

November 2021  
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## PA-BRED REMINDERS

- **Early registration:**  
Within 365 days of foaling
- **Yearling registration:**  
Dec. 31 of yearling year
- **Stallion registration:**  
Feb. 15 of year breeding
- **Broodmare domicile:**  
Dec. 1 or 14 days after a public sale or entering state if being bred back to PA-sire

## VISIT PABRED.COM

- Racing and breeding news
- PA-Bred entries/results
- Rules, regulations, forms

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## WELL SPELLED

### Spelling It Out In Progeny Earnings

by Emily Shields

There's no way around it: Well Spelled puts up some truly staggering statistics.

The 12-year-old Godstone Farm stallion has 61 percent winners from starters this year, and is 67 percent in the same category lifetime. His average earnings per starter of \$40,599 is 27 times his stud fee, and 13 percent of his juvenile starters become stakes winners.

Co-owner Frank Vento said, "At one point, he had 10 runners in a row amass five wins, four seconds, and a third at four different tracks!" Such is the legend of little-known Well Spelled.

The son of Spellbinder—Well, by Well Decorated, has started to turn heads. "Trainers of the horses that his offspring beat are starting to notice," said Judy Barrett, Godstone Farm owner and manager. "For \$1,500, he's just incredible."

What made Well Spelled such a special stallion? Sire Spellbinder was a \$375,000 yearling purchase by Jerry and Ann Moss of Zenyatta fame. He broke his maiden at Santa Anita in 2003 while under the tutelage of Richard Mandella, defeating future Grade 2 winner Wimbledon. In 2006, after a solid career in the allowance ranks, Spellbinder jumped up to win both the Grade 2 San Antonio Handicap and the Grade 3 Berkeley Handicap. He retired a few dollars short of half a million in earnings and 15 top-three efforts in 29 tries.

Well started just six times, winning twice in Kentucky. The Well Decorated filly may not have lit up the racetrack, but she ultimately



**Penn National's 2019 Horse of the Year  
Fish to Fry is from Well Spelled's first crop.**

produced first Well Spelled, and then Grade 2-winning millionaire Kobe's Back in 2011. That popular colt was a stakes winner at 2, 3, 4, and 5!

On the racetrack, Well Spelled exceeded expectations. Originally a \$15,000 yearling purchase by Rod McVey, he was pinhooked as a juvenile for \$50,000 in 2011. He broke his maiden sprinting at Aqueduct in his first race at 3 for the ownership group GSP Racing Stable and trainer Ben Perkins Jr., then quickly added an allowance race at Parx.

His stakes debut on the synthetic track at Presque Isle Downs went poorly—Well Spelled finished last in a field of seven. That left him as a 5-1 shot when he went to the post in the Grade 3 Jersey Shore Stakes at Monmouth

Park. The \$100,000 contest drew a field of six to go three-quarters of a mile on the main track. Under jockey Pablo Fragoso, Well Spelled sat last early, then rallied strongly to score by a length and a half.

“People in New Jersey remember him from that Jersey Shore Stakes,” Vento said. “He showed then that he was a real special horse.”

But it wasn't until his next win that Well Spelled cemented himself as a major contender. Following an allowance loss at Monmouth when third against older runners, Well Spelled was 14-1 in the \$300,000 Gallant Bob Stakes at Parx Sept. 22, 2012. He would face a stellar field, including Grade 1 stars Trinniberg, Private Zone and Currency Swap.

“All of that quality in that race?” Vento said. “That had to be my favorite performance.”

Well Spelled broke slowly as per usual, was last of eight more than a dozen lengths back, then rallied furiously to score by a half-length over Trinniberg, who subsequently won the Breeders' Cup Sprint-G1 at Santa Anita. Private Zone, who retired with more than \$2.9 million

in the bank, finished third, with Currency Swap toiling in seventh.

The most impressive part of the win was that Well Spelled suffered an injury in the race. “He won that race with a fractured knee that happened coming out of the gate,” Vento said. “He showed tremendous heart. If he hadn't gotten hurt he would have gone to the Breeders' Cup Sprint. We were flying sky high when he won, but then there's the heat in the knee and you just crash.”

Well Spelled did return to the races for a single start in 2013 and another five in 2014, but never won again. He retired with four wins, three seconds, and four thirds in 17 starts for earnings of \$364,160.

“I was looking for a stallion,” Barrett said. “I knew that was the horse I wanted.”

