



PEDIGREE PROFILE

by Rommy Faversham

Downhill queen Unzip Me gives 'em the slip

Determined as ever, Unzip Me padded her remarkable résumé with a sparkling half-length score in the \$86,600 Wishing Well Stakes on January 29 at Santa Anita Park.

Unzip Me posted her sixth stakes victory on the track's unique downhill turf course, which wends a distance of about 6½ furlongs. Indeed, this makes her the most accomplished female in Santa Anita's 57-year history of running these novel sprint events.

Stakes namesake, Wishing Well, was an excellent downhill specialist and is the dam of Racing Hall of Famer and Japan's all-time leading sire Sunday Silence.

Quite appropriately then, Wishing Well enjoyed her best years of racing while co-owned and trained by Gary Jones whose son, Marty, just happens to train Unzip Me.

A ten-time stakes winner, Unzip Me has a lifetime record of 14 wins from 25 starts and earnings of \$959,228. On the Arcadia, California, track's specialty course, she has won seven of 11 starts.

Unzip Me was bred in California by Harris Farms and Donald Valpredo, a team that also is responsible for breeding her first three dams.

She is the first winner from three starters out of the winning Arazi mare Escape With Me, who currently carries a full sibling to Unzip Me.

At the heart of this immediate family is Unzip Me's brilliant grandam, Soviet Problem. She was named California's 1994 horse of the year as a four-year-old after she toyed with her peers, beat males on four occasions, and then ran a gallant and perhaps unlucky second to Cherokee Run in the Breeders' Cup Sprint (G1) at Churchill Downs.

On a more personal note, as a former co-owner of one of Soviet Problem's many unfortunate foils, this author still remembers the recently deceased starlet as 'scary fast'.

Unzip Me and her grandam aside, this is a rather mediocre branch of the American female family (number 5-f) best known for

the issuance of the celebrated Grey Flight clan.

Six-year-old Unzip Me hails from the fourth crop of City Zip, who stands at Lane's End in Versailles, Kentucky, for an advertised 2012 fee of \$20,000. The Carson City stallion ranked sixth by 2012 progeny earnings on THOROUGHBRED TIMES' general sire list through Tuesday.

It certainly is unusual for an active sire line to demonstrate a strongly disproportional share of chestnuts among its top progeny, and yet the Carson City branch of Mr. Prospector (such as the Sharpen Up [GB] line in Europe) continues to exhibit this pattern.

In the case of City Zip, 11 of his 12 graded or group stakes winners and the overwhelming majority of his richest offspring have been chestnuts. This despite the genetics and foal records, which predict and confirm that less than half of his total progeny carry his coat color.

Unzip Me's pedigree also features a well-suited duplication of the cross Blushing Groom (Fr) over Nijinsky II through Carson City's dam Blushing Promise and Escape With Me.

This striking emblazoned chestnut, the downhill queen, now appears poised to become a millionaire.

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



UNZIP ME
Benoit & Associates photo

Unzip Me, ch. m., 2006			
City Zip 98 546 fls, 35 SWs SI 1.69 DI=5.77	Carson City 87 6 wins, \$306,240, SW 1025 fls, 100 SWs SI 2.02 DI=2.86	Mr. Prospector 70 1178 fls, 181 SWs SI 5.08 DI=3.95	Raise a Native 61 Gold Digger 62
	Baby Zip 91 4 wins, \$60,395, SW 13 fls, 3 SWs DI=4.71	Blushing Promise 82 1 fl, 1 SW DI=1.71	Blushing Groom (Fr) 74 Summertime Promise 72
Escape With Me 98 5 fls, 1 SW DI=1.29	Arazi 89 9 wins, \$1,212,351 Champion 543 fls, 15 SWs SI 0.94 DI=1.74	Relaunch 76 725 fls, 89 SWs SI 3.05 DI=3.00	In Reality 64 Foggy Note 65
	Soviet Problem 90 15 wins, \$905,546, SW 11 fls, 1 SW DI=1.50	Thirti Zip 83 13 fls, 3 SWs DI=3.57	Tri Jet 69 Sallaway 76
		Blushing Groom (Fr) 74 512 fls, 92 SWs SI 4.76 DI=1.52	Red God 54 Runaway Bride (GB) 62
		Danseur Fabuleux 82 11 fls, 2 SWs DI=1.60	Nijinsky II 67 Prides Promise 66
		Moscow Ballet 82 758 fls, 21 SWs SI 1.31 DI=1.30	Intentionally 56 My Dear Girl 57
		Nopro Blama 84 11 fls, 1 SW DI=35.00	The Axe II 58 Silver Song 57
			Jester 55 Haze 53
			*Hawaii 64 Quick Wit 56
			*Nasrullah 40 Spring Run 48
			=Wild Risk (Fr) 40 =Aimee (GB) 57
			Nearctic 54 Natalma 57
			*Le Fabuleux 61 Native Partner 66
			Northern Dancer 61 Flaming Page 59
			Cornish Prince 62 Milan Mill 62
			Bold Hitter 66 Sabella 59
			Boldnesian 63 Tenserinio 58

GIANT OAK

Giant's Causeway – Crafty Oak, by Crafty Prospector



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