

March 31, 2011

KENTUCKY OAKS-BOUND SUMMER SOIREE IS SYNDICATED IN ONE DAY WAR FRONT FILLY ROMPED BY 10 ¾ LENGTHS IN GRADE 3 BOURBONETTE S. GRAHAM MOTION WILL PREPARE HER FOR “FILLIES DERBY” IN KENTUCKY



Team Valor International has bought last Saturday's runaway 10 ¾-length Grade 3 Bourbonette Oaks winner Summer Soiree from Brereton C. Jones, his son Bret and Wahoo Partners LLC and will turn her over to Graham Motion. The new trainer, who trains all of Team Valor's American-based stock, will point the filly to the May 6 renewal of the Classic, Grade 1, \$500,000 Kentucky Oaks the day before the Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs.



Summer Soiree has been trained by Larry Jones and was only a winner and stakes placed at 2 while racing over the deep Delaware Park strip, where she failed to get much traction for her connections.

Since being transferred to the lighter surface at Oaklawn Park, she has come into her own, winning an allowance race by nearly 10 lengths and then following up with the nearly 11-length triumph in the Grade 3 at Turfway Park.

Barry Irwin said “She was just galloping on Saturday, just like she did when she won at Oaklawn. She is a machine. I was awed by her performance at Turfway. She ran an 8 ¼ Ragozin, which is half a point better than the figure earned by Animal Kingdom, a colt we think pretty highly of.” Summer Soiree will be flown Monday from Hot Springs to Lexington and train at Keeneland, most likely breezing for the Oaks in company with Kentucky Derby bound TVI homebred Animal Kingdom.

Summer Soiree is by War Front, the hottest young stallion in the world at present. With his first crop racing at 3 this season, War Front is the sire of leading Kentucky Derby candidates Soldat, winner of the Fountain of Youth Stakes and favored for Saturday's \$1-million Florida Derby, and unbeaten The Factor, who prepped for a role as the favorite in the pending Arkansas Derby with a smart score in the Rebel at Oaklawn Park.

Team Valor bought the filly from former Governor Brereton C. Jones of Airdrie Stud near Midway, Kentucky. When Barry Irwin first began syndicating horses in 1987, the first horse he bought was a \$65,000 unraced 2-year-old colt from Kentucky gubernatorial candidate Jones that he had named Political Ambition. He became the stable's first Grade 1 winner when he won the Hollywood Derby.

Mike Watchmaker has Summer Soiree ranked 10th among all 3yo fillies in his *Daily Racing Form* list.