Barrett met Vento when the owner wanted to stay on board as his partners opted to sell. Barrett obtained 75 percent while Vento kept his shares. “Since we started breeding him, they've all been runners,” Barrett said. “They all have speed, most hit the board, and they do well from stakes and allowances to claiming, long and short—they're just runners.”

If that wasn't enough, Well Spelled has a top class personality. “He's absolutely super,” Barrett said. “You can put him next to a mare in the barn or paddock and he just talks to them over the fence. He's easy to breed and stamps his babies; he's built like a little ball and they have his muscular, strong build. Most have his super temperament, too.”

Well Spelled has had 20 winners from limited opportunities, including stakes winners Hockey Puck and Well Graced. Hockey Puck took the 2019 Pennsylvania Nursery en route to \$208,488 in earnings, and Well Graced won the 2018 Strike Your Colors Stakes.

“I've been collecting mares for him,” Barrett said. “He's never going to make it with just a handful, he needs a big, solid book. My real goal is to get him some really good ones.”

“He's just now starting to attract outside attention,” Vento said. “There were only 36 foals in his first four crops, but this year he bred 30.”

A graded winner who defeated some of racing's best with a superb personality to match? Vento summed it up best: “He's a really special horse.”

## A few words from the Executive Secretary

The Pennsylvania Derby was back again with a bang this year! Total handle for the day broke a PARX record at almost \$13.8 million. Our first two of four scheduled \$200,000 PA-Bred Stakes contributed to that record. The Plum Pretty was won by the Joe-Dan Farm and George Chestnut bred Chub Wagon with an amazing 10th career win in 11 starts. What a filly! The Alphabet Soup, won by the Mark Grier bred You Must Chill, closed out the card with \$2,500,000 in wagering.

Don't forget our 2-year-old races are coming up soon, the Shamrock Rose

Stakes at PENN on Nov. 26 and the PA Nursery at PARX on Dec. 7. Both will carry purses of \$200,000.

The 2022 Broodmare Domicile form is now online at [pabred.com](http://pabred.com). Please remember that the breeder award for a PA-Sired runner is 50% for all maiden races and 40% for all other races run in Pennsylvania! So, pick that PA-Sire from our new Stallion & Domicile Directory coming out in November. Mares not being bred back to a Registered PA-Sire must be in the state by Dec. 1 and stay through foaling. Mares in foal purchased at a public

sale must be in PA within 14 days of purchase (60 days if purchased outside the U.S.).

We're coming up on year-end, so for our breeders who must register before the end of December, please take advantage of our new online registration system, available on [pabred.com](http://pabred.com), located on the right of the top toolbar. It's fast, it's easy and you can pay online.

Have a great year end and Go PA!!



# 2021 PENNSYLVANIA-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 1st - Fortheluvofbourbon, 2nd - Golden Candy, 3rd - Prince of Rain  <b>\$100,000 MRS. PENNY STAKES</b> 3 & up, fillies & mares, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ miles, off turf 1st - Precious, 2nd - Vault, 3rd - Trolley Ride	<b>\$100,000 MARSHALL JENNEY HANDICAP</b> 3 & up, 5 furlongs, off turf 1st - Admiral Abe, 2nd - Smooth B, 3rd - Screen Saver  <b>\$100,000 STORM CAT STAKES</b> 3 & up, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ miles 1st - I Am Redeemed, 2nd - Lord Winsalot, 3rd - Irish Cork  <b>\$100,000 DR. TERESA GAROFALO MEMORIAL STAKES</b> 3 & up, fillies & mares, 6 furlongs 1st - Don't Call Me Mary, 2nd - Chub Wagon, 3rd - Cinnabunny
<b>MONDAY, SEPT. 13</b> <b>PRESQUE ISLE DOWNS</b>	<b>\$100,000 FINEST CITY STAKES</b> 2YO fillies, 6 furlongs 1st - You Look Cold, 2nd - Morning Matcha, 3rd - Advocate Harbor	<b>\$100,000 MARK MCDERMOTT STAKES</b> 2YO, 6 furlongs 1st - Champion by Design, 2nd - Dr. Steve, 3rd - Center Mid Maddie
<b>SATURDAY, SEPT. 25</b> <b>PARX RACING</b>	<b>\$200,000 ALPHABET SOUP HANDICAP</b> 3 & up, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ miles, turf 1st - You Must Chill, 2nd - Wait for It, 3rd - Someday Jones	<b>\$200,000 PLUM PRETTY STAKES</b> 3 & up, fillies & mares, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ miles 1st - Chub Wagon, 2nd - Vault, 3rd - Marion Francis
<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	

# GET READY!

## FOR \$200,000 2YO STAKES

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

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

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