

SARATOGA - September 5, 2026 - Race 1
MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT - Thoroughbred
(UP TO \$20,010 NYSBFOA) FOR MAIDENS, TWO YEARS OLD. Weight, 123 lbs. (Non-Starters For A Claiming Price Of \$55,000 Or Less In The Last 5 Starts Preferred).
Distance: Seven Furlongs On The Dirt **Current Track Record:** (Englishman - 1:20.40 - June 6, 2026)
Purse: \$115,000
Available Money: \$115,000
Value of Race: \$115,000 1st \$63,250, 2nd \$23,000, 3rd \$13,800, 4th \$6,900, 5th \$4,600, 6th \$1,725, 7th \$1,725
Weather: Clear, 73° **Track:** Fast
Off at: 12:08 **Start:** Good for all **Timing Method:** Electronic

[Video Race Replay](#)
[GPS Race Chart](#)

Last Raced	Pgm	Horse Name (Jockey)	Wgt	M/E	PP	Start	1/4	1/2	Str	Fin	Odds	Comments
8Aug26 ¹ SAR ³	4	U. S. S. Valor (Franco, Manuel)	123	--	3	5	2 ¹	1 ¹	1 ⁷	1 ^{13 1/4}	0.82*	pressed, geared down
---	5	Tap Our Way (Prat, Flavien)	123	--	4	7	3 ^{Head}	3 ^{1 1/2}	2 ^{Head}	2 ^{2 1/4}	7.59	3w pursuit, kept on
---	1	Mystik Bayou (Elliott, Christopher)	123	--	1	6	5 ^{1 1/2}	4 ^{1/2}	3 ⁴	3 ^{1/2}	13.07	2-3w upper, wknd late
---	3	Livid (Lezcano, Jose)	123	--	2	4	7	6 ¹	5 ²	4 ^{2 1/2}	19.43	5w upper, improved
25Jul26 ³ SAR ²	9	Belzoni (Alvarado, Junior)	123	--	6	2	4 ^{1/2}	5 ⁴	4 ¹	5 ⁶	2.05	4-5w upper, weakened
---	10	Spencer's Angel (Lopez, Paco)	123	--	7	3	6 ^{Head}	7	7	6 ¹	21.08	chased 4-3w, tired
25Jul26 ³ SAR ⁴	6	Gold On Black (Zayas, Edgard)	123	b	5	1	1 ^{Head}	2 ^{Head}	6 ¹	7	27.67	under pressure, tired

Fractional Times: 23.10 45.53 1:09.60 **Final Time:** 1:22.04 **Time from Gate:** 1:23.66
Split Times: (22:43) (24:07) (12:44)
Run-Up: 30 feet

Winner: U. S. S. Valor, Bay Colt, by [War of Will](#) out of Spangled Banner, by Tiz Wonderful. Foaled Feb 01, 2024 in Kentucky.

WAR OF WILL Winner's sire standing at Rockridge Stud

Breeder: Team Valor International
Owner: Team Valor International LLC 
Trainer: McGaughey III, Claude

Scratched Horse(s): Credit (PrivVet-Illness), Implied Open (PrivVet-Illness), Mystrix (Stewards)

Total WPS Pool: \$467,370

Pgm	Horse	Win	Place	Show	Wager Type	Winning Numbers	Payoff	Pool
4	U. S. S. Valor	3.64	2.68	2.22	\$1.00 Exacta	4-5	9.95	320,141
5	Tap Our Way		5.80	4.22	\$0.50 Trifecta	4-5-1	28.28	115,010
1	Mystik Bayou			4.54	\$0.10 Superfecta	4-5-1-3	23.20	63,023

Past Performance Running Line Preview

Pgm	Horse Name	Start	1/4	1/2	Str	Fin
4	U. S. S. Valor	5	2 ^{Head}	1 ¹	1 ⁷	1 ^{13 1/4}
5	Tap Our Way	7	3 ¹	3 ¹	2 ⁷	2 ^{13 1/4}
1	Mystik Bayou	6	5 ^{1 3/4}	4 ^{2 1/2}	3 ⁷	3 ^{15 1/2}
3	Livid	4	7 ^{3 1/4}	6 ⁷	5 ¹²	4 ¹⁶
9	Belzoni	2	4 ^{1 1/4}	5 ³	4 ¹¹	5 ^{18 1/2}
10	Spencer's Angel	3	6 ^{3 1/4}	7 ⁸	7 ¹⁵	6 ^{24 1/2}
6	Gold On Black	1	1 ^{Head}	2 ¹	6 ¹⁴	7 ^{25 1/2}

Trainers: 4 - McGaughey III, Claude; 5 - Brown, Chad; 1 - McPeek, Kenneth; 3 - Pletcher, Todd; 9 - Mott, William; 10 - Clement, Miguel; 6 - Mott, Riley

Owners: 4 - Team Valor International LLC; 5 - Whisper Hill Farm LLC and Three Palms Racing Stable; 1 - Gasaway, Lance, Hamby III, Daniel and Four G Racing LLC; 3 - Repole Stable; 9 - Godolphin, LLC; 10 - New Phoenix Stable, Donarra Thoroughbreds LLC, Weintraub, Tony and Dalinka, Brandon M.; 6 - Gold Square LLC;

Footnotes | [View Glossary Of Terms](#)

U. S. S. VALOR broke in at the start and was corrected, pressed the pace of GOLD ON BLACK to the inside taking over command just outside the half mile pole, showed the way just off the inside through the turn and was given his cue near the quarter pole, took the inside route into upper stretch, forged clear under a light drive to just inside the sixteenth marker, then got geared down through to the finish, the outcome in no doubt. TAP OUR WAY three wide in pursuit, came under encouragement with five-sixteenths to go, tipped four wide into upper stretch, proved no match for the top one while keeping on clear for the place honors. MYSTIK BAYOU broke in at the start, chased along the inside coming under a ride with seven-sixteenths to go, spun two to three wide into upper stretch, offered up a bid a furlong out, then weakened in the late stages. LIVID shied in at the break under coaxing, chased three then two wide under urging from the seven-sixteenths pole, angled five wide into upper stretch and improved position passing tired rivals. BELZONI six paths of the inside early on, chased four then three wide under encouragement from three furlongs out, tipped four to five wide into upper stretch and weakened. SPENCER'S ANGEL coaxed from the gate, raced seven paths off the inside early on before chasing four then three wide, came under urging with seven-sixteenths to run, angled in and took the inside route into upper stretch and tired. GOLD ON BLACK coaxed from the gate, showed the way just off the inside under pressure from U.S.S. VALOR to the inside, yielded the front near the half mile pole and chased just off the inside through the turn and into upper stretch, then tired through to the finish.