

## Summer Applause carries novel cross of close relatives

Taking the spotlight in her graded stakes debut, Summer Applause overcame a pedestrian pace and a feisty pacesetter to score an impressive one-length victory in the \$194,000 Rachel Alexandra Stakes (G3) at Fair Grounds on February 25.

The three-year-old daughter of Harlan's Holiday was timed in 1:43.30 for the 11/16 miles on a fast track.

With three wins and a second from five lifetime starts, the bay Kentucky homebred is now said to have the Kentucky Oaks (G1) on May 4 at Churchill Downs in her sights.

Bred and co-owned by Greenwood Lodge Farm, Summer Applause failed to meet her reserve on a final bid of \$82,000 at the 2010 Fasig-Tipton Kentucky July yearling sale.

Her unraced dam, the Royal Academy mare Summer Exhibition is a half sister to multiple graded stakes winner Recoup



the Cash, by Copelan, and is the dam of four winners from five starters.

Summer Applause descends from a branch of the female family that became one of the finest among the many successful tribes developed by

premier Canadian horseman E. P. Taylor, who bred her third, fourth, and fifth dams.

Our subject's fourth dam, Northern Queen, was named Canada's 1965 champion three-year old filly.

Family fortunes were initiated when Taylor purchased Summer Applause's sixth dam Iribelle in 1943 for \$1,200. Under his watch, she became the ancestress of three Canadian Horses of the Year, Canadiana, Victoria Park and Viceregal.

Summer Applause hails from the fifth crop of WinStar Farm's Harlan's Holiday and is the latest of her sire's 12 graded or group stakes winners.

Aproven, pure breeding bay (no chestnut offspring), Harlan's Holiday ranked among the top 25 stallions on Thoroughbred Times' general sires list through Tuesday.

Summer Applause represents the first U.S. graded stakes winner to demonstrate the cross of the close relatives Storm

Summer Applause, b. f., 2009				
Harlan's Holiday 99 480 fls, 26 SWs SI 1.73 DI=2.33	Harlan 89 8 wins, \$403,174, SW 99 fls, 6 SWs SI 2.93 DI=3.00	Storm Cat 83 1413 fls, 180 SWs SI 3.79 DI=4.00	Storm Bird 78	Northern Dancer 61 South Ocean 67
			Terlingua 76	Secretariat 70 Crimson Saint 69
		Country Romance 76 9 fls, 1 SW DI=2.60	Halo 69	Hail to Reason 58 Cosmah 53
			Sweet Romance 68	Gun Bow 60 *Suiti 59
	Christmas in Aiken 92 2 wins, \$31,628 11 fls, 1 SW DI=2.73	Affirmed 75 840 fls, 86 SWs SI 2.64 DI=2.08	Exclusive Native 65	Raise a Native 61 Exclusive 53
			Won't Tell You 62	Crafty Admiral 48 Scarlet Ribbon 57
		Dowager 80 10 fls, 0 SWs DI=3.53	Honest Pleasure 73	What a Pleasure 65 *Tularia 55
			Princessnesian 64	*Princequillo 40 Alanesian 54
Summer Exhibition 01 5 fls, 1 SW DI=3.94	Royal Academy 87 4 wins, \$758,994 Champion 2427 fls, 168 SWs SI 1.45 DI=1.25	Nijinsky II 67 851 fls, 155 SWs SI 5.77 DI=3.00	Northern Dancer 61	Nearctic 54 Natalma 57
			Flaming Page 59	Bull Page 47 Flaring Top 47
		Crimson Saint 69 11 fls, 4 SWs DI=8.00	Crimson Satan 59	Spy Song 43 *Papila 43
			Bolero Rose 58	Bolero 46 First Rose 46
	Dewan's Flag 80 5 wins, \$44,742, SW 11 fls, 2 SWs DI=3.00	Dewan 65 437 fls, 40 SWs SI 1.95 DI=3.00	Bold Ruler 54	*Nasrullah 40 Miss Disco 44
			Sunshine Nell 48	Sun Again 39 Nellie Flag 32
		Against all Flags 73 5 fls, 1 SW DI=1.88	Hoist the Flag 68	Tom Rolfe 62 Wavy Navy 54
			Northern Queen 62	Nearctic 54 Victoriana 52

Cat and recently deceased Royal Academy, her paternal greatgrandsire and broodmare sire, respectively.

This truly brilliant family gets its anchoring from clan matriarch Crimson Saint, whose uncommon duplication is highlighted in Summer Applause's pedigree.

A bearer of rocket-like speed, Crimson Saint equaled the world mark of :44.80 for four furlongs at Oaklawn Park as a two-year-old in 1971. At age four, in the well-named, but long defunct Meteor Handicap, she set a Hollywood Park track record of :56 for five furlongs, easily beating some of the fastest older males on the grounds for a second straight year.

Crimson Saint's daughter Terlingua, by Secretariat, inherited most of her dam's precocity and speed, winning the 1978 Hollywood Juvenile Championship Stakes (G2) against colts, the Del Mar Debutante (G2), and Hollywood Lassie (G2) Stakes before producing the brilliant and outstanding sire-of-sires Storm Cat. Additional key family members also exhibited brilliance at top levels.

It will be interesting to see if similar patterns of inbreeding to the family of Storm Cat prove to be an advantageous strategy in the years ahead.

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

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