

# TODAY



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Your inside track to the Thoroughbred industry

## Teddy's Promise takes over on turn to win La Brea

The last time Teddy's Promise ran in a graded stakes race, she finished ninth of 11 in the La Habra Stakes (G3) on February 21 at Santa Anita Park.

Flash forward five optional claiming races—including victories in her two previous starts since the end of October—and the four-year-old Salt Lake filly made her second start at racing's top level a memorable one at odds of 16.50-to-1.

Teddy's Promise, who never had won a stakes race entering Saturday's card, took control on the turn of the seven-furlong La Brea Stakes (G1) and captured the \$300,000 race by 2¼ lengths in 1:40.27 on a track rated as fast.

In the process, she also beat 1-to-2 favorite and contender for champion female sprinter honors Turbulent Descent, a two-time Grade 1 winner this season who never got closer than fifth and finished a nonthreatening sixth of nine.

"It's hard to be very confident against Turbulent Descent, but I knew [Teddy's Promise] was doing great," winning trainer Ron Ellis said. "I actually asked the owners if they wanted to scratch and run tomorrow [in the \$75,000 Kalookan Queen Handicap at 6½ furlongs on the main track], because I knew

we could win tomorrow. They wanted to go for the big show and I couldn't argue with them."



TEDDY'S PROMISE  
Benoit & Associates photo

Teddy's Promise made that decision easier with clear victories in her previous two starts, winning 6½-furlong and six-furlong optional claiming races at Santa Anita and Hollywood Park, respectively.

Teddy's Promise stalked pacesetter Home

Sweet Aspen in second through a half-mile before making her bid two wide on the turn under jockey Victor Espinoza, taking the lead at the quarter pole, and driving to a 2¼-length victory.

Sugarinthemorning closed gamely to finish second, 1¾ lengths in front of third-place finisher Great Hot (Brz).

Trainer Mike Puype admitted Turbulent Descent got out of the gate awkwardly but could think of no clear reason why the filly did not fire.

"She was behind a little further [than normal] and behind all the field and had to circle everyone and went really wide," he said. "I mean really wide. But she still didn't kick it in and the track's very fast, so it's hard to make up that ground once you're in that position. She didn't kick it in like she's capable of, so I'll just have to go over her well physically and see where we're at."

The Ted and Judy Nichols homebred won for the fifth time from 13 career starts and boosted her earnings to \$350,808. She is one of two winners from as many starters out of the placed Capote mare Braids and Beads, who is a half sister to Grade 3 winner and sire General Meeting.—Steve Bailey

For an Equibase chart, click [here](#).

## Apriority overcomes stumble to win Mr. Prospector

All appeared to be lost for Donald Dizney's homebred Apriority as soon as the gates opened and the colt stumbled and



APRIORITY  
Bob Coglianes photo

nearly touched the dirt with his nose to start the \$100,000 Mr. Prospector Stakes (G3) on Saturday at Gulfstream Park.

The four-year-old by Grand Slam, however, refused to give in as he found a way to relax and track the pace before pushing a head in front of Zero Rate Policy for his first victory since March.

Apriority's ability to not only recover from the stumble but also to settle and accelerate when needed led to his first graded stakes victory.

"I thought we were done at the start after he stumbled so bad," winning trainer David Fawkes said. "We're lucky [jockey Luis Saez] stayed on. It's amazing what he overcame to win it."

Apriority entered off a sixth-place finish in the Sentient Jet Breeders' Cup Sprint (G1) on November 5 at Churchill Downs. The win reaffirmed the class and determination of Apriority, who entered unplaced in his previous three starts.

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### LA BREA S. (G1)

Santa Anita Park, December 31, \$300,000, 3yo, f, 7f, fast, 1:20.47.

**TEDDY'S PROMISE**, 118, Dk b. or br. f. 3, **Salt Lake**—Braids and Beads, by Capote. Owner, Nichols, Ted and Judy; breeder, Ted Nichols & Judy Nichols (Ca.); trainer, Ronald W. Ellis; jockey, Victor Espinoza. \$180,000. Lifetime: 13-5-2-1, \$350,808.

**Sugarinthemorning** 118, B. f. 3, **Candy Ride (Arg)**—Social Belle, by In Excess (Ire). Owner, Clement, Samantha G. and Weissman, Stephen B.; breeder, Stephen B. Weissman (Ca.); trainer, Ronald L. McAnally. \$60,000.

**Great Hot (Brz)** 118, Dk b. or br. f. 3, **Orientate so**—That's Hot, by Seeking the Gold. Owner, Coudelaria Jessica; breeder, Coudelaria Jessica (Brz); trainer, A. C. Avila. \$36,000.

