

# PA THOROUGHBRED REPORT

August 2021 / Issue No. 89

**THE PHBA MOVES  
FOUR STAKES TO  
\$200,000  
& ADDS TWO 3YO STAKES  
TO THE SCHEDULE!**

**SEE PAGE 16.**

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Beren, PC: Coglianese

  
**PENNSYLVANIA**  
HORSE BREEDERS  
ASSOCIATION

# LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Our 21st annual Pennsylvania's Day at the Races at Parx is just around the corner and YES, it's in person! The event will take place on Monday, August 23 and will again include \$1,000,000 in purses and our regular luncheon. We'll also be raffling off another John Deere Gator and you'll receive a special gift at the door. Be sure to RSVP as seating is limited! The day will honor and celebrate the breeding industry in Pennsylvania, as well as provide the chance for some top-notch horses to showcase their talents in our five \$100,000 stakes: the Banjo Picker Sprint for 3 & up at six furlongs; the Storm Cat for 3 & up at a mile and a sixteenth; the Marshall Jenney Handicap for sprinters 3 & up at five furlongs on the turf; the Dr. Teresa Garofalo Memorial for fillies and mares, 3 & up, at six furlongs; and the Mrs. Penny for fillies and mares, 3 & up, at a mile and a sixteenth on the turf. A 25 percent PA-sired bonus will again be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd in all stakes. We can't wait to see you on August 23!



Shortly, you will receive an email with you Breeder ID and temporary password for our new online registration system. You will be able to log in and register your horse or pay your member dues! This is a big step for the PHBA so take advantage of NO MORE PAPER!

As a reminder, the annual Stallion and Breeding Farm Directory will be published in December. Forms will be emailed to our stallion owners and domicile farms to have your information listed in the directory. Don't miss out on this free service!

Please remember, for the foal crop of 2022, broodmares must be in the state by Dec. 1, 2021, or within 14 days of a public sale (within 60 days of a sale outside the U.S.) or breed back to a PA-Sire. We ask that you submit all broodmare domicile forms online. We will let everyone know when the new form is available.

As always, if you have any questions about our program or if you're interested in joining the Thoroughbred breeding industry in Pennsylvania, please call our office at 610.444.1050.

Brian Sanfratello  
Executive Secretary

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Permit #140

# MSW BEREN, FROM A DECADES-LONG LINE OF WINNERS

*A story that began in 1977 continues today.*

BY EMILY SHIELDS

The success of Pennsylvania-bred Beren, a three-time stakes winner in 2021, is a story nearly four decades in the making. It weaves together the friendship between Christopher Feifarek and Stephen and Susan Quick, as well as the brilliance of a few homebred runners, into a tale worthy of a full-length novel. And it all started with Kattegat's Pride.

In 1982, Feifarek bought his very first yearling at auction, and had to ship it somewhere to reside

until its racing days. "It ended up at St. Omer's Farm, which was the Quicks' farm," Feifarek recalled. "I went to visit the horse on the farm, met them, and we hit it off immediately."

The Quicks had a gray filly in training at the same time named Kattegat's Pride. The Maryland-bred daughter of North Sea was running consistently in allowance races, but had yet to win a stakes. "This was the first time I knew anyone else that owned a racehorse," Feifarek recalled. "I was with them at the track when she won her first stakes race, and I became her biggest fan outside the owners."

Kattegat's Pride, who ultimately won a Grade 3 for the Quicks, was a homebred. "We'd purchased a barren mare, Pilgrim's Pride, in 1977 to get Kattegat's Pride in 1979," Susan Quick explained. "That's what started it all." Retired with 19 wins in 54 starts for earnings of \$511,812, Kattegat's Pride became a broodmare carrying the Quick couples' hopes and dreams, but fell flat. "She was a terrible broodmare with only had four foals," Quick said. "But somehow, she goes on and on."

*continued on next page*



Crowd Pleaser S, Parx, 6/22/21 PC: Equi-Photo





The Gold Fever S, Belmont, 5/9/21 PC: C Durand

All three of Kattecat's Pride's starters became winners, but none did more than break their maiden. The only filly of the group was Kattebuck, by Kentucky Derby winner Spend a Buck.

"It was a foal share with the stallion owner," Feifarek said. "They were going to split the foal 50/50, but the other guy wanted to cash out his half. I bought him out to become the co-owner of Kattebuck, and I was thrilled to death to have a chance to own part of this horse."

Kattebuck was retired in 1992. "Since she was the only filly Kattecat's Pride ever had, we knew if we wanted to keep that line going, we'd have to retire Kattebuck and breed her," Feifarek said. Unlike her dam, Kattebuck had considerable success as a broodmare. Of her eight starters, seven won, for progeny earnings of \$1,313,045. The bulk of that was made up from her brilliant millionaire daughter, Silmaril.

A daughter of Diamond, Silmaril won 16 of 36 starts, including 12 stakes races. Her graded wins included the Endine Handicap-G3 at Delaware Park and Pimlico Breeders' Cup Distaff Handicap-G3 at Pimlico, the latter over multiple Eclipse Award winner and Hall of Famer Ashado. The brilliant dark bay filly finished in the top three 26 times, and retired with the ability to be bred to numerous top-class Kentucky stallions.

She did not get in foal to Giant's Causeway for 2009, but produced a winning More Than Ready filly in 2010. Silmaril's Exchange Rate daughter Suzy Blue Light was a four-time winner, and she had a three-time winner named Suzy Moonlight, by Blame. But then the partnership turned inwards to look at local studs.

Susan Quick's son Chip Wheeler heads WynOaks Farm in Delta, Pa., and had an attractive stallion prospect standing named Weigelia. A dual Grade 3-winning millionaire who was Grade 1-placed at Saratoga, Weigelia had the look of a strong prospect in the Keystone State.

