

# PEDIGREE THOUGHTS

## CWC

### CLIVE WEBB-CARTER BLOODSTOCK SERVICES

January 2011 – Issue 20

#### 2010 IFHA WORLD RANKINGS TOP 10

With form and performances of the top ten leading horses of the IFHA 2010 World Thoroughbred Rankings already having been heavily debated I though we look briefly at a few pedigree angles of these horses.

The best racehorse in world in 2010 was Highclere Thoroughbred Racing's, **Harbinger** (Dansili), who was awarded a mark of 135, which incidentally was only a pound below the 2009 Champion Sea The Stars. This four-year-old son Dansili, one of Europe's leading sires, earned his title with a spectacular 11 length win in the King George VI & Queen Elizabeth Stakes (Gr 1). Harbinger, who has been purchased for stud duty by Shadai Stallion Station, is out of the Bering Listed winner Penang Pearl, who is from the family of Gr 3 winner and Nassau Stakes runner-up, Sauceboat (Connaught). Harbinger is the only stakes winner from Bering daughter for his sire; however Danehill and other sons have had success on the cross. A total of seven stakes winners have been bred on the Danehill/Bering cross, which include Gr 3 winner Maranilla (Desert King) and Musidora (Rock of Gibraltar).

The 2010 Breeders' Cup Classic (Gr 1) winner, **Blame** (Arch), was runner-up with a ring of 129. This son of Arch (Kris S), who won three Gr 1 in 2010 which also included the Stephen Foster Handicap and the Whitney Handicap, is out of the stakes-placed Seeking The Gold (Mr Prospector daughter, Liable. Blame is from one of the strongest families around as his third dam is Special, dam of Nureyev (Gr 1), Number (Gr 2) and Fairy Bridge (herself dam of Sadler's Wells etc). Blame is bred on the established Arch/Seeking The Gold cross which has now produced two stakes winners, which are both Gr 1 level, with Pine Island being the other. The Roberto/Seeking The Gold cross has not only also produced a Restricted stakes winning 3-parts-brother to Blame in Tend (Dynaformer), but also Gr 1 winners Riskaverse (Dynaformer) and the 2010 Fillies' Mile winner White Moonstone. With this Darley's young Seeking The Gold line sire, Dubawi (Dubai Millennium), could be well worth trying with a Roberto line daughter. With Blame retired to stand along side his sire at Claiborne Farm, for \$35,000, he looks to have an exciting future ahead of him.

Speaking of Dubawi, it is his 2,000 Guineas (Gr 1) winner, **Makfi**, who has earned third position with a mark of 129 which he achieved with a brilliant display in Prix du Haras de Jacques Le Marois (Gr 1), when defeating a top-class field, which included Goldikova and Paco Boy. Makfi is also from a top family as he is out of the Green Desert mare, Dhelaal, who is a half-sister to the Dewhurst Stakes (Gr 1) winner, Alhaarth (Unfuwain). The next dam, Irish Valley (Irish River), is a half-sister to Green Dancer (Nijinsky). The family is that of Authorized (Montjeu) and Titus Livius (Machiavellian) and traces to Sly Pola. Makfi is bred on a Dubawi/Danzig cross which has seen Dubawi not only sire two other stakes winners out of Green Desert daughters but also the Queen Elizabeth II Stakes (Gr 1) winner, Poet's Voice, when defeating Makfi, who is out of a Chief's Crown daughter. Makfi also starts his stud career in 2011 as he has been retired to Tweenhills Farm & Stud for an advertised fee of £25,000.

Also rated at 128 is the US 9 furlong performer, **Quality Road** (Elusive Quality). This, then, four-year-old gained this mark with his Donn Handicap (Gr 1) winning performance, having also won the Woodward Stakes (Gr 1) and the Metropolitan Handicap (Gr 1) in 2010. Although Quality

Road has been retired to Lanes End, also for \$35,000, he has a pedigree which should suit both sides of the Atlantic. Not only is he by Elusive Quality, the sire of Raven's Pass (Gr 1), but he is from the family of not only the US tripe Gr 1 winning filly (Strawberry Road) but also that of dual British Gr 1 winner, Bahri (Riverman) and Gr 3 winner Muqbil (Swain).

The brilliant Epsom Derby (Gr 1) and Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe (Gr 1) winner, **Workforce** (King's Best), was perhaps a bit of a surprise as he too only earned a rating of 128. The three-year-old is another product of Juddmonte's impressive breeding program. Bred on the successful Kingmambo/Sadler's Wells cross, that creates line-breeding to Special, which has produced 27 stakes winners which number the likes of Gr 1 winners Divine Proportions, Virginia Waters and Henrythenavigator. In fact King's Best has sired 11 of these 27 stakes winners, which includes Creachadoir (Gr 1), while Kingmambo has sired nine. With Workforce, who is from the family of the St Leger (Gr 1) winner Brian Boru (Sadler's Wells), staying training for 2011 season, Sir Michael Stoute and his home-bred owners looks to have a very exciting prospect in the middle distance division in 2011.

Just a pound below that trio, at 127, is the three-year-old miler, **Canford Cliffs** (Tagula). Although a three-time Gr 1 winner, which include the Irish 2,000 Guineas (Gr 1) and the St James's Palace Stakes (Gr 1), it was his performance in the Sussex Stakes (Gr 1), when taking on the older horses, that earned him joint 6<sup>th</sup> position. The Richard Hannon inmate is son of 7 furlong Supreme Stakes (Gr 3) winner, Tagula (Taufan), who is renowned for siring sharp juveniles, and is out of a daughter of the St James's Palace Stakes (Gr 1) winner, Marju. Canford Cliffs's family also includes the US stakes winners Pina Colada and Tripple Tipple (Gr 2). With Coolmore having invested in Canford Cliffs he remains in training for 2011.

