

12

Churchill Downs 1/4 MILES (1:592) KyDerby-G1 THE KENTUCKY DERBY PRESENTED BY WOODFORD RESERVE. Grade I. Purse \$3,000,000 For Three-year-olds, With An Entry Fee Of \$25,000 Each And A Starting Fee Of \$25,000 Each.



Post time: 6:57 ET

Wagers: Daily Double, Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta, Pick 3, Super Hi-5

Beyer par: 103

1 Mo Donegal

Own: Donegal Racing and Repole Stable Emerald And Yellow Blocks, Black

ORTIZ I JR (-) 2022: (394 112 .28)

TimeformUS Pace: Early 75 Late 105

Table with race results for Mo Donegal, including dates, times, and names of other horses like WoodMem-G2, HolyBull-G3, Remsen-G2, Md Sp Wt 90k.

Table with race results for Mo Donegal, including dates, times, and names of other horses like Rosario J, Ortiz I Jr, Castellano J J.

WORKS: 30Apr22 CD 4f fst: 483 B 57/133 22Apr22 CD 4f fst: 501 B 49/62 2Apr22 PBD 5f fst: 1:003 B 1/8 26Mar22 PBD 5f fst: 1:004 B 1/8 19Mar22 PBD 4f fst: 492 B 11/25 26Feb22 PBD 4f fst: 491 B 11/32 19Feb22 PBD 4f fst: 51 B 19/23 29Jan22 PBD 4f fst: 493 B 3/22

TRAINER: 2Off45-180(151.24 \$1.55) WonLastStart(258.27 \$1.60) Dirt(726.26 \$1.81) Routes(859.23 \$1.67) GrdStk(217.21 \$2.23) J/T 2021-22 CD (5 .20 \$0.56) J/T 2021-22 (254 .27 \$1.57) CLOSER LOOK: The rail draw might not be such a disadvantage for this late runner; is likely to drop anchor early, avoiding the typical melee first time past the stands; he obviously loves Aqueduct, and the NY form hasn't translated into Derby success in recent years; that said, this colt did everything right in the Wood; didn't get much pace ahead of him yet still unleashed a furious stretch rally to reel in Early Voting, who is no slouch; gives the impression that added ground will be no issue; loved the energy he displayed in his last workout without doing too much; Pletcher has been here many times, and if anyone can thread the needle through Derby traffic it's Irad; don't underestimate.

2 Happy Jack

Own: Calumet Farm Black, Gold Chevrons, Gold Chevrons On

BEJARANO R (7 2 1 1 .29) 2022: (214 26 .12)

TimeformUS Pace: Early 93 Late 91

Table with race results for Happy Jack, including dates, times, and names of other horses like SADERBY-G1, SnFelipe-G2, RBLewis-G3, Md Sp Wt 68k.

Table with race results for Happy Jack, including dates, times, and names of other horses like Cedillo A, Happy Jack 124nk, Happy Jack 1205.

TRAINER: BlinkOff(52.13 \$1.28) Dirt(410.16 \$1.56) Routes(348.14 \$1.11) GrdStk(67.06 \$0.50) J/T 2021-22 (3 .33 \$2.00) He's been beaten by double-digit margins in all of the preps he's entered, so that's not great; obviously, he doesn't possess the speed figures or credentials to be considered a serious contender; however, this colt does try very hard and has shown subtle improvement; won't be surprised if there's a stakes with his name on it in the second half of the season; but on this day, have to pass.

3 Epicenter

Own: Winchell Thoroughbreds LLC Maroon, White Circled 'W', White Bars On

ROSARIO J (-) 2022: (252 56 .22)

TimeformUS Pace: Early 116 Late 80

Table with race results for Epicenter, including dates, times, and names of other horses like LaDerby-G2, RisenStr-G2, Lecomte-G3, GunRunnerB98k, Md Sp Wt 120k.

