



THE DERBY DISPATCH

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ROAD TO KENTUCKY DERBY KICKS INTO HIGH GEAR WITH TWINSPIRES.COM LOUISIANA DERBY, JEFF RUBY STEAKS

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (Thursday, March 21, 2024) – The Road to Kentucky Derby 150 will kick into high gear Saturday as horses will compete in their final prep races before the \$5 million Kentucky Derby presented by Woodford Reserve (Grade I) on Saturday, May 4.

The action will begin at 6:25 p.m. (all times Eastern) at Turfway Park where an over-subscribed field of 14 3-year-olds were entered in the 53rd running of the \$700,000 Jeff Ruby Steaks (GIII), a race that produced Kentucky Derby 148 winner **Rich Strike** and Kentucky Derby 149 runner-up **Two Phil's**.

About 20 minutes later at Fair Grounds, Lecomte (GIII) and Gun Runner winner **Track Phantom** leads a competitive cast of 12 3-year-olds in the \$1 million TwinSpires.com Louisiana Derby (GII).

Over the next three weekends, there will be eight “Championship Series” races that will award points to the top five finishers on a 100-50-25-15-10 scale as horses attempt to qualify for the Kentucky Derby.

MULTIPLE GRADED STAKES WINNER ENDLESSLY HEADS OVER-SUBSCRIBED JEFF RUBY STEAKS – **Amerman Racing's** El Camino Real Derby winner **Endlessly** will ship more than 2,000 miles from his Southern California base to face an over-subscribed field of 14 3-year-olds that entered Saturday's 53rd running of the \$700,000 Jeff Ruby Steaks (Grade III), the marquee race of the Turfway Park season in Florence, Ky.

The Jeff Ruby Steaks is a pivotal stop for many of the nation's top 3-year-olds on the Road to the Kentucky Derby. The 1 1/8-mile affair will go as Race 12 of 13 with a post time of 6:25 p.m. First post for the stellar program is 12:45 p.m.

Along with the Jeff Ruby Steaks, the stakes-laden card also will feature the 42nd running of the \$300,000 Bourbonette Oaks (Listed); 24th running of the \$300,000 TwinSpires Kentucky Cup Classic (GIII); 38th running of the \$250,000 Animal Kingdom Stakes; 42nd running of the \$250,000 Latonia Stakes; and 37th running of the \$250,000 Rushaway.

Horses in the Jeff Ruby Steaks will be competing for a total of 200 qualifying points as they attempt to earn a position in the starting gate for the 150th running of the \$5 million Kentucky Derby presented by Woodford Reserve (GI). The top five finishers of the Jeff Ruby Steaks will be awarded points on a 100-50-25-15-10 scale.

Trained by **Michael McCarthy**, Endlessly has been brilliant in four of his five career starts with victories in the El Camino Real Derby, Zuma Beach (GIII) and Del Mar Juvenile Turf (GIII). The only blemish on the son of Oscar Performance's resumé is a disappointing eighth-place finish in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf (GI) when he had a wide journey throughout but was only defeated 3 1/2 lengths by **Unquestionable**. Endlessly began his 3-year-old campaign in the El Camino Real Derby when he defeated **Tapalo** by 1 1/4 lengths as the heavy 3-5 favorite. Jockey **Umberto Rispoli** will have the mount in the Jeff Ruby Steaks as the 5-2 morning line favorite.

Chief among Endlessly's rivals is **Jack Oxley**, **Harold Lerner**, **AWC Stables** and **Magdalena Racing's Northern Flame**. Conditioned by **Kenny McPeck** and ridden by **Julien Leparoux**, Northern Flame already banked 18 points on the Road to the Kentucky Derby with his third-place finish in last month's Rebel (GII) along with a fourth-place finish in the Breeders' Futurity (GI) and fifth-place finish in the Street Sense (GIII).

Several other accomplished 3-year-olds entered the Jeff Ruby Steaks including Iroquois Stakes (GIII) winner **West Saratoga**, Mucho Man Stakes winner **Otello** and Riley Allison Derby winner **Lucky Jeremy**.

One of the few horses that entered the Jeff Ruby who are in search of their first stakes victory is **MyRacehorse's** recent Oaklawn allowance winner **Seize the Grey**. The improving son of Arrogate is trained by two-time Jeff Ruby Steaks winner **D. Wayne Lukas**, who won this race in 1995 with **Serena's Song** and in 1983 with **Marfa**. Seize the Grey will be ridden by **Nik Juarez**.

