

# BELLADONNA RACING LLC

NO.5 - VOL.6  
MAY 2026

## Derby FIELD SET FOR SATURDAY!

# RENEGADE DRAWS RAIL, FAVORED AT 4-1 FOR KENTUCKY DERBY 152

BY STEVE SHERACK - TDN

Renegade (Into Mischief), a spectacular, come-from-behind winner for Hall of Fame trainer Todd Pletcher in the GI Arkansas Derby, was tabbed as the 4-1 morning-line favorite despite drawing the rail in a field of 20 set for next Saturday's GI Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs. Irad Ortiz, Jr. rides.

Renegade, a \$975,000 Keeneland September yearling purchase, is campaigned in partnership by Repole Stable and breeders Robert and Lawana Low. Pletcher has won the Kentucky Derby twice with Super Saver (2010) and Always Dreaming (2017).



The field for the 2026 Kentucky Derby is set | Coady Media

The last horse to win the Kentucky Derby from post one was Ferdinand in 1986.

"I wouldn't trade places with anyone heading into this Kentucky Derby," Mike Repole posted on X. "I'll take Todd Pletcher, Irad Ortiz Jr., and the best horse in the race Renegade from the 1 post every time. Is it ideal??? No. But I'll take the 1 post over 15-20 post all day with Renegade's closing style and explosive late kick."

Repole added, "If Renegade is who we think he is, the 1 post won't matter. No excuses." [◆ CLICK FOR FULL TDN STORY](#)

152  
KENTUCKY DERBY  
WORTHINGTON BREWERY

## POST POSITIONS

<b>1</b>		RENEGADE	4-1	<b>12</b>		CHIEF WALLABEE	8-1
<b>2</b>		ALBUS	30-1	<b>13</b>		SILENT TACTIC	SCR
<b>3</b>		INTREPIDO	50-1	<b>14</b>		POTENTE	20-1
<b>4</b>		LITMUS TEST	30-1	<b>15</b>		EMERGING MARKET	15-1
<b>5</b>		RIGHT TO PARTY	30-1	<b>16</b>		PAVLOVIAN	30-1
<b>6</b>		COMMANDMENT	6-1	<b>17</b>		SIX SPEED	50-1
<b>7</b>		DANON BOURBON	20-1	<b>18</b>		FURTHER ADO	6-1
<b>8</b>		SO HAPPY	15-1	<b>19</b>		GOLDEN TEMPO	30-1
<b>9</b>		THE PUMA	10-1	<b>20</b>		FULLEFFORT	20-1
<b>10</b>		WONDER DEAN	30-1	<b>21</b>		GREAT WHITE	50-1
<b>11</b>		INCREDIBOLT	20-1				

CROMWELL ENTERED IN RACE 1 ON DERBY DAY

POST TIME: 6:57 P.M. ET

# BELLADONNA RACING LLC

PRIME TIME FOR THE *Girls!*

## KENTUCKY OAKS FAVORITE ZANY DRAWS POST 2

BY LIZZY MADDEN - TDN

The \$1.5 million Kentucky Oaks (G1) field is set, led by Repole Stable's Zany. She has been slated as the 4-1 morning-line favorite in the 1 1/8-mile race for 3-year-old fillies, and will break from post position 2 May 1 at Churchill Downs.

Zany is trained by Todd Pletcher, who is looking for a fifth win in the event to tie D. Wayne Lukas and Woody Stephens for the most victories in the Oaks. The daughter of American Pharoah is entered off a second-place finish in the Ashland Stakes (G1), where she finished behind trainer Ben Colebrook's Percy's Bar who, at odds of 6-1, will begin her journey from post 11.

◆ [CLICK FOR FULL TDN STORY](#)



The Brad Cox trainee Prom Queen will break from stall 10. Owned and bred by Gary and Mary West, the 3-year-old daughter of Quality Road is 8-1 on the morning line after winning the Gulfstream Park Oaks (G2).

