

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: Kevin Kerstein
Kentucky Racing Communications
Churchill Downs, Ellis Park, Turfway Park
(610) 420-6971 (mobile)
(502) 635-4712 (office)
Kevin.Kerstein@KyDerby.com

FRONT-RUNNING GRAND AVE GIRL SCORES IN WINTERGREEN STAKES

FLORENCE, Ky. (Saturday, Feb. 25, 2023) – Dixiana Farms' **Grand Ave Girl** took command of the early pace and never looked back to win Saturday's \$125,000 Wintergreen Stakes at Turfway Park.

Trained by **Kenny McPeek**, and ridden by jockey **Luan Machado**, Grand Ave Girl completed the 1 1/16-mile distance in 1:37.12.

Grand Ave Girl and Machado broke on top of the field of 11 fillies and mares and cruised to an opening quarter-mile fraction of :24.11. Up the backside, Grand Ave Girl increased her early command on the field by 3 1/2 lengths through a half-mile clocking of :47.75. Around the far turn, Grand Ave Girl felt her first challenge of the race from **Kate's Kingdom**, who made a sweeping move under jockey **Jack Gilligan**. In late stretch, Grand Ave Girl spurred clear of her rival for a 1 3/4-length victory. **Purrfect** finished a neck back of Kate's Kingdom to round out the Top 3.

Grand Ave Girl rewarded her backers with \$2 mutuel payouts of \$17.34, \$8.58 and \$6.14. Kate's Kingdom paid \$6.66 and \$4.14 while Purrfect returned \$5.34.

It was another 2 1/4 lengths back to fourth-place finisher **Maybe Later** followed in order by **Charges Dropped**, **Opening Buzz**, **Bella Conchita**, **Tap Dancing Lady**, **Candy Raid**, **Burgoo Alley (IRE)** and **Guana Cay**.

Grand Ave Girl is daughter of Runhappy out of the Holy Bull mare One More. She was bred in Kentucky by SF Bloodstock. The 5-year-old mare improved her lifetime record to 16-6-2-4 with purse earnings of \$325,356.

Racing will resume Thursday-Saturday at Turfway Park with a first posts of 5:55 p.m. (all times Eastern). Saturday's featured races are the \$150,000 John Battaglia Memorial and the \$150,000 Cincinnati Trophy. Both races are Prep Season events on the Road to the Kentucky Derby and Oaks, respectively.

-END-