

NTRA

Road to the Breeder's Cup

August 21, 2018

CORPORATE PARTICIPANTS

Jim Mulvihill

Chad Brown

Jonathan Thomas

Mark Casse

PRESENTATION

Operator:

Good day, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the NTRA Road to Breeders' Cup Conference Call. At this time, all participants are in a listen-only mode. Following the presentation, we will conduct a question-and-answer session. At that time, participants are asked to press star one to register for a question. As a reminder, this call is being recorded. I'd now like to turn the call over to Mr Jim Mulvihill. Sir, please begin.

Jim Mulvihill:

Alright. Thanks Travis and thanks everybody for joining us for our annual Travers preview. Our first guest is standing buy, so we'll get right to the action. He's already got eight grade one wins this year, tied for the most grade one or group one wins in the world and they've come with six different horses. One of those is the likely Travers favorite, the Haskell winner, Good Magic. And he'll also saddle up the Belmont runner up Gronkowski. Chad Brown, thanks for joining us.

Chad Brown:

Thanks for having me on here.

Jim Mulvihill:

Yeah, we always appreciate your time. Congrats on another amazing Saratoga meet. We're coming up now on the biggest race of the summer. Maybe to start, you could just tell us what it would mean to you as a native of the upstate and capital region to win the Travers?

Chad Brown:

No, it would mean a lot. Growing up in the area, you know, going to the track as a kid really got me into horseracing and the Travers [inaudible] the most.

Jim Mulvihill:

Certainly, certainly. Well, looking at the Haskell, that win was super impressive, especially looking at how Bravazo was well clear and second also. So, looking at that effort, not being totally taxing and also coming off of lay-offs, is there any reason to think that Good Magic wouldn't run a race similar this Saturday?

Chad Brown:

No, he's been training very, very well. He's come at a half-point and really good shape and he's got a couple of work stints and they've been great. The horse has been maintaining his form very well.

Jim Mulvihill:

Glad to hear it. Now, to touch on Gronkowski too, he ran a huge race in the Belmont, which of course got a little bit overshadowed by the winner but tell us how he's been progressing and what you expect from him on Saturday.

Chad Brown:

He's been training very well. You know he's... he ran a great race in the Belmont and he's had plenty of time to recover since then. His works have been strong and I feel the horse is sharper now than he was [inaudible] Belmont, hopefully he leaves out of the gate [inaudible] better position.

Jim Mulvihill:

Yeah, yeah. Excellent. All right, well, I want to give the media the chance to have some questions. So, I'll let Travis queue them and we'll see what they've got for you.

Operator:

Yes, sir. If you would like to ask a question, please press the star key followed by the one key on your touchtone phone now. Questions will be taken in order of which they are received. So, any time you would like to remove yourself from the questioning queue, just press star two. Again, to ask a question, please press star on now. Our first question comes from William Springsteen, Post-Star.

William Springsteen:

Hi Chad, I was curious with growing up with the Travers, was there one Travers in particular as a kid, or even in your assistanceship, that stuck out in your mind and made you really want this race more than any other?

Chad Brown:

Yes, I mean, this race would be at the top of my list. [Inaudible] at the top of the list. Just again, the average [inaudible] up in the area and, you know, going to Saratoga as a kid, and going to many Travers growing up, it would mean, you know, a lot to me personally to be able to win this race.

William Springsteen:

Any Travers that stick out in your mind though?

Chad Brown:

There's been so many. Easygoer[?] probably as a kid, Holy Bull. There's just been so many great Travers. You know, being able to have our name on one of them will be really special.

William Springsteen:

Thank you.

Operator:

We have no further questions in the queue at this time.

Jim Mulvihill:

All right Chad, I'll just a few quick follow-ups. I just wanted to get some comments on some of your other horses in the grade one this weekend. Can you just tell us a few quick thoughts on say Engage[?] in the Allen Jerkens?

Chad Brown:

It's training very well. Looks to be shaping up very tough, but, you know, I think it's someone to race the right way.

Jim Mulvihill:

All right. Lewis Day and the Ballerina?

Chad Brown:

Yeah, same thing. I mean, the horse is training really well. She's had a lot of time since her last win, doing a really fast number. So, we gave her extra time. And, you know, I feel it was a good decision to give her some time.

Jim Mulvihill:

Right on. And Wildcat and the Personal Anthem[?]?

Chad Brown:

She's supposed [inaudible] her race the last time. She hadn't run in a long time. She got a lot out of that race. Her work sense has been a lot stronger. So, I feel she's a better horse. She's going to need a baby, because this race is shaping up much tougher than last week, she ran [inaudible].

