



Rock Hard Ten another success story for late stallion Kris S.

by Rommy Faversham

Classic-placed Rock Hard Ten earned his first stakes victory on Saturday at Hollywood Park when he was much the best in the \$409,300 Swaps Breeders' Cup Stakes (G2).

For the big, athletic son of Kris S., the field came up considerably softer than the three consecutive Grade 1 events he was exiting. The dark bay or brown colt has three wins in six starts with earnings of \$630,380, including a distant second-place finish to Smarty Jones in the Preakness Stakes (G1).

Standing close to 17 hands, Rock Hard Ten is one of four winners from the Mr. Prospector mare Tersa, who was the 1988 highweight juvenile filly on the European Free Handicap when she captured the Prix Morny (Fr-G1). Tersa is a half sister to 1982 Kentucky Derby (G1) winner Gato Del Sol.

Bred by Madeleine Paulson, Rock Hard Ten is from the 19th crop of Kris S., arguably Roberto's most successful son at stud. Sire of five different Breeders' Cup winners, Kris S.'s stallion career has been characterized by his consistency in getting top-class runners both on dirt and turf. Rock Hard Ten is his 40th graded or group stakes winner.



ROCK HARD TEN

Benoit & Associates photo

Rock Hard Ten, dkbbr. c., 2001

Kris S. 77 832 fls, 82 SWs SI 3.03 DI=1.60	Roberto 69 7 wins, \$332,272 Champion 500 fls, 85 SWs SI 3.90 DI=2.50	Hail to Reason 58 308 fls, 43 SWs SI 4.40 DI=3.18	*Turn-to 51 Nothirdchance 48
	Sharp Queen 65 2 wins, \$11,775 8 fls, 1 SW DI=1.13	Bramalea 59 9 fls, 1 SW DI=1.92	Nashua 52 Rarelea 49 =Prince Rose (GB) 28 *Cosquilla 33
Tersa 86 8 fls, 1 SW DI=3.73	Mr. Prospector 70 7 wins, \$112,171, SW 1177 fls, 180 SWs SI 5.10 DI=3.95	*Princequillo 40 482 fls, 65 SWs SI 4.98 DI=0.78	Occupy 41 *Feale Bridge 42
	Peacefully 73 4 wins, \$44,895, SW 11 fls, 2 SWs DI=1.92	Bridgework 55 5 fls, 0 SWs DI=1.33	Native Dancer 50 Raise You 46
		Raise a Native 61 838 fls, 78 SWs SI 3.14 DI=1.57	Nashua 52 Sequence 46
		Gold Digger 62 12 fls, 3 SWs DI=2.23	Bold Ruler 54 *Cascade II 51
		Jacinto 62 404 fls, 37 SWs SI 1.90 DI=1.40	Hail to Reason 58 Yellow Mist 50
		Morning Calm 62 9 fls, 1 SW DI=1.84	

Kris S. has done particularly well with Mr. Prospector-line mares. Other key individuals with this cross include 1993 Breeders' Cup Distaff (G1) winner Hollywood Wildcat, Grade 1 winner Evening Kris, 2003 English juvenile highweight Lucky Story, and English Group 1 winner Dr Fong.

Kris S.'s broodmare sire, *Princequillo, is one of the premier broodmare sire of sires of the 20th century having also sired daughters who produced Secretariat, Mill Reef, Sir Gay-

lord, and Key to the Mint.

After standing 12 seasons in Florida, Kris S. was moved in 1994 to Kentucky, where his crops became even deeper in talent. He died in the spring of 2002 and will be represented by a very small—six current yearlings—final crop of juveniles next year.

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