Table with race results for Epicenter, including dates, times, and names of other horses like Rosario J, Epicenter 1223, Smile Happy 122, Zandon 122hd, Pappacap 1223, Surfer Dude 122hd, Seal Beach 1192, Surfer Dude 1193, Great Escape 1192, Seal Beach 1193, Giant Game 119no.

TRAINER: 31-60Days(1117.19 \$1.39) WonLastStart(535.19 \$1.21) Dirt(2581.20 \$1.41) Routes(1330.17 \$1.29) GrdStk(155.17 \$1.41) J/T 2021-22 CD (28 .29 \$1.54) J/T 2021-22 (192 .24 \$1.30) This is a serious racehorse; he's a head shy of having won 5 in a row, the only loss coming after setting a fast pace in the Lecomte; has been utterly dominant in his two most recent Fair Grounds preps, albeit with good trips; though, he showed a new dimension last time, rating just off the speed; that experience could come in handy here, as he seems destined for a similar in-the-pocket trip having drawn inside; couldn't be doing any better coming into the race; has looked like a compressed spring, ready to explode, in his last couple of workouts; could vie for favoritism, but may not be as short a price as it seemed just weeks ago; the one to beat.

### 4 Summer Is Tomorrow

Own: Michael Hilary and Negar Burke  
 30-1 Purple, Blue Diamond Belt, Yellow  
**BARZALONA M (-) (-)**  
 TimeformUS Pace: Early 126

26Mar22	Meydan (UAE)	ft	*1 $\frac{3}{8}$	LH 1:59 $\frac{3}{4}$	UAE Derby Sponsored By Mubadala-G2	16	22 $\frac{3}{4}$	Barzalona M	121	-
Timeform Rating: 99										
25Feb22	Meydan (UAE)	ft	*7f	LH 1:24 $\frac{4}{5}$	Al Karama S. Alw 60000	10	18 $\frac{1}{4}$	Doyle J	126	-
Timeform Rating: 99										
12Feb22	Jebel Ali (UAE)	ft	*6f	Str 1:13 $\frac{3}{4}$	Arm Holding Alw 27200	9	42 $\frac{3}{4}$	O'Shea T	131	-
Timeform Rating: 67										
14Jan22	Meydan (UAE)	ft	*6f	LH 1:12 $\frac{1}{2}$	Festival City S. Alw 60000	7	24 $\frac{1}{4}$	O'Shea T	121	-
Timeform Rating: 82										
23Dec21	Meydan (UAE)	ft	*6f	LH 1:12 $\frac{1}{2}$	British Business Group Sponsored By D Maiden 22500	9	14 $\frac{1}{2}$	O'Shea T	128	-
Timeform Rating: 85										
2Dec21	Meydan (UAE)	ft	*7f	LH 1:26 $\frac{4}{5}$	Dubai Sponsored By UAE Navy Maiden 22500	12	74 $\frac{3}{4}$	O'Shea T	128	-
Timeform Rating: 61										
18Nov21	Meydan (UAE)	ft	*6f	LH 1:12 $\frac{1}{2}$	Dubai Civil Defense Maiden 22500	7	28 $\frac{1}{4}$	O'Shea T	128	-
Timeform Rating: 52										

WORKS: 2May22 CD 4f fst :49 $\frac{1}{2}$  B 6/21

Speedy Dubai-based colt is a Kentucky-bred but comes here with an international set of human connections; had never raced beyond 7F prior to the UAE Derby, and was something of a surprise 2nd in that race; may have benefited from the speed-favoring nature of Meydan, and was clearly no match for today's rival Crown Pride; hard to consider him a legitimate contender, but he nevertheless figures to have an impact on this race, as he has a quick reaction time at the start and should be intent on making the lead over his American rivals; know him early.