"There were a couple of years where we traded off which person would breed Silmaril," Feifarek said. "We wanted to breed to different horses, so to resolve the issue we took turns. The idea of going to Weigelia was 100% the Quicks'. Looking back on it, there were reasons why Weigelia was a good idea; he kept spitting out these allowance and stakes level horses, and he had a stakes winner out of the Quicks' mare Katarica Disco [a daughter of Silmaril's half-sister Legal Kat]. Steve Quick always said Weigelia threw very well conformed foals, while Silmaril's were always crooked."

The fairytale story paused around this time, as Steve Quick passed and Silmaril struggled to stay in foal.

"Silmaril didn't have a foal in 2019, and Sue approached me about partnering on the 2018 colt as a joint venture," Feifarek said. "I took her up on it and became a retroactive partner on the horse that became Beren."

*continued on next page*



The Gold Fever S, Belmont, 5/9/21 PC: Coglianese

Trained by Robert Reid Jr., Beren took five tries to break his maiden, but since then has been nearly flawless. The bay colt scored by 6 ¼ lengths at Parx on Feb. 10 going six furlongs, then added an allowance race at the same track March 3. He was fourth in the Grade 3 Bay Shore at Aqueduct after stumbling quite badly at the start.

“Forget about conditions,” Quick lamented. “He jumped right into graded company! But we leave that all to the trainer; we don’t tell him what to do. He’s the last word.”

Reid’s word was good, as Beren then reeled off three consecutive stakes wins.

First came the \$100,000 Gold Fever Stakes at Belmont Park on May 9. Beren won by a nose, gutting out a victory over Candy Man Rocket. “I’ve had horses for 40 years now, and his win there was my first in a New York race,” Feifarek said. “It was the smallest margin of victory that I’d ever had in a win. One race later it was the largest margin of victory I’d ever had.”

Wheeled back in the \$100,000 Paradise Creek Stakes on May 30, Beren led throughout to score by 10¾ lengths. After two straight Belmont wins, he returned to Parx to annex the \$100,000 Crowd Pleaser Stakes by 9½ lengths.

The 1 ¼ mile race was originally scheduled for the grass, but came off the turf due to rain.

“He’d never gone two turns before,” Quick said, “but I remember the announcer saying that he certainly doesn’t have any trouble with it. I was told by Sonny Hines (of Skip Away fame) years ago that a good horse will run on anything.”

“He reminds me of his mother at this point,” Feifarek said. “She could win at six furlongs, seven, a mile, a mile and an eighth... Most stakes horses are either a sprinter, or a miler, but they’ve got flexibility. We can run him wherever it suits him, with endless opportunities to keep up his momentum.”

Feifarek has extra reason to cheer for the special Pennsylvania-bred, as he and his wife donate a tenth of all their purse earnings to Itineris, a non-profit group serving adults with autism.

“Hopefully he can stay good down the line and hold up physically,” Feifarek said of Beren, who has five wins and two seconds in 11 starts for earnings of \$291,470. “He can run on dirt or turf, short or long, against Pennsylvania-breds or not. The sky’s the limit with him.” ■



The Gold Fever S, Belmont, 5/9/21 PC: C Durand



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## *Uptowncharlybrown - It's My Town*

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**Trainer: Timothy Hills**

**Breeder: Uptowncharlybrown Stud LLC**

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# LONGTIME BREEDER VAL MCNEELY STAYS THE COURSE AT EQUIVINE FARM

*Originally published in the  
BloodHorse November 14, 2020  
reprinted here with permission.*

BY CHRISTINE OSER

Even in a constantly changing world due to a global pandemic, Val McNeely has been able to find solace at her Equivine Farm near Coatesville, Pa.

“On this farm we also now have grapes. My husband put a vineyard in and we have an orchard. We do have people haying some of our fields, so it’s a working farm,” McNeely said. “We love it out here. It’s a little bit of the old school, but there’s no coronavirus out here, and it’s just a good way to get away from the real world in a way.”

Though McNeely, 68, has not attended the races or sales in recent months because of the COVID-19 pandemic, she’s still been steadfast in her support of the Midlantic region.



COURTESY VAL MCNEELY

Val McNeely, shown with winning homebred 4-year-old gelding El Hermano and her Welsh springer spaniel Echo, has long been a mainstay of the Midlantic region breeding program

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FASIG-TIPTON PHOTO/ECLIPSE SPORTSWIRE

She chose to send her Pennsylvania-bred Declaration of War filly out of the stakes producer Newstouse (by Unbridled's Song) to the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic fall yearling sale as opposed to the yearling sales in Kentucky. The filly was consigned by Paramount Sales – McNeely is good friends with Para-mount's Lesley Campion – and was one of the standout hips of the auction, selling to agent Liz Crow of BSW Bloodstock for \$135,000.

"I think we all need to support each other. We all try to kind of work together, and you have to help each other," McNeely said. "My one consideration when I sell in Kentucky is I don't have horses come back to Pennsylvania very often, if ever. The breeders awards are important for us here. It's one thing to sell a horse for a little more money in Kentucky, but if you don't get the breeders awards...you're doing better almost by selling for maybe a lower price but having a local trainer so you'll have it given back to you in the bonuses.

"I had a horse run about two months ago, a 2-year-

old, one of the first ones. She ran in an open maiden special weight. I think the purse was around \$42,000, somewhere around there, so my breeders' fund – (the horse) was (by a) Kentucky stallion – was about \$8,500," McNeely explained. "I had a 6- or 7-year-old, one of my older horses I no longer own, run at Presque Isle for \$20,000 and she won, and I had a bonus purse of \$6,500 because she was from a Pennsylvania stallion. You can see where they're really trying to help the local farms with the local stallions; making it worth their while to stay home."

The circuit on which the yearling filly will run is yet to be determined, but her family has remained active this year.

