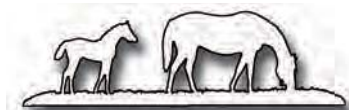


Ultrafleet: Big In Stature



*The 2008/2009 California
Broodmare of the Year*

by EMILY SHIELDS

For a mere \$10,500, anyone could have purchased a tiny yearling filly named Ultrafleet back in the 1993 Keeneland September Yearling Sale. Several buyers ignored the daughter of Afleet due to her slender frame, but John and Diane Fradkin took a chance on her. Their reward is that Ultrafleet, now 17, is the newly anointed 2008/2009 California Broodmare of the Year as voted by the membership of the California Thoroughbred Breeders Association (CTBA). After having produced the dual graded stakes winners Cambiocorsa and California Flag, Ultrafleet's value is considerably improved, and the Fradkins are getting more return on their investment than they could ever have dreamed possible.

"We were total neophytes when we bought her," John Fradkin admits, "but she was a very correct filly. She remains the only yearling we've ever bought." Ultrafleet received her early training in California, but proved to be a disappointment on the racetrack, failing to place in four starts. "People thought we were crazy, but we decided to make her a broodmare. Not only did we breed her, but we put her on a van to Kentucky and booked her to one of the stallions there before shipping her home to Hi Card Ranch," Fradkin recalls. Ultrafleet produced a son of Personal Flag a year later, whom the Fradkins kept and raced.

Ultrafleet's second foal, a daughter of Memo (Chi) named Demo Memo, worked swiftly at Fairplex Park prior to the

2000 Barretts March Sale of Selected Two Year Olds in Training and sold for \$80,000. She was followed by Fleet Street Jack, a son of Avenue of Flags who brought the Fradkins \$180,000 at the same vendue in 2001. To this point, Ultrafleet seemed a useful, but not exceptional mare. That changed with the birth of Shadow Raider, a graded stakes-placed son of Memo (Chi) who earned \$315,517 on the track.

After Ultra Chic, a Smokester fully who sold for \$170,000 at the 2003 Barretts May Sale of Two-Year-Olds in Training, Ultrafleet produced a gray or roan daughter of Avenue of Flags named Cambiocorsa. Lee and Ty Leatherman spent \$90,000 to purchase Cambiocorsa at the 2004 Barretts May Sale of Two-Year-Olds in Training, then sat back and watched the filly dazzle her way through a remarkable career. While under the care of trainer Doug O'Neill, Cambiocorsa became affectionately known as the "Queen" of Santa Anita Park's downhill turf course, rattling off eight straight victories over that unique 6 1/2-furlong trip. She counts the grade III Senator Ken Maddy and Las Cienegas Handicaps amongst her biggest wins there. The lightning fast mare began her second career as a broodmare in Kentucky after retiring with nine wins and earnings of \$522,055 in 18 starts. To date, Cambiocorsa has produced a yearling by

Continued on next page

**The results of the
ballot for the
2008/2009
California Broodmare
of the Year,
as voted by the
CTBA membership, are:**

- 1st—Ultrafleet**
- 2nd—Bel Air Belle**
- 3rd—Sassy Synner**
- 4th—Lethal Leta**
- 5th—Ippodamia**



©Burge photos



John and Diane Fradkin's Ultrafleet with her 2009 Harlan's Holiday filly.



The 2008/2009 California Broodmare of the Year Cont'd.

Ghostzapper and a foal by Street Sense, both fillies. She has been confirmed in foal to Curlin for next season.

John Fradkin leased Ultrafleet to his good friend Keith Card, owner of Hi Card Ranch, in exchange for free board for a year. "Keith treats us like family, and he was very familiar with Ultrafleet," Fradkin explained. "He even asked me if I wanted to be listed as the co-breeder on the foal, but I said, 'No, it's your horse.' That foal was California Flag."

Another son of Avenue of Flags, California Flag went three-for-10 before taking the Morvich Handicap (grade III) during Santa Anita's 40th Oak Tree Racing Association meet last fall, leading every step of the way and storming home to score by three lengths under young jockey Joe Talamo. The victory was featured on Animal Planet's popular television show "Jockeys," culminating in Talamo's proclamation that California Flag was the fastest horse in California. "We'd foaled every baby Ultrafleet had up to that point, so it was exciting to get one from her," said Card, a Past President of the CTBA. "Ultrafleet is on the small side, but she's a calm, nice mare to work with, and all of her foals have been that way."

The inaugural \$1 million Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint (grade I) seemed a logical next step for California Flag. Both Card and trainer Brian Koriner were concerned about the brilliant speedster Mr. Nightlinger, and ordered Talamo to press the early pace to ensure a fair fight. Unfortunately, the duo faded to the back of the pack that day, but Card still called it, "A thrilling experience."

