Twinspires.com Louisiana Derby going 1 3/16 miles. His resume also includes a very solid second-place finish, coming within a length of the highly regarded and unbeaten Maxfield (Street Sense) in the GIII Matt Winn S. His tactical speed is a very nice asset as well, especially in a full field of 20 for the Run for the Roses.

**CONS:** Ny Traffic has yet to get his picture taken versus stakes company and is winless in four attempts since his blowout optional claiming victory at Gulfstream Jan. 11. Was it more of Authentic (Into Mischief) growing leg-weary late that possibly made his Haskell late surge a bit better than it looked? He's done some wandering late in his races, not exactly what you want to see for a horse stretching to the Classic distance for the first time, either.

# TRAFFIC *on the* TRAIL

## NY TRAFFIC

*Breeder:* Brian Culnan  
*Owners:* John Fanelli, Cash is King, LC Racing & Paul Braverman  
*Trainer:* Saffie Joseph, Jr.

Best wishes in Kentucky Derby 146

**CROSS TRAFFIC**

 SPENDTHRIFT

# New York-breds *invade* Kentucky

2 of the **top 4** horses on the Road to the Kentucky Derby Leaderboard are **New York-breds**.

Good luck to  
**TIZ THE LAW (NY)** —□  
□— & **NY TRAFFIC (NY)**  
in the Kentucky Derby.

Look for your  
New York-bred yearling at:

Fasig-Tipton Selected  
Yearlings Showcase Sale  
Sept. 9 & 10

Keeneland September Sale  
Sept. 13 - 25

Owner: John Fanelli,  
Cash is King LLC, LC Racing,  
Paul Braverman, and Team Hanley  
Breeder: Brian Culnan  
Trainer: Saffie A. Joseph, Jr.  
Jockey: Paco Lopez

Owner: Sackatoga Stable  
Breeder: Twin Creeks Farm  
Trainer: Barclay Tagg  
Jockey: Manuel Franco



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**PEDIGREE:** Ny Traffic hails from the second crop of promising young sire Cross Traffic, who secured a career high in Saratoga's GI Whitney Invitational H. going 1 1/8 miles. Champion Jaywalk is one of his seven black-type winners. Ny Traffic's dam Mamie Reilly faced the starter only twice, concluding her career with an upset maiden claiming victory at 72-1 odds going six furlongs at Belmont Park at three. Ny Traffic is her first foal. Ny Traffic's third dam Quilma (Chi) (Semenenko), heroine of the 1990 G1 Polla de Potrancas-Chilean One Thousand Guineas, later added a trio of graded stakes scores in the States. Broodmare sire Graeme Hall has been represented by a trio of graded winners, led by MGISW millionaire Curalina.

**VERDICT:** How about a New York-bred exacta? While landing a top spot and outrunning fellow Empire-bred and most likely winner Tiz the Law (Constitution) is rather unlikely, another in-the-money finish at a very solid number is far from impossible for this ultra-game colt. --*Steve Sherack*



Funny Cide was the last NY-bred Derby winner | Sarah Andrew

**Ny Traffic's Video Highlights**

Date	Race	Finish
7/18/20	GI TVG Haskell S.	2nd
5/23/20	GIII Matt Winn S.	2nd
3/21/20	GII Twinspires.com Louisiana Derby	2nd
2/15/20	GII Risen Star S.	3rd
1/11/20	Allowance Optional Claiming-GP	1st



Ny Traffic training at Saratoga | Sarah Andrew



## #16 HONOR A. P. 5-1

(r, **Honor Code--Hollywood Story**, by Wild Rush) | (\$850,000 yrl '18 FTSAUG)  
 O-C R K Stable LLC | B-George Krikorian (KY) | T-John Shirreffs | J-Mike Smith.  
 Lifetime Record: GISW, 5-2-3-0, \$382,200

### PROS:

Honor A. P. has never been worse than second in his young career and will likely be second or third choice to Tiz the Law (Constitution) Saturday. Showing shades of his MGISW sire Honor Code, the \$850,000 FTSAUG purchase rallied strongly from last to be second in his six-panel unveiling at Del Mar last August. Wiring the field next out going a mile at Santa Anita in October, he was second to Authentic (Into Mischief) off the bench next out in the GII San Felipe S. Mar. 7, but got the better of that rival next out with a decisive score in the GI Runhappy Santa Anita Derby June 6. The dark bay was last seen coming up 3/4 of a length short of Thousand Words (Pioneerof the Nile) as the favorite in the 1 1/16-mile Shared Belief S. in SoCal last time Aug. 1. His conditioner John Shirreffs and pilot Mike Smith teamed up to take home the roses in 2005 with 50-1 shot Giacomo. His Hall of Fame rider has won six other Triple Crown races, including a clean sweep in 2018 aboard Justify.

