

FINAL BARN NOTES

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

Golden Tempo Among Breeders' Cup Workers

Keeneland-based Kentucky Derby (G1) Presented by Woodford Reserve winner Golden Tempo breezed a half mile in :48.40 under Jose Ortiz in his final tune-up Friday morning for the Oct. 31 Breeders' Cup Classic (G1) at Keeneland.

Owned by Phipps Stable and St. Elias Stables and trained by Cherie DeVaux, the 3-year-old Curlin colt came on the track from the Rice Road barn area at 7:30 a.m. after the first renovation period. Golden Tempo worked in company with Commentate, a 3-year-old Candy Ride (ARG) colt who won an Oct. 3 maiden race at Keeneland.

"Very good," said Jose Ortiz, Golden Tempo's only jockey in his seven-race career. "Easy today, just a maintenance work."

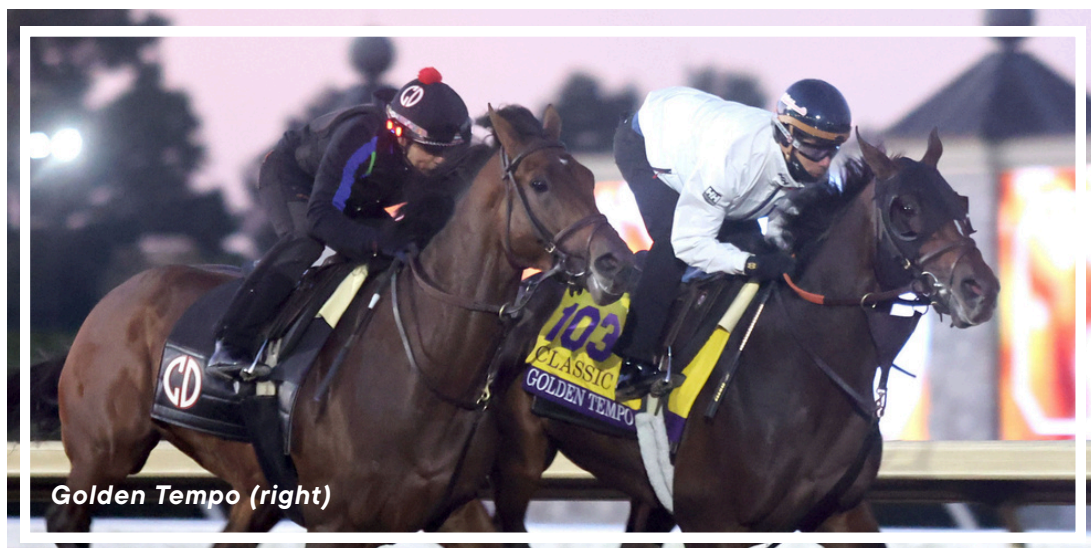
Ortiz has been instrumental in Golden Tempo's development since winning on him in his career debut at Fair Grounds last December. After winning the Lecomte (G3) and then finishing third in the Risen Star (G2) – both at Fair Grounds – Ortiz suggested an equipment addition to DeVaux.

"I felt like he needed blinkers so Cherie put them on him," Ortiz said. "He was a lot different horse with the blinkers on. I knew at that point that blinkers were something that we were missing on him. That helped him a lot, and he started improving significantly. We are very happy with him."

Ortiz recognized the colt's talent early and was cautiously optimistic about his future.

"We can never really tell for sure how good they can be," he said. "But we can tell when one has ability."

Golden Tempo went on to win the Kentucky Derby after training at DeVaux's year-round base at Keeneland. He shipped to Saratoga to capture the Belmont (G1) Presented by NYRA Bets June 6, returned to Keeneland, then shipped back to Saratoga to finish third in the DraftKings Travers (G1) Aug. 29 in his only other career start. His record stands at 4-0-3 with earnings of \$4,783,000 heading into his first start against older horses in the 1¼-mile Breeders' Cup Classic. ■ *By Liane Crossley*



Golden Tempo (right)

Coady Photo

Race Day Essentials

How to Watch



Every Race Day

FanDuel TV

Keeneland YouTube

[WATCH HERE](#)

Complimentary Digital Program



[FREE DOWNLOAD](#)

Upcoming Events

Saturday, Oct. 24 Sunrise Trackside

Featuring a visit from the Headless Horseman at 8:30 a.m. in the Paddock.

