

BARN NOTES

OCT. 2-24 | NO RACING Mondays & Tuesdays | First Post 1 p.m. | Gates Open 11 a.m.

Breeders' Cup Hopefuls on Friday Work Tab

On Friday, a number of horses aimed at the Oct. 30-31 Breeders' Cup World Championships at Keeneland breezed over the fast main track. They included dual classic winner **Golden Tempo** and multiple Grade 1 winner **Englishman** for trainer Cherie DeVaux and Grade 1 winner **The Puma** for trainer Gustavo Delgado.

Golden Tempo (Classic) worked after the first maintenance period under regular rider Jose Ortiz, covering a half-mile in :48.40. The 3-year-old son of Curlin worked on the inside of So Sandy, ridden by apprentice jockey Yomar Ortiz Jr. (no relation). Golden Tempo and So Sandy are trained by Cherie DeVaux.

Golden Tempo galloped out 5 furlongs in 1:01.20 and 6 furlongs in 1:13.60.

"He went very good. Just what we wanted," Ortiz said. "Very happy with him. We just want to keep him happy."

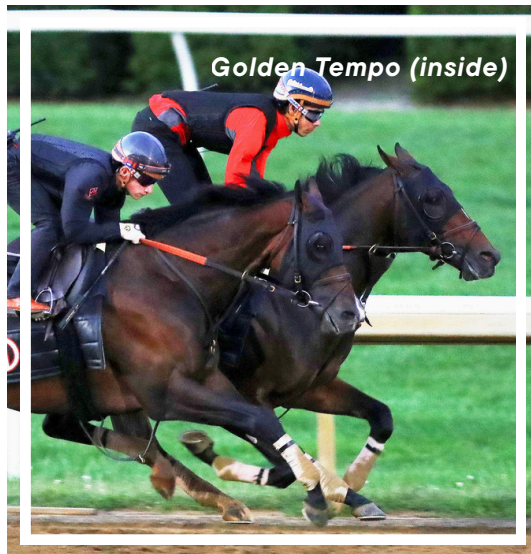
The winner of the Kentucky Derby (G1) Presented by Woodford Reserve and Belmont (G1) Presented by NYRA Bets, Golden Tempo has breezed five times at Keeneland since a third in the DraftKings Travers (G1) Aug. 29 at Saratoga.

Englishman (Sprint) breezed just after the track opened for training at 5:30 a.m. Friday. He went the fastest half of the day, going in :47, in splits of :12.60, :24.40, :35.80 and galloping out 5 furlongs in :59 and 6 furlongs in 1:13.40.

The Puma (Classic) went 5 furlongs in 1:02.60 with Delgado and his son and assistant Gustavo Delgado Jr. looking on from the Grandstand.

Winner of the betPARX Pennsylvania Derby (G1) last time out, The Puma joined the probable field for the Classic after his workout under jockey Javier Castellano.

"Beautiful work," Castellano said. "The work was maintenance and long, with a good gallop out. We started at the three-quarter (pole). (Delgado's) not the type of trainer that wants :59, a minute, stuff like that. He's been developing the horse that way; 1:02, 1:01. The race is a mile and a quarter. We want consistency. He's a come-from-behind horse. Look at him, so laid back. Brilliant work. He's happy. That's the main thing."


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Other Breeders' Cup hopefuls in action Friday morning included:

Bless the Broken (Filly and Mare Turf), third in the Oct. 3 First Lady (G1), breezed a half in :49 for trainer Brad Cox.

Brilliant Berti (Mile) breezed a half in :47.60 for DeVaux.

Emphatic (Juvenile Fillies), winner of the Oct. 2 Darley Alcibiades (G1) under Tyler Gaffalione, went a half with him for trainer Brendan Walsh in :48.80.

"She's in great order," Gaffalione said. "Just wanted to do something simple with her. A routine work for her, very easy. We'll do it again next week. Very happy. She did great and we're looking forward to the future."

Immersive (Distaff) went a half in :49 for Cox.

Nakatomi (Sprint), back-to-back winner of the Oct. 2 Stoll Keenon Ogden Phoenix (G2), went 5 furlongs in 1:03.60 for trainer Wesley Ward. The deadline to pre-enter horses in the 14 Breeders' Cup races is noon ET on Monday, Oct. 19. Pre-entries are to be announced at noon on Wednesday, Oct. 21.

■ By Liane Crossley, Tom Law, Amy Owens, Jax Rogers

Race Day Essentials

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Upcoming Events

Sunday, Oct. 18
Heroes Day

Heroes can register to receive up to 4 tickets for General Admission via eEtix.



Juddmonte Sends Strong Duo for Saturday Stakes

Owner/breeder Juddmonte, trainer Brad Cox and jockey Irad Ortiz Jr. figure to be loaded with the formidable duo of Deep Flame and Conceit in Saturday's co-featured graded stakes at Keeneland.

Grade 3 winner Deep Flame leads off for the team as part of a field of 12 entered in the \$300,000 Perryville (G3) for 3-year-olds at 7 furlongs. The son of Into Mischief drew the outside post and is 7-5 on the morning line.