### 5 Smile Happy

Own: Lucky Seven Stable  
 20-1 Black, Red Circled '7', Red Cap  
**LANERIE C J (2 0 1 0 .00) 2022: (222 16 .07)**  
 TimeformUS Pace: Early 89 Late 97

9Apr22	9Kee gd	1 $\frac{1}{8}$	C :4811:1231:3741:501	BlueGras-G1	94	10/11	42 $\frac{1}{2}$	31 $\frac{1}{2}$	31 $\frac{1}{2}$	11	22 $\frac{1}{2}$	Lanerie C J	123	*1.90	85-18	Zandon1233 $\frac{1}{2}$	Smile Happy1233 $\frac{3}{4}$	Emmanuel123 $\frac{1}{2}$	Stalk 3w,bid1/4,outkck	
19Feb22	13FG	fst	1 $\frac{1}{8}$	C :4741:1211:3621:49	RisenStr-G2	94	8/10	8 $\frac{5}{8}$	74	74 $\frac{1}{2}$	34 $\frac{1}{2}$	22 $\frac{3}{4}$	Lanerie C J	122	*2.20	98-02	Epicenter1222 $\frac{3}{4}$	Smile Happy122 $\frac{3}{4}$	Zandon122hd	2w,split3/16,up plc1/8
27Nov21	11CD	fst	1 $\frac{1}{8}$	C :234:484 1:131:1:434	KyJC-G2	90	6/11	54	52 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	13 $\frac{1}{4}$	Lanerie C J	122	4.80	86-21	SmileHappy1223 $\frac{1}{4}$	ClassicCusewy1222 $\frac{3}{4}$	WhiteAbrrio122 $\frac{1}{2}$	4w1/4,dry past,cleared
29Oct21	2Kee	fst	1 $\frac{1}{8}$	C :231:471 1:124:1:443	Md Sp Wt 84k	82	5/9	64	62 $\frac{3}{4}$	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	15 $\frac{1}{2}$	Hernandez B J Jr	119	3.30	80-19	SmileHappy1195 $\frac{1}{2}$	ImaWrLord1191 $\frac{1}{2}$	StrAlignment1191	Rolled past, drew off

WORKS: 30Apr22 CD 4f fst :48 B 28/133 23Apr22 CD 5f fst :1:00 $\frac{2}{5}$  B 12/70 2Apr22 GP 4f fst :49 $\frac{2}{5}$  B 35/84 27Mar22 GP 4f fst :48 $\frac{4}{5}$  B 10/76 ● 19Mar22 GP 5f fst :58 $\frac{4}{5}$  B 1/28 12Mar22 GP 4f fst :49 $\frac{2}{5}$  B 50/130

TRAINER: 2Off45-180(67.24 \$2.08) Dirt(360.16 \$1.92) Routes(396.16 \$2.02) GrdStk(64.16 \$1.68)

J/T 2021-22 CD(13.31 \$8.49) J/T 2021-22(67.09 \$3.85)

Was arguably the leading contender for this race over the winter; however, he's lost some luster, having gone down to defeat as the favorite in both 3Y0 preps; wasn't inclined to hold the Risen Star against him since he was off a layoff and was somewhat conservatively ridden; however, he was decidedly 2nd best to Zandon in the Blue Grass; covered a bit more ground, but got the jump on that rival and had no answer in the lane; hasn't looked quite as zippy in his training since that race as he had earlier in the year; will be a price for those willing to keep the faith, but feels like he's been eclipsed.

### 6 Messier

Own: SF Racing LLC Starlight Racing Madake  
 8-1 Royal Blue, Yellow Star, Yellow Diamonds  
**VELAZQUEZ J R (-) 2022: (196 34.17)**  
 TimeformUS Pace: Early 116 Late 86

