

SANTA ANITA PARK - March 21, 2026 - Race 9

STAKES San Luis Rey S. Grade 3 - Thoroughbred

DOWNHILL TURF FOR FOUR YEAR OLDS AND UPWARD. By subscription of \$100 each if made on or before Sunday, March 8, 2026, closed with 12 or by Supplementary nomination of \$2,000 due at time of entry. \$750 to enter and an additional \$750 to start with \$100,000 guaranteed of which \$60,000 to the winner, \$20,000 to second, \$12,000 to third, \$6,000 to fourth and \$2,000 to fifth. 124 lbs. Non-Winners of a Graded Stake at One Mile or Over allowed 2 lbs. Non-Winners of a Sweepstakes at One Mile or Over allowed 4 lbs. A trophy will be presented to the winning owner.

Distance: One And One Half Miles On The Downhill turf **Current Track Record:** (Bright Thought - 2:22.72 - March 16, 2013)

Purse: \$100,000 Guaranteed

Plus: \$1,500 Other Sources

Available Money: \$101,500

Value of Race: \$101,500 1st \$60,000, 2nd \$20,000, 3rd \$12,000, 4th \$6,000, 5th \$2,000, 6th \$500, 7th \$500, 8th \$500

Weather: Clear, 89° **Track:** Firm

Off at: 5:28 **Start:** Good for all **Timing Method:** Electronic



[Video Race Replay](#)

Last Raced	Pgm	Horse Name (Jockey)	Wgt	M/E	PP	1/4	1/2	1m	11/4	Str	Fin	Odds	Comments
14Feb26 ⁷ SA ⁷	4	Gold Phoenix (IRE) (Berrios, Hector)	124	b	4	6 ²	6 ^{1 1/2}	7 ²	3 ^{Head}	2 ^{1/2}	1 ^{3/4}	3.20	2w,ins-2w,aim3w,dug in
14Feb26 ⁷ SA ²	1	Flashiest (Ayuso, Armando)	122	b	1	1 ¹	1 ¹	1 ¹	1 ^{1/2}	1 ^{Head}	2 ^{1/2}	12.70	inside, lost crop 1/16
14Feb26 ⁷ SA ¹	5	Mondego (GB) (Jaramillo, Emisael)	124	h	5	5 ^{1 1/2}	5 ¹	3 ^{Head}	2 ¹	3 ³	3 ^{3 1/4}	3.90	bid3-2w3rd,outkckd btw
14Feb26 ⁷ SA ³	2	Truly Quality (Fresu, Antonio)	124	--	2	7 ³	7 ^{2 1/2}	5 ^{Head}	7 ¹	8	4 ^{Head}	1.60*	ins,2w,3-4deep,imprvd
24Jan26 ⁹ GP ³	3	Balnikhov (IRE) (Hernandez, Juan)	124	--	3	4 ^{Head}	4 ^{1/2}	6 ^{1/2}	6 ^{1/2}	5 ^{1/2}	5 ^{2 1/4}	9.30	mild shuffle3rd,tip3wd
6Mar26 ⁷ SA ³	7	Living Life (Gonzalez, Ricardo)	120	b	7	8	8	8	8	7 ^{Head}	6 ^{1 1/2}	53.60	bothered st,traffic1/8
6Mar26 ⁷ SA ²	6	City Exile (GB) (Pereira, Tiago)	120	--	6	2 ^{1 1/2}	2 ^{1/2}	2 ¹	5 ¹	6 ^{1/2}	7 ^{1/2}	34.50	closest 2path,weakened
7Feb26 ⁵ SA ³	8	Watsonville (Smith, Mike)	124	--	8	3 ^{1 1/2}	3 ¹	4 ¹	4 ^{1/2}	4 ^{1/2}	8	5.90	3-2wd,ins,ins,faded

Fractional Times: 24.84 49.56 1:14.61 1:39.95 2:03.85 **Final Time:** 2:26.79

Split Times: (24:72) (25:05) (25:34) (23:90) (22:94)

Run-Up: 10 feet

Winner: Gold Phoenix (IRE), Chestnut Gelding, by =Belardo (IRE) out of Magnifica, by Mizzen Mast. Foaled Apr 22, 2018 in Ireland.

Breeder: Mighty Universe Ltd

Owner: Agave Racing Stable, Little Red Feather Racing, Sterling Stables, LLC and Naify, Marsha

Trainer: D'Amato, Philip

Total WPS Pool: \$372,295

Pgm	Horse	Win	Place	Show	Wager Type	Winning Numbers	Payoff	Pool	Carryover
4	Gold Phoenix (IRE)	8.40	4.20	3.20	\$1.00 Exacta	4-1	31.30	169,854	
1	Flashiest		9.80	5.40	\$1.00 Trifecta	4-1-5	156.40	102,956	
5	Mondego (GB)			4.60	\$5.00 Daily Double	6-4	63.00	189,686	
					\$3.00 Pick 3	1-6-4 (3 correct)	35.10	205,268	
					\$3.00 Pick 3	TURFPICK3(5-1-4) (3 correct)	66.90	66,688	
					\$2.00 Pick 6	2-5-7-1/2/5/6-6-4 (5 correct)	29.00	0	
					\$2.00 Pick 6	2-5-7-1/2/5/6-6-4 (6 correct)	2,791.60	91,446	
					\$0.50 Pick 4	7-1/2/5/6-6-4 (4 correct)	106.00	216,188	
					\$1.00 Super High Five	4-1-5-2-3	707.30	34,966	
					\$0.50 Pick 5	5-7-1/2/5/6-6-4 (5 correct)	494.15	240,176	
					\$3.00 Consolation Pick 3	TURFPICK3(5-5/6-4) (3 correct)	52.50	0	
					\$0.10 Superfecta	4-1-5-2	35.67	80,643	
					\$1.00 Sunset Six	5-1/8/12-2/4/7/9-1/2/5/6-6-4 (6 correct)	1,884.30	40,653	
					\$1.00 3x3	3/4/5 OF 9 (3 correct)	1.05	101	3,043
					\$1.00 3x3	6 OF 9 (6 correct)	13.30	0	
					\$1.00 3x3	7 OF 9 (7 correct)	412.30	0	