"I'm happy with her post. We're looking for a similar trip (as the Gulfstream Park Oaks)," Cox said, "It's a very well-matched, standout field."

Meaning, owned by Bridlewood Farm and Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners and trained by Michael McCarthy, is the second choice at odds of 5-1. The daughter of Gun Runner drew post position 5, while the Bob Baffert-trained duo of Explora (6-1) and Bottle of Rouge (15-1) drew post positions 1 and 8, respectively.



## POST POSITIONS

1		EXPLORA	6-1		BOTTLE OF ROUGE	SC	
2		ZANY	4-1	9		ALWAYS A RUNNER	10-1
3		SEARCH PARTY	30-1	10		PROM QUEEN	8-1
4		COUNTING STARS	8-1	11		PERCY'S BAR	6-1
5		MEANING	5-1	12		BELLA BALLERINA	12-1
6		MY MISS MO	20-1	13		PASHMINA	30-1
7		DAZZLING DAME	30-1	14		BROOKLYN BLONDE	30-1
				15		LOVELY GREY	30-1

POST TIME: 8:40 P.M. ET



# BELLADONNA RACING LLC

LET'S MAKE SOME *History!*

## CARPE DIEM!

We want to take this opportunity to wish our Belladonna Racing trainer Cherie DeVaux and all the dedicated men and women on the DeVaux Team the best of luck in what surely will be the first of many Kentucky Derbies for the team.

In just nine short seasons, Cherie and her team have developed a North American Eclipse Champion, a Breeders' Cup winner, 10 Graded Stakes winners, a Kentucky Oaks competitor, and four million-dollar earners.

The talent, passion, attention to detail, and commitment that Cherie and her team provide for every equine athlete, including the Belladonna athletes under their care, is second to none.

Best of Luck TEAM! We will be watching.  
The Belladonna Racing Family

*Best of Luck!*

### Cherie DeVaux has chance to become first female trainer to win Kentucky Derby

**LOUISVILLE, Ky.** — Cherie DeVaux has a chance to make history on Saturday in the Kentucky Derby.

The 44-year-old former pre-med student turned horse trainer will join a small list of females who have ever started a horse in the Derby and she can become the first in the race's 152-year history to win it.

◆ [CLICK FOR INTERVIEW](#)



From gallop girl to KY Derby trainer 🏇💛

@reredevaux reflects on lessons from Chuck Simon and chasing greatness with GOLDEN TEMPO at Churchill Downs with @KaliFrancois.

For every girl watching... this is your moment.



3:45 PM · Apr 26, 2026 · 16.6K Views

◆ [CLICK FOR INTERVIEW](#)

# BELLADONNA RACING LLC

LET'S GO *Vermelho!*



## VERMELHO LAST-TO-FIRST WINNER AT KEENELAND

[▶ RACE REPLAY](#)

VERMELHO made his belated second lifetime start and turf debut a winning one, proving an emphatic winner at Keeneland on April 22. He finished the nine furlongs in 1:52.25, including the last eighth-mile in an impressive :11.90.

VERMELHO and Jose Ortiz broke well and then settled off a very quick opening quarter. Traveling near the back of the field and on the rail down the backside, VERMELHO moved up along the inside and was in the back of a bunched-up group of horses entering the bend. Coming out of the turn, VERMELHO was put to the outside and with a couple taps of Jose's crop, he closed with a nice turn of foot to win going away.

Cherie commented, "That was a great ride by Jose and a great effort by VERMELHO after all the patience we have shown with him. His debut, though long ago, wasn't bad, and he's always shown ability. We just had to start and stop with him. Jose did a great job allowing him to relax and come with his run, especial-

ly off the layoff and at a challenging distance for his second start in over a year. I was impressed with that and hopefully we can move him forward from here. Congratulations to everyone, and thank you from VERMELHO for your patience with him....although he's probably mad at us we gelded him! I hope we are continuing to be rewarded for our patience with VERMELHO through this summer."

