



CARACORTADO

THE HORSE

Here's another case of not quite having enough money to make the required level of graded stakes earnings to get into the Derby field, but trainer, breeder and co-owner Mike Machowsky will try to pick up more money with a run in the Derby Trial and a start in the Derby a week later.

That's a tough assignment, but 2005 Derby Trial winner ran back a week later and rolled to a fourth-place finish, so it's not unheard of. In fact, in the past such household names as Citation, Hill Gail, Dark Star and Tim Tam captured both races.



The California-bred son of Cat Dreams arrived at trainer Machowsky's barn with a large gash on his face and trainer immediately decided to name his Scarface, a moniker The Jockey Club deemed inappropriate, so Machowsky named him Caracortado, the Spanish version of Scarface.

CO-OWNERS

Blahut Racing and Lo Hi Racing (Michael Machowsky)

Blahut Racing is owned by Donald Blahut of Newhall, Calif. He was born July 7, 1929 in Emporia, Kansas, and grew up there.

Blahut isn't new to racing or to trainer and co-owner and breeder Michael Machowsky, having raced alone or in partnership stakes winners Southern Image, Shuffling Kid, Down the Canyon, Native Boundary and Kelly Leak. Machowsky trained Southern Image, Shuffling Kid and Kelly Leak.

Blahut moved to California from his native Kansas in 1961 while working for Didde Graphic Systems based in Emporia. He had traveled far and wide for the company while tending to technical matters with the firm's collating machines. Eventually, he went into sales for the company, leaving in 1971 after some 20 years with the firm.

He began his own business at that time, establishing Collating House in Los Angeles, a firm that specializes in assembling the pages of books, calendars and

other documents. Blahut retired 20 years ago and his son, Bradley, now runs the company.

Blahut has been a client of Machowsky since 1991, just two years after the trainer took out his license. His first horse with Machowsky, Native Boundary, was a stakes winner, capturing Santa Anita's Crystal Water.

When he retired from business, Blahut said, he "sort of lured my wife into it by promising her I'd name a horse after her." And he did – Shirl's Delight. Shirley Blahut died in 1995.

Blahut's first trainer was Leonard Dorfman, one of the elder statesmen among trainers in Southern California. He retired from training a few years ago because of failing health.

Lo Hi Racing (Michael Machowsky, see trainer)

THE BREEDER

Michael Machowsky (see trainer).