

Blood-Horse DAILY

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2016

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ADENA SPRINGS
KENTUCKY



ANNE M. EBERHARDT

Adding endoscope exams to a sale repository was one of several issues addressed during the Consignors and Commercial Breeders Association's educational symposium Feb. 2

SALE REPOSITORY A VEXING ISSUE

By Blood-Horse Staff

The repository at public auctions—in which radiographs and some reports of endoscopic exams are housed—was designed to help buyers, but its value in evaluating sale prospects continues to be discussed among veterinarians, consignors, and buyers, according to a panel of industry professionals during the Consignors and Commercial Breeders Association's Educational Symposium Feb. 2 at the Keeneland sales pavilion near Lexington.

The biggest problem with repository information stems from the subjective nature of the reports, a lack of standardization within the veterinary community, and different desires of buyers, said equine veterinarian Dr. Jeffrey Berk and the other panelists.

"There is not really enough scientific study on each radiographic finding to know how that is going to affect racing soundness. There are so many factors that make up whether a horse can run. The radiographic findings are only one part of the picture.

"I don't ever tell my clients not to buy a horse. I tell them the level of risk (in the findings) and what the issues are," Berk said. **BH**

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YES, THEY BREAK YEARLINGS IN KENTUCKY

By Tom LaMarra

With the temperature at 70 degrees on a mid-winter day, breaking yearlings was a timely topic. But the discussion didn't take place in Florida, South Carolina, Louisiana, or Texas.

During the Feb. 2 Consignors and Commercial Breeders Association symposium at Keeneland near Lexington, panelists noted Kentucky has its share of facilities that break yearlings in the winter. And why not in a state that offers Thoroughbred racing from December through March?

"There is a perception about training here in the winter," said Michael Hardy, Margaux Farm's general manager. "There is a misconception you can't keep a horse in Kentucky and get it to the track early. The majority of horses do go to warmer climates, but with the facilities at the farms coupled with the veterinary facilities in Lexington, horses thrive here in the winter."

"That question (of whether yearlings can be broken in Kentucky) makes me laugh every year," said Matt Hogan, co-owner of Blackwood Stables. "It doesn't matter what path they take or where they go to train. It's all up to them. It's a little tougher here—you have to wear a few more layers (of clothing)—but you get it done."

Terry Arnold, manager at Dixiana Farms, said training in the fall, winter, and spring in Kentucky does yearlings good because of the land. He said when he first started almost all yearlings were sent to Florida or South Carolina, but that's not the case now given efforts by Kentucky farms with training facilities.

"Hats off to guys who got clients who want to leave there horses here," Arnold said. "It's not that cold, and it doesn't last that long."

Richard Budge, farm trainer at WinStar, said there is some consistency in keeping yearlings in Kentucky after they sell at Kentucky auctions. He said people might compare yearlings that



Kentucky horsemen discuss the benefits of breaking yearlings in the Bluegrass during the Feb. 2 Consignors and Commercial Breeders Association educational symposium

remain in Kentucky with those sent to Florida or other locations, "but there's no detriment to keeping them here if you're looking at starting a campaign in July."

Hogan said he has seen yearlings broken in Kentucky race well as 2-year-olds at Keeneland in April. Hardy said there is another advantage: Many owners and breeders live in Kentucky and can come to farms on a regular basis to see horses progress in their training.

But no matter where a yearling is broken, the farm trainers said it all comes down to the horse. Some are fast learners; others take their time.

"It's about the individuality of each horse," Hogan said. "It's a big picture thing. They dictate the pace at which we move forward. It's about knowing when to push that button." **BH**

ANNE M. EBERHARDT



Beasley is retiring from Keeneland after 34 years of service

BEASLEY RETIRING FROM KEENELAND

By Blood-Horse Staff

W.B. Rogers Beasley, Keeneland's vice president of racing, announced his retirement after 34 years at Lexington's marquee race-track. He will step down June 30.

Before heading up the racing program in 2001, Beasley had been the director of sales during heady times. He watched Seattle Dancer stun a July yearling sale crowd when he sold for a world-record \$13.1 million in 1985. Total auction revenues during his tenure doubled from \$300 million to \$750 million. He also created a state-of-the art repository to promote transparency of health information.