Newstome, her 3-year-old half brother by Goldencents, picked up a third black-type stakes win over the summer – the Woodstock Stakes at Woodbine – and has earned \$228,646 for Midlantic trainer Michael Trombetta, whose wife, Marie, campaigns the horse.

*continued on page 11*

# PEWTER

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- Continues to serve on PA Horseman's Thoroughbred Association Board at Parx for last ten years
- First female trainer in Parx Hall of Fame



Last season he won the Mark McDermott Stakes at Presque Isle Downs and the James F. Lewis III Stakes at Laurel Park. He also placed in the Pennsylvania Nursery Stakes at Parx Racing.

Equivine also has bred and campaigned Pennsylvania champion Redaspen. The daughter of Bianconi won multiple stakes in the Midlantic region and scored her top victory in the 2007 La Prevoyante Handi-cap-G2T) at Calder Race Course. She was then honored as that year's champion older female in Pennsylvania.

A love for horses has been present in multiple generations of women in McNeely's family.

"It's a female gene," McNeely quipped. Her mother, Rosamond Clark, who passed away two years ago, grew up riding horses in Europe and became invested again when McNeely and close friend Lee Vosters went into the Thoroughbred business together more than 40 years ago. McNeely and Vosters, of Randalia Farm near Chesapeake City, Md., ran horses at the old Keystone

Racetrack (now Parx). McNeely has been operating at the current Equivine property for about 21 years after moving to the area.

McNeely said when she began working in the racing business, her mother, "at first thought it was terrible. Then we took her to the track, and she totally fell in love with it; within two days she had turned 180 degrees.

"After my father passed away almost 20 years ago, the horses were really what kept her going," McNeely added. "She would read *The Blood-Horse* every week faith-fully, and she watched TVG every day. She passed away at almost 98. It kept her going the last 20 years. And she could bet. She would raise her hand once in a while by mistake when we went to an auction. I've ended up with a horse or two that I had no expectations to buy. It was really thrilling for her. As my husband says, 'it's a gene.'"

As McNeely's children grew up, she served as district commissioner of the Pony Club of Radnor Hunt Club and

*continued on next page*



COURTESY VAL MCNEELY

**Equivine Farm comprises 145 scenic acres of the Pennsylvania countryside**

participated in foxhunting. Her two daughters, Andrea and Frances, both trained, and though her son David is not in the business, McNeely said his two daughters have begun taking riding lessons. “His two girls are learning to ride, so it’s coming along,” she said.

Equivine Farm covers 145 acres in Chester County, Pa. McNeely said her husband, Peter, stays busy with the vineyard and the orchard while she manages the 15-20 horses the farm averages at a time.

“There’s a little bit of something here on the farm for anybody and everybody,” she said.

About 10 of the horses currently on the farm are weanlings. In addition to breeding and selling, Equivine is also able to train its own horses that are either 2-year-olds learning how to be racehorses, or racehorses that are currently away from the track. The farm has a quarter-mile Tapeta track that allows for basic training as well as a Eurociser. Though McNeely does not call it a commercial farm, she said once in a while if they know a client well, they will foal and prep horses other than their own. They also foaled all the Pennsylvania-breds for the late Phyllis Wyeth, whose Kentucky-bred Union Rags went on to win the 2012 Belmont Stakes-G1).

“This is the key I think to any successful businesses: wonderful guys who take care of these animals for me. They are very good at everything,” McNeely added.

McNeely is also sure to support the Midlantic stud farms and sends mares to both local stallions and those in Kentucky. In the region she is part of a syndicate for Diamond B Farm’s

Uptowncharlybrown and Northview’s Hoppertunity. She has also sent a couple of mares to Mosler at Country Life Farm.

“We have our local stallions we kind of like to go to, and some of them are really quite nice,” McNeely said. “I don’t think Kentucky really has much interest in any of them, but some of them really throw runners, and that’s what you want. You have to have sound runners.”

In Kentucky, McNeely shares a season to WinStar Farm’s Good Samaritan, and in a normal year without a pandemic, breeding to Kentucky stallions provides a good excuse to visit the state’s stud farms.

“I’ve been very fortunate. I have some good friends from Kentucky, and Lesley at Paramount has been a



COURTESY VAL MCNEELY

**As its name implies, Equivine Farm nurtures both equines and fruits of the vine**

*continued on next page*



really good friend, and I love to pick their brains because it's hard to get information up here," McNeely said. "Whether they work out or not... It's a crapshoot in the end, but it's fun to go down there. I really enjoy it. I used to love to go to the stallion barns, but with COVID

I'm relying on other people's eyes. I do plan to send a few (mares) down (in 2021); I'm going to keep that going. Maybe a few more since some of the stud fees have gone down."

McNeely's passion for horses extends outside of the business of getting horses to the racetrack. Her mother was heavily involved in Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association's Turning for Home, a non-profit that helps former racehorses transition into a safe retirement, and McNeely is thankful Equivine has the facility and resources to welcome back some of its horses that had careers with other connections.

"We're in a business because we love these animals. If you're in the business for that, you can't throw them away when they're finished," she said. "Most of the time I know where my horses go, most of them, and we don't push them early. Two-year-old sales are not something I normally do. I have one horse that was still doing point-to-points last year at 12."

Though McNeely doesn't ride as much as she used to, when she is in Florida, where she also has a residence, she'll hop on a Paint horse owned by her daughter Frances and they will go riding together.

"I have one horse I'm running right now, a 5-year-old about to go back to the track. He had some time off. Half of me wants to ride him myself, and the other half says 'no, he's got to earn his living,'" she laughed. "Some of our horses here,

we ride our own racehorses. I don't mind riding."

While the COVID-19 pandemic lowered purses at tracks across the country and sales saw a drop in numbers, McNeely was thankful the horse side of the farm was not Equivine's only financial means.