9Apr22	6SA	fst	1 $\frac{1}{8}$	C :4631:1041:3541:482	SADerby-G1	99	4/6	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	21	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	11	22 $\frac{1}{4}$	Velazquez J R	124	1.30	90-08	Taiba1242 $\frac{1}{4}$	Messier12410	Happy Jack124nk	Bid 3/8,clear,yielded	
Previously trained by Baffert Bob 2021: (341 108 65 50 0.32)																					
6Feb22	8SA	fst	1 $\frac{1}{8}$	S :231:464 1:111:1:424	RLewis-G3	103	1/5	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	18	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	Velazquez J R	120	*.60	95-08	Messier12015	Cabo Spirit1247	Wharton1204 $\frac{1}{2}$	Ins,clear1/4,hand urgd	
11Dec21	9LRC	fst	1 $\frac{1}{8}$	C :223:463 1:104:1:421	LosAlFut-G2	83	3/5	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	2hd	1hd	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	21	Prat F	120b	*.50	93-15	Slow Down Andy1201	Messier1209	Barossa1201 $\frac{1}{2}$	3dp,btw,bpd 3/16,yield	
14Nov21	8Dmr	fst	7f	C :212:431 1:091:1:223	BobHope-G3	86	1/4	4	44 $\frac{1}{2}$	33 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	Prat F	120	*1.20	97-06	Messier1203 $\frac{1}{2}$	ForbiddnKingdom1201 $\frac{1}{2}$	WinningMp1204 $\frac{1}{2}$	4wd into str,drove clr	
22Oct21	4SA	fst	6f	C :214:443 :564 1:101	Md Sp Wt 61k	82	3/6	3	22	12	16	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	Prat F	122b	*.40	86-15	Messier1226 $\frac{1}{2}$	Don't Swear Dave122 $\frac{1}{2}$	Blackadder1224 $\frac{1}{2}$	Brk in,drew off easily	
27Jun21	6LRC	fst	5f	C :22 :454 :58	Md Sp Wt 45k	60	5/5	4	41 $\frac{1}{2}$	32 $\frac{1}{2}$	22	21	Smith M E	122b	*.50	88-11	Olympic Legend1221	Messier1222	Carbonite1221 $\frac{1}{2}$	Drftd uppr,anlg out/in	

WORKS: 29Apr22 SA 6f fst :1:11 $\frac{3}{4}$  H 1/1 23Apr22 SA 5f fst :59 $\frac{4}{5}$  H 9/48 2Apr22 SA 5f fst :1:00 $\frac{3}{5}$  H 19/57 ● 27Mar22 SA 6f fst :1:11 $\frac{2}{5}$  H 1/5 20Mar22 SA 4f fst :48 $\frac{3}{5}$  H 26/61 ● 13Mar22 SA 5f fst :59 $\frac{2}{5}$  H 1/62

TRAINER: 2Off45-180(24.29 \$1.45) Dirt(84.19 \$1.83) Routes(82.12 \$0.81) GrdStk(11.18 \$1.22)

J/T 2021-22(5.00 \$0.00)

Switched into Yakteen's care just in time to pick up enough points to qualify, but make no mistake--all of his serious training was done with Baffert; his Lewis was the fastest prep of the season, but he benefited from a speed bias that day; confirmed his improvement in the SA Derby, as he took a stutter step away from the gate before advancing into a stalking position; ultimately had no answer for Taiba's late surge; he's a free-running colt who travels well, but isn't necessarily a fighter; Velazquez may be looking for a similar trip to the one he worked out on Medina Spirit, but there's much more early speed in this year's race; one to consider.



11 Pioneer of Medina

Own: Sumaya U S Stables
Red, Green Belt, Green Band On Sleeves
BRAVO J (-) 2022: (114 21 .18)

Table with race dates, times, and results for Pioneer of Medina. Includes entries like 26Mar22-42FG, 19Feb22-43FG, etc.

B. c. 3 (Feb)
Sire: Pioneerof the Nile (Empire Maker) \$110,000
Dam: Lights of Medina (Eskendereya)
Br: International Equities Holding Inc (Ky)
Tr: Pletcher Todd A(-) 2022:(291 71 24)

Table with race dates, times, and results for Pioneer of Medina. Includes entries like 2022 3 1 0 1 \$150,800 96, 2021 3 1 1 1 \$30,550 69.

