

CALIFORNIA

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WYOMING

High Heat

BY TRACY GANTZ

Unusual Heat, an \$80,000 claim in 1996, works his way to the top of the California sire list

Winning or losing a shake on a claim can alter the course of racing stables. But the luck of the draw for Unusual Heat in 1996 changed California's entire breeding industry.

Trainers Barry Abrams and Mike Mitchell turned in claim slips for Unusual Heat when the son of French champion miler Nureyev out of Swedish Horse of the Year

and grade I turf winner Rossard (by Glacial) ran for \$80,000 at Hollywood Park June 10, 1996. Though Abrams didn't know it at the time, when he won the shake, he set both his family, and owners Jim and Madeline Auerbach, on a convoluted path that would put them into the breeding business and vault Unusual Heat to the top of the California sire lists.

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Dyan (left) and Barry Abrams, with Madeline Auerbach at Santa Anita

CHRISTINA HOUSE PHOTOS



RANCHO SAN MIGUEL

Top Sire and Racehorse Performance for 2009!



McCANN'S MOJAVE: Graded Winner of \$1.5 Million

Three-time graded winner in California won eight stakes from 6 1/2 furlongs to 1 1/8 miles on dirt, turf, slop and synthetic surfaces including the G2 Potrero Grande Handicap and \$1,000,000 Sunshine Millions Classic.

Entering Stud: \$3,000 Live Foal • Memo – Joni U. Bar, by Nordic Prince



FORMAL GOLD: Graded Stakes Sire 2007-2008

Sire of graded winners in three of the past four years, including **Trickle of Gold** (\$467,709), **Transduction Gold** (\$411,673) and **Semaphore Man** (\$397,710). Largest California foal crop will race as 2-year-olds in 2009.

Fee: \$5,000 Live Foal • Black Tie Affair-Ingoldsby, by Screen King



MARINO MARINI: A Top California Auction Sire

His second crop of 67 foals has already produced the third-highest priced Cal-bred yearling (\$70,000) sold in California this year. First-crop winners include the Del Mar record-setting 2-year-old **Miguel's Mascot**.

Fee: \$5,000 Live Foal • Storm Cat-Halo America, by Waquoit



COMIC STRIP: Siring Speed on Turf and Dirt

In 2008, his runners have won **18%** of their starts, including Oak Tree stakes winner **Kool Comic** (1:08) and Del Mar stakes-placed **Comoros** who posted a 100 Beyer on the turf in his stakes debut.

Fee: \$2,500 Live Foal • Red Ransom-Now That's Funny, by Saratoga Six



SOUGHT AFTER: 100% Two-year-old Winners

Each of his three 2-year-olds to race in 2008 has won including **Control Seeker**, Del Mar stakes-placed in his second start and **Cross Fire**, a record-setter at Golden Gate in his debut. Family of classic winner **Jazil**.

Fee: \$2,500 Live Foal • Seeking the Gold-Smolensk, by Danzig



Stallions are Breeders' Cup Eligible • Fees are payable Oct. 1 of year bred.
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2008 Leading Sires in California

State sire lists updated daily online.
Go to <http://breeding.bloodhorse.com/sirelists.asp>

For stallions that stand, will stand, or stood (deceased) in California (exported stallions are excluded), and have runners in North America. Listed below are all available statistics for the Northern Hemisphere through October 30, 2008. As supplied to The Blood-Horse by The Jockey Club Information Systems Inc., earnings exclude monies from Japan and Hong Kong. *Foal counts include Southern Hemisphere. Cumulative stakes winners includes all countries. (A ♯ indicates a sire represented by his first crop to race).

