



THE DERBY DISPATCH

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ROAD TO KENTUCKY DERBY CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES HEADS TO TAMPA BAY DOWNS

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (Thursday, March 10, 2022) – The Road to the Kentucky Derby Championship Series will make its final stop at Tampa Bay Downs on Saturday where **Kentucky West Racing** and **Clarke Cooper's** two-time winner **Classic Causeway** tops a field of 12 3-year-olds that entered the 42nd running of the \$400,000 Tampa Bay Derby (Grade II).

The 1 1/16-mile Tampa Bay Derby will go as Race 11 of 12 with a post time of 5:23 p.m. (all times Eastern). Tampa Bay Downs' first post is 12:15 p.m. The Tampa Bay Derby will award 85 points, split between the top 4 finishers on a 50-20-10-5 scale, toward the \$3 million Kentucky Derby presented by Woodford Reserve (GI).

Classic Causeway, who won the \$250,000 Sam F. Davis (GII) in his last start at Tampa, drew post No. 4 for Saturday's affair. Trained by **Brian Lynch**, Classic Causeway began his career with a debut win on Sept. 4 at Saratoga. The chestnut colt, who is by the late Giant's Causeway, finished third as the 9-5 favorite in the \$500,000 Breeders' Futurity (GI) at Keeneland. In his next start, Classic Causeway was second-best to **Smile Happy** in the \$400,000 Kentucky Jockey Club (GII) at Churchill Downs. **Irad Ortiz Jr.**, who rode Classic Causeway in the Sam F. Davis, will have the return call.

"We've been fortunate to not miss a beat with him," Lynch said. "He has had two strong workouts (since the Sam F. Davis) and he's on schedule to go back to a track he really liked.

"He came out of the (Sam F. Davis) very well, he's carrying good weight and he has great energy so we're counting our blessings. He seemed to really like the racetrack so we thought the smart thing was to take him back over there and have a crack at the Tampa Bay Derby."

Other top contenders that entered the Tampa Bay Derby include **WinStar Farm** and **Siena Farm's** \$300,000 Iroquois Stakes (GIII) winner **Major General**; **Iris Smith Stable's** Sam F. Davis runner-up **Shipsational**; **West Point Thoroughbreds** and **Albaugh Family Stable's** \$2 million Breeders' Cup Juvenile (GI) third-place finisher **Giant Game**; and **Klaravich Stable's** impressive debut winner **Money Supply**.

Here's the complete field for the Tampa Bay Derby from the rail out (with jockey and trainer): **Grantham** (Samy Camacho, Mike Maker); **Trademark** (Danny Centeno, Vicki Oliver); **Happy Boy Rocket** (Junior Alvarado, Bill Mott); Classic Causeway (Irad Ortiz Jr., Lynch); Giant Game (Joe Talamo, Dale Romans); **Golden Glider** (Antonio Gallardo, Mark Casse); **Strike Hard** (Luis Saez, Matt Williams); Major General (Javier Castellano, Todd Pletcher); Shipsational (Manny Franco, Ed Barker); **Belgrade** (Hector Diaz Jr., Graham Motion); Money Supply (Jose Ortiz, Chad Brown); and **Spin Wheel** (Jesus Castanon, Rusty Arnold II).

Fans can bet the Tampa Bay Derby on www.TwinSpires.com, the official wagering provider of the Kentucky Derby and Churchill Downs Incorporated.

Fans can watch the Tampa Bay Derby program on TVG.

FORBIDDEN KINGDOM MADE OVERALL 5-1 FAVORITE IN POOL 4 OF KENTUCKY DERBY FUTURE WAGER; ECHO ZULU 4-1 CHOICE IN OAKS FUTURE WAGER – The fourth of five pools for the Kentucky Derby Future Wager ("KDFW") is set for its three-day stand Friday-Sunday with **MyRacehorse** and **Spendthrift Farm's** recent \$400,000 San Felipe (Grade II) winner **Forbidden Kingdom** tabbed by veteran morning line oddsmaker **Mike Battaglia** as the 5-1 favorite in the field of 24 betting interests.

