



PEDIGREE PROFILE

Pedigree shows Henny Hughes could be dominant at sprint distances

by Rommy Faversham

After an impressive juvenile campaign last season, Henny Hughes returned from an eight-month layoff to crush a small field of three-year-olds by ten lengths in the \$145,500 Jersey Shore Breeders' Cup Stakes (G3) at Monmouth Park.



The fleet chestnut Hennessy colt covered six furlongs in a sprite 1:08.26.

After winning his first three starts, including the Tremont and Saratoga Special (G2) Stakes, Henny Hughes finished second to First Samurai

HENNY HUGHES

in the Hopeful (G1) and Champagne (G1) Stakes.

In his final start last year, he was a valiant second behind Stevie Wonderboy in the one-turn Breeders' Cup Juvenile (G1) on October 29 at Belmont Park.

Never out of the exacta, Henny Hughes has four wins from seven career starts with a healthy \$734,820 in earnings. But where should he go from here?

Virtually, all of the key influences in Henny Hughes's pedigree are directed towards speed over stamina.

His certainly is not the lineage one would expect to have achieved much success while competing on the Triple Crown trail. Interesting, particularly since he was quite popular this spring in early Kentucky Derby future-pool wagering.

Bred in Kentucky, Henny Hughes is the eighth winner from the winning stakes-placed Meadowlake mare Meadow Flyer. His granddam, Shortley, won the seven-furlong First Flight Handicap (G3) as a four-year-old.

Perhaps, the aptitudinal nature of Henny's immediate family best can be characterized by his aptly named third dam, Short Winded, who has become the matriarch of no less than six graded or group stakes winners, the majority of this clan winning at sprint distances.

Henny Hughes also does not figure to get very much stamina from the sires of his first three dams, the brilliant Meadowlake, good sprinter Hagley, or Harvest Singing, a rather obscure son of Nasrullah.

Henny Hughes, ch. c., 2003

Hennessy 93 895 fls, 50 SWs SI 1.80 DI=3.80	Storm Cat 83 4 wins, \$570,610, SW 1102 fls, 145 SWs SI 4.35 DI=4.00	Storm Bird 78 681 fls, 63 SWs SI 3.10 DI=3.25	Northern Dancer 61	Nearctic 54 Natalma 57
		Terlingua 76 11 fls, 2 SWs DI=3.63	South Ocean 67	New Providence 56 Shining Sun 62
			Secretariat 70	Bold Ruler 54 Somethingroyal 52
			Crimson Saint 69	Crimson Satan 59 Bolero Rose 58
Meadow Flyer 89 9 fls, 1 SW DI=9.67	Island Kitty 76 4 wins, \$104,236, Spl 13 fls, 4 SWs DI=1.40	*Hawaii 64 536 fls, 39 SWs SI 1.76 DI=0.80	=Utrillo II (Ity) 58	*Toulouse Lautrec 50 =Urbine (GB) 53
		T. C. Kitten 69 11 fls, 3 SWs DI=2.14	=Ethane (SAF) 47	=Mehraii (GB) 39 =Ethyl (SAF) 36
			Tom Cat 60	Tom Fool 49 Jazz Baby 46
			Needlebug 61	Needles 53 Flynet 49
Meadowlake 83 3 wins, \$308,580, SW 827 fls, 55 SWs SI 2.05 DI=5.00		Hold Your Peace 69 515 fls, 45 SWs SI 1.65 DI=2.59	Speak John 58	Prince John 53 *Nuit de Folies 47
		Suspicious Native 72 15 fls, 2 SWs DI=3.75	Blue Moon 48	Eight Thirty 36 Blue Grass 43
			Raise a Native 61	Native Dancer 50 Raise You 46
			Be Suspicious 63	Porterhouse 51 Northchance 48
Shortley 80 9 wins, \$127,778, SW 12 fls, 0 SWs DI=5.67		Hagley 67 369 fls, 31 SWs SI 1.52 DI=1.67	Olden Times 58	Relic 45 *Djene 50
		Short Winded 65 12 fls, 1 SW DI=3.89	Teo Pepi 61	Jet Action 51 Sherry L. 50
			Harvest Singing 56	*Nasrullah 40 Meadow 51
			Wind Cloud 52	Alquest 40 Psychic Cloud 41

Henny Hughes hails from the sixth crop of the Storm Cat stallion Hennessy, North America's leading living sire by 2005 worldwide earnings.

Collectively, Hennessy's offspring have best excelled at sprint distances, even when bred from relatively stoutly bred mares. An outstanding sire of juvenile winners, Hennessy's influence on the breed has clearly been that of a purveyor of speed.

Henny Hughes is a five generation outcross. As such, his pedigree demonstrates a relatively low concentration of inbreeding between sire and dam.

As long as Henny Hughes remains at sprint distances, he looks like one tough customer.

On the other hand, if this latest romp encourages Henny Hughes's handlers toward experimentation and his competing around two turns, it might be a better idea to look elsewhere on the day.

Rommy Faversham is a pedigree specialist and author living in Los Angeles. More of his work is available at <http://www.equicross.com>.