

# BELLADONNA RACING LLC

NO.9 – VOL.3  
SEPTEMBER 2023**\$750,000 GRADE 3** *Win*

VAHVA won the \$750,000 Charles Town Oaks-G3 by a decisive 1 ½ lengths at Charles Town Racetrack in West Virginia on the night of August 25th.

Breaking from the one post, VAHVA and Johnny Velazquez used her natural speed to get a forward position going into the first turn. There was some bumping and jostling that VAHVA took the brunt of but JV and she held their position. Coming out of the first turn on this small track, VAHVA was in a good stalking position and cruising along full of run. Entering the home turn, JV and VAHVA wheeled themselves out and pounced from the outside lane. A couple taps from JV with the whip and VAHVA cruised by and won easily in the end.

It was an exciting victory for all of us as this is the first GSW for our Belladonna Team and many of you as owners.

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# VAHVA

**\$750,000 CHARLES TOWN OAKS-G3 WINNER**

# BELLADONNA RACING LLC

## \$750,000 GRADE 3 *Win* (CONT.)

continued from page 1

Cherie commented "When I nominated VAHVA for this race, my intuition was that the track and the fact she had been around two turns earlier this year would be to her advantage. When we drew inside, I knew that was in her favor and Johnny knows the track and had confidence in VAHVA from riding her last time. We got a great trip and VAHVA showed up as her game self. Thank you to everyone for allowing us to manage her into this race and call the audible to skip the Test and the Prioress and come here. I told David and Paul, VAHVA might not like that main track at Saratoga and when she breezed last time out on the Oklahoma track, she was back where we needed to be. Congratulations to everyone and thank you for the support. It means a lot to me and my Team that a lot of you have been with us from the beginning, which isn't all that long ago!"

Johnny V commented "This filly was perfect out there today. We talked about strategy on the way to the track and Cherie gave me really good instructions and handicapped the race right. The filly has a high ceiling for the future and I'm thankful to be able to ride her for

these owners and Cherie. Cherie told me how important this race was and I'm glad I was able to do my part."

VAHVA is already back to the barn at Saratoga. We will give her a few walk days and then ease her back into training. There are no spots picked out for her next start and we will probably space her races out as she runs well fresh.

Watch Cherie's interview with FanDuel's Ashley Mailloux by [CLICKING HERE](#)

[CLICK HERE](#) for race replay

You can read the Daily Racing Form Article [HERE](#) *Vahva scores first stakes win in Charles Town Oaks under cagey ride by Velazquez*

VAHVA's record now stands at 9-3-2-2 and \$662,235 in earnings.

*Congratulations to all the partners!*



# SECOND NEW GRADED STAKES WINNER IN THE SPAN OF 3 DAYS

ON WEDNESDAY, **II MIRACOLO** RAN OFF WITH THE **GRADE 3 \$300,000 SMARTY JONES AT PARX** WHILE **VAHVA** WON THE **\$750,000 GRADE 3 CHARLES TOWN OAKS** YESTERDAY. ADD IN THAT **GRADE 1 WINNER SOCIETY** WON THE **\$250,000 MISTY BENNETT PINK RIBBON STAKES** ON THE UNDERCARD ... AND IN THE SPAN OF 3 DAYS, PROGENY BY **GUN RUNNER** TOOK HOME THE WINNER'S SHARE OF OVER **\$1.3 MILLION** IN PURSE MONEY.

*You might give some thought to buying a Gun Runner yearling at Keeneland.*



**Congratulations to Vahva's connections:**

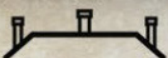
**Owners:** Belladonna Racing, LLC,  
Edward J. Hudson, Jr., West Point Thoroughbreds,  
LBD Stable LLC, Nice Guys Stables,  
Manganaro Bloodstock, Runnels Racing,  
Steve Hornstock, and Twin Brook Stable  
**Breeder:** Woodford Thoroughbreds, LLC  
**Trainer:** Cherie DeVaux

# GUN RUNNER



**NEWS MAKER**  
TDN 8.26.23

**BREED  
TRUE**



**THREE CHIMNEYS**

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LGB, LLC 2023 / G...

# BELLADONNA RACING<sup>LLC</sup>

## DOUBLE HEADER *Day!*



**DEPICTION**  
winning at  
Ellis Park 8.27.23

*“I was loaded with horse all the way around and he could not have felt better when I made my move with him.”* — Jockey Cristian Torres

COADY PHOTO

The first of our Belladonna Racing Double Header on Sunday was DEPICTION. Making his second start, DEPICTION was good in the gate and broke sharply with Cristian Torres. Going into the first turn, DEPICTION was keen, and Torres got him in hand and covered him up behind the two speed horses in the race. Sitting a great trip down the backside, DEPICTION took himself forward while still in hand and going into the turn for home, Torres asked DEPICTION for his run and they took off, running strongly through the finish wire under a hands-and-heels ride, winning by 5 ½ lengths in a good time for a mile in 1:37.65.