Rank	Stallion (Foaling Year, Sire), Farm Standing	2009 Stud Fee	Rnrs/Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2008 Earnings	Cumulative			
								Foals	*Stks Wnrs	*A-E Index	*Comp Index
1	UNUSUAL HEAT (90, Nureyev), Old English Rancho	N/A	133/64	10/15	5/10	(Lethal Heat, \$426,528)	\$5,276,018	*362	18	2.14	1.06
2	DEPUTY COMMANDER (94, Deputy Minister), Ballena Vista Farm	\$7,500	172/94	3/3	0/3	(Reporting for Duty, \$160,000)	\$3,153,106	*494	22	1.32	1.74
3	STORMIN FEVER (94, Storm Cat), Golden Eagle Farm	\$7,500	156/75	7/12	4/7	(Stormin Normandy, \$300,238)	\$3,098,988	*403	21	1.27	1.54
4	IN EXCESS (IRE) (87, Siberian Express), Vessels Stallion Farm	N/A	138/58	6/9	1/6	(Exceeding, \$232,692)	\$2,856,863	778	56	1.89	1.50
5	SALT LAKE (89, Deputy Minister), Golden Eagle Farm	\$10,000	142/90	3/4	0/3	(Hombresactikemens, \$184,750)	\$2,750,779	*1070	46	1.47	1.44
6	BENCHMARK (91, Alydar), River Edge Farm	\$10,000	170/77	4/4	2/4	(Idiot Proof, \$459,856)	\$2,746,273	432	22	1.42	1.24
7	BERTRANDO (89, Skywalker), River Edge Farm	\$12,500	151/68	5/5	1/5	(Sierra Sunset, \$239,000)	\$2,721,839	791	48	1.49	1.67
8	SEA OF SECRETS (95, Storm Cat), Ballena Vista Farm	\$5,000	159/85	4/4	2/4	(Benny the Waiter, \$141,177)	\$2,370,951	*285	15	1.04	1.14
9	SWISS YODELER (94, Eastern Echo), Pepper Oaks Farm	\$10,000	158/84	0/0	0/0	(Swiss Ski, \$86,626)	\$1,973,491	479	19	1.22	1.05
10	CEE'S TIZZY (87, Relaunch), Harris Farms	\$7,500	98/45	7/10	2/7	(Cost of Freedom, \$328,752)	\$1,964,747	632	36	1.82	1.18
11	LORD CARSON (92, Carson City)	Died, 2005	131/67	7/7	2/7	(Joey Carson, \$114,396)	\$1,894,813	464	25	1.18	1.33
12	OLD TOPPER (95, Gilded Time), Tommy Town Thoroughbreds	\$6,000	118/58	3/3	0/3	(Topper Shopper, \$126,086)	\$1,633,455	271	11	1.19	0.90
13	LIT DE JUSTICE (90, El Gran Senor), Magali Farms	\$5,000	90/44	6/6	2/6	(Lit'sgoodlooknggray, \$135,672)	\$1,605,900	349	19	1.37	1.22
14	TRIBAL RULE (96, Storm Cat), River Edge Farm	\$5,000	62/33	6/11	1/6	(Tribesman, \$244,700)	\$1,592,301	133	10	1.61	1.11
15	FORMAL GOLD (93, Black Tie Affair), Rancho San Miguel	\$5,000	90/48	2/3	0/2	(Semaphore Man, \$170,600)	\$1,583,042	335	19	1.33	1.57
16	ROAR (93, Forty Niner), Rancho San Miguel	\$7,500	83/47	1/3	0/1	(Wayzata Bay, \$341,950)	\$1,551,617	*599	16	1.59	1.43
17	STORM CREEK (93, Storm Cat), Rancho San Miguel	\$5,000	128/49	2/2	1/2	(Rikman, \$144,565)	\$1,529,079	*528	17	0.99	1.50
18	HIGH BRITE (84, Best Turn), Harris Farms	\$5,000	113/60	3/3	2/3	(Ten Churros, \$110,567)	\$1,521,965	*839	44	1.09	1.22
19	THUNDERELLO (99, Montbrook), Diamond F Ranch	\$5,000	65/34	2/4	1/2	(Monterey Jazz, \$365,000)	\$1,491,601	126	2	1.11	1.11
20	BEAU GENIUS (85, Bold Ruckus), Ballena Vista Farm	\$4,000	103/47	2/2	0/2	(Carrie With a C, \$178,432)	\$1,454,779	*708	37	1.25	1.20
21	GAME PLAN (93, Danzig), E. A. Ranches	\$5,000	76/45	2/2	1/2	(Mistical Plan, \$283,440)	\$1,389,897	313	21	0.92	0.87