"Breeders didn't breed as many mares this year, so we may see a real drop in numbers next year," McNeely said, also noting the pandemic shut many businesses down as breeding sheds were in full swing in mid-March (2020). "I do think that some of the small breeders, who really don't have the financial ability to go through these things, may not survive. COVID is definitely an issue to some degree still. Day in and day out on the farm, no, it has not changed. Hay prices have stayed the same; grain has stayed the same. Brook Ledge still runs as normal."

Though she hasn't made trips to the Bluegrass this year to visit stallions or been to the sales to see friends and the progeny of young stallions, she anticipates a day when the industry can return to normal and when breeding and the sales market will rebound.

"I didn't go to the sales. I did everything online – which you could still see it – but it's the back barns that I love. It's seeing people and just looking at new horses and new stallions and that sort of thing," she said. "It'll come back again. I really think it will." ■

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# FASIG TIPTON SARATOGA


A total of 8 PA-Breds have been catalogued at the Fasig-Tipton Saratoga Sale, to be held August 9-10 in Saratoga, NY. The following chart includes breeder and consignor.


HIP	DOB	COLOR	SEX	SIRE	DAM	SIRE OF DAM	BREEDER	PROPERTY LINE
<a href="#">11</a>	03/15/2020	GRR	C	Arrogate	Too Much Malibu	Malibu Moon	Blackstone Farm LLC	Mill Ridge Sales Agent
<a href="#">24</a>	02/07/2020	CH	C	Gun Runner	Wembley	Bernardini	Blackstone Farm LLC	South Point Sales Agency Agent
<a href="#">46</a>	03/18/2020	B	C	Street Sense	Bella Traviata	Indian Charlie	Blackstone Farm LLC	Paramount Sales Agent XI
<a href="#">90</a>	03/04/2020	B	F	Justify	Essential Rose	Bernardini	Blackstone Farm LLC	Warrendale Sales Agent II
<a href="#">134</a>	05/03/2020	DKB	C	Blame	Lovely Stay	Flower Alley	Ashwell Stables Inc.	Darby Dan Farm Agent VI
<a href="#">136</a>	03/12/2020	CH	F	More Than Ready	Lucky Draw	Lookin At Lucky	Blackstone Farm LLC	South Point Sales Agency Agent
<a href="#">171</a>	03/21/2020	B	C	Hard Spun	Perfect Note	Elusive Quality	Blackstone Farm LLC	South Point Sales Agency Agent
<a href="#">179</a>	04/25/2020	DKB	C	Uncle Mo	Ristretto	Medaglia D'oro	Forgotten Land Investment Inc.	Mulholland Springs Agent



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# GET READY!

THE PHBA MOVES FOUR STAKES TO  
**\$200,000**

**SATURDAY, SEPT. 25**  
**PARX RACING**  
**ALPHABET SOUP HANDICAP**  
3 & UP, 1 1/16 M, TURF  
**PLUM PRETTY STAKES**  
3 & UP, F&M, 1 1/16 M

**FRIDAY, NOV. 26**  
**PENN NATIONAL**  
**SHAMROCK ROSE STAKES**  
2YO FILLIES, 6F

**TUESDAY, DEC. 7**  
**PARX RACING**  
**PENNSYLVANIA NURSERY STAKES**  
2YO, 7F

**& ADDS TWO \$100,000**  
**3 YEAR OLD STAKES!**

**FRIDAY, OCT. 22, PENN NATIONAL**

**DANZIG STAKES**  
3YO, 6 FURLONGS

**NEW START STAKES**  
3YO FILLIES, 6 FURLONGS



# 2021 PA-BRED STAKES SCHEDULE

<b>TUESDAY, APRIL 27</b> <b>PARX RACING</b>	<b>\$100,000 PAGE MCKENNEY HANDICAP</b> 3 & up, 7 furlongs 1st - Wait for It, 2nd - Chilly in Charge, 3rd - Breezy Gust	<b>\$100,000 UNIQUE BELLA STAKES</b> 3 & up, fillies & mares, 7 furlongs 1st - Chub Wagon, 2nd - Promised Storm, 3rd - Ujjayi
<b>FRIDAY, MAY 28</b> <b>PENN NATIONAL</b>	<b>\$100,000 LYPHARD STAKES</b> 3 & up, fillies & mares, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ miles, off turf 1st - Trolley Ride, 2nd - Midnight Obsession, 3rd - Discreetly Tough	<b>\$100,000 WITH ANTICIPATION STAKES</b> 3 & up, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ miles, off turf 1st - Ravens Delight, 2nd - Chilly in Charge, 3rd - Saratoga Jack
<b>TUESDAY, JUNE 22</b> <b>PARX RACING</b>	<b>\$100,000 CROWD PLEASER STAKES</b> 3YO, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ miles, off turf 1st - Beren, 2nd - Like a Saltshaker, 3rd - Fire's Finale	<b>\$100,000 POWER BY FAR STAKES</b> 3 & up, fillies & mares, 5 furlongs, off turf 1st - Hey Mamaluke, 2nd - Precious, 3rd - Tara's Talent
<b>MONDAY, JULY 19</b> <b>PRESQUE ISLE DOWNS</b>	<b>\$100,000 MALVERN ROSE STAKES</b> 3YO fillies, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ furlongs 1st - Just One Time, 2nd - Maldives Model, 3rd - Tactical Pajamas	
<b>MONDAY, JULY 26</b> <b>PRESQUE ISLE DOWNS</b>	<b>\$100,000 PRINCESS OF SYLMAR STAKES</b> 3 & up, fillies & mares, 1 mile 70 yards 1st - Darcy Mae, 2nd - Redeem My Heart, 3rd - Wildcat Cartridge	
<b>TUESDAY, JULY 27</b> <b>PRESQUE ISLE DOWNS</b>	<b>\$100,000 HARD SPUN STAKES</b> 3 & up, 1 mile 70 yards 1st - Wait for It, 2nd - Viski Jones, 3rd - Ravens Delight	
<b>PENNSYLVANIA'S DAY AT THE RACES</b>  <b>MONDAY, AUGUST 23</b> <b>PARX RACING</b>	<b>\$100,000 BANJO PICKER SPRINT STAKES</b> 3 & up, 6 furlongs  <b>\$100,000 MRS. PENNY STAKES</b> 3 & up, fillies & mares, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ miles, turf	<b>\$100,000 MARSHALL JENNEY HANDICAP</b> 3 & up, 5 furlongs, turf  <b>\$100,000 STORM CAT STAKES</b> 3 & up, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ miles  <b>\$100,000 DR. TERESA GAROFALO MEMORIAL STAKES</b> 3 & up, fillies & mares, 6 furlongs
<b>MONDAY, SEPT. 13</b> <b>PRESQUE ISLE DOWNS</b>	<b>\$100,000 FINEST CITY STAKES</b> 2YO fillies, 6 furlongs	<b>\$100,000 MARK MCDERMOTT STAKES</b> 2YO, 6 furlongs
<b>SATURDAY, SEPT. 25</b> <b>PARX RACING</b>	<b>\$200,000 ALPHABET SOUP HANDICAP</b> 3 & up, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ miles, turf	<b>\$200,000 PLUM PRETTY STAKES</b> 3 & up, fillies & mares, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ miles
<b>FRIDAY, OCT. 22</b> <b>PENN NATIONAL</b>	<b>\$100,000 DANZIG STAKES</b> 3YO, 6 furlongs	<b>\$100,000 NEW START STAKES</b> 3YO fillies, 6 furlongs
<b>FRIDAY, NOV. 26</b> <b>PENN NATIONAL</b>	<b>\$200,000 SHAMROCK ROSE STAKES</b> 2YO fillies, 6 furlongs	
<b>TUESDAY, DEC. 7</b> <b>PARX RACING</b>	<b>\$200,000 PENNSYLVANIA NURSERY STAKES</b> 2YO, 7 furlongs	