Pool 4 of the KDFW will run concurrently with the lone pool of the Kentucky Oaks Future Wager ("KOFW"). In addition to Win and Exacta betting, an Oaks/Derby Future Double is part of the wagering menu. The wagers will open Friday at noon (all times Eastern) and the KDFW will close Sunday at 6 p.m. while the KOFW will close 30 minutes later at 6:30 p.m. Betting on the KDFW and KOFW is available at simulcast centers around the country and ADW's such as www.TwinSpires.com, the official platform for the Kentucky Derby and Churchill Downs Incorporated.

In the Kentucky Oaks Future Wager, **L and N Racing** and **Winchell Thoroughbreds**' brilliant filly **Echo Zulu** was made the 4-1 favorite in the field of 24 betting interests.

The speedy Forbidden Kingdom, trained by Hall of Famer **Richard Mandella**, was the even-money favorite in last Saturday's San Felipe where he dominated six rivals by 5 ¾ lengths. The San Felipe, which serves as the local prep to the \$1 million Santa Anita Derby (GI) on April 9, was the first time Forbidden Kingdom was tested around two turns.

Other top individual betting interests in Pool 4 of the KDFW appear to be **Winchell Thoroughbreds**' \$400,000 Risen Star (GII) winner **Epicenter** (8-1); **Tami Bobo**'s 3 ½-length winner of the \$400,000 Fountain of Youth (GII) **Simplification** (12-1); and **Lucky Seven Stable**'s \$400,000 Kentucky Jockey Club (GII) hero **Smile Happy** (6-1), who closed as the 8-1 individual favorite in the first three pools of the KDFW.

Overall, there are eight new interests in Pool 4: **Whisper Hill Farm**'s 8 ½-length maiden winner **Charge It** (30-1); **Gold Square**'s flashy allowance winner **Cyberknife** (50-1); **Aaron Sones**' Rebel (GII) runner-up **Ethereal Road** (50-1); **Diamond T Racing**, **Blue Lion Thoroughbreds** and **Craig Taylor**'s \$300,000 Gotham (GIII) winner **Morello** (10-1); **Sumaya U.S. Stable**'s Risen Star fourth-place finisher **Pioneer of Medina** (30-1); **Iris Smith Stable**'s \$250,000 Sam F. Davis (GIII) runner-up **Shipsational** (50-1); **Cypress Creek Equine**'s \$400,000 Rebel winner **Un Ojo** (50-1); and **Barry** and **Joni Butzow**'s undefeated **Zozos** (50-1).

Here's the complete Kentucky Derby Future Wager Pool 4 field (with trainer and morning line odds): #1 **Barber Road** (John Ortiz, 50-1); #2 **Call Me Midnight** (Keith Desormeaux, 50-1); #3 **Charge It** (Todd Pletcher, 30-1); #4 **Classic Causeway** (Brian Lynch, 15-1); #5 **Cyberknife** (Brad Cox, 50-1); #6 **Early Voting** (Chad Brown, 30-1); #7 **Emmanuel** (Pletcher, 15-1); #8 **Epicenter** (Steve Asmussen, 8-1); #9 **Ethereal Road** (D. Wayne Lukas, 50-1); #10 **Forbidden Kingdom** (Mandella, 5-1); #11 **In Due Time** (Kelly Breen, 30-1); #12 **Major General** (Pletcher, 50-1); #13 **Mo Donegal** (Pletcher, 12-1); #14 **Morello** (Asmussen, 10-1); #15 **Pioneer of Medina** (Pletcher, 30-1); #16 **Rattle N Roll** (Kenny McPeck, 20-1); #17 **Shipsational** (Ed Barker, 50-1); #18 **Simplification** (Antonio Sano, 12-1); #19 **Smile Happy** (McPeck, 6-1); #20 **Un Ojo** (Ricky Courville, 50-1); #21 **White Abarrio** (Saffie Joseph Jr., 15-1); #22 **Zandon** (Brown, 12-1); #23 **Zozos** (Cox, 50-1); and #24 "All Other 3-Year-Olds" (6-1).

In the KOFW, **Echo Zulu**, trained by **Steve Asmussen**, is undefeated through four starts including a dominating 5 ¼-length victory in the \$2 million Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies (GI). The daughter of Gun Runner has been steadily training toward her 3-year-old debut at Fair Grounds.