California Flag rebounded to close out the year with a sharp win in the Hollywood Turf Express Handicap (grade III). The

gray or roan gelding was injured in that effort, but has returned to training and is pointing for the Aug. 19 Green Flash Handicap at the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club. A strong fall season would again land California Flag in the Breeders' Cup, where Card jokes, "We'll give Talamo different instructions." California Flag's current record is five wins in 13 starts with \$283,216 earned.

After Ultrafleet produced an Unusual Heat colt and another Memo (Chi) filly, both of whom are unraced, Fradkin shipped the mare to Hill 'n' Dale Farm in Lexington, Kentucky, to visit Vindication, the 2002 Eclipse Champion Two-Year-Old Male. The resulting offspring is a handsome colt named Vader, who is entered in this year's Keeneland September Yearling Sale. "He's a real nice looking colt," Fradkin promised. This April, Ultrafleet gave birth to a Harlan's Holiday filly, and is in foal to Bernardini.

Vindication is by Seattle Slew and Bernardini is a grandson of Seattle Slew, the sire of Avenue of Flags. "We are trying to create three-quarter siblings to Ultrafleet's best offspring," Fradkin explained about the stallion choices. "With the Harlan's Holiday cross, I'd always wanted to send Ultrafleet to a Northern Dancer-lined stallion, since she's free of him." Although Cambiocorsa and California Flag gave their best performances running short on the turf, Fradkin pointed out that they also both won at a mile and believes that, with certain sires, the offspring will be able to cover a route of ground.

Fradkin is also quick to note that Ultrafleet will be returning to California, possibly as early as next year. "There's a lot of mares in California, and to think that my little mare was the Broodmare of the Year is pretty cool. It's very satisfying." Not bad for an overlooked yearling filly, whose enormous talent in the shed far outweighs her tiny stature. 🐾

Ultrafleet

Ultrafleet, Gr./Ro., F
Foaled 1992
In New Jersey

Afleet, 84

Mr. Prospector, 70

Polite Lady, 77

Social Conduct, 84

Vigors, 73

Jostling Queen, 70

Named Foals	Runners	Winners	SWs (graded)	Stakes-Placed
14	9	4	2 (2)	1

California Foals (Named):

- 1997 Fleetwood Jack, B, C, by Personal Flag. In NA/US, Unplaced at 3 (SSI = 0.01):4.
- 1998 Demo Memo, B, F, by Memo (Chi). In NA/US, 3 wins at 3, \$107,653 (SSI = 2.21):18.
- 1999 Fleet Street Jack, B, C, by Avenue of Flags. In NA/US, Placed at 3, \$4,730 (SSI = 0.16):10.
- 2000 **Shadow Raider**, Gr/Ro, C, by Memo (Chi). In NA/US, 10 wins, 3 to 8, \$315,517 (SSI = 2.50):62. 2nd Bay Meadows Breeders' Cup Handicap [G3] (\$121,250, BM), 2nd California Turf Championship H. [OR] (\$20,000, BM) \$100,000, 3rd China Basin S. [O] (\$9,750, GG) \$55,625.
- 2001 Ultra Chic, Dkbb, F, by Smokester. In NA/US, Placed at 3 and 4, \$11,043 (SSI = 0.32):14.
- 2002 **CAMBIOCORSA**, Gr/Ro, F, by Avenue of Flags. In NA/US, 9 wins at 3 and 4, \$522,055 (SSI = 11.20):18. 1st Irish O'Brien S. [OR] (\$80,475, SA) \$134,125, 1st Las Cienegas Handicap [G3] (\$112,900, SA), 1st Senator Ken Maddy Handicap [G3] (\$100,000, OSA), 1st Wishing Well Handicap [L] (\$62,400, SA) \$96,800, 1st Wishing Well S. [N] (\$48,360, HOL) \$73,160, 3rd California Cup Distaff Handicap [OR] (\$18,000, OSA) \$150,000.
- 2004 **CALIFORNIA FLAG**, Gr/Ro, G, by Avenue of Flags. In US, 5 wins at 4, \$283,216 (SSI = 7.86):13. 1st Hollywood Turf Express H. [G3] (\$150,000, HOL), 1st Morvich H. [G3] (\$112,500, OSA). Ncr Sa Abt6.50f 1:11.10 (T) 2008.
- 2006 Unparalleled, Gr/Ro, C, by Unusual Heat. Unraced.
- 2007 Platinum Mine, Gr/Ro, F, by Memo (Chi). Unraced.

