



Saucey Evening takes two big dips of Northern Sea

by Rommy Faversham

Rallying from last to first, Saucey Evening drew clear in deep stretch to score an impressive 2½-length victory in the fillies division of the \$125,000 California Breeders' Champion Stakes on December 27 at Santa Anita Park.



Benoit & Associates photo

Sent off as the even-money favorite, the cleverly bred More Than Ready juvenile completed seven furlongs on the synthetic Pro-Ride surface in 1:21.84.

The victory was Saucey Evening's third from six starts this season and

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makes her an apparent standout to receive honors as champion two-year-old California-bred filly of 2008.

She entered off a solid fourth-place finish in the Grey Goose Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf, just two lengths behind the winner, Maram. Prior to that, Saucey Evening captured the California Cup Juvenile Fillies by 2½ lengths during the Oak Tree meeting at Santa Anita.

Bred by Betty Mabee and her son, Larry, of Golden Eagle Farm, the chestnut filly fetched \$160,000 at the 2007 Keeneland September yearling sale. She is one of two winners from four starters out of the unraced General Meeting mare Jeweled Lady.

Saucey Evening's dam is a full sister to three-time Grade 1 winner General Challenge and multiple stakes winner Western Hemisphere. She also is a half sister to Grade 1 winner Notable Career, by Avenue of Flags.

General Meeting broodmares have combined, so far, to yield ten stakes winners from a total of 342 foals of racing age.

Saucey Evening's immediate family is anchored by her seemingly ubiquitous third dam, Northern Sea. Purchased as a yearling by E.P. Taylor's Windfields Farm, the Northern Dancer filly was multiple Grade 1-placed at two before she captured a division of the 1977 Test Stakes (G3) as a three-year old. This tribe traces back to Saucey Evening's seventh dam, Colosseum, one of legendary Calumet Farm's key matriarchs.

Saucey Evening hails from the fifth North American crop of the

Saucey Evening, ch. f, 2006

More Than Ready 97 842 fls, 51 SWs SI 1.90 DI=2.11	Southern Halo 83 5 wins, \$344,875, Spl 1625 fls, 161 SWs SI 1.80 DI=2.23	Halo 69 724 fls, 63 SWs SI 3.40 DI=2.14	Hail to Reason 58	*Turn-to 51 Nothirdchance 48
		Northern Sea 74 8 fls, 0 SWs DI=1.97	Cosmah 53	Cosmic Bomb 44 Almahmoud 47
Woodman's Girl 90 3 wins, \$69,195 5 fls, 1 SW DI=3.73		Woodman 83 1887 fls, 110 SWs SI 1.56 DI=3.31	Northern Dancer 61	Nearctic 54 Natalma 57
		Becky Be Good 81 13 fls, 2 SWs DI=5.40	Sea Saga 68	*Sea-Bird 62 Shama 61
Jeweled Lady 97 4 fls, 1 SW DI=1.82	General Meeting 88 4 wins, \$441,125, SW 471 fls, 33 SWs SI 2.08 DI=1.80	Seattle Slew 74 1050 fls, 114 SWs SI 4.76 DI=2.14	Mr. Prospector 70	Raise a Native 61 Gold Digger 62
		Alydar's Promise 83 10 fls, 1 SW DI=1.88	Playmate 75	Buckpasser 63 Intriguing 64
	Excellent Lady 86 4 wins, \$108,600 11 fls, 3 SWs DI=2.71	Smarten 76 602 fls, 49 SWs SI 1.66 DI=8.60	Naskra 67	Nasram 60 *Iskra 61
		Northern Sea 74 8 fls, 0 SWs DI=1.97	Good Landing 65	First Landing 56 Best Side 52
			Bold Reasoning 68	Boldnesian 63 Reason to Earn 63
			My Charmer 69	Poker 63 Fair Charmer 59
			Alydar 75	Raise a Native 61 Sweet Tooth 65
			Summertime Promise 72	Nijinsky II 67 Prides Promise 66
			Cyane 59	*Turn-to 51 Your Game 48
			Smartaire 62	*Quibu 42 Art Teacher 58
			Northern Dancer 61	Nearctic 54 Natalma 57
			Sea Saga 68	*Sea-Bird 62 Shama 61

prominent shuttle stallion More Than Ready, who is the sire of 51 stakes winners including four Australian Group 1 winners.

A Grade 1-winning son of leading Argentine sire Southern Halo, More Than Ready stands at Vinery Kentucky with a 2009 fee of \$45,000.

Saucey Evening's pedigree is highlighted by a rather intense female family inbreeding pattern that combines her paternal grandsire Southern Halo with his half-sister Excellent Lady, our subject's grandam. This tandem, then, forges the auspicious 3X3 duplication of Saucey Evening's influential third dam, Northern Sea.

This is another interesting example which suggests the benefits of reinforcement of the tail-female line. Not surprisingly, fillies whose pedigrees demonstrate this kind of inbred structure often go on to become exceptional producers as well.

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