

THE DERBY DISPATCH

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ROAD TO THE KENTUCKY DERBY HEATS UP WITH QUARTET OF RACES SATURDAY

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (Thursday, March 3, 2022) – With eight weeks remaining until the first Saturday in May, several top 3-year-olds are beginning to emerge in their quest for a spot in the starting gate for the Grade I, \$3 million Kentucky Derby presented by Woodford Reserve on Saturday, May 7.

On Saturday, a quartet of Road to the Kentucky Derby qualifiers will be held throughout the country including three stops in the Championship Series. The action is headlined by the \$400,000 Fountain of Youth (GII) at Gulfstream Park, which features an ultracompetitive cast of 12 colts and geldings. Remsen (GII) winner **Mo Donegal** was installed as the 3-1 morning line favorite but will scratch from the race due to a low grade fever, according to trainer **Todd Pletcher**. Mucho Macho Man Stakes winner **Simplification** is now the 7-2 early choice. More than 2,700 miles away at Santa Anita Park, highly-regarded San Vicente (GII) winner **Forbidden Kingdom** tops the \$400,000 San Felipe (GII) as the 8-5 favorite. On the East Coast at Aqueduct, undefeated Jimmy Winkfield Stakes winner **Morello** is the 3-1 favorite in the \$300,000 Gotham (GIII).

All three races will award eligible horses with points on a 50-20-10-5 scale to the top four finishers.

Additionally, the final Prep Season race, the \$125,000 John Battaglia Memorial, will be run at Turfway Park as a local prep for the \$600,000 Jeff Ruby Steaks (GIII) on April 2. The 1 1/16-mile race, which will award the Top 4 finishers points on a 10-4-2-1 scale, is topped by Grade II winner and Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf (GI) runner-up **Tiz the Bomb**.

Fans can bet all four races Saturday on <u>www.TwinSpires.com</u>, the official wagering provider of the Kentucky Derby and Churchill Downs Inc.

The San Felipe Stakes and Fountain of Youth will be broadcast on CNBC from 4-6 p.m. The racing action also will be shown on "America's Day at the Races" from 4:30-7 p.m. on Fox Sports 2 and on TVG.

MORNING LINE FAVORITE MO DONEGAL TO SCRATCH FROM FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH; FULL FIELD OF 12 EXPECTED – Hall of Fame trainer **Todd Pletcher** reported Wednesday that **Donegal Racing**'s \$250,000 Remsen (Grade II) winner **Mo Donegal**, who was made the early 3-1 favorite in Saturday's \$400,000 Fountain of Youth (GII), will scratch from the 1 1/16-mile race due to a low-grade fever.

Nevertheless, the Fountain of Youth, which will offer the Top 4 finishers points on a 50-20-10-5 scale toward the \$3 million Kentucky Derby presented by Woodford Reserve (GI), is loaded with potential talent.

Even with the scratch of Mo Donegal, Pletcher still appears to have a live shot at winning his record-breaking fourth Fountain of Youth with **WinStar Farm** and **Siena Farm**'s undefeated colt **Emmanuel**. Now the second choice at odds of 9-2 on the morning line, Emmanuel dominated both of his starts by a combined 11 ¹/₄ lengths. The son of the former-Pletcher trained More Than Ready, Emmanuel will be united with Gulfstream Park's leading rider **Luis Saez** from post No. 8. Seven years ago, Saez and Pletcher teamed to win the Fountain of Youth with **Itsaknockout**. Pletcher also sports victories in the race with **Scat Daddy** (2007) and **Eskendereya** (2010).

