



## PEDIGREE PROFILE

# Adriano's pedigree is strong credential for classic success

by Rommy Faversham

Adriano, a strapping three-year-old colt thought to perform best on grass, gave his connections ample cause to reconsider his prospects for the upcoming Triple Crown races when he coasted to an impressive 2½-length victory in the Lane's End Stakes (G2) on March 22 at Turfway Park.



Pat Lang photo

The win marked the first in a stakes for Adriano, who completed 1½ miles on the synthetic all-weather Polytrack surface in 1:50.20.

The chestnut A.P. Indy colt entered off a ninth-place finish in the Fountain of Youth Stakes (G2) at Gulfstream Park on February 24, his first start on a conventional dirt track. The Graham Motion trainee's two previous triumphs, a maiden special weight race in August at Saratoga Race Course and an allowance race on January 11 at Gulfstream, both were on turf at 1⅙ miles.

The victory in the Lane's End improved Adriano's record to three wins from seven career starts with earnings of 387,700. His graded stakes total of \$310,000 should be more than sufficient to secure him a spot in the field for the Kentucky Derby Presented by Yum! Brands (G1).

As the American classics approach, however, it may be Adriano's pedigree that serves as this colt's strongest credential.

Owned and bred in Kentucky by Don Adam's Courtlandt Farms, Adriano hails from the 12th crop of the breed-shaping Seattle Slew stallion A.P. Indy and is one of his sire's 65 graded or group stakes winners.

Adriano also became the 180th graded or group stakes winner out of a daughter of Mr. Prospector, a multiple leading broodmare sire in the United States. Seattle Slew and Mr. Prospector both descend from the family of the influential matriarch Myrtlewood.

The cross of A.P. Indy with Mr. Prospector mares continues to be one of most successful contemporary high-end breeding strategies. Representatives include 2003 Horse of the Year Mineshaft, 2001 juvenile filly champion Tempera, multiple Grade 1 winner Tomisues Delight, and multiple Grade 2 winner and sire Pulpit.

### Adriano, ch. c., 2005

|   |   |   |                            |  |
|---|---|---|----------------------------|--|
| A.P. Indy 89<br>890 fls, 111 SWs<br>SI 4.04 DI=2.54 | Seattle Slew 74<br>14 wins, \$1,208,726<br>Champion<br>1050 fls, 114 SWs<br>SI 4.76 DI=2.14 | Bold Reasoning 68<br>61 fls, 10 SWs<br>SI 4.95 DI=3.80  | Boldnesian 63              | Bold Ruler 54<br>Alanesian 54          |
|   | Weekend Surprise 80<br>7 wins, \$402,892, SW<br>14 fls, 4 SWs<br>DI=2.64                    | My Charmer 69<br>12 fls, 4 SWs<br>DI=0.94               | Reason to Earn 63          | Hail to Reason 58<br>Sailing Home 48   |
|   |   | Secretariat 70<br>653 fls, 57 SWs<br>SI 3.46 DI=3.00    | Poker 63                   | Round Table 54<br>Glamour 53           |
| Gold Canyon 96<br>3 fls, 1 SW<br>DI=3.84            | Mr. Prospector 70<br>7 wins, \$112,171, SW<br>1178 fls, 181 SWs<br>SI 5.08 DI=3.95          | Lassie Dear 74<br>13 fls, 4 SWs<br>DI=2.11              | Fair Charmer 59            | *Nasrullah 40<br>Miss Disco 44         |
|   |   | Raise a Native 61<br>838 fls, 78 SWs<br>SI 3.14 DI=1.57 | Bold Ruler 54              | *Princequillo 40<br>Imperatrice 38     |
|   | Golden Treat 89<br>3 wins, \$348,438, SW<br>5 fls, 1 SW<br>DI=2.43                          | Gold Digger 62<br>12 fls, 3 SWs<br>DI=2.23              | Somethingroyal 52          | Buckpasser 63                          |
| Golden Canyon 96<br>3 fls, 1 SW<br>DI=3.84          | Theatrical (Ire) 82<br>933 fls, 74 SWs<br>SI 3.07 DI=1.35                                   | Gay Missile 67  | Native Dancer 50           | Sir Gaylord 59<br>Missy Baba 58        |
|   |   | Golden Dust 72<br>16 fls, 3 SWs<br>DI=4.09              | Raise You 46               | Polynesian 42<br>Geisha 43             |
|   | Tree of Knowledge (Ire) 77  | Nashua 52   | Sequence 46                | Native Dancer 50                       |
| Golden Canyon 96<br>3 fls, 1 SW<br>DI=3.84          | Golden Dust 72<br>16 fls, 3 SWs<br>DI=4.09  | Nureyev 77  | Raise You 46               | *Nasrullah 40<br>Segula 42             |
|   |   | Dusty Canyon 62   | Nashua 52                  | Count Fleet 40<br>Miss Dogwood 39      |
| Golden Canyon 96<br>3 fls, 1 SW<br>DI=3.84          | Golden Dust 72<br>16 fls, 3 SWs<br>DI=4.09  | Turn to Joy 65  | Sequence 46                | *Nasrullah 40<br>Segula 42             |
|   |   | Tree of Knowledge (Ire) 77                              | Nureyev 77                 | Count Fleet 40<br>Miss Dogwood 39      |
| Golden Canyon 96<br>3 fls, 1 SW<br>DI=3.84          | Golden Dust 72<br>16 fls, 3 SWs<br>DI=4.09  | Tree of Knowledge (Ire) 77                              | Tree of Knowledge (Ire) 77 | Northern Dancer 61<br>Special 69       |
|   |   | Turn to Joy 65  | Turn to Joy 65             | Sassafras (Fr) 67<br>Sensibility 71    |
| Golden Canyon 96<br>3 fls, 1 SW<br>DI=3.84          | Golden Dust 72<br>16 fls, 3 SWs<br>DI=4.09  | Turn to Joy 65  | Turn to Joy 65             | *Fleet Nasrullah 55<br>Miz Danielle 55 |
|   |   | Tree of Knowledge (Ire) 77                              | Tree of Knowledge (Ire) 77 | *Turn-to 51<br>First Add 58            |

Adriano is one of two winners out of the winning mare Gold Canyon. His grandam, Golden Treat, who captured the 1992 Santa Anita Oaks (G1), is a half sister to 1987 Belmont Stakes (G1) winner and Kentucky Derby runner-up Bet Twice and to '80 Del Mar Futurity (G2) winner Bold and Gold.

Spanning his extended family, Adriano's ninth dam, Nellie Morse, was the last filly to win the Preakness Stakes [in 1924]. Her daughter and Adriano's eighth dam, Nellie Flag, was the first champion bred by legendary Calumet Farm. The Nellie Flag tribe would later produce champions Mar-Kell and 1976 Kentucky Derby and Belmont Stakes winner Bold Forbes.

At this stage, if one had to speculate whether Adriano is really a turf/Polytrack specialist or a bonafide classics contender, it might be wise to side with the latter.

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