

**FAIR GROUNDS - February 28, 2026 - Race 8**

STAKES Black Gold S. Black Type - Thoroughbred

FOR THREE YEAR OLDS. Free nomination by Saturday, February 14. \$550 to enter, \$550 additional to start. Supplemental nominations of \$2,000 will be accepted at time of entry which shall include all fees. \$100,000 Guaranteed of which 60% to the winner, 20% to second, 10% to third, 4% to fourth and 2% to fifth and 1% to finishers sixth through ninth. Weight: 122 lbs.

Non-winners of a sweepstakes at a mile or over on the turf allowed 2 lbs. \$30,000 at a mile or over on the turf allowed 4 lbs (Maiden, claiming and starter races not considered in estimating allowances.) Starters to be named through the entry box by the usual time of closing. The maximum field size for the Black Gold Stakes will be determined by rail setting. Preference to stake winners then preference to horses with the highest total earnings on the turf. Any horse excluded from running because of the aforementioned preference will be refunded the entry fee or supplementary nomination fee if applicable. A trophy will be presented to the winning owner. Nominations closed Saturday, February 14, 2026 with 14 nominations. (If deemed inadvisable by management to run this race over the turf course, it will be run on the main track at One Mile and One Sixteenth.) (Rail at 14 feet).

**Distance:** One And One Sixteenth Miles On The Turf **Current Track Record:** (Explosive Bid - 1:42.40 - January 13, 1983)

**Purse:** \$100,000 Guaranteed

**Available Money:** \$100,000

**Value of Race:** \$98,000 1st \$60,000, 2nd \$20,000, 3rd \$10,000, 4th \$4,000, 5th \$2,000, 6th \$1,000, 7th \$1,000

**Weather:** Cloudy, 70° **Track:** Firm

**Off at:** 4:49 **Start:** Good for all except 4 **Timing Method:** Electronic



[Video Race Replay](#)

Last Raced	Pgm	Horse Name (Jockey)	Wgt M/E	PP	Start	1/4	1/2	3/4	Str	Fin	Odds	Comments
5Feb26 <sup>8</sup> FG <sup>1</sup>	1	Black Hornet (Cannon, Declan)	118 L b	1 4		3 <sup>1/2</sup>	3 <sup>1/2</sup>	3 <sup>Head</sup>	1 <sup>Head</sup>	1 <sup>1 1/4</sup>	7.40	trk ins, duel, edged
8Jan26 <sup>9</sup> FG <sup>1</sup>	5	Touch of Fire (Pedroza, Jr., Marcelino)	118 L	4 1		1 <sup>1 1/2</sup>	1 <sup>1</sup>	1 <sup>1/2</sup>	2 <sup>1</sup>	2 <sup>2</sup>	0.40*	pace, duel, yielded
22Jan26 <sup>6</sup> FG <sup>3</sup>	4	McCready (Thornton, Timothy)	118 L b	3 6		6 <sup>3</sup>	5 <sup>1</sup>	5 <sup>3</sup>	3 <sup>1 1/2</sup>	3 <sup>4 1/2</sup>	9.10	pnch, stdy rptdly, chs
11Jan26 <sup>10</sup> GP <sup>8</sup>	7	Sunrise (Curtis, Ben)	118 L o	6 2		2 <sup>1 1/2</sup>	2 <sup>1</sup>	2 <sup>1</sup>	4 <sup>2</sup>	4 <sup>3</sup>	15.00	shdwd3w, bid, faded
12Feb26 <sup>6</sup> FG <sup>1</sup>	2	Ramblin (Concepcion, Axel)	118 L	2 7		7	7	6 <sup>5</sup>	6 <sup>10</sup>	5 <sup>1 1/2</sup>	24.60	trailed, passed foes
22Jan26 <sup>6</sup> FG <sup>2</sup>	8	Casa Cielo (Graham, James)	122 L	7 3		4 <sup>3</sup>	4 <sup>2</sup>	4 <sup>1</sup>	5 <sup>1 1/2</sup>	6 <sup>11 1/4</sup>	8.80	tracked 3w, retreated
22Jan26 <sup>6</sup> FG <sup>4</sup>	6	Beekman Street (Hernandez, Jr., Brian)	118 L o	5 5		5 <sup>1</sup>	6 <sup>1</sup>	7	7	7	12.30	settled, outran

**Fractional Times:** 24.06 49.74 1:14.21 1:37.70 **Final Time:** 1:44.03

**Split Times:** (25:68) (24:47) (23:49) (6:33)

**Run-Up:** 180 feet **Temporary Rail:** 14 feet

**Winner:** Black Hornet, Gray or Roan Colt, by Essential Quality out of Brattata, by More Than Ready. Foaled Mar 10, 2023 in Kentucky.

