



Flower Bowl winner Dimitrova: Has pedigree, will travel

by Rommy Faversham

Dimitrova's one-length victory in the \$750,000 Flower Bowl Invitational Stakes (G1) on Saturday at Belmont Park confirms the daughter of Swain (Ire) as a top contender for the Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Turf (G1).



Patricia McQueen photo

DIMITROVA

Twice this year, the three-year-old Kentucky-bred has crossed the Atlantic for trainer Dermot Weld from their home base at the Curragh to win major American grass races. In July, Dimitrova traveled to Hollywood Park to capture the \$750,000 American Oaks. She resurfaced in September to run second behind Indy Five Hundred in the Garden City Breeders' Cup Handicap (G1). Prior to these races, she was a very good third in the Irish One Thousand Guineas (Ire-G1). Saturday's earnings take Dimitrova's total over the \$1-million mark to \$1,047,292 with four wins from eight starts.

Dimitrova's dam, the Caerleon mare The Caretaker (Ire), was highweighted at two on the 1989 Irish Free Handicap. From five foals,

Dimitrova, b. f., 2000			
Swain (Ire) 92 110 fls, 2 SWs SI 3.23 DI=1.22	Nashwan 86 6 wins, \$1,447,003 Champion 485 fls, 32 SWs SI 2.79 DI=1.34	Blushing Groom (Fr) 74 512 fls, 92 SWs SI 4.76 DI=1.52	Red God 54
		Height of Fashion (Fr) 79 11 fls, 6 SWs DI=0.42	Runaway Bride (GB) 62
The Caretaker (Ire) 87 5 fls, 2 SWs DI=0.88	Love Smitten 81 9 wins, \$450,505, SW 5 fls, 3 SWs DI=1.20	Key to the Mint 69 624 fls, 48 SWs SI 2.58 DI=0.59	=Bustino (GB) 71
		Square Angel 70 7 fls, 4 SWs DI=2.20	Highclere (GB) 71
	Caerleon 80 4 wins, \$379,327 Champion 989 fls, 128 SWs SI 2.77 DI=0.79	Nijinsky II 67 851 fls, 155 SWs SI 5.77 DI=3.00	Graustark 63
		Foreseer 69 13 fls, 4 SWs DI=0.77	Key Bridge 59
	Go Feather Go 72 1 win, \$2,884 13 fls, 3 SWs DI=1.73	Go Marching 65 402 fls, 21 SWs SI 0.99 DI=1.74	Quadrangle 61
		Feather Bed 61 20 fls, 2 SWs DI=1.60	Nangela 65
			Northern Dancer 61
			Flaming Page 59
			Round Table 54
			Regal Gleam 64
			*Princequillo 40
			Leallah 54
			Johns Joy 46
			Silly Sara 51

she has produced 1999 English and 2000 German highweight Mutafaweq, by Silver Hawk, who distinguished himself by winning Group or Grade 1 races in three different countries. The Caretaker is a half sister to American Grade 3 winner Go Honey Go (Ire).

Dimitrova is from the first crop of multiple Group 1 winner and multiple European highweight Swain, who stands at Shadwell Farm near Lexington. From 122 foals of racing age, Swain has sired 27 winners and group or graded stakes winners Dimitrova and Muqbil. On the track, he was the most accomplished son of 1989 Epsom Derby (G1) winner Nashwan,

who is otherwise known as a sire of quality fillies.

Nashwan descended from the same outstanding family as the great runner and sire Round Table and, not coincidentally, has done exceptionally well with broodmares sporting Round Table blood. A generation later, Swain's best daughter, Dimitrova, is a maternal granddaughter of Caerleon, who is a grandson of Round Table.

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