Also entered in the field is **Rattle N Roll**, who is slated to make his 3-year-old bow after winning the \$500,000 Breeders' Futurity (GI) at Keeneland last October. Trained by **Kenny McPeek** and owned by the Louisville-based partnership **Lucky Seven Stable**, Rattle N Roll's four-race career has been etched in drama. In his second start at Saratoga, the Connect colt was pulled up in the far turn after McPeek said a rock possibly hit Rattle N Roll and caused him to bolt from the field. Rattle N Roll returned four weeks later and dominated a field of nine rivals at Churchill Downs in a maiden special weight contest. In the Breeders' Futurity, Rattle N Roll cruised to a 4 ¹/₄-length score at odds of 8-1. The chestnut colt was targeting a start in the \$400,000 Kentucky Jockey Club (GII) in late November but spiked a temperature and received time off. Rattle N Roll has been working steadily at Gulfstream Park for the Fountain of Youth, including a swift :58.60 move last Saturday outside of stablemate **Creative Minister**. Jockey **Brian Hernandez Jr.** will ship from Fair Grounds to ride from post 6.

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Other top contenders in the Fountain of Youth include \$150,000 Mucho Macho Man winner and Holy Bull (GIII) runner-up Simplification; \$200,000 Street Sense winner Howling Time; \$200,000 Saratoga Special (GII) winner High Oak; \$125,000 Pasco winner Markhamian; and recent allowance winners In Due Time and A.P.'s Secret.

The Fountain of Youth field is rounded out by \$2 million Breeders' Cup Juvenile (GI) third-place finisher Giant Game, \$100,000 Swale Stakes (GIII) runner-up Dean Delivers and \$150,000 Limehouse stakes third-place runner O Captain.

Galt, who finished fourth in the Holy Bull, was the lone also-eligible entrant but will draw into the field with the scratch of Mo Donegal.

Here's the complete field for the Fountain of Youth from the rail out (with jockey, trainer and morning line odds): Markhamian (Marcos Meneses, Juan Avila, 20-1); Simplification (Jose Ortiz, Antonio Sano, 7-2); Howling Time (Joe Talamo, Dale Romans, 15-1); In Due Time (Paco Lopez, Kelly Breen, 6-1); Dean Delivers (Miguel Vasquez, Michael Yates, 15-1); Rattle N Roll (Brian Hernandez Jr., Kenny McPeek, 12-1); A.P.'s Secret (Tyler Gaffalione, Saffie Joseph Jr., 20-1); Emmanuel (Luis Saez, Todd Pletcher, 9-2); High Oak (Junior Alvarado, Bill Mott, 8-1); Giant Game (Corey Lanerie, Dale Romans, 15-1); O Captain (Javier Castellano, Gustavo Delgado, 30-1); and Mo Donegal (Irad Ortiz Jr., Todd Pletcher, 3-1). Also eligible: Galt (Joel Rosario, Bill Mott, 12-1).

Fans can bet on the Fountain of Youth at <u>www.TwinSpires.com</u>, the official wagering provider of Churchill Downs Inc.

SAN VICENTE WINNER FORBIDDEN KINGDOM TOPS SAN FELIPE – MyRacehorse and **Spendthrift Farm**'s \$200,000 San Vicente (Grade II) winner **Forbidden Kingdom** is poised to make his first start around two turns in Saturday's \$400,000 San Felipe (GII) at Santa Anita.

Run at 1 1/16 miles, the San Felipe features a compact field of seven colts. A maximum 85 points will be awarded to the Top 4 finishers in a 50-20-10-5 scale. Armagnac and **Doppelganger** are ineligible to garner points in the San Felipe because they are trained by **Bob Baffert**, who is suspended from competing in the 2022 Kentucky Derby by Churchill Downs Incorporated. The San Felipe will go as Race 5 at approximately 5:30 p.m. ET.

The speedy Forbidden Kingdom, trained by **Richard Mandella**, cruised to a front-running score in the Jan. 29 San Vicente, which was run at seven furlongs.

"He's as quick as they come," said 71-year-old Mandella, who was inducted into racing's Hall of Fame in 2001.

Mandella has won more than 2,200 races in his career but has yet to win the Kentucky Derby (GI). Mandella's former trainee **Omaha Beach** was the 4-1 favorite in the 2019 Kentucky Derby but had to be scratched three days prior to the race after his team discovered the colt had an entrapped epiglottis.

