



PEDIGREE PROFILE

by Rommy Faversham

Priores winner's family tree reveals plenty of Hidden Talent

By Rommy Faversham

Nearing the eighth pole, Her Smile gamely rallied through a narrow opening at the rail—the winning move en route to a stirring half-length victory in the Prioress Stakes (G1) for three-year-old fillies on July 4 at Belmont Park.

The six-furlong race was the first graded stakes win for the Include filly, who clearly seems better at sprint distances. From five starts under seven furlongs she has four victories, but she is winless at five starts at one mile or beyond. She has career earnings of \$316,360 from her four wins, two seconds, and two thirds from her ten career starts.



HER SMILE

Adam Coglianesse/NYRA photo

Her Smile descends from an exceedingly quiet branch of the otherwise highly influential clan of *La Troienne, her eighth dam. She is, in fact, the first North American graded stakes winner to appear under her first four dams.

The dark bay or brown filly is one of

four winners from as many starters out of the winning Capote mare Hepburn, who also has an unraced two-year-old full brother to Her Smile.

Her Smile was bred in Virginia by William M. Backer, who also is the breeder of her first two dams. A restricted stakes winner at two, she was purchased privately in April by celebrity chef Bobby Flay.

Her pedigree was very cleverly planned and represents a second consecutive generation of inbreeding to the family of Broad Brush, Her Smile's paternal grandsire.

Her Smile's sire, Grade 1 winner Include, is inbred, 4x5, to 1959 Kentucky Oaks winner Hidden Talent through her daughters Turn to Talent and Too Bald, the former the grandam of Broad Brush, the latter the dam of Baldski, sire of Include's grandam.

In turn, Her Smile's dam, Hepburn, provides a third complementary strain of this tribe via her sire, Capote, another im-

Her Smile, dk. or br. f., 2008

Include 97 450 fls, 18 SWs SI 1.46 DI=3.17	Broad Brush 83 14 wins, \$2,656,793, SW 668 fls, 94 SWs SI 2.63 DI=3.38	Ack Ack 66 580 fls, 54 SWs SI 2.30 DI=3.36	Battle Joined 59	Armageddon 49 Ethel Walker 53
	I'lleria 87 10 wins, \$392,691, SW 13 fls, 4 SWs DI=1.92	Hay Patcher 73 12 fls, 3 SWs DI=2.60	Fast Turn 59	*Turn to 51 Cherokee Rose 51
		Stop the Music 70 667 fls, 46 SWs SI 1.76 DI=2.23	Hoist the Flag 68	Tom Rolfe 62 Way Navy 54
Hepburn 97 4 fls, 1 SW DI=3.29	Capote 84 3 wins, \$714,470 Champion 824 fls, 62 SWs SI 1.84 DI=3.00	Baldski's Holiday 81 8 fls, 2 SWs DI=2.14	Turn to Talent 63	*Turn to 51 Hidden Talent 56
		Seattle Slew 74 1050 fls, 114 SWs SI 4.76 DI=2.14	Hail to Reason 58	*Turn to 51 Nothridchance 48
	Too Bald 64 12 fls, 5 SWs DI=7.67	Bebopper 62	Tom Fool 49 *Bebop II 57	
	Favored Lady 89 5 wins, \$113,285, SW 4 fls, 0 SWs DI=3.17	Baldski 74	Nijinsky II 67 Too Bald 64	
	Fappiano 77 410 fls, 48 SWs SI 4.79 DI=4.78	Verset Holiday 74	Ribots Holiday 68 Verset 69	
	Applause 80 13 fls, 2 SWs DI=1.80	Bold Reasoning 68	Boldnesian 63 Reason to Earn 63	
		My Charmer 69	Poker 63 Fair Charmer 59	
		Bald Eagle 55	*Nasrullah 40 Siama 47	
		Hidden Talent 56	Dark Star 50 *Dangerous Dame 51	
		Mr. Prospector 70	Raise a Native 61 Gold Digger 62	
		Killaloe 70	Dr. Fager 64 Grand Splendor 62	
		Shecky Greene 70	*Noholme II 56 Lester's Pride 57	
		Swan Song 73	*Ribot 52 Diary 65	

portant son of 1986 Broodmare of the Year Too Bald and a third key descendant of Hidden Talent.

Nothing really new, inbreeding to the female family from which both grandsires descend continues to serve as a valuable method in the breeding of superior runners.

On a different note, the Prioress Stakes was named after the first American-bred and -owned Thoroughbred to win a race in England. The four-year old Sovereign filly beat 33 others in Newmarket's 1857 Cesarewitch Stakes at 2½ miles, by taking the runoff that followed a triple dead heat.

Never having the slightest effect as a matriarch, Prioress was a half sister to War Dance and Lecomte, a pair who ultimately became ubiquitous throughout American pedigrees as sires to the second and third dams of the foundation stallion Domino. She was produced by the great racemare Reel.

Her Smile hails from the fifth crop of the Airdrie Stud stallion Include who may, in fact, be the last serious shot to extend Domino's ultratenuous tail-male line.

The future of this line remains iffy as all three of Include's North American graded stakes winners are fillies, albeit Grade 1-winning fillies.

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