CASH CONTROL DRAWS OUTSIDE POST, BIDS FOR SECOND CHURCHILL DOWNS STAKES VICTORY IN SATURDAY’S GRADE III CARDINAL HANDICAP

Grade I-placed Holy Boss, Three-Time Churchill Downs Stakes Winner Alsvid Top Bet On Sunshine

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (Thursday, Nov. 17, 2016) – Richard and Bertram Klein’s Cash Control, winner of the Old Forester Mint Julep Handicap (Grade III) on Churchill Downs Racetrack’s Matt Winn Turf Course in June, will seek her second stakes triumph over that surface when she breaks from an outside post against a dozen rivals beneath the Twin Spires in Saturday’s 43rd running of the $100,000 Cardinal Handicap (GIII).

The 1 1/8-mile turf test for fillies and mares ages 3 and up is scheduled as the 10th event on an 11-race program that opens with the first race at 1 p.m. (all times EDT). The Cardinal, which has a post time of 5:30 p.m., shares the Saturday spotlight with the ninth running of the $80,000-added Bet On Sunshine Overnight Stakes for 3-year-olds and up at six furlongs. The Bet on Sunshine will be run immediately prior to the Cardinal and has a scheduled post time of 5 p.m.

Cash Control, a 5-year-old homebred mare by Pioneerof the Nile, will bid to snap a losing streak that has climbed to three races since her triumph in the Mint Julep on June 11. The Brad Cox trainee finished second as the favorite in both the Indiana General Assembly Distaff at Indiana Grand and the Ladies Turf at Kentucky Downs before she ran sixth of 10 behind Photo Call (IRE) and reigning female turf champion Tepin in the Grade I First Lady at Keeneland. Earlier, Cash Control had finished third to Tepin in the Distaff-Turf Mile (GI) on Keeneland Derby Day at Churchill Downs.

If she is to win the Cardinal, Cash Control must overcome an outside post after she drew gate 12 in the field of 13 entered in Saturday’s race. Cash Control will seek her third win in nine 2016 starts and attempt to improve her career record that stands at 8-4-2 in 18 races with career earnings of $434,134.

Shaun Bridgmohan will ride Cash Control, who was assigned high weight of 119 pounds.

Other major contenders in the Cardinal Handicap are Bjorn E. Neilsen’s Real Smart, winner of the Robert G. Dick Memorial at Delaware Park in June for trainer Graham Motion; G. Watts Humphrey’s homebred Annulment, an easy off-the-turf allowance winner for trainer Victoria Oliver last time out at Keeneland who finished third in the Indiana General Assembly Distaff; and Elkhstone Group LLC’s 2015 Cardinal runner-up Lady Fog Horn, a Tony Granitz-trainee whose four wins in six races this year include stakes triumphs on turf and dirt at Indiana Grand. Lady Fog Horn finished second at odds of 20-1 to Button Down over yielding turf in last year’s renewal of the Cardinal in her only career outing at Churchill Downs.

Other notables in the competitive field for the Cardinal are Ken and Sarah Ramsey’s Kitten’s Roar, a Mike Maker-trained daughter of Kitten’s Joy who brings back-to-back allowance wins on grass at Kentucky Downs and Keeneland into Saturday’s race; Kendel Standlee’s The Tea Cups, winner of Belmont Park’s Mount Vernon for trainer Jeremiah Englehart; Dixiana Farm’s Belle De Nuit (ARG), a Mark Casse-trained winner of two allowance races in her last three outings at Canada’s Woodbine; and Lisa Lex’s Lots O’ Lex, winner of Kentucky Downs’ One Dreamer.

