



ROYAL COLORS RACING

May 2011 Newsletter

Saracen Records Second Win in 2011

Saracen showed up big for his partners during his first attempt at Indiana Downs. On Tuesday night, May 17th, the gates flew open for race 5 and Saracen got clobbered. Departing from the #6 post, Saracen was body checked from both sides, getting slammed by the #5 and #7 horses. He stumbled and by the time he got his legs



under him the leaders were nearly two lengths ahead. Saracen rushed up with an aggressive surge and tucked in on the outside shoulder of the leader, who covered the first quarter in 22 1/5ths and the half in 45 2/5ths seconds. At the top of the stretch, Saracen challenged the leader and the dueled briefly, but by the 1/16th pole Marlon St. Julien had shifted from a left-handed stick to his right and Saracen surged forward coasting over the finish line in 1:11 flat with a two-length lead. [To see his winning effort click here.](#)

Bret Calhoun noted that this was another opportunity for our horse to learn more about adverse conditions and if you can get a lesson and a win, well, that's a great combination. Bret's assistant Kristen described the track conditions as slow, deep, tough, heavy, wet...she nearly named all seven of the dwarves and we got the message. Indeed, an earlier six furlong race on the same card had gone in 1:14 and change and a later allowance race for three-time winners went only a little more than 1/5 second faster than Saracen's race.

Kristen galloped Saracen the day after his race and he seemed to be doing great. She did notice some swelling in his right front ankle and upon closer inspection saw a puncture wound. She said it looked like someone had tapped a nail into his foot. One can only surmise that he probably caught a shoe in the early rough and tumble goings. The training staff has put antibiotic cream on his ankle and we don't have any real cause for concern. Knowing that this injury probably occurred early further endorses the grit and determination shown by Saracen in securing this win.

Saracen is now a two-time winner from five starts. His earnings have increased to more than \$58,000 and he looks to be improving. The training team at Indiana Downs say he loves the surface and has trained very well over all conditions; fast, fair, muddy, sloppy. The most likely next step is to look for an opportunity for non-winners of three races at Indiana Downs. To date, those races have been challenged to fill, so we may have to explore other options. Regardless of where he runs, we will all be looking forward to seeing his next race.

Royal Colors Racing Introduces New Filly



There are an elite few select stallions that are in vogue currently and with good reason...they are producing runners. Names like Tapit, Indian Charlie, Giant's Causeway, and certainly Candy Ride come to mind. Given the opportunity to buy a two-year-old Candy Ride filly that looks to be the real deal was too "sweet" of an opportunity for us to refuse.

We had an inside track on this filly, as she has been in training with Eddie Milligan



*Keeneland
Yearling
Sept 2010*

at his Twin Oaks Training Center since her purchase as a yearling last September. During the past several months this filly has really filled out and developed a very well-balanced, athletic build. She is a May foal and still has some growing in front of her, but that simply adds to the promise of what is to come because she is already quite a package. Eddie told Mike Rose early on that this filly always wants to go forward. If

running in company she wants to lead, if in a group she wants to advance. Twin Oaks consigned the \$170,000 sale topper in the Fasig-Tipton Texas sale and Milligan said that horse was the top of the class, but he was quick to state, “the Candy Ride filly is not far behind.”

During the Midlantic two-year-olds in training sale she recorded a very respectable 10 3/5th seconds one-eighth mile breeze and galloped out an additional furlong in 11.55 (a “gallop out” time in the top 5 of nearly 200 horses to also breeze that day). In retrospect she probably accelerated a little too quickly into the work and consumed energy that may have lowered her time a tick or two. [Take a look at her breeze by clicking here](#) and you will see she kept to task through the entire breeze and showed no desire to slow down.



Her sire, Candy Ride, produced more Grade 1 stakes winning horses than any other sire in 2010. The foals racing in 2011 are only his fourth crop and he has already established himself as a top-25 ranked sire. He only raced six times in his career, but won every race and accumulated nearly three-quarter million dollars in earnings in the process. His stud fee has jumped nearly four-fold to \$40,000 as he has produced stone-cold runner after runner. The nick formed from the Candy Ride-sons/grandsons of Mr. Prospector combination is a high-rated cross, receiving an “A” grade from both eNicks and TrueNicks’ rating criteria. If you are looking for a horse from a proven sire, race winning and producing mare, and an outstanding nick, you do not have to look much further.

