



# PEDIGREE PROFILE

by Rommy Faversham

## Stay Thirsty earns some indulgence with winning Gotham effort

On March 5, Stay Thirsty made the most of his three-year old debut, racking up his first stakes victory as he drew off to a 3/4-length victory in the 1/16-mile Gotham Stakes (G3) at Aqueduct.

Last season, the colt's best effort was a creditable runner-up performance to Boys At Tosconova in the Three Chimneys Hopeful



Stakes (G1). In his final start at age two, he finished fifth, 14 1/2 lengths behind stablemate and subsequent two-year-old male champion Uncle Mo in the Grey Goose Breeders' Cup Juvenile (G1) at Churchill Downs.

Bred in Kentucky by John D. Gunther and John Darren

### STAY THIRSTY

Gunther, the dark bay or brown Bernardini colt was a \$500,000 purchase at the 2010 Fasig-Tipton Calder sale of selected two-year-olds in training.

Stay Thirsty might have been overmatched against Uncle Mo in the Breeders' Cup, but now he has a bit of an advantage over the more celebrated colt, as far as his Derby-friendly pedigree is concerned.

Stay Thirsty's female family, much of it developed by famed King Ranch of Texas, is rich with classic influences.

He is the youngest of seven winners from as many starters out of the winning Storm Bird mare Marozia, also the dam of the stakes-winning full brothers Superfly and Andromeda's Hero, by Fusaichi Pegasus, the latter a runner-up to Afleet Alex in the 2005 Belmont Stakes (G1).

Stay Thirsty's stakes-winning grandam, Make Change, by Roberto, was Grade 1-placed on eight occasions.

The sires of his second, third, fourth and fifth dams all were classic winners, while his fifth dam, Equal Venture, was a full sister to 1946 Triple Crown winner Assault.

The matrilineal icing on the cake: Stay Thirsty's eighth dam Masda was a full sister to the great Man o' War.

David Alcosser/NYRA photo

### Stay Thirsty, dk. b. or br. c., 2008

Bernardini 03 183 fls, 5 SWs SI 4.46 DI=3.19	A.P. Indy 89 8 wins, \$5,959,630 Champion 1094 fls, 136 SWs SI 3.84 DI=2.54	Seattle Slew 74 1050 fls, 114 SWs SI 4.76 DI=2.14	Bold Reasoning 68	Boldnesian 63 Reason to Earn 63
		Weekend Surprise 80 14 fls, 4 SWs DI=2.64	My Charmer 69	Poker 63 Fair Charmer 59
	Cara Rafaela 93 4 wins, \$884,452, SW 10 fls, 1 SW DI=4.54	Quiet American 86 825 fls, 54 SWs SI 1.60 DI=4.40	Secretariat 70	Bold Ruler 54 Somethingroyal 52
Marozia 94 8 fls, 3 SWs DI=1.73	Storm Bird 78 5 wins, \$177,244 Champion 681 fls, 63 SWs SI 3.10 DI=3.25	Oil Fable 86 13 fls, 2 SWs DI=3.75	Lassie Dear 74	Buckpasser 63 Gay Missile 67
			Fappiano 77	Mr. Prospector 70 Killaloe 70
	Northern Dancer 61 635 fls, 147 SWs SI 5.82 DI=3.00	South Ocean 67 12 fls, 4 SWs DI=1.00	Demure 77	Dr. Fager 64 Quiet Charm 71
			Spectacular Bid 76	Bold Bidder 62 Spectacular 70
			Northern Fable 78	<b>Northern Dancer 61</b> Fairway Fable 71
		Roberto 69 500 fls, 85 SWs SI 3.90 DI=2.50	Nearctic 54	=Nearco (Itly) 35 *Lady Angela 44
Make Change 85 5 wins, \$506,338, SW 8 fls, 1 SW DI=1.44	Equal Change 72 9 fls, 2 SWs DI=0.82	Natalma 57	Native Dancer 50 Almahmoud 47	
		New Providence 56	Bull Page 47 *Fair Colleen 50	
		Shining Sun 62	Chop Chop 40 Solar Display 51	
		Hail to Reason 58	*Turn to 51 Nothridchance 48	
		Bramalea 59	Nashua 52 Rarelea 49	
		Arts and Letters 66	*Ribot 52 All Beautiful 59	
		Fairness 63	*Cavan 55 Equal Venture 53	

Stay Thirsty hails from the first crop of 2006 Preakness Stakes (G1) winner and champion three-year-old male Bernardini, by A.P. Indy

Having supplanted even his own breed-shaping sire to become a very popular choice as first mate for racing's darling Zenyatta, Bernardini could go on to rock star status if he can strike gold with his first set of classic hopefuls. So far, he is primarily represented by Stay Thirsty and highly regarded multiple Grade 2 winner To Serve and Honor.

Bernardini's dam, Cara Rafaela, was a Grade 1 winner at two when, perhaps with a little better racing luck, she might have earned two-year-old champion filly honors.

Stay Thirsty's intuitive title is a useful reminder of that essential element within a three-year old's character as horse and handler pursue that ever so coveted blanket of roses.

Stay Thirsty, my friend.

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