Another filly that is expected to garner betting interest is **Briland Farm**'s \$300,000 Honeybee (GIII) winner **Secret Oath** (6-1). Trained by Hall of Famer **D. Wayne Lukas**, **Secret Oath** has won her last three starts by a combined 23 lengths.

Here's the field for the KOFW (with trainer and morning line odds): #1 **A Mo Reay** (Todd Pletcher, 30-1); #2 **Ain't Easy** (Phil D'Amato, 20-1); #3 **Awake At Midnyte** (Doug O'Neill, 20-1); #4 **Bernabreezy** (Matt Shirer, 50-1); #5 **Bubble Rock** (Brad Cox, 30-1); #6 **Classy Edition** (Pletcher, 15-1); #7 **Echo Zulu** (Asmussen, 4-1); #8 **Fannie and Freddie** (Al Stall Jr., 30-1); #9 **Favor** (Pletcher, 20-1); #10 **Goddess of Fire** (Pletcher, 20-1); #11 **Hidden Connection** (Bret Calhoun, 50-1); #12 **Ice Orchid** (John Ortiz, 50-1); #13 **Juju's Map** (Cox, 10-1); #14 **Kathleen O.** (Shug McGaughey, 8-1); #15 **Nest** (Pletcher, 8-1); #16 **Nostalgic** (Bill Mott, 20-1); #17 **Sandstone** (Kenny McPeck, 15-1); #18 **Secret Oath** (Lukas, 6-1); #19 **Shahama** (Pletcher, 30-1); #20 **Turnerloose** (Cox, 15-1); #21 **Venti Valentine** (Jorge Abreu, 15-1); #22 **Veterans Highway** (Rusty Arnold, 50-1); #23 **Yuugiri** (Rodolphe Brisset, 50-1); and #24 "All Other 3-Year-Old Fillies" (10-1).

The Kentucky Derby and Kentucky Oaks Future Wagers provide fans of Thoroughbred racing with opportunities to place bets on possible entrants in the \$3 million Kentucky Derby presented by Woodford Reserve (GI) and \$1.25 million Longines Kentucky Oaks (GI) at odds that could be far greater and more attractive than those available on the day of the race. The 148th running of Kentucky Derby, America's greatest race and the first leg of the Triple Crown, is set for Saturday, May 7 at Churchill Downs. The Longines Kentucky Oaks will run one day earlier on Friday, May 6.

There are no refunds in the Kentucky Derby or Oaks Future Wager. Should Churchill Downs officials determine during the duration of this week's four-day pool that one of the wagering interests has experienced an injury, illness or other circumstance that would prevent the horse from participating in the Kentucky Derby or Oaks, betting on the individual horse will be suspended immediately.

More information, Brisnet.com past performances and real-time odds on the Kentucky Derby Future Wager will be available before the pool opens Friday online at <https://www.kentuckyderby.com/wager/future-wager>.

Different from the first four pools of the KDFW, the fifth and final Pool 5 will run Thursday, March 31 and end prior to the first Road to the Kentucky Derby Championship Series race on Saturday, April 2.

OTHER 3-YEAR-OLD RACES TO WATCH – Repole Stable and **St. Elias Stable**'s \$500,000 Champagne Stakes (GI) runner-up and \$2 million Breeders' Cup Juvenile (GI) fourth-place finisher **Commandperformance** will attempt to garner his first lifetime victory in a maiden special weight contest Saturday at Tampa Bay Downs. Trained by Hall of Famer **Todd Pletcher**, **Commandperformance** drew the outside post 8 with **Irad Ortiz Jr.** in the saddle. The gray son of Union Rags will add blinkers for this start, which is slated as Race 5 at 2:13 p.m. ET.

Another 3-year-old race Saturday that could have implications to the Road to the Kentucky Derby is Race 4 at Oaklawn where **WinStar Farm**, **CMNWLTH** and **Siena Farm**'s eye-catching 5 ¾-length debut winner **We the People** will test allowance company. The field of six will head to post at 3:33 p.m. ET

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Here is a calendar of other 3-year-old races to watch this week:

Thursday

- 3:05 p.m. ET, GP 5, Mdn 60k, 3&up f, 7 F
- 4:05 p.m. ET, FG 5, Mdn 52k, 3yo f, 1 1/16 miles
- 4:37 p.m. ET, GP 8, OC 75000n1x, 3yo f, 7 F
- 8:14 p.m. ET, TP 5, Mdn 62k, 3yo f, 6 F
- 9:46 p.m. ET, TP 8, Mdn 62k, 3yo f, 6 F