22	VALID WAGER (92, Valid Appeal), Tommy Town Thoroughbreds	Died, 2007	137/77	1/1	0/1	(Shes a Lucky Wager, \$73,576)	\$1,354,326	457	16	1.13	1.29
23	COMIC STRIP (95, Red Ransom), Rancho San Miguel	\$5,000	77/36	1/2	0/1	(Comoros, \$144,680)	\$1,221,925	232	7	0.85	1.21
24	SKIMMING (96, Nureyev), Cardiff Stud Farm	\$7,500	90/43	2/2	0/2	(Johnny Eves, \$92,000)	\$1,216,856	208	6	0.91	1.20
25	ATTICUS (92, Nureyev), Magali Farms	\$5,000	63/23	1/1	1/1	(Starticus, \$216,194)	\$869,378	310	10	1.19	1.66
26	HELMSMAN (92, El Gran Senor), Windfall Farms	\$4,000	74/30	0/0	0/0	(Restless Youth, \$103,932)	\$836,749	251	7	1.06	1.07
27	BARTOK (IRE) (91, Fairy King), Rancho San Miguel	N/A	52/28	0/0	0/0	(Bartok's Bling, \$87,124)	\$811,470	181	7	1.18	0.96
28	MEMO (CHI) (87, Mocito Guapo), Ridgeley Farm	\$6,000	62/31	1/1	0/1	(McCann's Mojave, \$152,010)	\$808,874	*445	22	1.51	1.14
29	FREE HOUSE (94, Smokester)	Died, 2004	60/29	2/2	0/2	(One On the House, \$95,200)	\$776,242	181	5	0.99	1.64
30	DECARCHY (97, Distant View), Magali Farms	\$5,000	45/20	1/1	1/1	(Harlene, \$175,337)	\$775,462	94	2	1.09	1.11
31	HOLD FOR GOLD (95, Red Ransom), Tommy Town Thoroughbreds	\$5,000	34/18	0/0	0/0	(Mastacoli Mort, \$162,660)	\$752,882	106	3	1.21	1.21
32	WESTERN FAME (92, Gone West), Applebite Farms	N/A	58/28	2/2	1/2	(Famoso Ruby, \$129,200)	\$752,858	230	13	1.01	0.84
33	FLYING CONTINENTAL (86, Flying Paster)	Died, 2004	60/22	2/2	0/2	(South Coast, \$81,360)	\$723,573	493	23	0.94	1.11
34	MUD ROUTE (94, Strawberry Road), Special T Thoroughbreds	\$2,500	50/19	2/5	1/2	(El Sinaloense, \$149,138)	\$670,560	210	6	0.90	0.99
35	BIRDONTHEWIRE (89, Proud Birdie), Madera Thoroughbreds	\$3,500	31/17	1/2	0/1	(It's a Bird, \$134,450)	\$665,893	*229	9	1.26	1.46
36	BEHRENS (94, Pleasant Colony), Victory Rose Thoroughbreds	\$5,000	72/29	0/0	0/0	(Juliska, \$55,873)	\$662,780	169	0	0.61	1.59
37	PERFECT MANDATE (96, Gone West), Old English Rancho	\$7,500	61/30	1/1	0/1	(Martha's Mandate, \$88,422)	\$651,941	176	9	1.14	1.37
38	GENERAL MEETING (88, Seattle Slew)	Died, 2006	50/24	0/0	0/0	(Tap It Light, \$92,704)	\$649,713	*470	33	1.93	1.65
39	KELLY KIP (94, Kipper Kelly), Vinewood Farms	\$4,000	39/15	0/0	0/0	(Sir Silver Fox, \$117,860)	\$631,100	98	1	1.13	1.04
40	SIBERIAN SUMMER (89, Siberian Express), Windfall Farms	N/A	66/27	0/0	0/0	(Surf Town, \$51,300)	\$589,406	311	10	1.12	0.92
41	RICHLY BLENDED (98, Rizzi)	Died, 2006	35/19	1/1	0/1	(Running Rich, \$94,750)	\$563,984	91	1	0.71	0.85
42	MUQTARIB (96, Gone West), Victory Rose Thoroughbreds	\$3,500	56/28	0/0	0/0	(Devoted Magic, \$42,640)	\$557,229	*236	2	0.58	0.95
43	RIO VERDE (92, Nureyev), Lovacres Ranch	N/A	53/21	1/1	0/1	(Making Dreams, \$48,916)	\$543,005	184	3	0.63	0.90
44	SILIC (FR) (95, Sillery), Getaway Thoroughbred Farm	\$3,500	50/17	0/0	0/0	(Missy Biscuit, \$79,307)	\$536,527	*116	1	0.80	0.93
45	SMOKESTER (88, Never Tabled)	Died, 2005	53/26	2/2	0/2	(Cheroot, \$74,400)	\$522,862	403	12	1.43	1.28
