



PEDIGREE INSIGHTS

BY ANDREW CAULFIELD

ROBERT B. LEWIS S.-GII, \$196,000, SAX, 2-2, 3yo, 1 1/16m, 1:42 4/5, ft.

1--#@FLASHBACK, 118, c, 3, by [Tapit](#)

1st Dam: **Rhumb Line**, by **Mr. Greeley**

2nd Dam: **Rose Rhapsody**, by **Pleasant Colony**

3rd Dam: **Rosy Spectre**, by **Nijinsky II**

(\$260,000 wlng '10 KEENOV). O-Gary & Mary West; B-William G Andrade MD & Michael E Hernon (KY); T-Bob Baffert; J-Julien R Leparoux. \$120,000.

Lifetime Record: 2-2-0-0, \$147,000. *Full to Zazu, MGISW, \$691,985; 3/4 to Corinthian's Jewel (Corinthian), SW; 1/2 to Art Princess (Officer), GSP-GB. **Werk Nick Rating: A+.** [Click for the eNicks report & 5-cross pedigree.](#) [Click for the brisnet.com chart](#), [the brisnet.com PPs](#) or [the free brisnet.com catalogue-style pedigree.](#) **VIDEO.**

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Co-Bred by William Andrade & Michael Hernon, Sold by GAINESWAY 

ELIGIBLE FOR **KY BREEDERS' INCENTIVE FUND** AWARDS UP TO \$5,000 

Next Sunday sees the Chinese New Year, which will be the Year of the Snake, but in America's breeding industry 2013 has, so far, been the year of the A.P. Indy male line. Two sons of the two-time champion sire--Malibu Moon and Pulpit--already have a pair of graded stakes winners to their credit.

Yet both were eclipsed in sensational style by Pulpit's son Tapit three days ago, when three of his sophomores scored at graded level.

Two of Tapit's winners, Flashback (GII Robert B. Lewis S.) and Honorable Dillon (GII Hutcheson S.), are among the 14 sons of the Gainesway stallion which have been entered for the Triple Crown events. Another is He's Had Enough, who gave Shanghai Bobby (Harlan's Holiday) such a good fight in the GI Breeders' Cup Juvenile.

FLASHBACK, c, 2010

Tapit	Pulpit	A.P. Indy	Seattle Slew
			Weekend Surprise
	Tap Your Heels	Preach	Mr. Prospector
			Narrate
		Unbridled	Fappiano
			Gana Facil
Ruby Slippers	Nijinsky II		
		Moon Glitter	
Rhumb Line 9-3-0-1 7Fls, 2GSW, 1SW	Mr. Greeley	Gone West	Mr. Prospector
			Secrettame
	Rose Rhapsody 13-0-2-1 12Fls	Long Legend	Reviewer
			Lianga
		Pleasant Colony	His Majesty
			Sun Colony
Rosy Spectre 11Fls	Nijinsky II		
		Like a Charm	

At the moment, Flashback looks to have the stronger form, as he had more than six lengths to spare at Santa Anita over Den's Legacy (Medaglia d'Oro) (114 on the Experimental Free H.) and He's Had Enough (Tapit) (123 on the Experimental).

His potential has been obvious from an early age. He made \$260,000 as a weanling at Keeneland November, in a year when the top price for a Tapit foal was \$350,000. At that stage Flashback's elder sister Zazu was just a twice-raced maiden winner. However, she soon started to add to her brother's value, running the future Grade I winner Turbulent Descent (Congrats) to 1 1/2 lengths in the Moccasin S. later in November.

Zazu and Turbulent Descent were destined to meet a few more times. Although Turbulent Descent normally came out on top, Zazu took advantage of a five pound weight concession to beat her in the GI Las Virgenes S. over a mile. There was only a neck between the two at level weights when Turbulent Descent won the GI Santa Anita Oaks.



