

#### **November 2010 Newsletter**

# **Introducing New Colt - "Forty Winks"**



Forty Winks is the only addition to the Royal Colors Racing Stable in 2010. A Keeneland September Yearling Sale purchase, this fine colt looks to possess everything RCR owners are looking for in a successful racing prospect. He is not only athletic and very well conformed, but is already well into training and looks to have the physical make-up to be a precocious two-year-old runner. Forty Winks has grown significantly in the limited time since the September sale and appears to be both intelligent and focused when on the track.

His sire, Master Command, was a physically impressive son of A.P. Indy. Master Command's on track success included six graded stakes wins and earnings in excess of \$1,000,000. Breeders flocked to this sire in his first two years filling the two breeding seasons with 255 mares. Master Command experienced a life-ending accident early in 2010 while being led to the breeding shed. It is our opinion that the death of the stallion and lack of potential for future offspring resulted in a discounting of Master Command's



Master Command

offered yearlings. While certainly an unfortunate occurrence, it resulted in value for purchasers like us that had faith in the quality of his first crop. We are excited about this colt's future and the price at which we were able to purchase him.

#### Looking for a Unique Christmas Gift...



A yearling thoroughbred colt is like a freshly wrapped Christmas present. One



sees a present under the tree and can get very excited about what might be wrapped inside and expectations climb in the days leading up to opening the gift. In similar fashion one's expectations grow as a horse shows promising signs in training and is ultimately opened, like that gift, when he makes his first few trips to the track. We all hope when we open a present we are surprised and thrilled. If you are looking for a very unique Christmas present for yourself someone special, how about ownership in Forty Winks? certainly hope this "gift" puts a little surprise and thrill in our future.

## **Bret Calhoun Wins Both Breeders' Cup Starts**



Royal Colors Racing trainer, Bret Calhoun, entered the Breeders' Cup knowing he had two "live horses" in Dubai Majesty and Chamberlain Bridge, but to see them both win their respective races was nothing short of an unbelievable experience for all. Dubai Majesty set off the initial fireworks when she won the \$1,000,000 Grade 1 Filly and Mare Sprint on Friday afternoon. Chamberlain Bridge did not disappoint on Saturday as he won the \$1,000,000 Grade 2 Turf Sprint with a gutsy come-from-behind ride by jockey

Jamie Theriot.

RCR's Summer and Mike Rose had a chance to join Carl and Valinda Moore, owners of Chamberlain Bridge, and Bill and Stevie Martin, owners of Dubai Majesty, for all of the festivities.

## Why do some Colts become Geldings?

During a recent trip to the Kentucky Horse Park, I came upon the sign pictured here. It was on the walk up to the Hall of Champions. It is no coincidence that most of the famous Champions on display are geldings. Those still intact with certain prized possessions are located on neighboring farms collection stallion fees in some cases well over \$100,000.

A thoroughbred seems born with the desire to run, but they also seem born with the desire to breed. In the case of many young male horses, this desire can be so distracting and so aggravating to the owners and trainers that the horse can often become unmanageable. In the worst cases, a danger to themselves, other horses, and the human handlers around them.



Some owners are reluctant to castrate their male horses in hopes they may earn stallion status someday. However, most accomplished owners and trainers in the business of thoroughbred racing will be quick to point out that in many cases a gelding that performs very well on the track, may have never touched a high level of performance if action had not been taken at the right time in their development. At Royal Colors Racing, we always start out with the intention of a colt remaining a

colt. However, if it appears necessary for a colt to become a gelding, we seek out the advice of many with exposure to the horse before making the decision, but ultimately make the decision that will give the horse the best chance to perform on the racetrack. Given the opportunity, we will take a Hall of Champions gelding versus a mediocre colt, any day of the week.

## **Stable News**

### **Speedy Spice fails to menace in Orleans Stakes**

Speedy Spice represented Royal Colors Racing in her second stakes race of the year. She competed against other three-year-old fillies in the Orleans Stakes, a seven furlong two-turn race at Delta Downs. She appeared well-placed in this race and indeed the betting public thought so making her the 3:1 favorite at post time.

Speedy broke well in the hands of Carlos "Chico" Gonzalez and put herself in second place iust off the shoulder of the pace setting leader. The fractions did not seem overly fast and Speedy looked ready to strike entering the second turn. Unfortunately, she quickly faded and Chico let her drift to the back after she failed to respond to some encouragement.



The post-race vet inspection did not show any indication of bleeding and she came out of the race sound. Bret concluded that she most likely just did not like the surface. Delta Downs is a deep, sandy track with ten-degree banked turns and is not the typical track most horses run over. Speedy Spice had been training extremely well so all of her connections were surprised by her performance. We put a lot of new challenges in front of her. She had not run over dirt since early in her two-



year-old racing career, she had a new jockey, she was racing for the first time at a 6-furlong track, and she had shipped in to race on the same day. Whichever factor had an impact on her, it was significant and tossed her out of the mix. She has returned to the Fair Grounds at New Orleans where she will race next.

Six RCR attendees showed up to support Speedy Spice

## Doc Hudson Working his way around the Fair Grounds

Doc has been working well since arriving at the Fair Grounds. His first recorded work was a half mile breeze and recently he covered five furlongs in 102.40, ranking



17<sup>th</sup> of 27 at the distance. His works have been solid when compared to other two-year-olds. Bret has remarked that he took a little while to adjust to his new environment and was a little on edge through the first few weeks, but seems to be settling in. He probably has another two-to-three works prior to entering his first race.

## Saracen, Ready to Leave the Gate

Saracen continues to train well at Eddie Milligan's Twin Oaks Training Center. He is in the final stages of his gate training and should be shipping to the Fair Grounds within the week.



## **Pink October Waits Patiently for Next Opportunity**



After a mid-November target race failed to fill for Pink October, we now are pointed to an early December opportunity. If the condition book holds as presented we will probably get two races for her in December. She continues to train well and seems to be confident coming off her last win.

## **Brigade Commander**

Privately managed horse. BC is currently recording works at the Fair Grounds in preparation for his next race.



# **RCR Friends and Family**





