



PEDIGREE PROFILE

Noble Court becomes first stakes winner from Grindstone mare

By Rommy Faversham

Favored Noble Court was all out to earn his first stakes victory on Sunday as he held off Law Breaker by a neck to capture the \$150,000 San Vicente Stakes (G2) at Santa Anita Park.



Benoit & Associates photo

The bay three-year-old Doneraile Court colt completed seven furlongs in 1:23.12 over a wet-fast track. In his previous start, he was third to E Z Warrior in the San Miguel Stakes on January 7. His career mark now stands at two wins from five starts with earnings of \$131,600.

Bred in Kentucky by Brereton C. Jones, Noble Court was a \$190,000 purchase at the Ocala Breeders' Sales Co.'s March sale of selected two-year-olds in training.

Noble Court is the first foal out of the unplaced mare Grey Dawn Grey. He also represents the first stakes winner out of a Grindstone mare.

Noble Court's grandam Magnificent Dawn, a minor stakes winner in Mexico, also produced Real Cash, by Tank's Prospect, who won the 1990 San Felipe Handicap (G2) prior to finishing 11th to Unbridled (our subject's maternal great-grand sire) in the Kentucky Derby (G1).

Noble Court's stakes-winning fourth dam, Nevada Marga, foaled Shirley's Champion, a Grade 2-winning Southern California sprinter, during the mid-70s.

Probing further back, Noble Court's eighth dam, Science, produced Ciencia (1936, by *Cohort), the first of only three fillies (along with Hall of Famers Silver Spoon and Winning Colors) to win the Santa Anita Derby (G1).

Noble Court hails from the fourth crop of the Seattle Slew stallion Doneraile Court, winner of the 1998 Nashua Stakes (G3), at two, and the 1999 Jerome Handicap (G2), at three. Doneraile Court, who stands for \$10,000 at Stonewall Farm in Versailles, Kentucky, also is the sire of 2003 Norfolk Stakes (G2) winner Ruler's Court.

Noble Court is a five-generation outcross. The closest inbreeding pattern within his pedigree is the 4X5 cross of Dunce and his full sister Cap and Bells. This uncommon tandem has already appeared in a number of major stakes winners, including 1999 Acorn Stakes (G1) winner Three Ring.

In terms of stamina, Noble Court's Triple Crown aspirations are

Noble Court, b. c., 2004

Doneraile Court 96 364 fls, 13 SWs SI 1.02 DI=2.20	Seattle Slew 74 14 wins, \$1,208,726 Champion 1050 fls, 114 SWs SI 4.76 DI=2.14	Bold Reasoning 68 61 fls, 10 SWs SI 4.95 DI=3.80	Boldnesian 63	Bold Ruler 54 Alanesian 54
		My Charmer 69 12 fls, 4 SWs DI=0.94	Reason to Earn 63	Hail to Reason 58 Sailing Home 48
	Sophisticated Girl 80 2 wins, \$122,066, Spl 10 fls, 1 SW DI=2.29	Stop the Music 70 667 fls, 46 SWs SI 1.76 DI=2.23	Poker 63	Round Table 54 Glamour 53
		Close Control 68 12 fls, 0 SWs DI=2.25	Fair Charmer 59	Jet Action 51 Myrtle Charm 46
Grey Dawn Grey 00 2 fls, 1 SW DI=2.16	Grindstone 93 3 wins, \$1,224,510, SW 362 fls, 13 SWs SI 1.53 DI=1.91	Unbridled 87 566 fls, 48 SWs SI 3.76 DI=1.70	Hail to Reason 58	*Turn-to 51 Nothridchance 48
		Buzz My Bell 81 11 fls, 3 SWs DI=4.78	Bebopper 62	Tom Fool 49 *Bebop II 57
	Magnificent Dawn 79 2 wins, \$19,350, SW 11 fls, 1 SW DI=2.52	*Grey Dawn II 62 746 fls, 73 SWs SI 2.12 DI=0.47	Dunce 56	Tom Fool 49 Ghazzi 42
		Nevada Lark 70 14 fls, 2 SWs DI=17.67	Self Control 55	Better Self 45 Alibhai Rose 49
Grey Dawn Grey 00 2 fls, 1 SW DI=2.16	Grindstone 93 3 wins, \$1,224,510, SW 362 fls, 13 SWs SI 1.53 DI=1.91	Fappiano 77	Mr. Prospector 70 Killaloe 70	
		Gana Facil 81	*Le Fabuleux 61 Charedi 76	
	Magnificent Dawn 79 2 wins, \$19,350, SW 11 fls, 1 SW DI=2.52	*Herbager 56	Drone 66	Sir Gayford 59 Cap and Bells 58
Grey Dawn Grey 00 2 fls, 1 SW DI=2.16	Magnificent Dawn 79 2 wins, \$19,350, SW 11 fls, 1 SW DI=2.52	Chateaupavia 66	Chateaugay 60 Glenspavia 54	
		*Polamia 55	=Vandale (Fr) 43 =Flagette (Fr) 51	
	Nevada Lark 70 14 fls, 2 SWs DI=17.67	T. V. Lark 57	*Mahmoud 33 Ampola 49	
Grey Dawn Grey 00 2 fls, 1 SW DI=2.16	Magnificent Dawn 79 2 wins, \$19,350, SW 11 fls, 1 SW DI=2.52	Nevada Marga 63	*Indian Hemp 49 Miss Larksfly 48 Have Tux 57 Marga 52	

certainly not hampered by having two Kentucky Derby-winning grand-sires, Seattle Slew and Grindstone.

He is scheduled to make his next start on March 17 in the 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ -mile San Felipe Stakes (G2)—as noted, a race won 17 years ago by his close relative, Real Cash.

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

San Vicente Stakes winners who won the Kentucky Derby (G1)

Year	Horse	Sire
1997	Silver Charm	Silver Buck
1969	Majestic Prince	Raise a Native
1965	Lucky Debonair	Vertex
1955	Swaps	*Khaled
1952	Hill Gail	Bull Lea
1940	Gallahadion	*Sir Gallahad III