

# Mr. Fantasy out of Met Mile

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Mr. Fantasy, owned in part by Saratoga Springs resident Jay Rifenbary through West Point Thoroughbreds, will miss today's Grade 1 Met Mile at Belmont Park with a fever.

Winner of three of four career starts including the Grade 3 Withers last time out, Mr. Fantasy was one of two 3-year-olds in the 13-horse field and was third choice on the morning line at 6-1, behind Bribon (3-1) and Smooth Air (4-1).

Trainer Kiaran McLaughlin told Daily Racing Form that he would now point Mr. Fantasy toward the Grade 2 Woody Stephens on the Belmont Stakes undercard, June 6.

Rifenbary is a motivational speaker who holds seminars around the country. Mr. Fantasy is the first horse he has ever owned.

"Being part-owner to a horse named Mr. Fantasy was pretty much in good alignment with me," Rifenbary said on the OTB-TV program "Down the Stretch," co-hosted by Gazette handicapper Mark Cusano. "It's been such a fun adventure."

Add Rifenbary to the list of investors who have found success on the racetrack with West Point. Here are some recent others (please let me know who I've left out):

Niel and Carole Nielsen, Saratoga (Flashy Bull, winner of G1 Stephen Foster, G3 William Donald Schaefer, 2nd G2 Fountain of Youth; High Finance, winner of G2 Tom Fool, 2nd G3 Mr. Prospector)

Mike and Sharon Balfe, Saratoga (Lear's Princess, winner of G1 Gazelle, 2nd G1 Alabama and G1 CCA Oaks; Irish Smoke, winner of G1 Spinaway)

Roger and Joyce Locks, Saratoga (Macho Again, winner of G2 New Orleans Handicap, G2 Jim Dandy, 2nd G1 Preakness)

Pat Stickney, Saratoga (Yolanda B. Too, winner Squan Song Stakes, 2nd, G2 Cotillion, 3rd G1 Gazelle).