Teacher

Appreciation Day

Free General Admission and access to Reserved Grandstand Seating for teachers, educators and staff



Napoleon Solo, Englishman Headline Busy BC Work Tab

On Friday, several horses aimed at the Oct. 30-31 Breeders' Cup World Championships at Keeneland breezed over the fast main track. The group included Preakness (G1) winner **Napoleon Solo**, H. Allen Jerkens Memorial (G1) winner **Englishman**, Claiborne Breeders' Futurity (G1) winner **American History** and Darley Alcibiades (G1) winner **Emphatic**.

Napoleon Solo (Classic/Dirt Mile) breezed 5 furlongs in 1:00.40 under regular exercise rider Emily Ellingwood. Trainer Chad Summers watched the work after the second maintenance period from behind the boxes in the Grandstand, communicating with Ellingwood by phone throughout the move. The work was the fastest of eight at the distance Friday.

"We were just trying to keep him in the clear, on his own," Summers said. "We didn't want him out there trying to catch the other horses out there. The plan was to stay even, work by himself and he did it."

Napoleon Solo arrived at Keeneland Tuesday, settled into the Rice Road barn area and galloped on the main track Wednesday and Thursday before his work. Friday's breeze kept the 3-year-old son of Liam's Map on his regular Friday routine. He breezed the last two Fridays at Belmont, including a half in :48.63 last week.

"We worked eight days out in case he worked too fast, but that was just what we wanted," Summers said. "He's getting used to this track. Now we just have to figure out which race we're going to run in."

Summers and owner Espoir USA pre-entered Napoleon Solo in the \$7 million Breeders' Cup Classic (G1) and the \$1 million Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile (G1). They have until Monday, when entries for the two-day World Championships are drawn, to make the decision.

Englishman (Sprint) breezed a half in :47.20 when the track opened for training at 5:30 a.m. Regular workout rider Ameth Gonzalez was aboard the 3-year-old son of Maxfield for trainer Cherie DeVaux. A multiple Grade 1 winner at 7 furlongs for C R K Stable, Englishman turned in the fastest breeze of 85 at the distance Friday.

American History and Damavand (Juvenile) breezed a half in company after the second maintenance period in :48.60 for trainer Todd Pletcher. Hall of Fame jockey John Velazquez rode American History, winner of the Oct. 3 Claiborne Breeders' Futurity on Fall Stars Saturday while exercise rider Humberto Zamora rode Damavand, a maiden winner Oct. 4 at Keeneland. The two are pre-entered in the Oct. 30 FanDuel Breeders' Cup Juvenile (G1).

"I'm very happy with their breezes," Pletcher said. "It went the way we hoped it would. Last week was a little bit quicker. We didn't want to go quite as quick as last week. We just wanted a nice breeze, which we accomplished. I'm happy with the way both of them did it."

Velazquez rode American History in the Claiborne Breeders' Futurity and his 7¼-length maiden win going 6½ furlongs Aug. 22 at Saratoga. He breezed the Constitution colt in his half-mile work in :47 Oct. 14 and came away impressed again.



"Very nice. Very, very good," Velazquez said. "I loved everything he did. Very straightforward, pretty easy. If he can do the same thing he did here in his last race, I will be very happy. Obviously, (the Juvenile) is going to be a much tougher race. But I think he's ready. The way he ran last time, got dirt in his face, handled it and still made his run. I loved what he did and I'm very happy with him."

American History races for WinStar Farm, First Go Racing and CHC Inc. Damavand is owned by Amo Racing USA.