**Breeder:** Barry Becker & Judith Becker

**Owner:** Calumet Farm

**Trainer:** Walsh, Brendan

**Scratched Horse(s):** Swift Blade (Stakes Scratch)

**Total WPS Pool:** \$205,435

Pgm	Horse	Win	Place	Show	Wager Type	Winning Numbers	Payoff	Pool
1	Black Hornet	16.80	4.00	2.80	\$1.00 Exacta	1-5	13.90	145,801
5	Touch of Fire		2.10		\$0.50 Trifecta	1-5-4	53.40	81,511
4	McCready			3.40	\$0.10 Superfecta	1-5-4-7	76.84	48,703
					\$0.50 Pick 3	9-4-1 (3 correct)	32.65	8,585
					\$1.00 Daily Double	4-1	15.80	11,984

**Past Performance Running Line Preview**

Pgm	Horse Name	Start	1/4	1/2	3/4	Str	Fin
1	Black Hornet	4	3 <sup>3</sup>	3 <sup>2</sup>	3 <sup>1 1/2</sup>	1 <sup>Head</sup>	1 <sup>1 1/4</sup>
5	Touch of Fire	1	1 <sup>1 1/2</sup>	1 <sup>1</sup>	1 <sup>1/2</sup>	2 <sup>Head</sup>	2 <sup>1 1/4</sup>
4	McCready	6	6 <sup>7 1/2</sup>	5 <sup>4 1/2</sup>	5 <sup>2 1/2</sup>	3 <sup>1</sup>	3 <sup>3 1/4</sup>
7	Sunrise	2	2 <sup>1 1/2</sup>	2 <sup>1</sup>	2 <sup>1/2</sup>	4 <sup>2 1/2</sup>	4 <sup>7 3/4</sup>
2	Ramblin	7	7 <sup>10 1/2</sup>	7 <sup>6 1/2</sup>	6 <sup>5 1/2</sup>	6 <sup>6</sup>	5 <sup>10 3/4</sup>
8	Casa Cielo	3	4 <sup>3 1/2</sup>	4 <sup>2 1/2</sup>	4 <sup>1 1/2</sup>	5 <sup>4 1/2</sup>	6 <sup>12 1/4</sup>
6	Beekman Street	5	5 <sup>6 1/2</sup>	6 <sup>5 1/2</sup>	7 <sup>10 1/2</sup>	7 <sup>16</sup>	7 <sup>23 1/2</sup>

**Trainers:** 1 - Walsh, Brendan; 5 - Cox, Brad; 4 - Robertson, Hugh; 7 - Walsh, Brendan; 2 - Barnett, Bobby; 8 - Desormeaux, J.; 6 - Stidham, Michael

**Owners:** 1 - Calumet Farm; 5 - Juddmonte; 4 - Novogratz Racing Stables, Inc.; 7 - Harrell Ventures LLC; 2 - Don Blackwood; 8 - Don't Tell My Wife Stables 2024, LLC; 6 - Godolphin, LLC;

**Footnotes | [View Glossary Of Terms](#)**

BLACK HORNET tracked the pace from the inside, shifted out at the top of the stretch to duel with TOUCH OF FIRE, edged by in the final sixteenth to earn the win. TOUCH OF FIRE was quick to set the early pace, came under pressure from SUNRISE in the far turn, shook off that rival before dueling with BLACK HORNET, grudgingly gave way in the final sixteenth. MCCREADY got squeezed back at the start, steadied repeatedly in the early stages, was allowed to settle up the backstretch, loomed four wide through the far turn to enter the stretch in a competitive position, chased on down the stretch, clear of the rest for the show award. SUNRISE shadowed the early pace three wide, moved up to challenge TOUCH OF FIRE in the far turn, faded in the stretch. RAMBLIN was unhurried at the start to be the early trailer, passed foe along the inside before the far turn, picked off one more foe along the outside of the stretch. CASA CIELO tracked the early pace three wide, retreated in the stretch. BEEKMAN STREET settled off the pace, trailed at the seven sixteenths, outran.

Denotes OBS Graduate

Denotes Virginia-Certified Thoroughbred