# PA-BRED STAKES RECAPS

## MALVERN ROSE S.

**PID, \$100,000, 3YO, 6F, 7-19.**

### **WON - JUST ONE TIME**

f, 3, Not This Time—Ida Clark, by Speightstown.  
O-Warrior's Reward LLC, B-Warrior's Reward LLC (PA), T-Michael W. Salvaggio Jr., J-Angel R. Rodriguez, \$58,800.

### **2nd - Maldives Model**

f, 3, Petionville—Tahitian Pearl, by El Prado (IRE).  
O-Tom Coulter, B-Arrowwood Farm (PA), \$19,600.

### **3rd - Tactical Pajamas**

f, 3, Uncle Lino—Salishan, by Banker's Gold.  
O-James E. Hess, B-Vicky Schowe & Kemal Erkan (PA), \$13,475.

Donald Brown and Tom McClay have bred and/or owned stakes winners of their own over the decades, but under their Warrior's Reward LLC banner they now have one they bred and are racing together. Just One Time, making only her second career start, flew home to take the Malvern Rose Stakes for 3-year-old fillies, going six and a half furlongs at Presque Isle Downs, by four and a quarter lengths on July 19.

"When they were breaking her in Virginia they told us that she had some talent," said Brown. "And then when she won her first race, the trainer [Michael Salvaggio Jr.] told us he didn't think she was 100 percent and that we had a little more horse here. And in the next start she proved it."

Just One Time broke her maiden over Penn National's main track on May 14 by nearly two lengths. With her pedigree, being by Giant's Causeway's young son Not This Time, Brown noted "we suspected she'd like synthetic or turf and [the Malvern Rose] was the first spot we saw."

Sent off as second choice of seven Malvern Rose starters, the chestnut filly saved ground until the turn for home before taking aim at the leaders and drawing off.

"She can run," said Brown. "In the mornings she's doing that pretty easy (she had three bullet workouts at Penn National since May)."

When Woodberry Payne broke her at his Ingleside Training Center in Virginia he told the partners that as



she is a bigger filly, they should be patient with her. "And that's what we did," said Brown. "We've never pushed her. At 2 there were minor setbacks. But every time we gave her all the time she needed."

Warrior's Reward LLC was formed in late 2018 to buy Warrior's Reward the stallion and bring him to Pennsylvania. "We already owned some mares and decided to race the offspring born that year under that corporation, even though they weren't by Warrior's Reward," noted Brown.

Just One Time was foaled at Hempt Farm in Mechanicsburg, an old Standardbred facility leased by the partners leased for several years. When the farm was sold to developers last year after the lease was up, the partners downsized. "We still have 20-couple mares," said Brown, and still have their mares with Susan Grove, the same farm manager Brown has been with for the past decade, who bought a smaller place on her own.

Just One Time is the only foal the partners bred out of the Speightstown mare Ida Clark, a half-sister to graded stakes winner For Rubies whom they bought with the future stakes winner in utero for \$45,000 at the 2017 Keeneland November Breeding Stock sale. Just two weeks after Just One Time was born, Ida Clark's first foal, Black Stetson, won Aqueduct's Bridgetown Stakes. Ida Clark was bred back to Outwork and sold at the Keeneland January sale in 2019 – she brought \$60,000. "In hindsight I wish we hadn't sold her," said Brown. ■

*stakes recaps continued on next page*



# PA-BRED STAKES RECAPS CONTINUED...



**DASHING BEAUTY S.**  
**DEL, \$100,000, 3YO/UP, F/M, 6F, 7-10.**

## **WON - CHUB WAGON**

f, 4, Hey Chub–Takin the Plunge, by Lion Heart.  
O-Daniel J. Lopez and George Chestnut, B-Joe-Dan Farm & George Chestnut (PA), T-Guadalupe Preciado, J-Jomar Torres, \$60,000.