Pletcher breezed his other four Breeders' Cup hopefuls Friday morning, both in pairs. Repole Stable's **Badittude** and **Life Changing**, pre-entered for the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies (G1), went in :48.80 after the first maintenance period. **Bold Leadership** and **Liam's Law**, pre-entered in the Brown Advisory Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf (G1), went a half in :49.40 just after the fillies.

Bold Leadership races for Repole Stable and St. Elias Stables. Robert and Lawana Low own Liam's Law.

Emphatic (Juvenile Fillies) breezed a half in company with Supreme Commander after the second maintenance period. Tyler Gaffalione rode Emphatic, winner of the Oct. 2 Darley Alcibiades for Gainesway Stable and Andrew Rosen on Fall Stars Friday. The undefeated Pennsylvania-bred daughter of Nyquist drew off from Supreme Commander through the stretch. Emphatic went in :48.40, while Supreme Commander, an unraced 2-year-old Oscar Performance colt, went in :48.60.

"It was perfect," Gaffalione said. "She was in a great rhythm to ride, very happy with the way she did it, and pulled up happy. We're looking forward to next week."

Trainer Brendan Walsh, who watched the work from the Grandstand, also came away pleased with the work for the \$260,000 purchase at last year's Keeneland September Yearling Sale.

"She moved very well," Walsh said. "Galloped out nicely. We're very happy with how she went."

Morplay Racing's **Shisospicy (Turf Sprint)** breezed 3 furlongs in :38.60 after the first maintenance period for trainer Jose D'Angelo. The 4-year-old daughter of Mitole won last year's Prevagen Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint (G1) and was champion female sprinter.

▪ By Tom Law and Jax Rogers

Casse Readies Trio for Closing-Day Stakes

Trainer Mark Casse will be busy during the Oct. 30-31 Breeders' Cup World Championships at Keeneland — with 10 pre-entered runners led by probable Distaff (G1) favorite Nitrogen. He'll also be plenty occupied on Saturday's closing day of the Fall Meet.

Casse will send out three runners in two stakes on closing day – Alpyland and Blinging It Back in the \$400,000 Bryan Station (G2) and Silent Tactic in the \$350,000 Hagyard Fayette (G3). The trio, plus two other runners entered for Friday's card, give Casse the chance to add to his five wins at the meet.

"Alpyland should be extremely tough," Casse said of the 9-2 third choice in the 1-mile turf stakes.

Alpyland drew the outside in the field of 12 3-year-olds. D.J. Stable's son of Vekoma has three stakes wins this season and comes in off a third after a wide trip in the Mint Franklin-Simpson (G2) going 6½ furlongs at Kentucky Downs. Regular rider Javier Castellano takes the return call.

"Tough post," Casse said. "We've got to figure out a trip. It's up to Javier. Not a good post. We're going to need some luck there."

Gary Barber and Peter Deutsch's Blinging It Back, 20-1 for the Bryan Station under Axel Concepcion, finished fifth in the Franklin-Simpson after back-to-back seconds in stakes on the turf at Saratoga.

"He's going to save some ground," Casse said. "It looks like a good solid race. I'm happy with all three of those horses. They're all training good, so we'll see."

John C. Oxley and Victoriam Farm's Silent Tactic won the Oklahoma Derby (G3) Sept. 27 at Remington Park.

"This is a fact-finding mission," Casse said about running in the Hagyard Fayette. "There should be a lot of people paying attention in how the 3-year-olds stack up against the older horses. Silent Tactic is a good horse. We're going to find out whether he is ready to tackle the older horses. He's good right now. As good as I've seen him."

Silent Tactic, 15-1 on the morning line for the 9-furlong Hagyard Fayette, won the Southwest (G3) and finished second in the Rebel (G2) and the Arkansas Derby (G1) at Oaklawn Park.

"A good outing will send him to the Clark [(G2) Presented by Norton Healthcare]," Casse said of the Nov. 27 event at Churchill. "An average outing, we'll send him to the Zia Park Derby (L) (Nov. 24) against 3-year-olds. Or home."

"A lot of my 3-year-olds at this time of the year I send them back home. I sent Counting Stars home. Usually this is when I do send them home, it gives them some time to grow up. He missed four or five months in the middle. He doesn't need a rest right now."

