

# **STAR SWEEPER**

**Gray/roan colt by Rock Your World – Tapless by Tapit**

**Breeder: Tami Bobo (Kentucky)**

**Purchased for \$40,000 at the 2025 OBS March Sale  
of 2-Year-Olds in Training**

**Birth date: April 30, 2023**

**Owner: Bran Jam Stable and David Clark**

**Trainer: Louis Lindner, Jr.**

**Jockey: Luis R. Rivera, Jr.**

**Lifetime Record: 9 2-2-0**

**Lifetime Earnings: \$151,250**

## **STAR SWEEPER**

- Finished 5<sup>th</sup> behind Haskell competitor Baby Vino in the Pegasus (Listed) in the final local prep June 13.
- Two starts back missed by a head here in the Long Branch, also a Haskell prep, on May 10.
- Was the runner-up in the City of Brotherly Love Stakes at Parx March 3.
- All but two of his efforts have been in stakes races.
- Stablemate of Just Step on It, who finished fourth in the 2024 Haskell for the same trainer and owners.

## **BREEDING**

- Star Sweeper is by Grade 1 winner Rock Your World.
- He is the paternal grandson of Candy Ride (ARG), a multiple Grade 1 winner in Argentina and the U.S.
- Candy Ride retired with a perfect 6-for-6 record on the racetrack.

- Candy Ride is a Top 5 active sire and the sire of 19 Grade 1 winners, including 2023 Haskell winner Geaux Rocket Ride.
- He sired six champions, including 2018 Horse of the Year and leading sire Gun Runner.
- Star Sweeper's dam is Tapless, a daughter of Tapit.
- Tapit is one of the most influential and breed shaping stallions of the past half century.
- He is a three-time champion sire and the sire of 35 Grade 1 winners.
- Tapit sired four Belmont winners.
- He is the No. 2 all-time North American sire by progeny earnings.
- Tapless has produced four named foals and three are winners.
- Star Sweeper is her most accomplished offspring to date.

## **BRAN JAM STABLE & DAVID CLARK**

- The Mellen Family races as Bran Jam.
- The name is a nod to two of Michael Mellen's grandchildren Brandon and Jamie.
- Michael's wife, Valerie, and their daughter, Dawn, are involved in the stable.
- Granddaughter Ashley is the namesake of their Ashley's Folly, the 2015 California Broodmare of the Year.
- The family owned the multiple Grade 2 winner Ashleyuvssugar. Sugar is the family dog.
- Ashleyuvssugar ran sixth in the 2015 United Nations (then a Grade 1) at Monmouth Park in his only race outside California.
- Dawn Mellen, Ashley, Brandon and Jamie's aunt, founded After The Finish Line, a California-based funding program for Thoroughbred aftercare and related charities.
- Dawn is the president of the organization.
- Dawn organized the annual After The Finish Charity auction where exclusive Breeders' Cup hats are auctioned to benefit OTTBs across the country.
- Fundraisers, including the Horseshoe, Halter, and Saddlecloth auction, are hosted throughout the year at Del Mar, The Retired Thoroughbred Makeover Project, the Breeders' Cup and the ATF eBay store.
- A portion of the stable's earnings are donated to the organization.
- The Mellen Family business is Town Fair Tires, founded in 1967 by Michael's late brother Neil.

- Michael Mellen is executive vice president of Town Fair Tire.
- Headquartered in Connecticut, the business has more than 2,000 employees and 100 stores offering sales and service across New England.
- Originally from Connecticut, the family owns strings that race in California and on the East Coast.
- David Clark is a longtime friend and partner in the tire business.

### **LOUIS LINDER, JR.**

- Haskell record: 1 0-0-1
- Born July 15, 1956 in Philadelphia, Pa.
- One of the leading trainers based at Parx.
- Finished fourth in the 2024 Haskell with Just Step on It for the same owners.
- Is the son of long-time trainer Louis Lindner, Sr., who retired in 2009 and passed away in 2013.
- Grew up in his dad's barn at the old Philadelphia Park. Took out his license in 1977.
- Took an eight-year break to support his young family but returned to the racetrack in 2000 as his full-time career.
- Has a stable of 40 horses currently.
- Multiple graded stakes placed trainer.
- Best horse to date is multiple stakes winner Far Mo Power, earner of more than \$600,000.

### **LUIS RIVERA, JR**

- Haskell record: First starter
- Born Feb. 20, 2004
- Currently second in the Monmouth Park standings behind Paco Lopez.
- Hails from Loiza, Puerto Rico.
- Learned his craft at the Escuela Vocacional Hipica jockey school in Puerto Rico.
- Launched his career on Jan. 1, 2023 at the age of 19. Won with his first mount at Camarero Race Track

- Moved his tack from his native country in February of 2023 to Laurel Park that year. Rode his first race there Feb. 19 and won with his sixth starter one day later.
- Also rode at Charles Town before heading to Parx and Monmouth when an apprentice. Had a solid year when he had the bug with 17 winners at Monmouth Park (and 106 overall) in 2023.
- Now a journeyman, he splits his time between Monmouth Park and Parx. Also rides at Aqueduct.
- Son of jockey Luis Raul Rivera, Sr., who is based at Thistledown in Ohio.
- Godson of jockey Luis Perez, who is a member of the Finger Lakes colony.
- His father and uncle have combined for more than 3,000 wins and serve as a sounding board and coaches.
- The Haskell will be his second appearance in a Grade 1 race. Finished eighth in the 2025 Champagne at Belmont.
- Enters the Haskell 0-for-15 in graded stakes.
- Best previous finishes were 2nds in both the 2024 Wood Memorial (Grade 2) and the Bold Ruler (Grade 3).