News Release



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EVERLAND SURGES LATE TO WIN \$116,150 LIKELY EXCHANGE STAKES

FLORENCE, Ky. (Friday, Jan. 24, 2025) – Foster Family Racing, William Wargel, R.K. Eckrich Racing and Maxis Stable's Everland showcased her late-running prowess on Friday night, surging up the rail to earn a hard-fought half-length victory in the 27th running of the \$116,150 Likely Exchange Stakes at Turfway Park Racing & Gaming.

Trained by Eric Foster and ridden by Abel Cedillo, the 4-year-old filly completed the one-mile event in 1:39.21.

It was a clean break to the Likely Exchange with 3-5 favorite **Earhart** gaining forward position into the first turn but faced pressure to her outside from **She's Fancy**, leading to a solid opening quarter-mile in :23.87. The dueling leaders continued their battle up the backside through a half-mile in :48.17, several lengths clear of their pursuers. Meanwhile, Everland, who initially settled in fifth at the rail about five lengths off the pace, briefly checked and was relegated to seventh at the half-mile pole.

Around the far turn, **Neverwalkalone**, who tracked the early leaders in fourth, found her best stride while tipped three wide at the quarter-pole and Everland made a bold move up the inside. At mid-stretch, Earhart gained a brief lead but was battling between rallying Neverwalkalone and rail-skimming Everland. Inside the final sixteenth, Everland and Neverwalkalone began to pull clear, with Everland prevailing late by a determined half-length. Earhart held on for third, three-quarters of a length behind the runner-up.

Mohawk Trail finished three-quarters of a length behind Earhart in fourth followed by Peak Popularity, Pendulum, Hurry Up Hannah, She's Fancy, Queen Luca and Stay Lost.

At odds of 7-1, Everland rewarded her backers with \$2 mutuel payouts of \$16.88, \$5.86, and \$3.40. Neverwalkalone returned \$11.34 and \$5.42, with Earhart paying \$2.26 to show.

The Likely Exchange Stakes served as the final race in this year's **Claiborne Farm "Make Your Mare Series."** As part of the series, Everland earned a \$10,000 stallion credit to the famed breeding operation, while runner-up Neverwalkalone received \$5,000 and third-place finisher Earhart collected \$2,500.

With the victory, Everland improved her career record to 15-4-2-1, with earnings of \$474,954. All four of her victories have come at Turfway Park, including in last year's Bourbonette Oaks where she qualified for the 150th running of the Longines Kentucky Oaks (GI).

A 4-year-old daughter of **Arrogate** out of the Tapit mare **Ever Changing**, Everland was bred in Kentucky by **George Strawbridge Jr.**

Racing continues at Turfway Park on **Saturday and Sunday**. Saturday's 10-race card, featuring the \$125,000 **Wishing Well Stakes**, kicks off at 5:55 p.m. Sunday's program, rescheduled from Wednesday due to extreme cold, begins at 12:30 p.m. For more information, visit <u>turfway.com</u>.