Here is the complete field for the Jeff Ruby Steaks in order of post position (with jockey, trainer and morning line odds): **Freedom Principle** (Adam Beschizza, Jose Garaffalo, 30-1); **Dancing Groom** (Frankie Dettori, Antonio Sano, 15-1); Lucky Jeremy (Gerardo Corrales, Bill Morey, 15-1); Noted (Luis Saez, Pletcher, 15-1); **Agate Road** (Ortiz, Pletcher, 4-1); Northern Flame (Leparoux, McPeek, 5-1); **Woodcourt** (Luan Machado, Cipriano Contreras, 6-1); Otello (Javier Castellano, Christophe Clement, 10-1); Seize the Grey (Juarez, Lukas, 6-1); Endlessly (Rispoli, McCarthy, 5-2); **Baytown Chatterbox** (Albin Jimenez, Paul McEntee, 30-1) and West Saratoga (Jesus Castanon, Larry Demeritte, 20-1). Also-Eligibles: **Circle P** (Tyler Conner, Flint Stites, 30-1) and Triple Espresso (Ortiz, Pletcher, 20-1).

Hall of Fame trainer **Todd Pletcher** entered **Repole Stable** and **St. Elias Stable**'s Sam F. Davis Stakes (GIII) runner-up Agate Road but stated the colt is likely to scratch to run in the TwinSpires.com Louisiana Derby (GII).

The Jeff Ruby Steaks will be broadcast live on **CNBC** and **Peacock**. The broadcast will span 6-7 p.m. and also will feature the Fair Grounds Oaks (GII) and Louisiana Derby (GII).

Fans can watch and wager on the entire Jeff Ruby Steaks Day program on www.TwinSpires.com, the official wagering provider of Churchill Downs Incorporated and the Kentucky Derby. Racing from Turfway Park is also streamed on the **Churchill Downs LIVE** app on smart TVs.

Announcer **Tony Calo** will call all the action on Jeff Ruby Steaks Day with analyst **Kaitlin Free** hosting the simulcast show live in the Jeff Ruby VIP Ballroom with Churchill Downs' track announcer **Travis Stone**.

FanDuel TV is another option for fans to watch the action from Turfway Park. Analysts **Gabby Gaudet** and **Matt Carrothers** will be on-site at Turfway Park on Saturday to bring live reports and analysis.

For more information about Jeff Ruby Steaks Day and to purchase tickets, visit www.Turfway.com.

LECOMTE, GUN RUNNER HERO TRACK PHANTOM TOPS \$1 MILLION TWINSPIRES.COM LOUISIANA DERBY – (written by Fair Grounds media relations specialist Kevin Kilroy)

A half-length shy of adding the Risen Star to his Gun Runner and Lecomte wins, **L and N Racing, Clark Brewster, Jerry Caroom** and **Breeze Easy's Track Phantom** headlines 12 males on the hunt for a share of the 200 Kentucky Derby qualifying points up for grabs in Saturday's \$1 million TwinSpires.com Louisiana Derby (GII) at Fair Grounds Race Course & Slots.

The first prep race to offer 100-50-25-15-10 points towards a spot in the \$5 million Kentucky Derby presented by Woodford Reserve (GI), post time is 6:42 p.m. (all times Eastern) for the 1 3/16 miles stamina test. With eight stakes worth \$2.7 million carded for Saturday's "Louisiana Derby Day," the 111th running of the Louisiana Derby is the finale of the 12-race program, which begins at 1 p.m. The \$400,000 Fair Grounds Oaks presented by Fasig-Tipton (GII) goes as Race 11 (6:08 p.m.) and will award Kentucky Oaks qualifying points (100-50-25-15-10) to the top five in that 3-year-old filly event.

Track Phantom had everything his own way in the Risen Star (GII). Breaking to the lead and moving comfortably through slow fractions, the son of Quality Road trained by **Steve Asmussen** was passed in the final stages by **Sierra Leone**, finishing a half-length shy of sweeping the local preps to date.

The Risen Star is the only chink in Track Phantom's two-turn armor as the colt has won his other three attempts, including dominant victories in both the Gun Runner and Lecomte (GIII). Having racked up 55 points towards the "Run for the Roses," Track Phantom currently ranks tied for fourth on the Road to the Kentucky Derby Leaderboard.