Conceit also plays a key role in the field of 12 entered for the \$400,000 Lexus Raven Run (G2) at 7 furlongs, riding a three-race win streak and in search of her second graded stakes win. The daughter of Not This Time is the 4-1 second choice from post eight, just to the inside of 8-5 favorite Mashallah and a few slots inside of familiar foe Movie Night.

Deep Flame comes into the Perryville off a second behind likely Cygames Breeders' Cup Sprint (G1) favorite Englishman in the H. Allen Jerkens Memorial (G1) in late August at Saratoga. Juddmonte's Garrett O'Rourke said the Perryville was selected for Deep Flame's next start for two reasons.

"The reason we're not going to the Breeders' Cup: Englishman," O'Rourke said. "We would have gone if he wasn't in there. The long-range plan would be the Malibu (G1), we're just trying to duck Englishman. We really need to try and aim to win a Grade 1 with him. Going Perryville to the Malibu made more sense."

The Malibu, also at 7 furlongs for 3-year-olds, opens the 2026-27 Santa Anita winter meeting Dec. 26.

Deep Flame stayed at Saratoga for about a month after the Jerkens before shipping into Cox's barn at Keeneland under the direction of his son and assistant, Blake Cox. The winner of the Maxfield (G3) June 28 at Churchill, Deep Flame breezed 5 furlongs in 1:00.60 last Saturday, Oct. 10 in his final serious work before the Perryville.

"I saw him work here last weekend; he worked on his own," O'Rourke said. "You never know how fast they're going and after he went five-eighths in a minute — and it was the second fastest work of the day — just cruising. Horse is doing fine — outside draw, I don't think Brad minds that. (Deep Flame) can watch the inside speed and see what happens after that. He's doing great."

Conceit comes into the Lexus Raven Run off wins in a 1-mile off-the-turf allowance at Churchill, the Audubon Oaks Presented by OG Cappers at Ellis Park and the Dogwood (G3) Presented by Resolute Racing at Churchill, the latter two at 7 furlongs.

A full sister to Grade 3 winner and 2025 Kentucky Derby (G1) Presented by Woodford Reserve fourth Final Gambit, Conceit started her career primarily on turf and synthetic. She won twice on the dirt in off-the-turf races, once at 2 and again in late June. Ortiz rode the filly in the second win, a 10½-length score going 1 mile in 1:34.86, and encouraged Cox that she stay on the dirt.

"Conceit has way exceeded our expectations," O'Rourke said. "She won coming off the layoff when it was off-the-turf. Brad was still convinced she was a turf horse. Even when she won he was like, 'It was a wet track.' Then Irad came back and said, 'Run her on the dirt. She's a dirt horse.'"

Two stakes wins followed, and now Conceit's connections hope for a pace battle to set up her late run.

"Her last day was great, she got the pace setup that day," O'Rourke said. "It's a question of was it the pace setup that day that let her catch them or is she just that good? That said, Mashallah will obviously be the filly to beat. If Will Walden's filly (Movie Night) goes at it, it might be a real fast pace again. Maybe it's a situation of 'Who's going to let who go?' They might say, 'I'm not going to fall into that again,' but also might want to be in front." ■ *By Tom Law*

FROM KEENELAND LIBRARY ARCHIVES

OCT. 16, 1999

Silver Charm, in what would be his last public appearance, was paraded at Keeneland before a race named in his honor. Now 32, Silver Charm lives at Old Friends near Georgetown, Kentucky.



Modarosa Makes Keeneland Debut in Rood & Riddle Dowager

Jockey Kendrick Carmouche jumped off Modarosa after a stakes race on the turf last month at Belmont Park and gave trainer Riley Mott his assessment of the 5-year-old mare.

"Oh man, she gave me the vibe that she'd go farther," Carmouche said after Modarosa set the pace before yielding the lead late to finish second behind Dynamic Pricing in the \$169,000 Forever Together going 11/16 miles on the grass.

Modarosa receives that opportunity Sunday when she takes on the 12-furlong trip of the Rood & Riddle Dowager (G3). Modarosa also makes her Keeneland debut, after appearances at nine tracks in her 12 starts.

"I'll be nice to actually run her out of her own stall and not have to ship," Mott said while watching the mare gallop on the training track Wednesday morning. We owe her that much."

Modarosa doesn't owe Mott or owners DeSales 85 much. She's won four times and placed second four times in 12 starts, including a win on synthetic at Presque Isle Downs as a 2-year-old in 2024 and victories on the grass at Gulfstream Park in 2025 and this year at Aqueduct and Penn National.

Modarosa comes into the Rood & Riddle Dowager off back-to-back seconds in the Princess of Sylmar for Pennsylvania-breds at Presque Isle Downs and the Forever Together. Mott, who has two wins from nine starts at the Fall Meet, said Modarosa is "in the best form of her life" coming out of the Forever Together.

"She ran against a competitive field and just got touched off," Mott said. "Obviously this is a little bit of a step up in class and as well as an experiment with the 12 furlongs.

"She's been a really cool horse for us. She actually was in our first crop of 2-year-olds when I first started training. She's been great.

