



Mona de Momma's family tree continues to bear fruit

by Rommy Faversham

Last Saturday's rain-soaked Kentucky Derby Presented by Yum! Brands (G1) undercard at Churchill Downs featured a furious late charge on the outside from Mona de Momma, propelling the four-year old Speightstown filly to a three-quarter-length victory in the \$336,900 Humana Distaff Stakes (G1).

Sent off as the 8.60-to-1 fourth choice in the field of nine, the Southern California shipper completed the seven furlongs in 1:22.73 on the sealed, sloppy track.



PHOTOS BY ZACK BENTLEY FOR EQUUS MAGAZINE

The win marked the second consecutive victory for Mona de Momma, who scored by a head in the Las Flores Handicap (G3) on April 4 at Santa Anita Park. Her lifetime record improved to five wins from 11 starts and earnings of \$377,619.

MONA DE MOMMA

Bred in Kentucky by Kim Nardelli, Rodney Nardelli, R. C. Durr, and Dr. Michael Spirito, the bay filly brought \$100,000 at the 2007 Fasig-Tipton Kentucky selected fall yearling sale. The following year she fetched \$330,000 at the Ocala Breeders' Sales Co. March sale of selected of two-year-olds in training.

Mona de Momma is one of four winners from eight starters out of the Linkage mare Society Gal. She is the dam of a pair of stakes-placed winners, including Jigadee, by Prospectors Gamble, who was multiple graded stakes-placed as a two-year old.

This is an immediate family with plenty of pizzazz.

Mona de Momma is built on the same cross that produced multiple graded stakes winner and influential sire Mr. Greeley, whose parents, Gone West and Long Legend, are our subject's paternal grandsire and grandam, respectively.

From relatively few opportunities, Linkage broodmares have done well with Speightstown's male line, having already issued Grade 1-winning filly Link River, by Gone West.

Society Gal's stakes-winning half sister, Majestic Legend, is the second dam of Street Sense, the first and only winner of both the Breeders' Cup Juvenile (G1) (2006) and the Kentucky Derby (G1) ('07).

Mona de Momma b. f., 2006

Speightstown 98 252 fls, 15 SWs SI 2.47 DI=4.00	Gone West 84 6 wins, \$682,251, SW 1201 fls, 98 SWs SI 2.49 DI=4.52	Mr. Prospector 70 1178 fls, 181 SWs SI 5.08 DI=3.95	Raise a Native 61	Native Dancer 50 Raise You 46 Nashua 52 Sequence 46
	Silken Cat 93 3 wins, \$102,120 Champion 7 fls, 1 SW DI=4.33	Secrettame 78 15 fls, 3 SWs DI=3.17	Secretariat 70	Bold Ruler 54 Somethingroyal 52 Tim Tam 55 *Mixed Marriage 52
		Storm Cat 83 1394 fls, 174 SWs SI 3.98 DI=4.00	Tamerett 62	Storm Bird 78 Terlingua 76
Society Gal 90 8 fls, 1 SW DI=3.25	Linkage 79 11 wins, \$410,013, SW 350 fls, 10 SWs SI 1.17 DI=2.03	Silken Doll 80 11 fls, 3 SWs DI=2.33	Chieftain 61	Bold Ruler 55 Pocahontas 55 Buckpasser 63 Copper Canyon 65
		Hoist the Flag 68 246 fls, 51 SWs SI 5.38 DI=0.58	Tom Rolfe 62	*Ribot 52 Pocahontas 55 War Admiral 34 *Tromphe 47
	Long Legend 78 4 wins, \$24,293 16 fls, 2 SWs DI=4.87	Unity Hall 68 8 fls, 3 SWs DI=3.89	Wavy Navy 54	Cyane 59 Rum Bottle Bay 59
		Reviewer 66 173 fls, 19 SWs SI 3.23 DI=3.57	Bold Ruler 54	*Nasrullah 40 Miss Disco 44 Hasty Road 51 Flitabout 45
		Liang 71 10 fls, 1 SW DI=4.60	Dancer's Image 65	Native Dancer 50 Noors Image 53
			Leven Ones 61	Sailor 52 Olympia Dell 53

Mona de Momma's third dam, Lianga, was France's 1975 champion sprinter. She also serves as the third dam of multiple Group 1 winner Danehill Dancer, leading sire in England and Ireland in 2009.

Mona de Momma represents her sire's first U.S. Grade 1 winner. WinStar Farm's Speightstown currently ranks fourth on the 2010 third-crop sire list. The 2004 champion sprinter has sired seven graded or group stakes winners, including multiple Grade 2 winner Munnings and Lord Shanakill, who captured last year's Etihad Airways Prix Jean Prat (Fr-G1) at Chantilly.

Perhaps the most remarkable, if not valuable, pattern of inbreeding within Mona de Momma's pedigree is the 4x4 cross of half brothers Chieftain and Tom Rolfe, which leads to the duplication of their common dam, 1965 Broodmare of the Year Pocahontas.

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