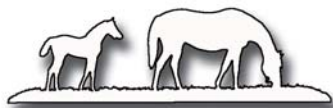


Cambiocorsa



California Flag

©Senot photos



The 2008/2009
Valkyr Trophy

Lethal Heat: One Cool Customer

by LARRY BORTSTEIN

She was scratched from an open allowance race at Hollywood Park on July 9, which would have been her first start in more than six months.

But Madeline Auerbach, one of Lethal Heat's breeders and owners, quickly assured there was nothing wrong with the California-bred four-year-old filly.

"We're just waiting for Del Mar," she said.

And why not? The 2008 meeting at the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club was the setting for much of the fiery success enjoyed as a three-year-old by the daughter of Unusual Heat, out of Lethal Leta, by Synastry.

Trained by Barry Abrams, another one of her owners, she won the Fleet Treat Stakes against Cal-bred males, the Real Good Deal against Cal-bred fillies and then ran third in the Aug. 16 Del Mar Oaks (grade I). The first two races were on Polytrack, the last on the Jimmy Durante Turf Course.

Lethal Heat also ran well at locations other than the seaside track. Early in the year, she won the grade III Santa Paula Stakes over Santa Anita Park's Pro-Ride and then, on June 8, the grade II Hollywood Oaks on the Inglewood oval's Cushion Track, her first start around two turns.

With three victories in six starts during the qualifying period of June 1, 2008, to May 31, 2009, including a third place finish in her 2009 opener, the grade III Monrovia Handicap at Santa Anita on Jan. 3, she captured the Valkyr Trophy as the outstanding Cal-bred racemare of 2008/2009, in voting by members of the California Thoroughbred Breeders Association (CTBA).

"We're really grateful, and a little surprised, that she won the award," Auerbach said when informed by telephone at her Ventura County home that Lethal Heat was going to be the next recipient of this prestigious award.

An earner of \$438,528, with four wins on all-weather surfaces and two on turf, she is the second consecutive daughter of Unusual Heat to win the Valkyr Trophy, succeeding 2007/2008 winner Golden Doc A, her sire's first grade I winner. In the 2008/2009 election, Lethal Heat beat out Bel Air Sizzle, another Unusual Heat filly and the Del Mar Oaks runner-up.

Lethal Heat, whose breeding partners also include David, the trainer's brother, and Tom Roberts, didn't race at two. She was consigned to the 2007 Barretts May Sale of Two-Year-Olds in Training, but failed to meet her reserve when the bidding stopped at \$25,000. She made her racing debut at Santa Anita on March 1, 2008, winning a 6 1/2-furlong maiden special weight affair down the hillside turf course by a nose.

After winning maiden and allowance events on grass, the latter an optional claiming event for state-breds, she moved to Santa Anita's Pro-Ride for her stakes debut in the 6 1/2-furlong Santa Paula. She dominated a field of seven, winning by 1 3/4 lengths.

"I knew it was a big jump from Cal-breds to open stakes company," Abrams said at the time. "But if any horse could do it, it was her."

Lethal Heat is now owned by a group that includes the Abrams brothers; Dyan, Barry's wife; and Kentuckian Ron McCauley.

McCauley, who made his fortune in the car business, is developing 2,000-acre Cuttaway Farm, a Kentucky training and breeding facility and the likely future home for Lethal Heat as a broodmare.

After she won the Hollywood Oaks, McCauley recommended that Lethal Heat be nominated to the Breeders' Cup. She didn't

**The results of the ballot for the
2008/2009 Valkyr Trophy, as voted
by the CTBA membership, are:**

- 1st—Lethal Heat**
2nd—Bel Air Sizzle
3rd—Lady Railrider
4th—Saucey Evening
5th—Ultra Blend

Lethal Heat

Own: Abrams Barry, M. Auerbach, LLC and Mc

B. f. 4 (Apr)
Sire: Unusual Heat (Nureyev) \$12,500
Dam: Lethal Leta (Synastry)
Br: David Abrams, Madeline Auerbach & Tom Roberts (Cal)
Tr: Abrams Barry (0 0 0 0 .00) 2008: (135 14 .10)

Life	10	6	0	3	\$438,528	95	D.Fst	0	0	0	0	\$0	-
2009	1	0	0	1	\$12,000	89	Wet(306)	0	0	0	0	\$0	-
2008	9	6	0	2	\$426,528	95	Synth	5	4	0	1	\$303,408	95
	0	0	0	0	\$0	-	Turf(328)	5	2	0	2	\$135,120	89
							Dst(0)	0	0	0	0	\$0	-

