



PEDIGREE PROFILE

Ashley's Kitty latest graded stakes winner for Tale of the Cat

by Rommy Faversham

Last Sunday at Hollywood Park, 17.30-to-1 longshot Ashley's Kitty held off fast-closing favorite Silver Swallow by little more than a whisker to capture the \$111,000 Railbird Stakes (G3).



Benoit & Associates photo

The win marked the first stakes victory for the three-year-old Tale of the Cat filly as well as the first graded stakes win for her apprentice jockey, Joe Talamo. The pair completed the seven-furlong event in 1:22.80.

Unraced at two, Ashley's Kitty won her first two races on the main track at Santa Anita Park. Her career record stands at three wins from four lifetime starts with earnings of \$119,400.

A chestnut filly, Ashley's Kitty was bred in Kentucky by Gaines-Gentry Thoroughbreds. She is the second winner from as many starters out of the Beau Genius mare

ASHLEY'S KITTY

Pretty 'n Smart, a multiple winner who finished third in the 2001 Railbird Stakes (G2) behind two impressive peers, Hollywood Story and Starrer.

Mares by Beau Genius have combined, so far, to produce 23 stakes winners, including Ashland Stakes (G1) winner Sis City and Arkansas Derby (G2) winner Certain.

Pretty 'n Smart's pedigree features 3x2 inbreeding to the full brothers, Viceregal and Vice Regent. She also has an unraced two-year-old full brother to Ashley's Kitty.

Ashley's Kitty currently is the only stakes winner under her first three dams. The only other North American graded stakes winner within this immediate family is Grade 3 winner Artemus Sunrise, who, interestingly, also was sired by Tale of the Cat.

This tail-female line (#17-b) traces back to Ashley's Kitty's illustrious seventh dam, Racing Hall of Famer Gallorette, one of America's great handicap stars following World War II.

Ashley's Kitty hails from the fifth North American crop of the Grade 2-winning Storm Cat stallion Tale of the Cat, who stands at Ashford Stud in Versailles, Kentucky, for \$37,500. During the Southern Hemisphere season, Tale of the Cat shuttles to Coolmore Australia,

Ashley's Kitty, ch. f., 2004

Tale of the Cat 94 804 fls, 37 SWs SI 1.98 DI=3.62	Storm Cat 83 4 wins, \$570,610, SW 1172 fls, 151 SWs SI 4.25 DI=4.00	Storm Bird 78 681 fls, 63 SWs SI 3.10 DI=3.25	Northern Dancer 61	Nearctic 54 Natalma 57
		Terlingua 76 11 fls, 2 SWs DI=3.63	South Ocean 67	New Providence 56 Shining Sun 62
Yarn 87 1 win, \$19,108 6 fls, 3 SWs DI=3.52	Mr. Prospector 70 1178 fls, 181 SWs SI 5.08 DI=3.95	Narrate 80 11 fls, 1 SW DI=2.43	Secretariat 70	Bold Ruler 54 Somethingroyal 52
			Crimson Saint 69	Crimson Satan 59 Bolero Rose 58
Pretty 'n Smart 98 3 fls, 1 SW DI=5.40	Beau Genius 85 19 wins, \$1,055,600, SW 681 fls, 34 SWs SI 1.08 DI=12.33	Royal Colleen 73 7 fls, 2 SWs DI=1.67	Raise a Native 61	Native Dancer 50 Raise You 46
			Gold Digger 62	Nashua 52 Sequence 46
Charge d'Affaires 92 Placed, \$6,960 5 fls, 0 SWs DI=4.00	Vice Regent 67 672 fls, 105 SWs SI 2.83 DI=3.86	Office Affair 88 13 fls, 0 SWs DI=3.18	Honest Pleasure 73	What a Pleasure 65 *Tularia 55
			State 74	Nijinsky II 67 Monarchy 57
			Boldnesian 63	Bold Ruler 54 Alanesian 54
			Raise a Ruckus 65	Raise a Native 61 Fine Feathers 52
			Viceregal 66	Northern Dancer 61 Victoria Regina 58
			Own Colleen 59	Queen's Own 51 *Fair Colleen 50
			Northern Dancer 61	Nearctic 54 Natalma 57
			Victoria Regina 58	*Menetrier 44 Victoria 52
			Secretariat 70	Bold Ruler 54 Somethingroyal 52
			Mlle. Liebe 72	Bupers 61 *Lorgette II 64

which is located in the Hunter Valley of New South Wales.

He is the sire of 15 graded or group winners, including multiple Grade 1 winner and Kentucky Derby (G1) runner-up Lion Heart, Humana Distaff Handicap (G1) winner My Trusty Cat, and multiple Australian Group 1 winner Glamour Puss.

In relative terms, Ashley's Cat is considerably inbred, particularly since her paternal grandsire, Storm Cat, and grandam, Charge d'Affaires, both are by Northern Dancer stallions and out of Secretariat mares. An auspicious cross being returned two generations later.

For good measure, there also is the family tie of Storm Bird's broodmare sire, New Providence, and Beau Genius's grandam, Own Colleen, who are half siblings.

Score one for the cats.

Rommy Faversham is a pedigree specialist and author living in Los Angeles. More of his work is available at <http://www.equicross.com>