



## 2003 Eclipse Award Winners

### Sprinter

Mr. Prospector—Chimes of Freedom, by Private Account

Horse	First-place Votes
Aldebaran	137
Cajun Beat	74
Congaree	27
Others	10

# Aldebaran

BY VICTOR RYAN

**A**ldebaran was the bridesmaid no longer in 2003. The son of Mr. Prospector, who finished second six times in eight starts in 2002, proved fully capable of reaching the winner's circle in '03 and earned the Eclipse Award for champion sprinter in the process with five graded stakes wins in eight starts.

Aldebaran proved nearly unbeatable at seven furlongs. A dead closer, Aldebaran consistently dropped back double-digit lengths from the lead early in his races before uncorking a devastating rally that left his foes in his wake. His lone loss in five starts at seven furlongs came to fellow Eclipse Award finalist Congaree in the Carter Handicap (gr. I) at Aqueduct.

Aldebaran began his 5-year-old campaign March 2 with a win in the San Carlos Handicap (gr. I) at Santa Anita Park before losing to Congaree by 3½ lengths in the Carter. He rebounded with back-to-back wins in the Churchill Downs Handicap (gr. II) and Metropolitan Handicap (gr. I), defeating Congaree in the latter, before

returning to Kentucky for an experiment around two turns.

Trainer Bobby Frankel elected to try and stretch Aldebaran to 1½ miles in the rich Stephen Foster Handicap (gr. I). Aldebaran had gone a distance of ground as a 3-year-old in England, but the Stephen Foster would be his first try at two turns on the dirt in North America. Again in his customary spot at the back of the pack early, Aldebaran weaved through horses down the stretch and rallied to finish third behind winner Perfect Drift and Eclipse candidate Mineshaft.

Aldebaran then went back to his preferred distance of seven furlongs to again stake his claim as North America's top sprinter. He scored an easy two-length victory in the Tom Fool Handicap (gr. II) at Belmont Park and then pummeled an all-star field by 4¼ lengths in the Forego Handicap (gr. I) at Saratoga. Frankel called the Forego, which was would be the final prep before the six-furlong Breeders' Cup Sprint (gr. I), the best race of Aldebaran's career.

Said jockey Jerry Bailey after riding the winner in the Forego: "Today, he took me up on his own. He made the lead early in the stretch. If he can run like that, he can be effective going three-quarters. He gets up to the back horse quicker than he did last year and he takes me through the pack quicker."

Alas, the six furlongs of the Sprint proved to be too short for Aldebaran. With Bailey aboard, Aldebaran was last in the 13-horse field through the opening quarter in :21.02 but began making headway around the turn. Aldebaran began to roll down the stretch but was no better than sixth when Cajun Beat crossed the wire first at odds of 22-1.

"I had to alter course slightly turning for home, but it was for the better, because I could save some ground," Bailey said after the race. "He was flying. A sixteenth past the wire, we were by all of them."

Aldebaran, who is named after a red star of the first

After winning one of eight starts in 2002, Aldebaran came back in 2003 to win five of eight and be named champion sprinter



BENJAMIN & ASSOCIATES

### Aldebaran

Own: Flaxman Holdings Ltd

B. h. 5 (Feb)  
Sire: Mr. Prospector (Raise a Native)  
Dam: Chimes of Freedom (Private Account)  
Br: Flaxman Holdings Ltd (Ky)  
Tr: Frankel Robert J (0 0 0 0 .00) 2003:(409 113 28)

