

April 13, 2010

STAKES-WINNING GRADED-PLACED CHANTILLY NAYLA TO BE SYNDICATED, THREE-YEAR-OLD FILLY IS TEAM VALOR'S FINAL SPRING OFFERING IN 2010, A MODEL OF CONSISTENCY: 7 STARTS, 4 WINS, 2 SECONDS, ONCE UNPLACED, VICTORIOUS ON DIRT, GRASS & POLY, SPRINTING AND ROUTING, AT 2 AND 3

Continuing to mine a strategy that first put him on the map more than 30 years ago, Barry Irwin followed up his recent purchase of the thoroughly proven Graded stakes winner Motovato with the acquisition over the weekend of the thoroughly proven 3-year-old filly Chantilly Nayla.

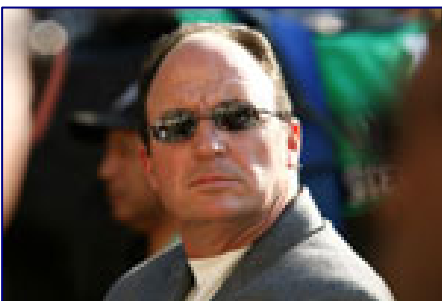


Considered to be a pirate and an opportunist when he first began prospecting for talented equines back in the late 1970s, Irwin was able to latch onto Motovato when he enterprisingly contacted the Estate of Edmund Gann about buying a horse from the recently deceased prominent Thoroughbred owner. Irwin earlier had bought from Gann the stallion prospect Medaglia d'Oro, who proceeded to make a huge splash as the sire of Rachel Alexandra.

Chantilly Nayla was vetted by Dr. Steve Allday last Saturday and a deal was finalized that has landed the 3-year-old filly in the Team Valor International stable. Irwin brought Dave and Adrian Munro of Highfield Stock Farm into the fold to join him in the purchase. The filly will run in the names of both Highfield and Team Valor.



Chantilly Nayla, shown winning the Mardi Gras Stakes at Fair Grounds over the winter, looks like she will not even require a change of colors, as she certainly appears to be draped in Team Valor International's standard issue red and green silks.



“When one buys a horse with credentials such as Chantilly Nayla,” Irwin said, “one always wonders whether they are showing up for the wedding or the funeral. If this consistent runner had been trained by a prominent horseman, I would have treaded more lightly. However, we will be giving her to a horseman in Wayne Catalano that has shown us time and time again that he can move up a racehorse on anybody. If Charlie Whittingham himself were still plying his trade, Wayne could make him shake in his boots if he got one of The Bald Eagle’s steeds! He is that good.”

Chantilly Nayla is a model of consistency, a rarity in and of itself for a member of the female persuasion. From 7 career outings, she has 4 wins and 2 seconds. A lone unplaced effort came in her second outing, when her trainer ran her against his better judgment because the Saudi Arabian was in Chicago on a business trip and insisted on running her in a stakes in which he could see her run.

“She was not ready for that race and it was unfair to her,” said Chris Block, who trained her at 2 in Chicago. “She Be Wild, who went on to win the Breeders’ Cup and become Champion Filly at 3, won that stakes.”



The only surface "Chantilly" has not won over is snow!

Other than that hiccup in her second career outing, Chantilly Nayla has laid the body down in every one of her races, regardless of the distance, the surface or the competition. She has done it all. She has won on dirt, on grass and Polytrack. She has won sprinting and routing. She has won stakes and been Graded placed. She has won from the inside on more than one occasion and she has won while going very wide on other occasions.

"I don't recall ever having seen a horse at this stage of its career that has been so thoroughly tested under a variety of conditions and compiled a consistently good record like her," said veteran observer Barry Irwin. "And if you look at her Ragozin Sheet numbers, she gives you a 9 every time.

"With Wayne set to take her over, I must conclude that she has the capability of dipping down to a 7 or a 6 or maybe even lower. If she never improves, she figures to knock off Graded stakes this year. If she improves, who knows where she will level off."

Chantilly Nayla emerged from her last start with a strained gluteal muscle, which according to Dr. Steve Allday is "very common on synthetic tracks." The best lameness vet in captivity, Dr. Allday said "This definitely had to compromise her performance, but we'll inject the muscle, give her a few days to walk and jog and she will never look back. For her to run as well as she did says something to me."



Top of the Charts: the only 3 fillies Chantilly Nayla has been unable to cope with are Champion She Be wild and the pair of Amen Hallelujah and Franny Freud, shown above going 1-2 in the G2 Santa Ynez S. "Amen" is the top ranked 3yo filly in North America and the only 3yo filly with a higher Beyer or Ragozin speed figure better this season than Franny Freud.