Jim Mulvihill:

Yeah, definitely. Well, last question for you. We're going to have Jonathan Thomas on in a little bit and I know he credits you as one of his early supporters. So, you know, for the benefit of folks writing about him this week, could you just tell us a little bit about how you came to send horses to Jonathan and what you liked about him as a horseman?

Chad Brown:

I've known him on the track for years as an assistant trainer and then when he moved to Ocala and eventually started his own business down there, he had asked me to consider sending him some horses and I didn't hesitate to send some of my client's lay-ups[?] there to have them rehab them initially, and that's grown into actually him breaking some two-year-olds for us, because I know he's a really good horseman. He's smart, he's honest. And now that he's training horses to run in the afternoons, it doesn't surprise me at all he's having success. I think he really has a bright future. You know, he's continually trying to learn and gets better at what he does, and I think he'll have many stake horses in the future.

Jim Mulvihill:

Very good. And Travis, if we could, can we still to Ed McNamara for one more?

Operator:

Yes, sir. The next question comes from Ed. And just a reminder, if you would like to ask a question, please press star one.

Ed McNamara:

Hi Chad, this doesn't have to do anything with the Travers. I've always been a big fan of grass racing and that's where you first made your mark. And so many of your horses can close in 23 seconds or less, included the ones you get from Europe and also the ones you develop on your own. How do you get them to do that?

Chad Brown:

Just a lot of experience. I learned from a great trainer, Mr Bobby Frankel, so. Lot of experience.

Ed McNamara:

Do you have specific training schedules that gradually you can get them to accelerate like that?

Chad Brown:

Man, I wish it was that easy to just tell you over the phone, but it's not how it works. It just takes a lot of experience, and, like I said, having a great mentor.

Ed McNamara:

Okay, thank you Chad.

Jim Mulvihill:

Well, Chad, I know it's a dark day and time away from the barn is hard to come by. So, we really appreciate your time today and wish you all the luck this weekend.

Chad Brown:

Thanks so much. Thanks, appreciate it. Take care. Thank you.

Jim Mulvihill:

You got it. Chad Brown, Chad Brown is second among US trainers by earnings behind only Steve Asmussen. And Steve has sent out twice as many horses as Chad this year. Chad's got a 28%-win clip in 2018 and that would probably be a little bit higher if he weren't beating his own horses in so many of these races. With that, we're going to move on to our next guest whose been a frequent presence on these calls these last few years.

Mark Casse is fifth among North American trainers by earnings and sixth by wins. On Saturday, he'll saddle Wonder Gadot in the Travers, the first filly to try the mid-summer Derby since 1979. The last filly to win the Travers was more than 100 years ago, Lady Rotha, in 1915 in case you don't remember. The Ontario-bred Wonder Gadot won the first two-thirds of the Canadian Triple Crown but is skipping the last leg on turf in favor of a chance at would be, I think it's safe to say, an even more historic accomplishment if she could win the Travers. Mark Casse, thanks for joining us.

Mark Casse:

Thanks for having me.

Jim Mulvihill:

Of course, always a pleasure to talk with you. You've got this top-class filly who's really on a roll right now. There are much easier spots where she could be favored for some very nice purses. So, can you just tell us why you and Mr Barber decided on the Travers?

Mark Casse:

Well, you know, for a few reasons. One, we feel that a mile and a quarter is her game, it gave us an extra week instead of running in the Alabama. We get five pounds, which is, you know, going a mile and a quarter means something. And we're looking – you know, Gary's always been one to kind of step out of the box and we just thought this was a good year to try it. We have a filly that's already beat colts a couple of times. You know, myself, I've had some pretty good luck with Tepin beating the colts, so –

Jim Mulvihill:

Sure.

Mark Casse:

So, we're trying to make history.

Jim Mulvihill:

And you know, now that you see the field coming together, how do you feel about the race as a whole and the quality of the company and what she is going to face on Saturday?

Mark Casse:

You know, it's a good field. Obviously, I think you have to beat Good Magic, he's doing extremely well right now. But on numbers and ability, I think it's a very competitive race, but I think we have as good a chance as anybody.

Jim Mulvihill:

So, Wonder Gadot, she debuted last August and since then, she's started 14 times. No breaks in her training, at least none that you can see on the PPs. What kind of qualities does it take for a horse to be campaigned like this? What is special about her?

