

Old Friends

Sarava

1999 dkb/br H, Wild Again – Rhythm of Life (Deputy Minister)



Belmont day, June 8, 2002. Kentucky Derby and Preakness winner War Emblem bid to become the first Triple Crown winner since Affirmed in 1978. During the parade to the post, all eyes were on the nearly black colt. Parading with to post position 12 was another nearly black colt, but few paid him much attention. Sarava had won the Sir Barton Stakes on the Preakness undercard and had run admirably since returning from the English turf as a two year old. Yet most regarded him as an afterthought entered by trainer Ken McPeck when favorite Harlan's Holiday lost the Derby and Preakness, and the Kentucky-bred son of Wild Again went off at odds of 70-1.

The field broke from the gate. Prado placed Sarava in the colt's favorite spot, stalking relaxed on the outside. War Emblem, who had stumbled at the start, gave way as suddenly star runner Medaglia d'Oro surged forward, and with him, splitting horses, the long shot Sarava. It was Sarava who grabbed the lead. The two dueled fiercely and Sarava leapt ahead by half a length to the wire. That Belmont day it was Sarava who went to the winner's circle to receive the accolades for a race beautifully run. He had spoiled a potential Triple Crown, but he was the longest shot ever to win the Belmont, paying \$142.50.

He competed against Funny Cide, Evening Attire, Perfect Drift and his other peers of the era until 2005 when with earnings of \$773,832 in 17 starts he entered stud in Florida. Retired from stud, Sarava arrived at Old Friends September 29, 2012. "Sarava" is a Brazilian greeting that means "good luck" and we thank Gary Drake of Louisville and Paul and Susan Roy of Great Britain for our good luck, their donation of this great Belmont Stakes winner to Old Friends.

If you would like a share in this horse, you may complete the form below. In return, you will receive an 8 ½ x 11 color photograph of Sarava and a Share Certificate.

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