25Oct03-5SA fst 6f	:21 :431 :55 1:074 34	BCSprint-G1	105	6 12	1312 127	99	65½	Bailey J D	LB126
31Aug03-10Sar fst 7f	:22 :441 1:083 1:211 34	ForegoH-G1	122	4 7	79½ 57	1½	14¾	Bailey J D	L123 f
4Jly03-8Bel fst 7f	:222 :444 1:093 1:222 34	TomFoolH-G2	105	4 6	713 711	2½	12	Bailey J D	L122 f
14Jun03-10CD fst 1¼	:464 1:102 1:35 1:472 34	SFosterH-G1	101	6	63½ 66	63½	56½ 39½	Bailey J D	L120
26May03-9Bel sly 1	:221 :442 1:083 1:34 34	MtropolitH-G1	110	6	711 79	51½	11½ 1nk	Bailey J D	L119
3May03-5CD fst 7f	:222 :45 1:093 1:214 44	CDH-G2	111	5 10	1111 97½	32	12½	Bailey J D	L120
12Apr03-9Aqu my 7f	:224 :452 1:091 1:212 34	CarterH-G1	108	5 1	58½ 58½	35	23½	Bailey J D	L118
2Mar03-7SA fst 7f	:222 :443 1:091 1:212 44	SnCrlosH-G1	110	6 2	510 54¾	1nd	15	Valdivia J Jr	LB116

2003: 8 5 1 1 \$1,110,606

Life	25	8	12	3	\$1,739,186	122	D.Fst	12	5	5	1	\$965,006	122
2003	8	5	1	1	\$1,110,606	122	Wet(431)	3	1	2	0	\$574,400	110
2002	8	1	6	0	\$428,800	113	Turt(333)	10	2	5	2	\$199,780	105
	0	0	0	0	\$0	-	Dst(0)	0	0	0	0	\$0	-

*2.10	93-05	Cajun Beat123¾	Bluesthstandard126½	ShakeYouDown126½	Belated rally 13
*1.60	101-09	Aldebaran123¾	Najran114¼	GygiStar1196¾	Clear sailing inside 7
*.95	88-15	Aldebaran122²	Peeping Tom117¾	State City1183¾	Going away on rail 7
3.20	91-04	Perfect Drift115hd	Mineshaft1239½	Aldebaran120½	Improved position 10
4.40	96-14	Aldebaran119nk	Saarland1143	Peeping Tom1143¾	Ducked out stretch 8
*1.30	93-08	Aldebaran120½	Pass Rush117nk	Cappuchino115hd	Swung 7w, drew off 12
2.15	92-13	Congaree1223½	Aldebaran118¼	Peeping Tom1143¾	Game finish on rail 5
2.40	99-08	Aldebaran1165	Crafty C. T.116½	Grey Memo1163	5wd into lane, clear 6



JOY GILBERT

Aldebaran will stand at stud this year at Darby Dan Farm

- |                            |                       |                          |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1971 Ack Ack (Age 3)       | 1982 Gold Beauty (3)  | 1994 Cherokee Run (4)    |
| 1972 Chou Croute (4)       | 1983 Chinook Pass (4) | 1995 Not Surprising (5)  |
| 1973 Shecky Greene (3)     | 1984 Eillo (4)        | 1996 Lit de Justice (6)  |
| 1974 Forego (4)            | 1985 Precisionist (4) | 1997 Smoke Glacken (3)   |
| 1975 Gallant Bob (3)       | 1986 Smile (4)        | 1998 Reraise (3)         |
| 1976 My Juliet (4)         | 1987 Groovy (4)       | 1999 Artax (3)           |
| 1977 What a Summer (4)     | 1988 Gulch (4)        | 2000 Kona Gold (6)       |
| 1978 Dr. Patches (4) (tie) | 1989 Safely Kept (3)  | 2001 Squirtle Squirt (3) |
| J. O. Tobin (4)            | 1990 Housebuster (3)  | 2002 Orientate (4)       |
| 1979 Star de Naskra (4)    | 1991 Housebuster (4)  | 2003 Aldebaran (5)       |
| 1980 Plugged Nickle (3)    | 1992 Rubiano (5)      |                          |
| 1981 Guilty Conscience (5) | 1993 Cardmania (7)    |                          |