46	FLAME THROWER (98, Saint Ballado), Oak Hill Farm	\$5,000	56/27	0/0	0/0	(Money to Burn, \$42,070)	\$487,796	130	0	0.86	1.13
47	LIL TYLER (83, Halo)	Pnsd	17/9	0/0	0/0	(Super Strut, \$136,698)	\$473,437	210	7	1.18	0.73
48	EVENT OF THE YEAR (95, Seattle Slew), Magali Farms	\$4,000	52/23	1/1	1/1	(Kalookan Year, \$77,122)	\$471,674	228	5	1.10	2.04
49	DIXIE DOT COM (95, Dixie Brass), Willow Tree Farm	Died, 2007	46/29	1/1	1/1	(Jazz Time Boy, \$41,900)	\$435,488	105	1	0.69	1.13
50	STORMY JACK (97, Bertrando), Harris Farms	\$2,500	20/8	1/1	1/1	(Bob Black Jack, \$311,500)	\$430,638	46	1	1.41	0.69
51	OLYMPIO (88, Naskra), Victory Rose Thoroughbreds	\$5,000	44/20	2/2	0/2	(Kalookan Dancer, \$80,424)	\$408,381	*476	30	1.17	1.39
52	HIGH DEMAND (97, Danzig), Golden Eagle Farm	N/A	29/12	1/1	0/1	(Tommy Danziger, \$66,348)	\$396,102	64	1	0.78	1.41
53	POTEAN (94, Irish River), Old English Rancho	\$2,500	26/15	2/2	1/2	(Star Nicholas, \$105,496)	\$389,930	67	2	0.61	0.79
54	GOTHAM CITY (98, Saint Ballado), Applebite Farms	N/A	21/11	0/0	0/0	(King City Kitty, \$92,320)	\$383,735	53	0	1.03	1.12
55	NINEEVEN (93, Phone Trick), Lovacres Ranch	N/A	32/17	0/0	0/0	(Turbo Call, \$75,140)	\$372,328	101	4	0.67	0.77
56	SNOWBOUND (95, Meadowlake), Burns Ranch	N/A	67/33	1/2	1/1	(Bound to Be M V P, \$46,323)	\$370,297	264	14	0.42	0.46
57	GLOBALIZE (97, Summer Squall), Victory Rose Thoroughbreds	\$5,000	24/13	0/0	0/0	(Summer Haze, \$86,118)	\$333,900	71	1	0.91	0.85
58	CAPSIZED (96, Summer Squall), Eagle Oak Ranch	\$4,000	28/12	0/0	0/0	(General Dan, \$62,660)	\$332,647	62	0	0.70	0.86
59	LAKE GEORGE (92, Vice Regent), Warren's Thoroughbreds	\$1,000	16/6	1/1	0/1	(Greg's Gold, \$150,000)	\$330,884	131	5	1.07	1.08
60	LARRY THE LEGEND (92, Local Talent), Warren's Thoroughbreds	\$2,500	30/14	0/0	0/0	(Tranquilo, \$58,358)	\$321,834	151	1	0.61	1.21
61	SUGGEST (92, Topsider), Running Luck Ranch	Died	13/10	1/1	0/1	(Indian Chant, \$130,148)	\$301,443	47	3	1.31	0.81
62	FRUITION (93, Woodman), Oak Hill Farm	Died	17/10	1/3	0/1	(Bonfante, \$169,388)	\$303,053	144	2	0.93	0.67
63	CRAFTY C. T. (98, Crafty Prospector), Windfall Farms	\$5,000	20/9	0/0	0/0	(Crafty N P, \$50,318)	\$287,624	*50	1	0.81	0.92
64	IRON CAT (95, Storm Cat), Eagle Oak Ranch	\$3,000	33/14	0/0	0/0	(Beaming Babe, \$47,880)	\$274,634	89	3	1.07	0.91
65	TWIN SPIRES (94, Storm Cat), Meadowcreek Ranch	N/A	32/15	0/0	0/0	(Takin Issue, \$59,626)	\$251,922	179	2	0.62	0.90
66	COMET SHINE (91, Fappiano), Victory Rose Thoroughbreds	\$2,500	30/11	0/0	0/0	(Joy's Comet, \$50,060)	\$245,803	*279	3	0.74	1.01
67	TYCHONIC (GB) (90, Last Tycoon)	N/A	23/14	0/0	0/0	(Irish Ty, \$63,640)	\$242,919	113	3	0.60	0.58
68	RHYTHM (87, Mr. Prospector), Diamond F Ranch	Died, 2007	31/11	1/1	0/1	(Major Rhythm, \$56,770)	\$237,580	*767	11	1.38	1.18
69	TRUCKEE (92, Danzig), Oak Hill Farm	\$3,500	32/10	0/0	0/0	(Truckee Whip, \$37,180)	\$236,682	131	4	0.75	0.80
70	BOLD BADGETT (85, Damascus)	Died, 2002	12/4	1/3	0/1	(Wind Water, \$136,000)	\$236,426	256	20	1.58	0.72