Flashback
Benoit

Zazu also took revenge on her GI Kentucky Oaks conqueror Plum Pretty (Medaglia d'Oro) when the pair met again in the slightly shorter GII Hollywood Oaks. She also turned the tables on Ultra Blend (Richly Blended), who beat her in the Clement Hirsch S., in the GI Lady's Secret S.

Typically for a filly who did most of her racing in California, Zazu spent most of her time racing over 1 1/16 miles, so she isn't a great deal of help in deciding whether Flashback will flourish beyond a mile and an eighth.

With A.P. Indy and Unbridled as his grandsires and Seattle Slew and Nijinsky among his great-grandsires, Tapit isn't short of stamina in his pedigree, but then there are his two lines of Mr. Prospector to take into account. Flashback's pedigree carries another line of Mr. Prospector (making it 4x5x4) but also a second line of Nijinsky (4x4) and there are also two lines of Secretariat in the fifth generation.

Tapit has enjoyed graded stakes success over a mile and an eighth and a mile and a quarter, but perhaps not as often as you might expect. This may well owe quite a lot to the fact that his 21 graded winners include as many as 13 fillies. The exceptions over a mile and an eighth are Dance Card (GI Gazelle S.) and Concord Point (GII West Virginia Derby), with his best mile-and-a-quarter winners being Careless Jewel (GI Alabama S.), Headache (GII Hawthorne Gold Cup as a 5-year-old) and the Japanese dirt horse Testa Matta (winner of the Japan Dirt Derby over a mile and a quarter before becoming a G1 winner over a mile).

Flashback can't be expected to inherit much staying power from Mr. Greeley, sire of his dam Rhumb Line. Rhumb Line did her winning at up to a mile, while Mr. Greeley's best effort was arguably his second in the 1995 GI Breeders' Cup Sprint.

However, another daughter of Mr. Greeley produced the GI Kentucky Derby runner-up Closing Argument to the speedy Successful Appeal and it is encouraging that Flashback's second and third dams are daughters of Pleasant Colony and Nijinsky. These are the non-winning Rose Rhapsody and the mile stakes winner Rosy Spectre. That said, I still need to see Flashback race some more before he convinces me that he will be suited by the Kentucky Derby distance.

An interesting aspect of Tapit's success as a stallion is that it has been achieved with quite a wide range of bloodlines. Mr. Greeley, the broodmare sire of Zazu and Flashback, is one of 19 different horses who appear among the broodmare sires of Tapit's 21 graded winners. The only other stallion whose name appears twice is Wild Again (sire of the dams of Joyful Victory and War Echo). The dominant force has been mares from the Storm Cat line, with Tapicat's win in the GIII Florida Oaks adding Storm Cat's name to a list which already features Sir Cat (Hansen), Hennessy (Careless Jewel), Tabasco Cat (Tell A Kelly) and Menifee (Dancinginherdreams).

Tapit's 3x4 inbreeding to Mr. Prospector has no doubt limited the number of Mr. Prospector line mares sent to him. However, he sired the Grade II winner Headache from a grand-daughter of Mr. Prospector, by Woodman. And now he has sired two very talented performers from Mr. Greeley's daughter Rhumb Line. Incidentally, Rhumb Line was sold for \$65,000 at Keeneland's 2007 January Sale, when carrying Zazu, but her price soared to \$850,000 when offered again in foal to Tapit at Keeneland's 2011 November Sale.

Part of the family's future lies in Japan, as Zazu was snapped up by Katsumi Yoshida for \$2,100,000 last November. Yoshida also owns Rhumb Line's Officer filly Art Princess. This group-placed 2-year-old visited Tapit in 2011 before being bought for \$400,000. Japanese interests also bought Flashback's sister Star of Sapphire for \$350,000 in 2011.

And for Tapit, the future looks extremely bright. His trio of graded winners on Saturday were sired when his fee was \$35,000, so there is every reason to get excited about his next few crops, sired at the escalating fees of \$50,000, \$80,000 and \$125,000.