



PEDIGREE PROFILE

by Rommy Faversham

Devilish Lady's pedigree features close cross of full brothers

Three-year old filly Devilish Lady was all out to hold off a strong late run from White Merlot to earn her first graded stakes victory in the \$150,000 Azalea Stakes (G3) on July 9 at Calder Race Course.



DEVILISH LADY
Jim Lisa photo

Claimed as a two-year old for \$16,000 last September, the Sweetsouthern saint filly won by a head and improved her career mark to eight wins from 17 lifetime starts with her lifetime bankroll expanding to \$394,790.

Devilish Lady was bred in Florida by Lewis Family Stables

Partnership. Indeed, the majority of her immediate family on both sides arise from the Sunshine State.

She is the youngest of nine winners from as many starters out of the Diablo mare Devilish Brunette, a multiple stakes winner at Calder, her biggest win coming as a two-year-old in the 1996 Desert Vixen division of the Florida Stallions Stakes series.

Devilish Lady is the first graded stakes winner to appear under her first four dams. One needs to trace back into her extended female family to appreciate its few clusters of important descendants.

Her female tail line was initially developed by Col. E. R. Bradley, who bred Devilish Lady's eighth dam, Blind Date, a full sister to 1919 co-champion two-year-old filly Miss Jemima. She also is a close relative to key sires Blue Larkspur and Relic.

More recently, Devilish Lady's third, fourth and fifth dams were the work of racing icon Cornelius V. Whitney. Her fifth dam, the stakes-winning Counterpoint mare Honey Dear has, through a different branch, become best known as the fourth dam of the half siblings Birdstone, winner of the 2004 Belmont Stakes (G1), and Bird Town, winner of the 2003 Kentucky Oaks (G1) and champion three-year-old filly. Both were bred and campaigned by Whitney's intrepid widow, Marylou.

Devilish Lady hails from the seventh American crop of the Saint Ballado stallion Sweetsouthern saint and is the latest of her sire's three U.S. graded stakes winners.

Devilish Lady, dk. b. or br. f., 2008

Sweetsouthern saint 95 387 fls, 17 SWs SI 1.18 DI=1.22	Saint Ballado 89 4 wins, \$302,820, SW 702 fls, 70 SWs SI 2.45 DI=1.42	Halo 69 724 fls, 63 SWs SI 3.40 DI=2.14	Hail to Reason 58	*Turn-to 51 Nothridchance 48
	Sweetsouthern cross 83 Placed, \$7,285 11 fls, 1 SW DI=1.67	Ballade 72 13 fls, 4 SWs DI=0.41	Cosmah 53	Cosmic Bomb 44 Almahmoud 47
		Tri Jet 69 504 fls, 48 SWs SI 1.68 DI=3.47	*Herbager 56	=Vandale (Fr) 43 =Flagette (Fr) 51
Devilish Brunette 94 9 fls, 1 SW DI=2.14	Diablo 87 9 wins, \$482,050, SW 608 fls, 25 SWs SI 0.97 DI=3.00	Starsweet 69 9 fls, 1 SW DI=1.00	Miss Swapsco 65	Cohoes 54 Soaring 60
	Appealing Brunette 88 Unraced 12 fls, 1 SW DI=1.95	Devil's Bag 81 955 fls, 46 SWs SI 1.94 DI=1.42	Jester 55	Tom Fool 49 Golden Apple 45
		Avilion 74 10 fls, 1 SW DI=7.80	Haze 53	Olympia 46 Blue Castle 38
	Valid Appeal 72 790 fls, 88 SWs SI 2.18 DI=2.79	Pia Star 61	Olympia 46 Inquisitive 54	Bar Le Duc 53 Solita 39
	Dear Brunette 80 13 fls, 1 SW DI=1.38	Solabar 60	Halo 69	Hail to Reason 58 Cosmah 53
			Ballade 72	*Herbager 56 Miss Swapsco 65
			Cornish Prince 62	Bold Ruler 54 Teleran 54
			Style and Grace 64	Olympia 46 Plucky Roman 54
			In Reality 64	Intentionally 56 My Dear Girl 57
			Desert Trial 63	Moslem Chief 57 Scotch Verdict 60
			Banquet Table 74	Round Table 54 Silver Bright 63
			Shoo Dear 71	Nashua 52 Honey Dear 58

Sold last year after standing at Ocala Stud, Sweetsouthern saint currently serves at Haras El Aguila in Panama.

Devilish Lady is the first graded stakes winner demonstrating a cross of the full brothers and influential sires, Saint Ballado and Devil's Bag, the pair bred by premier Canadian horseman E. P. Taylor.

Close inbreeding to full brothers along the male line of both parents is a novel genealogical approach that has appeared within the pedigrees of European monarchs for more than a millennium.

In this, the sport of kings, it is an unusual, but perhaps more auspicious pattern of mating.

Devilish Lady's pedigree is also supported by a triple dose of the important progenitor Olympia, all three appearances in the fifth generation.

Legendary Florida breeder Fred W. Hooper, who bred Sweetsouthern saint's dam Sweetsouthern cross, enjoyed decades of success through the practice of inbreeding to Olympia, his brilliant purveyor of speed.

A former mid-to-low level claimer, Devilish Lady a filly with an interesting pedigree to ponder.

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