

BELLADONNA RACING LLC

NO. 12 – VOL. 4
DECEMBER 2024

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP *Trainer!*



DEVAUX STRIKES AT DEL MAR WITH FIRST BC WINNER

The 41st edition of the Breeders' Cup World Championships was held over two days at the idyllic setting of the seaside oval, Del Mar Racetrack. It was the third time for Del Mar to host, and they will host again for the 2025 edition of the Championships next Oct. 31 and Nov. 1.

Breeders' Cup reported that the 2024 handle was the third-highest in history, with an increase of 1.7% from last year (\$176,281,989). Only the 2022 Breeders' Cup at Keeneland (\$189,060,373) and the 2021 event at Del Mar (\$182,908,409) were higher.

The two-day attendance at Del Mar was 67,418, more than 20,000 higher than when the Breeders' Cup was held there in 2021.



Belladonna Partners were well accounted for among the crowd, as we had our first Breeders' Cup starter. Our star, Grade 1 winner and millionaire VAHVA, lined up in the BC Filly and Mare Sprint (G1), but she didn't have her best effort on the day. After a successful '24 campaign, Vahva is getting a well-deserved break and plans include for her to return for her 5-year-old season next spring.

The Belladonna group was thrilled to be there to witness our trainer Cherie DeVaux win her first (of many) Breeders' Cup races. She had her turf star MORE THAN LOOKS primed for the spotlight, as he chased down the leaders to win the \$2-Million BC Mile. Many congrats to her and her entire hard-working Team.



[CLICK FOR FULL BC RECAP](#)

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HEADED SOUTH FOR THE *Winter*

Our annual trek to warmer weather is complete, as the vast majority of our stable has shipped south for the winter race meets. The Fair Grounds, which opened in 1872 and is the nation's third-oldest racetrack will host most of our ready-to-run horses.

The New Orleans track meet started on November 22nd and will run through March 23rd, 2025.

We also have several horses located at the quiet base of Palm Meadows Training Center near Boynton Beach, Florida. **This state-of-the-art facility is located just north of Gulfstream Park, which opened its race meet on November 28th and will continue through March 30th.**



**PALM MEADOWS
TRAINING CENTER**

Circle these dates on your calendar! We will be making our annual Florida trip on February 2-4 to visit Dr. Barry Eisaman at his fabulous Eisaman Equine training facility near Ocala to see first-hand how our Belladonna VII group is progressing. We have 10 colts and 10 fillies in this upcoming class of 2YOs and are looking forward to seeing how these young athletes have grown and changed since the September sale. More information will be available in the coming months.

THE FLORIDA TRIP IN FEBRUARY

Mark your calendars! **FEBRUARY 2-4**

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NOVEMBER NEWS AND *More!*



Cherie DeVaux
@reredeaux

Follow

Three little kittens were left at the barn before we shipped in. This little one has taken a liking to @BelladonnaRaci1 State's Rights



David Ingordo Joins TDN Writers' Room Podcast

Wednesday, November 13, 2024 at 5:00 pm | [Back to: Top](#)



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David Ingordo | Keeneland

When bloodstock agent David Ingordo bought Zenyatta (Street Cry {Ire}) for just \$60,000 out of the 2005 Keeneland September Sale he probably thought he had found that once-in-a-lifetime horse.

Little did he know that the 2010 Horse of the Year, who was admitted to the Hall of Fame in 2016, might not be his very best purchase.

Fourteen years after he discovered Zenyatta, he picked out **Flightline (Tapit)**, paying \$1 million for the future superstar.

Q and A With New ADMC Committee Member David Ingordo

Friday, November 22, 2024 at 11:11 am | [Back to: Conversations, HISA](#)
Updated: November 22, 2024 at 11:15 am



David Ingordo | Fasig-Tipton photo



[CLICK FOR FULL ARTICLE](#)



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WHAT YOU NEED TO Know!



Trivia Question

Q: How many North American Graded stakes races are scheduled for the month of December?

ANSWER PAGE 7



Hidden Shores/ Sands Of War October 20th

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UPCOMING SALES DATES

**Keeneland January
Horses of All Ages**
KY • Jan. 13 – 15

**Fasig-Tipton February
Kentucky Winter Mixed**
KY • Feb. 3 – 4

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TEAM MEMBER *Spotlight*

DR. BARRY EISAMAN

What or who inspired you to choose your career path?

I chose this path on my own. I grew up around horses in western Pennsylvania and just developed a passion for horses. This led me to vet school and eventually led me to where I am today.

Where did you attend Veterinarian School?

University of Pennsylvania, New Bolton Center. I did my undergrad at Pitt. Upon graduating, I decided to move away as it would be a tough living trying to make a successful equine practice in my hometown in western PA.

Do you still practice Veterinarian medicine?

Yes, but I don't travel off our training center. I am more of a coordinator and list maker, the quarterback. I make a list of things that need to be done and farm it out to other professionals, then get the results and make decisions.

When did you open the doors to your Eisaman Equine training operation near Ocala?

Over 30 years ago, after Shari and I got married.

Do you remember what led you to opening the facility?

This is a hard question; we were pinhooking and selling 2YOs in training. As we started, we did a lot of rehab and breaking for other people. It just made sense to own a property here in Florida for the many two-year-old sales.

How many acres make up the Eisaman Equine Training facility and what is its capacity?

The facility is 420 acres and can handle 250 horses.

In your opinion what makes the Ocala area a suitable location to train and rehab horses?

Climate is the primary reason. We also have availability to a lot of top vets, blacksmiths, and other equine professionals.

Name a few of the more successful horses that you have worked with on the farm.

I'll refer to our website: <http://www.eisamanequine.com>. We have had hundreds of Graded Stakes winners at the farm.

At what point, if any, can you tell if a young horse under your care has talent or not?

It is an evolving report card; the longer I see them go and they improve, the better odds I will be accurate. Most top horses are showing sure signs by Feb/March of their 2YO year. The stars start coming to the forefront. But, they must have the mental will to play in the sport. It takes guts to jump in a full field and compete, and when some get roughed up in the race, they back out. Mentality is the game changer.



BELLADONNA RACING LLC

Around THE TRACK



Vahva



Vermelho



Legalize



BELLADONNA RACING LLC

Around THE TRACK



A: There are only 22 NA Graded stakes written for December, including six on opening day of the Santa Anita meet on Dec. 26th. (source: Bloodhorse.com)