

NADETTE TAKES G3 WILSHIRE TO GIVE TVI THIRD STAKES WIN ON THE TROT BERRIOS FASHIONS PERFECT TRIP WITH HEADY, CONFIDENT RIDE IN MILE



Nadette was on her game yesterday at Santa Anita when roaring down the homestretch to take her first Grade 3.

Nadette, despite negative splits, was able to mow down her rivals anyway and win yesterday's featured Grade 3 Wilshire Stakes at Santa Anita, thanks to an absolutely brilliant bit of reinsmanship from her jockey Hector Berrios.

Dispatched as the second choice at 3 to 1 in a field of 11 for the \$100,000 fixture, Nadette broke well for a change, but Berrios never thought about using her position to improve where she situated in the run past the stands for the first time.

"Hector allowed the mare to settle and place herself and she wanted to be at the back of affairs, where she could relax and watch the race play out," Barry Irwin said. "She was farther back than usual and the half was reached in a moderate :47.23. Nadette had to be 8 lengths back down the backstretch.

Rounding the turn the field began to contract and as things tightened up curving into the home stretch Berrios had built up quite a head of steam aboard the aerodynamic 5-year-old light bay French-bred. She was absolutely flying off the bend and Berrios was able to slingshot her right up against the fence. He had a choice of looking for a seam or scraping paint. He went for the inside route and barely—just barely—had enough room to drive his mare on through the slimmest of openings.



Nadette ran her last furlong in :10 and change under a superb ride from Hector Berrios yesterday at Santa Anita.

Once he cleared that rival outside of him, Berrios then moved Nadette off the rail and, once she saw daylight, she found yet another gear, quickly reeled in the leader and drove away to score by a long-looking 2 lengths. In a final furlong raced in 11 2/5, she definitely shaded 11 seconds for the final furlong.

Says Irwin “That was the ride of the year for sure. Absolutely one for the books. This mare has not won in more than 2 years, but she has always been knocking at the door. If ever a horse deserved to have her day in the sun, it is little Nadette. Final time of 1:34.16 saw Nadette run her last quarter in :22.50.

Nadette, bought privately by Team Valor at the end of her juvenile season in France, won the Listed Prix Finlande at Longchamp in Paris going a mile and a furlong. In America she placed on debut in the Grade 3 Autumn Mist Stakes at Santa Anita and last time was a good third in the Grade 2 Buena Vista Stakes. From 19 career outings, her record stands at 4-3-2 and earnings of more than \$236,000.