

TWINSPIRES TIPSHEET



145TH RUNNING OF THE KENTUCKY OAKS

The Kentucky Oaks (Gr 1)

1 1/8-Miles

PURSE \$1,250,000

POST	HORSE	ML ODDS
1	Out for a Spin	15-1
2	Chocolate Kisses	20-1
3	Lady Apple	20-1
4	Bellafina	2-1
5	Flor de la Mar	20-1
6	Positive Spirit	30-1
7	Jaywalk	8-1
8	Motion Emotion	15-1
9	Liora	20-1
10	Champagne Anyone	6-1
11	Jeltrin	15-1
12	Street Band	15-1
13	Serengeti Empress	8-1
14	Restless Rider	6-1

TOP PICKS	
1	Out for a Spin
7	Jaywalk
14	Restless Rider
WIN (\$20)	
1	(\$20)
\$10 EXACTA KEY BOX	
1 with 7,14	(\$40)
\$1 TRIFECTA	
1 with 3,4,7,10,14	with all (\$60)

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A total of 16 three-year-old fillies, two of which are on the also-eligible list, will travel 1 1/8 miles at Churchill Downs on Friday to contest the historic Kentucky Oaks (G1). This ultra-competitive affair features 12 graded winners among the 14 in the main body of the field, led by California queen BELLAFINA (#4) (2-1).

The Simon Callaghan trainee has rolled home to a trio of wins this campaign by a combined 14 1/2 lengths and will aim to make amends for her fourth-place result here in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies (G1) in the fall. While the morning-line choice can surely be the one to wear the blanket of lilies following the race, this contest offers multiple contenders with generous odds.

The Ashland Stakes (G1) at Keeneland was the most difficult Oaks prep this spring, and the top-three finishers from that affair could occupy the top-three slots on Friday once again.

OUT FOR A SPIN (#1) (15-1) registered a huge upset in the Ashland at odds of 52-1 in her stakes debut for conditioner Dallas Stewart, but it didn't look like a fluke. The chestnut daughter of Hard Spun forced a fast pace and never tired in the stretch, gamely repelling a Grade-1 heroine late in the process.

The Virginia-bred is getting very good at the right time. She owns early presence as well as a nice turn of foot, and in this race with so much pace on tap, she figures to make her run from off the tempo after saving ground every step of the way. The \$75,000 yearling purchase picks up top pilot Irad Ortiz, Jr., and her experience over a wet surface could come into play, too.

Champion JAYWALK (#7) (8-1) has burned a lot of money in a pair of setbacks to kick-off her three-year-old season. The accomplished John Servis trainee had no excuse when an uncharacteristic fourth in the Davona Dale Stakes (G2) at Gulfstream, and she was then outrun in the stretch in the Ashland when checking in third by two lengths.

The Cross Traffic filly did show a lot of improvement last time out, however, and could be set for a peak showing third time off the rest. The gray was outmoved in early stretch in the Ashland but she never stopped trying inside the final furlong. Jaywalk cemented her championship juvenile campaign with a dominant win on this course in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies (G1), and the affinity for this famed oval could go a long way in the Oaks. Jockey Javier Castellano stays in the silks and his filly might be the overall speed of the field.

The Kenny McPeck-trained RESTLESS RIDER (#14) (6-1) has been first or second in each of her seven lifetime performances. The classy daughter of Distorted Humor always shows up, and she will be very difficult to leave off of any ticket in the Oaks. A game second off of a long absence in the Ashland most recently, the gray lass should have gotten a lot out of that comeback attempt to aid her chances today as a fitter contender.

Restless Rider turned heads with her 11-length romp in the Debutante Stakes here in the summer, and she concluded 2018 with a gritty runner-up showing in the Juvenile Fillies. Drawing widest of all in the field is an obvious reason for concern, however, her versatility in running style will give Brian Hernandez, Jr. options from the outset. The Kentucky-bred is also proven to be capable of handling a wet track.