



Hotel to feature handprints of Derby-winning jockeys

LOUISVILLE (AP) — In the hometown of the Kentucky Derby, jockeys are getting treated like Hollywood stars.

Cameras flashed and a small crowd applauded Monday as three Derby-winning jockeys — Michael Manganello, Jean Cruguet and Craig Perret — put their handprints in wet concrete outside the Galt House. They were the first of the 30 living Derby-winning jockeys to preserve their handprints in the memorial outside the main entrance to the hotel's east tower.

"It's nice for the riders," said Manganello, who won the Derby aboard Dust Commander in 1970. "A little bit of us will always be there."

Cruguet rode Seattle Slew to victory in 1977, and Perret won with Unbridled in 1990.

Perret, who has had a 35-year riding career, said he was heartened by the honor after he "dedicated everything to the racing industry."

In all, 96 jockeys have posted wins in the 130 runnings of the Kentucky Derby.

After prints of the 30 surviving jockeys are in place, new winners' prints will be added to the sidewalk leading up to Main Street. It was inspired by the Hollywood Walk of Fame and Grauman's Chinese Theater, where handprints of movie stars are set in cement, said Mary Moseley, president of the company that owns the Galt House.

Instead of using stars for each rider, Moseley kept with the Derby theme and hired Louisville's Kaviar Forge to create metal roses for each concrete square.

Although some living Derby-winning jockeys are aged or disabled, Moseley said she hopes to have as many handprints as possible for an unveiling on May 5, two days before the 2005 race.

No deadline has been set for the goal of getting all the prints.

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