Drawing the far outside post, the 3-1 morning line favorite will be guided once again by **Joel Rosario**.

Among his top competitors is stablemate **Hall of Fame**. Owned by **Mrs. John Magnier, Michael Tabor, Derrick Smith, Westerberg, Gandharvi** and **Brooke Smith**, the Gun Runner colt dazzled in his 10 1/4-length maiden-breaking score on the Lecomte undercard, but he fell flat down the homestretch over the sloppy track to finish seventh in the Risen Star.

Ricardo Santana Jr. returns to the irons and will break Hall of Fame from gate 2.

Second-choice in the morning line at 5-1 is **Albaugh Family Stables' Catching Freedom**. A debut-winner at Churchill Downs in October, the son of Constitution trained by **Brad Cox** took the Smarty Jones by over two lengths in his first effort going two turns. Finishing third in the Risen Star under jockey **Luis Saez** to bring his points total to 25, Catching Freedom will have **Flavien Prat** aboard as he breaks from post 5 in the Louisiana Derby.

Cutting the corner turning for home last out in the Rebel (GII), **Tony Holmes' Common Defense** rallied up the rail to finish second behind **Timberlake**. One of two entered by **Kenny McPeek**, along with **Tilted Shamrock Stables' Real Men Violin**, Common Defense ranks 10th in the Road to the Kentucky Derby Point Standings with 27. The dark bay Karakontie colt will be reunited with his Rebel pilot, **Brian Hernandez Jr.**

Real Men Violin exits an eighth-place finish in the Risen Star, his first start since running second in November's Kentucky Jockey Club (GII) and will break from just inside his stablemate in post 9 with **Corey Lanerie** holding the reins.

Occupying three of the inside four post positions, the trio of Louisiana Derby entrants trained by **Todd Pletcher** are led by **Repole Stable and St. Elias Stables'** Pilgrim (GII) winner **Agate Road**. The Quality Road colt exits a second-place finish to **No More Time** in the Sam F. Davis (GIII) at Tampa Bay Downs where he earned 10 qualifying points. His previous four races were on the turf, including a solid late-kicking fifth in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf (GI), defeated by only 2 ½ lengths. Aboard for each of Agate Road's grass starts, jockey **Irad Ortiz Jr.** will leg up on the Pletcher trainee, made 8-1 in the morning line.

Pletcher leads all trainers with five Louisiana Derby victories, including saddling last year's gate-to-wire winner **Kingsbarns**. Along with Agate Road, he entered **Centennial Farms'** last-out local maiden winner **Antiquarian** and Repole Stable and St. Elias Stables' **Triple Espresso**, who would make his dirt debut in the Louisiana Derby.

Pletcher stated Wednesday that Triple Espresso could scratch from the Louisiana Derby in favor of Saturday's \$700,000 Jeff Ruby Steaks (GIII) at Turfway Park.

Another accomplished sophomore entered in the Louisiana Derby is **Ribble Farms, Michael Eiserman, Earl Silver, Kenneth Fishbein, and Daniel Fishbein's Honor Marie**. The winner of the Kentucky Jockey Club returned to the races to finish fifth in the Risen Star for trainer **Whit Beckman**.

Jockey **Ben Curtis** has been named to ride the Honor Code colt, replacing **Rafael Bejarano**.

Here's the complete field for the Risen Star from the rail out (with jockey, trainer, and morning line): Triple Espresso (Luis Saez, Pletcher, 20-1); Hall of Fame (Santana, Asmussen, 8-1); Antiquarian (John Velazquez, Pletcher, 12-1); Agate Road (Irad Ortiz Jr., Pletcher, 8-1); Catching Freedom (Prat, Cox, 4-1); **Awesome Ruta** (Mitchell Murrill, Joey Foster, 30-1); Honor Marie (Curtis, Beckman, 8-1); **Next Level** (Jose Riquelme, Keith Desormeaux, 30-1); Real Men Violin (Corey Lanerie, McPeck, 20-1); Common Defense (Hernandez, McPeck, 6-1); **Tuscan Gold** (Tyler Gaffalione, Chad Brown, 8-1); and Track Phantom (Rosario, Asmussen, 3-1).

