

First Crop Fight

Officer and Johannesburg slug it out

by

Matt
O'Neil

"Officer now has four stakes winners to his credit."

While Officer and Johannesburg continue to slug it out atop the First Crop sire list, Include made a big late summer move to occupy third position.

Since mid-July the son of Broad Brush has been represented by five new winners and, more importantly, his first two stakes winners. Sul Lago became stakes winner number one with her win in the listed Northern Light Futurity at Canterbury Park in late August. In September, the big guns came out. His juvenile daughter She's Included ran third in the Del Mar Debutante (G1) on Labor Day and at the end of the month, Cash Included put herself in championship contention with an upset score over Point Ashley in the Oak Leaf (G1) at Santa Anita.

As mentioned before, Officer and Johannesburg remain locked in a duel for First Crop Sire title. Since mid-August Johannesburg has sired four new stakes winners, including the Irish Group 3 winner Rabatash. Although he has a top American dirt two year-old in Sanford (G2) winner and Hopeful (G1) second Scat Daddy, his four other stakes winners have come on the turf. In addition to the aforementioned Rabatash, Hammody took an English group two, while Marcavelli and Fernando Po took listed juvenile turf stakes in the U. S.

Officer now has four total stakes winners to his credit and that group includes a pair of multiple stakes winners and his first graded winner. Officer Rocket earned his second blacktype win with his dead-heat victory in the Arlington-Washington Futurity (G3). The filly Chief Officer has also won two blacktype events and she earned her second stakes win at the expense of the colts in the New York Breeders' Futurity.

Street wise

Third in the Arlington-Washington Futurity was the Street Cry colt Street Sense. That colt would also place third in the Breeders' Futurity (G1) at Keeneland and he is one of three early stakes horses for his sire. The big horse so far for the son of Machiavellian is Big Timer, winner of the Acomb Stakes (G3) at York.

When King of the Roxy won the Belmont Futurity (G2), he not only became the first stakes winner for Littleexpectations, he also punched his sire's ticket back to Kentucky. Littleexpectations split his first four years at stud between Millennium Farm in Central Kentucky and Q6 Ranch in Texas. He is a full broth-

er to 2001 leading first crop sire Valid Expectations and, along with Officer, is one of two In Reality-line stallions in the Freshman sire top ten.

This time last year Point Given had but a pair of first crop juvenile winners on his resume. But in 2006, his second crop is proving much more precocious. His second crop already contains three black-type horses and a pair of stakes winners. One of those, Point Ashley became Point Given's first grade winner with her waltz in the Del Mar Debutante (G1). The Thunder Gulch stallion was represented by a stakes winner on the east coast as well when Naseem took the Lindsay Frolic at Calder on September 2. He also has the multiple stakes-placed colt Bilbo running in Canda.

Mr. Greeley is having a tremendous year with his juveniles in 2006, siring a pair of important runners on either side of the Atlantic.

In France, his two year-old daughter Finsceal Beo took the Prix Marcel Boussac (G1) in early October. A month earlier at Del Mar Horse Greeley looked good winning the Del Mar Futurity (G2) on closing day. The horse he defeated that day, Great Hunter, came back to win the Breeders' Futurity (G1) in his next start. It's interesting to note that Horse Greeley is out of mare by Storm Cat while Finsceal Beo is out of daughter of Storm Cat's close relative Royal Academy.

Stormy Atlantic's first Kentucky crop are juveniles of 2006 and he has already been represented by four stakes winners from that group. His son Stormello won the Norfolk at Oak Tree to earn a trip to the Breeders' Cup Juvenile (G2). Stormy Atlantic also has to his credit the listed two year-old winners Sea of Joy (a two time stakes winner) Miss Atlantic City and Leonnatus Anteas. 



Matt O'Neil is a pedigree analyst and works at Taylor Made Farm's Stallion Division.