In her last outing last week at Keeneland for the \$150,000 Grade 2 Beaumont Stakes going an extended 7 furlongs on the Polytrack, Chantilly Nayla received a good ride from James Graham, but when he asked her to close a gap on winner Franny Freud she seemed to halt her bid midway down the lane. She was beaten more than 4 lengths, but had 4 lengths to spare over Diva Delite, the Grade 3 Tampa Oaks heroine who was looking for a sixth consecutive victory.

Franny Freud, the Beaumont winner, also has been first or second in all of her starts, winning 5 times from 8 outings, and running a sensational 2 on the Ragozin Sheets when second in the Grade 2 Santa Ynez Stakes at Santa Anita in her previous outing to the sensational Amen Hallelujah. Her only failed race came when she was tried going long in a Grade 1 in New York.

Chantilly Nayla has fallen prey a few times, but each time the winner has been one of the national leaders in her 3-year-old filly division. She was beaten second time out by She Be Wild, the Eclipse Award winner at 2.

Chantilly Nayla then was beaten by Amen Hallelujah, the back-to-back Grade 1 winner of the Santa Ynez at Santa Anita and the Bonnie Miss Stakes at Gulfstream Park. And she was second to Franny Freud, whose 2 on The Sheets is one of the fastest numbers ever recorded by a member of her gender and age at this time of year in the history of speed figures.

The news Team Valor acquisition is not without her own scalps. She did handle Amen Hallejulah when taking her racing debut at Arlington Park last summer when scooting away by nearly 4 lengths in a sprint.



When Chantilly Nayla won the Mardi Gras Stakes at Fair Grounds earlier this season, she beat Heiligbrodt Racing Stable's Kinsolving, a stakes winner that had placed at Churchill Downs in the Grade 3 Debutante Stakes. And she beat the emerging Florida star Diva Delite.

Before he bought the filly, Irwin asked Chris Block, her first trainer before the filly was transferred to Neil Pessin, for an assessment. Here is what he said: "I'll tell you what, she has the biggest heart of any horse I've ever trained. She gives you 100 percent each and every time. Her only bad race was when the owner made me run her in a stakes that she wasn't ready for after she broke her maiden. She is as sound as a horse can be. She is best around one turn, but can win going up to a mile on grass. I love this filly. I've never had a soundness issue with her. She is made of iron."

Irwin said that "one cannot truly appreciate what Chris Block refers to without watching the replays of her races. So I urge anybody interested in participating in this partnership to do so. A link to our account at Race Replays and our log-in names are provided on the 'Links' section of this offering. I was struck time after time after time with the gutsiness of this filly. She doesn't know the meaning the concept of quitting."

Game plans for Chantilly Nayla calls for her to be trained in Chicago by Wayne Catalano and to race at Arlington Park, with forays to Woodbine and other selected spots. "There was a sprint last weekend at Woodbine for which this filly would have been a heavy favorite. There will be some very good opportunities for her this season in the Midwest and Canada and we plan to take advantage of them. Because of her versatility, we will have many races from which to choose. What a luxury it will be to place a horse that can do anything and everything!"

Chantilly Nayla will be sold in interests of 10 percent, 5 percent and 2 ½ percent on the usual first-come, first-served basis. Keep in mind that Team Valor has less than 50 percent to offer as Dave Munro's Highfield Stock Farm bought 50 percent in partnership with Team Valor.

Interested parties are asked to sign up with Amy Collingsworth at teamvalor2@aol.com or (859) 873-1003 or to discuss the filly call Aron Wellman at teamvalornews@aol.com or (310) 968-9559. Barry Irwin is available to talk about the filly through Wednesday afternoon, after which is off to South Africa. The filly is due to van to Arlington Park Thursday or Friday.

Photo Gallery



Lexington-based professional photographer Joy Gilbert did this photo essay yesterday on the backstretch of Keeneland racetrack.

Sire of the filly is \$575,365-earner Five Star Day, one of the fastest and classiest sprinters of his generation, having won the Grade 2 Vanderbilt Stakes running 6 furlongs in 1:08 2/5 at Saratoga and accomplished the same trip in 1:07 4/5 in winning the Phoenix Breeders' Cup Stakes. A stakes winner in California, Louisiana and New York, the son of premier sprint and juvenile sire Carson City (Mr. Prospector) has done well so far siring 12 percent stakes horses from runners with all ages and with 2-year-olds.



Five Star Day's best runner to date has been Eternal Star, an earner of more than \$600,000 best in the Grade 2 Commonwealth Stakes last season at Keeneland. He has sired 16 stakes winners in his initial 5 crops to the races and his

Graded stakes winners include the filly Dance Daily, winner of the Grade 2 Santa Ynez Stakes at Santa Anita; the colt Day Pass, winner at Aqueduct of the Grade 3 Nashua Stakes at the end of his season at 2; and Starforaday, a multiple stakes winner of the Grade 3 Maryland Sprint Handicap.

