

BELLADONNA RACING LLC

NO. 1 – VOL. 5
JANUARY 2025

— YEAR IN REVIEW —

2024 *Wrap-up!*

The Partnership is our People

Dear Belladonna Racing Family,

We would like to take this opportunity to first say THANK YOU to each and every one of you for your belief in the Belladonna Racing Mission, commitment to the program, and most importantly for the friendships we have formed and continue to foster over the past year.

The 2024 racing season was a milestone one for the Belladonna Racing program. It started as it has each year since 2019 with the arrival of an untested but talented class of newly turned 2-year-olds in the Belladonna VI (BDR VI) edition. This group includes prospects by leading sires such as Quality Road, Tapit, Not This Time, and Constitution, to name a few, and is led by the very promising States' Rights as well as the talented Cromwell.

With their first season of racing and early training lessons under their belt, the BDR VI class should contribute greatly to the Belladonna racing excitement in 2025. Yet it is the veterans we have returning in the Belladonna IV and V editions like Depiction, The Process, Sands of War, Legalize, and the stable's "Queen Bee" Vahva, who achieved elite status in 2024 by becoming a Grade 1 winner and a Breeders' Cup contender, that will lead the TEAM in 2025. They will set the standard for our newest class of 10 fillies and 10 colts in Belladonna VII. This group of 20 prospects that turned two years old on January 1st was obtained after passing the strict Belladonna Racing buying team's criteria and inspection process that began months in advance of the sale. The bidding to obtain this group was fierce in many cases, as it always is for the top prospects. The Belladonna buying team battled hard and saw off challenges from many of the other top racing programs to obtain these yearlings, and we feel it is our deepest group, to date.

The 2024 season also saw us reach the top level of the pyramid goals (see pyramid on page 2) we set for the Belladonna Racing program. These goals were aggressive but were established to help us keep our eye on the prize as we strived to reach elite status in the Thoroughbred racing game. New and more aggressive goals are being set with the objective of maintaining a program that is recognized for its integrity, work ethic, and success at the highest levels in the sport.

We hope you all will join us for our annual winter trip to Ocala, Florida, on February 2nd- 4th. This is a wonderful opportunity to share time together in a beautiful setting around many of our equine athletes.

In conclusion, we wish you and your families a Happy and Healthy New Year and we look forward to building many more exciting memories with you in 2025 and beyond.

Sincerely,

BELLADONNA RACING TEAM

**GRADE 1
WINNER
VAHVA**





BELLADONNA RACING LLC

— YEAR IN REVIEW —

2024 *Success!*

Belladonna Racing continued to reach our goals in 2024, competing at the most prominent racetracks in North America and making several competitive starts in elite stakes company coast to coast. Vahva developed into a tremendous 4-year-old, winning back-to-back stakes at Churchill Downs: the \$1 Million, Grade 1 Derby City Distaff and the Chicago S. (G3). A pair of our three-year-old colts earned Graded blacktype: Depiction opened his season with a stakes-placing at Gulfstream and ended the year with his most impressive start, a narrow second in Keeneland's Bryan Station S. (G3). The Process also added blacktype with a third in the Saranac S. (G3). The hard-trying Blissful was able to add blacktype to her resume before being sold as a broodmare in November.

BELLADONNA RACING IN 2024

STARTS: 70 ■ **WINS: 11** (incl. the G1 Derby City Distaff on KY Derby day)
PLACE: 09 ■ **SHOW: 14** ■ **WIN %: 15.7%**
IN-THE-MONEY %: 48.6%



BELLADONNA RACING LLC

WHAT A YEAR FOR THE *Queen*

VAHVA OUR INAUGURAL GRADE 1 WINNER!



After winning the \$1,000,000 Derby City Distaff (G1) on Kentucky Derby Day

Our world-class filly VAHVA provided us a tremendous thrill each time she ran in 2024. She began her 4-year-old campaign in April with a solid runner-up finish in the Grade 1 Madison S. at Keeneland after a nice freshening off of her Raven Run S.-G2 win in October 2023.

A month later, Vahva became the first Grade 1 winner for Belladonna with her stellar victory in the \$1,000,000 Derby City Distaff (G1) on Kentucky Derby Day. The memories of winning on this stage will last forever.

Vahva relished the Churchill surface, winning the Grade 3 Chicago S. in June for her fourth lifetime victory over the Louisville track. She then shipped

north for the Grade 1 Ballerina S. at Saratoga in late August, finishing third to another daughter of Gun Runner, Society.