The field for the Cardinal Handicap, from the inside out, with (jockey and assigned weight): Real Smart (Chris Landeros, 118), Annulment (Corey Lanerie, 116), Complete St. (Joe Rocco Jr., 116), Lady Fog Horn (Albin Jimenez, 117), Kitten’s Roar (Jon Court, 119), The Tea Cups (Jesus Castanon, 114), Belle De Nuit (ARG) (Abel Lezcano, 115), Christie’s Ready (Didiel Osorio, 114), Heath (Joe Johnson, 115), Salama (Brian Hernandez Jr., 114), Lots O’ Lex (Eduardo Perez, 117), Cash Control (Bridgmohan, 119) and Bitty Kitty (Declan Cannon, 115).
Jerry Durant’s Holy Boss, runner-up to A.P. Indian as the favorite in Saratoga’s Grade I Alfred G. Vanderbilt, and Black Hawk Stable’s Alsvid, a two-time stakes winner at Churchill Downs with career earnings of more than $1.3 million, head a strong field of nine older sprinters that will contest the Bet On Sunshine Overnight Stakes.

Holy Boss, a Steve Asmussen-trained son of Street Boss, finished fourth to champion Runhappy in the 2015 Breeders’ Cup Sprint (GI) at Keeneland before he embarked on a 2016 campaign that has included strong performances against top competition, but has yet to yield a win. His strong runner-up effort in the Vanderbilt was sandwiched between good runs at Belmont Park behind multiple stakes winner Joking in the True North (GII), where he finished third, and the Vosburgh Invitational (GI), in which he ran fourth.

Although he is winless in five races in 2016, Holy Boss has a career slate of 5-2-3 in 16 races with earnings of $649,890. Shaun Bridgmohan is scheduled to ride Holy Boss, who will break from post four and will carry 120 pounds.

Alsvid’s last two victories were back-to-back wins over the main track at Churchill Downs in the Aristides (GIII) in June – his second consecutive victory in that six-furlong sprint for older horses – and the Kelly’s Landing Overnight Stakes in July.

Since those triumphs at Churchill Downs, the 7-year-old gelding by Officer has run well against top competition, but has not managed to win. He finished third to Lord Nelson in the Bing Crosby (GI) at Del Mar and fourth to A.P. Indian in the Stoll Keenon Ogden Phoenix Stakes (GI) at Keeneland.

Trained by Chris Hartman, Alsvid has a career record of 15-11-8 in 45 starts with total earnings of $1,323,118. He has a 3-0-1 record in four outings at Churchill Downs and 11 of his 15 victories have come at the Bet On Sunshine’s six-furlong distance.

Jockey Declan Cannon will be in the saddle aboard Alsvid, who will carry high weight of 124 pounds.

Other contenders in the Bet On Sunshine include Six Column Stables LLC, Randall Bloch, John Seiler and David Hall’s Island Town, the Ian Wilkes-trained winner of Churchill Downs’ Matt Winn (GIII) in 2015, and Homewrecker Racing and Pike Place Racing’s Schivarelli, the Eddie Kenneally-trained runner-up to Alsvid in the Kelly’s Landing who finished third in September’s Ack Ack (GIII) at Churchill Downs to the 3-year-old Tom’s Ready. Schivarelli also was runner-up to Viva Majorca in the 2015 Kelly’s Landing.

The field for the Bet On Sunshine from the rail out with jockey and assigned weight: W.B. Smudge (Corey Lanerie, 122); Seventh Sense (TUR) (Jon Court, 118); Recount (Chris Landeros, 118); Holy Boss (Bridgmohan, 120); Lewys Vaporizer (Didiel Osorio, 120); Alsvid (Cannon, 124); Den’s Legacy (Jack Gilligan, 120), Schivarelli (Joe Rocco Jr., 120), and Island Town (Brian Hernandez Jr., 120).

Churchill Downs, the world’s most legendary racetrack, has conducted Thoroughbred racing and presented America’s greatest race, the Kentucky Derby, continuously since 1875. Located in Louisville, the flagship racetrack of Churchill Downs Incorporated (NASDAQ: CHDN) offers year-round simulcast wagering at the historic track. Churchill Downs will conduct the 143rd running of the Kentucky Derby Presented by Yum! Brands on May 6, 2017. The track’s Fall Meet is scheduled for Oct. 30-Nov. 27. Churchill Downs has hosted the Breeders’ Cup World Championships eight times and the event will return to the track in 2018. Information is available at www.ChurchillDowns.com.