

TECHNICIAN ON TOP IN THE CHAUDENAY

With ground conditions and a stamina test to suit, Team Valor's **TECHNICIAN** (Ire) (Mastercraftsman {Ire}) suggested he could be a leading stayer in the making when winning Saturday's G2 Qatar Prix Chaudenay at Paris-Longchamp. Last seen finishing sixth in the G1 St Leger at Doncaster Sept. 14, the G3 Geoffrey Freer S. winner was back in his comfort zone here as he upstaged Godolphin's Moonlight Spirit (Ire) (Dubawi {Ire}) by 3/4 of a length in a show of staying power. No better than middivision from the outset, the 7-1 shot made the day's jockey sensation Pierre-Charles Boudot work far harder than he had on his two prior Group 2 winners on the card but when it came down to a grind he was able to get to the 8-5 favourite in the last 100 metres and assert for an ultimately convincing score.



Technician and Pierre-Charles Boudot. Boudot captured all three Group 2 features at ParisLongchamp on Saturday. | Scoop Dyga

"Technician is a good horse, but last time in the St Leger the ground was too firm," trainer Martyn Meade's son Freddy explained. "Today, the ground made the difference--he was more relaxed and displayed his acceleration."

Runner-up in the 10-furlong G3 Sandown Classic Trial Apr. 26, Technician fell foul of the stable's spell in the doldrums when fifth in the 12-furlong G3 Chester Vase May 8 before bouncing back to take the Listed Prix Ridgway over a mile and a quarter here June 13. Sixth in the G3 Gordon S. at Goodwood Aug. 1, the grey outstayed Morando (Fr) (Kendargent {Fr}) when capturing Newbury's Geoffrey Freer Aug. 17 and connections may look at the staying route from here.

"There was a question mark over the distance, but he managed it which will open many doors in the future," Meade added.

Charlie Appleby said of Moonlight Spirit, "He ran very well but was beaten by a good colt who also loved this ground. I think we will let him rest awhile, as he's a colt for next year."

Franck Panicucci, rider of the third-placed 98-1 Russian raider Iskanderhon (Exchange Rate), said of the surprise package, "Today was a real performance, great. We didn't stand

a chance, because he had just won a class 2 race in Lyon, but his owners wanted to give it a try and flew over from Russia to see him. We thought the ground might be a disadvantage, but in the end it was the opposite."

Technician is out of the stakes winner Arosa (Ire) (Sadler's Wells), who was also responsible for the G3 Atalanta S. third Water Hole (Ire) (Oasis Dream {GB}) and is a full-sister to the multiple group-winning sire Crimson Tide (Ire) and the G3 Give Thanks S. winner Tamarind (Ire).

Saturday, ParisLongchamp, France

QATAR PRIX CHAUDENAY-G2, €200,000, ParisLongchamp, 10-5, 3yo/up, 15fT, 3:19.86, sf.

1--**TECHNICIAN (IRE)**, 128, c, 3, by **Mastercraftsman (Ire)**

1st Dam: Arosa (Ire) (SW-US), by Sadler's Wells

2nd Dam: Sharata (Ire), by Darshaan (GB)

3rd Dam: Shademah (Ire), by Thatch

(€40,000 Ylg '17 GOFORB). O-Team Valor 1; B-Barronstown Stud (IRE); T-Martyn Meade; J-Pierre-Charles Boudot.

€114,000. Lifetime Record: GSW-Eng, 9-4-1-1, €224,076.

*1/2 to Water Hole (Ire) (Oasis Dream {GB}), GSP-Eng. **Werk**

Nick Rating: A. Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree.

2--**Moonlight Spirit (Ire)**, 128, c, 3, **Dubawi (Ire)**--Moonsail (GB), by Monsun (Ger). O/B-Godolphin (IRE); T-Charlie Appleby.

€44,000.

3--**Iskanderhon**, 128, g, 3, Exchange Rate--Beiramar (Ire), by Monsun (Ger). (\$30,000 Wlg '16 KEENOV; €37,000 Ylg '17 ARAUG). O-Avaz Ismoilov; B-St George Farm LLC (KY); T-Igor Endaltsev. €21,000.

EATON SALES 

Margins: 3/4, 2, 2. Odds: 6.90, 1.60, 98.00.

Also Ran: Mulette (GB), Ashrun (Fr), Golden Box, Nayef Road (Ire), San Huberto (Ire), Dashing Willoughby (GB), Lucky Lycra (Ire). **Click for the Racing Post result or the free Equineline.com catalogue-style pedigree. Video, sponsored by Fasig-Tipton.**

The second dam Sharata (Ire) (Darshaan {GB}) is an unraced half-sister to Shahrastani who produced the stakes-winning and GII San Clemente H. third La Vida Loca (Ire) (Caerleon) and the GII Garden City Breeders' Cup H. and G3 Prix de Sandringham scorer Pharatta (Ire) (Fairy King).

She is in turn the second dam of last year's G1 Prix du Moulin de Longchamp and G1 Prix d'Ispahan-winning sire Recoletos (Fr) (Whipper) and the G2 Prix de la Nonette and G3 Prix Cleopatre winner Castellar (Fr) (American Post {GB}).

Arosa has an unraced 2-year-old full-sister to Technician named Crafty Rosa (Ire), while her yearling filly also by Mastercraftsman sold for €240,000 to Phoenix Thoroughbreds and Dermot Farrington at the recent Arqana August Sale.