
MINDFUL MINUTE



Bailey riding Capote

Wild & Free

The wild horses of the Southwest span the entire Four Corners area and the closest mustangs to Durango are only about three hours away! The Spring Creek Basin Mustangs are located in the Spring Creek Basin which lies within the Disappointment Valley, which lies between Norwood and Dove Creek, Colorado. The herd descends from a group of horses that was once owned by a retired officer of the Army, who also happened to be a horse thief. The horses have Spanish and Draft horse blood, which has translated to thick bones and a stout profile.

One of the herd's greatest advocates is TJ Holmes, who has been working with the mustangs for many years and lives on a property bordering the Bureau of Land Management's Spring Creek Basin Horse Management Area (HMA). TJ says that "with the dry climate, the horses are currently hard to find as they are searching for water in seeps in some of the arroyos". But if you have a long weekend, the Disappointment Valley is a breathe-taking place to enjoy a leisurely hike and a long night of star-gazing. And if you are really lucky, you might just see some wild mustangs!

Tips for Viewing the Mustangs & Burros:

- Stay at least 100 feet away
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- Never try to feed the wild horses or burros
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- Stay on the roads designated by the BLM
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- Never park near watering holes
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- Don't fly drones around the horses
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- Keep your dog on a leash around the horses
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2020 Kentucky Derby

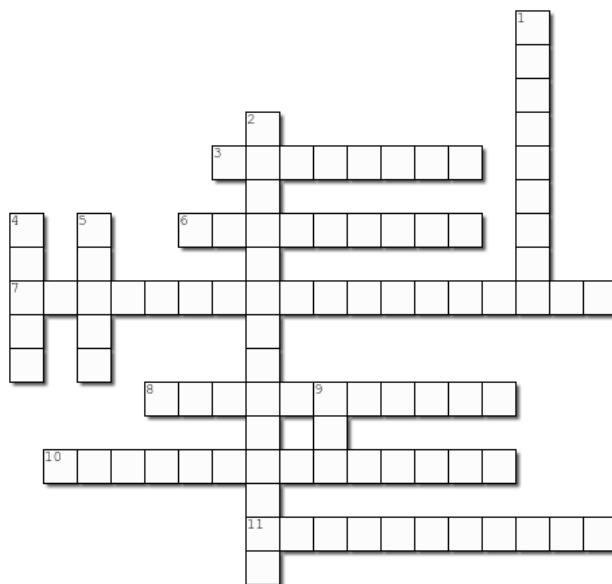
On September 3, 2020 aside from owners and a select few guests, the stands were almost empty for the annual 146th Kentucky Derby which ran at historic Churchill Downs. Authentic and his jockey John Velazquez ultimately found their way to finish first on the soft, turf track. The favorite to win, Tiz The Law, ran a close second and Mr. Big News finished third. Authentic donned the iconic derby garland in the winners circle, which is composed of 465 roses and weighs 40 pounds. In the circle however, the winning horse had a bit of a spook and actually knocked over his trainer, Bob Baffert. Interestingly enough Baffert had another horse who was supposed to run in the race, Thousand Words, but earlier in the day that horse flipped over in the paddock and had to scratch from the race. The run for the roses was nothing short of an upset. A huge congratulations to Authentic on his win in top form!



John Velazquez riding Authentic

Changing Colors and Changing Leads

Complete the puzzle using words found throughout this newsletter.



Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

Horizontal

3. Where Churchill Downs is located
6. Winner winner chicken dinner
7. The mustangs closest to Durango live here
8. This was the favorite to win but he came in second
10. The winning jockey
11. The winning horse's trainer

Vertical

1. She is the mustang advocate who has done the most for the Spring Creek Basin Mustang herd
2. This race was ran on September 3, 2020
4. These make up the garland placed on the winning horse
5. These are also known as donkeys, but in the wild they have a different name
9. The area where the mustangs and burros are managed



Bailey riding FHF Sopresso bridleless