

MATING ANALYSIS

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LANE'S END

UNIFIED

Candy Ride (ARG) - Union City by Dixie Union
2013 Dkb/br | 16.1 Hands

Candy Ride has risen to rank as the number one living sire on the North American sire list this year with a big assist from mares of the Storm Cat male line. His Breeders' Cup Classic winner and pro tem Horse of the Year son Gun Runner is out of a mare by Storm Cat's best son, Giant's Causeway. His 2013 Champion two-year-old son, Shared Belief, is out of a mare by Storm Cat himself, as is his first-crop Santa Anita Derby winner, Sidney's Candy.

In fact, five of Candy Ride's 12 Grade 1 winners to date are out of mares by Storm Cat line sires, and a sixth, recently retired 2016 Grade 1 CashCall Futurity winner Mastery, boasts a Storm Cat mare as his second dam. Overall, Candy Ride has sired nine graded stakes winners and 14 stakes winners overall out of mares who carry a cross of Storm Cat somewhere in their pedigree.

Unified does not have Storm Cat in his pedigree so using some of the hundreds of Storm Cat line mares available to recreate Candy Ride's success is an obvious tactic for Unified's stud career. Unified does have a cross of Storm Cat's sire Storm Bird in the fourth generation, but that would put that Storm Bird duplication in the fifth generation of Unified's progeny, so there is no danger of excessive inbreeding.

Candy Ride has also been exceptionally successful with mares who carry a cross of Seattle Slew, siring 13 stakes winners, including Grade 1 winners Twirling Candy and Mastery, as well as Unified himself, whose broodmare sire Dixie Union is out of a mare by Seattle Slew's Champion son Capote. Thus it makes sense to try inbreeding to Seattle Slew, a pedigree pattern that has already resulted in over 150 stakes winners worldwide, including 22 Grade 1/Group 1 winners. Seven of those 13 Candy Ride/Seattle Slew stakes winners are through Seattle Slew's best son A.P. Indy, who does not appear in Unified's pedigree. Therefore, A.P. Indy mares, mares by one of A.P. Indy's many successful sons such as Malibu Moon, Bernardini, Mineshaft, Pulpit (or Pulpit's great son Tapit) or mares with A.P. Indy close up would be highly recommended for Unified.

Five of Candy Ride's stakes winners, including Gun Runner and current Grade 1 Frizette Stakes winner Separationofpowers, are inbred to Fappiano, Candy Ride's line-founding great-grandsire. Since Fappiano is missing from the bottom side of Unified's pedigree, it would be highly positive to breed mares by Fappiano-line sires such as Empire Maker (broodmare sire of Separationofpowers), Unbridled's Song, Bodemeister, Pioneer of the Nile, Unbridled, and Broken Vow. All of those sires are big horses who tend to sire sizeable, scoopy progeny, and since Unified is a compact, medium-sized horse, those crosses should be good physical matches as well.

The primary major contemporary pedigree influence missing from Unified's pedigree is Hail to Reason. The omission can be easily remedied by crossing some of the many mares available by More Than Ready, Blame, Arch, or sons of Sunday Silence.

Finally, Unified's fourth dam, Sister Dot, by Secretariat, is the dam of Champion two-year-old and successful international sire Dehere. It should be beneficial to double up on that influence by sending mares by Dehere or out of Dehere to Unified.