On the racing side, Beasley enhanced the stature of Keeneland's stakes program, growing the number of grade I races from four to 11 and making the Shadwell Turf Mile (gr. IT) and the Toyota Blue Grass (gr. I) the track's first million-dollar stakes.

"Rogers has helped shape the history of Keeneland by playing an important role in nearly every major undertaking for the past three decades," Keeneland president and CEO Bill Thomason said.

Beasley said he is particularly appreciative for the early support he received from previous Keeneland presidents Bill Greely and Ted Bassett. **BH**

LATEST HEADLINES FROM BLOODHORSE.COM

SEASON DEBUT DELAYED AGAIN FOR

DORTMUND Two-time grade I winner Dortmund will miss the Feb. 6 San Antonio Stakes (gr. II), Hall of Fame trainer Bob Baffert confirmed Feb. 2.

FORMER LEGISLATOR TO HEAD INDIANA

REGULATOR Michael Smith, who served as a member of the Indiana House of Representatives from 1993-2002, has been hired as executive director of the Indiana Horse Racing Commission.

RCI SCHEDULES SECOND 'TOWN HALL'

MEETING The Association of Racing Commissioners International (RCI) will hold the second in a series of "Town Hall" meetings Monday, Feb. 22, at Gulfstream Park.

F-T KENTUCKY SUPPLEMENTAL CATALOG

ONLINE Fasig-Tipton has 48 entries for the Kentucky winter mixed sale supplemental catalog.

KEEP URGES SUPPORT FOR EQUINE TAX EQUITY

BILL The Kentucky Equine Education Project is mobilizing support for House Bill 112, which will provide the same exemption from state sales tax on feed, supplies, and equipment that other agriculture animals receive.

PADDY POWER, BETFAIR MERGER COMPLETED

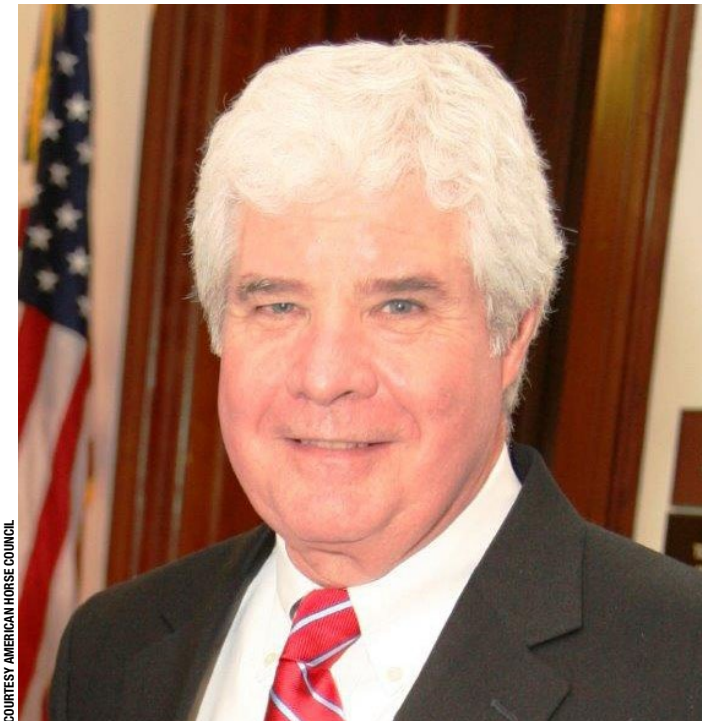
With final court approval of the \$7.2 billion deal in place, the merger of bookmaker Paddy Power and betting exchange Betfair became official Feb. 2.

Blood Horse
Celebrating 100 years

Edward L. Bowen explores the evolution of *The Blood-Horse* from a monthly newsletter to a weekly magazine in 1928 under the direction of editor Tom Cromwell.

HICKEY TO RETIRE FROM AHC IN JUNE

By Frank Angst



Jay Hickey announced he will retire June 30, ending his 20-year tenure as president of the American Horse Council

The American Horse Council board of trustees announced Feb. 2 that Jay Hickey, its president for more than 20 years, plans to retire at the end of June.

