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SHEDARESTHEDEVIL CAPS BIG DAY FOR COX, GEROUX

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (Saturday, Sept. 5, 2020) – It was a thrilling Friday for the team of **Brad Cox** and **Florent Geroux** as the duo teamed up for their second Longines Kentucky Oaks (Grade I) victory in the last three years with **Qatar Racing**, **Flurry Racing** and **Big Aut Farm’s Shedaresthedevil**.

“It was such an unbelievable day,” Cox said. “This filly has a ton of heart and Flo gave her the perfect ride.”

Cox had an eerily similar morning Saturday as he did in 2018 following **Monomoy Girl’s** Kentucky Oaks victory. The Louisville native continued his regular routine with 10 of his horses recording published workouts.

“It’s the life of a trainer,” Cox said. “Horses like Monomoy Girl and Shedaresthedevil make this job all worth it.”

SWISS SKYDIVER – Trainer **Kenny McPeek** reported that “all is good” with **Peter J. Callahan’s** Kentucky Oaks runner up **Swiss Skydiver** despite exiting the race with a few cuts on a front ankle. Next race plans are “undecided” for the multiple stakes winner as of Saturday morning, according to McPeek.

Following the race, the trainer made a case for bringing the stallion **Daredevil**, who was sold to Turkey late last year, back to the U.S., noting he sired both Swiss Skydiver and the Oaks winner **Shedaresthedevil**.

“They need to get him back here,” McPeek said. “He’s a good stallion.”

GAMINE – Hall of Fame trainer **Bob Baffert** reported that **Michael Lund Petersen’s** **Gamine** “looked great” and was in good order the morning after finishing third as the favorite in the 146th edition of the Longines Kentucky Oaks.

Gamine set the pace in the 1 1/8-miles Oaks before being collared in the stretch by winner **Shedaresthedevil** and runner-up **Swiss Skydiver**. The loss marked the first time the daughter of Into Mischief had been beaten on the square in her five career starts as her only prior blemish was a loss via disqualification for a medication overage at Oaklawn Park.

SPEECH – **Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners**, **Madaket Stables** and **Heider Family Stables’** **Speech** is scheduled to return to her Southern California base Monday morning according to trainer Michael McCarthy.

“She had a tough trip all the way around,” McCarthy said of Speech, who finished fourth. “She got bumped at the break by **Gamine** and hit at the 7 ½ pole by **Donna Veloce** and checked by Donna Veloce at the six-furlong pole. She never got a chance to run her race.”

TEMPERS RISING – **Mark and Nancy Stanley’s** **Temper’s Rising** was back in **Dallas Stewart’s** Barn 34 Saturday morning and doing well following her fifth-place effort in Friday’s Kentucky Oaks.

“I thought she ran a great race,” Stewart said.

BAYERNESS – **Belladonna Racing’s** **Bayerness** was back at Trackside Louisville – Churchill Downs’ training facility – Saturday morning. Her next race plans are still to be announced.

HOPEFUL GROWTH – Trainer **Anthony Margotta** reported via text message that his **St. Elias Stable’s** Monmouth Oaks (GIII) winner **Hopeful Growth**, sixth in the Oaks, came out of the race in good shape and would be leaving to go back to her Monmouth Park base at 5 p.m. Saturday.

DONNA VELOCE – **Kaleem Shah**, **Mrs. John Magnier**, **Michael Tabor** and **Derrick Smith’s** **Donna Veloce** is scheduled to return to her Southern California base Monday morning following a disappointing run in Friday’s Kentucky Oaks.

“She came back good,” said **Carlos Santamaria**, assistant to trainer **Simon Callaghan**. “We will try to get her as good as we can for the Breeders’ Cup.

Making her first start in six months, Donna Veloce “had a lot of problems” in the race Santamaria said.

“Out of the gate, the five (**Gamine**) came in and hit the four (**Speech**) and she hit us,” Santamaria said. “She dropped the bit and ran off going into the first turn. He (jockey **Ricardo Santana Jr.**) took her to the outside to get her settled and going down the backside he could feel the field pushing him further outside. He ended up being wide all the way around.”

DREAM MARIE – **Miracle’s International Trading Inc.’s Dream Marie** was scheduled to leave Churchill Downs Saturday morning following her ninth-place finish in the Oaks.

“She came out of the race OK,” trainer **Matthew Williams** said of Dream Marie, who trailed the field throughout. “We were hoping for a better result, but it was still a great experience.”

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