

May 23, 2009

DAVERON TAKES A LISTED RACE AT BADEN-BADEN IN HER STAKES DEBUT, TEAM VALOR GERMAN YEARLING BUY SHOWS COURAGE IN GUTSY SCORE, GROUP 2 NEXT FOR FILLY WITH 2 WINS, CLOSE SECOND IN 4 CAREER OUTS



Hooded, blinkered Daveron driven to victory in stakes by William Mongil.

Daveron always showed more than a touch a class in her two outings as a 3-year-old in Germany, where she had a win and a close loss. In her comeback start in France in solid company, she was kept too far off the pace and was unable to run into a place in a hot little contest.

Returned to The Rhineland for a Listed stakes at Baden-Baden (Germany's premier racing venue), the elegant daughter of Black Sam Bellamy withstood a stretch-long challenge from a more seasoned rival in La Bamba and held on by a head in the Hotellerie Baden-Baden over 11 furlongs.

A stewards inquiry was held because Daveron appeared to drift to her right and make things close in the final 70 yards, but no action was taken and the original result stood.

"We always thought of her as a German Oaks candidate at 3," noted Barry Irwin, whose record at the German yearling sale looks a bit special right about now, as the only other yearling he bought at the national sale in Baden-Baden is the stakes-placed Mona Lisa, a double-digit maiden winner on dirt that is now in training in Chicago with Wayne Catalano. "But she came down with pneumonia and missed the rest of her season at 3 after a pair of sparkling spring trials."

Fitted with earmuffs and blinkers for her German bow at 4 in the stakes, Daveron was the recipient of a dream ride from William Mongil, who tucked the chestnut right on the rail behind a pacesetter and a pace presser. Rounding the final turn, Mongil asked the German-bred filly to accelerate and she was up to the task.

When Daveron pulled away at the top of the long homestretch, she looked set to draw off, but a very stubborn longshot named La Bamba would not give up and she tested the Team Valor colorbearer right to the line. Winning margin was a head.



Andreas Trybuhl, William Mongil and Daniel Krueger

Daveron was sent off as the sixth choice among 11 in the Hotellerie Baden-Baden at odds of 9 to 1. She improved her race record in 4 starts to 2 wins, a second (narrowly beaten) and one unplaced race in France in her 4-year-old comeback.



The purse was not gigantic, with Daveron earnings a paltry sum of \$17,000 for the win, but she did earn black type for cataloguing purposes and this increases her value substantially. While the payday left a tad to be desired, the emerging filly will return next month on June 28 for the Hansa-Preis over 12 furlongs at Hamburg, where the purse is \$100,000 in a Group 2.

Daveron is trained for Team Valor International by Andreas Trybuhl, who previously trained the high-class Monsun filly La Ina for the stable.

That Group 3 winner came within a head bob of winning the Group 1 German Oaks a few seasons ago. She, too, also came down with a case of pneumonia and never really regained her form in a few races in North America.

“La Ina was the goods,” recalled Irwin. “Had she not encountered horrendous traffic and been forced to skirt the rail in a huge field for the Oaks, she would have won by daylight and not only become a Group 1 winner, but the Champion filly of her generation. It was perhaps the most heartbreaking loss in a photo in a Classic race for us with the exception of Captain Bodgit’s head loss in the Kentucky Derby to Silver Charm in 1989.”

Team Valor was represented in Baden-Baden by Daniel Kruger, a partner in the LLC that owns Daveron. Kruger, a jack of all trades on the German racing scene, publishes the on-line newsletter *Turf Times* and consults with his former full-time employer Gestut Farhof, from whom Barry Irwin bought the filly at the yearling sale a few years ago.



Irwin liked the filly when he first saw her and she was on his short list of 4 fillies. When Irwin was about to make his final cut, Kruger approached him about whether Irwin planned to bid on the filly and Irwin said “I like her, but she is a little small. I am inclined to pass.” But Kruger was persistent, making Irwin go back for another look. (To read the original story on the offering click this [link](#).)

Irwin liked the filly when he first saw her and she was on his short list of 4 fillies. When Irwin was about to make his final cut, Kruger approached him about whether Irwin planned to bid on the filly and Irwin said “I like her, but she is a little small. I am inclined to pass.” But Kruger was persistent, making Irwin go back for another look. (To read the original story on the offering click this [link](#).)



"I had bought some horses from Andreas Jacobs and thought I at least owed him the courtesy of another look," Irwin said. "When I went back, I have to admit that I did like her more. She was elegant, she had a good body. I liked everything about her except she seemed pretty short in stature. In the end, some others failed the vet and I bit the bullet and bought her. I am glad that Daniel pushed me!"

Irwin has lots to chat with Jacobs about nowadays. Yearlings from him in Germany and South Africa are Field Event (Grade 1-placed

holder of two course records and a winner this season in Saudi Arabia) and Chiquita (Listed winner for Team Valor this season in Johannesburg, South Africa). Jacobs also was instrumental in getting his stepmother to sell Team Valor its top 3-year-old colt Gitano Hernando.

Daveron's victory boosted not only her own pedigree but that of Team Valor and partners' former German Group winner Dalicia (above), because Daveron's dam is a 4-time winning half-sister to Dalicia, who was the second top-ranked mare in The Rhineland at 4, the season she won a Group 3 at Baden-Baden at the expense of Soldier Hollow, the reigning Horse of the Year and Grade 1 Arlington Million runner-up.

Dalicia is slated to sell in England at the Tattersalls December sale. She currently is in foal to Mr. Greeley and has a suckling foal by that same sire that most likely will be offered in November at the Keeneland.



Sadler's Wells' son Black Sam Bellamy is the sire of 4-year-old Daveron.

"I would like to go back to the German sale this year (it comes at the end of August) and try to buy a few more fillies," Irwin said. "The Germans breed a tough, sound horse and they are classy. The value there is the best in Europe in terms of what quality of animal one gets for the amount spent. Now that the two fillies I bought on an experimental basis have both become stakes horses, perhaps this will encourage more of our partners to participate."

As usual, when Irwin steps out into a new territory, a full compliment of Team Valor partners do not join him, so he is once again the "stuckee" of nearly 40 percent of the ownership of Daveron. "It is amazing that every time this happens, the horse hits!" giggled B. Eye.