Chub Wagon keeps rolling along! Her eighth win in eight lifetime starts was one of her easiest as she cruised home by five and a quarter lengths under a “brisk hand ride” in Delaware Park’s \$100,000 Dashing Beauty Stakes on July 10.

Daniel Lopez and George Chestnut’s homebred has now won stakes at three different tracks in her last four starts, after taking the Unique Bella at Parx and the Skimpat and Shine Again at Pimlico. On the Midlantic-Bred top older horses poll that was released July 23, she ranks second, behind multiple Grade 1 winner Knicks Go.

Trainer Guadalupe Preciado called an audible when a possible trip to Florida for the Grade 2 Princess Rooney Invitational at Gulfstream on July 3 was called off after the 4-year-old filly suffered a brief illness. Preciado told the Daily Racing Form’s Dan Illman he didn’t believe the illness would cost Chub Wagon much time, and the Dashing Beauty proved her quick recovery. She led at every call in her most recent win and finished six furlongs in 1:10.17.

The daughter of Hey Chub out of Lopez’s homebred mare Takin the Plunge now has earned \$342,800. ■



**WOLF HILL S.**  
**MTH, \$100,000, 3YO/UP, 5 1/2FT, 7-17.**

## **WON - THE CRITICAL WAY**

g, 7, Tizway–Critical Factor, by Star de Naskra. (\$17,000 ’14 KEENOV; \$65,000 ’15 KEESEP; \$75,000 2016 OBSJUN).  
O-Monster Racing Stables, B-Blackstone Farm LLC (PA), T-Jose H. Delgado, J-P. Lopez, \$60,000.

What does the future hold for The Critical Way? If he continues to do what he’s been doing, he gets closer and closer to a trip to Del Mar in November. The 7-year-old Tizway gelding, who has been third or better in his last nine starts, eight stakes, recorded his second stakes win in a row in Monmouth Park’s Wolf Hill on Haskell Day, July 17.

Jose Delgado, who trains The Critical Way for Monster Racing Stables, said after the race, run at about five and a half furlongs on the turf in a final time of 1:01.11: “I love that he sits off the pace now. We’re going in the right direction with the horse.

“It’s nice coming off the pace because five furlongs or five and half is usually all about speed. I like it. He was really not scheduled for this race. We ran today more as a work. It went well. Now we’re thinking about Saratoga (the Grade 3 Troy Stakes on Aug. 6). Then we’ll go to Parx (for the Aug. 25 Grade 3 Parx Dash and/or the Sept. 25 Grade 3 Turf Monster). The Breeders’ Cup (Turf Sprint) is the long-term plan. We’ll see what happens. He did it very easy today. I want to see how he comes out and we’ll go from there.”

Rider Paco Lopez had nothing but praise for the five-time stakes winner. “He’s a nice horse and he’s fast. He always tries very hard and he ran very good today.” ■

# PA-BRED STAKES RECAPS CONTINUED...

## CARESS S-G3

SAR, \$200,000, 4YO/UP, F/M, 5 1/2FT, 7-24.

### Won - CARAVEL

f, 4, Mizzen Mast–Zeezee Zoomzoom, by Congrats.  
O-Elizabeth M. Merryman & Bobby Flay, B/T-Elizabeth Merryman (PA), J-I. Ortiz, \$110,000.

In her first attempt in graded stakes company, Caravel excelled, drawing away with breathtaking ease to win Saratoga's Grade 3 Caress Stakes and the majority of the \$200,000 purse for breeder/owner/trainer Lizzie Merryman and new co-owner, famed chef Bobby Flay, who purchased 75 percent of the 4-year-old filly after her last start.

Winning for the seventh time in nine outings, Caravel went off the even-money favorite in her Saratoga debut, bided her time under Irad Ortiz, and when asked in the stretch accelerated to the wire to win by two and a half lengths in 1:02.38 for the five and a half furlongs on the turf. She now has earnings of \$367,872.

It was the fifth stakes win for Caravel in nine lifetime starts, and the first graded stakes win for the Fair Hill-based Merryman.

"Bobby Flay now owns a majority interest in her and we made a plan when he was interested in buying to make that change," Merryman noted when talking about Caravel's move to Graham Motion's barn, also at Fair Hill. "That was something I was in agreement with from the time of the sale of the majority of her. Graham is in the next barn to me at Fair Hill [in Maryland]. It'll all be good."

As for the latest stakes win, Merryman told the press after Ortiz rated Caravel off fast opening fractions of :21.64 and :44.58: "I don't know if she's improved, but I think people understand how she needs to be ridden, and the trip is better now.



"I said to Irad just be as quiet as you can leaving the gate because the least twitch of the reins and she's going. It's pretty amazing. You watch Saratoga and just think it's the place to be. To come up here with a filly like that, it's amazing."

Ortiz said he wanted to replicate Caravel's previous trip when winning the Goldwood Stakes (when ridden by Pablo Morales) last out.

"The whole turn, she was on the bridle waiting for the time to go," said Ortiz. "I wanted to make sure to go around the horses like she did last time at Monmouth. I was able to get in the clear and as soon as I asked, she gave me a really good kick – a good turn-of-foot."

The Grade 1, \$1 million Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint on Nov. 6 at Del Mar is now the main goal. Merryman said Motion is primed to take over.

"We've talked for weeks about her," Merryman told the Saratoga media. "He's watched her train pretty much every day.

"He's just been so nice and classy and sweet about her. He was very much laying low today, but we talked a lot about her and we'll continue to talk about her." ■

*stakes recaps continued next page*



# PA-BRED STAKES RECAPS CONTINUED...

## **PRINCESS OF SYLMAR S.**

**PID, \$100,000, 3YO/UP, F&M, 1M70Y, 7-26.**

### **WON - DARCY MAE**

m,7, by K One King - Krista's Quik Chic, by Forestry. (\$17,000 '19 KEEJAN). O/T-Katy Cheeks, B- Gunpowder Farms LLC (PA), J-P. Morales, \$60,000.

