



PEDIGREE PROFILE

Istan draws clear to capture first graded stakes triumph

by Rommy Faversham

Favorite Istan proved to be much the best on Saturday as he cruised to an easy 3½-length victory in the \$100,000 Turfway Park Fall Championship Stakes (G3).



Pat Lang photo

It was the fourth stakes tally of the season and first career graded stakes victory for the five-year-old Gone West horse, who completed one mile on the all-weather Polytrack surface in 1:38.81.

Istan's three previous stakes victories this year were the Governor's Handicap at Ellis Park, the Artax Handicap at Gulfstream Park, and the Budweiser Challenger Stakes at Tampa Bay Downs.

Istan began his racing career in France, where he won three of seven starts and finished third in the 2005 Prix de Pontarme. He has won eight of his 18 career starts and has bankrolled \$289,591.

Istan was bred in Kentucky by Dario Hinojosa. The bay homebred is the first foal out of the multiple group stakes-winning Bluebird mare Ronda (GB), who scored her biggest victories in Europe at age three in the Greene King Falmouth Stakes (Eng-G2) and the Prix de Sandringham (Fr-G3).

Ronda also was multiple graded stakes-placed following her importation to the United States. In her final start at age four, in the 2000 Just a Game Breeders' Cup Handicap (G3), she finished a game nose behind the year's eventual champion turf female Perfect Sting.

Ronda's pedigree is remarkable in that her sire and broodmare sire, Java Gold, both share a common grandam, the Tim Tam mare Dusky Evening.

Istan's Group 3-winning third dam, Memory Lane, is a full sister to Europe's 1971 Horse of the Year and successful stallion Mill Reef. This also is the family of Irish group winners and sires Peterhof, Western Symphony, and Moscow Ballet.

Currently, Istan has an unraced two-year-old full brother. He also has a yearling sister and weanling brother, both by Gone West's son, Elusive Quality.

Istan hails from the fourteenth crop of Gone West, one of Mr. Prospector's most influential sons at stud.

Gone West stood for \$125,000 in 2007 at Mill Ridge Farm in Lex-

Istan, b. h., 2002

Gone West 84 1041 fls, 87 SWs SI 2.67 DI=4.52	Mr. Prospector 70 7 wins, \$112,171, SW 1178 fls, 181 SWs SI 5.08 DI=3.95	Raise a Native 61 838 fls, 78 SWs SI 3.14 DI=1.57	Native Dancer 50	Polynesian 42 Geisha 43
	Secrettame 78 6 wins, \$101,598, SW 15 fls, 3 SWs DI=3.17	Gold Digger 62 12 fls, 3 SWs DI=2.23	Raise You 46	Case Ace 34 Lady Glory 34
Tamerett 62 8 fls, 5 SWs DI=3.62		Secretariat 70 653 fls, 57 SWs SI 3.46 DI=3.00	Nashua 52	*Nasrullah 40 Segula 42
	Bluebird 84 4 wins, \$152,063 Champion 1443 fls, 78 SWs SI 1.09 DI=3.31	Storm Bird 78 681 fls, 63 SWs SI 3.10 DI=3.25	Sequence 46	Count Fleet 40 Miss Dogwood 39
Secretariat 70 653 fls, 57 SWs SI 3.46 DI=3.00			Bold Ruler 54	*Nasrullah 40 Miss Disco 44
Ronda (GB) 96 3 fls, 1 SW DI=2.47	Ivory Dawn 78 10 fls, 1 SW DI=3.19	Northern Dancer 61	Somethingroyal 52	*Princequillo 40 Imperatrice 38
			Java Gold 84 349 fls, 19 SWs SI 1.34 DI=1.04	Tim Tam 55
Memory's Gold 91 1 win, \$6,722 5 fls, 2 SWs DI=1.84	Memory Lane 73 9 fls, 1 SW DI=3.73	Sir Ivor 65	*Mixed Marriage 52	*Tudor Minstrel 44 *Persian Maid 47
			Key to the Mint 69	Nearctic 54 Natalma 57
Never Bend 60	Milan Mill 62	South Ocean 67	*Graustark 63 Key Bridge 59	New Providence 56 Shining Sun 62
		Dusky Evening 67	Sir Gaylord 59 Attica 53	Sir Gaylord 59 Attica 53
Javamine 73	Never Bend 60	Key to the Mint 69	*Tim Tam 55 Home by Dark 59	*Tim Tam 55 Home by Dark 59
		Javamine 73	Nijinsky II 67 Dusky Evening 67	*Nasrullah 40 Lalun 52
Milan Mill 62	*Princequillo 40 Virginia Water 53	Never Bend 60	*Nasrullah 40 Lalun 52	*Nasrullah 40 Lalun 52
		Milan Mill 62	*Princequillo 40 Virginia Water 53	*Princequillo 40 Virginia Water 53

ington. Istan is his sire's 48th graded or group stakes winner.

Gone West and his developing male line continues to do particularly well with mares carrying the blood of Sir Gaylord whose half brother, Secretariat, is Gone West's broodmare sire.

By a sire-of-sires from a family of sires, Istan certainly has the pedigree to be deemed a valued stallion prospect. Having secured his first graded stakes victory does not hurt matters, either.

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



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