Since becoming president in 1993, Hickey helped form new committees to speak for specific horse industry segments for AHC, the horse industry's representative in Washington. The AHC also coordinated economic impact studies on state and national levels and led the formation of the Congressional Horse Caucus, the Congressional Cavalry, the Unwanted Horse Coalition, and the AHC's marketing alliance, known as Time to Ride.

Hickey wasn't ready to look back at his career just yet but in a release complimented the efforts of many.

"The horse council's success flows from the great support it receives from the horse industry and the hundreds of people who have served as trustees, committee chairs, and committee members," Hickey said. "It has been a great experience being involved in the horse industry, primarily because of the people I have been able to meet and work with." **BH**

FROSTED SET FOR DUBAI DEBUT

By Claire Novak

Trying to reach trainer Kieran McLaughlin via his usual cell number? Wait until Friday.

The East Coast conditioner is out of the country to supervise the Dubai debut of Godolphin's multiple graded stakes winner Frosted, who runs in the Al Maktoum Challenge Round 2 (UAE-II) Feb. 4 at Meydan.

The Tapit colt opens his 4-year-old season in the 1,900-meter (about 1 3/16-mile) test, which drew a field of nine including another McLaughlin trainee, Elnaawi, and Zayat Stables' veteran Prayer for Relief. Making his first start since a seventh in the Oct. 31 Breeders' Cup Classic (gr. I), Frosted departs post 5 under William Buick. Post time is 11:45 a.m. ET.

McLaughlin is using the Al Maktoum Challenge Round 2—and possibly Round 3 on March 5—as a prep for Frosted's anticipated run in the March 26 Dubai World Cup (UAE-I).

Both of Frosted's graded victories came at nine furlongs, but he also proved he can handle longer races when running second to Triple Crown winner American Pharoah in the 1 1/2-mile Belmont Stakes (gr. I). **BH**



Godolphin's Frosted takes his first step toward the Dubai World Cup (UAE-I) in a group II prep Feb. 4

SASSICAIA PUTS IT TOGETHER IN TOBOGGAN

By Frank Angst

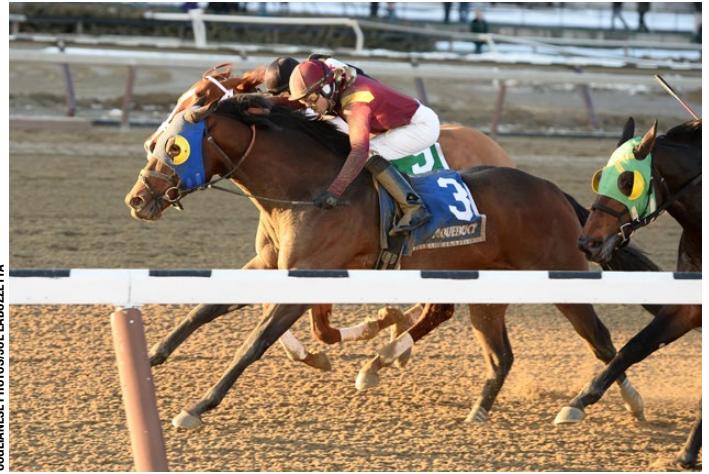
While it took some time, Sassicaia has begun to live up to the promise he showed at sales before his racing career.

The son of Bernardini nailed down the first stakes win of his career Jan. 30 when he split horses to win the six-furlong Toboggan Stakes (gr. III) at Aqueduct Racetrack. The 5-year-old, who is trained by Rudy Rodriguez, earned a career-best 116 Equibase Speed Figure, the best number of any other horse this past week.

"The horse gave us all the indication that he wanted to run," Rogriguez said. "He loves the inner track; he's run his best races on it and he was ready to fire and he showed it today."

Robert LaPenta's Sassicaia has registered three, three-figure ESFs in his past four starts and career-best numbers in consecutive races after closing 2015 with an allowance-optional claiming race victory at Aqueduct where he earned a 106.

After selling for \$250,000 as a yearling at the Fasig-Tipton Kentucky July sale to Hartley/De Renzo Thoroughbreds, Sassicaia topped the 2013 Fasig-Tipton Florida sale



COGLIANESE PHOTOS/JOE LABRIZETTA

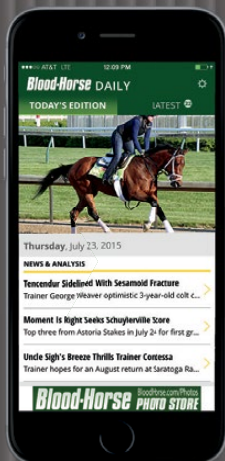
Sassicaia began rising to his potential in the Toboggan Stakes (gr. III)

when Steven Young, agent, went to \$1.6 million to land him for LaPenta.