### **2nd - Redeem My Heart**

m, 5, by Redeemed - Miss Gemstone, by Clever Trick. (\$5,000 '17 FTMSEP). O-Muirfield Farm and Tim Girtten, B-William E. Riddle Jr. (PA), T- T. Girtten, J-S. Spieth, \$20,000.

### **3rd - Wildcat Cartridge**

m, 7, by Messner - Her Lady Grace, by Lord Carson.  
O-Nicolby Racing Stable LLC, B-Donald L. Brown Jr. (PA),  
T-M. Salvaggio, J-T. Conner, \$11,000.

Darcy Mae is the queen bee of Katy Cheeks' shedrow. The 7-year-old mare knows she's special, and proves it time after time, most recently with her victory in Presque Isle Downs' Princess of Sylmar Stakes on July 26.

"It's her world and we just live in it," said Cheeks, who with her fiance, trainer Leland Hayes, spends winters in Florida and summers at Presque Isle. When looking for racing prospects for the 2019 season, Hayes spent \$17,000 for Darcy Mae, a daughter of K One King, at the 2019 Keeneland January sale.

A Pennsylvania-bred with conditions, the mare fit the stable. "Her form showed she really didn't like the dirt but she liked the turf," said Cheeks. "We thought she'd be really tough here (at Presque Isle) and it turns out she loves the track and we were right."

Since making her Presque Isle debut in May 2019, Darcy Mae has run nine times, winning six and finishing second or third in two others. In her third Presque Isle start, she was second to *Imply* in the 2019 Northern Fling Stakes. Four starts later she became Hayes' first stakes winner as a trainer when taking the H.B.P.A. in October. That would be her last start for more than a year.



Giving the big bay mare 2020 off wasn't the plan. "Last year our meet got screwed up with Covid," said Cheeks. "We had her at Mountaineer because we had to go there before going to Presque Isle. She's a big gorgeous mare and they have little stalls and she got hung up in the stall. We only planned on running her at Presque Isle – she likes the track so much – and we lost most of the summer. To try to get her back for the end of the meet last year would have been too hard on her, so we gave her the rest of the year off."

The only time Darcy Mae has been off the board at Presque Isle was her first start this year when fifth on July 6. "That race was a prep because we knew we were so long off and we wanted to head to the stakes with her, and we needed to stick her in going short so she could get her head back in the game again," said Cheeks. "And it all worked out."

Sent off as the second choice of six for the Princess of Sylmar going a mile and 70 yards, she shot to the lead, set every fraction, opened up in the stretch and strolled home by one and three-quarters lengths. She upped her record to 20-9-4-1, with earnings of \$295,625 – \$237,935 earned in Erie. Presque Isle runs this year through Oct. 7. ■

*stakes recaps continued on next page*

# PA-BRED STAKES RECAPS CONTINUED...

## HARD SPUN S.

**PID, \$100,000, 3YO/UP, 1M70Y, 7-27.**

### **WON - WAIT FOR IT**

g, 6, Uptowncharlybrown - Kimberley Diamond, by Posse, O-Uptowncharlybrown Stud LLC, B-Fantasy Lane Stable (PA), T-E. Coletti Jr., J-A. Nunez, \$59,400.

### **2nd - Viski Jones**

g, 8, Smarty Jones - Viski, by Peteski, O-Odin Londono III, B-Maria Montez Haire (PA), \$19,800,

### **3rd - Ravens Delight**

g, 6, Great Notion - Darn That Raven, by Dance With Ravens. O-Joseph E. Besecker, B-Elizabeth R. Houghton (PA), \$59,400.

Parx-based Wait for It hit the road to Presque Isle Downs for the second time in his career and defended his title in the \$100,000 Hard Spun Stakes on July 27, winning by a length as the 7-10 favorite in the field of six.

The 6-year-old bay son of Uptowncharlybrown, owned by Uptowncharlybrown Stud LLC and trained by Edward J. Coletti Jr., has been incredibly consistent during his career and recorded his 12th win (to go with six seconds and three thirds) in 30 starts while pushing his earnings to \$634,228. He has four stakes wins and been third twice.

Wait for It's time for the mile and 70 yards was faster for this year's renewal as he completed the distance in 1:40.86, compared to 1:41.21 when he drew off in last October's running.

In his previous race, the gelding turned back to seven furlongs to win the \$100,000 Page McKenney Handicap at

Parx. Stretching back out, he rated in third a few lengths off opening fractions of :23.66 and :47.61, "angled out down the backstretch to gain position, held that position three wide through the turn, bid four wide into the lane, made a steady gain and drove clear late," per the chart notes.

Wait for It has won at least once each of the five years he has raced. Bred by Fantasy Lane Stable, he is out of Kimberley Diamond, a winning daughter of Posse who has eight foals by Uptowncharlybrown, six of racing age. The mare has a yearling colt named Whoosh, produced a filly in March and naturally was bred back to Uptowncharlybrown. ■



PC: Coady



# PA-BRED STAKES RECAPS CONTINUED...

## MONMOUTH OAKS-G3

MTH, \$250,000, 3YO, F, 1 1/16M, 7-31.

### Won - LEADER OF THE BAND

f, 3, Bandbox-Catsuit, by Sir Cat. O-SMD Limited, B-SMD Ltd. (PA), T-John C. Servis, J-F. Pennington, \$150,000.

### 3rd - Midnight Obsession

f, 3, Overanalyze-Halo Hollie, by Halo's Image. O-Main Line Racing Stable, B-Four Bucks Racing (PA), \$25,000.

In her first stakes start, the Grade 3 Delaware Oaks on July 3, SMD Limited's homebred 3-year-old filly Leader of the Band ran a wonderful race to finish third after breaking flat-footed. In her second stakes start, she was marvelous.