*A-E and COMPARABLE INDEX: The lifetime Average-Earnings Index indicates how much purse money the progeny of one sire has earned, on the average, 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. The Comparable Index indicates the average earnings of progeny produced from mares bred to one sire, when these same mares were bred to other sires. Only 32% of all sires have a lifetime AEI higher than their mares Comparable Index.



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(continued from page 5580)

“Barry still teases me and says that I’d just have gelded him and dropped him down,” Mitchell said. “He may be right.”

Mitchell has improved many claimers by gelding them. On the Acorn and Sun Boat became graded stakes winners after Mitchell gelded them. However, Abrams liked Unusual Heat’s breeding and felt the horse was worth \$80,000 because of his residual value as a stallion.

Abrams couldn’t have possibly predicted what Unusual Heat has since accomplished. The stallion has sired 2008 Las Virgenes Stakes (gr. I) winner Golden

Doc A, as well as such other graded stakes winners as Tucked Away, Lethal Heat, and Unusual Suspect. At the Oct. 5 California Cup, his foals won three races, including the California Cup Classic, and scored two seconds, a third, three fourths, and two fifths for total purse earnings of \$382,000.

Abrams first saw Unusual Heat at the 1992 Barretts March 2-year-old sale in Pomona, Calif., where the colt sold for \$250,000, the fourth-highest price of that auction. Bred in Kentucky by John T.L. Jones Jr., Unusual Heat sold to The Oaks as agent and headed for a racing career in Europe.

“His dam was a grade I winner from Sweden,” Abrams said. “And at that time Nureyev was a great sire of sires.”

Unusual Heat won four of 10 races in Ireland, including three stakes, before returning to California. By the time he ran in the claiming race, he had placed in a couple of Southern California allowance events.

Abrams put together a partnership of himself, the Auerbachs, Russell Wolkoff, and Andy Hillas’ Team Green to claim Unusual Heat. Madeline Auerbach well remembers Abrams’ lobbying efforts.

“We came to the racetrack one day, and we go to sit in our box and he’s waiting

Special T's Stallions 2009

COUNCIL MEMBER



Seattle Slew – Zoe Montana, by Seeking the Gold
Multiple Group 2-placed, multiple stakes winning sprinter in England. On the board in seven U.S. stakes (6 Graded) including the 2008 G1 Metropolitan H. Posted a 104 Beyer winning a Saratoga allowance in 1:09. Earned \$347,306.

By SEATTLE SLEW out of a half-sister to seven stakes horses, including English Hwt. HALF A YEAR. Family of Graded millionaire EVENT OF THE YEAR.
Fee: \$4,000

FREESPOOL

Geiger Counter – Broadtail, by Olden Times

Top-6 second-crop sire of CA Breds by SPI and #7 of West Region-breds by earnings (BRIS) in 2008. Sire of 2007-2008 SW JOE'S CANNON in his first crop and current 2yo Jaguk, winner first out at Fairplex! Fee: \$4,000

LASERSPORT

Gilded Time – Beamy, by Forty Niner

Undeclared 2YO, by Champion 2YO GILDED TIME, 1st two dams by Champion 2YOs FORTY NINER & APALACHEE. GSW winner of 1st three starts by 18+ lengths. 6F in 1:08³/₁₆. Fee: \$2,500

TASKMASTER

A.P. Indy – Zuri, by Danzig

Gorgeous, well-bred son of Leading Sire A.P. INDY. Half-brother to G1 millionaire VOODOO DANCER & a \$3.1 million yearling. Sire of 2008 SWs SCRUMPY (\$188,660, 6 wins in 10 starts in 2008, 1st \$60,300 Sam J. Whiting Memorial H.), and PEACEFUL TURZIA (1st \$50,465 Jim Colman Province S.). Fee: \$1,000

AWESOME SPIRIT

Awesome Again – Tizsweet, by Cee's Tizzy

Winning son of Breeders' Cup Classic-G1 SW AWESOME AGAIN, sire of FOUR Breeders' Cup Day G1 winners. Out of a FULL sister to 2-time Breeders' Cup Classic G1 SW TIZNOW. Fee: \$2,500

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2008 California Sires By 2-Year-Old Winners

Sire	Stks 2yos	2yo Rnrs	2yo Wnrs
Swiss Yodeler.....	64.....	25.....	11
Old Topper.....	83.....	29.....	10
Valid Wager.....	55.....	15.....	8
Benchmark.....	71.....	24.....	7
Lord Carson.....	23.....	14.....	7
Skimming.....	71.....	21.....	6
Bertrando.....	52.....	19.....	5
Lit de Justice.....	25.....	10.....	5
Rio Verde.....	40.....	20.....	5
Momentum.....	32.....	14.....	5
Cat Dreams.....	39.....	13.....	4
Atticus.....	70.....	19.....	4
Nineeleven.....	11.....	8.....	4
Storm Creek.....	35.....	14.....	4
Formal Gold.....	35.....	9.....	4
Sea of Secrets.....	23.....	11.....	4
Capsized.....	26.....	6.....	4
Muqtarib.....	57.....	15.....	4
Flame Thrower.....	23.....	12.....	4
Sought After.....	6.....	3.....	3
Marino Marini.....	34.....	8.....	3
Beau Genius.....	23.....	7.....	3
Unusual Heat.....	61.....	12.....	3
Stormin Fever.....	41.....	14.....	3
Mud Route.....	27.....	5.....	3
Snowbound.....	28.....	8.....	3
Spinelessjellyfish.....	22.....	7.....	3
Decarchy.....	40.....	14.....	3
Jackpot.....	18.....	6.....	3
In Excess (IRE).....	64.....	13.....	3
High Brite.....	43.....	6.....	2
Makaleha.....	6.....	4.....	2
Emerald Jig.....	5.....	4.....	2
Siberian Summer.....	44.....	10.....	2
Score Quick.....	7.....	3.....	2
Roar.....	23.....	4.....	2
Deputy Commander.....	28.....	7.....	2
Phonetics.....	14.....	4.....	2
Freespool.....	39.....	8.....	2
Globalize.....	17.....	4.....	2
High Demand.....	21.....	6.....	2
Richly Blended.....	12.....	4.....	2
Takin It Deep.....	27.....	4.....	2
Gotham City.....	23.....	6.....	2
Bartok (IRE).....	16.....	4.....	2