JEFF RUBY STEAKS QUOTES

- **Michael McCarthy, trainer, Endlessly:** "We tried to give him a short break after the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf (GI) but he's a feel-good type of horse. He likes to train and we were able to get him back slowly after that race to the El Camino Real Derby. ... His works on dirt haven't really stood out, they've just been steady. He's a different type of horse than **Rombauer** (who won the El Camino Real Derby before winning the 2021 Preakness Stakes on dirt).
- **Umberto Rispoli, jockey, Endlessly:** "I worked him at Del Mar before he made his first start and he's a very nice horse. In the El Camino Real Derby, I was just taking my time with him early with the speed ahead of me. This type of horse needs to be settled with his action. Around the turn (in the El Camino Real Derby) I had to ask him to get going. Once he switched leads, he took off. I could've went another pole."
- **Bill Morey, trainer, Lucky Jeremy:** "There really isn't one standout in this race. He's a nice horse and ran some good races in New Mexico. I'm looking forward to seeing him run in there."

LOUISIANA DERBY QUOTES

- **Steve Asmussen, trainer, Track Phantom, Hall of Fame:** "I generally believe for 3-year-olds, your last race is not good enough for your next one to be. That's the way it ought to be. (Track Phantom) is a wonderful horse. I'm very fortunate to have him here at Fair Grounds for the 3-year-old series. He has run extremely well in the three prior races here at Fair Grounds. Hopefully we can get him in the winner's circle again Saturday. ... (Hall of Fame) had no excuses with the sloppy surface last out in the Risen Star. We like who he is, like how he came out of his last race, like how he's trained back and are very fortunate to have this good of a 3-year-old at this time of year in this significant of a race."
- **Brad Cox, trainer, Catching Freedom:** "He's always been the kind of horse that's a little funny when he gets off the rail, he kind of wants to lean in a little bit. He's still a little green, he's still learning. He's always been a fairly average work horse but in his last two works he's been a little bit more into it, finishing up a little better and his gallop outs have been better. I'm optimistic he can take a step forward and he's had a good five weeks since the Risen Star. We've liked what we've seen since."
- **Whit Beckman, trainer, Honor Marie:** "I really like the distance of the Louisiana Derby. I think he's a true mile-and-a-quarter horse."

TV/WAGERING SCHEDULE – Fans can watch and wager on all the action for the Road to the Kentucky Derby on [TwinSpires.com](https://www.twinspires.com), the official wagering provider of Churchill Downs Incorporated and the Kentucky Derby.

NBC Sports will air the Louisiana Derby and Jeff Ruby Steaks in a special one-hour broadcast from 6-7 p.m. on **CNBC** and **Peacock**.

Another way fans can watch the races is on **FanDuel TV**, who will be on-site broadcasting live at both Turfway Park and Fair Grounds for the entirety of their cards.

Fans can also stream both Fair Grounds and Turfway Park's simulcast signals on the **Churchill Downs LIVE** app, available on smart TVs.

LUKAS ATTEMPS TO WIN THIRD JEFF RUBY STEAKS, FIRST SINCE SERENA'S SONG IN 1995 – Hall of Famer **D. Wayne Lukas** is familiar with using the Jeff Ruby Steaks as a prep race prior to horses competing in the Kentucky Derby. "The Coach" will attempt to win the Jeff Ruby Steaks for the third time on Saturday with **MyRacehorse's** recent allowance winner **Seize the Grey**.

Lukas, 88, last won the Jeff Ruby Steaks in 1995 (then known as the Jim Beam Steaks) when **Serena's Song** defeated the boys before she competed in the Kentucky Derby. In the Derby, she'd finish a disappointing 16th but would go on to become the champion 3-year-old filly and a Hall of Famer.

In 1983, when the race was known as the Spiral, a name then track general manager **John Battaglia** gave the race because it would spiral horses to compete in the Kentucky Derby, Lukas was victorious with his trainee **Marfa**. Two weeks later, the grey colt shipped back to California to win the Santa Anita Derby (GI) then, just 18 days later, returned to Kentucky where he'd finish fourth in the Blue Grass Stakes (GI) at Keeneland. One week later in the Kentucky Derby, Marfa finished fifth behind **Sunny's Halo**.

LOUISIANA DERBY, JEFF RUBY STEAKS KEY RACES TO PRODUCE DERBY WINNERS – In the last five years, the Twinspires.com Louisiana Derby (Grade II) and Jeff Ruby Steaks (GIII) have produced three Kentucky Derby winners and two runner-up finishers.

