Oak Leaf winner carries rare double dose of top femme

by Rommy Faversham

Blind Luck took a big leap forward in her division on October 4 as she rallied from midpack to take the lead inside the sixteenth pole and drew off to a commanding $2\frac{1}{2}$ -length victory in the \$300,000 Oak Leaf Stakes (G1) during the Oak Tree meeting at Santa Anita Park.

The two-year-old Pollard's Vision filly is her sire's first graded



BLIND LUCK

stakes winner. She covered 1½6 miles in 1:43.19 on the synthetic Pro-Ride surface, earning an automatic berth in the Grey Goose Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies (G1) on November 6 at the same track and distance.

The Oak Leaf marked Blind Luck's first stakes victory. Her only defeat came one start prior on September 5, when she finished second, one length behind the tal-

ented but injured and now retired filly Mi Sueno in the Darley Debutante Stakes (G1) at Del Mar.

Blind Luck's record stands at three wins from four starts and earnings of \$267,900.

Bred in Kentucky by Fairlawn Farm, Blind Luck fetched \$11,000 as a yearling at last year's Fasig-Tipton Kentucky July sale of selected yearlings.

She is the first foal out of the Best of Luck mare Lucky One, a maiden winner at three. Blind Luck is the first stakes winner out of a daughter of 1999 Peter Pan Stakes (G2) winner Best of Luck. Lucky One also is the dam of a yearling colt by Orientate. She is a half sister to 2002 Swale Stakes (G2) winner Ethan Man, by Glitterman.

Blind Luck's grandam, Twilight Spectre, is a half sister to multiple graded stakes-winning sprinter Chas Conerly, a close relative of 1979 Monmouth Oaks (G1) winner Burn's Return.

Blind Luck hails from the first crop of the one-eyed Carson City stallion Pollard's Vision, who stands at Wintergreen Stallion Station in Midway, Kentucky.

If luck is indeed the residue of design, then it may be less a mat-

Blind Luck, ch., f., 2007				
Pollard's Vision 01 93 fls, 4 SWs SI 2.70 DI=4.56	Carson City 87 6 wins, \$306,240, SW 1025 fls, 98 SWs SI 2.04 DI=2.86	Mr. Prospector 70 1178 fls, 181 SWs SI 5.08 DI=3.95	Raise a Native 61	Native Dancer 50 Raise You 46
			Gold Digger 62	Nashua 52 Sequence 46
		Blushing Promise 82 1 fl, 1 SW DI=1.71	Blushing Groom (Fr) 74	Red God 54 Runaway Bride (GB) 62
			Summertime Promise 72	Nijinsky II 67 Prides Promise 66
	Etats Unis 95 Unraced 7 fls, 1 SW DI=2.20	Dixieland Band 80 1246 fls, 116 SWs SI 2.34 DI=3.50	Northern Dancer 61	Nearctic 54 Natalma 57
			Mississippi Mud 73	Delta Judge 60 Sand Buggy 63
		Hometown Queen 84 13 fls, 1 SW DI=2.07	Pleasant Colony 78	His Majesty 68 Sun Colony 68
			Nijinsky Star 80	Nijinsky II 67 Chris Evert 71
Lucky One 02 1 fl, 1 SW DI=2.73	Best of Luck 96 4 wins, \$616,790, SW 149 fls, 4 SWs SI 0.62 DI=2.61	Broad Brush 83 668 fls, 94 SWs SI 2.61 DI=3.38	Ack Ack 66	Battle Joined 59 Fast Turn 59
			Hay Patcher 73	Hoist the Flag 68 Turn to Talent 63
		Crowned 87 10 fls, 1 SW DI=2.03	Chief's Crown 82	Danzig 77 Six Crowns 76
			Fair Rosalind 78	Exclusive Native 65 Thirty Years 73
	Twilight Spectre 92 Unplaced, \$374 7 fls, 1 SW DI=4.33	Imp Society 81 383 fls, 20 SWs SI 0.85 DI=3.31	Barrera 73	Raise a Native 61 Minnetonka 67
			Trotta Sue 66	Promised Land 54 Blue Norka 49
		Shall Return 70 8 fls, 1 SW DI=3.40	Fair Ruler 52	*Nasrullah 40 Fair Weather 40
			*Going Home II 59	*Talgo II 53 =ToppingNews(GB)51

ter of chance that Blind Luck is her sire's first top runner.

Pollard's Vision, a remarkably consistent four-time graded stakes winner at ages three and four, descends from the family of Chris Evert, his fourth dam.

Chris Evert reached her own awesome peak when, four weeks after capturing New York's 1974 Filly Triple Crown, she humbled the West Coast's leading sophomore filly, Miss Musket, by 50 lengths in a celebrated match race at Hollywood Park.

Remarkably, this Racing Hall of Fame filly and important matron also appears in the bottom half of Blind Luck's extended pedigree as the grandam of juvenile champion and influential sire Chief's Crown through her stakes-winning daughter Six Crowns.

This, then, represents another good example of increasing the likelihood of success by crossing complementary strains of the sire's own rich family.

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