

April Pride's parents share much of the same lineage

by Rommy Faversham

With Garrett Gomez in the irons for the first time, three-year-old filly April Pride (GB) squeezed through a narrowing gap in midstretch and drew off to an impressive 1½-length victory in the \$100,000 Harold C. Ramser Sr. Handicap (G3) on October 24 at the Oak Tree at Santa Anita Park meet.



The Ramser was the first graded stakes victory for the bay Falbrav (Ire) filly, who completed one mile in 1:34.02 on firm turf.

Bred in England by Sir Eric Parker, April Pride is one of four winners from six starters out of the Theatrical (Ire) mare Hasta, a two-time winner at age three. Her grandam, Slew the Queen, is a full sister to Grade 3 winner and sire Metfield, by Seattle Slew.

APRIL PRIDE

April Pride's immediate family is anchored by her multiple stakeswinning third dam, Inca Queen. This is the family of 1999 Ruffian Handicap (G1) winner Catinca and two-time German Group 1 winner and sire Germany.

Inca Queen is the most important descendant branch of C. V. Whitney's great racing filly Silver Spoon, April Pride's celebrated fourth dam.

A Racing Hall of Famer, Silver Spoon's two biggest triumphs came against males when she outran eventual Preakness Stakes winner Royal Orbit in the 1959 Santa Anita Derby and then came back to upset Kentucky Derby winner *Tomy Lee in the Cinema Handicap at Hollywood Park.

April Pride is the first Northern Hemisphere group or graded stakes winner for Falbrav, a multiple Group 1 winner who stands at the Shadai Stallion Station in Hokkaido, Japan.

In 2005, Falbrav was leased to Cheveley Park Stud in Newmarket, where he sired April Pride.

April Pride's pedigree is a remarkable one, especially given the close relationship of her parents. Falbrav's sire, Fairy King, is a threequarter brother to Hasta's paternal grandsire, Nureyev, creating another auspicious pattern of inbreeding to Northern Dancer and Special.

Арті Pride (GB), b. t., 2006				
Falbrav (Ire) 98 296 fls, 5 SWs SI 0.89 DI=1.82	Fairy King 82 Unplaced 799 fls, 76 SWs SI 2.17 DI=2.82	Northern Dancer 61 635 fls, 147 SWs SI 5.82 DI=3.00	Nearctic 54	=Nearco (Ity) 35 *Lady Angela 44
			Natalma 57	Native Dancer 50 Almahmoud 47
		Fairy Bridge 75 9 fls, 4 SWs DI=2.29	Bold Reason 68	Hail to Reason 58 Lalun 52
			Special 69	*Forli 63 Thong 64
	Gift of the Night 90 1 win, \$32,967, Spl 7 fls, 1 SW DI=1.25	Slewpy 80 540 fls, 27 SWs SI 1.70 DI=1.53	Seattle Slew 74	Bold Reasoning 68 My Charmer 69
			Rare Bouquet 63	Prince John 53 Forest Song 58
		Little Nana (Fr) 75 7 fls, 0 SWs DI=0.65	Lithiot 65	*Ribot 52 Lithia 59
			=Nenana Road (Fr) 70	=Kirkland Lake (GB) 61 =Sena (Fr) 51
Hasta 94 7 fis, 1 SW DI=1.73	Theatrical (Ire) 82 10 wins, \$2,940,036 Champion 972 fls, 81 SWs SI 2.93 DI=1.35	Nureyev 77 786 fls, 137 SWs SI 4.73 DI=2.83	Northern Dancer 61	Nearctic 54 Natalma 57
			Special 69	*Forli 63 Thong 64
		Tree of Knowledge (Ire) 77 9 fls, 2 SWs DI=1.48	Sassafras (Fr) 67	=Sheshoon (GB) 56 =Ruta (Fr) 60
			Sensibility 71	Hail to Reason 58 *Pange 55
	Slew the Queen 85 2 wins, \$30,160 11 fls, 1 SW DI=2.20	Seattle Slew 74 1050 fls, 114 SWs SI 4.76 DI=2.14	Bold Reasoning 68	Boldnesian 63 Reason to Earn 63
			My Charmer 69	Poker 63 Fair Charmer 59
		Inca Queen 68 13 fls, 3 SWs DI=2.13	Hail to Reason 58	*Turn-to 51 Nothirdchance 48
			Silver Spoon 56	Citation 45 Silver Fog 44

April Pride (CR) h f 200

Moreover, Falbrav and Hasta are both out of Seattle Slew-line broodmares. Hail to Reason is their most closely inbred ancestor.

Last weekend was another productive one for the international collection of runners whose pedigrees feature multiple strains from the family of *Rough Shod II (Special's grandam). Important winners included the New Zealand-bred colt Keyora (inbred 4x4 to Lisadell and her full sister Special), who captured the New Zealand Bloodstock Wellington Thoroughbred Breeders Guineas (NZ-G2) on October 24 in New Zealand, and Irish-bred three-year-old filly High Heeled (inbred 2x3 to Sadler's Wells and his full brother Fairy King), who annexed the Totesport.com St. Simon Stakes (Eng-G3) the same day at Newbury in England.

Thoroughbreds sporting one of the variants of this favorable family tie who are scheduled to compete in next month's Breeder's Cup World Championships include Rip Van Winkle, Red Rocks (Ire), Mambo Meister, Salve Germania (Ire), and Becky's Kitten.

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