WORKS: 30Apr22 CD 4f fst :472 B 9/133 ● 25Apr22 CD 5f fst :594 B 1/8 ● 15Apr22 PBD 5f fst 1:002 B 1/8 8Apr22 PBD 4f fst :493 B 4/14 19Mar22 PBD 4f fst :484 B 4/25 12Mar22 PBD 5f fst 1:00 B 3/18
5Mar22 PBD 4f fst :491 B 2/18 ● 12Feb22 PBD 5f fst 1:002 B 1/5

TRAINER: BlinkOff(10.20 \$0.98) 31-60Days(511.25 \$1.82) Dirt(726.26 \$1.81) Routes(859.23 \$1.67) GrdStk(217.21 \$2.23)
He's been soundly defeated by a few of today's rivals, but it's no disgrace losing to Derby favorites Epicenter and Zandon; he got sent off at long odds in those last two preps, but his form is nevertheless progressive; and that 96 Beyer matches the figu re earned by some with stronger resumes; was perhaps aided by good trips on top of moderate paces in the Risen Star and La. Derby, yet he never gave up on either occasion; has a pedigree to run all day, and stays well in his races; interesting that Pletcher takes the blinkers off, perhaps signaling a change in running style; not the worst longshot to throw in underneath.

12 Taiba

Own: Zedan Racing Stables
Blue, Red Sash, White Sleeves, Red Cap
SMITH M E (-) 2022: (104 22 .21)

Table with race dates, times, and results for Taiba. Includes entries like 9Apr22-6SA, 5Mar22-2SA, etc.

Ch. c. 3 (Apr) FTFMAR21 \$1,700,000
Sire: Gun Runner (Candy Ride Arg) \$125,000
Dam: Needmore Flattery (Flatter)
Br: Bruce C Ryan (Ky)
Tr: Yakteen Tim(-) 2022:(62 11 .18)

Table with race dates, times, and results for Taiba. Includes entries like 2022 2 2 0 0 \$490,200 103, 2021 0 M 0 0 \$0 -.

WORKS: ● 28Apr22 SA 6f fst 1:124 H 1/4 6Apr22 SA 3f fst :37 H 3/10 31Mar22 SA 6f fst 1:121 H 4/9 25Mar22 SA 5f fst 1:002 H 4/34 18Mar22 SA 5f fst 1:003 H 4/28 ● 27Feb22 SA 6f fst 1:123 H 1/12
20Feb22 SA 5f fst :59 Hg 2/56 13Feb22 SA 5f fst 1:002 Hg 6/71

TRAINER: WonLastStart(22.18 \$1.12) Dirt(84.19 \$1.83) Routes(82.12 \$0.81) GrdStk(11.18 \$1.22)
He's a real enigma in this race; there's little precedent for a horse with just 2 prior starts winning the Derby, and certainly none in modern times; however, he's only slightly less experienced than Justify, and as with that one there's no denying his talent; he's the spitting image of his sire Gun Runner, possessing that same determination and tenacity; successfully made the leap from a sprint debut winner to G1 SA Derby hero in just his 2nd start, so anything's possible, right? Appears to be more of a fighter than stablemate Messier, and gives no hint of distance limitations; Smith may be long in the tooth, but he knows how to pilot a Derby winner; dismiss him at your peril.

13 Simplification

Own: Tami Bobo and Tristan de Meric
White, Red Key On Grey And Blue Padlock
ORTIZ J L (-) 2022: (415 88 .21)

Table with race dates, times, and results for Simplification. Includes entries like 2Apr22-14GP, 5Mar22-22GP, etc.

B. c. 3 (Feb)
Sire: Not This Time (Giant's Causeway) \$75,000
Dam: Simply Confection (Candy Ride Arg)
Br: France Weiner & Irwin Weiner (Fla)
Tr: Sano Antonio(-) 2022:(221 24 .11)

Table with race dates, times, and results for Simplification. Includes entries like 2022 4 2 1 1 \$482,150 96, 2021 3 1 0 1 \$33,200 92.