**2008 California Sires
By Winners**

Sire	Rnrs	Wnrs
Deputy Commander	172	94
Salt Lake	142	90
Sea of Secrets	159	84
Swiss Yodeler	158	84
Benchmark	170	77
Valid Wager	137	77
Stormin Fever	156	75
Bertrando	151	68
Lord Carson	131	67
Unusual Heat	133	64
High Brite	113	59
In Excess (IRE)	138	58
Old Topper	118	57
Storm Creek	128	49
Formal Gold	90	48
Beau Genius	103	47
Roar	82	47
Cee's Tizzy	98	45
Game Plan	76	45
Lit de Justice	90	44
Skimming	90	43
Comic Strip	76	35
Thunderello	65	34
Snowbound	67	33
Tribal Rule	62	33
Memo (CHI)	62	31
Helmsman	74	30
Perfect Mandate	61	30
Behrens	72	29
Free House	60	29
Dixie Dot Com	46	29
Western Fame	58	28
Bartok (IRE)	52	28

**2008 California Sires
By Stakes Winners**

Sire	Stks Wnrs	Stks Wins
Unusual Heat	10	15
Stormin Fever	7	12
Cee's Tizzy	7	10
Lord Carson	7	7
Tribal Rule	6	11
In Excess (IRE)	6	9
Lit de Justice	6	6
Bertrando	5	5
Benchmark	4	4
Sea of Secrets	4	4
Deputy Commander	3	3
High Brite	3	3
Old Topper	3	3
Salt Lake	3	3
Mud Route	2	5
Thunderello	2	4
Formal Gold	2	3
Beau Genius	2	2
Flying Continental	2	2
Free House	2	2
Game Plan	2	2
Olympio	2	2
Poteen	2	2
Skimming	2	2
Smokester	2	2
Storm Creek	2	2
Taskmaster	2	2
Western Fame	2	2



BOB MESAROS

Unusual Heat stands at Old English Rancho

for us. He says, 'I want to claim this horse in this race.' It was \$80,000, and we said, 'What are you smoking?' He said, 'Don't worry; I've got a partnership.'

The Auerbachs ended up with 30% of Unusual Heat, a large investment for a couple who began in the racing business with an \$8,500 claimer.

HANDICAPPER MAKES GOOD

"Jim was a very good handicapper, and he loved to go to the track," Madeline said. "He always wanted to own a horse, but he couldn't afford it."

The Auerbachs were building their furniture business and raising three children in Southern California, leaving little time or money for racehorses.

"I told him, 'If you can make enough money gambling to buy a horse and support it, go ahead.' And he did."

With the help of trainer George Williams, who also conditioned horses for Jay Ward of "Rocky and Bullwinkle" fame, Jim

claimed Bravo Bravo for \$8,000 in January of 1977. Bravo Bravo won his first time out in the Auerbachs' colors for \$12,500.

"George thought we were crazy," Madeline said. "You don't double-jump a horse, but we didn't know what we were doing."

As often happens, that first victory convinced the Auerbachs that racing was an easy game.

"It's the hook," Madeline said. "Those people who don't win right away don't stay in. You need that high, and you always want to replicate that high."

At about the same time, on the opposite coast, Abrams was training harness horses in New Jersey at Meadowlands, where he met his future wife, Dyan. She was grooming horses and training a few herself when someone suggested that Barry hire her.

"At first I didn't want to date the boss," Dyan said, "but Barry had an emergency appendectomy and I had to run the barn. When he got out of the hospital, he said, 'I've got to marry this woman.'"

**2008 California First-Crop Sires
By Earnings**

Sire	Named Foals	Rnrs	Wnrs	Stks Wnrs	Earnings
Momentum	32	14	5	0	\$143,800
Cat Dreams	39	13	4	0	\$100,568
Marino Marini	34	8	3	0	\$81,565
Popular	14	8	1	0	\$72,290
Redattore (BRZ)	87	10	1	1	\$34,734
Spinelessjellyfish	22	7	3	0	\$33,910
Suances (GB)	14	3	1	0	\$31,980
Jackpot	18	6	3	0	\$31,055
Ancient Art	16	7	1	0	\$22,920
Slew's Prince	5	2	1	0	\$16,764
Lasersport	13	1	0	0	\$10,270

2008 Leading Sires in Washington

State sire lists updated daily online.
Go to <http://breeding.bloodhorse.com/sirelists.asp>

For stallions that stand, will stand, or stood (deceased) in Washington (exported stallions are excluded), and have runners in North America. Listed below are all available statistics for the Northern Hemisphere through October 30, 2008. As supplied to The Blood-Horse by The Jockey Club Information Systems Inc., earnings exclude monies from Japan and Hong Kong. *Foal counts include Southern Hemisphere. Cumulative stakes winners includes all countries. (A *) indicates a sire represented by his first crop to race.

