



**Iron Maidens Thoroughbreds**  
**Lexington Stakes (G-2)**  
**April 17, 2010**



The Coolmore Lexington Stakes (G2) at 1 1/16 miles over the Keeneland Polytrack is the last ditch effort for Kentucky Derby contenders to stockpile enough earnings to grab a ticket to Louisville. The only two horses in recent years to win the Lexington and put in a good effort in the Derby are Charismatic, Derby winner of '99 and Proud Citizen, who placed in 2002. The 2006 winner Showing Up didn't fare well in the Derby, but became an excellent turf horse. The Lexington has been held over Polytrack since 2007. In that time, none of the top three finishers have continued on to Grade 1 status. Let's review this year's field and see if any are Derby material.



**Krypton** (Rock Hard Ten – Freedom Reigns, by Unbridled's Song) showed his fondness for the Keeneland Polytrack drawing off to win by over six lengths in his last race. His sire Rock Hard Ten was second in the Preakness and won the Santa Anita Handicap when it was run on good ole dirt. Not surprisingly for a route horse, Rock Hard Ten's offspring are slow to mature, but their sire appears to be passing along his turf genes. His stakes winning offspring prefer turf or synthetic surfaces. Krypton's unraced dam is a half sister to three stakes winners and his second dam placed in French Group 1 races. His third dam Straight deal was a champion handicap mare and fourth dam No Fiddling is a blue hen. Krypton has been working consistently over turf. McLaughlin/Garcia team for 39% wins.



*Uptowncharlybrown - Photo: Don Haines*

**Uptowncharlybrown** (Limehouse - La Iluminada, by Langfuhr) had a tough trip in the Florida Derby (G-3) and finished fifth, only 2 ¾ lengths behind the winner. His sire Limehouse is an excellent producer of synthetic track runners. Uptowncharlybrown always works well over the deep Tampa track. He attracts Garret Gomez and they should settle off the quick pace.

**Distorted Dave** (Distorted Humor – Crazy Ensign, by Fiery Ensign) beat up on optional claimers over Pro-Ride last time out. He was unable to keep up with The Program and Thomas Baines, who were briefly on the triple crown trail. Distorted Humor gets runners over all surfaces. Distorted Dave's damsire won the Young America (G-1) at 1 1/16 miles. The grandson of Hoist the Flag was exported to Argentina. Not surprisingly, Distorted Dave's dam is Argentinean. She placed in graded stakes races from 1 1/16 to 1 ¼ miles in California. Sadler is 20% with shippers.

**Bushwhacked** (Posse- Run In, by Dynaformer) broke his maiden over this track two weeks ago going seven furlongs. He has a strong turf pedigree and carries the bloodlines of Rahy, Blushing Groom, Dynaformer, Nijinsky and Round Table in his first four generations. His second dam won the Miss Grillo (G-2) over turf. Trainer Sheppard has an eye-catching 24% win rate with horses moving from maiden to stakes races.

**Call Shot** (Tale of the Cat - Sweet Monarch, by Wavering Monarch) is the first foal from his graded stakes-placed dam. She is a half sister to two stakes-placed runners and the second dam is also stakes placed. He started out on Polytrack and beat American Lion who went on to win the Illinois Derby. Call Shot has proven that he can win off of a layoff and his works, while not burning up the track, are on the higher side of average and consistent. His trainer Catalano produced 32% winners from the dirt to synthetic angle.

[Prince Will I Am](#) (Victory Gallop – Dyna’s Dynamo, by Dynaformer) was wide the entire way in the Fountain of Youth and finished an embarrassing 17+ lengths behind Eskendreya. Prince Will I Am appears to have a good race/bad race cycle and is headed towards a good race. He has an excellent stamina oriented pedigree, from his Belmont Stakes winning sire to his internationally known broodmare sire, who gave us Barbaro. Prince Will I Am’s dam only won once in 20 starts, but she is a half sister to a stakes winner and Prince Will I Am’s second and third dams are stakes winners. Victory Gallop’s offspring are average over synthetic surfaces and he has some winners over the Keeneland Polytrack. Dyna’s Dynamo won once, over dirt. Prince Will I Am’s second dam was a stakes winning dirt sprinter.

[Lonesome Street](#) (Broken Vow – Street Cat, by Storm Cat) was second the whole way around in the Rushaway Stakes at Turfway, posting a lifetime best BRIS speed figure. His sire Broken Vow is an excellent Pro-Ride sire and he produces graded stakes winners up to nine furlongs. Lonesome Street’s dam is a half sister to Grade 2 turf stakes winner Union Avenue and his second dam equaled the turf course record at Gulfstream Park, going 1 mile in 1:35 2/5. Trainer Maker won last week’s Bluegrass Stakes and gives a leg up to the meet’s leading rider Leparoux.