WORKS: ● 29Apr22 GP 5f fst 1:002 B 1/10 22Apr22 GP 5f fst :592 B 4/17 15Apr22 GP 5f fst 1:014 B 4/6 26Mar22 GP 5f fst :594 B 2/31 19Mar22 GP 5f fst 1:014 B 15/28 26Feb22 GP 5f fst 1:023 B 38/41
● 19Feb22 GP 5f fst :583 B 1/42 29Jan22 GP 6f fst 1:13 B 1/1

TRAINER: 31-60Days(190.12 \$2.43) Dirt(446.13 \$1.25) Routes(402.13 \$2.06) GrdStk(13.08 \$0.54)
He may not be the flashiest runner in this field, but he shows up every time and possesses a versatile running style; former front-runner adapted well to closing tactics in the Fountain of Youth, rallying widest of all to win a roughly run race; wasn't as successful in the Florida Derby, but he got forced to move too soon into a swift pace and paid the price; still not totally convinced that 1 1/4 miles is ideal for him, but he figures to be a square price and has a savvy rider on his back; some things to like.

14 Barber Road

Own: WSS Racing LLC
Navy, Carolina Blue 'W', Carolina Blue
GUTIERREZ R (3 0 0 .00) 2022: (320 46 .14)

Table with race dates, times, and results for Barber Road. Includes entries like 2Apr22-120P, 26Feb22-110P, etc.

Gr/ro. c. 3 (Mar) KEENOV19 \$15,000
Sire: Race Day (Tapit)
Dam: Encounter (Southern Image)
Br: Susan Forrester & Judy Curry (Ky)
Tr: Ortiz John A(-) 2022:(124 23 .19)

Table with race dates, times, and results for Barber Road. Includes entries like 2022 4 0 3 1 \$550,000 88, 2021 4 2 1 0 \$100,720 84.

WORKS: 30Apr22 CD 4f fst :484 B 70/133 22Apr22 CD 6f fst 1:162 B 4/4 27Mar22 OP 4f fst :492 B 32/88 19Mar22 OP 4f fst :481 B 11/101 21Feb22 OP 4f fst :48 B 4/49 15Feb22 OP 5f fst 1:002 B 2/31
8Feb22 OP 5f fst 1:024 B 7/10 20Jan22 OP 5f fst 1:01 B 7/13

TRAINER: 31-60Days(126.17 \$2.57) Dirt(340.18 \$2.02) Routes(167.14 \$1.97) GrdStk(13.00 \$0.00)
Didn't manage to win any of the preps, but earned his way into this Derby by consistently picking up checks (and points); he's a real grinder who doesn't make it look easy out there, but he's steady and will keep coming; however, his top Beyer of 88 is well below the standard set by the top contenders in this field; plus those Arkansas preps were not the strongest in terms of quality; won't be shocked if he rallies past half the field, since he runs through traffic and always tries hard; just feels like a top 5 placing is asking a lot.

15 White Abarrio

Own: C2 Racing Stable LLC and La Milagrosa
10-1 Royal Blue, Black 'Cc' On Orange Ball

GAFFALIONE T (6 2 0 3.33) 2022: (534 101 .19)

TimeformUS Pace: Early 98 Late 80

Table with race dates, times, and names: 2Apr22-14GP fst 1 1/8 C :471.1:103:1.362:1.503 FlaDerby-G1...

Previously trained by Perez Carlos L 2021(as of 9/24): (777 11 10 0.09)

Table with race dates, times, and names: 24Sep21-4GP fst 6 3/4 :221.45: 1.10:1:17 Md Sp Wt 45k...

TRAINER: 2Off45-180(182.20 \$1.66) 31-60Days(461.25 \$1.96) WonLastStart(220.22 \$1.42) Dirt(565.26 \$1.91) Routes(554.19 \$1.68) GrdStk(82.15 \$2.03)

The Florida Derby winner has just one blemish on his resume and that came over this Churchill Downs strip; however, it's apparent that he's improved quite a bit since returning as a 3YO; worked out great trips in both the Holy Bull and Florida Derby, but he has a running style that lends itself to staying out of trouble; yet that's never a guarantee in the Derby, and he's one of 7 or 8 horses who will be looking to attain a forward stalking position; appears to be training well, and has the Beyers to get into the mix; some things to like.