Mark Casse:

You know, every now and then you'll just get a horse that can do it and she thrives on it. We ran her in the Breeders Cup, brought her home to our training centre in Ocala, planning to give her a little time and she was so full of energy. I told Gary I don't know, we need to give this filly some time. And so, we ended up taking her and she won the Damsel. And I keep going, and I've said it many times, I had the pleasure of spending a lot of time around Allen Jerkens when I was younger and he always said to me, he says, 'I don't understand trainers, they want to rest and when they're running good,' he said you rest them when they're running bad. And she keeps running good, so I keep running her.

Jim Mulvihill:

Right, right. Makes sense to me. Well, Mark, I've got a few more questions for you, but I want to see what the media has got. So, I'll ask Travis the operator to check with them.

Operator:

Okay sir. If you would like to ask a question, please press star one now. We have a question from Dan Ralph, Canadian Press.

Dan Ralph:

Thank you. Mark, I'm wondering how the horse has handled her new-found celebrity in the last couple of weeks.

Mark Casse:

She loves it, Dan.

Dan Ralph:

Yeah.

Mark Casse:

She is the professional in every way. Nothing bothers her, and I think she enjoys the attention.

Dan Ralph:

Have you noticed a change in her attitude or a change in her demeanour at all with all this attention?

Mark Casse:

Not, not really. She's always been a cool, calm customer and that continues.

Dan Ralph:

Great. Thank you.

Mark Casse:

Okay. Thank you, Dan.

Operator:

Our next question comes from William Springsteen.

William Springsteen:

Mark, I was curious with the selection of Irad as jockey for her. What are the instructions to him? I mean, it's the first time for him to ride her. Is she a pretty easy study as far as your concern for a jock?

Mark Casse:

She is. You know, Irad and I are going to sit down and watch some films together. I think probably a good one to watch would be the Kentucky Oaks and also the Queen's Plate. She, – you know you need... the only thing you have to do is maybe get her into the race a little bit early and not let the speed get too far away. She doesn't have a big turn of foot. It's more of a just a big continuous motion. So, you don't want to leave or give her too much to do and she just kind of keeps going. She doesn't have any quit in her.

William Springsteen:

Thank you.

Operator:

Again, to ask a question, please press star one now. We have no further questions. Oh, I'm sorry, we do have a follow-up from Dan.

Dan Ralph:

Sorry about that, a little late on the finger here. Mark, how much of a calculated gamble is this race for Wonder Gadot?

Mark Casse:

I don't think it is. I think I really feel, Dan, that she's as good as any of them. And to be able to accomplish something that hasn't been accomplished in a hundred years, I mean, I think it's a – I think it makes sense; and Gary thinks it makes sense, and we've got this big strong filly. She may be – when you go and look in the paddock, she may be the biggest, strongest horse in the race. You've had the privilege of seeing her on a couple of occasions, so you know what she looks like. A lot of people haven't, but I think they'll be impressed.

Dan Ralph:

You haven't told her that she's a girl running against guys this weekend?

Mark Casse:

She really doesn't care. I don't think it matters to her one iota. She only knows one thing and that's she wants to win.

Dan Ralph:

One more question if I may, and I'm a little bit late and I'm remised when I ask you, but the unofficial Triple Crown here, you got on Sunday, what does that mean to you? The trainer's Triple Crown.

Mark Casse:

Yeah, it was nice to be honest. And I hadn't really even thought about it, till they were coming down the lane, but it was a great accomplishment for us and our team especially. I felt, you know, and there were parts of me that felt bad that we weren't there, so with Wonder Gadot, but I also feel like we're – on Saturday, we're going to be representing Woodvine[?] and Canada and then hopefully everybody will forgive me if she runs well.

Dan Ralph:

Thank you.

Mark Casse:

Okay.

Operator:

Our next question comes from Tom Jicha, Horse Race Insider.

Tom Jicha:

Mark, you've had – you mentioned you had great success with Tepin against males and this filly has run well against males and some of the great performances in Breeder's Cup history has been fillies against males. Do you think it's over estimated in North America the difference between the sexes?

Mark Casse:

Oh, for sure, for sure. You know, it happens all the time in Europe. The reason why it doesn't happen as much in North America is because there's usually another race that corresponds – in other words like the Oaks, the Kentucky Oaks and the Kentucky Derby. If they ran the Kentucky Oaks, which they could never do, because of scheduling, they ran it three weeks prior, you might see more of those fillies running in the Kentucky Derby. The Alabama has definitely drawn fillies away from the Travers, just like this, this race. But what happened about I guess about maybe eight or nine years ago, they moved Canadian Oaks back to give them three weeks from the Canadian Oaks to the Queen's Plate and now you've seen numerous fillies go and beat the colts. So, it's definitely way, way, – it's... I don't feel it's that big a deal at all.