Margins: 2 ¼, 1 ¾, head; Odds: 16.50, 16.90, 8.30.

Also ran: Home Sweet Aspen 118 (\$18,000), Include Me Out 118 (\$6,000), Turbulent Descent 123, California Nectar 118, May Day Rose 118, Sarah's Secret 118.

## Gulfstream cancels Quarter Horse race

Gulfstream Park canceled a Quarter Horse race scheduled for Saturday morning after track officials agreed to a tentative purse agreement with the Florida Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association (FHBPA), the track said.

The track planned to run the Quarter Horse race to exercise a dormant permit after being advised it may lose the permit in the legislative session. A purse agreement between horsemen and track, however, convinced track officials to scratch the race.

"We're very happy a resolution was reached," Gulfstream President Tim Ritvo said. "We're very appreciative of the FHBPA's committee and the long hours they put into this."

"Our chairman, Mr. Frank Stronach, has always been committed to Thoroughbred racing and remains committed to Thoroughbred racing. By not running a Quarter Horse race we do jeopardize losing our second permit, but Mr. Stronach believed a long-term contract with the horsemen was well worth it."



**RITVO**  
Jim Lisa photo



# ABSORBINE

Presents

## Hoofprints through History

A look back at historical events on this day in Thoroughbred racing

**January 1, 1942**—Racing in California was officially canceled. On December 16, the military authorities on the West Coast requested that Santa Anita Park postpone its meeting indefinitely due to war conditions.

**January 1, 1975**—Secretariat's first Thoroughbred foal was born, a filly named Miss Secretariat out of Walter M. Jeffords Jr.'s My Card, by \*My Babu.

The brown filly, conceived from one cover on February 18, 1974, was foaled at 10:05 p.m. EST at Jeffords' Faraway Farm in Lexington.



Source: NTRA

**MISS SECRETARIAT**



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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THOROUGHBRED TIMES TODAY encourages letters from its readers.

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Your letter must include your name, address, and daytime telephone number. All letters are subject to editing for content, style, and space.

## QUOTE OF THE DAY®

"It used to be automatic. You win the money title you win the Eclipse [Award]. I always thought that was a little short-sighted. A guy who beat another guy by a hundred-thousand dollars is not necessarily going to get my vote if that other guy won five more Grade 1s. And winning a classic or a Breeders' Cup race carries more weight to me than other Grade 1 races."

*Racing Hall of Fame jockey—and seven-time Eclipse Award winner—turned broadcaster Jerry Bailey, in Daily Racing Form, talking about his first year of eligibility to vote in the Eclipse Awards as broadcasters were made a part of the National Turf Writers Association this year*



**BAILEY**  
PhotosByZ.com

## UPCOMING STAKES ENTRIES

### Old Hat S. (G3)

January 1, \$100,000, f, 3yo, 6f, Gulfstream Park, 4:17 PM EST

P	Horse	Sire	Jockey	Wt.	Trainer	Odds
1.	Soft Whisper	Bernstein	Julien R. Leeparoux	116	David R. Vance	10-to-1
2.	Say a Novena	<a href="#">Songandaprayer</a> so	Elvis Trujillo	120	Edward Plesa, Jr.	5-to-1
3.	Sabrina's Dance	Werblin	Paco Lopez	116	Nick Canani	8-to-1
4.	Sacristy	<a href="#">Pulpit</a> so	Kent J. Desormeaux	116	Wayne M. Catalano	5-to-2
5.	Bet to Win	<a href="#">Pulpit</a> so	Javier Castellano	116	James P. DiVito	3-to-1
6.	Awesome Belle	<a href="#">Awesome of Course</a> so	Luis Saez	120	Stanley I. Gold	6-to-1
7.	Yara	Put It Back	John R. Velazquez	120	Jose Garoffalo	8-to-1
8.	Quick Flip	<a href="#">Speightstown</a> so	Rajiv Maragh	120	Teresa M. Pompay	8-to-1

### Robert J. Frankel S. (G2)

January 1, \$150,000, f&m, 4yo & up, 1½mT, Santa Anita Park, 4:07 PM PST

P	Horse	Sire	Jockey	Wt.	Trainer
1.	Bauble Queen	<a href="#">Arch</a> so	Garrett K. Gomez	118	J. Eric Kruljac
2.	Celestial Kitten	<a href="#">Kitten's Joy</a> so	Mike E. Smith	118	Ben D. A. Cecil
3.	City to City	City Zip	Rafael Bejarano	123	Jerry Hollendorfer
4.	Turning Top (Ire)	=Pivotal (GB)	David Romero Flores	118	Simon Callaghan
5.	Whisper Louise (Ire)	=Chevalier (Ire)	Victor Espinoza	118	James M. Cassidy
6.	Miss Mittagong	Pleasantly Perfect	Joel Rosario	118	Ben D. A. Cecil