Modarosa drew post 12 in the field of 12 for the Rood & Riddle Dowager, which goes as the seventh of nine races Sunday with post time of 4:12 p.m. ■ *By Tom Law*



Percy's Bar Set for 'Race of the Meet'

Trainer Ben Colebrook walked out of the winner's circle in early August at Saratoga and spelled out the roadmap that leads to Saturday's Lexus Raven Run (G2) at Keeneland.

"Start thinking about the Raven Run," Colebrook said after Percy's Bar finished second in the Test (G1) Presented by Ticketmaster.

Two months and a few days later, Hat Creek Racing's Percy's Bar will take on 11 opponents in the 28th edition of the \$400,000 Lexus Raven Run. Based at Keeneland with Colebrook and named for the late Percy Pool, who worked at the popular second-floor mezzanine bar at Keeneland, Percy's Bar always seemed destined for the Lexus Raven Run.

"That made the most sense," Colebrook said Friday. "We build her season around Keeneland. It's home. She's got a loss on her record but she's always crossed the wire first."

Percy's Bar returns to the races at Keeneland for the first time since winning the Central Bank Ashland (G1) to open the Spring Meet. She improved to 2-for-3 at Keeneland that day and avenged a disqualification in the 2025 Darley Alcibiades (G1). Percy's Bar crossed the finish first in the Darley Alcibiades before being disqualified for bumping Tommy Jo in the stretch.

Percy's Bar takes on a strong field in the 7-furlong Lexus Raven Run, a group that includes Prioress (G3) winner and 8-5 favorite Mashallah, Dogwood (G3) Presented by Resolute Racing winner Conceit and Dogwood third Movie Night. Percy's Bar is the 6-1 fourth choice behind that trio in search of her fourth win in 11 starts.

"She likes here a little better than anywhere else," Colebrook said. "She's doing well and it's at home. Obviously, the race is a lot tougher than I expected. It might be the race of the meet. Everybody's got a chance."

Percy's Bar picks up a new rider in Jose Ortiz for the Lexus Raven Run. She comes into Saturday with four losses since the Central Bank Ashland – two going two turns at Churchill when seventh in the Kentucky Oaks (G1) and fifth in the Monomoy Girl Overnight and another in the Ainsworth Music City (G2) going 6½ furlongs on the turf at Kentucky Downs. She finished 5 lengths behind Explora in the Test, and Colebrook said he chose the Kentucky Downs race as a way to avoid that rival and also as an experiment.

"We just tried it," he said. "Explora was going to the Churchill race (the Dogwood) so Gatewood (Bell of Hat Creek Racing) and I talked and thought we'd try her on the grass and see if it opens up some avenues. If it doesn't, at least we've checked that box and we know. It served its purpose, she came out of it great, she got some fitness out of it and we got a race between the Test and the (Lexus) Raven Run." ■ *By Tom Law*

PERSONAL

PICK 5

DANNY RAMSEY

Exercise Rider

Birth Date: Aug. 12, 1950

Birthplace: Nassau, Bahamas



Q: How many racehorses do you ride each morning?

A: Sometimes I get on seven, eight, sometimes even nine.

Q: What is your secret to staying upbeat and positive every day?

A: You have to have a passion for it. If you don't have a passion for it, it's not going to work. That's why I'm still working at 76.

Q: How old were you when you started riding racehorses?

A: I was 12 years old, and I won three races (in the Bahamas). I weighed 80 pounds at that time, and I had to ride in an English saddle to make the weight. After I won the race, my lead (weight) bag dropped out of my hand, and I bent down to pick it up. A photographer from National Geographic (who was there said) "Winning jockey Danny Ramsey smile," and that's when I put that big smile on my face.

Q: When did you know Coach Pope, who was second in the Oct. 3 Claiborne Breeders' Futurity (G1) at Keeneland and is a hopeful for the Oct. 30 FanDuel Breeders' Cup Juvenile (G1) here, was special?

A: I was riding him in Saratoga, and I worked him one time, and that's all I needed. I told (trainer) Kenny McPeck, "This is a Grade 1 stakes horse." Kenny said, "Don't jinx it, don't jinx it." I said, "I don't believe in jinxes. I believe in God." He started laughing.

Q: What's your favorite Keeneland memory?

A: Riding (2024 Horse of the Year) Thorpedo Anna here. She was very, very special. She is the best filly I've ever ridden, and I've been on some nice, nice fillies.

WHAT'S IN A NAME

PUTEKETEKE



poo-teh-keh-TEH-keh

Race 10

A distinctive New Zealand waterbird known for its elaborate courtship dances, striking head feathers and unusual calls.

MEET LEADERS

LEADERS THROUGH THURSDAY'S TENTH DAY OF THE FALL MEET BY WINS:

Jockeys

13 | Irad Ortiz Jr.

11 | Jose Ortiz
Flavien Prat

Trainers

7 | Brendan Walsh

6 | Steve Asmussen
Wesley Ward

Owners

3 | Klaravich Stables
(Seth Klarman)

2 | Steve Asmussen
Gainesway Stable
(Antony Beck) & Andrew
Rosen
Lael Stables (Roy Jackson)

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