Tom Jicha:

Alright and what about on the day-to-day basis? Do you think that would hold up [inaudible] instead of races segregated by gender, just open the races?

Mark Casse:

Oh, it would – I mean there would be some, but no, they would be more competitive than you think. But again, it's never going to happen because they have the two different categories, right? So, why run – for the most part, why run a filly against colts unless you're me? Filly doing filly things[?], but again, I think it's – I think we're trying to make history here and we feel like she has a good shot to do it.

Tom Jicha:

Well, thank you very much.

Mark Casse:

Okay, thank you.

Operator:

Our next question comes from David Groening, Daily Racing Forum.

David Groening:

Mark, she's lost six races by less than a length. How frustrating were those and why is she polishing off these races now in her last two? Why is she doing that now as opposed to say some of the other [inaudible]?

Mark Casse:

Well, to answer your first question, it was heart-breaking. You know, she lost I think probably \$1 million in purses with about, what, less than four or five feet? I think a lot of it David – and I've said this is – I think it's the distance now. I believe that if you look at her record on a mile and an eighth and beyond, a lot of people, if you really analyse the Oaks, and I'm going to upset some people because of the Mono [inaudible] girl's camp, I really believe had we not gotten into some trouble early mid-way in the turn that it could have possibly been a different outcome. Her race in the Canadian Oaks was just a disaster. Everything went wrong. So, if you look at her races at a mile and an eighth and beyond, she's been a superstar, and I think that's it more than anything.

David Groening:

And also, she's a versatile filly. Obviously. You started her on turf, she won turf, synthetic, dirt. If you – if they said Mark, we want you to write a race because we want Wonder Gadot to win a race, what surface and distance would you make it in?

Mark Casse:

Mile and a quarter, on the dirt probably.

David Groening:

I knew that was going to be your answer.

Mark Casse:

David, I would say to you this, and I think most handicappers would agree that the best race that Wonder Gadot has ever ran was the Kentucky Oaks. If you're a thorough grass man, or a ragusant[?] man, they all tell you that she ran the best race of her life right there. So, that was a mile and an eighth and that the next [inaudible] eighth of a mile sure is not hurting her feelings, so I would say to you, a mile and a quarter on the dirt.

David Groening:

Fair enough. Thank you.

Operator:

We have no further questions in the queue at this time.

Jim Mulvihill:

Alright, Mark, before we let you go, not to get ahead of ourselves but all of that said, would you like to take another crack at Monomoy Girl.

Mark Casse:

Oh, of course, of course, but that's not our ultimate goal. Obviously, we'd like to win the Travers and if you said to me what would be the perfect scenario, I would say let's try Monomoy Girl at Churchill Downs in the Breeder's Cup this staff[?].

Jim Mulvihill:

We'd all love to see that, Mark. Thanks so much for your time and good luck this Saturday. We'll hope to talk to you again in the fall.

Mark Casse: Thanks for having me. Bye.

Jim Mulvihill:

All right, there's Mark Casse, sending a filly to the Travers, the first in '79. That was Davona Dale, who was the Kentucky Oaks winner that year, who wheeled back in the Travers just a week after running second in The Alabama. Davona Dale actually won our favorite in the Travers, but finished fourth, behind General Assembly.

Now, our final guest is already on the line waiting for us. He's a lifelong horseman, who had a stint as a steeplechase jockey, before injury pushed him into training. He worked for Jack Fisher and Christoff Clemont before becoming an assistant to Tod Pletcher. He's based at Bridalwood Farm in Ocala, where he trains the string that runs under his name, as well as prepping scores of young horses that go off to other trainers, as we heard from Chad Brown. Catholic Boy has been his best horse to date, having won graded stakes on turf and dirt. He tried the Triple Crown trail before switching back to turf and getting a grade-one-win last month in the Belmont Derby. This Saturday, he looks to add a grade one on dirt, of course, in the Travers. Jonathan Thomas, thanks for hanging on and joining us today.

Jonathan Thomas:

Good afternoon.

Jim Mulvihill:

You know, I really want to hear about the last two races before we get to the Travers. Catholic Boy just had two insanely gutsy wins and both of them were pretty unusual in terms of his gameness. What can

you just tell us about those last two starts and what he showed you in those efforts that also relate to what gives you confidence on Saturday? Although, we'll talk more about the Travers in a second. But, talk about those two races if you don't mind.

