

Star

Well named

by
Matt
O'Neil

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ultimate
vindication
for Star"

Star could very well be the poster child for mare owner patience. She is a one-time winner, an earner of just over \$5,500, and is a daughter of the moderate stallion Most Welcome. Furthermore, her first two foals could not manage to win a race between them. But her third and fourth foals, both produced to the cover of Bahamian Bounty, have made her owner's patience a virtue.

Star's third foal, Pastoral Pursuits became his dam's first winner when he broke his maiden in late July of his juvenile season in 2003. He then reeled off two more consecutive wins culminating with a score in the Sirenia Stakes (G3) at Kempton.

After Pastoral Pursuits exploits had moved his dam off of the cull side of the ledger, he added more accomplishments to the family resume in 2004. During that sophomore season he won two more sprint stakes, the listed Hackwood Stakes and the Park Stakes (G2).

By this time Star's fourth foal, Goodricke was getting the hang of the racing game, with a pair of wins in Maiden and Allowance company from his first two starts. He was deemed stakes quality by his connections, but could manage no better than ninth in the Coventry S. at Ascot in mid-June of 2004. It would be his final start of the year.

2005 was to be the year of ultimate vindication for Star as both her sons by Bahamian Bounty would win group races.

Pastoral Pursuits struck first in early July when he took down the prestigious July Cup (G1) over six furlongs at Newmarket. In that race he vanquished 19 rivals at odds of 22-1.

Some two months later, it was Goodricke's turn. He put his dam in the record books as a multiple grade/group one producer with his win in the Sprint Cup Stakes (G1) at Haydock. Despite finishing a good second to Whipper in his prior run, Goodricke was dismissed at 14-1 in the Sprint Cup.

Both Pastoral Pursuits and Goodricke are obviously precocious and at their best when sprinting. Both are multiple winners at two and, combined, they have raced only once beyond seven furlong. A cursory look at their immediate family reveals the source of those aptitudes.

An unraced daughter of the obscure Jaipur stallion Mansingh, Star's dam Marista can also be called an overachiever. She is a full sister to the Italian group two placed Cedar Grange, but there is no more than a smattering of black type under her next two dams. In addition to Star, Marista has produced seven other

winners and all but one was a winner at two. Star is a sibling to a pair of blacktype winners, Four-Legged Friend, a listed winner in England and Superstrike, a multiple graded winner in the U. S.

The latter, a winner at two in England, came to America and was the best three year-old sprinter in the land in 1992. That year he won the Bay Meadows Sprint, the Riva Ridge Stakes (G3) and the Frank DeFrancis Memorial Dash (G3) over older runners.

With such a precocious family, the performance of Star's first two foals must have been all the more disappointing. But as the thoroughbred game shows us time and time again, you never really know where, when, or exactly how the next Star will appear. **TOB**



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		Nearctic	Nearco
	Northern Dancer	Lady Angela	
	Natalma	Native Dancer	
	Be My Guest	Almahmoud	
		Owen Tudor	
	Tudor Minstrel	Sansonnet	
	What A Treat	Stymie	
	1 Rare Treat	Rare Perfume	
Most Welcome		Turn-To	
	Sir Gaylord	Somethingroyal	
Habitat		Occupy	
	Little Hut	Savage Beauty	
Topsy		Mossborough	
	Ballymoss	Indian Call	
Furioso		Pinza	
	Violetta III	Urshalim	
Star			
		Nasrullah	Nearco
	1 Jaipur	Mumtaz Begum	
		Eight Thirty	
	Rare Perfume	Fragrance	
Mansingh		Polynesian	
	Native Dancer	Geisha	
Tutasi		Occupy	
	Bridgefork	Feale Bridge	
Marista		Dante	
	Darius II	Yasna	
	Derring-Do	Abernant	
	Sipsy Bridge	Claudette	
Evendo		Hyperion	
	Rockfella	Rockfel	
	Christmas Eve	Epigram	
	Hellebore	Anticyra	

Sibling Codes:
Same dam only = odd;
Same dam & sire = even
Family No. 14
RARE PERFUME - 5f x 4m
NATIVE DANCER - 5f x 4f
NEARCO - 5m x 5m
OCCUPY - 5f x 5f