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magnitude in the constellation Taurus, was initially slated to stand stud in 2003. But the plan was was changed to give him one more season on the racetrack and the decision may be rewarded with a championship. Aldebaran will stand the 2004 breeding season at Darby Dan Farm near Lexington where he will command a \$50,000 stud fee. His racing career ended with eight wins in 25 starts with 12 seconds and three thirds for earnings of \$1,739,186. **U**

FAMILY NOTES

MR. PROSPECTOR, b, 1970	Raise a Native, 1961 4s, SW, \$45,955 838 f, 78 SW, 2.34 AEI	Native Dancer, 1950 22s, SW, \$785,240 304 f, 44 SW, 3.15 AEI	Polynesian Geisha
	Gold Digger, 1962 35s, SW, \$127,255 12 f, 7 r, 7 w, 3 SW	Raise You, 1946 24s, SW, \$37,220 14 f, 12 r, 11 w, 2 SW	Case Ace Lady Glory
ALDEBARAN, b h, February 27, 1998	Private Account, 1976 13s, SW, \$339,396 588 f, 61 SW, 3.23 AEI	Nashua, 1952 30s, SW, \$1,288,565 637 f, 77 SW, 2.37 AEI	Nasrullah Segua
CHIMES OF FREEDOM, ch, 1987	Aviance, 1982 6s, SW, \$43,766 11 f, 9 r, 8 w, 3 SW	Sequence, 1946 17s, SW, \$54,850 8 f, 8 r, 8 w, 3 SW	Count Fleet Miss Dogwood
		Damascus, 1964 32s, SW, \$1,176,781 738 f, 71 SW, 2.71 AEI	Sword Dancer Kerala
		Numbered Account, 1969 22s, SW, \$607,048 10 f, 6 r, 5 w, 2 SW	Buckpasser Intriguing
		Northfields, 1968 30s, SW, \$195,071 631 f, 50 SW, 1.94 AEI	Northern Dancer Little Hut
		Minnie Hauk, 1975 4s, wnr, \$8,552 13 f, 9 r, 8 w, 2 SW	Sir Ivor Best in Show

ALDEBARAN'S RACE AND (STAKES) RECORD

Year	Age	Sts	1st	2nd	3rd	Earned
2000	at 2 in Eng	1	1	0	0	\$5,046
2001	at 3 in Eng, NA	8	1(1)	5(2)	2(2)	\$194,734
2002	at 4 in NA	8	1	6(5)	0	\$428,800
2003	at 5 in NA	8	5(5)	1(1)	1(1)	\$1,110,606
	Lifetime	25	8(6)	12(8)	3(3)	\$1,739,186

**Sire:** MR. PROSPECTOR, b, 1970-1999. Raced 2 yrs, 14 sts, 7 wins, \$112,171. Won Gravesend H, Whirlaway H; 2nd Carter H (gr. II), Firecracker H (gr. III), Royal Poinciana H, Derby Trial; 3rd Paumonok H (gr. III).

**Lifetime:** 25 crops, 1,176 foals, 977 rns (83%), 739 wnrs (63%), 250 2yo wnrs (21%), 179 sw (15%), 4.05 AEI, 3.28 CI, 366 sale yrlegs, avg \$595,122, 16.8 TNA.

**1st dam:** CHIMES OF FREEDOM, ch, 1987. Bred by Flaxman Holdings (Ky.). Raced 2 yrs in Eng, Fr, and Ire, 9 sts, 6 wins, \$514,311. Champion 3yo filly in Eng and Fr. Won Coronation S (Eng-I), Moyglare Stud S (Ire-I), Child S (Eng-II), Cherry Hinton S (Eng-III); 3rd Tattersalls Cheveley Park S (Eng-I). Dam of 6 named foals, 5 rns, 5 wnrs, 4 sw.

**1992:** Barren.

**1993:** Wind of Roses, ch f, by Lomond. Unraced. Dam of 3 foals, 1 rnr, 1 wnr. Died

2001.

