



TURF FESTIVAL

News For Immediate Release

Kentucky Downs Turf Festival Features Nation's Top Trainers And Jockeys

Franklin, Kentucky -- September 21, 2007 -- Saturday's \$500,000 Kentucky Cup Turf Festival highlights the Kentucky Downs live racing season and has attracted some of the nation's top trainers and jockeys including Todd Pletcher, three-time Eclipse award winner and currently the leading trainer in North America. Calvin Borel, winner of this year's Kentucky Derby aboard Street Sense, heads an elite group of jockeys.

The highlight of the day at America's only European-style race course is the \$200,000 Kentucky Cup Turf, a Grade III event for three-year-olds and up going one mile and one half. Fillies and mares three-years-old and up will head to the gate in the one mile

Kentucky Cup Ladies Turf for a purse of \$100,000 while the Kentucky Cup Turf Dash features three-year-olds and up sprinting six furlongs also for \$100,000. The one mile \$50,000 Franklin Stakes is for three-year-olds and up.

Maryland-based jockey Jeremy Rose, who rode Afleet Alex to victories in the 2005 Preakness and Belmont Stakes and Julian Leparoux, 2006 leading rider by number of wins and Eclipse award winner as the top apprentice of 2006 have mounts in the day's races. And former leading rider at Kentucky Downs Jon Court makes a return to the track from his home base in Southern California.

\$200,000 Kentucky Cup Turf Grade III

The Graham Motion-trained **General Jumbo** (GB) with Jeremy Rose in the irons has been installed as the morning line favorite off of a second place finish in the one mile and five-eighths John's Call on the turf at Saratoga. Calder invader **Golden Strategy** comes into the Kentucky Cup Turf off of a 10-length win in the two-mile Turf Marathon at Calder on July 28. The Marty Wolfson trainee will have Jose Valdivia, Jr. in the saddle. **Starspangled Gator** brings a two-race win streak including a victory in the Concern Handicap at one-mile and one-sixteenth on the turf at Louisiana Downs on August 17. Calvin Borel who won a \$100,000 optional claiming race with Starspangled Gator at Churchill Downs will again be in the saddle. Kentucky Downs regular David Carroll has entered **Dan McGrew** a winner of an allowance race at Ellis Park at one mile and one-half on August 3. Pat Johnson will ride.

\$100,000 Kentucky Cup Turf Dash

The Ronny Werner-trained **Cougar Cat** finished third in his most recent start at Monmouth, the \$103,000 Icecapade at six furlongs on the dirt on September 1. Louisiana native Jamie Theriot has the mount on the son of Storm Cat. Calder-based trainer Marty Wolfson ships **Ecclesiastic** in off of a fourth place finish in the five furlong \$250,000 Turf Sprint Handicap at Calder. Prior to that race, he won the Grade III six-furlong Jaipur at Belmont Park when trained by H. Allen Jerkens. Jose Valdivia Jr. comes from California to ride.



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Calvin Borel returns to Kentucky Downs in the midst of his best year as a rider. In addition to being the regular rider of leading three-year-old Street Sense, he is also the regular rider of Lady Joanne winner of the Grade I Alabama at Saratoga also trained by Carl Nafzger. Borel will ride Ridge Runner (GB).

\$100,000 Kentucky Cup Ladies Turf

A full field of eleven is headed by morning line favorite **Quiet Royal** who finished second in her last two races, the one mile and one-sixteenth Ellis Park Breeders' Cup Turf on August 25 and the one mile and one-eighth Grade III Locust Grove at Churchill Downs July 8. She captured the one mile Reluctant Guest Stakes over a yielding turf course at Arlington Park on June 2. Trained by Todd Pletcher, the Wertheimer and Fere homebred by Royal Academy will be ridden by Chris Decarlo. **Camela Carson** brings a three-race win streak to Kentucky Downs. The five-year-old Iowa homebred captured the one mile and 70 yard \$80,000 Donna Reed Handicap at Prairie Meadows on August 25 in her last start. Kelly Von Hemel trains and regular rider Perry Compton comes into ride.

Royal Pleasure, trained by Jonathan Shepard is a recent winner of the one mile Bettys Hat at Penn National. Jeremy Rose comes from his Laurel/Pimlico base for the ride. Patrick Biancone saddles Lerici and has named Julian Leparoux as rider. Leparoux rides first call for Biancone. Fan favorite Jon Court returns to Kentucky Downs for the mount on "Jenks" Fires trained Best Mom.

\$50,000 Franklin Stakes

Trained by Frank Brothers, the morning line favorite, **Obi Wan Kenobi** comes into the race off of a first place finish on the turf in the one mile and one-sixteenth \$50,000 Tri-State Handicap at Ellis Park on September 1. Kentucky Downs regular Larry Melancon has the mount on the Arthur B. Hancock III home-bred. Todd Pletcher, the nation's leading trainer by money won sends out **Terrific Storm** who most recently ran second in a one mile and one-sixteenth optional claiming contest on the turf at Churchill Downs on July 5. Jockey Chris Decarlo comes to Kentucky Downs for the mount. Jeremy Rose has been named to ride **Salinja** for trainer Graham Motion who comes to Kentucky Downs for the first time.

First live race is 1:45 (central). Admission and parking are free. Kids Corner with free activities for children including face painting and a bounce house will be available all afternoon. The new Longshots Sports Bar features full bar amenities and large screen televisions for patrons to enjoy the live racing as well as all the important sporting events. And the renovated and renamed Winning Colors Restaurant offers a variety of dining options.

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Media information: Ryan Driscoll / Kentucky Downs 270 776-3472 mobile.

Print ready photos and the Kentucky Downs logo are available on the website.
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