In 2022, Jeff Ruby Steaks third-place finisher **Rich Strike** made a bold rally up the rail to defeat Louisiana Derby winner **Epicenter** by three-quarters of a length at odds of 80-1.

Just one year prior, Louisiana Derby sixth-place finisher **Mandaloun** would go on to win the "Run for the Roses" via disqualification over **Medina Spirit**, something 2019 Kentucky Derby winner **Country House** was familiar with doing. In that year's Derby, Country House, who finished fourth in the Louisiana Derby, was placed first via disqualification over **Maximum Security**.

In Kentucky Derby 149, Jeff Ruby Steaks hero **Two Phil's** briefly took the lead in the stretch but was second best to **Mage**.

Overall, the Louisiana Derby has produced five winners of the Kentucky Derby: Mandaloun, Country House, **Funny Cide** (2003), **Grindstone** (1996) and **Black Gold** (1924).

The Jeff Ruby Steaks has produced three winners of the Kentucky Derby: Rich Strike, **Animal Kingdom** (2011) and **Lil. E Tee** (1992).

DOWN THE STRETCH

The Road to the Kentucky Oaks will continue Saturday at Fair Grounds for the \$400,000 Fair Grounds Oaks (GII) featuring Rachel Alexandra (GII) winner **Tarifa** and runner-up **Intricate**. At Turfway, Untapable Stakes winner **Alpine Princess** will face Cincinnati Trophy winner **Maxisuperfly** in the \$300,000 Bourbonette Oaks (Listed). The Fair Grounds Oaks top five finishers will receive qualifying points for the \$1.5 million Longines Kentucky Oaks on a 100-50-25-15-10 scale while the Bourbonette Oaks will award points on a 50-25-15-10-5 scale. Both races are carded as the Race 11 on their respective cards. ...

Trainer **Chad Brown** reported Tampa Bay Derby (GII) runner-up **Domestic Product** could train up to the Kentucky Derby but would decide after he sees the horse breeze. ...

Trainer **Christophe Clement** reported **Deterministic**, the come-from-behind upset winner of the Gotham, will make his final prep in the Wood Memorial (GII) prior to the Kentucky Derby. ...

The backstretch of Churchill Downs opened Tuesday and trainer **Mark Casse** was the first barn to ship horses to the grounds ahead of the 150th Spring Meet that begins Saturday, April 27. The first day of training is Friday from 6-9 a.m. ...

Late Triple Crown nominations are due Monday, April 1. Those wishing to nominate a 3-year-old to the series that haven't done so already must pay a \$6,000 late fee at www.thetriplecrown.com. ...

The 10th season of "Inside Churchill Downs" with **Darren Rogers** and **Kevin Kerstein** will begin Friday, April 5 on ESPN 680/105.7 in Louisville.

TIMBERLAKE REMAINS AT TOP OF LEADERBOARD – Through 26 races on the Road to the Kentucky Derby, Rebel Stakes (GII) winner Timberlake remains at the top the leaderboard with 66 points.

