

COMMERCIAL ANALYSIS: BELIEVE YOU CAN

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BELIEVE YOU CAN

Dk.b./br.m. 2009 by Proud Citizen - El Fasto by El Prado

Believe You Can is the heroine of one of U.S. racing's most sought-after prizes, the Kentucky Oaks (gr. I). Not only that, but she is also earned stakes victories at two, three and four, capturing a total of six black-type events from six furlongs to a mile and an eighth. What's more, she is offered carrying her first foal, a son or daughter of Tapit.

Believe You Can's classic victory was won with an impressive display of class and determination. Harrying the front-running Broadway's Alibi from the off, Believe You Can overcame her stubborn rival in a stretch-long duel, and was drawing away at the end. Believe You Can also finished 3½ lengths clear third placed Grace Hall, herself a grade one winner, with other defeated members of the 14 horse field including grade one winners Eden's Moon, On Fire Baby, and Karlovy Vary, and graded scorers Summer Applause, Hard Not to Like, Sacristy and Yara.

While the Kentucky Oaks (gr. I) provided a coronation for Believe You Can, she had already firmly established herself among the best of her generation well in advance of her classic triumph. At two, she won three straight races, culminating in a decisive victory in the six furlong Tempted Stakes (gr. II). And at three, her Oaks triumph was presaged by a gate-to-wire triumph the Silverbulletday Stakes, and a courageous victory in the Fair Grounds Oaks (gr. II).

Believe You Can closed out her three-year-old season with a third in the Mother Goose Stakes (gr. I), further consolidating her status as a classic performer. Kept in training, Believe You Can returned in formidable form the following year. In her first three starts as a four-year-old, Believe You Can added a third in a tough renewal of the La Troienne Stakes (gr. II), with grade one winner Class Included, and graded stakes winners More Chocolate and Imposing Grace all behind her, and scored a pair of stunning stakes victories. In the New Orleans Ladies Stakes, Believe You Can led throughout then drew off under a "mild hand ride" to defeat Imposing Grace by 5¾ lengths. Her Tiffany Lass Stakes victory was even more eye-catching as she hit the line more than ten lengths clear of Imposing Grace, who once again filled the runner-up spot.

Believe You Can is a daughter of Proud Citizen. By Gone West from the immediate family of Northern Dancer – his third dam is a sister to the great Canadian patriarch – Proud Citizen was a graded stakes winner who placed in both the Kentucky Derby (gr. I) and Preakness Stakes (gr. I). Sire of more than 30 stakes winners, he has also been represented by Champion Three-Year-Old Filly Proud Spell.

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Believe You Can's dam, El Fasto, is a daughter of Champion Two-Year-Old and Leading Sire El Prado, and is half-sister to Classic Elegance, winner of the Schuylerville Stakes (gr. II) and Debutante Stakes (gr. II) as a juvenile. The granddam, Taegu, is a daughter of another Leading Sire, Halo. Taegu is also half-sister to millionaire Chorwon, to five time stakes winner Yukon Robbery, to stakes winner Kumhwa, and to the dams of grade two and multiple graded stakes winner Rush Bay, and 2014 stakes scorer Explain. We can also note that Believe You Can's pedigree shows linebreeding to both Natalma, dam of Northern Dancer, and to her dam, Almahmoud.

Believe You Can is offered carrying her first foal a son or daughter of Tapit. The Leading Freshman Sire of his crop, Tapit has gone from strength to strength, and he is now indisputably North America's leading sire. Although best bred crops have still to reach the racecourse, Tapit has become a dominant influence, and as of 9/20/14 he owned a lead of nearly \$4,000,000 on the Leading Sires' table, his nine 2014 graded stakes winners including classic winners Untapable and Tonalist and grade one scorer Constitution. The Tapit – Believe You Can mating is *TrueNicks* rated *A+* on the basis of the Tapit/Gone West cross that has already produced four stakes winners, and three graded winners, including grade one scorer Zazu. We can also note that Tapit is sire of grade one winner Laragh out of a mare by El Prado, sire of the dam of Believe You Can.

Believe You Can is a classic winner, by a classic performing and Champion siring son of Gone West. She is out of a mare by a Champion and Leading Sire, and each of her first four dams has produced a graded stakes winner. In addition, she is offered in foal to Tapit, the dominant North American sire of his era.

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