



## California-Bred Stakes Race Histories

by RUDI GROOTHEDDE

With an honor roll that includes eight local champions and four millionaires, the On Trust Handicap has proved to be a fine tribute to one of the greatest California-breds of all-time.

On Trust, a 1944 son of Alibhai, was bred by Louis B. Mayer and compiled a lifetime record of 88-23-19-13 and \$554,145 during seven racing seasons. A stakes winner from two to five, he was at his best as a sophomore and four-year-old. In 1947, he won the Santa Anita Derby and was second in the Preakness Stakes, while the following year, he posted four stakes victories and was also runner-up in both the Santa Anita Handicap and Hollywood Gold Cup.

This year, the 22nd renewal of the On Trust Handicap, a 7 1/2-furlong, \$85,000-added contest, is scheduled for Hollywood Park on Dec. 4.

Back in 1984, six-year-old Silveyville captured the race's inaugural running at 1 1/8 miles on the turf on his way to older male championship honors. Bred by William and Moira Tanaka, the son of Petrone (Fr) closed out his career with 19 wins and \$1,282,880.

Twelve months later, the On Trust changed to a one-mile race on the main track and was won by Barberstown, a five-year-old son of Gummo bred by West Valley Thoroughbred Breeders who ended up winning six of 12 lifetime starts.

In 1986, the race went to that year's California Champion Older Male for the third consecutive time when Super Diamond won for owner/breeders Roland and Ramona Sahm. The gelded son of Pass the Glass ended up retiring with a record of 16 victories and \$1,469,233.

After Caros Love, a three-year-old son of Caro (Ire) bred by E. L. Allee Ranch, was victorious in 1987, a gelded trio of Golden State champions triumphed. In 1988, it was that year's Champion Sprinter Caestoga, a six-year-old son of Relaunch bred by Louis R. Rowan and Leonard Lavin, who took the honors on his way to 20 wins and \$651,225, while the following year's Champion Older Male Stylish Winner, a five-year-old son of Obratsovy who earned \$791,725, then won for a partnership that included his breeders Old English Rancho. Then it was the turn of Individualist, the 1989

# The On Trust Handicap: A True Reflection Of Greatness

Champion Two-Year-old Male, to shine in the On Trust.

Racing for his breeders John and Betty Mabee's Golden Eagle Farm, the 1987 Bel Bolide gelding won the event in 1990 and 1992. He was also the runner-up in 1991, the year the event was reduced to its current distance, when Run On the Bank, a four-year-old son of Water Bank bred by Lloyd Taber and Daniel Teich, took the race.

With a dozen victories and a \$762,750 bankroll, Individualist retired in 1994, the same year that his record of two On Trust victories was equaled by Echo of Yesterday. Bred and owned by Martin and Pam Wygod, this 1989 son of Pirate's Bounty ended up winning 13 of 25 starts.

With a career record of 15 wins and \$504,441 in earnings was Argolid, the Saros (GB) gelding bred by Ridder Thoroughbred Stable who won the On Trust as a four-year-old in 1995. A year later, Ray Dilbeck's homebred six-year-old gelding Kingdom Found, by The Bart, reached this event's winner's circle prior to accumulating \$810,689.

Awesome Daze then sped to a stakes record time of 1:26.26 in 1997, the year in which he was voted California's Champion Older Male. Bred by Robert Monroy, the gelded son of Lil Tyler ended up winning \$652,435.

Then it was the turn of another five-year-old to secure the honors in this race. Kleven's son Big Jag, Champion Sprinter in 1998 and 1999, collected 12 other lifetime victories and \$1,800,329 for owner/breeder Julius H. Zolezzi.

The 1999 winner Cliquot, a Bertrando gelding bred by Marshall Naify, was followed by another sophomore victor. Bred by Pat Thompson's Ridgeley Farm, who raced him in partnership and where he stands today alongside his sire Memo (Chi), Grey Memo retired with earnings of \$1,736,683. The race's 2001 winner, Jack H. and Florence B. Arnold's homebred four-year-old son of Bertrando Stormy Jack, is now also a local stallion at Hideaway Farms, after pocketing \$596,673.

The last three winners of this race have also done the local Thoroughbred industry proud. In 2002, Hot Market, a four-year-old gelded son of Cee's Tizzy, won for a partnership, including breeder Harris Farms Inc., while two years ago, the winner was the three-year-old In Excess (Ire) gelding Excess Summer who was bred by Eddie J. Gregson and Edward J. Hand and has current earnings of \$582,701.

So the latest edition of the On Trust Handicap promises to feature a number of top Cal-breds aiming to take the title away from last year's winner, Anziyan Royalty, Nick Cafarchia's homebred son of Anziyan who may even be there to defend his crown come Dec. 4. 🐾



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Silveyville  
On Trust Handicap—November 17, 1984