For many horses based in California, the San Felipe is the local prep to the \$1 million Santa Anita Derby (GI) that will be staged on Saturday, April 9.

Here's the complete field for the San Felipe from the rail out (with jockey, trainer and morning line odds): **Happy Jack** (Abel Cedillo, Doug O'Neill, 8-1); **Worse Read Sanchez** (Mario Guitierrez, O'Neill, 20-1); Armagnac (John Velazquez, Baffert, 5-1); **Beautiful Art** (Mike Smith, Simon Callaghan, 12-1); Doppelganger (Flavian Prat, Baffert, 9-5); Forbidden Kingdom (Juan Hernandez, Mandella, 8-5); and **Cabo Spirit** (Victor Espinoza, George Papaprodromou, 5-1).

Worse Read Sanchez and Beautiful Art are not currently nominated to the Triple Crown. To become eligible, their connections could pay a \$6,000 late nomination fee by Monday, March 28.

Fans can bet on the San Felipe at <u>www.TwinSpires.com</u>, the official wagering provider of Churchill Downs Inc.

UNDEFEATED MORELLO LEADS FIELD OF 10 IN GOTHAM – **Blue Lion Thoroughbreds** and **Craig and Victoria Taylor**'s undefeated \$150,000 Jimmy Winkfield winner **Morello** tops a cast of 10 3-year-olds that were entered in Saturday's \$300,000 Gotham (Grade III) at Aqueduct.

The one-mile Gotham will go as the finale on Aqueduct's 10-race card with a post time of 5:27 p.m. ET. Fans can wager on the Gotham at <u>www.TwinSpires.com</u>, the official wagering provider of Churchill Downs Inc.

Nine of the 10 horses that entered the Gotham are eligible to gain a possible 85 points toward a spot in the starting gate in the \$3 million Kentucky Derby presented by Woodford Reserve (GI). Eligible horses within the Top 4 will receive points on a 50-20-10-5 scale. **Rockefeller** is currently ineligible to gain points because his trainer **Bob Baffert** is suspended by Churchill Downs Incorporated from competing in the 2022 Kentucky Derby.

Morello, trained by **Steve Asmussen**, cruised to a five-length win last out in the Jimmy Winkfield, the local prep to the Gotham. The son of Classic Empire broke his maiden at Aqueduct by 4 ¹/₄ lengths in late November. Morello and jockey **Jose Lezcano** will break from post No. 9.

The Gotham field also features **WinStar Farm** and **Siena Farm**'s undefeated **Dean's List**, who ships in from Gulfstream Park for trainer **Todd Pletcher** and Blue Lion Thoroughbreds, Craig Taylor, **Peter Rinato** and **Ray Handal**'s speedy maiden winner **Fromanothamutha**, who enters the Gotham with the highest last race Brisnet Speed Figure of 105.

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Here's the complete field for the Gotham from the rail out (with jockey, trainer and morning line odds): **Runninsonofagun** (Jalon Samuel, John Toscano Jr., 30-1); **Glider** (Antonio Gallardo, Mark Casse, 8-1); **Golden Code** (Kendrick Carmouche, Todd Pletcher, 12-1); Fromanothamutha (Dylan Davis, Handal, 601); Dean's List (Manny Franco, Pletcher, 7-2); Life Is Great (Eric Cancel, Bob Klesaris, 15-1); **Noneedtoworry** (Silvestre Gonzalez, Herold Whylie, 30-1); **Bold Journey** (Jorge Vargas Jr., Bill Mott, 6-1); Morello (Lezcano, Asmussen, 3-1); and Rockefeller (Trevor McCarthy, Baffert, 4-1).

GRADE II WINNER TIZ THE BOMB HEADLINES SATURDAY'S \$125,000 JOHN BATTAGLIA MEMORIAL – **Magdalena Racing**'s \$200,000 Bourbon Stakes (Grade II) winner **Tiz the Bomb** led an oversubscribed field of 14 3-year-old colts and geldings that were entered in Saturday's \$125,000 John Battaglia Memorial at Turfway Park.