Sassicaia was bred in Kentucky by Masaichiro Abe. **BH**

Top 10 Equibase Speed Figures Since Jan. 26

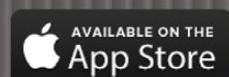
Rank	Horse	Finish	Race, Track, Distance, Date	E
1	Sassicaia	1	Toboggan S. (gr. III), AQU, 6f, 1/30	116
2	Da Big Hoss	1	John B. Connally Turf Cup S. (gr. IIIT), HOU, 12ft, 1/30	115
2	General a Rod	1	AOC, GP, 8.5f, 1/28	115
2	Sunday Rules	1	Donald Valpredo California Cup Sprint S., SA, 6f, 1/30	115
2	Mewannarose	2	Toboggan S. (gr. III), AQU, 6f, 1/30	115
6	Defer Heaven	1	SOC, GP, 7f, 1/31	114
6	Generous Kitten	1	AOC, GP, 11.5ft, 1/31	114
6	Green Gratto	3	Toboggan S. (gr. III), AQU, 6f, 1/30	114
9	Candip	1	AOC, GP, 6f, 1/27	113
9	Indycott	1	AOC, AQU, 8.5f, 1/29	113
9	Sawyer	1	AOC, GP, 8ft, 1/30	113
9	Trouble Kid	2	AOC, GP, 6f, 1/27	113



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STALLIONS & BLOODSTOCK COMMENTARY

with Robert L. Losey, Ph.D.
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PROVEN SIRES, \$20,000 TO \$25,000

The bar graph that accompanies this analysis reports stallions by stud fee and percentage of graded stakes winners (GSWs) from 3-year-

olds and up for 2015. The 2-year-olds are omitted to provide what I believe is a more logical basis for evaluating stallions.



COURTESY ASHFORD STUD

Munnings is the leader among \$25,000 stallions by percentage of graded stakes winners

Sky Mesa's 2.62% GSWs tops \$20,000 stallions and is on a par with typical \$25,000 stallions. Lookin At Lucky and Majesticperfection may be better stallions than this GSW metric suggests, as their oldest runners are only 4-year-olds of 2016, and it's likely their GSW percentages will trend upward. Congrats trails this group by percent GSWs but through Feb. 2, ranks third on the general leading sire list and has the largest pipeline of potential runners among sires in his fee range.

Blame's runners picked up the pace dramatically as 3-year-olds, and his GSW metric places him a close second to Munnings in the \$25,000 category. Arch, Blame's sire, had zero stakes winners at the same point in his career, but his older horses turned him into a top sire. Blame has the right to be at least as good.

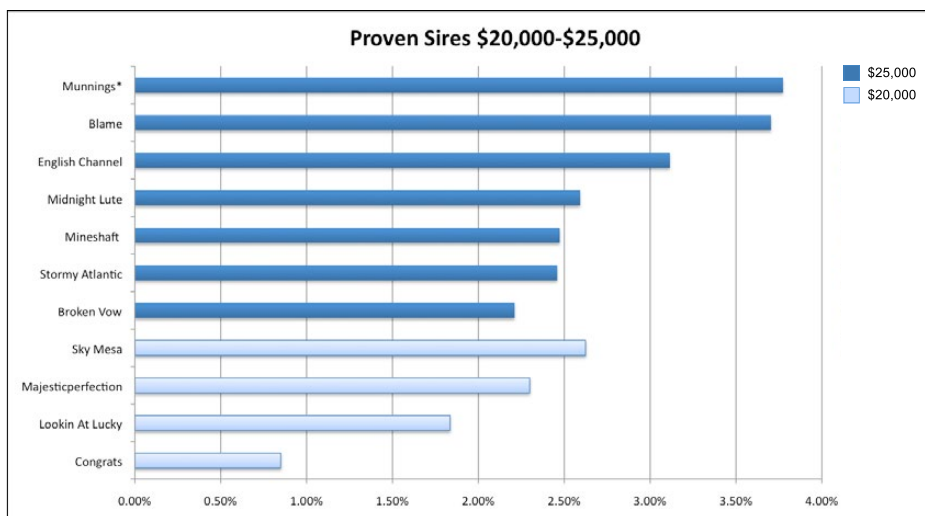
With only two crops having run, both Blame and Munnings have relatively small samples of runners,

but both appear to be the real thing.