▪ *By Tom Law*



Flying Start: Functional Creates Buzz for Rail Hop

Trainer Ron Moquett and jockey Rafael Bejarano had a day at the races Thursday they're not soon to forget.

In the second race, the 2-year-old colt Functional — making his second start in a \$150,000 claiming event going 6½ furlongs on the main track — went to the left from the inside post before jumping the temporary rail.

Bejarano stayed aboard Functional, who jumped the rail clean and rejoined the race toward the back of the field of six. The son of Mandaloun passed one rival and was fifth through the first quarter, just 4 lengths back. He continued to chase the leaders on the turn and inched up to fourth turning for home before tiring through the stretch to finish fifth.

"He's never done that before," Bejarano said. "Maybe it's because he's a (young horse). He ran over the temporary rail and got a little bit spooked. It was pretty impressive. He cleared the rail and got right back into the race. You never know."

The incident caught Moquett by surprise and wound up the talk of the track — and social media — all afternoon.

"Never had anything like that, no I haven't," Moquett said.

"I had a horse in the New Orleans Handicap (G2) – Silver Lord – that completely turned around from the two hole after they scratched a horse from the one hole. He just stopped, spun around and dropped the rider. But nothing like that (with Functional)."

Stewards reviewed the start and did not make any changes to the results, which officially show a 6¼-length win by Borax under Luis Saez. The buzz created by the incident went beyond the track.

"The steeplechase guys are already reaching out," Moquett joked. "(Prominent steeplechase owner) Sean Clancy (texted) 'Looks like you have a jumper.'"

Functional came back well, and Moquett and Bejarano teamed to win the fourth race with Coltrane. A 2-year-old son of Coal Front, Coltrane won the maiden event going 11/16 miles in his third start and first going two turns. Coltrane was eighth in his debut Aug. 7 at Saratoga and fifth Sept. 16 at Churchill Downs, both going 6 furlongs.

"He ran great," Moquett said. "I've been waiting to get him in a longer race. And I still think he wants to run even longer."

Bred by Equus Farm and out of the Kodiak Kowboy mare L X Sunrise, Coltrane sold for \$25,000 at last year's Keeneland September Yearling Sale. ▪ *By Tom Law and Jax Rogers*

PERSONAL

PICK 5

MARK WILLIAMS

Horse crossing guard at Keeneland track entrance near the Racing Office

Birthdate: May 17, 1968

Birthplace: Lexington



Q: Explain your job as a horse crossing guard.

A: I direct the (vehicle) traffic and make sure the people and horses stay safe.

Q: How did you start working for Keeneland?

A: I have been in this area all my life but never got into horses. But I have relatives who were in it and my wife, Deidra, works as a 'horse crosser' (guard). She was doing it for a number of years and said it is something I might be interested in. I had worked in construction for 25 or 30 years and had been in the Marine Corps for four years. When I retired about five years ago, I got a job here.

Q: What have you learned on this job?

A: That horses are very special animals. They are amazing. And I have met a lot of great people doing this. I wake up every morning to come to some of the most beautiful sunrises and pictures. You can really be at peace here.

Q: What will you do after the Fall Meet ends?

A: I am a fill-in person with the (Keeneland) Equine Safety Team. So, I'm always around. There really is no off-season for me.

Q: What is your favorite Keeneland memory?

A: Last fall, I was named Employee of the Day. That is something I never expected. It shows that you never know who is watching.

WHAT'S IN A NAME

BISCLAVRET



beye-sk-lav-rit

Race 10

The title of a 12th-century medieval Breton poem written in Old French.

Bisclavret is the Breton term for "werewolf."

MEET LEADERS

**LEADERS THROUGH
THURSDAY'S 15TH DAY OF
THE FALL MEET BY WINS:**

Jockeys

19 | Tyler Gaffalione

17 | Jose Ortiz

Trainers

11 | Steve Asmussen

10 | Brendan Walsh

Owners

3 | Klaravich Stables
(Seth Klarman)

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