Cherie commented “While things didn’t go our way in DEPICTION’s first start, this is the race I was looking for today and he and Torres gave it to us. DEPICTION is still learning, but he got so much education out of that first race, it really showed today. I could not be happier with how DEPICTION rated and then finished so strong. This was a strong showing today. As usual,

we will get him back to the track and breezing in a couple of weeks and come up with a firm plan. This is a horse I do have Breeders’ Cup hopes for and we will look at either the Castle & Key Bourbon (G2) going 1 1/16th at Keeneland on October 8th or the Pilgrim S. (G2) at Belmont (Aqueduct meet) going 1 1/16th on October 1st. The race in NY is a “win and you’re in” for the Breeders’ Cup but the Bourbon is here on our home track and we wouldn’t have to ship, so I need to weigh out the pros and cons. Ultimately, DEPICTION will help me make the decision based on how he is training.”

Torres commented “The horse was sharp today out of the gate and learned so much from his first start to this one. He was keen, but then settled nicely for me when I was able to cover him up. I was loaded with horse all the way around and he could not have felt better when I made my move with him. He just exploded. What a nice horse.”

◆ [CLICK FOR RACE REPLAY](#)

# BELLADONNA RACING LLC

## DOUBLE HEADER *Day!* (CONT.)

The Process  
winning at  
Ellis Park 8.27.23



*“This was exciting and I’m very excited about THE PROCESS going forward.”* — Cherie DeVaux

COADY PHOTO

One race after Depiction won at Ellis, it was THE PROCESS that had his turn to run. Breaking from post 9 with Torres again in the saddle, THE PROCESS broke on top and pressed the pace from the outside all the way around the track, kicking clear down the stretch, albeit a little green and he finished strong to record a win.

Cherie commented “I knew THE PROCESS would be good out of the gate as he breezed so well out of it before the race. Cristian did a good job of not getting in THE PROCESS’ way and letting him run but stay relaxed and save some horse for the finish. I was expecting a good race, but a win was a bonus. The time was a little slow compared to the split of the race, but I think our colt is going to do his best running when we stretch him out. As far as the near-term plans, I will get THE PROCESS back to the barn and resume his training after a few walk days. I’m going to bring him along very deliberately as our goals with him are further down the line.

Most likely we will come back in a one-turn mile at Churchill in the allowance conditions to give him more experience and develop him to go a route of ground. As always, how the horse does will dictate our plans. This was exciting and I’m very excited about THE PROCESS going forward.”

Torres commented “This horse has given me a good feel since I breezed him the first time earlier this summer. Coming and working horses for Cherie has been a big advantage with her two-year-olds and my ability to ride them. THE PROCESS broke on top and was very strong out there. He was not getting tired and ran all the way to the end. He acts like distance and some more maturity will be his friend. Congratulations on these two nice colts.

**Congratulations to all the partners and Thank You from Cherie, Paul and I for joining us on this fun ride we have had over this past weekend.**

◆ [CLICK FOR RACE REPLAY](#)

# Belladonna Racing VI Purchase

## 2023 Saratoga Select Yearling Sale



### 2022 Colt, Constitution – Ellyb

Purchased at FT Saratoga Select for \$350,000

Our first purchase for the newly formed partnership of Belladonna VI came early in the first session of the Fasig-Tipton Saratoga Select Sale on August 7th.

Born in Virginia in early February, this mature colt is the first foal out of a young stakes-placed mare named ELLYB, by Pioneerof the Nile. Ellyb won or placed in eight of her 13 starts, including three wins in allowance company and three stakes-placings at Monmouth Park and Woodbine. Ellyb is a half-sister to multiple Grade 1 winner and millionaire COIL, as well as Grade 1 winner CHIROPRACTOR and two-time Grade 3-placed Decorating. Her second dam produced Champion and millionaire POSSIBLY PERFECT.

CONSTITUTION, a 12-year-old son of super-sire TAPIT, is one of our go-to sires, and his record stands amongst the best of the young American stallions. From five crops of racing age, he has sired three champions and has nearly \$6-million in 2023 progeny earnings just past the halfway mark of the year. His stud fee is \$110,000 at WinStar Farm near Versailles, KY.

- ◆ [CLICK TO VIEW WALKING VIDEO](#)
- ◆ [CLICK TO VIEW PEDIGREE PAGE](#)
- ◆ [CLICK TO VIEW BELLADONNA VI: EPISODE 1](#)

# BELLADONNA RACING LLC

## TEAM SPOTLIGHT

### STEVEN HORNSTOCK

**What attracted you to the sport of Thoroughbred Racing?**

Started going to Aqueduct my Senior year (1966) of High School; got hooked immediately.

