

# News Release



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **KENTUCKY CUP CLASSIC WINNER WOLFIE'S DYNAGHOST FACES TWO JEFF RUBY STEAKS WINNERS IN 28<sup>TH</sup> RUNNING OF \$125,000 PRAIRIE BAYOU**

**FLORENCE, Ky. (Saturday, Dec. 9, 2023)** – Woodslane Farms recent Grade II winner and reigning TwinSpires Kentucky Cup Classic winner Wolfie's Dynaghost will face a stellar field of 12 plus two also-eligibles that entered next Saturday's 28<sup>th</sup> running of the \$125,000 Prairie Bayou Stakes at Turfway Park Racing & Gaming.

The Prairie Bayou Stakes will be contested in Race 7 of nine. Post time for the 1 1/16-mile event is 8:55 p.m. (all times Eastern), first post is 5:55 p.m.

Trained by **Jonathan Thomas**, the accomplished Wolfie's Dynaghost has won nine starts from his 24-race career including the TwinSpires Kentucky Cup Classic (Listed) earlier this year on the undercard of the Jeff Ruby Steaks (GIII). Following his win in the Kentucky Cup Classic, Thomas campaigned the 5-year-old son of Ghostzapper across North America but he achieved his greatest success in his last start at Woodbine when he was victorious in the Autumn Stakes (GII). Jockey **Tyler Conner** will ride Wolfie's Dynaghost from post No. 7.

Also entered in the Prairie Bayou are the 2022 and 2021 winners of the Jeff Ruby Steaks (GIII), **Tiz the Bomb** and **Like The King**.

Tiz the Bomb, trained by **Kenny McPeck** and owned by **Brookdale Racing**, has a perfect record from two starts at Turfway. Prior to his 2 1/4-length victory in the Jeff Ruby Steaks, Tiz the Bomb held off a late charge of **Stolen Base** to win the John Battaglia Memorial. Tiz the Bomb will be in search of his first victory since the Jeff Ruby Steaks out of post 4 with Joe Talamo in the irons.

**M Racing Group's** Like The King will attempt to win his fifth-lifetime race in the Prairie Bayou. Like The King scored a 7-1 upset victory in the Jeff Ruby Steaks and for the majority of his 4-year-old and 5-year-old seasons has been competing at Woodbine. The **Mark Casse** trainee will be ridden by **Fernando De La Cruz** from the rail.

Another accomplished runner in the field is **Robert Hunt's** recent Bryan Station Stakes (Grade III) winner **Runaway Storm**. Trained by **Ethan West**, the ultra-consistent Runaway Storm is a three-time winner from just five starts. The 3-year-old son of Midnight Storm has been based on the backstretch of Turfway Park for the majority of his career with now year-round training at the facility. Five weeks ago, Runaway Storm rallied from just off the pace to defeat seven foes in the Bryan Station (GIII) at Keeneland. Prior to that start, West shipped Midnight Storm to Colonial Downs where he finished third by 3 1/2 lengths to **Integration** and **Program Trading** in the highly productive Virginia Derby (GIII). Four of nine runners in the Virginia Derby returned to win stakes events – Integration (Grade II Hill Prince), Program Trading (Grade I Hollywood Derby), Runaway Storm (Bryan Station) and sixth-place finisher **Gigante** (Commonwealth Turf).

Runaway Storm will be ridden in the Prairie Bayou by **Colby Hernandez** out of post No. 6.

Here is the complete field for the Prairie Bayou Stakes from the rail out (with jockey and trainer): Like the King (De La Cruz, Casse); **Ocean Atlantique** (Luan Machado Mike Maker); **Temple** (Axel Concepcion, Mike Maker); Tiz the Bomb (Joe Talamo, Kenny McPeck); **Hush of a Storm** (Gerardo Corrales, Billy Morey); Runaway Storm (Hernandez, West); Wolfie's Dynaghost (Conner, Thomas); **Kitodan** (Alex Achard, Eric Foster); **Cellist** (Martin Garcia, Rusty Arnold); **War Bomber (IRE)** (Orlando Mojica, Norm McKnight); **Packs a Wahlop** (Abel Cedillo, Billy Morey); **Leave It to Kitten** (Joe Ramos, Kathy Jarvis). Also-eligibles: **Fair Dinkum** (Axel Concepcion, Joe Sharp); **Vintage Print** (Gerardo Corrales, Paulo Lobo).

The Prairie Bayou Stakes is named in honor of the 1993 winner of the Jeff Ruby Stakes (formerly Jim Beam Stakes). **Prairie Bayou**, who was owned by **Loblolly Stable** and trained by **Tom Bohannon**, was the 4-1 favorite in that year's Kentucky Derby (GI) but finished second to **Sea Hero**. He would go on to win the Preakness Stakes (GI) two weeks later which led him to become the Eclipse Award Champion 3-Year-Old Colt.

**SINGLE 6 JACKPOT POOL GROWS TO \$117,108** – No one correctly identified all six winners in Friday night's 20-cent Single 6 Jackpot and there was a full carryover of \$117,108 to racing Saturday night.

The 20-cent Single 6 Jackpot, which has a low 15% takeout, requires bettors to identify the last six winners on the card. Unlike some Pick 6 jackpot wagers, the Single 6 pays out 90% of the daily pool if there are multiple winning tickets and only 10% will carryover. If there are no correct winning combinations, the entire jackpot will carryover to the next race day.

Saturday's sequence will begin in Race 4 at 7:25 p.m. (all times Eastern). First post is 5:55 p.m.

**'FINAL FLORENCE FURLONG'** – Jockey **Axel Concepcion** tallied three wins on Friday night's card. The five-pound apprentice rider vaulted into second in the jockey standings with seven overall victories, two behind Luan Machado. ... Nominations for the \$125,000 Gowell Stakes close Saturday. The six-furlong race for 2-year-old fillies will run Saturday, Dec. 23. To nominate, contact **Jackie Herbstreit** at 859-743-4333.

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