



PEDIGREE PROFILE

by Rommy Faversham

Smooth sailing for Test winner Turbulent Descent

Clearly one of the best of her generation, Turbulent Descent returned to her best distance of seven furlongs and scored her third Grade 1 victory with little challenge in the \$250,000 Test Stakes (G1) on August 6 at Saratoga Race Course.

The three-year-old Congrats filly has recorded six wins and two seconds from eight lifetime starts, a résumé that also features high-profile victories on the West Coast in the 2010 Hollywood Starlet Stakes (G1) and the Santa Anita Oaks (G1) earlier this year.



TURBULENT DESCENT
Adam Coglianese/NYRA photo

Bred in Florida by Ocala Stud, Turbulent Descent was purchased last year for \$160,000 at the Ocala Breeders' Sales Co. April sale of two-year-olds in training. Her first three dams all were bred or co-bred by Three Chimneys Farm's Robert N. Clay.

She is one of three winners from four starters out of the unraced Forestry mare Roger's Sue.

Turbulent Descent's unplaced second dam, Fabulous, is a full sister to the dam of 2009 Ruffian Handicap (G1) winner Swift Temper, by Giant's Causeway. Fabulous also is a half sister to the dam of English highweight filly Music Show, by Noverre.

Turbulent Descent's immediate family is anchored by her third dam, the outstanding Slew o' Gold filly Gorgeous, whose major victories included the 1989 Ashland Stakes (G1) and Hollywood Oaks (G1) and 1990 Vanity Invitational Handicap (G1).

Gorgeous' three-quarter sister, 1990 Kentucky Oaks (G1) winner Seaside Attraction, produced champion two-year-old filly Golden Attraction.

Further back, Turbulent Descent's extended female family flourished under the charge of premier Canadian horseman E. P. Taylor. Her fourth and fifth dams, Kamar and Square Angel, both were Canadian champion three-year-old fillies who turned out to be highly influential broodmares.

Interestingly, Turbulent Descent is closely related to the winner of the 2009 Test, Flashing, a daughter of A.P. Indy out of a Mr. Prospector-line mare whose third dam was Kamar.

Turbulent Descent, b. f., 2008

Congrats 00 165 fls, 4 SWs SI 1.86 DI=3.00	A.P. Indy 89 8 wins, \$5,959,630 Champion 1107 fls, 139 SWs SI 3.82 DI=2.54	Seattle Slew 74 1050 fls, 114 SWs SI 4.76 DI=2.14	Bold Reasoning 68	Boldnesian 63 Reason to Earn 63
	Praise 94 2 wins, \$61,180 7 fls, 1 SW DI=2.74	Weekend Surprise 80 14 fls, 4 SWs DI=2.64	My Charmer 69	Poker 63 Fair Charmer 59 Bold Ruler 54 Somethingroyal 52
		Mr. Prospector 70 1178 fls, 181 SWs SI 5.08 DI=3.95	Secretariat 70 Gay Missille 67	Lassie Dear 74
Roger's Sue 01 4 fls, 1 SW DI=3.80	Forestry 96 7 wins, \$591,225, SW 710 fls, 42 SWs SI 1.77 DI=4.33	Wild Applause 81 12 fls, 4 SWs DI=1.70	Raise a Native 61	Native Dancer 50 Raise You 46
		Northern Dancer 61 Admiring 62	Gold Digger 62	Nashua 52 Sequence 46
	Fabulous 95 Unplaced, \$300 7 fls, 0 SWs DI=2.40	Storm Cat 83 1412 fls, 180 SWs SI 3.82 DI=4.00	Storm Bird 78	Northern Dancer 61 South Ocean 67
Fabulous 95 Unplaced, \$300 7 fls, 0 SWs DI=2.40	Shared Interest 88 7 fls, 2 SWs DI=4.20	Pleasant Colony 78	Terlingua 76	Secretariat 70 Crimson Saint 69
		Surgery 76	Dr. Fager 64 Bold Sequence 61	His Majesty 68 Sun Colony 68
	Gorgeous 86 11 fls, 1 SW DI=1.50	Mr. Prospector 70 933 fls, 92 SWs SI 3.12 DI=3.15	Con Game 74	Buckpasser 63 Broadway 59
		Slew o' Gold 80	Kamar 76	Key to the Mint 69 Square Angel 70

Turbulent Descent hails from the first crop of the A.P. Indy stallion Congrats. Her victory in the Hollywood Starlet would, in fact, be pivotal in her sire attaining last year's freshman sire title.

After serving his first four years at stud in Florida, Congrats was promoted to Vinery in Lexington for 2011.

Both of his top-level winners have been out of mares by sons of Storm Cat. His daughter, Wickedly Perfect, who captured last year's Darley Alcibiades Stakes (G1), is out of a daughter of Tabasco Cat.

Turbulent Descent's pedigree is a relatively inbred one. Her sire demonstrates the vaunted cross of Seattle Slew over Mr. Prospector, while her grandam carries a reversal of that cross.

Duplications of these two breed-shapers, members of the same extended family, are complemented by our subject's broodmare sire, Forestry, whose third dam, Bold Sequence, is a half sister to Gold Digger, the dam of Mr. Prospector.

Turbulent Descent's five-generation pedigree also exhibits inbreeding to fellow breed-shapers Northern Dancer, Buckpasser, and Secretariat. For good measure, the filly's family tree carries the full brothers, Graustark and His Majesty, 5x5.

One can only conclude that there is little evidence of turbulent descent.

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