Ortiz was visiting the winner's circle for the fourth time this day. He added, "VERMELHO has speed and I could have had him closer, but I told Cherie that I did not want to use him early off such a long layoff and a long distance. If you were watching the race, you might have thought we were in trouble, but I did not think at any point I did not have them. They went quick early but then slowed it down a bit. VERMELHO gave me a good kick, and distance is not an issue. Let's hope he is a fun horse for us this summer."

**RACE RECORD: 2-1-0-0 \$63,507**

# BELLADONNA RACING<sup>LLC</sup>

PARTNER WITH A *Passion!*

## *Pretty as a Picture!*

John and Elizabeth Fawcett are members of the 2025 Belladonna / Andiamo Racing group. They currently divide their time between their ranch in Clark, Colorado, and a horse farm in Pennsylvania. They share an unbridled passion for the equine athlete and have been a tremendous addition to the Belladonna Family.

John was a practicing veterinarian for 20 years before selling his practice in 1996 to fully devote his time to painting. He is a very well respected American artist; his work has received many prestigious awards and honors throughout the art world.

We had the opportunity to meet John and Elizabeth when John was commissioned to paint a portrait of the 2025 Champion Turf Female SHE FEELS PRETTY, who was trained by Cherie DeVaux. We are thrilled to share a picture of the SHE FEELS PRETTY portrait with you.



[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO SEE A FULL BIOGRAPHY FOR JOHN FAWCETT](#)



# BELLADONNA RACING LLC

## RECENT NEWS & NOTABLE DATES

☰ BLOODHORSE



The Flightline colt consigned as Hip 1056 in the ring at the OBS Spring Sale  
*OBS/VidHorse Photo*

### OBS History Shattered: Flightline Colt Sells for \$10.5M

**T**he atmosphere in the pavilion turned electric as the highly anticipated [Flightline](#)   colt (Hip 1056) made his entrance into the ring during the April 17 finale of the Ocala Breeders' Sales Spring 2-Year-Olds in Training Sale. Following a week of relentless buzz, the opening bid shattered expectations, starting the floor at a cool \$1 million.

◆ [CLICK FOR FULL BH STORY](#)

### HISA Town Hall: Budgets, Breeze-Ups And The "Big Elephant"



Lisa Lazarus | *Carly Storm*

By *Dan Ross*

Tuesday's Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority (HISA) virtual town hall was a free-wheeling affair, with the bulk of the two-hour meeting spent on a discursive question-and-answer segment moderated by trainer Ron Moquett and bloodstock agent David Ingordo, two members of HISA's horsemen's advisory board.

◆ [CLICK FOR FULL TDN STORY](#)

Q: Has a female trainer ever won the Kentucky Derby?

Trivia

ANSWER PAGE 10

### Churchill Downs Enters Agreement To Acquire Preakness Intellectual Property Rights

Tuesday, April 21, 2026 at 9:22 am | [Back to: Top News](#)  
Updated: April 21, 2026 at 7:43 pm

Churchill Downs Incorporated has entered into an agreement to acquire the intellectual property, including all trademarks and associated rights, of the Preakness Stakes and Black-Eyed Susan from 1/ST Maryland LLC, the company announced Tuesday morning. The purchase price was \$85 million and the deal is subject to customary closing conditions. ◆ [CLICK FOR FULL TDN STORY](#)



Preakness winner's circle | *Horsephotos*

# BELLADONNA RACING LLC


## RECENT NEWS & NOTABLE DATES

☰ BLOODHORSE



Curlin at Hill 'n' Dale  
Farms at Xalapa  
*Amy Lanigan Photography*

### Curlin Shelved for Remainder of Breeding Season

**H**ill 'n' Dale Farms at Xalapa's elite sire [Curlin](#)  will stop covering mares for the remainder of the breeding season because of a low fertility issue that was suspected within the last 10 days.

◆ [CLICK FOR FULL BH STORY](#)

**MAY 18-19**

Fasig-Tipton Midlantic May Two-Year-Olds  
in Training Sale in Timonium, MD.