The John Battaglia Memorial, run at 1 1/16 miles over the Tapeta surface, is the local prep toward the April 2, \$600,000 Jeff Ruby Steaks (GIII) – the premiere race of the Turfway Park Winter Meet. The Battaglia will go as Race 5 of 8 at 8:14 p.m. ET.

Trained by **Kenny McPeek**, Tiz the Bomb will make his first start on the Tapeta surface following an enigmatic seventh-place effort four weeks ago in the \$250,000 Holy Bull (GIII) run on dirt at Gulfstream Park. Previously, the son of Hit It a Bomb reeled off two wins and a runner-up effort on turf. Along with his victory in the Bourbon, Tiz the Bomb held on for a three-quarters of a length score in the \$500,000 Kentucky Downs Juvenile Mile before his runner-up effort to **Modern Games** in the \$1 million Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf (GI). The three-time winner will be ridden by **Alex Achard** from post No. 10.

Chief among Tiz the Bomb's rivals in the Battaglia is \$100,000 Leonatus Stakes winner **Erase**. Owned by **Robert LaPenta** and **Madaket Stables** and trained by **Brad Cox**, Erase has been based throughout the winter at Turfway. The son of Dialed In led every step of the way in the Jan. 22 Leonatus, the local prep to the Battaglia Memorial. Jockey **Ry Eikleberry** was named to ride Erase for the first time from post 8.

Here's the John Battaglia Memorial field: **Goldeneye** (Albin Jiminez, Bill Morey, 20-1); **Rich Strike** (Sonny Leon, Eric Reed, 20-1); **La Belleza Negra** (Edgar Morales, Rey Hernandez, 15-1); **Stolen Base** (Gerardo Corrales, Mike Maker, 7-2); **On Thin Ice** (Chris Landeros, Mark Casse, 15-1); **Legendary Lore** (Rafael Bejarano, Morey, 15-1); **Droppin G's** (Malcom Franklin, Jerry Antonuik, 30-1); Erase (Eikleberry, Cox, 5-1); **O P Firecracker** (Manny Esquivel, Robert Medina, 12-1); Tiz the Bomb (Achard, McPeek, 5-2); **Bloodline** (Marcelino Pedroza Jr., Cox, 7-2); and **Grael** (Adam Beschizza, Brendan Walsh, 20-1). Also eligible: **Amicable** (Tiago Canuto, Charlie Livers, 30-1) and **Winter Son** (Gabe Lagunes, Jimmy Chapman, 30-1).

Goldeneye, La Belleza Negra, Legendary Lore, Droppin G's, O P Firecracker, Grael, Amicable and Winter Son were not nominated to the Triple Crown. To become eligible, their connections could pay a \$6,000 late nomination fee by Monday, March 28.

Fans can bet the John Battaglia Memorial on <u>www.TwinSpires.com</u>, the official wagering provider of Churchill Downs Inc.

The John Battaglia Memorial is named after Turfway Park's former General Manager and late father of Churchill Downs longtime oddsmaker Mike Battaglia.

OTHER 3-YEAR-OLD RACES TO WATCH – Throughout the weekend there are several 3-year-old contests that could have implications to the Road to the Kentucky Derby (GI) and Kentucky Oaks (GI).

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

Friday

• 3:00 p.m. ET, Dundalk 7, Patton Stakes (Listed), 3yo, 1 M (AW)