Friday

- 3:23 p.m. ET, LRL 7, Mdn 50k, 3yo, 1 M
- 5:00 p.m. ET, SA 4, Mdn 67k, 3yo f, 1 M
- 5:05 p.m. ET, FG 7, Mdn 52k, 3yo and up, 6 F
- 8:14 p.m. ET, TP 5, Mdn 62k, 3yo f, 1 M (AW)

Saturday

- 1:20 p.m. ET, AQU 1, Mdn 80k, 3yo f, 6 ½ F
- 2:13 p.m. ET, TAM 5, Mdn 40k, 3yo, 1 M 40 Y
- 2:44 p.m. ET, TAM 6, Mdn 40k, 3yo f, 6 F
- 3:01 p.m. ET, GP 6, Mdn 60k, 3yo, 7 ½ F (I)
- 3:33 p.m. ET, OP 4, OC 80000n1x, 3yo, 1 1/16 M
- 4:20 p.m. ET, TAM 9, \$200,000 Florida Oaks (GIII), 3yo f, 1 1/16 M (T)
- 4:38 p.m. ET, GP 9, Mdn 60k, 3yo, 6 F
- 4:51 p.m. ET, TAM 10, \$75,000 Columbia Stakes, 3yo, 1 M (I)
- 5:23 p.m. ET, TAM 11, \$400,000 Tampa Bay Derby (GII), 3yo, 1 1/16 M
- 5:33 p.m. ET, FG 7, OC 50000n1x, 3yo, 6 F
- 5:55 p.m. ET, TAM 12, Mdn 35k, 3yo f, 1 M (I)
- 9:16 p.m. ET, TP 7, OC 50000n1x, 3yo, 1 M (AW)
- 9:46 p.m. ET TP 8, Mdn 62k, 3yo, 1 M (AW)

FORBIDDEN KINGDOM, MORELLO, SIMPLIFICATION ADD 50 POINTS TO TOTAL FOLLOWING CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES VICTORIES – Last Saturday's quartet of races on the Road to the Kentucky Derby saw promising 3-year-olds **Forbidden Kingdom** (San Felipe), **Morello** (Gotham) and **Simplification** (Fountain of Youth) add to their point total toward qualifying for the \$3 million Kentucky Derby presented by Woodford Reserve (Grade I).

Magdalena Racing's Tiz the Bomb, the hard-fought winner of the \$125,000 John Battaglia Memorial, added 10 points in the closing race of the 21-race Prep Season.

The speedy Forbidden Kingdom, trained by **Richard Mandella** and owned in partnership by **MyRacehorse** and **Spendthrift Farm**, cruised to a 5 ¼-length score in the \$400,000 San Felipe (GII) at Santa Anita. Earlier in the day, **Diamond T Racing**, **Blue Lion Thoroughbreds** and **Craig Taylor's** Morello remained undefeated with a victory in the \$300,000 Gotham (GII). Also, **Tami Bobo's** Simplification was able to avenge his runner-up finish in last month's \$250,000 Holy Bull (GIII) and drew clear late for a 3 ½-length win in the \$400,000 Fountain of Youth (GII).

Here are the Top 20 horses on the Road to the Kentucky Derby leaderboard:

<u>Horse</u>	<u>Trainer</u>	<u>Resume</u>	<u>Possible Next Start</u>	<u>Points</u>
Epicenter	Steve Asmussen	1 st – Risen Star 1 st – Gun Runner 2 nd – Lecomte	March 26: Louisiana Derby	64
Un Ojo	Ricky Courville	1 st – Rebel 2 nd – Withers	April 2: Arkansas Derby	54
Simplification	Antonio Sano	1 st – Fountain of Youth 2 nd – Holy Bull	April 2: Florida Derby	54
Forbidden Kingdom	Richard Mandella	1 st – San Felipe	April 9: Santa Anita Derby	50
Morello	Steve Asmussen	1 st – Gotham	April 9: Wood Memorial	50
Smile Happy	Kenny McPeck	1 st – Ky Jockey Club 2 nd – Risen Star	April 2: Florida Derby or April 9: Blue Grass	30
Ethereal Road	D. Wayne Lukas	2 nd – Rebel	April 2: Arkansas Derby	20
In Due Time	Kelly Breen	2 nd – Fountain of Youth	April 2: Florida Derby	20
Dean's List	Todd Pletcher	2 nd – Gotham	April 9: Wood Memorial	20
Barber Road	John Ortiz	2 nd – Smarty Jones 2 nd – Southwest 3 rd – Rebel	April 2: Arkansas Derby	18
Classic Causeway	Brian Lynch	1 st – Sam F. Davis 2 nd – Ky Jockey Club 3 rd – Breeders' Futurity	March 12: Tampa Bay Derby	16
Pappacap	Mark Casse	2 nd – Breeders' Cup Juvenile 2 nd – American Pharoah 3 rd – Lecomte	April 2: Florida Derby	14
Zandon	Chad Brown	2 nd – Remsen 3 rd – Risen Star	April 9: Blue Grass	14
White Abarrio	Saffie Joseph Jr.	1 st – Holy Bull 3 rd – Ky Jockey Club	April 2: Florida Derby	12
Mo Donegal	Todd Pletcher	1 st – Remsen 3 rd – Holy Bull	April 9: Wood Memorial	12
Tiz the Bomb	Kenny McPeck	1 st – John Battaglia Memorial	April 2: Jeff Ruby Steaks	10
Rattle N Roll	Kenny McPeck	1 st – Breeders' Futurity	March 26: Louisiana Derby	10
Slow Down Andy	Doug O'Neill	1 st – Los Al Futurity	TBA	10
Major General	Todd Pletcher	1 st – Iroquois	March 12: Tampa Bay Derby	10
Dash Attack	Kenny McPeck	1 st – Smarty Jones	TBA	10

DOWN THE STRETCH:

Trainer **Todd Pletcher** leads all conditioners with five victories in the Tampa Bay Derby: **Limehouse** (2004), **Verrazano** (2013), **Carpe Diem** (2015), **Destin** (2016), **Tapwrit** (2017). He's represented in this year's race by undefeated colt **Major General**. ...

Just two horses have run in the Tampa Bay Derby and went on to win the Kentucky Derby (GI): **Street Sense** (2007) and **Super Saver** (2010). Since the Tampa Bay Derby was instituted in 1982, it has produced 43 Kentucky Derby starters. ...

Since the Road to the Kentucky Derby Championship Series began in 2013, horses that have run in the Risen Star have the best average finish in the Kentucky Derby of 7.6. It's followed by the Louisiana Derby (8.2), Santa Anita Derby (8.5), Fountain of Youth (8.6), San Felipe (8.9), Florida Derby (9.9), Blue Grass (9.9), Rebel (10.3), Arkansas Derby (10.6), Tampa Bay Derby (10.8), Wood Memorial (11.6), UAE Derby (12.7), Jeff Ruby Steaks (13), Sunland Derby (13) and Gotham (13.3). (Note: the stat excludes the Lexington Stakes and additional races added in 2020 when the Kentucky Derby was moved to September). ...

TwinSpires.com Louisiana Derby (GII) contender **Epicenter** continued to work toward the 1 3/16-mile race with a swift five-furlong move in :59.60 Monday at Fair Grounds. He galloped out six furlongs in 1:13. ...

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New York-bred **Shipsational** will attempt to become only the third horse out of the Empire State to win the Tampa Bay Derby. The lone two winners were **Big Truck** (2009) and **Champagneforashley** (1990). ...

Only two Tampa Bay Derby (GII) winners in the last 10 years broke their maiden in their previous start: **Tacitus** (2019) and **Ring Weekend** (2014). Recent maiden winners **Happy Boy Rocket** and **Money Supply** will attempt to accomplish that feat Saturday. ...

The last four winners of the Tampa Bay Derby were making their first start of their 3-year-old campaign: **Helium** (2021), **King Guillermo** (2020), **Tacitus** (2019) and **Quip** (2018). Only one horse in this year's Tampa Bay Derby field could add his name to that record and that's **Major General**, who makes his first start since winning the \$300,000 Iroquois (GIII) in September at Churchill Downs.