**JUNE 16-18**

Ocala Breeders' Sale Co. June 2YOs &  
Horses of Racing Age Sale in Ocala, FL.



## — 2026 RACE DATES —

**Churchill Downs**  
Apr. 25 - Jun. 28

**Evangeline Downs**  
Apr. 3 - Sep. 7

**Fairmount Park**  
Apr. 14 - Oct. 27

**Finger Lakes**  
Apr. 27 - Nov. 25

**Fonner Park**  
Feb. 14 - May. 2

**Gulfstream Park**  
Apr. 2 - Aug. 30

**Hawthorne Race Course**  
Mar. 29 - Nov. 1

**Hollywood Casino  
at Charles Town Races**  
Jan. 2 - Dec. 19

**Hollywood Casino at  
Penn National Race Course**  
Feb. 19 - Nov. 25

**Horseshoe Indianapolis  
Racing & Casino**  
Apr. 7 - Nov. 13

**Lone Star Park**  
Apr. 16 - Jul. 12

**Mountaineer Casino Resort**  
Apr. 12 - Dec. 9

**Oaklawn Racing Casino Resort**  
Dec. 12, 2025 - May. 2, 2026

**Parx Racing**  
Jan. 5 - Dec. 30

**Santa Anita Park**  
Dec. 26, 2025 - Jun. 14, 2026

**SunRay Park**  
Apr. 17 - May. 24

**Tampa Bay Downs**  
Nov. 19, 2025 - May. 2, 2026

**ThistleDown Racino**  
Apr. 20 - Oct. 8

**Turf Paradise**  
Nov. 10, 2025 - May. 2, 2026

**Woodbine**  
Apr. 18 - Dec. 13

# BELLADONNA RACING LLC

## *Around* THE TRACK



Island Flower



Vermelho



Zivo



# BELLADONNA RACING LLC

## *Around* THE TRACK



Love and Poetry



McCoy



Double Entendre



White Smoke



2YOs on their first day at Keeneland

# BELLADONNA RACING LLC

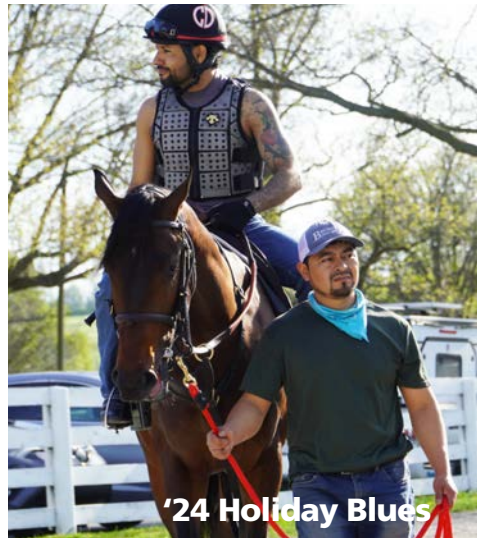
## *Around* THE TRACK



Love and Poetry



'24 Shan's Tiger



'24 Holiday Blues



Sailing Home



States' Rights



A: No. The closest finish was in 1992 when CASUAL LIES ran second for trainer Shelley Riley.

# BELLADONNA RACING LLC

## *Around* THE TRACK



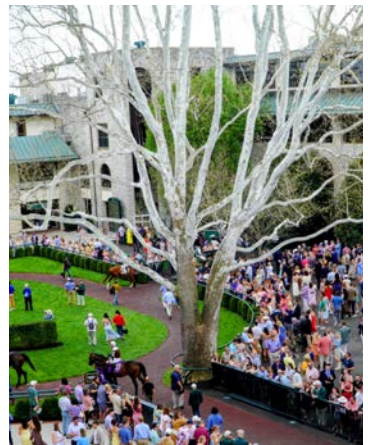
**Strate Cash**



**Vermelho**



**2YOs coming home**



**Iconoclast**



**Tiffany Cross**