Chantilly Nayla is the first foal to race for the unraced Appomattox, a daughter of Nureyev's brilliant son Stravinsky, a stallion that has made his mark as a sire all over the world, including Europe, Japan, North America and Australasia. He currently holds court in Japan. He was a double Group 1-winning Champion Sprinter in England for Coolmore Stud's John Magnier. Among his more than 60 stakes winners and winners in 29 countries around the world are seven Group 1 winners. Stravinsky has enjoyed his best success in Japan and Australasia, where speed is prize above all else.



Second dam of Chantilly Nayla is the famous racemare Galunpe, an Irish-bred, French-raced that was successful in Europe and the United States by Jerry Moss of Zenyatta fame and trained by the late Bobby Frankel, who was first brought to France by a guy named Barry Irwin. Galunpe won 9 times and earned more than \$722,000. Although not a Grade 1 winner, she placed in a remarkable 9 such fixtures, including the French Oaks (the best race run for fillies in France, the Marcel Boussac (the best race run for 2-year-old fillies in France), and some of the best long-distance grass events run in Southern California, including the Ramona at Del Mar, the Gamely twice at Hollywood Park, the Santa Barbara at Santa Anita and the Beverly Hills at Hollywood Park. Gulnpe won the Grade 2 Wilshire in the United States and three Group races in France, including the Prix de Malleret.

As a producer, Galunpe is the dam of Expressionist, \$457,810-earner best in the Listed Relaunch Stakes at Del Mar and runner-up in the Grade 2 Del Mar Derby. He placed in three other Graded stakes and became a useful sire. An unraced daughter of Galunpe produced the Dynaformer filly Dynamous that won the Providencia Stakes going long on grass at Santa Anita before it became a Graded fixture.

FACT SHEET

Name	Chantilly Nayla
Sex	filly
Color	bay
Age	3-year-old
Born	February 2, 2007
Bred	Kentucky
Height	15 hands 3 inches
Trainer	Wayne Catalano
Race Record	7 starts (4 - 2 - 0)
Best Beyer	87
Best Ragozin	8.75
Stakes Record	Winner of the Mardi Gras S. at Fair Grounds, 2nd in the G2 Beaumont S. at Keeneland
Breeders ' Cup	Nominated
Sire	Five Star Day
Dam	Appomattox
Broodmare Sire	Stravinsky
Sire Line	Carson City ... Mr Prospector ... Raise a Native
Dam Sire Line	Nureyev ... Northern Dancer ... Nearctic
Inbreeding	3 x 5 Mr Prospector 4 x 4 Blushing Groom 4 x 5 Northern Dancer
Family	Champions Negligent, Have A Heart, G1 winners Sudden Love, Lord Owen, G2 winners Galunpe, Beauty To Petriolo, Youmadeyourpoint, etc.
Dosage Profile	11 4 9 0 0
Dosage Index	4.33
Center of Distribution	1.08



LINKS

CHANTILLY NAYLA

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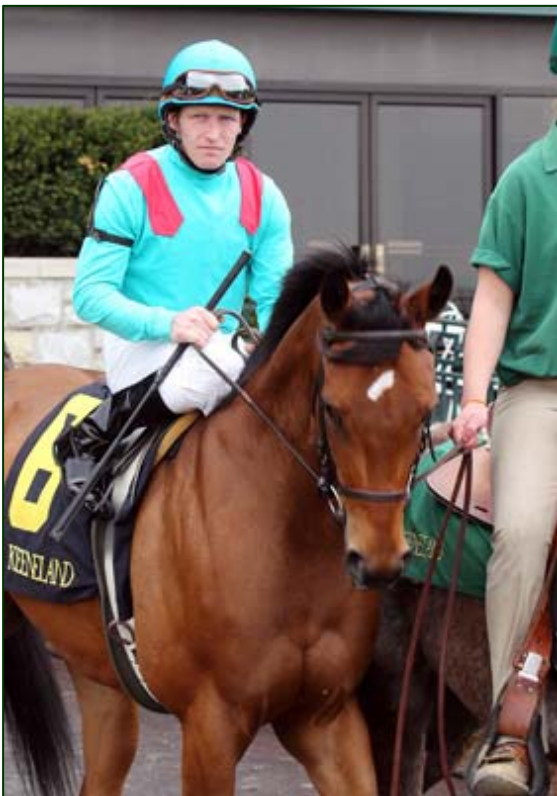
SIRE

[FIVE STAR DAY](#)

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BROODMARE SIRE

[STRAVINSKY](#)



Chantilly is the French equivalent of Lexington in Kentucky and Newmarket in England, as it is the Thoroughbred horse capital of Europe.