



Yankee Bravo's pedigree features close family ties

by **Rommy Faversham**

Unbeaten three-year-old Yankee Bravo transferred his top form to the main track on January 27 with an impressive one-length victory in the \$150,000 California Derby at Golden Gate Fields.



Vassar Photography

The Yankee Gentleman colt completed the 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ -mile contest in 1:44.57 on the all-weather Tapeta Footings surface.

Yankee Bravo debuted in England as a juvenile with a six-length score on grass at Redcar on September 6. Fol-

YANKEE BRAVO

lowing that performance, the Kentucky-bred colt was purchased privately and shipped back to the United States. He entered the California Derby off a grass win on December 29 at Santa Anita Park in the Eddie Logan Stakes, where he confidently split horses in mid-stretch to earn a half-length victory.

Yankee Bravo's record stands at three wins from as many starts with \$142,049 in earnings.

Bred by Tommy Burberry and Barry Hay, Yankee Bravo is the first starter out of the unraced Royal Academy mare Vicky Jane. The dark bay or brown colt originally was sold for \$17,000 in the 2006 Fasig-Tipton Kentucky July yearling sale.

Yankee Bravo has an unraced two-year-old half sister by Runaway Groom and a yearling full sister.

His grandam, Prima Gioia (Brz), is a full sister to Siphon (Brz), winner of the 1996 Hollywood Gold Cup (G1) and '97 Santa Anita Handicap (G1). He currently stands at Pin Oak Lane Farm in Pennsylvania.

This tribe, deep with Brazilian roots, also is represented by recent graded stakes winners Cool Conductor and Spring House.

Yankee Bravo hails from the first crop of the Storm Cat stallion Yankee Gentleman, who stands at Airdrie Stud in Midway, Kentucky, for \$7,500.

Out of Grade 1 winner Key Phrase, Yankee Gentleman's best performance was his victory as a four-year-old in the Pirate's Bounty Handicap, in which he covered six furlongs in a sizzling 1:07.80 at Del Mar. It is then fitting that he descends from the family of leading California sire Pirate's Bounty.

Yankee Bravo represents his sire's second stakes winner. Yankee Gentleman also is the sire of multiple stakes winner Golden Yank.

Yankee Bravo, dk. b. or br. c., 2005				
Yankee Gentleman 99 88 fls, 2 SWs SI 2.45 DI=2.43	Storm Cat 83 4 wins, \$570,610, SW 1228 fls, 158 SWs SI 4.18 DI=4.00	Storm Bird 78 681 fls, 63 SWs SI 3.10 DI=3.25	Northern Dancer 61	Nearctic 54 Natalma 57
	Key Phrase 91 5 wins, \$233,300, SW 10 fls, 1 SW DI=1.40	Terlingua 76 11 fls, 2 SWs DI=3.63	South Ocean 67	New Providence 56 Shining Sun 62
		Flying Paster 76 428 fls, 48 SWs SI 2.45 DI=4.33	Secretariat 70	Crimson Saint 69
Vicky Jane 01 2 fls, 1 SW DI=1.00	Royal Academy 87 4 wins, \$758,994 Champion 1951 fls, 148 SWs SI 1.61 DI=1.25	Sown 83 8 fls, 1 SW DI=1.26	Gummo 62	Crimson Satan 59 Bolero Rose 58
	Prima Gioia (Brz) 89 1 win 6 fls, 0 SWs DI=0.60	Nijinsky II 67 851 fls, 155 SWs SI 5.77 DI=3.00	Procne 69	Fleet Nasrullah 55 Alabama Gal 57
		Crimson Saint 69 11 fls, 4 SWs DI=8.00	Grenfall 68	*Acroterion 62 *Phiomela 54
	=Itajara (Brz) 83 225 fls, 15 SWs SI 13.63 DI=0.60	Bad Seed 69	Bad Seed 69	*Steward 59 *Rich and Rare II 55
	=Ebraea (Brz) 79 11 fls, 1 SW DI=1.18	Northern Dancer 61	Flaming Page 59	Nearctic 54 Natalma 57 Bull Page 47 Flaring Top 47
		Crimson Saint 69	Crimson Satan 59	Spy Song 43 *Papila 43
		*Felicio 65	Bolero Rose 58	Bolero 46 First Rose 46
		=Apple Honey (Brz) 75		=Shantung (Fr) 56 *Fighting Ede 56
		=Kublai Khan (Arg) 68		=Falkland (GB) 68 =Irish Song (Brz) 64
		=Resela (Brz) 71		=Sideral (Arg) 48 =Fantasista (Arg) 59
				=Svengali (Brz) 53 =Eridan (Brz) 61

Of particular note, Yankee Bravo's two grand sires, Storm Cat and Royal Academy, are close relatives. Their cross creates the fortuitous duplication of the influential matriarch Crimson Saint, herself an ultra-fleet track record setter in the early 1970s.

This strong blend of Storm Cat with his immediate kin Royal Academy also serves to connect their sires, Storm Bird and Nijinsky II, two leading sons of Northern Dancer who already share a well-known affinity for each other.

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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