Her last race of the season was the \$1,000,000 Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Sprint (G1) at Del Mar in California, marking another first for Belladonna. However, it was not her day and she finished off the board for only the third time in her 15-race career.

For the year, Vahva had a 5-2-1-1 record and earned \$929,000, more than half of her total bankroll of \$1,802,810 on a 15-6-3-3 slate. She is our Queen of the Stable.



BELLADONNA RACING LLC

2024 Belladonna WINNERS

Polyrhythmic finds her Rhythm!

After missing by just a head in her debut at Horseshoe Indianapolis, POLYRHYTHMIC won impressively in her second career start on December 7th at Fair Grounds. She led the way to a 6½ -length victory over our own ISEULT, who ran well to be second in her career debut here.

POLYRHYTHMIC broke sharply and found herself on the pace in the first sixteenth of a mile. Jose Ortiz settled her into a nice rhythm on the lead, and as they entered the turn, the field tried to close in on her but the 3YO daughter of Kantharos kicked away and was all alone at the wire. She earned an 80 Beyer Speed Figure for her effort.

In the same race, ISEULT, with Axel Conception aboard, broke well and went down on the inside of traffic. Having to check a bit down the backside and into the turn, ISEULT cut the turn, made a bid for POLYRHYTHMIC, and finished on well for second.

Cherie commented, "I was happy with POLYRHYTHMIC's debut. This was a step up in the class of maidens, but she handled that with a lot of class and was impressive. I'm very excited after that race. POLYRHYTHMIC is a filly we have had to take our time with, but she looks like it was worth it. We will give her some time out of the race and come back in an allowance race in January."

Regarding ISEULT, Cherie added: "ISEULT too has been training well of late and really turned the corner. Her race showed that she ran to her morning work. That was a good first effort and I think she will stretch out in distance and go a mile."

RACE RECORD: 2-1-1-0 EARNINGS: \$41,200



[▶ RACE REPLAY](#)

BELLADONNA RACING LLC

2024 *Belladonna* WINNERS (CONT.)

Firing off wins at Fair Grounds



FOXFIRE (Empire Maker filly) got our 2024 season underway with an easy 6 ½-length maiden win over the sealed muddy track at Fair Grounds on January 27th. Brian Hernandez had the call.

BLISSFUL (Empire Maker mare) opened up her 5-year-old season with a pair of close third-place finishes over the Fair Grounds lawn before taking her third start of the year against allowance company in New Orleans. Brian Hernandez rode her in all three starts. Blissful was quite consistent for us in 2024, hitting the board in 6-of-8 starts, including a third in stakes company at Colonial Downs in July. She was sold in November to become a broodmare.



BELLADONNA RACING LLC

2024 *Belladonna* WINNERS (CONT.)

Successful Spring Meet at Churchill



Adding to the pair of Graded stakes wins that are mentioned on Vahva's recap page, we had two of our promising three-year-old colts pick up allowance wins this past spring in Louisville. **DEPICTION** (More Than Ready colt), who had earned his first blacktype at Gulfstream Park in January, landed a \$128K allowance race in late May. This colt also picked up Graded status with a tremendous runner-up effort in the Bryan Station S. (G3) at Keeneland in the fall.

ZVEREV (Oscar Performance colt) added another allowance victory for us at Churchill Downs on June 20th when he and Jose Ortiz won by 2 1/2 lengths over the turf in a \$127K test. It was the colt's second win of the year.



BELLADONNA RACING LLC

2024 *Belladonna* WINNERS (CONT.)

Winning in the Bluegrass State



One of the more impressive victories for Belladonna came in October when our promising 2YO **STATES' RIGHTS** (Constitution colt) charged late to break his maiden over the Keeneland turf course. He had just missed by a head in his previous start at Saratoga where he finished second.

ZVEREV (Oscar Performance colt) started his sophomore year off with a third in maiden company at Fair Grounds, and then shifted to Turfway Park for his maiden score in March.



BELLADONNA RACING LLC

2024 Belladonna WINNERS (CONT.)

Winner's Circles in Surrounding States



THE PROCESS (More Than Ready colt) was an easy winner in a \$71K allowance race over the Colonial Downs turf in July, winning in hand by 4 lengths. He then stepped up into stakes competition and finished third in the Saranac S. (G3) at Saratoga and fourth in the Gio Ponti S. at Belmont at the Big A meet.