Rank	Stallion (Foaling Year, Sire), Farm Standing	2009 Stud Fee	Rnrs/Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2008 Earnings	Cumulative			
								Foals	Stks Wnrs	*A-E Index	*Comp Index
1	MATTY G (93, Capote), El Dorado Farms	\$4,500	132/64	1/1	0/1	(Matty's G Force, \$69,540)	\$1,501,728	*339	10	1.02	1.07
2	SLEWLEDO (81, Seattle Slew)	Died, 2006	111/58	4/8	1/4	(Yacht Spotter, \$105,630)	\$1,039,107	692	42	0.73	0.62
3	YOU AND I (91, Kris S.), Woodstead Farm	\$5,000	77/37	1/1	0/1	(Are You Serious, \$148,380)	\$974,806	*417	16	1.26	1.49
4	TRIBUNAL (97, Deputy Minister), El Dorado Farms	Died, 2008	63/35	3/3	2/3	(Tribal Belle, \$138,518)	\$865,767	111	5	0.82	0.85
5	CAHILL ROAD (88, Fappiano), El Dorado Farms	\$4,000	70/35	1/4	0/1	(Wasserman, \$245,478)	\$816,975	*513	28	1.15	1.25

*A-E AND COMPARABLE INDEX: The lifetime Average-Earnings Index indicates how much purse money the progeny of one sire has earned, on the average, 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. The Comparable Index indicates the average earnings of progeny produced from mares bred to one sire, when these same mares were bred to other sires. Only 32% of all sires have a lifetime AEI higher than their mares Comparable Index.

Dyan has always played an active role in Barry's horse business, even as he switched to Thoroughbreds and returned to California, where he had first trained Standardbreds at Hollywood Park. Dyan stepped in again when Barry underwent extensive medical treatment for cancer in 2004, treatment that has put the disease in remission.

Madeline initially took only a passive interest in Jim's horse endeavors, though as a child she had loved and ridden horses.

"I would sit at the track with a book and read and complain that there was too much time between races," she said.

That changed as the horses began winning and when Jim developed a long illness that would eventually claim his life in 2000 at age 65. As Jim realized how sick he was, he wanted to sell the horses, which Madeline refused to do.

"I didn't want him to sell anything because I knew that the interest in the horses was the thing that really gave him a reason to live," she said.

Before Unusual Heat came along, Jim bounced around among trainers. With Roger Stein, Jim had his first graded stakes winner, Robinski, as well as graded winner Knight Prospector. The Auerbachs were also partners in grade II winner Forty Niner Days, who finished seventh in the 1992 Breeders' Cup Mile (gr. IT).

Abrams and Stein had worked together in the Standardbred business and did so again as each transitioned to Thoroughbreds. Soon, Abrams was claiming horses for the Auerbachs.

STALLION OWNERS BY DEFAULT

When Unusual Heat dropped into the claiming race, Abrams convinced the partners to spend the \$80,000 because he felt the horse would be worth \$50,000 or \$60,000 as a stallion prospect.

"You're only risking \$20,000," he told Jim, Madeline, and the others.

The horse captured the claiming race by 2¾ lengths under Laffit Pincay Jr., and Abrams won the shake with Mitchell. Abrams ran Unusual Heat back six says later in the 1996 Shoemaker Breeders' Cup Mile (gr. IIT) simply because the horse was

nominated. Unusual Heat finished sixth behind winner Fastness and won a claiming race two weeks later in what would be his final start due to a tendon injury.

Abrams started shopping him around as a stallion prospect. The trainer had him sold to Argentine interests, but at the time the Argentine government would not allow importation of a Thoroughbred who had not won a graded race. That restriction forced the partners into the breeding business.

Through owner Pete Cristofi, trainer Walter Greenman heard about Unusual Heat. Greenman offered to stand the horse at his Kachina Farm near San Jacinto, Calif., and breed him to his five broodmares. Meanwhile, Madeline saw that having their own stallion could solve another problem.

"We have these mares that have come off the track that we can't do anything with," Madeline told her husband. "We've

got to pay stud fees. We've got this wonderfully royally-bred stallion out there doing nothing. Why don't we just breed him to them?"

