



PT's Grey Eagle latest Pleasant Tap progeny to swoop onto scene

by Rommy Faversham

Former claimer PT's Grey Eagle ran down Grade 1 winner Pohave in the final strides of the \$213,000 Ancient Title Breeders' Cup Handicap (G1) on Sunday during the Oak Tree meet at Santa Anita Park to key an unlikely gray-roan exacta.



Benoit & Associates photo

PT'S GREY EAGLE

Despite being still eligible for a non-winners of two allowance races, the three-year-old Pleasant Tap gelding moved to the top of the class in one fell swoop. He now has three wins and four second-place finishes in eight lifetime starts with earnings of \$205,540.

Bred in Kentucky by Farrell W. Jones, PT's Grey Eagle is the first winner from the winning Swing Till Dawn mare Hemet Eagle, whose sire represented a rare case of the pure breeding grey stallion, hence every one of his offspring shared his silver coat.

Before Sunday's upset victory, PT's Grey Eagle's immediate family had been a relatively quiet branch of the much larger and very successful tribe of Racing Hall of Famer Real Delight, his fifth dam. This clan remains as one of the great ones crafted at Calumet Farm during its golden era in the 1950s.

PT's Grey Eagle's third dam, Pet Eagle was a full sister to Grade 3 winner and sire, Raise A Cup.

Pt's Grey Eagle, gr/ro. g., 2001

Pleasant Tap 87 391 fls, 32 SWs SI 1.69 DI=0.90	Pleasant Colony 78 6 wins, \$965,383 Champion 620 fls, 77 SWs SI 3.67 DI=1.17	His Majesty 68 640 fls, 59 SWs SI 2.33 DI=0.77	*Ribot 52
		Sun Colony 68 5 fls, 1 SW DI=5.50	Flower Bowl 52 Sunrise Flight 59 *Colonia 59
	Never Knock 79 2 wins, \$29,035 12 fls, 2 SWs DI=0.97	Stage Door Johnny 65 582 fls, 51 SWs SI 2.54 DI=0.75	Prince John 53 Peroxide Blonde 60
		Never Hula 69 9 fls, 0 SWs DI=10.11	Never Bend 60 Hula Hula 52
Hemet Eagle 91 3 fls, 1 SW DI=3.00	Swing Till Dawn 79 5 wins, \$353,125, SW 349 fls, 5 SWs SI 1.08 DI=1.71	*Grey Dawn II 62 746 fls, 73 SWs SI 2.12 DI=0.47	*Herbager 56 Polamia 55
		Swinging Lizzie 68 11 fls, 2 SWs DI=1.48	The Axe II 58 Sulenan 63
	Red and Blue Eagle 81 1 win, \$6,500 10 fls, 0 SWs DI=5.67	Naskra 67 619 fls, 67 SWs SI 2.02 DI=2.71	Nasram 60 *Iskra 61
	Pet Eagle 75 15 fls, 0 SWs DI=3.70		Raise a Native 61 Spring Sunshine 66

PT's Grey Eagle became the 12th graded or group stakes winner and third American Grade 1 winner for his sire, 1992 champion older horse Pleasant Tap, who also scored with Japan Cup (Jpn-G1) victor Tap Dance City, Gazelle Handicap (G1) winner Tap To Music, and Hollywood Starlet (G1) heroine I Believe In You.

Pleasant Tap stands for \$10,000 at Lane's End near Versailles, Kentucky.

PT's Grey Eagle's extended pedigree demonstrates a valuable double dose of famed matriarch La Troienne, who appears both as Pleasant Tap's fifth dam and the third dam of The Axe II.

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