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LANERIE CLINCHES SEPTEMBER MEET JOCKEY TITLE

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (Sunday, Oct. 1, 2017) – Leading into the final day of racing for the 11-day September Meet, perennial top rider Corey Lanerie has already clinched the meet-leading jockey title for the 14th time in the last 16 meets at Churchill Downs.

“It’s always special to win races at Churchill Downs,” Lanerie said. “We’ve had a great meet and have to thank the owners and trainers for letting me ride their horses.”

With one day of racing remaining, Lanerie (22 wins) has surpassed his own record (19) for the most wins in the September Meet.

Since 2012, Lanerie has dominated the Churchill Downs jockey colony, winning 564 races. This meet, for the first time in more than a year, Lanerie guided a horse greater than 20-1 odds to victory at Churchill Downs (Sept. 28, Fightingjoewheeler). Of Lanerie’s 564 winners since 2012, only seven have been odds of 20-1 or higher (1.3%) and just 33 have been odds of 10-1 or higher (5.9%).

“That’s a good thing,” Lanerie joked. “That means my agent is putting me on favorites.”

Among the highlights of Lanerie’s September Meet was a stakes double on Sept. 30 aboard Honorable Duty in the $200,000 Lukas Classic (Grade III) and Awesome Slew in the $100,000 Ack Ack (GIII).

Lanerie began Sunday tied with Jim McKnight for sixth in all-time wins at Churchill Downs (883) and was 31 victories behind fifth-place Larry Melancon (914).

The leading owner and trainer titles will be decided Sunday at Churchill Downs. There is a tie atop the trainer standings between Brad Cox and Kenny McPeek with seven victories. Cox does not have any entries but McPeek has four horses entered in Races 5, 6, 9, and 10. Trainer Mike Maker is two wins behind in second and has entries in Races 2 and 8. Ian Wilkes has three victories so far this meet but can tie for leading trainer with four entries in Races 5, 6, 9, and 10. Churchill Downs’ all-time leading owners Ken and Sarah Ramsey (5 wins) have clinched at least a share of the owner’s title with five wins. They currently hold a one-win lead over Fern City Stables. Ramsey has one entry in Race 2 while Fern City Stables has one in Race 9.

Sunday is Family Adventure Day Presented by Kroger at Churchill Downs. The first post for the 10-race card is 12:45 p.m. (all times Eastern) Among the highlights on closing day of the September Meet is a mandatory payout in the 20-cent Single 6 Jackpot with a nine-day carryover of $78,527. The Single 6 kicks off in Race 5 with a scheduled post time of 2:45 p.m.

Racing resumes beneath the historic Twin Spires at Churchill Downs on Oct. 29 for the 21-day Fall Meet.

TOMLINSON SCORES 500-CAREER VICTORIES SATURDAY AT CHURCHILL DOWNS – Oklahoma-native Mike Tomlinson scored his 500th career victory Saturday when Curlins Vow won the sixth race.

“It was an honor to get this victory at our home-base of Churchill Downs,” Tomlinson said. “It’s a demanding job doing this seven days a week but good horses is what we all do it for. I have the privilege of having a great team behind me and great owners that have my back through it all.”

Curlin’s Vow scored a narrow-victory in the first-level allowance race under jockey Jon Court and returned $7, $4, and $2.80.

Tomlinson began training Thoroughbred horses in 1991 after previously training on the rodeo circuit in Oklahoma. Among Tomlinson’s top horses are Grade II winners Kettleoneup, Sir Cherokee and Grade III winner Barbados.

A former collegiate baseball player, Tomlinson now lives in Shelbyville, Ky. with wife Vicki, who is Churchill Downs’ Horsemen’s Liaison.

ROMANS VS. MOTT – With one day of racing remaining in the September Meet, trainer Dale Romans has one opportunity to tie Bill Mott for the all-time leading trainer at Churchill Downs, trailing 701-700 wins. He has Tizpure in Race 10. Mott does not have any horses entered.

DOWN THE STRETCH – The 50/50 charitable gaming raffle closes Sunday and the prize drawing will take place before Race 6. Proceeds from the raffle will go towards charitable organizations that benefit from the Churchill Downs Incorporated Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation that helps support the critical work of nonprofits in our industry, make a difference in important public health programs and provide meaningful opportunities in art and education. Visit www.derbygives.com to purchase tickets. … There are 28 days until the start of the Fall Meet at Churchill Downs and 216 days until Kentucky Derby 144.