

Jersey Shore marks another dominant win for Custom For Carlos

by Rommy Faversham

Pacesetter Custom For Carlos experienced little difficulty separating himself from his opponents at the top of the stretch before coasting to a dominant $6\frac{1}{4}$ -length victory in the \$194,000 Jersey Shore Stakes (G3) at Monmouth Park on July 5.

The sophomore colt completed the six furlongs in a spry 1:08.19. The Jersey Shore was Custom For Carlos's first stakes victory. He

entered off a six-length romp in a six-furlong allowance race against



older opponents on May 29 at Churchill Downs.

Unraced at two, the bay colt's record stands at three wins from six lifetime starts and earnings of \$196,090. His summer goal could be the NetJets King's Bishop Stakes (G1) on August 29 at Saratoga Race Course. His sire, More Than Ready, won the 2000 King's Bishop. Bred in Kentucky by David E. Hager

CUSTOM FOR CARLOS

II, Custom For Carlos is the fourth winner from as many starters out of the stakes-placed winning Meadowlake mare Meadow Oaks, who earned \$133,438 winning four races at ages three and four.

To date, the daughters of Meadowlake have combined to produce 15 graded and group stakes winners, including 2006 King's Bishop winner Henny Hughes.

Custom For Carlos's immediate family is anchored by his third dam, the Quack mare Plankton, winner of the 1980 Ladies Handicap (G1) at Aqueduct.

Plankton produced multiple graded stakes winner Buckley Boy. She also is the third dam of multiple Grade 1 winner Megahertz (GB), by Pivotal, and her younger full sister Heaven Sent (GB), who in May captured her second consecutive running of the Dahlia Stakes (Eng-G3) at Newmarket.

Custom For Carlos hails from the fifth North American crop of the popular shuttle stallion More Than Ready, who divides his time between Vinery Studs of Central Kentucky and the Hunter Valley of New South Wales, Australia.

A leading sire of two-year-olds in Australia, More Than Ready distinguished himself earlier this season as the sire of consecutive

More Than Ready 97 1005 fis, 62 SWs SI 1.96 DI=2.11	Southern Halo 83 5 wins, \$344,875, Spl 1690 fls, 163 SWs SI 1.81 DI=2.23	Halo 69 724 fls, 63 SWs SI 3.40 DI=2.14	Hail to Reason 58	*Turn-to 51 Nothirdchance 48
			Cosmah 53	Cosmic Bomb 44 Almahmoud 47
		Northern Sea 74 8 fls, 0 SWs DI=1.97	Northern Dancer 61	Nearctic 54 Natalma 57
			Sea Saga 68	*Sea-Bird 62 Shama 61
	Woodman's Girl 90 3 wins, \$69,195 5 fls, 1 SW DI=3.73	Woodman 83 1917 fls, 110 SWs SI 1.56 DI=3.31	Mr. Prospector 70	Raise a Native 61 Gold Digger 62
			Playmate 75	Buckpasser 63 Intriguing 64
		Becky Be Good 81 13 fls, 2 SWs DI=5.40	Naskra 67	Nasram 60 *Iskra 61
			Good Landing 65	First Landing 56 Best Side 52
Meadow Oaks 92 6 fls, 1 SW DI=5.86	Meadowlake 83 3 wins, \$308,580, SW 907 fls, 59 SWs SI 1.93 DI=5.00	Hold Your Peace 69 515 fls, 45 SWs SI 1.65 DI=2.59	Speak John 58	Prince John 53 *Nuit de Folies 47
			Blue Moon 48	Eight Thirty 36 Blue Grail 43
		Suspicious Native 72 15 fls, 2 SWs DI=3.75	Raise a Native 61	Native Dancer 50 Raise You 46
			Be Suspicious 63	Porterhouse 51 Nothirdchance 48
	Peggy Slew 84 2 wins, \$43,623 8 fls, 0 SWs DI=2.76	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
		Plankton 76 8 fls, 2 SWs DI=4.00	Quack 69	T. V. Lark 57 Quillon 64
			Gang Plank 61	Sailor 52 *High Stepper II 48

Custom For Carlos h.c. 2006

winners of the prestigious AAMI Golden Slipper Stakes (Aus-G1) with Sebring (2008) and Phelan Ready ('09).

Sire of five Australian Group 1 winners, More Than Ready still awaits his first Grade 1 winner in the United States.

The most interesting pattern in Custom For Carlos's pedigree is probably the 4x2 cross of Hail to Reason and Meadowlake. Both are descendants of the influential matriarch Nothirdchance, winner of a division of the 1951 Acorn Stakes.

The most recent graded stakes winner to demonstrate this same type of pattern is 2006 Indiana Derby (G2) winner and King's Bishop runner-up Star Dabbler. He was by the Halo stallion Saint Ballado out of a Meadowlake mare.

Inbreeding in this fashion—to superior female families along the tail-male line—continues to be a valuable strategy in the breeding of racehorses.

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