I lean toward dismissing any concerns about Munnings' small sample of runners, as his 2-year-olds of 2015 (which are not considered in this analysis) are so accomplished that his numbers can only be better a year from now. Moreover, Munnings is an outlier with respect to percentage of overall stakes winners with 9.4% stakes winners from 3-year-olds and up in 2015. His figures are exceptional for any stallion whose first foals just turned 4. I'd argue Munnings belongs at a higher stud fee. Perhaps buyers are concerned about his runners' distance capabilities (AWD is 6.3 furlongs but trending upward). Expect him to produce sprinters and stayers like his sire, and have perhaps the shortest odds of any stallion on producing Breeders Cup Sprint (gr. I) and Breeders' Cup Mile (gr. IT) contenders.

Among the \$25,000 sires, English Channel is a clear third. If you are looking for stayers on the grass (AWD over eight furlongs, 70% of money won on the turf), English Channel is a great choice.

Next to follow are Broken Vow, Midnight Lute, Mineshaft, and Stormy Atlantic, who are all solid at the \$25,000 level, with the last three having GSW percentages so close they are in a near dead-heat for fourth. **BH**



RACE RESULTS

WATCH RACE REPLAYS OF NORTH AMERICAN RACES BY CLICKING ON THE RACE NAME

ALLOWANCE RESULTS

Sam Houston Race Park, Race 1, AOC

2/2, \$21,000, 4yo/up, 8.5f (turf), 1:47.29, course firm.

1—[Tenspeed](#), 118, ch g, 5, [Aragorn \(IRE\)](#)—Queenena Corrina, by Here We Come, \$12,540, O—Stan K. Wilson, B—Stan Wilson (OK), T—Kenneth Nolen, J—Deshawn L. Parker

Margin: 1½, 6 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

Sam Houston Race Park, Race 9, AOC

2/2, \$21,000, 4yo/up, f/m, 8.5f (turf), 1:45.80, course firm.

1—[Infectious](#), 118, dk b/br f, 4, Valid Expectations—Red Cell, by Geri, \$12,480, O—W.S. Farish, B—W. S. Farish (TX), T—Danny Pish, J—David Cabrera

Margin: ¾, 7 starters. [View Equibase Chart](#)

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2016 THIRD-CROP SIRES

Listed below are the top 10 leading third-crop sires by 2016 Northern Hemisphere earnings through February, 1, 2016. Only stallions that stand, will stand, or stood in North America (excluding stallions that died or were exported prior to the 2011 breeding season), and have runners in North America are included. Racing statistics are 2016 Northern Hemisphere only.

Rank	Stallion	Sire, YOB	'16 Stud Fee	Farm	Chief Earner (Earnings)	'16 Earnings
1	Quality Road	Elusive Quality, '06	\$35,000	Lane's End, KY	Frank Conversation (\$60,000)	\$343,538
2	Munnings	Speightstown, '06	\$25,000	Ashford Stud, KY	King Kranz (\$80,000)	\$318,059
3	Kantharos	Lion Heart, '08	\$5,000	Ocala Stud Farm, FL	X Y Jet (\$90,210)	\$296,150
4	Super Saver	Maria's Mon, '07	\$65,000	WinStar Farm LLC, KY	Alabama Tide (\$40,800)	\$258,111
5	Warrior's Reward	Medaglia d'Oro, '06	\$10,000	Spendthrift Farm, KY	Yockey's Warrior (\$42,000)	\$242,974
6	Blame	Arch, '06	\$25,000	Claiborne Farm, KY	Can't Be Dazzled (\$40,800)	\$240,147
7	Lookin At Lucky	Smart Strike, '07	\$20,000	Ashford Stud, KY	Dolphus (\$25,830)	\$220,229
8	Majesticperfection	Harlan's Holiday, '06	\$20,000	Airdrie Stud, KY	Majestic Affair (\$75,000)	\$214,307
9	Temple City	Dynaformer, '05	\$15,000	Spendthrift Farm, KY	Pricedtoperfection (\$76,660)	\$213,239
10	Eskendereya	Giant's Causeway, '07	N/A	JBBA Shizunai Stallion Station, JPN	Frosty Friday (\$27,000)	\$211,124

