

PEDIGREE INSIGHTS

BY ANDREW CAULFIELD

MALIBU S.-GI, \$200,000, SAX, 12-26, 3yo, 7f, 1:22, ft.

1--▲**MIZZEN MAST**, 117, c, 3, by **Cozzene**

1st Dam: **Kinema**, by **Graustark**

2nd Dam: **Mrs. Peterkin**, by **Tom Fool**

3rd Dam: **Legendra**, by ***Challenger II**

O/B-Juddmonte Farms Inc (KY); T-Robert Frankel; J-K J Desormeaux; \$120,000. Lifetime Record: 10-4-2-0, \$313,621. * 1/2 to **Kinema Red** (Diesis {GB}), GSP-US, \$115,404; and **Red Earth** (Diesis {GB}), GSP-US, \$242,392

To inbreed, or not to inbreed: that is the question which breeders will be mulling over in the run-up to the coming breeding season.

Once again, the 2001 season showed that close inbreeding can pay major dividends. **Skimming**, who is inbred 2x3 to **Northern Dancer**, added more than \$1.3 million to his bankroll; **Sylvester Lady**, a filly inbred 3x3 to **Nureyev**, won the **German Oaks**; and **Anabaa Blue**, who is inbred 2x4 to **Riverman**, triumphed in the **French Derby**. Then there was the exceptional success enjoyed by the progeny of **Danehill**, a stallion inbred 3x3 to **Natalma**.

The past year also provided many success stories where the inbreeding was a little less intense, such as the **Preakness** and **Belmont** victories of **Point Given**, a colt inbred 4x4 to **Raise A Native**, and the repeat **Breeders' Cup Classic** win by **Tiznow**, who is inbred 4x4 to **Northern Dancer**.

However, the **Northern Dancer** phenomenon has become so all-pervasive that I have recently found myself having to contemplate matings which produce not just two or three lines to this great stallion, but

FOUR. Fearing that you can have too much of a good thing, I have been casting around for alternatives, but this is sometimes easier said than done.

Last year, there were 252 individual Group race winners in Europe, of which only 45 possessed pedigrees with no inbreeding in the first five generations. Fewer than 10 of these 45 had pedigrees free of either **Northern Dancer** or **Mr. Prospector**, so their rarity makes them potentially very valuable as future stallions or broodmares.

One of these rare specimens is **Cozzene's** very good son **Mizzen Mast**--a product, along with the inbred **Skimming**, of **Juddmonte Farms**.

Mizzen Mast's form in France established that he's a highly capable performer when conditions are in his favor. After taking the **G3 Prix de Guiche** by an impressive six lengths, he again tried to lead throughout when a good second to **Chichicastenango** in the **G1 Grand Prix de Paris**. Unfortunately, the yielding turf was very much against him when he made his American debut in the **G1 Secretariat S.**, and he fared little better with conditions in his favor in the **GII Del Mar Derby**. He bounced back in great style, though, taking the **Bien Bien S.** on a firm turf track by 3 1/2 lengths from **Momentum**, who went on to win the **GIII Native Diver H.** on dirt.

The plan, of course, was for **Mizzen Mast** to tackle the **G1 Hollywood Derby**, but heavy rain forced his withdrawal and a major change to his program. With the **Malibu S.** representing the only remaining Grade I opportunity over a suitable distance in 2001, **Mizzen Mast** was allowed to take his chance on dirt for the first time. His performance was a revelation. Despite stumbling at the start, he recovered to win easily, in a style which suggests that he has a very bright future on dirt.

Although **Mizzen Mast** has run well over 1 1/4 miles, the possibility exists that he is going to prove best at up to 1 1/8 miles, the distance of his **Prix de Guiche** success. His American wins were gained at a

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mile and then seven furlongs.

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It is probably no coincidence that his sire, Cozzene, gained his four Graded successes from a mile to 1 1/8 miles, even though he managed to finish a good third in the GI Man o'War S. over 1 3/8 miles. It's worth remembering, too, that Cozzene won three times on the main track and very nearly won a stakes race on dirt, even though he later became known as a turf specialist.

Although Mizzen Mast has a pedigree free of such widespread influences as Northern Dancer, Raise A Native, Bold Ruler and Hail To Reason, that's not to say that his pedigree is in any way unfashionable.

His sire has proved just as effective at stud as he was on the track, siring performers of the calibre of Alphabet Soup, Tikkanen and Star of Cozzene, and his dam, the Graustark mare Kinema, has the distinction of being a daughter of the celebrated broodmare Mrs. Peterkin.

When Kinema came on the market as a yearling in 1984, she cost Juddmonte no less than \$2,200,000. Mrs. Peterkin had already been represented by three stakes winners, including the California Oaks winner Whydidju (like Kinema, sired by one of Ribot's best sons) and the Kentucky Oaks winner Sweet Alliance. Sweet Alliance had also hit the headlines, producing a Northern Dancer colt--Shareef Dancer--which sold for \$3,300,000 as a yearling before going on to win the Irish Derby. Thanks to Mizzen Mast, Kinema now ranks as the fifth daughter of Mrs. Peterkin to have produced a graded-stakes winner, so this remains a very good family indeed.

Mizzen Mast is by no means the first high-class representative of Cozzene to have Ribot in his pedigree. The Breeders' Cup Classic winner Alphabet Soup and the Group 1 winner Environment Friend both have dams sired by sons of Ribot, while the Breeders' Cup Turf winner Tikkanen and the Grade III winner Hasten To Add have second dams by sons of Ribot.

Mizzen Mast therefore represents a very potent combination of bloodlines, and a few more top-level performances will ensure that, once he retires to stud, he will receive strong support from the legions of breeders anxious to find an outcross for their mares.