16 Cyberknife

Own: Gold Square LLC
20-1 Black, Gold Panel, Black Cap

GEROUX F (2 0 10 .00) 2022: (204 30 .15)

TimeformUS Pace: Early 105 Late 83

Table with race dates, times, and names: 2Apr22-120P fst 1 1/8 :462.1:111:1.371:1.502 ArkDerby-G1...

Disqualified and placed second

Table with race dates, times, and names: 30Apr22 CD 6f fst 1:11 B 1/4 23Apr22 CD 6f fst 1:12 B 1/3 16Apr22 CD 5f gd 1:00 B 4/14...

TRAINER: 31-60Days(528.27 \$1.71) WonLastStart(304.29 \$2.00) Dirt(900.27 \$1.80) Routes(767.27 \$1.74) GrdStk(162.25 \$1.74)

Was very much a work in progress early in his career, as he would sometimes refuse to run straight or settle properly; yet something appeared to click into place in that allowance victory two back, and he built on that newfound professionalism in the Ark ansas Derby last time; his top Beyer of 92 is a cut below the other top contenders, and he benefited from the filly Secret Oath getting a difficult trip; he couldn't be training any better and goes out for a dangerous barn; yet, as far as he's come, it's still fair to wonder if he has the temperament to handle the excitement of the Derby; mixed signals.

17 Classic Causeway

Own: Kentucky West Racing LLC and Clarke M
30-1 Blue, Gold 'V', Blue Cap

LEPAROUX J R (3 1 0 0 .33) 2022: (194 20 .10)

TimeformUS Pace: Early 94 Late 74

Table with race dates, times, and names: 2Apr22-14GP fst 1 1/8 C :471.1:103:1.362:1.503 FlaDerby-G1...

Table with race dates, times, and names: 30Apr22 CD 6f fst 1:13 B 3/4 23Apr22 CD 5f fst 1:00 B 2/27 16Apr22 CD 4f gd :48 B 2/17 4...

TRAINER: 31-60Days(127.15 \$1.39) Dirt(101.15 \$1.54) Routes(180.13 \$1.27) GrdStk(31.19 \$1.54)

He was in, then he was out, and now he's back in; this speedster was untouchable at Tampa Bay Downs earlier this year, but didn't run particularly fast speed figures in either of those stakes victories; completely fell apart last time in the Florida Derby, putting forth the kind of non-effort that is hard to explain; Lynch says that he may have displaced his palate, so they're making some minor changes to prevent that; figures to be prominent early, but there's no shortage of speed in this field; has much to overcome.

18 Tawny Port

Own: Peachtree Stable
30-1 Purple, Tan Braces, Tan Bars On Sleeves

SANTANA R JR (-) 2022: (284 48 .17)

TimeformUS Pace: Early 94 Late 100

Table with race dates, times, and names: 16Apr22-9Kee fst 1 1/8 :234.48 1:122:1.451 Lexington-G3...

Table with race dates, times, and names: 30Apr22 CD 5f fst 1:01 B 28/55 11Apr22 CD 4f fst :50 B 21/30 26Mar22 FG 5f fst 1:00 B 3/25...

TRAINER: WonLastStart(304.29 \$2.00) Dirt(900.27 \$1.80) Routes(767.27 \$1.74) GrdStk(162.25 \$1.74)

Tackling the Risen Star in just his 3rd start may have been too much too soon; was no match for a few of today's rivals in there, but the race has come back as one of the strongest preps, producing a number of positive runbacks; this colt is one of those, as he was a gallant 2nd on synth in the Jeff Ruby before proving that he can indeed handle dirt in the Lexington; that said, he's still a bit light on speed figures, and is making his 3rd start in just 5 weeks, which is not Brad Cox's typical style; on the other hand, he stays well and should handle the 10F; a superfecta possibility.

19 Zozos

Own: Barry and Joni Butzow
20-1 Blue, Blue 'Jb' On Gold Ball, Gold
FRANCOM (-) 2022: (345 64 .19)

TimeformUS Pace: Early 112 Late 75

Table with columns for race dates, times, and names of horses and jockeys. Includes entries for 26Mar22-12FG, 11Feb22-80P, 23Jan22-9FG, and 30Apr22 CD 6f.