### CONS:

Honor A. P. has yet to navigate 10 furlongs, but does not appear to be distance limited. While he did knock into his neighbor at the start of the Shared Belief, the ridgling really did not have an excuse when losing as the favorite in that four-horse affair. His two biggest rivals on the West Coast, Thousand Words and Authentic, have both beat him and he has yet to face the likes of race favorite Tiz the Law (Constitution).

### PEDIGREE:

Honor A. P. is from the initial crop of MGISW and 'TDN Rising Star' Honor Code and is that young stallion's first Grade I winner. Honor Code missed the Triple Crown during his sophomore season, but won two of the country's most elite races, the GI Met Mile and GI Whitney S. He concluded his career with a strong third behind Triple Crown hero American Pharoah (Pioneerof the Nile) in the GI Breeders' Cup Classic. Honor Code is a son of A.P. Indy, whose reputation and accomplishments speak for themselves. His dam Hollywood Story was a two-time Grade I winner, including the nine-panel Vanity H. She has been very successful as a broodmare, producing SW Miss Hollywood (Malibu Moon), MGSP Hollywood Star (Malibu Moon) and MSP Hoorayforhollywood (Storm Cat).

### VERDICT:

In a year of upsets, Honor A. P. probably has the best chance to pull one off beneath the Twin Spires and certainly has the right connections to do so. However, the handsome dark bay will have to take his game to a new level to get the better of Tiz the Law. --Christie DeBernardis

### Honor A. P.'s Video Highlights

Date	Race	Finish
8/1/20	<b>Shared Belief S.</b>	2nd
6/6/20	<b>GI Runhappy Santa Anita Derby</b>	1st
3/7/20	<b>GII San Felipe S.</b>	2nd



Honor A. P. | Coady



## #17 TIZ THE LAW 3-5

(c, Constitution--Tizfiz, by Tiznow) | (\$110,000 yrl '18 SARAUG)  
 O-Sackatoga Stable | B-Twin Creeks Farm (NY) | T-Barclay Tagg | J-Manny Franco.  
 Lifetime Record: MGISW, 7-6-0-1, \$2,015,300



Tiz the Law romping in the Travers | Sarah Andrew

### PROS:

Tiz the Law will be a deserving and overwhelming favorite come post time for Saturday's Run for the Roses. Opening his account last term with a pair of dominant victories, including the GI Champagne S., the native New Yorker suffered his first, and so far only, loss in a sloppy renewal of the GII Kentucky Jockey Club S. at Churchill Downs last November, after which connections opted to skip the Breeders' Cup to focus on this year's Triple Crown trail. Though the Road to the Derby was not what they--or anyone--expected this year, the four-month delay did not ruffle Tiz the Law one bit. The flashy bay is a perfect four-for-four this season, starting with a facile score in the GIII Holy Bull S. Feb. 1. Romping in the GI Curlin Florida Derby Mar. 28, he was ultra impressive when winning the June 20 GI Belmont S., which was shortened to 1 1/8 miles this year as the first leg of the Triple Crown. Tiz the Law was nothing short of sensational last time when stretching to 10 furlongs for the GI Runhappy Travers S. at Saratoga Aug. 8, cruising clear to an effortless 5 1/2-length victory and earning a field-topping 109 Beyer Speed Figure. Trainer Barclay Tagg and owner Sackatoga Stable have been here before, winning both the Derby and GI Preakness S. with fellow Empire-bred Funny Cide back in 2003.

### CONS:

There is really not much to knock about the divisional leader. As previously mentioned, his lone loss did come beneath the Twin Spires, albeit in the slop and with a less-than-ideal trip, but

with the forecast calling for sunny skies Friday and Saturday, he should get a fast track this time around. While the \$110,000 SARAUG purchase has taken down all challengers in the East, he has yet to face the best of the West, led by Grade I winners Authentic (Into Mischief) and Honor A. P. (Honor Code).

### PEDIGREE:

Tiz the Law is from the first-crop of hot young sire Constitution (Tapit), whose two top-level victories came going nine furlongs at Gulfstream in the 2014 Florida Derby and 2015 GI Donn H. He was forced off the Triple Crown trail with a hairline fracture. His best son has already proven himself at the Classic distance with a powerful win in the Travers. Tiz the Law's dam Tizfiz was also a graded winner at 1 1/8 miles, but she did her best running on the grass. However, her Horse of the Year sire Tiznow is a two-time GI Breeders' Cup Classic winner at the 10-furlong Derby distance.

