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TODAY



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Thursday,
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PEDIGREE PROFILE

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.



Bernell & 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

SAUCEY EVENING

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, 2008

More Than Ready 77 642 fts, 51 SWs SI 1.90 DI=2.11	Southern Halo 83 5 wins, \$344,875, Spl 1625 fts, 161 SWs SI 1.80 DI=2.23	Halo 69 724 fts, 63 SWs SI 3.40 DI=2.14	Hali to Reason 58	*Two to Go 61 Notchchanga 48
	Woodman's Girl 90 3 wins, \$69,195 5 fts, 1 SW DI=3.73	Northern Sea 74 8 fts, 0 SWs DI=1.97	Cosmah 51	Cosmic Bomb 44 Almahood 47
		Becky Be Good 81 13 fts, 2 SWs DI=5.40	Woodman 83 1887 fts, 110 SWs SI 1.56 DI=3.31	Northern Dancer 61
Jeweled Lady 97 4 fts, 1 SW DI=1.82	General Meeting 88 4 wins, \$441,125, SW 471 fts, 33 SWs SI 2.08 DI=1.80	Seattle Slew 74 1050 fts, 114 SWs SI 4.76 DI=2.14	Sea Legs 68	*Sea to Sea 62 Shams 61
	Excellent Lady 86 4 wins, \$108,600 11 fts, 3 SWs DI=2.71	Aydar's Promise 63 10 fts, 1 SW DI=1.88	Mr. Prospector 71	Raise a Nerve 61 Gold Digger 62
		Smarten 76 602 fts, 49 SWs SI 1.66 DI=8.60	Playmaker 75	Natalma 57
	Northern Sea 74 8 fts, 0 SWs DI=1.97	Bold Reasoning 68	Naska 67	Naska 67 *Yaka 61
		My Charmer 66	Good Landing 65	First Landing 59 Star Side 52
		Aydar 75	Bold Reasoning 68	Bold Reasoning 68 Reason to Earn 63
		Summerline Promise 71	My Charmer 66	My Charmer 66 Fair Chancer 59
		Oyasa 59	Aydar 75	Raise a Nerve 61 Sweet Tooth 65
		Smartalea 62	Summerline Promise 71	Nymally 1:17 Ortiz Promise 66
		Northern Dancer 61	Oyasa 59	*Two to Go 61 Four Game 48
		Sea Legs 68	Smartalea 62	*Ujuba 42 Art Teacher 58
			Northern Dancer 61	Nearco 54 Natalma 57
			Sea Legs 68	*Sea to Sea 62 Shams 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 granddam. 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>.