The 12 furlong Japanese Takarazuka Kinen (Gr 1) winner, **Nakayama Festa** (Stay Gold), earned his rating, also 127, when runner-up, to Workforce, in the Arc (Gr 1). Stay Gold, a son of Sunday Silence, was ranked 14<sup>th</sup> on the 2010 Japan General Sires List and has also the sire of fellow Takarazuka Kinen (Gr 1) winner Dream Journey. With Nakayama Festa being out of a His Majesty line mare the cross represents the Sunday Silence/Ribot cross which has produced six stakes winner, of which three are Gr 1 winners.

There were three horses all ranked with a mark of 126 which are not all by sons of Sadler's Wells but are also all owned by Coolmore. Galileo son, **Cape Blanco**, proved to be Ballydoyle's top-three-year-old with wins in both the Irish Derby Stakes (Gr 1) and when he was an impressive 5 ½ length winner of the Irish Champion Stakes (Gr 1), when defeating his stable-mate, Rip van Winkle. While Galileo needs no introductions; Cape Blanco is a half-brother to the US Gr 2 winner Mr O'Brien, from the family of Flying Childers Stakes (Gr 2) winner, Paris House. Cape Blanco is also bred on an interesting cross. Although Cape Blanco is the only stakes winners bred on the Sadler's Wells/Presidium (General Assembly) cross, Presidium is a half-brother to Diesis (Sharpen Up) and Kris (Sharpen Up). Their dam, Doubly Sure, through her off-spring, has featured in nine of Galileo's stakes winners which also include the Gr 1 winners Lush Lashes, Sixties Icon and Roderic O'Connor. With Cape Blanco joining Workforce by

staying in training for 2011 the older division of middle performers certainly looks exciting.

The next Coolmore/Sadler's Wells connected horse is another son of Galileo. **Rip Van Winkle**, who is out of a Nureyev line mare, so therefore creating a duplication of Special in his pedigree which is also occurs in the pedigree of US Gr 1 winner, Gabby's Golden Gal (Medaglia d'Oro). Rip van Winkle was at his most impressive in the 10 furlong Juddmonte International Stakes (Gr 1) before finishing both runner-up in the Irish Champion (Gr 1) and the Queen Elizabeth II Stakes (Gr 1). Rip Van Winkle has retired to Coolmore, alongside his sire, 2011 at a fee of €20,000.

**So You Think** is the final son of Sadler's Wells ranked 126. This New Zealand bred son of High Chaparral has proved to be not only Australia's leading horse in the WTR but also proved to be a very versatile horse winning at graded level between 7 and 10 furlongs which included both the Caulfield Yalumba Stakes (Gr 1), Mackinnon Stakes (Gr 1) as well as winning his second WS Cox Plate (Gr 1) in 2010. It was therefore not too surprising that Coolmore have purchased a majority share in the horse and will race under the care of Aidan O'Brien this coming spring. Out of daughter of Tights (Nijinsky), So You Think is one of 43 stakes winners bred on a Sadler's Wells/Nijinsky cross.

Although you have to allow for the 3lb allowance for fillies and mares the two biggest surprises of this year's ranking are that both Goldikova and Zenyatta were only given marks of 125, despite both winning awards at 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Eclipse Awards. Wertheimer et Frere's home-bred, **Goldikova** (Anabaa), concluded her 2010 season with a third consecutive Breeders Cup Mile (Gr 1) win, having also won four other Gr 1 wins in Europe to bring her total of Gr 1 wins to 12 and therefore beating Miesque's (Nureyev) record of ten Gr 1 wins for a European trained filly. It is therefore not surprising that she also earned the honour of Cartier Horse of the Year. Goldikova is a daughter of the late son of Danzig, Anabaa, who was such a flag bearer for French breeding, and is out of Blushing Groom daughter Born Gold, an own-sister to Coronation Stakes (Gr 1) winner Gold Splash. Not only has Born Gold produced Gr 3 winners Gold Round (Caerleon) and Gold Sound (Green Tune), but Goldikova's third dam is Gold River (Lyphard), the 1981 Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe (Gr 1) winner. Goldikova is therefore bred on as Anabaa/Blushing Groom/Lyphard cross which has to be credited to *Pedigree Consultants*, who not only advised the Wertheimer brothers but have had other successes with this cross. With Goldikova staying in training as a six-year-old both sides of the Atlantic will hopefully see her race this coming season.

**Zenyatta** (Street Cry), who has very recently been awarded US Horse Of the Year, pretty much carried on where she left off in 2009. She added a further five Gr 1 winners to her CV which included arguably her most impressive display in the Vanity Handicap (Gr 1). Sadly Zenyatta could only manage 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Breeders' Cup Classic (Gr 1), which was the only race she failed to win from her 19 starts. This daughter of Darley's Street Cry (Machiavellian), who is a ¾-sister to Gr 1 winner Balance (Thunder Gulch), is out of the Kris S (Roberto) daughter, Vertigineux. The Machiavellian/Roberto cross, which Zenyatta is bred on, has also produced Gr 3 winners Golden Titus (Titus Livius) and St Paul House (Gr 3). Now that Zenyatta has been retired she is due to visit A P Indy which creates the A P Indy/Mr Prospector cross that has produced well over 100 stakes winners. CWC

**Mating Plans • Stud Books/Cards • Sales Up-Dates & Research • Bespoke Reports**

Horcott House, Fairford, Gloucestershire, GL7 4BY • [www.wcbloodstock.co.uk](http://www.wcbloodstock.co.uk)

[cwc@wcbloodstock.co.uk](mailto:cwc@wcbloodstock.co.uk) • Tel +44 7860158645