### VERDICT:

This New York hero is all but guaranteed to lay down the law yet again--and take home the roses--Saturday. --C. DeBernardis

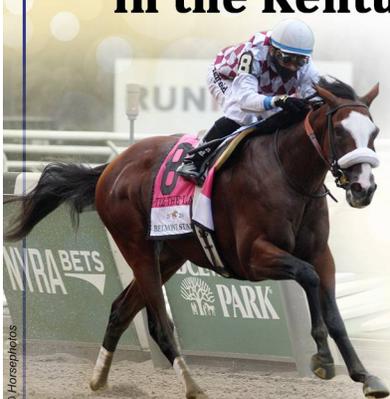
#### Tiz the Law's Video Highlights

Date	Race	Finish
8/8/20	GI Runhappy Travers S.	1st
6/20/20	GI Belmont S.	1st
3/28/20	GI Curlin Florida Derby	1st
2/1/20	GIII Holy Bull S.	1st

**Good Luck to**  
TIZ THE LAW  
**and all his connections  
 in the Kentucky Derby!**

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## #18 AUTHENTIC 8-1

(c, Into Mischief--**Flawless**, by Mr. Greeley) (\$350,000 Ylg '18 KESEP)  
 O-Spendthrift Farm LLC, MyRaceHorse Stable, Madaket Stables LLC & Starlight Racing | B-Peter E Blum Thoroughbreds LLC (KY) | T-Bob Baffert | J-John Velazquez. Lifetime Record: GISW, 5-4-1-0, \$1,011,200

**PROS:** Pound for pound, 'TDN Rising Star' Authentic has as much talent and raw ability as anyone in the Derby field, winning his maiden over 5 1/2 furlongs in fast time last November before posting an eye-catching 7 3/4-length victory when trying two turns for the first time in the GIII Sham S. at Santa Anita just after the turn of the calendar. He proved too strong for Honor A.P. (Honor Code) and champion Storm the Court (Court Vision) in the GII San Felipe S. Mar. 7, bossing them from the front, and while his stablemates Charlatan (Speightstown) and Nadal (Blame) were put on a plane for the GI Arkansas Derby, Authentic got to run out of his stall in the GI Runhappy Santa Anita Derby. He was no match for a fitter Honor A.P. that afternoon, but he made amends in the GI TVG.com Haskell S. July 18, gamely holding off a renewed bid from Ny Traffic (Cross Traffic).

**CONS:** A May 5 foal, Authentic has exhibited immature and unprofessional behavior in nearly all of his races, reducing an already small margin of error down to effectively zero. With the Sham already in safe keeping, he finished the final eighth of a mile like a drunken sailor, doing his best Picabo Street impression while well clear. He overcame a bobble at the break to best a ring-rusty Honor A.P. in the San Felipe and a tardy dispatch in the Santa Anita Derby meant he never saw the lead and was a sitting duck late. For the opening 7 1/2 furlongs of the Haskell, Authentic put together his best comprehensive performance, but he got to loafing in the final sixteenth of a mile and nearly paid for it. Even in his final breeze ahead of the Derby, rider Juan Ochoa had to yank his head to the right just after breaking off. He will need to be on his very best behavior to even be in the discussion Saturday.

**PEDIGREE:** By the outstanding Into Mischief and out of a mare by GI Breeders' Cup Sprint runner-up Mr. Greeley (Gone West), Authentic seems on paper to be better suited by shorter trips, not longer. The \$350,000 KESEP yearling is one of Into Mischief's two Grade I winners at nine furlongs, but he has yet to sire a graded winner of any variety going further and most of his 31 graded winners have accomplished the feat at a mile or under. Most of the black type in Authentic's family is under the third dam, but includes Seventh Street (Street Cry {Ire}), a dual GISW going two turns and her GII Demoiselle S.-winning daughter Lake Avenue (Tapit). Reynaldothewizard, a half-brother to Seventh Street, won the G1 Dubai Golden Shaheen at six furlongs.



Authentic ponied by assistant Jimmy Barnes & Sunny | Coady

**VERDICT:** Authentic is one of the trickier riddles in this year's Derby to solve. On the one hand, he has a high cruising speed and has shown he can mix it with the likes of Honor A.P., who figures the third choice in the Derby. On the other hand, he can ill afford a poor break or any loss of focus during the race. He is a bit of a question mark to stay the Derby trip on pedigree to boot. He will have his fair share of admirers this weekend and rightfully so, but there will be just as many willing to take a stand against a horse who could very well not represent value in the win pool relative to his chances. --Alan Carasso

### Authentic's Video Highlights

Date	Race	Finish
7/18/20	GI TVG.com Haskell S.	1st
6/7/20	GI Runhappy Santa Anita Derby	2nd
3/7/20	GII San Felipe S.	1st
1/4/20	GIII Sham S.	1st