The John Servis-trained filly, at 10-1 the less fancied of his two entries in the Grade 3 Monmouth Oaks at Monmouth Park on July 31, rallied from well off the pace to run down odds-on favorite Edie Meeny Miny Mo and score by two lengths. The Servis-trained PA-Bred Delaware Oaks runnerup Midnight Obsession was another length and a half back in third. Leader of the Band covered the mile and a sixteenth in 1:43.44 for jockey Frankie Pennington, while defeating eight others.

Winner's share of the \$250,000 purse was \$150,000, which pushed the 3-year-old filly's career earnings to \$264,540 from seven starts.

"She ran great," Servis told Monmouth's media relations. "Unfortunately, my other horse (Midnight Obsession) came out a little bit and bothered her at the start, so I thought she would be a little bit closer. But it might have worked out for the best.

"She has been improving a lot. She's getting better and she's maturing. She's a little on the nervous side and she is starting to settle a little bit and she is starting to understand the racing game. I think she will continue to get better."

Pennington noted that the improving daughter of Bandbox clipped heels a little bit after the break and they were a little further back than he wanted,



"but she is such a nice horse, she kept chugging and she got the job done." Servis concurred on her ability: "She has a little bit of a late kick but she really has the steady, Ever Ready bunny in her. She just keeps coming."

Leader of the Band is one of three PA-Bred stakes performers out of SMD Limited's Catsuit, a Sir Cat mare claimed by trainer Don Reeder for the ownership at Philadelphia Park in late May 2004 as a 4-year-old in her 23rd start. Catsuit raced only once more, showing speed but finishing off the board in an allowance race. In 2007 she produced her first foal for S.M.D. Ltd., a PA-Bred son of Johannesburg who sold as a yearling at Keeneland September for \$130,000. Named Chat de La Burg, he was sent to Europe, won in England and France, and also raced in Saudi Arabia.

The mare's next five foals were all raced by their breeder and are winners, led by multiple stakes-placed runners Authoritative and Ill Conceived. Leader of the Band is the mare's ninth foal, and seventh winner. The last reported foal for Catsuit is the Uncle Lino filly born May 16, 2019, named Burano. The past two breeding seasons Catsuit has been bred to Irish War Cry. ■

*stakes recaps continued on next page*

# PA-BRED STAKES RECAPS CONTINUED...

## DELAWARE OAKS-G3

DEL, \$300,500, 3YO, F, 1 1/16M, 7-3.

### **2nd - Midnight Obsession**

f, 3, Overanalyze–Halo Hollie, by Halo's Image. O-Main Line Racing Stable, B-Four Bucks Racing (PA), \$60,000.

### **3rd - Leader of the Band**

f, 3, Bandbox–Catsuit, by Sir Cat. O-SMD Limited, B-SMD Ltd. (PA), \$33,000.

## ALAPOCAS RUN S.

DEL, \$59,000, 3YO/UP, 6F, 7-3.

### **3rd - Golden Candy**

c, 4, Goldcents–Be My Candy, by Candy Ride (ARG). O-A Delaperriere Stables LLC, B-A Delaperrier Stable LLC (PA), \$6,875.

## SANFORD S.-G3

SAR, \$150,000, 2YO, 6F, 7-17.

### **3rd - Dance Code**

c, 2, Honor Code–Dancinginthestreet, by Street Boss. (\$13,000 '20 KEESEP; \$50,000 '21 OBSMAR). O-Richie's World Stables LLC, B-Blackstone Farm LLC (PA), \$18,000.

## REGRET S.

MTH, \$75,000, 3YO/UP, F/M, 6F, 7-3.

### **3rd - Bronx Beauty**

m, 6, Liaison–Forever Sunshine, by Rockport Harbor. O-2W Stables LLC, B-Blackstone Farm LLC (PA), \$7,500.

## CAESAR'S WISH S.

PIM, \$100,000, 3YO/UP, F/M, 1 1/16M, 7-4.

### **2nd - Trolley Ride**

m, 6, Flashy Bull–Proudly Irish, by Jump Start. O-James H. Eshleman, B-Sandra Kim Eshleman (PA), \$20,000.

## SENSIBLE LADY TURF DASH S.

PIM, \$100,000, 3YO/UP, 5FT, 7-24.

### **2nd - Flyingontheground**

m, 7, Mizzen Mast - All Dolled Up, by Carnivalay. O/B-Ellen Dale Racing LLC (PA), \$20,000.

## ALMA NORTH S.

PIM, \$100,000, 3YO/UP, F/M, 6F, 7-31.

### **3rd - Precious**

f, 4, Fed Biz–Brilliant Sunshine, by Smarty Jones. O-Newell Thoroughbred, B-Newell Thoroughbreds LTD (PA), \$10,000.

*stakes recaps continued on next page*



# PA-BRED STAKES RECAPS CONTINUED...

## RECENT STAKES PERFORMERS FOR PENNSYLVANIA STALLIONS

### Boisterous

[Warriors Hero - 3rd, DERBY TRIAL S., Assiniboia Downs, 7-12.](#)

[Irish Terrier - 3rd, PRINEVILLE OHBPA S., Crooked River Roundup, 7-17.](#)

### Poseidon's Warrior

[Warrior's Pride - Won, BOB UMPHREY TURF SPRINT S., Gulfstream Park, 7-4.](#)

[Firenze Fire - 2nd, JOHN NERUD S-G2, Belmont, 7-4.](#)

### Warrior's Reward

[Night Ops - 2nd, MONMOUTH CUP S-G3, Monmouth Park, 7-17.](#)

### Wicked Strong

[Microcap - 2nd, MARI HULMAN GEORGE MEMORIAL S., Indiana Grand Race Course, 7-7.](#)



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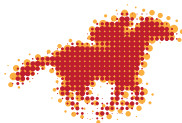


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