Jonathan Thomas:

Sure, now they were definitely a little more eventful than we had signed up for, but, you know, we were happy to come out ahead on both and I think it's a testament to his grittiness and perseverance. And you know, he seems to get into a good rhythm and stay there and as the distances will be stretched out, he seems to be able to get a little more comfortable with the extended route[?] of ground.

Jim Mulvihill:

I mean, it's pretty unusual to see a horse get headed and come back to do it twice in a row. I mean, do you – did you know before then that he had that in him? Is that something, I guess, I don't know if it would be more or less likely to happen in the dirt versus in the turf, but you know, just a little bit more about his constitution and whether you knew he had that in you, had it in him, I should say.

Jonathan Thomas:

There's certainly things as a conditioner we can't train into a horse and you know, when we go out, set out to purchase them as youngsters, those are things we can't see. So, you know, those are kind of the hallmarks of a good horse, a sterling horse, that's, you know, better than average. You know, he's always been a very generous, forward training horse for us, meaning you know, at no point in time has he ever been reluctant to do anything we've asked him to do. So, you know from that standpoint, that part doesn't surprise me. But, listen, until you get into those kinds of dogfights, you really learn a lot about your horse, you know, when the pressures applied. So, you know, I became much more of a fan of his, you know, just visually, just knowing that he has that in him; and, you know, more than anything I think we're just proud of him. Our whole team is proud of what he's done for us and you know almost always he's tried to deliver even in those instances that he hasn't been able to.

Jim Mulvihill:

Sure. Well, in both of those last two races he was on the lead, which he hadn't done previously. But how would you like to see the Travers set up in terms of giving him his best chance to win?

Jonathan Thomas:

I think certainly, you know, a similar approach – and I could be to blame early on, the horse wanted to kind of come out from it early on and I'm never one to push them into a strategy, or, you know, kind of a pace scenario that they're not comfortable with. So, you know, I think him being more forwardly placed is more just a part of his development. You know, he's getting stronger and he's getting more reactive at the gate. He's braking a little quicker. So, I like that fact that he's getting more involved, because certainly I think if you can lay close to the pace and do it comfortably and kind of get into a good big rhythm, he seems to have, you know, what I would call better-than-average speed, certainly not blazing speed, but he seems to be able to carry it over a routed[?] ground. And, you know, maybe we've left him too much to do or not let him get more involved early, you know, maybe that cost us in the Davis. I don't know. I probably was looking at him too much from a turf perspective and kind of riding him or asking riders to ride him that way and, you know, we decided to kind of change tactics the last six starts, because the horse actually has more early speed than we've let him showcase early on.

Jim Mulvihill:

Interesting. Well, I'm going to see if the media has any questions for you. So, I'll ask Travis the operator to queue them and hopefully we'll have some questions from the writers on the line.

Operator:

If you would like to ask a question, please press star one now. We have no questions in the queue at this time.

Jim Mulvihill:

Well, apparently, you covered it all Jonathan. Way to go. You know, one last thing that I wanted to ask you about were just, you know, your rivals in the Travers, these trainers that have been important to your career, you've worked for Todd and Chad sent you horses and you already beat one of his best horses twice this year and analysed it. Just any thoughts going up against these guys that helped you to get to this point.

Jonathan Thomas:

Certainly. I mean I don't consider you know, them rivals at all. If anything, you know, they've been mentors on their own right; and, you know, friendships have kind of developed out of that. More than anything, I kind of look at it, you know, just a real, you know, kind of a pleasure to be on that stage with this kind of horse and really to be able to take part in, you know, as something as historic as the Travers, you know, with the horse with a lot of shot. You know, we work hard, everybody to partake in these kinds of things and I just look at it more as kind of an achievement. And you certainly – I think too often we get caught up in the wins and losses in this business and sometimes I think everybody forgets how hard it is not just for trainers but for the horses themselves to get this far along. So, I just look at it as an accomplishment, and we feel very fortunate to be competitive even if it's once or twice a year against these kinds of guys.

Jim Mulvihill:

For sure. Well, Jonathan, we do have some questions lining up in the queue. So, Travis, take it away.

Operator:

We have a question from William Springsteen.

William Springsteen:

Jonathan, I'm curious, with a horse that is so versatile, is it that hunch, is it distance, is it breeding the horse and saying, 'Okay, I think he's right for this race now'? What is it that makes you pull the trigger for the races that you do?

