

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: Kevin Kerstein
Kentucky Racing Communications
Churchill Downs, Ellis Park, Turfway Park
(610) 420-6971 (mobile)
(502) 635-4712 (office)
Kevin.Kerstein@KyDerby.com

GRACE ON GRACE PULLS 10-1 UPSET IN GOWELL STAKES ON NEW YEAR'S DAY AT TURFWAY PARK

FLORENCE, Ky. (Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2025) – Francetta Allen's **Grace On Grace** surged down the stretch under jockey **Fernando De La Cruz** to score a 10-1 upset in Wednesday's \$110,000 Gowell Stakes at Turfway Park Racing & Gaming, the featured event on the New Year's Day program.

The **Larry Demeritte**-trained filly completed the six-furlong race in 1:12.16.

After a clean break, Grace On Grace settled in fifth up the backstretch, sitting about two lengths behind even-money favorite **My Lil Punky**, who was pressed by 11-1 longshot **Wisconsin Gal** to her outside. De La Cruz patiently tracked the battling leaders around the far turn before angling Grace On Grace three wide at the top of the stretch.

As the pacesetters began to tire, **Grace On Grace** surged past them mid-stretch and held off a late charge from **Les Is Best**, who rallied from last, to secure the victory by three-quarters of a length.

Grace On Grace returned \$23.02, \$9.30 and \$3.48. Runner-up Les Is Best, ridden by **Luan Machado**, paid \$5.44 and \$3.66. Favored My Lil Punky settled for third and returned \$2.28 to show.

The field was rounded out by **She's All Charm**, Wisconsin Gal and **Keyana**.

The win was the second of **Grace On Grace's** nine-race career and earned her \$61,380, boosting her lifetime earnings to \$123,641. The newly turned 3-year-old filly was bred in Kentucky by Southern Comfort Farm.

Racing resumes Thursday through Saturday at Turfway Park, with daily first posts of 5:55 p.m. ET.

-END-