



PEDIGREE PROFILE

Hard Spun defined by strong connections on both sides of pedigree

by Rommy Faversham

Fox Hill Farm's Hard Spun certainly enhanced his reputation as a top-class three-year old with an excellent runner-up finish behind Street Sense in the 133rd running of the Kentucky Derby Presented by Yum! Brands (G1).

The front-running Danzig colt now appears well-primed for the Preakness Stakes (G1), a race that often favors speed horses, at Pimlico Race Course on May 19.

Last week in this space, I suggested that Hard Spun was the best-bred individual among this year's 20 Derby starters.

Sired by a breed-shaping stallion and out of a long-winded, stakes-winning mare from the family of two dual classic winners, Hard Spun's pedigree is without discernable weakness.

HARD SPUN

Bred in Pennsylvania by Michael Moran and Brushwood Stable, Hard Spun was consigned to the 2005 Keeneland September yearling sale, but failed to meet his reserve price and was bought back for \$485,000.

He is the fifth winner from as many starters out of the Turkoman mare Turkish Tryst, a winner at age five of the 1½-mile April Run Stakes on the grass at Pimlico and Grade 2 stakes-placed later that season.

Hard Spun's older half sister, Our Rite of Spring, by Stravinsky, won a restricted stake at Aqueduct in 2004.

Turkoman mares have combined, so far, to produce 14 graded stakes winners, including 2001 Horse of the Year Point Given.

Hard Spun descends from one of the outstanding female families developed at John W. Galbreath's Darby Dan Farm. His grandam, Darbyvail, was a half sister to 1974 champion three-year-old male Little Current and multiple Grade 1 winner Prayers'n Promises.

Hard Spun's unraced third dam, Luiana, was a half sister to 1962 champion older mare Primonetta and 1963 champion three-year-old male Chateaugay. This is also the family of Grade 1 winners Prince Thou Art and Cum Laude Laurie.

The American origin of this tribe was initiated in 1917 when A.B. (Bull) Hancock imported the unraced English broodmare prospect *Tuscan Red to Kentucky. She is Hard Spun's eighth dam and the ninth dam of last year's Derby hero, Barbaro.

Hard Spun hails from the 23rd crop of the Northern Dancer super-



Photo by Z

Hard Spun, b. c., 2004

Danzig 77 1065 fls, 195 SWs SI 5.37 DI=4.71	Northern Dancer 61 14 wins, \$580,647 Champion 635 fls, 147 SWs SI 5.82 DI=3.00	Nearctic 54 335 fls, 49 SWs SI 2.38 DI=1.90	=Nearco (Ity) 35	=Pharos (GB) 20 =Nogara (Ity) 28	
		*Lady Angela 44	*Polynesian 42 Geisha 43	=Hyperion (GB) 30 =Sister Sarah (GB) 30	
	Pas de Nom 68 9 wins, \$121,741, SW 11 fls, 0 SWs DI=11.00	Admiral's Voyage 59 249 fls, 8 SWs SI 1.05 DI=2.53	Natalma 57 14 fls, 4 SWs DI=1.93	Native Dancer 50	*Mahmoud 33 Arbitrator 37
		*Petitioner 52 11 fls, 1 SW DI=4.43	Crafty Admiral 48	Almahmoud 47	Fighting Fox 35 Admiral's Lady 42
Turkish Tryst 91 5 fls, 2 SWs DI=2.08	Turkoman 82 8 wins, \$2,146,924 Champion 656 fls, 32 SWs SI 1.07 DI=1.86	Alydar 75 689 fls, 77 SWs SI 5.54 DI=3.94	Raise a Native 61	Native Dancer 50 Raise You 46	
		Tablet (Arg) 73 15 fls, 2 SWs DI=0.79	Sweet Tooth 65	On-and-On 56 Round Table 54 Leallah 54	
	Darbyvail 84 2 wins, \$38,700 4 fls, 1 SW DI=2.61	Roberto 69 500 fls, 85 SWs SI 3.90 DI=2.50	Hail to Reason 58	*Turn-to 51 Nothrichance 48	=Fomento (Arg) 54 =Rosa Roja (Arg) 50
		Luiana 63 16 fls, 3 SWs DI=6.33	Bramalea 59	Nashua 52 Rarelea 49	=Djebel (Fr) 37 =Perfume II (GB) 38
		*My Babu 45	Banquet Bell 51	Polynesian 42 Dinner Horn 37	

stallion Danzig, who was euthanized at 29 due to the infirmities of old age in early January 2006 at Claiborne Farm.

Sire of ten champions and 113 graded or group winners, Danzig's final crop of foals are two-year-olds this year.

The combination of Danzig with Alydar-line mares has been a productive one (61 foals, 6 graded/group stakes winners) yielding such stars as two-time Breeders' Cup Mile (G1) winner Lure and multiple Grade 1 winner Strolling Along.

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