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STREET BEAST BEGINS 2026 CAMPAIGN IN SATURDAY'S \$125,000 LEONATUS

FLORENCE, Ky. (Monday, Jan. 12, 2026) – The road to the \$777,000 Jeff Ruby Steaks (Grade III) starts Saturday at Turfway Park Racing & Gaming, where **Midway Racing's** Kentucky Downs Juvenile Mile (Listed) winner **Street Beast** leads a competitive cast of nine aspiring 3-year-olds in the 36th running of the \$125,000 Leonatus Stakes.

Run at one mile, the Leonatus Stakes serves as a local steppingstone to the Feb. 21 \$175,000 John Battaglia Memorial (Listed) and the March 21 Jeff Ruby Steaks, both on the Road to the Kentucky Derby presented by Woodford Reserve. The Leonatus goes as Saturday's eighth race with a post time of 9:25 p.m. (all times Eastern). First post is 5:55 p.m.

Trained by **Ben Colebrook**, Street Beast was a two-time winner at the Kentucky Downs meeting, breaking his maiden Aug. 28 before returning 10 days later to dominate the Juvenile Mile by seven lengths under **Luan Machado**. Following his stakes victory, Street Beast stepped up to Grade I company in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf, finishing fourth, beaten 4 ¼ lengths by the highly regarded European invader **Gstaad (GB)**. Machado returns to ride Street Beast in the Leonatus and will break from post No. 9.

Among his competition is a duo from the **Brad Cox** barn: **St. Elias Stable** and **Starlight Racing's** Keeneland allowance winner **Fulleffort** and **Grandview Equine, LNJ Foxwoods** and **Hubert Vester's** Turfway allowance winner **Valiant**.

A son of Liam's Map, Fulleffort has been highly regarded by bettors for all four of his starts. In late October, he cruised to a five-length allowance victory on turf at Keeneland as the even-money favorite. Prior to that, he broke his maiden as the 4-5 favorite at Kentucky Downs. Jockey **Vincent Cheminaud** has the riding assignment from post 5.

Stablemate Valiant will break from post 3 with **Fernando De La Cruz** in the irons. A son of Into Mischief, Valiant broke his maiden two starts ago at Horseshoe Indianapolis, then rallied from just off the pace for a 1 ¾-length allowance victory six weeks ago.

Another horse with stakes experience entered in the race is **Paradise Farms Corp., David Staudacher, Turman Racing Stable** and **Skychai Racing's I Did I Did**, who was fourth in the Street Sense Stakes (Grade III) on Oct. 26 at Churchill Downs. Trained by five-time Leonatus winner **Mike Maker**, I Did I Did most recently finished seventh in the Remsen Stakes (Grade II) at Aqueduct. Jockey **Walter Rodriguez** will be in the irons from post 7.

Also entered in the Leonatus Stakes are **NBS Stable's** multiple stakes-placed **Jutland**; **Three Chimneys Farm** and **John Ennis'** impressive maiden winner **Great White**; **James Miller's** local allowance winner **No Joke Joe**; **CJ Stables'** allowance runner-up **Reb Five**; and **Go-To-Toga Racing** and **Equinox's** Indiana-bred **Brazilian Conexao**.

The Leonatus field in order of post position (with jockey and trainer):

- Great White (Alex Achard, John Ennis)
- Reb Five (Edgar Morales, Mark Casse)
- Valiant (De La Cruz, Cox)
- Brazilian Conexao (Yarmarie Correa, Eduardo Caramori)
- Fulleffort (Cheminaud, Cox)
- No Joke Joe (Gabe Saez, Joe Sharp)
- I Did I Did (Rodriguez, Maker)
- Jutland (Adam Beschizza, Kelsey Danner)
- Street Beast (Machado, Colebrook)

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