### Gulfstream Park Derby

January 1, \$100,000, 3yo, 1½m, Gulfstream Park, 4:45 PM EST

P	Horse	Sire	Jockey	Wt.	Trainer	Odds
1.	King Kid	Lemon Drop Kid	Corey J. Lanerie	116	Dale L. Romans	12-to-1
2.	Reveron	<a href="#">Songandaprayer</a> so	Fernando Jara	116	Agustin C. Bezara	4-to-1
3.	Gold Megillah	<a href="#">Purim</a> so	Edgar S. Prado	116	H. Graham Motion	8-to-1
4.	Nachas and Joy	Lion Heart	Rajiv Maragh	116	James P. DiVito	12-to-1
5.	Casual Trick	<a href="#">Bernardini</a> so	John R. Velazquez	116	Nicholas P. Zito	6-to-1
6.	Silver Menace	Silver Wagon	Javier Castellano	116	Katherine Ritvo	6-to-1
7.	Ancient Rome	<a href="#">Roman Ruler</a> so	Joseph Rocco, Jr.	120	Anthony W. Dutrow	3-to-1
8.	Politicallycorrect	<a href="#">Kitten's Joy</a> so	Elvis Trujillo	116	Wesley A. Ward	8-to-1
9.	Ravelo's Boy	Lawyer Ron	Jeffrey Sanchez	116	Manuel Azpuru	15-to-1
10.	Rex's Last Tour	First Tour	Daniel Centeno	116	Barry R. Rose	30-to-1
11.	Yourhonorandglory	Lawyer Ron	Kendrick Carmouche	116	John C. Servis	10-to-1

### Ladies H.

January 1, \$75,000, f&m, 3yo & up, 1½m, Aqueduct, 1:17 PM EST

P	Horse	Sire	Jockey	Wt.	Trainer	Odds
1.	C C's Pal	<a href="#">Alex's Pal</a> so	Junior Alvarado	119	Richard Dutrow Jr.	8-to-5
2.	Karmageddon	<a href="#">Wildcat Heir</a> so	Vladimir Diaz	115	David Nunn	10-to-1
3.	One Last Dance	Officer	Alan Garcia	114	Dale Romans	6-to-1
4.	Fools in Love	Not For Love	Ryan Curatolo	114	Kelly Breen	15-to-1
5.	Katy Now	<a href="#">Tiznow</a> so	Ramon Dominguez	119	Todd Pletcher	7-to-5
6.	Bahama Bound	Empire Maker	Cornelio Velasquez	115	Juan Guerrero	8-to-1

### Interborough S.

January 1, \$75,000, f&m, 3yo & up, 6f, Aqueduct, 2:41 PM EST

P	Horse	Sire	Jockey	Wt.	Trainer	Odds
1.	Aquitania	Leroidesanimaux (Brz)	Junior Alvarado	116	Hamilton Smith	5-to-2
2.	Winning Image	<a href="#">Southern Image</a> so	Jose C. Caraballo	120	Michael Charles Aro	8-to-1
3.	Bold Affair	Two Punch	Stewart Elliott	120	Howard Wolfendale	5-to-1
4.	Nicole H	Mr. Greeley	Ramon A. Dominguez	123	Michael Hushion	6-to-5
5.	Isn't She Grand	<a href="#">Grand Reward</a> so	Cornelio H. Velasquez	116	Rudy Rodriguez	10-to-1
6.	Don'tgetsuspicious	<a href="#">E Dubai</a> so	David Cohen	120	Hugh McMahon	12-to-1

**Aqueduct**

Stakes winner **Katy Now** (Tiznow) will try to bounce back from a fourth-place finish in the Go for Wand Handicap (G2) today in the \$75,000 **Ladies Handicap**.

The five-year-old entered the Go for Wand on November 25 off a clear victory in the Dispute Stakes on September 30 at Belmont Park. Katy Now was made the 7-to-5 morning-line favorite in the race.

**C C's Pal** (Alex's Pal), winner of the Garland of Roses Stakes on December 3 in her most recent start, was made second choice on the morning line at 8-to-5.



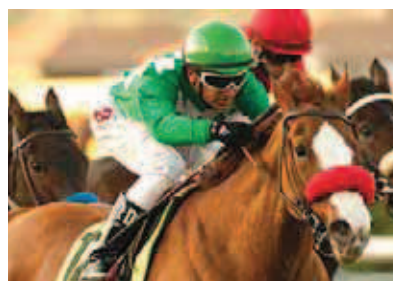
**C C'S PAL**  
Adam Coglianesse/NYRA photo

The \$75,000 **Interborough Stakes** on New Year's Day drew a field of six, including 6-to-5 morning-line favorite **Nicole H** (Mr. Greely).

