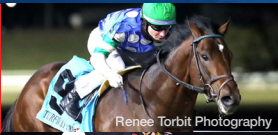


MEET THE CONTENDERS

2026

JOHN BATTAGLIA MEMORIAL

1



Renee Torbit Photography

STREET BEAST



PRO: Stakes winner both here and at Kentucky Downs; top contender.
CON: Might not be able to dictate terms as easily as he did in Leonatus S.

2



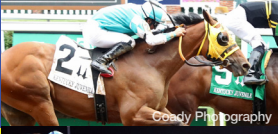
Coady Photography

STEEL IMPERIUM



PRO: Won easily at first asking and bred to like this distance and farther.
CON: Limited experience compared to others the obvious drawback.

3



Coady Photography

MAXIMUS PRIME



PRO: Stakes-placed colt gets blinkers back on after recent dud.
CON: Six-start maiden hardly fits the profile of impending stakes winner.

4



Coady Photography

KILO TANGO



PRO: Rallied from well back to graduate over this strip for leading barn.
CON: Should continue to improve, but perhaps not soon enough to upset these.

5



Coady Photography

BAYTOWN DREAMER



PRO: Distantly placed against Street Beast the last time they faced each other.
CON: Ten-start veteran pretty well exposed and doesn't appear quick enough.

6



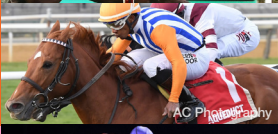
Coady Photography

TIME FOR MONEY



PRO: Local debut was better than initial allowance attempt at Churchill.
CON: Seemingly overmatched, given out of the money finishes versus softer.

7



AC Photography

ATTFIELD



PRO: Solid form on the grass last season in NY; class should carry him far.
CON: Main concern is that he might be better suited to the grass.

8



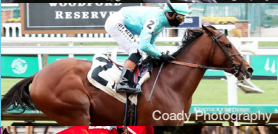
Coady Photography

GREAT WHITE



PRO: Debut winner here but didn't have the best of starts in the Leonatus.
CON: Likely a cut or two below others exiting the same prep.

9



Coady Photography

STOP THE CAR



PRO: Won well first two starts though outclassed in Lecomte (G3) last time.
CON: Like many here, how he will handle new surface remains to be seen.

10



Hodges Photography

ACES HONOR



PRO: Gutsy colt has won two straight on turf, including Sam Houston turf stakes.
CON: Recent hard races might have taken its toll; lacks Tapeta experience.

11



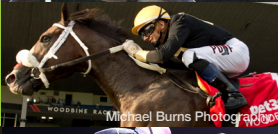
Coady Photography

FULLEFFORT



PRO: Excellent form last fall and comeback effort something he can build on.
CON: Tends to be well supported so value might be lacking.

12



Michael Burns Photography

TWO OUT HERO



PRO: Stakes winner on turf but captured only Tapeta start by 12 lengths.
CON: Hasn't run since mid-September and drew poorly here.

13



Coady Photography

SMALL TOWN



PRO: Won on debut for respected barn; remains with a high ceiling.
CON: AE will be challenged by wide draw if he gets in; concedes experience.