UPCOMING ROAD TO KENTUCKY DERBY CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES RACES

March 26 (six weeks out) – \$1 million Louisiana Derby (GII), 1 3/16 miles, Fair Grounds (Top 4 points: 100-40-20-10)

Known possible starters (with trainer): Call Me Midnight (Keith Desormeaux), *Cyberknife* (Brad Cox), Epicenter (Steve Asmussen), Pioneer of Medina (Todd Pletcher), Rattle N Roll (Kenny McPeck); and *Zozos* (Brad Cox)

March 26 (six weeks out) -- \$1 million UAE Derby (GII), 1 3/16 miles, Meydan Racecourse (Top 4 points: 100-40-20-10)

Known possible starters (with trainer): Gilded Age (Bill Mott); Pinehurst (Bob Baffert); and Sekifu (JPN) (Koshiro Take)

March 27 (six weeks out) – \$500,000 Sunland Derby (GIII), 1 1/8 miles, Sunland Park (Top 4 points: 50-20-10-5)

April 2 (five weeks out) – \$1.25 million Arkansas Derby (GI), 1 1/8 miles, Oaklawn Park (Top 4 points: 100-40-20-10)

Known possible starters (with trainer): Barber Road (John Ortiz); Call Me Jamal (Michael Puhich), Ethereal Road (D. Wayne Lukas), *Great Escape* (Rodolphe Brisset); Secret Oath (Wayne Lukas); Un Ojo (Ricky Courville); and *Zozos* (Brad Cox)

April 2 (five weeks out) – \$1 million Florida Derby (GI), 1 1/8 miles, Gulfstream Park (Top 4 points: 100-40-20-10)

Known possible starters (with trainer): Pappacap (Mark Casse); *Smile Happy* (Kenny McPeck); and White Abarrio (Saffie Joseph Jr.)

April 2 (five weeks out) – \$600,000 Jeff Ruby Steaks (GIII), 1 1/8 miles (Tapeta), Turfway Park (Top 4 points: 100-40-20-10)

Known possible starters (with trainer): *Slow Down Andy* (Doug O'Neill); Stolen Base (Brad Cox); and Tiz the Bomb (Kenny McPeck)

April 9 (four weeks out) – \$1 million Blue Grass (GI), 1 1/8 miles, Keeneland (Top 4 points: 100-40-20-10)

Known possible starters (with trainer): *Cyberknife* (Brad Cox); *Great Escape* (Rodolphe Brisset); *Slow Down Andy* (Doug O'Neill); *Smile Happy* (Kenny McPeck); and Zandon (Chad Brown).

April 9 (four weeks out) – \$750,000 Santa Anita Derby (GI), 1 1/8 miles, Santa Anita (Top 4 points: 100-40-20-10)

Known possible starters (with trainer): Forbidden Kingdom (Richard Mandella) and Messier (Bob Baffert)

April 9 (four weeks out) – \$750,000 Wood Memorial (GII), 1 1/8 miles, Aqueduct (Top 4 points: 100-40-20-10)

Known possible starters (with trainer): Dean's List (Todd Pletcher); Early Voting (Chad Brown); Morello (Steve Asmussen); and Mo Donegal (Todd Pletcher)

April 16 (three weeks out) – \$400,000 Lexington (GIII), 1 1/16 miles, Keeneland (Top 4 points: 20-8-4-2)

Note: The possible fields for upcoming Kentucky Derby Championship Series races are fluid as owners and trainers vie for points. Known possible horses mentioned to be under consideration for each race are based on published news reports and other sources. Horses listed in *italics* are possible for multiple races.

ABOUT CHURCHILL DOWNS RACETRACK

Churchill Downs Racetrack ("CDRT"), the world's most legendary racetrack, has been the home of The Kentucky Derby, the longest continually held annual sporting event in the United States, since 1875. Located in Louisville, CDRT features a series of themed race days during Derby Week, including the Kentucky Oaks, and conducts Thoroughbred horse racing during three race meets in the Spring, September, and the Fall. CDRT is located on 175 acres and has a one-mile dirt track, a 7/8-mile turf track, a stabling area, and provides seating for approximately 60,000 guests. The saddling paddock and the stable area has barns sufficient to accommodate 1,400 horses and a 114-room dormitory for backstretch personnel. CDRT also has a year-round simulcast wagering facility.

www.ChurchillDowns.com.

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