



## PEDIGREE PROFILE

# Dixie Union colt Fierce Wind joins Kentucky Derby trail

by Rommy Faversham

Tactical speed made the difference in the \$200,000 Sam F. Davis Stakes as Fierce Wind shook free from his opponents at the top of the stretch and held off a late charge from Big Truck to score a half-length victory in the race for three-year-olds on February 16 at Tampa Bay Downs.



Tom Cooley photo

The win was the third consecutive victory and first stakes triumph for the Dixie Union colt, who completed the 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ -mile contest in a swift 1:44.13.

### FIERCE WIND

Unplaced in sprints in his first two career starts, Fierce Wind showed marked improvement when stretched out to two turns. He broke his maiden with a front-running 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ -length romp going one mile and 70 yards on December 16 at Calder Race Course and followed up on January 21 at Gulfstream Park with a pacesetter win by 5 $\frac{1}{4}$  lengths in a 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -mile allowance race.

Fierce Wind's career record stands at three wins in five starts and earnings of \$146,200. Bred in Kentucky by William S. Farish, Hilbert Thoroughbreds, and Menard Thoroughbreds, Fierce Wind was sold for \$90,000 at the 2006 Keeneland September yearling sale. In March 2007, he was listed as a reserve not attained after bringing a final bid of \$300,000 at the Fasig-Tipton Calder sale of selected two-year-olds in training.

He is one of five winners from as many starters out of the winning A.P. Indy mare Post Parade. Fierce Wind's older full brother, Rebel Yeller, captured the 2007 Woodlawn Stakes at one mile on the grass at Pimlico Race Course.

The 2008 Sam F. Davis marked the third consecutive year the race was won by a colt out of an A.P. Indy mare. Any Given Saturday, by Distorted Humor out of Weekend in Indy, won in 2007, and Bluegrass Cat, by Storm Cat out of She's a Winner, captured the 2006 edition.

Post Parade is a full sister to multiple Grade 3 winner Parade Queen, dam of 2006 Sorrento Stakes (G3) winner Untouched Talent. The family is anchored by Fierce Wind's fourth dam, \*Bitty Girl, who was England's champion two-year-old filly of 1973. The clan also includes Action This Day, an Eclipse Award winner as champion two-year-old male of 2003.

Fierce Wind hails from the fourth crop of the Dixieland Band stallion Dixie Union, a multiple Grade 1 winner who stands for \$50,000 at Farish's Lane's End in Versailles, Kentucky.

### Fierce Wind, dk. b. or br. c., 2005

Dixie Union 97 332 fls, 18 SWs SI 1.98 DI=3.40	Dixieland Band 80 8 wins, \$441,320, SW 1194 fls, 114 SWs SI 2.42 DI=3.50	<b>Northern Dancer 61</b> 635 fls, 147 SWs SI 5.82 DI=3.00	Nearctic 54	=Nearco (Ity) 35 *Lady Angela 44
	She's Tops 89 4 wins, \$200,880, SW 4 fls, 1 SW DI=4.60	Mississippi Mud 73 11 fls, 1 SW DI=2.14	Natalma 57	Native Dancer 50 Almahoud 47
		Capote 84 823 fls, 62 SWs SI 1.86 DI=3.00	Delta Judge 60	Traffic Judge 52 Beautillon 53
	Post Parade 96 5 fls, 2 SWs DI=2.11	A.P. Indy 89 8 wins, \$2,979,815 Champion 887 fls, 109 SWs SI 4.02 DI=2.54	She's a Talent 83 14 fls, 2 SWs DI=5.00	Sand Buggy 63
<b>Seattle Slew 74</b> 1050 fls, 114 SWs SI 4.76 DI=2.14			<b>Seattle Slew 74</b>	Bold Reasoning 68 My Charmer 69
Spanish Parade 88 6 wins, \$131,822, SW 6 fls, 1 SW DI=1.60		Weekend Surprise 80 14 fls, 4 SWs DI=2.64	Too Bald 64	Bald Eagle 55 Hidden Talent 56
		Roberto 69 500 fls, 85 SWs SI 3.90 DI=2.50	Mr. Prospector 70	Raise a Native 61 Gold Digger 62
Nijit 77 13 fls, 2 SWs DI=1.71	Nijinsky II 67	Paintbrush 77	Bold Hour 64 Change Water 69	
		<b>Seattle Slew 74</b>	Boldnesian 63 Reason to Earn 63	
		My Charmer 69	Poker 63 Fair Charmer 59	
Nijinsky II 67	*Bitty Girl 71	Secretariat 70	Bold Ruler 54 Somethingroyal 52	
		Lassie Dear 74	Buckpasser 63 Gay Missile 67	
		Hail to Reason 58	*Turn-to 51 Nothridchance 48	
Nijinsky II 67	*Bitty Girl 71	Bramalea 59	Nashua 52 Rarelea 49	
		<b>Northern Dancer 61</b>	Flaming Page 59 Habitat 66 =Garvey Girl (Ire) 60	

Dixie Union's current crop of three-year-olds also includes Grade 1 winner Dixie Chatter and Grade 3 winner Turf War. The latter's older full brother, Grasshopper, recently won the Mineshaft Handicap (G3) at Fair Grounds and was a gallant second to Kentucky Derby Presented by Yum! Brands (G1) winner Street Sense in last year's Travers Stakes (G1).

Fierce Wind's Triple Crown aspirations are certainly bolstered by the sires of his first three dams, A.P. Indy, Roberto, and Nijinsky II, who all were classic winners and breed-shaping sires.

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