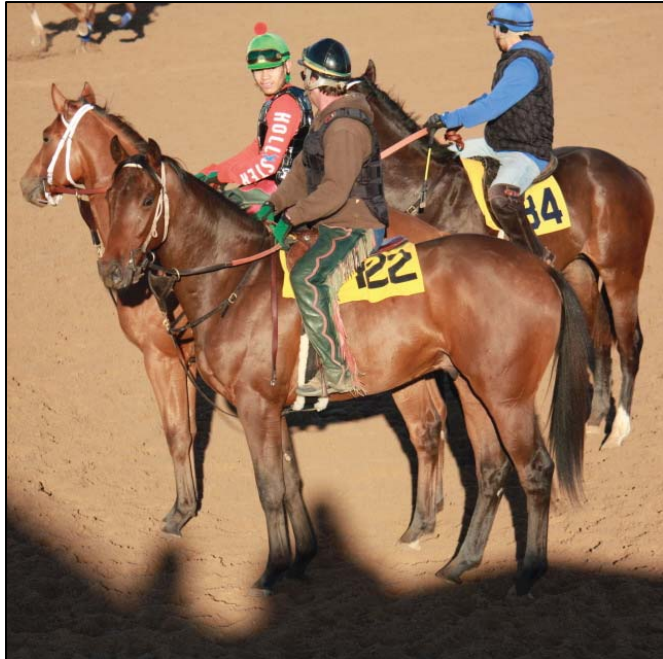
This filly is smart, has a keen, very aware eye, understands her scope of work, and maintains a great demeanor around the stables. She is the professional individual you want to own as a racehorse. Her conformation, athleticism, intellect, and pedigree make her the total package. Limited shares remain available in her, if you want to learn more [visit the current opportunities section of the RCR website.](#)

Forty Winks Returns to Full Training

Forty Winks was given a two week vacation at the beginning of May, but is now back to the task of training. Eddie Milligan said the two week break seems to have been healthy for him physically as well as mentally. He is maintaining a very good weight, continues to grow, and seems even more mentally alert on the track. The Twin Oaks staff has him back to running two-minute-licks (one mile at a two-minute mile pace), and will soon put him back into a full breeze routine. Between works he will be building stamina, working alone, in company, and from the gate. These are the formative weeks where Forty Winks learns valuable lessons he will take with him to the track.

And, when will he be racing? Well, the intent is to hand him over to Bret Calhoun by mid-July. Bret usually likes to put thirty days of his own training into a new arrival, so we are hopeful his partners could see him racing by mid-August. Interested in becoming a partner? [Visit his profile here.](#)

Master Command's first two-year-olds are just hitting the track. He had his first win as a sire come from a filly in a five furlong race at Churchill Downs during the third week in May.



Doc Hudson Takes Two-Steps Forward and One Back

Doc Hudson has experienced an eventful May, but not necessarily the kind one hopes for in a three-year-old racehorse. Early in the month his anticipated return to full training appeared to be completely on track. Doc seemed to be excited to get to work each day, however, Daniel Vernay at Selway Equine Therapy Center saw some slight swelling in his abdomen and the vet prescribed antibiotics. Doc Hudson began to lose some weight and became lethargic.

David Stephens, our vet with Weems & Stephens Veterinary Hospital, found that he had a bacterial infection that had caused an abscess. The abscess has been drained and Doc Hudson will be on antibiotics for several weeks but is eating well again, very



active in his stall and ready to return to training. So much so, that the staff at Weems & Stephens had to put a screen over his stall window because he would get too excited and rambunctious every time he saw another horse being led to a nearby outdoor paddock.

While situations such as this one can be very serious, we certainly believe we are on the right track and remain very optimistic Doc Hudson will be back to a pursuit of his profession – running, in the not-so-distant future.

Pink October Sold – Will be a Polo Pony



Pink October departed the Royal Colors Racing Stables in May to start a new career as a polo pony. Pink was purchased by agent Elizabeth Wiley for polo player Robert Lyn-Key-Chow. Mr. Lyn-Key-Chow is a member of the Vero Beach Polo Club and has served as an umpire and coach in the USPA (United States Polo Association). He trains polo horses in Aiken, SC and Charlottesville, VA.

Pink earned more than \$33,000 as a race horse for Royal Colors Racing. She had 16 career starts for her owners and finished her tenure with RCR with one win, three seconds, and five third-place finishes. She was a precocious two-year-old, finishing in-the-money eight of nine starts at two.

Pink never grew real tall which is a plus as a polo pony. She was very intelligent and was mentally sharp inside the stables as well as outside. She has a great burst of speed and was very durable. All of these qualities will serve her well in her next career. To the extent we can, we will try to check in on her in a few months and see how her transition progresses.

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RCR Friends and Family in Photos

