

\$225,000 William Walker (Listed)

8th Running – 2023 (Spring Meet)
3-Year-Olds at 5 ½ Furlongs on Turf at Churchill Downs
Stakes Record – 1:03.73, Big Invasion (2022)
Course Record – 1:01.53, Bad Beat Brian (2023)

Name Origin: Race is named in honor of the riding great from yesteryear who is best known for guiding Dan Swigert's Baden-Baden to a two-length victory in the 1877 Kentucky Derby at the age of 17 for eventual Hall of Fame trainer Edward Dudley Brown. William "Billy" Walker Sr. was born enslaved in 1860 in Woodford County, Ky., began riding at age 11 in 1871 and witnessed every Derby for 59 straight years from its 1875 debut until his death at age 73 on Sept. 20, 1933. The African-American jockey was Churchill Downs' leading rider at six of the track's first 13 meets (Fall 1875, Spring '76, Fall '76, Spring '77, Spring '78 and Spring '81). One of his greatest moments at Churchill Downs came aboard 7-year-old Ten Broeck in the famed four-mile match race with the California-based mare Molly McCarthy on July 4, 1878, a contest remembered in the bluegrass music standard "Molly and Tenbrooks." When Walker's riding career ended after some 25 years, he became a trainer, was recognized as an expert on breeding and bloodlines and served as an advisor to John E. Madden, who bred five winners of the Kentucky Derby: Hall of Fame inductees Old Rosebud (1914), Triple Crown-winner Sir Barton (1919) and Zev (1923), as well as Paul Jones (1920) and Flying Ebony (1925). He also served as a clocker at Churchill Downs' Spring and Fall Meets. Walker's unmarked grave was discovered at the Louisville Cemetery near Germantown in the mid-1990s, and Churchill Downs placed a headstone detailing his memorable racing career at the resting place prior to the 1996 Kentucky Derby.

Year (Race No.) Dis. (Starters)	Winner (Age/Sex) Owner(s)	Jockey (Weight) Trainer	Second Third	Time (Condition) Odds (Margin)	Sire Bred (Color)	Gross Purse-Gr. Winner's Share-#
2023-May 13 (10th) 5 ½ Furlongs-Turf (8)	No Nay Hudson-IRE (3c) Andrew Farm & For The People Racing Stable LLC	James Graham (118) Wesley Ward	Two of a Kind Gaslight Dancer*	1:02.30 (firm) 10.77-1 (1 ½ lengths)	No Nay Never Ireland (B.)	\$208,750 \$120,280—8
2022-May 4 (9th) 5 ½ Furlongs-Turf (7)	Big Invasion (3c)* Reeves Thoroughbred Racing	Joel Rosario (118) Christophe Clement	B D Valeski Run Curtis Run	1:03.73 (firm) 0.50-1 (2 lengths)	Declaration of War Kentucky (B.)	\$197,250 \$121,330—7
2021-April 24 (9th) 5 ½ Furlongs-Turf (8)	Field Day (3g)* Klein Racing	Tyler Gaffalione (118) Brad Cox	Bodenheimer Cees Get Degrees	1:05.63 (good) 1.80-1 (neck)	Broken Vow Kentucky (B.)	\$150,000 \$90,210—6
2020	No Running					
2019-April 27 (8th) 5 Furlongs-Turf (7)	Jo Jo Air (3f) Andrew Farm & Mrs. Charlie O'Connor	John Velazquez (114) Wesley Ward	Uncapped Legends of War	:58.86 (firm) 14.20-1 (3/4-length)	Scat Daddy Kentucky (Dk B or Br.)	\$125,000 \$75,950—5
2018-April 28 (9th) 5 Furlongs-Turf (8)	Beckford-GB (3c)* Newtown Anna Stud	Julien Leparoux (123) Brendan Walsh	Salmanazar Masked	:57.28 (firm) 1.50-1 (3/4-length)	Bated Breath-GB Great Britain (Dk B or Br.)	\$100,000 \$60,140—4
2017-April 29 (9th) 6 Furlongs (7)	The Money Monster (3c) R.A. Hill Stable & BlackRidge Stables LLC	Jose Lezcano (118) Bill Mott	En Hanse+ Conquest Wildcat+	1:10.70 (fast) 7.50-1 (1 ½ lengths)	Majestic Warrior Kentucky (B.)	\$100,000 \$60,760—3
2016-April 30 (7th) 6 Furlongs (5)	Toews On Ice (3c)* Karl Watson, Michael E. Pegram & Paul Weitman	David Lopez (120) Bob Baffert	Entertainer Sheikh of Sheikhs	1:10.91 (sloppy) 1.10-1 (2 lengths)	Archarcharch Kentucky (Dk. B. or Br.)	\$100,000 \$62,000—2
2015-April 25 (7th) 6 Furlongs (6)	Cinco Charlie (3c) L. William & Corinne Heiligbrodt	Ricardo Santana Jr. (120) Steve Asmussen	Senor Grits Blofeld*	1:10.86 (good-91) 2.70-1 (1 ½ lengths)	Indian Charlie Kentucky (B.)	\$100,000 \$61,380—1

*-Favorite ... + Placings altered when Classic Cotton was disqualified from second to fifth for interference along the backstretch. ... Race was staged at six furlongs on dirt from 2015-17.

Most Wins, Jockey:	no jockey with more than one win
Most Wins, Trainer:	2, Wesley Ward (2019, '23)
Most Wins, Owner:	no owner with more than one win
High \$2 Win:	\$30.40, Jo Jo Air (2019)
Low \$2 Win:	\$3.00, Big Invasion (2022)
Largest Win Margin:	2 lengths, Toews On Ice (2016) and Big Invasion (2022)
Smallest Win Margin:	neck, Field Day (2021)
Largest Field Size:	8 (2018, '21, '23)
Smallest Field Size:	5 (2016)
Favorites Record:	8-4-0-2 (Win=50.0%; ITM=75.0%)
Favorites who finished off-the-board:	Bulletin (4 th in 2019 at 0.10-1); Syndergaard (4 th in 2017 at 0.30-1)
Fastest Splits – ¼-mile:	:21.62, Twizz (2016)
Fastest Splits – ½-mile:	:44.56, Two of a Kind (2023)
Disqualifications:	Classic Cotton (from 2 nd to 5 th in 2017)
Off-tracks:	Good (2015, '21); Sloppy (2016)