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

<u>Position</u>	<u>Horse</u>	<u>Trainer</u>	<u>Resume</u>	<u>Possible Next Start</u>	<u>Points</u>
1	Timberlake	Brad Cox	1 st - Rebel 1 st - Champagne 4 th - Breeders' Cup Juvenile	March 30 Arkansas Derby	66
2	Dornoch	Danny Gargan	1 st - Fountain of Youth 1 st - Remsen	March 30 Florida Derby or April 6 Blue Grass	60
3	Domestic Product	Chad Brown	1 st - Tampa Bay Derby 2 nd - Holy Bull	April 6 Blue Grass, Wood Memorial or May 4 Kentucky Derby	60
4	Sierra Leone	Chad Brown	1 st - Risen Star 2 nd - Remsen	April 6 Blue Grass	55
5	Track Phantom	Steve Asmussen	1 st - Lecomte 1 st - Gun Runner 32 nd Risen Star	March 23 Louisiana Derby	55
6	Deterministic	Christophe Clement	1 st - Gotham	April 6 Wood Memorial	50
7	No More Time	Jose D'Angelo	1 st - Sam F. Davis 2 nd - Tampa Bay Derby	May 4 Kentucky Derby	45
8	Fierceness	Todd Pletcher	1 st - Breeders' Cup Juvenile 3 rd - Holy Bull	March 30 Florida Derby	36
9	El Grande O	Linda Rice	2 nd - Withers 2 nd - Jerome 3 rd - Gotham	April 6 Wood Memorial	30
10	Common Defense	Kenny McPeck	2 nd - Rebel 5 th - Southwest	March 23 Louisiana Derby	27
11	Stronghold	Phil D'Amato	1 st - Sunland Derby 2 nd - Los Alamitos Derby	April 6 Santa Anita Derby	25
12	Catching Freedom	Brad Cox	1 st - Smarty Jones 3 rd - Risen Star	March 23 Louisiana Derby	25
13	Le Dom Bro	Eniel Cordero	2 nd - Fountain of Youth	March 30 Florida Derby	25
14	Just a Touch	Brad Cox	2 nd - Gotham	April 6 Blue Grass	25
15	Mystik Dan	Kenny McPeck	1 st - Southwest 5 th - Smarty Jones	March 30 Arkansas Derby	21
16	Hades	Joe Orseno	1 st - Holy Bull	March 30 Florida Derby	20
17	Uncle Heavy	Butch Reid	1 st - Withers	April 6 Wood Memorial	20
18	Encino	Brad Cox	1 st - John Battaglia Memorial	TBA	20
19	Liberal Arts	Robert Medina	1 st - Street Sense 3 rd - Southwest 3 rd - Iroquois	March 30 Arkansas Derby	19
20	Mc Vay	John Shirreffs	3 rd - San Felipe 4 th - Robert B Lewis	April 6 Santa Anita Derby	18

UPCOMING ROAD TO KENTUCKY DERBY RACES

March 30 (five weeks out) – \$1 million UAE Derby (GII), 1 3/16 miles, Meydan Racecourse (Top 5 points: 100-50-25-15-10)

Known possible starters (with trainer): Forever Young (Yoshito Yahagi); Killer Collect (Bhupat Semar); Mendelssohn Bay (Bhupat Semar)

March 30 (five weeks out) – \$1 million Florida Derby (GI), 1 1/8 miles, Gulfstream Park (Top 5 points: 100-50-25-15-10)

Known possible starters (with trainer): Conquest Warrior (Shug McGaughey III); *Dornoch (Danny Gargan)*; Fierceness (Todd Pletcher); Hades (Joe Orseno); Le Dom Bro (Eniel Cordero); Resilience (Bill Mott)

March 30 (five weeks out) – \$1.25 million Arkansas Derby (GI), 1 1/8 miles, Oaklawn Park (Top 5 points: 100-50-25-15-10)

Known possible starters (with trainer): *Coach Prime (Bob Baffert)*; Liberal Arts (Robert Medina); *Maymun (Bob Baffert)*; *Muth (Bob Baffert)*; Mystik Dan (Kenny McPeck); Timberlake (Brad Cox); Time for Truth (Ron Moquett)

April 6 (four weeks out) – \$750,000 Wood Memorial (GII), 1 1/8 miles, Aqueduct (Top 5 points: 100-50-25-15-10)

Known possible starters (with trainer): Be You (Todd Pletcher); Deposition (Uriah St. Lewis); Deterministic (Christophe Clement); El Grande O (Linda Rice); Tuscan Sky (Todd Pletcher); Uncle Heavy (Butch Reid)

April 6 (four weeks out) – \$1 million Blue Grass (GI), 1 1/8 miles, Keeneland (Top 5 points: 100-50-25-15-10)

Known possible starters (with trainer): *Dornoch (Danny Gargan)*; Epic Ride (John Ennis); Just a Touch (Brad Cox); Sierra Leone (Chad Brown);

April 6 (four weeks out) – \$750,000 Santa Anita Derby (GI), 1 1/8 miles, Santa Anita (Top 5 points: 100-50-25-15-10)

Known possible starters (with trainer): *Coach Prime (Bob Baffert)*; Imagination (Bob Baffert); *Maymun (Bob Baffert)*; Mc Vay (John Shirreffs); *Muth (Bob Baffert)*; Stronghold (Phil D'Amato); Tessuto (George Papaprodromou); Wine Me Up (Bob Baffert)

April 13 (three weeks out) – \$400,000 Lexington (GIII), 1 1/16 miles, Keeneland (Top 5 points: 20-10-6-4-2)

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 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 and Race and Sports Book. www.ChurchillDowns.com.

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