**How were you introduced to the Belladonna Racing Partnership?**

Met David and Paul through my partner Steven Spielman

**What Belladonna Racing Partnerships are you involved in?**

IV and V

**Do you have a favorite Belladonna Horse? If so, tell us why?**

Not really

**Do you have a favorite part of the Thoroughbred Racing game?**

**Race Day? Sales? Other?**

Definitely race day. I also get excitement when I receive the Early Entry Notification email!

**What features of the Belladonna Racing Partnerships do you like most?**

I believe in safety in numbers, a group of good people owning/managing a group of horses.

**Tell us a little about your family and where you call home?**

I am born and bred in NYC; I currently live on Long Island (15 minutes from Belmont Park).

I have two daughters, four grandchildren ages 18 years to 14 months; and married for 51 years!!

**What is your daytime job?**

I work in the real estate world in New York City, and I've been at that for 40+ years.

**What hobbies or other activities do you enjoy when you have the time?**

Traveling, golf, and BABYSITTING!!!



# BELLADONNA RACING LLC

## RECENT NEWS & NOTABLE DATES



### 2023 SEPTEMBER YEARLING SALE

September 11 -23

Book	Session	Date	Start Time	Hip #	# Head
1	1	Monday, September 11	1:00 pm	1 – 189	189
	2	Tuesday, September 12	1:00 pm	201 – 390	190
2	3	Wednesday, September 13	11:00 am	401 – 761	361
	4	Thursday, September 14	11:00 am	762 – 1128	367
Friday, September 15			<b>DARK DAY</b>		
3	5	Saturday, September 16	10:00 am	1129 – 1548	420
	6	Sunday, September 17	10:00 am	1549 – 1965	417
4	7	Monday, September 18	10:00 am	1966 – 2380	415
	8	Tuesday, September 19	10:00 am	2381 – 2791	411
5	9	Wednesday, September 20	10:00 am	2792 – 3202	411
	10	Thursday, September 21	10:00 am	3203 – 3611	409
6	11	Friday, September 22	10:00 am	3612 – 3914	303
	12	Saturday, September 23	10:00 am	3915 – 4215	301

Total Head – 4194

Sale begins with the letter W

Updated 8/08/23



Belladonna PP

### BETWEEN THE QUARTER POLES WITH DAVID INGORDO

This month tune in to listen to all the details on the latest Belladonna Racing ventures.

◆ [CLICK FOR BRD V: EPISODE 3](#) ◆ [CLICK FOR BRD VI: EPISODE 3](#)



ANSWER PAGE 9

Q: What year produced the highest total sales for the Keeneland September Sale?



◆ [CLICK FOR VIDEOS](#)

We encourage you to visit our Belladonna YouTube channel frequently, as we regularly post workout and training videos of the Belladonna runners.

## UPCOMING SALES DATES

**Keeneland September Yearling Sale**  
September 11-23

**FT Midlantic Fall Yearling Sale**  
October 2-3

**FT Saratoga Fall Mixed Sale**  
October 17

**FT KY October Yearling Sale**  
October 23-26



# BELLADONNA RACING LLC

## *Around* THE TRACK



Auraculous



A: In 2022, Keeneland set a record for total gross receipts for its September sale when 2,847 yearlings sold for an aggregate \$405,495,700.

# BELLADONNA RACING LLC

## *Around* THE TRACK



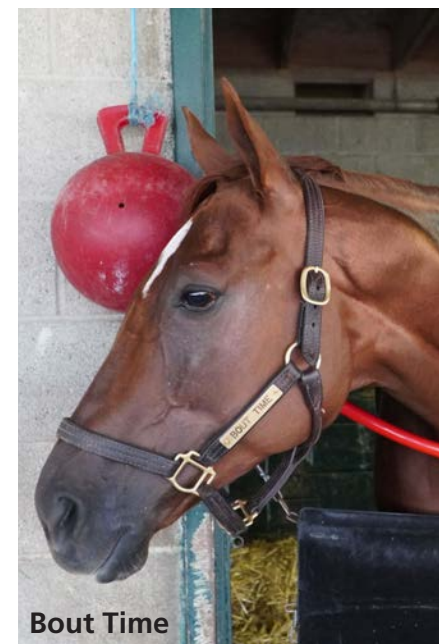
Varvatos on inside



Zverev



Saratoga Sale



Bout Time

# BELLADONNA RACING LLC

## *Around* THE TRACK



Sands of War as newborn



Depiction



The Process



Sands of War

JESSICA PALMER PHOTO



Vahva



Varvatos