TRAINER: 31-60Days(528 .27 \$1.71) Dirt(900 .27 \$1.80) Routes(767 .27 \$1.74) GrdStk(162 25 \$1.74)
As with the other lightly raced runners in this field lack of experience, not lack of talent, is the chief concern; this colt signaled that he was worthy of a stakes attempt with that facile allowance win back in February, and he handled the step up in trip and company admirably in the Louisiana Derby; was allowed to set a moderate pace and stayed on, though he had no answer for Epicenter's turn of foot; now the waters get much deeper, and it will be difficult for him to contest the pace from this very wide draw; there's ability here, but the obstacles are pretty significant.

20 Ethereal Road

Own: Julie Gilbert and Aaron Sones
30-1 White, Royal Blue Chevrons, Royal Blue
CONTRERAS L (-) 2022: (171 13 .08)

TimeformUS Pace: Early 85 Late 101

Table with columns for race dates, times, and names of horses and jockeys. Includes entries for 16Apr22-9Kee, 9Apr22-9Kee, 26Feb22-110P, 29Jan22-110P, 18Dec21-100P, 28Nov21-6CD, 31Oct21-7CD, and 25Apr22 CD 5f.

TRAINER: Dirt(239 .10 \$1.04) Routes(139 .11 \$1.13) GrdStk(13 .08 \$0.20)
Another who was on the bubble until entry day, he was last to sneak into the field, and will also be last to enter the starting gate, barring any late defections; earned his way into this Derby with a runner-up finish in the Rebel, but that hasn't proven to be the strongest prep; was no match for some of today's rivals in two subsequent starts; it's always fun to have Triple Crown stalwart Lukas in the mix on Derby week, but it would be a massive shock if his colt played a significant role in the outcome.

Also Eligible:

21 Rich Strike

Own: RED TR-Racing LLC
30-1 Sooner Red And White Halves, White Bars
LEON S (-) 2022: (385 69 .18)

TimeformUS Pace: Early 55 Late 110

Table with columns for race dates, times, and names of horses and jockeys. Includes entries for 2Apr22-12TP, 5Mar22-5TP, 22Jan22-5TP, 26Dec21-11FG, 9Oct21-4Kee, 17Sep21-5CD, and 15Aug21-9EIP.

TRAINER: 31-60Days(243 .21 \$1.66) Dirt(319 .22 \$1.39) Routes(298 .18 \$1.40) GrdStk(1 .00 \$0.00)
AE needs one defection by Friday morning to draw into the field; his only victory came against \$30k maiden claimers last fall, but he did win by 17 lengths; since then has shown improvement since the switch to synthetic; earned his way into the Derby by finishing 3rd in the Jeff Ruby Steaks; stayed on for a minor award that day while no match for the top two; hard to endorse if he gets in.

22 Rattle N Roll

Own: Lucky Seven Stable
30-1 Black, Red Circled '7', Red Cap
GRAHAM J (4 0 2 .00) 2022: (323 58 .18)

TimeformUS Pace: Early 69 Late 106

Table with columns for race dates, times, and names of horses and jockeys. Includes entries for 9Apr22-9Kee, 26Mar22-12FG, 5Mar22-12GP, 9Oct21-9Kee, 23Sep21-6CD, 26Aug21-5SAR, and 26Jun21-2CD.

TRAINER: BlinkOff(6 .33 \$7.37) Dirt(360 .16 \$1.92) Routes(396 .16 \$2.02) GrdStk(64 .16 \$1.68)
The second AE would require 2 defections by Friday to have any hope of participating; achieved G1 success during his juvenile season, but he's been a disappointment as a 3YO; just hasn't been able to make up much ground in any of the preps; the addition of blinkers did little to wake him up in the Blue Grass, as he got a very wide trip on that occasion; probably needs a drop in class to regroup, and this is not it. -David Aragona