Saturday

- 12:40 p.m. ET, GP 2, Mdn 60k, 3yo f, 7 F
- 1:20 p.m. ET, Aqu 2, Mdn 80k, 3yo, 1 M
- 1:40 p.m. ET, GP 4, Mdn 60k, 3yo, 7 F
- 2:40 p.m. ET, GP 6, \$200,000 Davona Dale (GII), 3yo f, 1 M
- 3:10 p.m. ET, GP 7, \$125,000 Palm Beach, 3yo, 1 M (T)
- 3:28 p.m. ET, SA 2, Mdn 67k, 3yo, 6 F
- 4:35 p.m. ET, FG 6, \$75,000 Black Gold, 3yo, 1 1/16 M (T)
- 4:57 p.m. ET, Aqu 9, \$250,000 Busher Invitational, 3yo f, 1 M
- 5:27 p.m. ET, Aqu 10, \$300,000 Gotham (GIII), 3yo, 1 M
- 5:30 p.m. ET, SA 6, \$400,000 San Felipe (GII), 3yo, 1 1/16 M
- 5:42 p.m. ET, GP 12, \$400,000 Fountain of Youth (GII), 3yo, 1 1/16 M
- 6:00 p.m. ET, SA 7, Mdn 67k, 3yo, 1 M (T)
- 6:12 p.m. ET, GP 13, \$125,000 Herecomesthebride (GIII), 3yo f, 1 M (T)
- 6:40 p.m. ET, OP 10, Mdn 84k, 3yo f, 1 1/16 M
- 8:14 p.m. ET, TP 5, \$125,000 John Battaglia Memorial, 3yo, 1 1/16 M (AW)
- 8:46 p.m. ET, TP 6, \$125,000 Cincinnati Trophy, 3yo f, 1 M (AW)
- 9:16 p.m. ET, TP 7, OC 50000n1x, 3yo f, 6 F (AW)

UPSET REBEL WINNER UN OJO VALUTS TO NO. 2 ON ROAD TO DERBY LEADERBOARD WITH 54 POINTS -

Following Saturday's \$1 million Rebel (Grade II) at Oaklawn, **Un Ojo** boosted his Road to the Kentucky Derby points total to 54 with his 75-1 upset win.

Owned by **Kevin Moody**'s **Cypress Creek Equine** and trained by **Ricky Courville**, Un Ojo shocked bettors in the Rebel with his rail-skimming rally over the muddy surface at Oaklawn.

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

| <u>Horse</u> | <u>Trainer</u> | <u>Resume</u> | Possible Next Start | Points |
|--------------------|-------------------|--|----------------------------|--------|
| Epicenter | Steve Asmussen | 1 st – Risen Star | March 26: Louisiana Derby | 64 |
| | | 1 st – Gun Runner | | |
| | | 2 nd – Lecomte | | |
| Un Ojo | Ricky Courville | 1 st – Rebel | April 2: Arkansas Derby | 54 |
| | | 2 nd - Withers | - | |
| Smile Happy | Kenny McPeek | 1 st – Ky Jockey Club | March 26: Louisiana Derby | 30 |
| | | 2 nd – Risen Star | or April 9: Blue Grass | |
| Ethereal Road | D. Wayne Lukas | 2 nd – Rebel | April 2: Arkansas Derby | 20 |
| Barber Road | John Ortiz | 2 nd – Smarty Jones | April 2: Arkansas Derby | 18 |
| | - | 2 nd – Southwest | | |
| | | 3 rd – Rebel | | |
| Classic Causeway | Brian Lynch | 1 st – Sam F. Davis | March 12: Tampa Bay Derby | 16 |
| | | 2 nd – Ky Jockey Club | | |
| | | 3 rd – Breeders' Futurity | | |
| Раррасар | Mark Casse | 2 nd – Breeders' Cup Juvenile | TBA | 14 |
| | | 2 nd – American Pharoah | | |
| | | 3 rd – Lecomte | | |
| Zandon | Chad Brown | 2 nd – Remsen | April 9: Blue Grass | 14 |
| | | 3 rd – Risen Star | | |
| White Abarrio | Saffie Joseph Jr. | 1 st – Holy Bull | April 2: Florida Derby | 12 |
| | | 3 rd – Ky Jockey Club | | |
| Mo Donegal | Todd Pletcher | 1 st – Remsen | April 9: Wood Memorial | 12 |
| | | 3 rd – Holy Bull | | |
| Rattle N Roll | Kenny McPeek | 1 st – Breeders' Futurity | March 5: Fountain of Youth | 10 |
| Make It Big | Saffie Joseph Jr. | 1 st – Springboard Mile | TBA | 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 McPeek | 1 st – Smarty Jones | TBA | 10 |
| Early Voting | Chad Brown | 1 st – Withers | April 9: Wood Memorial | 10 |
| Call Me Midnight | Keith Desormeaux | 1 st – Lecomte | March 26: Louisiana Derby | 10 |
| Courvoisier | Kelly Breen | 1 st – Jerome | TBA | 10 |
| Kavod | Chris Hartman | 4 th – Smarty Jones | TBA | 7 |
| | | 4 th – Southwest | | |
| | | 4 th – Rebel | | |
| Commandperformance | Todd Pletcher | 2 nd – Champagne | TBA | 6 |
| | | 4th – Breeders' Cup Juvenile | | |