The five-year-old mare won three straight races, including the Distaff Handicap (G2) on April 16, before finishing second in the in the Robert M. O'Malley Stakes on October 22 at Suffolk Downs in her most recent start.

**Bold Affair** (Two Punch) will try for her fifth win from seven career starts on Sunday. The stakes winner most recently won an optional claiming race at Parx Racing on December 13. The filly has never finished off the board in her career.

**Aquitania** (Leroidesanimaux [Brz]) enters the Interborough on a four-race unbeaten streak and was made the 5-to-2 second choice on the morning line.



**UNZIP ME**  
Benoit & Associates photo

**Santa Anita Park**

Multiple Grade 3 winner **Unzip Me** (City Zip) leads an accomplished field of 11 entered for the \$100,000 **Monrovia Stakes (G3)** on Tuesday.

The six-year-old mare won last year's Monrovia on the downhill turf course in front-running fashion, capturing the race by 1¼ lengths. She went on to win three more stakes in 2011 and enters off a 1¼-length victory in the John Deere California Cup Distaff Stakes on October 29.

Also entered in the race is multiple graded stakes winner **Up In Time (GB)** (Noverre), who lost her rider in the Matriarch Stakes (G1) in her most recent start; multiple Grade 1 winner **Champagne d'Oro** (Medaglia d'Oro); and Grade 3 winner **Separate Forest** (Forestry).

**Apriority 70th stakes winner for Grand Slam**

continued from page 1

With the victory, he also secured the 70th graded stakes victory for his sire Grand Slam, who stands at Ashford Stud in Versailles, Kentucky.

"I just tried to wait as long as possible," Saez said. "I was able to come up the rail and when I pushed on him, he came running. He's an amazing horse to do what he did today."

Zero Rate Policy ran well in finishing second. After leading through a quarter-mile in :22.20 and a half-mile in :44.74, the Trippi colt ran hard to the finish line only to finish a nose shy. Indiana finished third, followed by Grade 1 winner Capt. Candyman Can in fourth.

Apriority covered six furlongs on a track rated as fast in 1:09.28 to improve his record to five wins, six seconds, and one third from 17 starts and earnings of \$371,224.

Bred in Florida, Apriority is one ten winners from 11 starters out of the unraced Storm Bird mare Midway Squall and is a half brother to stakes winner and multiple stakes producer Squall City.—*Tim Nichols*

For an Equibase chart, click [here](#).

**MR. PROSPECTOR S. (G3)**

Gulfstream Park, December 31, \$100,000, 3yo & up, 6f, fast, 1:09.28.

**70th stakes winner for Grand Slam**

**APRIORITY**, 118, B. c. 4, **Grand Slam** <sup>sd</sup>—Midway Squall, by Storm Bird. Owner, Donald R. Dizney; breeder, Donald R. Dizney (Fl.); trainer, David Fawkes; jockey, Luis Saez. \$60,000. Lifetime: 17-5-6-1, \$371,224. Half to **SQUALL CITY** (\$173,190), **British Attitude** (\$183,583), **Acadia Breeze** (\$152,066). **Grand Slam stands at Ashford Stud, P.O. Box 823, Versailles, KY, for \$15,000 stud fee.**

**Zero Rate Policy** 118, Ch. g. 3, **Trippi**—Untitled Song, by Unbridled's Song. Owner, Klaravich Stables Inc. and Lawrence, William H.; breeder, Lybby F. Gay & Ronald Gay (Fl.); trainer, Teresa M. Pompay. \$20,000.

**Indiano** 120, B. c. 3, **Indian Charlie** <sup>sd</sup>—Separata (Chi), by Sam M. Owner, Stud El Aguila; breeder, Diamond A Racing Corp. (Ky.); trainer, Martin D. Wolfson. \$10,000.

Margins: nose, ½, 1 ¼; Odds: 2.60, 7.20, \*2.50. Also ran: Capt. Candyman Can 118 (\$5,000), The Hunk 118 (\$3,000), Immortal Eyes 120 (\$2,000), Nathan's H Q 118.

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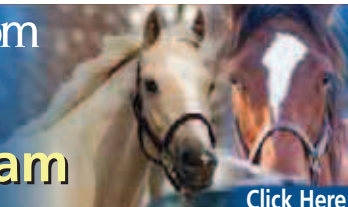
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