

SARATOGA - July 23, 2026 - Race 2

CLAIMING - Thoroughbred
(UP TO \$11,310 NYSBFOA) FOR THREE YEAR OLDS AND UPWARD WHICH HAVE NEVER WON TWO RACES. Three Year Olds, 121 lbs.; Older, 126 lbs. Claiming Price \$55,000 (1.5% Aftercare Assessment Due At Time Of Claim Otherwise Claim Will Be Void). (If the Stewards consider it inadvisable to run this race on the turf course, 3yo and up races will run at One Mile on the Main Track; 2yo races will run at 7F). (Rail at 12 feet). (NW2 L) **Claiming Price:** \$55,000

Distance: One And One Sixteenth Miles On The Turf **Current Track Record:** (Ring Weekend - 1:38.29 - September 5, 2016)
Purse: \$65,000

Available Money: \$65,000

Value of Race: \$65,000 1st \$35,750, 2nd \$13,000, 3rd \$7,800, 4th \$3,900, 5th \$2,600, 6th \$488, 7th \$488, 8th \$488, 9th \$486

Weather: Clear, 77° **Track:** Firm

Off at: 1:47 **Start:** Good for all **Timing Method:** Electronic

EQUIBASE

[Video Race Replay](#)

[GPS Race Chart](#)

Last Raced	Pgm	Horse Name (Jockey)	Wgt	M/E	PP	Start	1/4	1/2	3/4	Str	Fin	Odds	Comments	
19Apr26 ⁵ AQU ⁴	8	Gun Barrel City (Franco, Manuel)	126	L	8	9	9	9	9	6 ^{1/2}	1 ^{Head}	10.74	2p1st,3-4p2nd,6p3/16	
27Jun26 ⁵ BAQ ²	7	Middle Market (Alvarado, Junior)	126	L	b	7	4	7 ^{1/2}	6 ^{1/2}	5 ¹ 1/2	1 ¹	27.71	3-4p turns,led,gamely	
5Jun26 ⁸ CD ⁴	2	Maximum Promise (Santana, Jr., Ricardo)	126	L	b	2	6	8 ²	8 ¹	7 ^{1/2}	3 ^{1/2}	4.10	ins1st,4-5p2nd,rallied	
18Jun26 ⁸ CD ⁹	5	Blast Furnace (Prat, Flavien)	126	L		5	2	4 ¹ 1/2	4 ¹ 1/2	4 ^{Head}	4 ^{Head}	1.60*	2-3p,wait1/4-3/16,gain	
12Jun26 ⁹ BAQ ⁵	1	Madagascar (Elliott, Christopher)	121	L		1	7	5 ³	5 ¹	6 ^{Head}	7 ^{1/2}	5 ² 3/4	14.77	wait1/4,stdy1/8,alter
19Jun26 ⁸ BAQ ²	9	In the Dark (Rodriguez, Jaime)	126	L	b	9	1	3 ¹	3 ¹ 1/2	3 ¹	2 ^{Head}	6 ² 1/4	12.13	out,4-3p turns,wknd
26Jun26 ⁶ BAQ ⁷	4	Tough Critic (Gaffalione, Tyler)	121	L		4	8	6 ¹	7 ^{Head}	8 ¹	8 ¹ 1/2	7 ² 1/4	18.20	2p1st,ins2nd,no rally
13Jun26 ⁴ BAQ ¹	3	Light Fantastic (Ortiz, Jr., Irad)	126	L		3	5	1 ^{1/2}	1 ^{Head}	1 ^{Head}	5 ^{1/2}	8 ² 1/2	3.75	2p-inside turns,tired
13Jun26 ¹⁰ BAQ ⁵	6	Shangrala Road (Lezcano, Jose)	126	L		6	3	2 ^{1/2}	2 ¹	2 ^{1/2}	9	9	10.26	3-2p,out leader,tired

Fractional Times: 22.94 47.25 1:11.67 1:35.74 **Final Time:** 1:41.64 **Time from Gate:** 1:46.66

Split Times: (24:31) (24:42) (24:07) (5:90)

Run-Up: 150 feet **Temporary Rail:** 12 feet

Winner: Gun Barrel City, Bay Gelding, by =Frankel (GB) out of Mrs McDougal, by Medaglia d'Oro. Foaled Feb 06, 2021 in Kentucky.

Breeder: Bass Stables, LLC

Owner: Bass Racing, LLC

Trainer: Pletcher, Todd

2 Claimed Horse(s): **In the Dark** New Trainer: Charlton Baker New Owner: Richard Newman
Maximum Promise New Trainer: Mertkan Kantarmaci New Owner: Sun-Will Stable LLC

Claiming Prices: 8 - Gun Barrel City: \$55,000; 7 - Middle Market: \$55,000; 2 - Maximum Promise: \$55,000; 5 - Blast Furnace: \$55,000; 1 - Madagascar: \$55,000; 9 - In the Dark: \$55,000; 4 - Tough Critic: \$55,000; 3 - Light Fantastic: \$55,000; 6 - Shangrala Road: \$55,000;

Scratched Horse(s): First Call Bob (Main-Track-Only), Who's Your Zaddy (Main-Track-Only)

