



Winter Rates

Fasig-Tipton Kentucky sees upswing, record price at winter mixed sale

BY LESLIE DECKARD

As the breeding stock sale season gives way to the 2-year-olds in training market, Fasig-Tipton said good-bye to the last of the mixed market Feb. 13-14 at the sale company's Newtown Paddocks near Lexington by establishing a record price for a broodmare or broodmare prospect offered during the Kentucky winter mixed sale. In addition to the record price, the sale company posted solid gains in gross, average, and median.

Fasig-Tipton reported 377 of the 473 head offered were sold for a gross of \$6,966,700, an increase of 47.8% over comparable figures from last year, with 13 horses selling for six figures. The average rose 54.5% to \$18,479, while the median was \$6,200, an increase of 24%.

Last year, the sale grossed \$4,713,100, with an average of \$11,962 and median of \$5,000. In 2004, 81 head failed to find new homes. This year, 96 (20.3%) were not sold.

"Overall it was just a good, solid sale," said Walt Robertson, president of Fasig-Tipton. "We had a better group of horses offered during this sale and the buyers were willing to pay the price. It's just the continuation of the steady growth we've realized in this sale over the past few years."

The record price came when North Hills Management went to \$370,000 to acquire grade II winner Sweet Win from the consignment of Craig Bendoroff's Denali Stud, agent for Gayle Fogelson. David Greathouse of Glencrest Farm was the immediate underbidder for Sweet Win, who was sold as a broodmare prospect.

North Hills Management, operated by Japanese owner-breeder Koji Maeda, bred grade II winner Sunday Break and No Reason (Jpn-I), among others.

"Honestly, she brought more than I thought she would," said Fogelson, whose father, E.E. "Buddy" Fogelson, raced 1971

Horse of the Year Ack Ack. "We thought she was in the \$250,000-\$350,000 range and kind of set the reserve a little lower than that."

A 4-year-old daughter of King of Kings, Sweet Win was produced from the St. Jovite

purchased for \$160,000 by Hunter Valley Farm from the consignment of Mill Ridge Sales, agent for Edmund Gann.

Sweet Win placed in the Del Mar Oaks (gr. IT) and the Audrey Skirball-Kenis Stakes before bowing a tendon while training in Southern California last November. She ended her career with three wins from eight starts and earnings of \$162,980.

"I give a lot of credit to Jeff for recognizing her value and to (bloodstock agent) Jim (Cullen) and Craig for prepping her for the sale," Fogelson said. "She's the only horse I owned so it was a little tough letting go of her, but I plan to buy more horses and stay involved."

The second-highest price of the sale was set by broodmare prospect Venturi when Anthony Stroud went to \$300,000 to acquire her from the consignment of Mill Ridge Sales, agent for Gann.

"She was a big, attractive, and well-balanced mare. She's the type that shows a lot of scope and broodmare potential," said Bayne Welker of Mill Ridge Sales. "She had been laid up after having chips removed from her ankles in October, but she looked pretty good."

The 4-year-old daughter of Danehill Dancer was a group III winner in Ireland before being privately purchased by Gann and transferred to the barn of Bobby Frankel. In two starts in North America, Venturi finished second in the Lake George and Pebbles Stakes (both grade IIIT).

Venturi was produced from the Old Vic mare Zagreb Flyer. She is from the family of stakes winners Flying Girl and Mary Kies.

"I thought the sale was particularly strong," said Welker. "If you really wanted to get in, and had an order to fill, this was your last shot of buying a mare at public auction. Compared to the November sales, you could get a nice mare for probably a pretty good value." □



ANNE M. EBERHARDT

The average jumped 54.5% and the median was up 24%

mare Win for Juno and is from the family of grade I winner Special Time and graded winner Triteamtri.

Fogelson, who owns an oil and natural gas company in Dallas, acquired Sweet Win from Sez Who Racing and trainer Milton Wolfson on the advice of trainer Jeff Mullins following a six-length allowance score at Calder Race Course in June 2004.

In her first start for Fogelson, Sweet Win inched out a head win in the San Clemente Handicap (gr. IIT) over Miss Vegas, who sold four hips prior to Sweet Win and was

For hip-by-hip results, see page 1348.