EUROPEAN ROAD TO KENTUCKY DERBY UPDATE – Godolphin's Blue Trail, who was well-backed at even-money, won Wednesday's \$81,000 Road to the Kentucky Derby Condition Stakes at Kempton. The **Charlie Appleby** trainee was not made eligible during the early phase of Triple Crown nominations but can pay a \$6,000 late fee to gain eligibility by Monday, March 28.

The next stop on the European Road to Kentucky Derby is Friday at Dundalk for the one-mile Patton Stakes featuring Triple Crown nominee Absolute Ruler. Post time is 3 p.m. ET.

The series will close March 31 at Chelmsford for the Cardinal Condition Stakes.

For more information on the European Road to the Kentucky Derby, visit <u>www.KentuckyDerby.com</u>.

DOWN THE STRETCH – Trainer **Ricky Courville**'s son and assistant **Clay** reported Rebel Stakes winner **Un Ojo** returned to Copper Crowne Training Center in Opelousas, La. where he'll train until the \$1.25 million Arkansas Derby (GI) on April 2. Un Ojo, which translates in Spanish to "one eye," lost his left eye in a pasture accident as a yearling. Clay, who saddled Un Ojo for his father, also gallops the New York-bred gelded son of Laoban. ...

Honeybee Stakes (GIII) winner **Secret Oath**'s plans are still not set in stone. Owner **Rob Mitchell** declined to comment following the Honeybee whether Secret Oath would face the males in the Arkansas Derby. Secret Oath's Hall of Fame trainer **D. Wayne Lukas** said, "That filly ran so much faster than the colts, too, and she was on cruise control and they're under a drive. I don't know what we're going to do." Should Lukas keep Secret Oath against fillies, her next start could come in the \$600,000 Fantasy Stakes (GIII), which is run on the same day as the Arkansas Derby on April 2. …

Trainer Michael Puhich reported allowance winner Call Me Jamal will likely target the Arkansas Derby following his 2 ¹/₄-length victory Saturday. "We're still Derby dreaming," Puhich said, as he stood alongside former NFL coach Mike Tice in the Oaklawn winner's circle. "We're not out of it yet." ...

Lecomte (GIII) winner **Call Me Midnight** returned to the Fair Grounds work tab with an easy half-mile in :51.20 Saturday. The Midnight Lute colt worked twice following his 28-1 upset in the Jan. 22 Lecomte but received a week off, according to trainer **Keith Desormeaux**. ...

Trainer **Rodolphe Brisset** reported 5 ³/₄-length debut winner **We the People** would target a mid-March allowance race as his next start. The son of Constitution, owned in partnership with **WinStar Farm**, **CMNWLTH** and **Siena Farm**, worked a half-mile in :48.40 Saturday at Oaklawn and galloped out five furlongs in 1:00.80. We the People could target a race on the Road to the Kentucky Derby depending on his next race result. ...