3Jan09-BSA fm %f @ :22 :44 1.072 1:131 4+ @MnroviaH-G3	89	1	10	51 64 62 31	Solis A	LB118	4.20	88-10	Jibboom115 3/4 Christiana's Heat113 3/4 Lethal Heat118 00	Waited 1/8 & late 11
16Aug08-80mr fm 1 1/4 @ :47 1:11 1:35 1:46 3	86	3	2 1/2	22 1/2 1 1/2 3 1/2	Bejarano R	LB122	6.20	87-09	MagicalFantsy122 2/4 BelAirSizzle122 3/4 LethalHeat122 1/4	Bid btwn,led,held 3rd 10
8Aug08-70mr fst 7f @ :23 :45 1:09 1:21 4	95	8	2	5 3 6 2 1 1 1/2	Gomez G K	LB120	2.10	108	- Lethal Heat120 1/2 Young Joe117 1/2 Dancing in Silks121 3/4	3wd into lane,rallied 8
20Jly08-70mr fst 7f @ :23 :45 1:10 1:22 2	92	1	6	6 4 5 3 3 1 1 1/2	Bejarano R	LB125	2.40	105	- Lethal Heat125 1/2 North Rodeo117 1/2 Quisisana117 2/4	Waited 1/4-3/16,clear 7
4Jly08-8Hol fm 1 @ :24 :48 1:14 1:35	81	7	6 1/2	6 3 6 4 7 5 6 3 1/2	Bejarano R	LB121	*1.80	85-11	StrryPrst115 1/4 GngrPop117 1/4 Rnforthombyby121 1/4	Pulled,4wd into lane 10
8Jun08-8Hol fst 1 1/4 @ :24 :48 1:13 1:43	94	5	3 1/2	3 1/2 1 1/2 1 1/2	Bejarano R	LB113	2.30	87-14	LethalHeat113 3/4 SmoothPrformr113 3/4 TshsMircl113 3/4	3wd bid,led,held btwn 6

©Courtesy of the Daily Racing Form

race in the world championship series, but McCauley is not discounting another attempt this year.

"She always wants to beat the other fillies at the farm," he said. "She's easy to train and always wants to win."

In the 1 1/16-mile Hollywood Oaks, she took the lead in early stretch and held off runner-up Smooth Performer and Tasha's Miracle to win the grade II race by a head in 1:43. There were only six fillies in the race, but Lethal Heat had to withstand challenges from three of them, including fourth-placed Millon Dollar Run, who had handed the Oaks winner her first defeat, in Hollywood Park's May 11 Railbird Stakes (grade III).

"She came out of the turn and just took off," Barry Abrams recalled. "She showed in that race that she can be any kind of a horse."

Her victory in the 63rd Hollywood Oaks was the 22nd by a Cal-bred, but only the fourth since millionaire Fran's Valentine won in 1985. The others to win since then were Perchance To Dream (1987), Smooth Player (1999) and House of Fortune (2004).

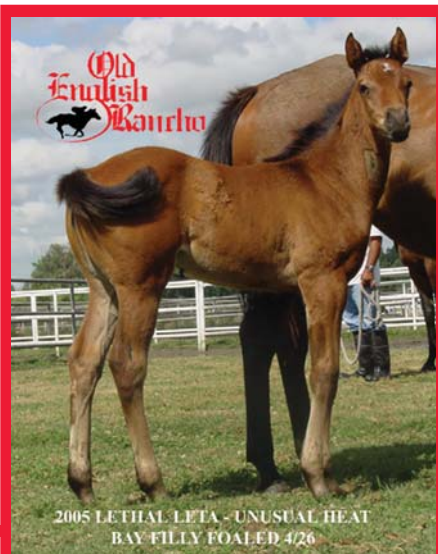
Lethal Heat's three races at Del Mar last summer came in the span of exactly four weeks.

She beat North Rodeo by 1 1/2 lengths in the seven-furlong Fleet Treat, which drew a field of seven Cal-bred fillies on July 20. As the only filly in the eight-horse lineup for the Real Good Deal on Aug. 8, also at seven furlongs, she won by half a length over Young Joe, to better the track record of 1:22.46 she had set in winning the Fleet Treat with a 1:21.95 clocking. She is the only horse ever to sweep both races.

"It was like a workout," Barry Abrams said after the Real Good Deal. "She ran a little harder than I thought she'd need to. But these were decent horses and she has so much energy. When you ask her for a run, she'll give you one."

Lethal Leta, the dam of the Valkyr winner, is 18 years old and resides at Old English Rancho in Sanger, California. She won eight stakes in Idaho and Northern California from the ages of two to five and was a winner 12 times overall. She comes from the family of grade I winner Padua.

Lethal Heat is her fourth foal. Her second, Prevalent, a 2001 Carson City colt, was a stakes winner as a three-year-old at Hawthorne Racecourse, south of Chicago. 🐾



Grade II Hollywood Oaks—June 8, 2008



\$108,600 Fleet Street Stakes—July 20, 2008



\$108,900 Real Good Deal Stakes—August 8, 2008