Total WPS Pool: \$337,112

Pgm	Horse	Win	Place	Show	Wager Type	Winning Numbers	Payoff	Pool
8	Gun Barrel City	23.48	12.16	6.46	\$1.00 Exacta	8-7	247.49	278,413
7	Middle Market		23.16	11.48	\$1.00 Quinella	7-8	147.11	12,585
2	Maximum Promise			3.76	\$0.50 Trifecta	8-7-2	621.51	119,397
					\$1.00 Daily Double	5-8	45.27	157,530
					\$0.10 Superfecta	8-7-2-5	238.33	54,746

Past Performance Running Line Preview

Pgm	Horse Name	Start	1/4	1/2	3/4	Str	Fin
8	Gun Barrel City	9	9 ¹⁰	9 ⁶ 3/4	9 ⁴ 3/4	6 ² 1/4	1 ^{Head}
7	Middle Market	4	7 ⁷ 1/2	6 ⁵	5 ¹ 3/4	1 ¹	2 ^{Head}
2	Maximum Promise	6	8 ⁸	8 ⁵ 3/4	7 ³ 1/4	3 ¹	3 ^{Head}
5	Blast Furnace	2	4 ²	4 ² 1/2	4 ¹ 1/2	4 ¹ 1/2	4 ^{Neck}
1	Madagascar	7	5 ³ 1/2	5 ⁴	6 ³ 1/4	7 ² 3/4	5 ¹ 3/4
9	In the Dark	1	3 ¹	3 ¹	3 ^{1/2}	2 ¹	6 ⁴ 1/2
4	Tough Critic	8	6 ⁶ 1/2	7 ⁵ 1/2	8 ³ 3/4	8 ³ 1/4	7 ⁶ 3/4
3	Light Fantastic	5	1 ^{1/2}	1 ^{Head}	1 ^{Head}	5 ¹ 3/4	8 ⁹
6	Shangrala Road	3	2 ^{1/2}	2 ^{Head}	2 ^{Head}	9 ⁴ 3/4	9 ¹¹ 1/2

Trainers: 8 - Pletcher, Todd; 7 - Arenas, Marcelo; 2 - Rice, Linda; 5 - Maker, Michael; 1 - Kantarmaci, Ilkay; 9 - Morey, William; 4 - Weaver, George; 3 - Cox, Brad; 6 - Rice, Linda

Owners: 8 - Bass Racing, LLC; 7 -Marcelo Arenas; 2 -Roddy J. Valente; 5 - Three Diamonds Farm; 1 - Goldfarb, Sanford J., Kantarmaci, Ilkay, Speranza, Steven, Zilla Racing Stables and America's Pastime Stables; 9 - Kaya, Gokmen and Morris, Sean; 4 - Brockley, Thomas, Brockley, Daryn A., Dew Sweepers and R. A. Hill Stable; 3 -Sanford J. Goldfarb; 6 -Robert Pezzuti;

Footnotes | [View Glossary Of Terms](#)

GUN BARREL CITY broke out and brushed the gate, angled in at the rear, went around the first turn in the two path, settled outside without cover on the backstretch, tucked in into the far turn, rounded that bend in the three then four path, swung out to the six path into upper stretch, rallied outside into the final furlong, closed well to make a bid outside the sixteenth-pole, fought outside of three opponents to the finish and narrowly prevailed under strong urging. MIDDLE MARKET went around the first turn in the three path, settled off the pace, was roused in the four path on the far turn, rallied to the lead in upper stretch, led gamely into the final sixteenth, fought between horses to the finish and was denied while just able to get the place. MAXIMUM PROMISE saved ground on the first turn, moved off the rail on the backstretch, shifted further out around the seven-sixteenths pole, was roused in the four then five path on the far turn, rallied in upper stretch, closed well to make a bid outside the sixteenth-pole, battled between horses late and just missed while narrowly able to get the show. BLAST FURNACE showed speed between horses, was taken back in hand nearing the first turn, raced in the two path on that bend, was rated off the pace, went around most of the far turn in the two path then shifted to the three path while drafting behind horses, waited while blocked behind traffic into upper stretch, continued to wait until inside the three-sixteenths pole, tipped out a path then was given his cue outside the furlong marker, found

clear space in front outside the sixteenth-pole and closed well to just miss in a blanket finish. MADAGASCAR saved ground on the first turn, came off the rail under reserve near the five-eighths pole, was hard held late on the backstretch, went around the far turn in the three path while under restraint, waited behind traffic into upper stretch, tipped to the four path and was asked near the three-sixteenths pole, steadied behind horses while remaining on his inside lead near the eighth-pole, continued on his inside lead while dropping inward in the final furlong and gained willingly but missed the superfecta. IN THE DARK established a forward position early, tugged a bit keen on the bit in the four path on the first turn, stalked outside without cover, made a bid near the seven-sixteenths pole, vied in the three path while asked on the far turn, battled under a drive into the final furlong and weakened. TOUGH CRITIC went around the first turn in the two path, settled off the pace, was roused while inside on the far turn, turned into upper stretch under a drive and failed to rally. LIGHT FANTASTIC showed speed on the inside of foes, raced in the two path on the first turn, showed the way down the backstretch, was asked while inside on the far turn, lost the advantage in upper stretch and gave way. SHANGRALA ROAD was hustled from the gate then showed speed between horses, traveled around the first turn in the three path, prompted the pace on the outside of the leader, passed the five-eighths pole on even terms for the lead, was asked in the two path on the far turn, battled under a drive into the final furlong and tired.