One of the top horses that's missing from Saturday's Fountain of Youth (GII) is \$250,000 Holy Bull (GIII) winner **White Abarrio**. His connections chose to skip the race in favor of the \$1 million Florida Derby (GI) on April 2. The Race Day colt returned to the work tab Sunday with a swift three-furlong move in :36.22 for trainer **Saffie Joseph Jr**. "I don't think extra distance is going to be a problem for him. He galloped out great (in the Holy Bull)," jockey **Tyler Gaffalione** said. ...

Forward Gal (GIII) winner **Girl With a Dream**, trained by **Brad Cox** and a winner of her last three races, heads the \$200,000 Davona Dale (GII) at Gulfstream, the first of three Road to the Kentucky Oaks races on Saturday. Here's the field from the rail out (with jockey, trainer and morning line odds): **Kathleen O** (Javier Castellano, Shug McGaughey, 9-2); **Classy Edition** (Irad Ortiz Jr., Todd Pletcher, 7-2); Girl With a Dream (Luis Saez, Brad Cox, 3-1); **Outfoxed** (Tyler Gaffalione, Bill Mott, 5-1); **Sweet Dani Girl** (Jose Ortiz, Carlo Vaccarezza, 4-1); **Cocktail Moments** (Corey Lanerie, Kenny McPeek, 5-1) and **Mi Negrita** (Junior Alvarado, Armando De La Cerda, 20-1)...

Forward Gal (GIII) runner-up **Radio Days** and Busanda winner **Magic Circle** heads a field of six 3-year-old fillies that were entered in Saturday's \$250,000 Busher Invitational at Aqueduct. Here's the field from the rail out (with jockey and trainer): **Shotgun Hottie** (Eric Cancel, Bill Morey, 12-1); **Sterling Silver** (Trevor McCarthy, Tom Albertrani, 6-1); **Morning Matcha** (Frankie Pennington, Butch Reid Jr., 5-1); **Venti Valentine** (Manny Franco, Jorge Abreu, 7-2); Magic Circle (Kendrick Carmouche, Rudy Rodriguez, 3-1); and Radio Days (Dylan Davis, Shug McGaughey III, 7-5). ...

Undefeated filly **Marissa's Lady** tops Saturday night's \$125,000 Cincinnati Trophy Stakes at Turfway Park, a Prep Season event on the Road to the Kentucky Oaks. The Top 4 finishers will be awarded a total of 17 points. The race will go at 8:42 p.m. ET as Race 6 of 8. Here's the field from the rail out (with jockey, trainer and morning line odds): **Valentina Day** (Gerardo Corrales, Ben Colebrook, 10-1); **Bhoma** (Alex Achard, Kenny McPeek, 5-1); **Zawish** (Edgar Morales, Helen Pitts-Blasi, 30-1); **Hal's Dream** (Santiago Gonzalez, McPeek, 20-1); Marissa's Lady (Rafael Bejarano, Bill Morey, 1-1); **Queen Judith** (Chris Landeros, Mark Casse, 12-1); **Glacken's Cause** (Malcom Franklin, Pat Huffman, 30-1); **Tap Dancing Lady** (Albin Jiminez, Ron Kahles, 6-1); and **Bubble Rock** (Marcelino Pedroza Jr., Brad Cox, 7-2). ...

Next Friday-Sunday is the penultimate Kentucky Derby Future Wager Pool which will coincide with the lone Future Wager for the Longines Kentucky Oaks. The fields will be released Tuesday.

UPCOMING ROAD TO KENTUCKY DERBY CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES RACES

March 12 (eight weeks out) – \$400,000 Tampa Bay Derby (GII), 1 1/16 miles, Tampa Bay Downs (Top 4 points: 50-20-10-5) Known possible starters (with trainer): Belgrade (Graham Motion); Classic Causeway (Brian Lynch); Major General (Todd Pletcher); and Shipsational (Ed Barker).

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), *Smile Happy* (Kenny McPeek); 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); 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); and Un Ojo (Ricky Courville).

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): 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)

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): *Great Escape* (Rodolphe Brisset); *Smile Happy* (Kenny McPeek), 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)

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): Early Voting (Chad Brown) 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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