

Golden Tempo wins Kentucky Derby

Cherie DeVaux becomes the 1st woman to train its winner

STEPHEN WHYNO
KENTUCKY TODAY

Cherie DeVaux made history on Saturday as the first woman to train the winner of the Kentucky Derby, as Golden Tempo charged from the back of the pack and charged down the stretch to get to the finish line first in the biggest event in horse racing. DeVaux is just the second female trainer to win any Triple Crown race after Jena Antonucci won with Arcangelo in the 2023

Belmont Stakes. She won the Derby in her first opportunity, eight years since starting her own stable. Ridden by Jose Ortiz and with a crowd of more than 100,000 watching and roaring at Churchill Downs, Golden Tempo passed favorite Renegade just before the wire to win the 1 1/4-mile race in 2:02.27 at odds of 23-1. Renegade was second, with brother Irad Ortiz Jr. aboard, and long shot Ocelli was third. "I don't even have

any words right now," DeVaux said. "I just can't. Just so, so, so happy for Golden Tempo. Jose did a wonderful job, a masterful job of getting him there. He was so far out of it." During the week, DeVaux shifted from downplaying what it would mean to be the first woman to train a Derby winner to understanding she's a role model to girls who might want to follow in her footsteps someday. She's just the 18th woman to saddle a horse

in the Kentucky Derby. "I'm glad I can be a representative of all women everywhere that we can do anything we set our minds do," DeVaux said. Ortiz showed off the riding prowess that has made him so successful at Churchill Downs in recent days, winning the Derby for the first time in his 11th try. It came a little under 24 hours since he also won the Kentucky Oaks, the top race for 3-year-old fillies. His parents were

there to witness Ortiz's remarkable ride. "I get to ride it almost every year, but to get to win it, it's just special," Ortiz said. "I just wish my grandpa was here, but I know he's looking from heaven. Just very happy that I get my goal, my life dream goal achieved." The Kentucky Derby went on with just 18 horses. Great White was a late scratch after flipping and throwing his jockey. Track veterinarians made the call to scratch the long

shot who got into the field Wednesday when Silent Tactic was ruled out because of a foot injury. The Puma was out, less than 12 hours before post time, because of a swollen leg from a skin infection. Great White became the fifth horse scratched this week and the second Saturday. Silent Tactic was ruled out Wednesday, Fulleffort on Thursday and Right to Party on Friday, with Great White, Ocelli and Robusta getting in.

Shaq's daughter brings unique skills to Wildcats

KEITH TAYLOR
KENTUCKY TODAY

Me'Arah O'Neal will bring name recognition to the University of Kentucky women's basketball team next season. O'Neal, daughter of former LSU and NBA star Shaquille O'Neal, committed to the Wildcats on Monday, giving coach Kenny Brooks a versatile forward in the post. O'Neal averaged 13.6 points and 6.4

rebounds last season at Florida. In a loss to the Wildcats at Memorial Coliseum last year, O'Neal scored 23 points, including a pair of 3-pointers and snagged four rebounds. Overall, O'Neal was second on the team and made 37 3-pointers last season. "I think my three-pointer gets me going," she said during the Southeastern Conference Tournament in March. "I started

out playing basketball shooting threes, so it's kind of neat." Former Florida coach Kelly Rae Finley, now associate head coach at Virginia, recruited O'Neal to Gainesville two years ago. "On the court, she is a dynamic player who brings a unique skill set along with versatility to the floor... Her humble nature and team-first mentality make her the total package."



Tyran Stokes picks Kansas over UK;

Cats pick up commitment from Justin McBride

KEITH TAYLOR
KENTUCKY TODAY

Heralded prep prospect Tyran Stokes made his long-awaited college choice on Tuesday, selecting Kansas over Kentucky and Oregon. Stokes, a 6-foot-7, 230-pound wing player, is considered the No. 1 prospect in the Class of 2026. Stokes postponed his announcement in December and made his choice official on ESPN Tuesday night. "I'm taking my talents to the University of Kansas," he said. "Rock, Chalk (Jayhawk)," he

said. "Coach Bill Self is a great coach, great person, too. He's been there from the beginning. He always fed into me, gave me great advice throughout the entire process. I just want to say thank you to the university (and) Rock Chalk Nation (for) just giving me the opportunity to go into Allen Fieldhouse and leave my mark. I'm ready to go to put on the show." Stokes played at Ranier Beach High School in Seattle last season and averaged 21 points, nine rebounds and four assists per game. He

had a 63-point performance during his team's senior night win over West Seattle. He also scored 50 points in a win over Seattle Prep last December. Stokes won a gold medal with the U.S. at the 2023 FIBA U16 Americas Championship in 2023 and earned another gold medal in 2024 in the FIBA U17 World Cup in Turkey in 2024. The sweepstakes for Stokes began with Kansas, Kentucky, Louisville, Oregon and USC. He then narrowed the list down to a three-

school race between Kansas, Kentucky and Oregon and ultimately settled on the Jayhawks. McBRIDE, MORTON COMMIT TO UK Prior to the announcement by Stokes on national television, Kentucky received a commitment from James Madison standout Justin McBride. McBride averaged 15.3 points, 5.6 rebounds, and shot 40 percent from behind the arc for the Dukes. McBride joined Zoom Diallo and Alex Wilkins as Kentucky's

three pickups from the transfer portal. McBride, a 6-foot-7 forward, chose the Wildcats over Louisville, SMU, Florida State and Baylor. "The biggest thing was to get back to high-major," McBride told KSR's Jacob Polacheck. "With Mark Pope, the values of what he wants, playing that four-man, and being able to push the ball, and stretch the floor. I can be that shooting factor and make a big impact there. I appreciate that he let me get the opportunity to be there."

Earlier this week, former George Rogers Clark High School standout Jerone Morton committed to play for the Wildcats following a weekend visit to Lexington. Morton, who led GRC to a state championship in 2021 and a runner-up appearance in 2022, began his collegiate career at Morehead State before transferring to Washington State. Morton averaged 7.8 points and 2.6 assists per game last season. He scored a career-high 16 points against Gonzaga.

PHOTO FINISH

WORD SEARCH



WORDS

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E T T E N G I V T O D I C P F T H K K M
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- APERTURE
- BOKEH
- COMPOSITION
- CONTRAST
- DARKROOM
- DEPTH
- EXPOSURE
- FLASH
- FOCAL
- HISTOGRAM
- ISO
- LANDSCAPE
- LENS
- MACRO
- NEGATIVE
- PORTRAIT
- REFLECTOR
- RESOLUTION
- SATURATION
- SENSOR
- SHUTTER
- TRIPOD
- VIEWFINDER
- VIGNETTE

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.