2016 BROODMARE SIRES

Listed below are the top 10 leading broodmare sires by 2016 Northern Hemisphere earnings through February, 1, 2016. All stallions whose daughters are represented by at least one Northern Hemisphere runner in 2016 are included. Cumulative stakes winners includes lifetime worldwide statistics; all other statistics are 2016 Northern Hemisphere only.

Rank	Stallion	Sire, YOB	Dams	Rnrs	SWrs (% Rnrs)	Cum. SWrs	Chief Earner (Earnings)	'16 Earnings
1	Storm Cat	Storm Bird, '83	182	212	0 (.0%)	213	Leeman (\$46,627)	\$702,007
2	Seeking the Gold	Mr. Prospector, '85	127	155	0 (.0%)	130	Ghaamer (\$72,149)	\$685,205
3	Unbridled's Song	Unbridled, '93	155	188	1 (.5%)	82	Life Imitates Art (\$61,870)	\$680,602
4	A.P. Indy	Seattle Slew, '89	168	218	1 (.5%)	131	Lukes Alley (\$38,400)	\$647,959
5	Grand Slam	Gone West, '95	111	127	0 (.0%)	30	Cool Cowboy (\$102,000)	\$612,927
6	Silver Deputy	Deputy Minister, '85	101	127	3 (2.4%)	92	Heart to Heart (\$119,040)	\$601,324
7	Deputy Minister	Vice Regent, '79	104	129	1 (.8%)	214	Forever Darling (\$120,000)	\$587,319
8	Forestry	Storm Cat, '96	93	113	2 (1.8%)	17	Sassicaia (\$90,000)	\$576,613
9	Forest Wildcat	Storm Cat, '91	90	108	1 (.9%)	43	Jungle Cat (\$66,000)	\$572,188
10	Lemon Drop Kid	Kingmambo, '96	54	68	1 (1.5%)	27	Forever Unbridled (\$240,000)	\$564,927

2016 SIRES BY LIFETIME AEI

Listed below are the top 10 leading sires by lifetime Average Earnings Index (AEI) through February, 1, 2016. Only active stallions in North America (excluding stallions that were exported prior to the 2011 breeding season) with at least 150 named foals of racing age are included. All statistics are Northern Hemisphere only. AEI indicates how much purse money the progeny of one sire has earned in relation to the average earnings of all runners in the same years; average earnings of all runners in any year is represented by an index of 1.00. CI indicates the average earnings of progeny produced from mares bred to one sire, when these same mares were bred to other sires.

Rank	Stallion	Sire, YOB	'16 Stud Fee	Farm	Crops	Foals	AEI	CI
1	Pioneerof the Nile	Empire Maker, '06	\$125,000	WinStar Farm LLC, KY	4	255	3.21	1.60
2	Into Mischief	Harlan's Holiday, '05	\$45,000	Spendthrift Farm, KY	5	213	2.71	1.45
3	War Front	Danzig, '02	\$200,000	Claiborne Farm, KY	7	432	2.41	2.24
4	Uncle Mo	Indian Charlie, '08	\$75,000	Ashford Stud, KY	2	186	2.39	1.82
5	Tapit	Pulpit, '01	\$300,000	Gainesway, KY	9	910	2.35	2.09
6	Ghostzapper	Awesome Again, '00	\$60,000	Adena Springs Kentucky, KY	8	564	2.27	2.07
7	Curlin	Smart Strike, '04	\$100,000	Hill 'n' Dale Farms, KY	5	404	2.21	2.25
8	Awesome of Course	Awesome Again, '00	\$5,000	Ocala Stud Farm, FL	10	158	2.12	1.44
9	Distorted Humor	Forty Niner, '93	\$100,000	WinStar Farm LLC, KY	15	1216	2.11	2.22
10	Awesome Again	Deputy Minister, '94	\$75,000	Adena Springs Kentucky, KY	15	1023	2.10	1.90