



HOMEBOYKRIS

THE HORSE

Perhaps the biggest question mark in this year's prospective Kentucky Derby field is Homeboykris, a son of Roman Ruler, who is winless in 2010 and hasn't raced since finishing second in an allowance race Feb. 27.

The outspoken and sometimes unorthodox trainer Rick Dutrow said after the allowance effort that he planned to train Homeboykris up to the Derby off of works. The bay gelding has been working regularly and the money won winning last year's Grade I Champagne Stakes put him in a spot on the graded-earnings list that could put him in the field.



THE OWNERS

Louis Lazzinnaro, Joseph Bulger, Jack Mandato, Nick Sallusto

Louis Lazzinnaro owns 50 percent of Homeboykris, with the other portions being split up among the other four owners.

Lazzinnaro is a restaurateur who operates Sergio's in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., home of Saratoga Race Course.

Lazzinnaro bought Homeboykris privately and races the gelding with partners Joseph Bulger, Jack Mandato, Nick Sallusto and Brenda Tabraue, who retained an interest in the runner for a short time, but sold her portion earlier.

It took Homeboykris two trips to the auction ring before he was bought. He was a \$50,000 buy-back by his breeders at the 2008 Keeneland September Yearling sale and brought only \$11,000 at the 2-year-olds-in-training sale at Ocala in 2009. Tabraue bought him.

Tabraue raced him twice at Calder Race Course, with Lazzinnaro and his trainer, Richard Dutrow Jr. liking what they saw and bought him at that point.

Lazzinnaro was a partner with the late Hall of Fame trainer Robert Frankel in the fine 2-year-old Vineyard Haven, who the partners sold to Sheikh Mohammed bin

Rashid al Maktoum after receiving what Frankel said was “an offer I couldn’t refuse.”

Of Frankel, who died Nov. 16 of last year, Lazzinnaro said, “He was a terrific friend and wonderful guy to be around. I will always cherish our time together.”

Lazzinnaro was born Dec. 19, 1968 in Brooklyn, N.Y., and his main business is construction in the New York City area. He lives in Oyster Bay, N.Y., and his family includes his wife, Stefanie, a daughter Gianni, and son Mario.

Lazzinnaro has been around horses nearly all of his life, beginning with the horses owned by his father, Mario Lazzinnaro, who raced as Candy Duke Stable. He owns several horses, many of which are in partnership with Los Angeles Dodgers manager Joe Torre, the longtime former manager of the New York Yankees.

Mandato, one of the minority partners in Homeboykris, is a restaurateur in Southern California and a friend of Torre. Of the other minority partners, **Sallusto**, is a bloodstock agent who has found horses for Dutrow in the past, including D’Funnybone, and **Bulger** is a cousin of Sallusto’s.

THE CO-BREEDERS

Dark Hollow Farm and William Paca Beatson.

Dark Hollow Farm is a 185-acre full-service Thoroughbred farm in the rolling hills country of northern Baltimore County, Md. It is owned and operated by David and JoAnn Hayden, who started the farm some 30 years ago.

Originally, it was strictly a private farm operation, but now provides year-round broodmare care and sales preparation services for a select group of clients.

Dark Hollow Farm got its first big push when, in the mid-1980s, a modest claiming mare aptly named Safely Home arrived on the farm. She produced three outstanding stakes winners, including 1989 Eclipse sprint champion Safely Kept, who earned \$2,194,206 in her career.

David Hayden not only operates the farm, but also runs his David Hayden Advertising Inc. from the farm. He’s made a career in advertising as the founder and sole proprietor of his agency, a firm whose major clients include prominent farms in Maryland and Kentucky, and the Maryland Million. His advertising offices are located atop the farm’s major barn.

JoAnn Hayden, always involved with the farm, recently retired after many years as a teacher in Baltimore County schools, and now is more closely involved than ever before in the farm’s day-to-day operation. She has been active in the expansion of the farm to its 180-acre spread through the addition of a nearby 70-acre site to the 65 acres on the home property and 50 acres under lease. The Haydens intend to develop the new acreage into a major facility to house primarily weanlings and yearlings.

Among the graded stakes winners that have come from Dark Hollow, in addition to Safely Kept: Homeboykris, a prospect for the 2010 Kentucky Derby; Our New Recruit, winner of the Dubai Golden Shaheen in 2004; Not for Silver, Ramazutti, New York Hero, Partner's Hero, Ready's Image, Sheila's Prospect, K.O. Punch, Victory Chime and Potomac Bend.

William Paca Beatson is a longtime breeding partner with David and JoAnn Hayden of Dark Hollow Farm.

He lives in Annapolis, Md.