Jonathan Thomas:

Well, two things. I mean one, mechanically, he gets a [inaudible] well. You know, if you look at his resume, obviously, you know, he seems to... his resume is stronger on the turf right now. But mechanically, he's not struggled on the dirt. Sometimes, it's easier if they don't breeze well or don't train well over it, you have kind of a very easy decision to make, that, you know, that they're not dirt horses, but he's never done that to us. Secondly, his pedigree, you know, he's a more than ready out of a Bernardini mare. The Bernardini mare, the dame[?] of her was seeking the gold mare, so he's kind of... you know, deep in there lies a lot of dirt route pedigree. But obviously with the more than ready, he seems to be extremely versatile. So, I think you can also chalk it up to the fact that he's kind of the best of both worlds from a pedigree perspective.

William Springsteen:

Thank you.

Operator:

Our next question comes from Tom Jicha, Horse Race Insider.

Tom Jicha:

Jonathan, this is the time of the year when people are looking ahead to the Breeder's Cup. With this horse's versatility, you have like four options – The Classic, The Dirt Mile, The Turf, or the Turf Mile. Would Saturday's race determine where you point them?

Jonathan Thomas:

Certainly, if you were to be effective on the dirt in the Travers, you know, my leaning would be more towards The Classic and more so than anything, because of the distance. I think the mile and the quarter at this time in his life hits him right between the eyes. Facing olders[?] on the turf, backing up to a mile might be

a little bit quick for him and then stretching him out to a mile and a half again, you know, some of those Euros, if I don't know if either of those races are in his best interest. I mean, certainly it's a little early to make those kinds of calls, but, you know, ideally, the mile and a quarter kind of feels like our best distances at the moment.

Tom Jicha:

Thank you.

Jonathan Thomas:

Yes sir.

Operator:

Our next question comes from John Kekis, Associated Press.

John Kekis:

Hey, I'm wondering just kind of [inaudible] with Chad Brown's success at such a young age and what impresses you the most about him?

Jonathan Thomas:

Well, that could be a long discussion but, you know, right off the bat, I think he's an excellent communicator with his clients and I think he does a great job of educating to the ups and downs of the business. You know, this... obviously, the best guys in the business are winning at 30%, losing at 70. And I think he calls things quickly, you know, if a horse can run or can't run. He focuses on the quality he has and if horses are not up to snuff or is not New York quality, he is very quick to let them move on to other jurisdictions. I was talking to somebody the other day about it. I don't know of any trainer in the last, let's call it, decade, that's brought more new owners to this business. You know, if you look at Saul Kewman and Bob Edwards and certainly Mr Claremont's programme's been resurrected, he's also done extremely well, managing for guys, but I don't of young owners that have been – you know, hit the ground running as much as Saul and Bob. You know, and then he's got great horsemanship skills. And you put those altogether and it makes for a very dangerous combination, which he's putting on show, display for everybody to see.

John Kekis:

Thank you, appreciate it.

Jonathan Thomas:

Yes, sir.

Operator:

We have no further questions in the queue at this time.

Jonathan Thomas:

Okay.

Jim Mulvihill:

All right, well, Jonathan, thank you so much for the time. That pretty much covers it. We really appreciate you coming on and we wish you luck on Saturday in the Travers.

Jonathan Thomas:

Much appreciate it. Thank you.

Jim Mulvihill:

All right, there goes Jonathan Thomas. You know, one of the things I love about these calls is that so often I come in with certain ideas about a race and who has a chance to win and then we talk to these guys and then it totally shifts my thinking. And I think we had that transpire here today. I think this is maybe more of

a competitive race than I thought coming in. In any case, that'll do it for our Travers preview. On a quick personal note, for those of you who haven't heard, this is my final week at the NTRA and next week I'll be starting a new gig with Churchill Downs in their corporate office. So, I just want to say what a privilege it has been getting to know so many of you in my five years here at the NTRA and I'll just look forward to seeing you all at racetracks around the country in my new role. Probably not in the press box as much, but you'll certainly find me in the grandstand. And these teleconferences will carry on, of course, look for the next one in mid to late September. Probably for at least two of the weeks of the final Breeder's Cup preps. So, with that, my thanks once again to Chad Brown, Mark Casse, Jonathan Thomas. And as always, the podcast and transcript of this call will be up on ntra.com within the next 24 hours. Thanks, everybody for joining us today. I'll send it back to our operator Travis to wrap up.

Operator:

Thank you. Ladies and gentlemen, this concludes today's teleconference. You may now disconnect.