



California Sires

Top Freshman Sire Decarchy Passes His Blood Test

by LISA GROOTHEDDE

It has been famously said that, to whom much is given, much is expected. Such is the case with Decarchy, the California stallion who was blessed with regal bloodlines and exceeded all expectations as the state's leading freshman sire of 2007.

The royally bred son of Distant View out of 2002 Broodmare of the Year Toussaud, by El Gran Senor, stands at Rich and Gaby Sulpizio's Magali Farms in Santa Ynez and ranked highest among all local first-crop stallions with progeny earnings of \$289,243 last year. The 11-year-old half-brother to grade I winners Chester House, Honest Lady and Chiselling was represented by seven winners from his initial 17 starters, and ranked 30th among all North American freshman sires, a group which also featured another of his successful half-siblings, 2003 Belmont Stakes (grade I) winner Empire Maker.

Decarchy's runners averaged \$16,450 each last year, and were led by the \$73,998-earner Timehascometoday, winner of the six-furlong ATBA Fall Sales Stakes at Turf Paradise. His other stakes-caliber gelding was \$125,000 California Cup Juvenile Stakes third-place finisher Harlene.

"He is probably one of the most balance-bodied Thoroughbreds I have seen," Magali Farms manager Tom Hudson said of the 2002 Frank E. Kilroe Mile Handicap (grade II) winner, a turf specialist who banked \$703,862 with six wins and seven placings from 19 starts. "He passes that balance of body on to his foals, no matter what type of mare it is. He also has a tremendous amount of heart; this was obvious during his racing career. His foals have shown that heart and great attitude."

Hudson said "the phone is ringing off the hook" in demand for Decarchy, who will retain his \$5,000 service fee in 2008.



Magali Farms' Decarchy, the leading freshman sire in California for 2007.

Second to Decarchy with first-crop progeny proceeds of \$193,270 is California-bred Stormy Jack, a multiple stakes-winning son of leading local stallion Bertrando. The graded stakes performer was credited with five winners from his first eight starters, led by the \$131,425-earner Bob Black Jack, a speedy gelding who set a seven-furlong Cushion Track record on opening day of Santa Anita Park's 2007-2008 winter/spring meet when he dominated the \$138,375 California Breeders' Champion Stakes by 6 1/4 lengths in 1:20.37.

Eleven-year-old Stormy Jack has moved from G & M Thoroughbred Farms to Harris Farms in Coalinga for the upcoming breeding season.

Also achieving six-figure sire success by their progeny during 2007 were the Golden State freshman sires Cap-sized, Gotham City and Crafty C. T.

The most successful of the trio is grade III winner Cap-sized, a 12-year-old Summer Squall stallion who recently relocated from Windfall Farms to Eagle Oak Ranch in Paso Robles. Among his four first-crop winners, whose pooled earnings totaled \$125,921, was the filly Maxie's Night Cap, who won three consecutive starts at Emerald Downs.

Next on California's freshman sire list with \$111,344 in progeny earnings is the Saint Ballado stallion Gotham City, a 10-year-old resident of Applebite Farms in French Camp. His lone winner from nine starters is the gelding Comissioner Gordon, a \$55,102-earner who ran second in the seven-furlong Cavonnier Stakes during Santa Anita's Oak Tree Racing Association meet.

Considering, an 11 3/4-length stakes winner at Suffolk Downs, was one of three first-crop winners—all fillies—for Crafty C. T., a Crafty Prospector sire who generated \$108,930 in total progeny earnings last year. The 10-year-old stallion, who won the 2001 San Rafael Stakes (grade II) and placed in six grade I events, has moved from Windfall Farms to Victory Rose Thoroughbreds in Vacaville for 2008.

Four other active California stallions were represented by at least one winner from their respective first crops.

Harris Farms' Luhuk sire Avanzado (Arg), a group winner in his native country and grade I-winning sprinter at Santa Anita, was represented by four winners from his premier North American crop, led by the gelding Shakalaka. Idaho stakes winner Joe's Cannon emerged as the sole winner from the first crop of grade III winner Freespool, a Geiger Counter stallion who resides at Special T Thoroughbreds. The Sue Hubbard & Associates sire Takin It Deep, a four-time stakes winner by Beau Genius, was flattered by his own three-time winner, First Takin. And Cottonwood Creek Ranch's graded stakes-winning Polish Numbers stallion, Roman Dancer, was represented by the Golden Gate Fields maiden special weight winner Doalittleraindance. 🐾