**1994: TOMISUE'S INDY**, ch f, by A.P. Indy. Raced 3 yrs, 16 sts, 6 wins, \$199,703. Won Quick Reward S. Died 2001. (\$530,000 keejuil yrleg).

**1995:** Slievenamon, ch c, by Seeking the Gold. Raced 1 yr, 3 sts, 1 win, \$31,540. Died 1997. (\$1,050,000 keejuil yrleg).

**1996: GOOD JOURNEY**, ch c, by Nureyev. Raced 5 yrs in Fr and NA, 16 sts, 7 wins, \$1,733,058. Won Atto Mile S (Can-IT), Citation H (gr. IIT, twice), Firecracker Breeders' Cup H (gr. IIT); 2nd Frank E. Kilroe Mile H (gr. IIT); 3rd NetJets Breeders' Cup Mile (gr. IT), Robert F. Carey Memorial H (gr. IIIT). Sent to Aust 2003.

**1997:** Barren.

**1998: ALDEBARAN**, b c, by Mr. Prospector.

**At 3:** Won Nassau H (T); 2nd Jersey S (Eng-III), Bet With Betabet Heron S; 3rd Hollywood Derby (gr. IT), Unicorn Homes Joel S.

**At 4:** 2nd Metropolitan H (gr. I), Cigar Mile H (gr. I), Vosburgh S (gr. I), Forego H (gr. I), Commonwealth Breeders' Cup S (gr. II).

**At 5:** Won Metropolitan H (gr. I), Forego H (gr. I), San Carlos H (gr. I), Churchill Downs H (gr. II), Tom Fool H (gr. II); 2nd Carter H (gr. I); 3rd Stephen Foster H (gr. I).

**1999: SEA OF SHOWERS**, b f, by Seattle Slew. Raced 2 yrs in Fr and NA, 9 sts, 4 wins, \$161,449. Won Jenny Wiley S (gr. IIIT); 3rd Prix de Sandringham (Fr-II).

**2000:** Barren.

**2001:** Barren.

**2002:** Slipped.

**2003:** B c, by Kingmambo.

**Broodmare sire:** PRIVATE ACCOUNT, b, 1976. Sire of 259 dams of 1,264 foals, 906 rns (72%), 635 wnrs (50%), 180 2yo wnrs (14%), 1.68 AEI, 1.71 CI; 75 sw.

**2nd dam:** AVIANCE, ch, 1982. Bred by Ballydoyle Stud (Ire.). Raced 2 yrs in Eng and Ire, 6 sts, 2 wins, \$43,766. Champion 3yo filly in Ire. Won Heinz "57" Phoenix S (Ire-I). Sent to USA 1985. Dam of DENON (c, Pleasant Colony; \$1,739,156, Won Turf Classic Invitational S, gr. IT, Hollywood Derby, gr. IT, Manhattan H, gr. IT, Charles Whittingham H, gr. IT, Prix de Fontainebleau, Fr-III; 2nd United Nations H, gr. IT, Sword Dancer Invitational H, gr. IT, Prix Thomas Bryon, Fr-III, Jim Murray Memorial H; 3rd Dubai Poule d'Essai des Poulains, Fr-I, Man o' War S, gr. IT, Prix Jean Prat, Fr-I), IMPERFECT CIRCLE (f, Riverman; \$101,567, Won Shadwell Estates Firth of Clyde S; 2nd Tattersalls Cheveley Park S, Eng-I; dam of SPINNING WORLD, champion in Ire and Fr, VISIONS OF CLARITY, Rangoon Ruby), Privately Held (c, Private Account; \$159,241, 2nd Meadowlands Endurance S), Piquetnoel (f, Private Account; \$101,544, 2nd Prix Marcel Boussac Criterium des Pouliches, Fr-I; 3rd Prix de Cabourg, Fr-III; dam of DIETRICH).