*Exhi - Photo: Mathea Kelley*

[Exhi](#) (Maria’s Mon – Soldera, by Polish Numbers) led throughout the Rushaway Stakes winning by a measured length. He is a confirmed front runner. His dam is an English Group two stakes placed miler and Exhi’s third dam is the great Fanfreluche. Exhi is a confirmed front runner and posted a lifetime best BRIS speed figure last time out – while trying Polytrack for the first time.

[Heavenville](#) (Offlee Wild - Seeking Heaven, by Petionville) Broke his maiden over this track, but has been running with fair success in state bred stakes races in Louisiana. His sire is an excellent producer of synthetic track runners and his dam is a stakes winner. Damsire Petionville won up to 1 1/8 miles. Heavenville has only won three of twelve starts, but he is consistently in the money. Asmussen gets 22% next out winners.

[Connemara](#) (Giant’s Causeway - Satin Sunrise, by Mr. Leader) hopped at the start of the Lanes End Stakes (G-2) but still did well to finish third. Connemara is a half brother to multiple G-1 winner Lion Heart and G-3 winner French Satin. His dam and second dam are stakes winners. The stalker took a liking to the Polytrack and recorded a lifetime best BRIS speed figure last time out and has every reason to improve if he can avoid gate troubles.

[Kettle River](#) (Congaree – La Grande Mamma, by Compadre) improved steadily in his first three starts, but showed nothing in the Sham Stakes (G-3). Kettle River’s sire Congaree was an excellent miler, but hasn’t lived up to expectations at stud. Damsire is a G-3 turf stakes placed runner at 9F. Dam was a stakes winning sprinter and her two siblings to race are also sprinters. That’s pretty much it for the distaff family. The barn is 22% with next out winners.



*Kettle River - Photo: Benoit*

[Chief Counsel](#) (Officer – Format, by Furiously) was off the board for the first time in six starts when he finished fourth in the Lanes End Stakes. He cuts back in distance and has a quick work over the Polytrack. His sire Officer is an excellent sire of synthetic track runners. Chief Counsel’s damsire, a son of Danzig, won G-2 races up to 1 1/8 miles. Format won a listed sprint stakes. Chief Counsel shows improving speed figures in his last

two races. He was fourth in the Lane's End making up ground over a speed favoring track. Mott/Desormeaux team for 20% winners.

### **Selections:**

How the track is playing: This week, seven races were run at 1 1/16 miles over the main track. 29% wired the field and 43% were pace setters/pressers. 29% of the stalkers won. The overall meet totals have early speed winning 45% of the time and pace pressers winning 36%.

You know it's a wide open race when the morning line favorite is 4-1. One can find a legitimate reason for practically every horse in the race to win – or loose. Seven of the twelve entrants have early speed. Lately, instead of the expected speed duels, we've seen one horse go to the front while the jocks of the speed horses take back. **Exhi** is a confirmed front runner and he won the Rushaway in his last start. He's never pulled off two consecutive wins and the last time he had a huge speed figure jump, he finished off the board in his next race. **Lonesome Street** was second to Exhi last time out and could move forward, but the class of the company he's been keeping is suspect. **Heavenville** is very consistent with statebreds and this field isn't the most stellar. He broke his maiden over the Polytrack and this son of Offlee Wild is worth a second look. **Call Shot** beat American Lion in his debut – over Polytrack and was only 3 ¾ behind Radiohead and Homeboy Chris in his last race. He shows a strong work pattern and the connections must be respected.

**Krypton** blew them away in his first time over Polytrack. His wins come on or near the lead, but every time he's run a lifetime best speed figure, he's run out of the money in his next start plus he's coming back in only two weeks. **Bushwacked** is coming back in two weeks off of a maiden victory. He didn't have a huge breakout win and has a legitimate chance to move forward. His conservative trainer wouldn't be making this move if the horse wasn't ready to go. **Chief Counsel** cuts back in distance and we know he likes this track. Far outside posts are winning at 19% so he's also worth a look. **Connemara** has been in the money in all of his races, had trouble last time out and still found a way to finish third. He has to be respected.

Like Odysseus, **Uptowncharlybrown** comes out of the Florida Derby and has been running with better than he finds here. Unlike that rival, Charlie has a pedigree indicating he should do well over Polytrack. Can he make up ground over a speed favoring track? **Prince Will I Am** will be in the same boat, but is coming up to a good race. Any one of these horses can jump up and win, and I'm going to go with the price horses this week.

**Call Shot**

**Uptowncharlybrown**

**Connemara**

***Prince Will I Am - longshot***