NORWICH (Munnings gelding) broke his maiden at Horseshoe Indianapolis on May 4th, the same day many of our partners were celebrating at the Kentucky Derby where Vahva earned her first Grade 1 win in the Derby City Distaff (G1).



BELLADONNA RACING LLC

2024 YEARLING SALES PURCHASES



2023 Colt, Into Mischief – Daisy

Purchased at Keeneland September Sale for \$560,000



2023 Colt, Into Mischief – Devil by Design

Purchased at Keeneland September Sale for \$900,000



2023 Colt, Candy Ride (Arg) – Katherine

Purchased at Keeneland September Sale for \$350,000



2023 Colt, Not This Time – Vivo Per Lei

Purchased at Keeneland September Sale for \$1,300,000

Congratulations!

to Cherie DeVaux and her Team for surpassing
\$10,000,000 IN 2024 EARNINGS
and finishing on the Top 15 list of Trainers in N.A.



BELLADONNA RACING LLC

2024 YEARLING SALES PURCHASES (CONT.)



2023 Colt, City of Light – Juensee Doree
Purchased at Keeneland September Sale for \$150,000



2023 Colt, Tapit – Love On the Run
Purchased at Keeneland September Sale for \$625,000



2023 Colt, Essential Quality – Spanish Star
Purchased at Keeneland September Sale for \$500,000



2023 Colt, Game Winner – D’Fashion
Purchased at Keeneland September Sale for \$450,000

Please make plans to join us in Ocala, FL
FEBRUARY 2-4TH
for a fun-packed few days in
the warm Sunshine State.

Our primary focus will be to watch our
horses train at Eisaman Equine training center
on the morning of **FEBRUARY 3RD.**

For more information, contact David Ingordo
(859-621-8809) or Paul Manganaro (781-779-4149).



INVITATION
for all
BELLADONNA
PARTNERS

BELLADONNA RACING LLC

2024 YEARLING SALES PURCHASES (CONT.)



2023 Colt, Not This Time – Allusion

Purchased at Keeneland September Sale for \$825,000



2023 Colt, Constitution – Ayers Rock

Purchased at Keeneland September Sale for \$450,000



2023 Filly, Gun Runner – She's My Gem

Purchased at Keeneland September Sale for \$550,000



2023 Filly, Curlin – Tiffany's Gal

Purchased at Keeneland September Sale for \$265,000

WHO WILL BE CROWNED?

**FRESHMAN SIRE
RACE DOWN
TO THE WIRE!**



**MCKINZIE,
VEKOMA, OR
TIZ THE LAW?**

BELLADONNA RACING LLC

2024 YEARLING SALES PURCHASES (CONT.)



2023 Filly, Constitution – Finding Fame
Purchased at Keeneland September Sale for \$240,000



2023 Filly, Curlin – Bajan Girl
Purchased at Keeneland September Sale for \$550,000



2023 Filly, Into Mischief – Bellera
Purchased at Keeneland September Sale for \$450,000



2023 Filly, Essential Quality – Mira Alta
Purchased at Keeneland September Sale for \$500,000



Our website, **BELLADONNATB.COM**, is up and running! It is an all-source site for entries, results, updates, stats, current news, archived newsletters, and photos. We encourage feedback so that we can provide the information you desire, so please let us know what you think of the overall content.

[CLICK HERE TO VISIT OUR SITE](https://belladonnatb.com)

BELLADONNA RACING LLC

2024 YEARLING SALES PURCHASES (CONT.)



2023 Filly, Practical Joke – One More Wish
Purchased at Keeneland September Sale for \$310,000



2023 Filly, Girvin – Cara Sorella
Purchased at Keeneland September Sale for \$300,000



2023 Filly, Twirling Candy – Sky Gold
Purchased at Keeneland September Sale for \$270,000



2023 Filly, Complexity – Surf Siren
Purchased at Keeneland September Sale for \$300,000

WINTER SALES CALENDAR

**KEENELAND JANUARY
HORSES OF ALL AGES SALE
JANUARY 13TH-15TH**

**OBS WINTER MIXED
AND HORSES OF RACING AGE
JANUARY 23RD-30TH**

**FASIG-TIPTON KY WINTER
MIXED SALE
FEBRUARY 3RD-4TH**



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