Past Performance Running Line Preview

Pgm	Horse Name	1/4	1/2	1m	11/4	Str	Fin
4	Gold Phoenix (IRE)	6 ^{5 1/2}	6 ⁴	7 ^{3 3/4}	3 ^{1 1/2}	2 ^{Head}	1 ^{3/4}
1	Flashiest	1 ¹	1 ¹	1 ¹	1 ^{1/2}	1 ^{Head}	2 ^{3/4}
5	Mondego (GB)	5 ⁴	5 ³	3 ²	2 ^{1/2}	3 ^{1/2}	3 ^{1 1/4}
2	Truly Quality	7 ^{7 1/2}	7 ^{5 1/2}	5 ³	7 ^{3 1/2}	8 ^{5 1/4}	4 ^{4 1/2}
3	Balnikhov (IRE)	4 ⁴	4 ^{2 1/2}	6 ^{3 1/4}	6 ³	5 ⁴	5 ^{4 1/2}
7	Living Life	8 ^{10 1/2}	8 ⁸	8 ^{5 3/4}	8 ^{4 1/2}	7 ⁵	6 ^{6 3/4}
6	City Exile (GB)	2 ¹	2 ¹	2 ¹	5 ²	6 ^{4 1/2}	7 ^{8 1/4}
8	Watsonville	3 ^{2 1/2}	3 ^{1 1/2}	4 ²	4 ^{1 1/2}	4 ^{3 1/2}	8 ^{8 3/4}

Trainers: 4 - D'Amato, Philip; 1 - Powell, Leonard; 5 - McCarthy, Michael; 2 - Thomas, Jonathan; 3 - D'Amato, Philip; 7 - Ellis, Ronald; 6 - Papaprodromou, George; 8 - Glatt, Mark

Owners: 4 - Agave Racing Stable, Little Red Feather Racing, Sterling Stables, LLC and Naify, Marsha; 1 - Wachtel Stable, Barber, Gary, Drion, Nicolas G. and Powell, Mathilde; 5 - Cheyenne Stable, LLC; 2 - Augustin Stables; 3 - Old Bones Racing Stable LLC; 7 - Albert and Kathleen Mattivi, LLC; 6 - K. Johnston Racing LLC; 8 - Pine Racing Stables and Saints or Sinners;

Footnotes | [View Glossary Of Terms](#)

GOLD PHOENIX (IRE) laid off the pace in the two path, moved inside first time through the stretch, shifted back to the two path and went between rivals on the clubhouse turn, crept closer on the backstretch, took aim at the top pair from outside turning for home, headed FLASHIEST entering the final furlong and bested inner pair in the late stages. FLASHIEST controlled the pace from inside to the final turn, took pressure from MONDEGO (GB) at the five-sixteenths pole, carried a short lead over outer pair turning into the stretch, clung to a slim advantage over GOLD PHOENIX (IRE) at the eighth pole, relinquished the lead shortly after, had the rider lose his crop with a sixteenth remaining and stayed on well for a game second. MONDEGO (GB) reserved outside a rival in

the opening stages, threw his head a bit crossing the dirt, continued in the two path around the clubhouse turn, drew closer three deep on the backstretch, challenged from outside midway around the far turn, fought between rivals through the lane and lacked the needed final kick. TRULY QUALITY unhurried in the early going and steered to the rail, went outside GOLD PHOENIX (IRE) first time through the stretch, moved into range three deep, asked into the final turn, rounded that bend three then four deep and kept on down the lane to earn a minor award. BALNIKHOV (IRE) settled along the rail, gained ground on the backstretch, went two wide into the final turn, suffered a mild shuffle behind CITY EXILE (GB) around the bend and tipped three wide into the clear, then lacked a rally through the stretch run. LIVING LIFE bothered by WATSONVILLE leaving the gate, tucked inside at the back, saved ground to the stretch, lacked room in traffic near the eighth pole, remained inside to gain a clear path and improved position. CITY EXILE (GB) raced up close to the outside of the leader early, drifted out a bit crossing the dirt, remained closest to the half-mile pole, coaxed along leaving the backstretch, lost ground between rivals on the final turn and weakened in the lane. WATSONVILLE bumped LIVING LIFE leaving the gate, stalked three then two wide around the first turn, shifted out over the dirt, angled to the rail for the clubhouse turn, followed closely inside a pair of rivals into the third turn, cut the corner turning for home and faded out of contention.

 Denotes OBS Graduate

Track Attendance: 6202	Handle: \$770,024
ITW = intra-state wagering	Handle: \$2,221,463
ISW = inter-state wagering	Handle: \$4,182,348

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