

Lang-Fury

Langfuhr runners capture two big summer stakes

by
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In our rundown of the General Sire List top ten last month we failed to mention the Lane's End stallion Langfuhr. And, as if on cue, the Danzig stallion came up with not only two new Grade 1 winners, but the winners of two of the most important races on North America's summer racing calendar.

Langfuhr is one of four Lane's End stallions in the General Sire top ten and he has been represented by a total of nine stakes winners thus far in 2007. On July 28, Lawyer Ron, who had already posted several Grade 1 performances in Grade 2 and Grade 3 races the past two seasons, broke through in the historic Whitney Handicap (G1).

Two weeks later, on the turf at Arlington Park, Jambalaya invaded his Canadian base and took home the Arlington Million (G1) over last year's winner The Tin Man.

Langfuhr has emerged as Danzig's most consistent son in North America; he's been in the top 15 on the General Sire list the past three seasons, including a #8 ranking in 2006. His three career Northern Hemisphere Grade 1 winners from his first six crops put him just one behind the older Belong to Me among America's active sons of Danzig. With Exchange Rate moving to Kentucky for 2008 and Lawyer Ron and Classic-placed Hard Spun also likely on their way to the Bluegrass next season, the Danzig male line in North America still has a few more shots to match the success it has achieved in the rest of the world.

Langfuhr was also represented by his first stakes winner as a broodmare sire on July 20 when Treadmill took the California Thoroughbred Breeders' Association Stakes at Del Mar. The juvenile filly is by the Mr. Prospector stallion E Dubai out of Lady Lang a winner from Langfuhr's first foal crop of 1999.

The forest and the trees

The always solid Storm Cat stallion Forest Wildcat is having another typically good year. He is the sire of Salute the Sarge, the leading juvenile colt in California after wins in the Hollywood Juvenile Championship stakes (G3) and the Best Pal Stakes (G2) at Del Mar.

On August 10, Nunnery put Forest Wildcat in select company by becoming her sire's 10th 2007 stakes winner in the Waya Stakes at Saratoga. Forest Wildcat joins A.P. Indy, Smart Strike, Distorted Humor, Royal Academy and Stormy Atlantic as the only U. S. sires with double digit stakes winners this year. Seven of those stakes winners have earned their first blacktype wins in 2007.



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Forest Wildcat's first sire son is also showing promise. Grade 1 winning-sprinter D'Wildcat is the sixth ranked first crop sire of 2007 and already has a stakes winner to his credit in The Golden Noodle, upset winner of the Landaluce Stakes at Hollywood.

Knowing their way around

August 18 was an especially good day for second crop sire Orientate. His graded stakes-winning daughter Lady Joanne held off Lear's Princess and Octave to capture the historic Alabama Stakes (G1) at Saratoga. She is the first Grade 1 winner for her sire and her Alabama victory vaulted Orientate into third place among the second crop stallions in terms of lifetime earnings, behind only Street Cry and Johannesburg.

Earlier in the day in France, Orientate saw the first stakes winner from his second crop emerge. His juvenile colt Gipson Dessert won the Criterium du Fonds European de l'Elevage Stakes at Deauville.

Yonaguska led all 2006 first crop sires with 26 winners and the stakes winners for the Cherokee Run stallion have started to emerge this year. He has been represented by the multiple stakes winners Cherokee Country and Chief's Lake, winner of the first two legs of the New York-bred Triple Crown. They join Crafty Bear, winner of the Miracle Wood Stakes in February, as first crop stakes winners for Yonaguska.

Like Orientate, Yonaguska already has a good one in his second crop. The two-year-old filly Yonagucci has won her first two starts, a maiden special by 8 3/4 lengths and the \$100,000 J'sdream Stakes at Calder.

Another Grade 1 Cat

We noted earlier this summer that New York-based Catienus was the leading regional sire of stakes winners. Since then the story has only gotten better.

He added another stakes winner to his resume in July when Junkanoo Party won the Crockadore Stakes at Belmont over another Catienus filly Storm Dixie. Jim McKay Stakes winner Talent Search confirmed his form on August 8 with his second stakes win in the Teddy Drone Stakes at Monmouth. But the big day for Catienus came on August 4, when Precious Kitten took home the John C. Mabee Handicap (G1) over the Del Mar turf course. She is the second Grade 1 winner for her sire joining Breeders' Futurity (G1) winner Dawn of War. 