Barry and Dyan added a few of their clients' mares to the mix. From that first crop, Unusual Heat sired 15 foals. Once the foals began arriving in early 1999, Greenman called Abrams to tell him they were exceptionally good-looking.

"This is going to be something special here," Greenman said.

Greenman was right, but neither he nor Jim Auerbach lived to see that first crop reach the races. They both died in 2000 when the first foals were yearlings. When Greenman's health deteriorated and it was apparent that he could no longer stand Unusual Heat, Madeline and the Abramses moved the stallion to Bud Johnston's Old English Rancho near Sanger, Calif., for the 2000 season.

Of the 15 foals born at Kachina Farm, 12



Spanish Bunny, a 2-year-old daughter of Unusual Heat, greets Auerbach, who co-owns the filly with Barry Abrams and partners

2008 Leading Sires in Idaho

State sire lists updated daily online.
Go to <http://breeding.bloodhorse.com/sirelists.asp>

For stallions that stand, will stand, or stood (deceased) in Idaho (exported stallions are excluded), and have runners in North America. Listed below are all available statistics for the Northern Hemisphere through October 30, 2008. As supplied to The Blood-Horse by The Jockey Club Information Systems Inc., earnings exclude monies from Japan and Hong Kong. *Foal counts include Southern Hemisphere. Cumulative stakes winners includes all countries. (A #) indicates a sire represented by his first crop to race.

Rank	Stallion (Foaling Year, Sire), Farm Standing	2009 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2008 Earnings	Cumulative			
								Foals	Stks Wnrs	*A-E Index	*Comp Index
1	RENERIA (94, Incinderator), Hi Horse Ranch	N/A	21/5	1/1	0/1	(Bonk, \$50,902)	\$111,156	62	3	0.65	0.78
2	FABULOUS FROLIC (91, Green Dancer), Cliff Schvaneveldt Farm	\$1,200	22/5	0/0	0/0	(Smooth Tango, \$27,707)	\$108,879	171	2	0.47	0.95
3	KINGS BLOOD (IRE) (95, Fairy King), Sutherland Farm	\$1,000	18/9	0/0	0/0	(London Express, \$32,400)	\$93,524	79	1	0.34	0.54
4	TAVASCO (97, Tabasco Cat), Lawson Ranch	\$2,000	7/4	2/6	1/2	(Salsa Express, \$33,702)	\$76,802	28	2	0.65	0.59
5	SILENT GENERATION (87, Stop the Music), Dent Ranch	Died	5/2	1/2	0/1	(Mighty Bodacious, \$50,180)	\$60,159	34	2	0.51	0.58

*A-E AND COMPARABLE INDEX: The Lifetime Average-Earnings Index indicates how much purse money the progeny of one sire has earned, on the average, 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. The Comparable Index indicates the average earnings of progeny produced from mares bred to one sire, when these same mares were bred to other sires. Only 32% of all sires have a lifetime AEI higher than their mares Comparable Index.

2008 Leading Sires in Utah

State sire lists updated daily online.
Go to <http://breeding.bloodhorse.com/sirelists.asp>

For stallions that stand, will stand, or stood (deceased) in Utah (exported stallions are excluded), and have runners in North America. Listed below are all available statistics for the Northern Hemisphere through October 30, 2008. As supplied to The Blood-Horse by The Jockey Club Information Systems Inc., earnings exclude monies from Japan and Hong Kong. *Foal counts include Southern Hemisphere. Cumulative stakes winners includes all countries. (A #) indicates a sire represented by his first crop to race.

Rank	Stallion (Foaling Year, Sire), Farm Standing	2009 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2008 Earnings	Cumulative			
								Foals	Stks Wnrs	*A-E Index	*Comp Index
1	WILD ESCAPADE (92, Wild Again), Barton Thoroughbreds	N/A	30/9	0/0	0/0	(Melodic Escapade, \$86,350)	\$249,665	142	1	0.87	0.94
2	MI SELECTO (85, Explodent), Barton Thoroughbreds	\$3,500	33/11	0/0	0/0	(Selected, \$48,924)	\$205,164	*423	7	0.82	1.04
3	PISTOLS AND ROSES (89, Darn That Alarm), W.R. Thoroughbreds	\$1,000	17/5	0/0	0/0	(Hawkster's Rose, \$40,745)	\$115,258	153	4	0.63	0.95
4	HOLY MOUNTAIN (91, Devil's Bag)	N/A	14/5	0/0	0/0	(The Finagler, \$40,282)	\$100,667	106	2	0.59	0.90
5	JOE WHO (BRZ) (93, Jolly Quick)	N/A	10/3	0/0	0/0	(Joe Peak, \$20,815)	\$37,198	45	0	0.36	0.75

*A-E AND COMPARABLE INDEX: The Lifetime Average-Earnings Index indicates how much purse money the progeny of one sire has earned, on the average, 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. The Comparable Index indicates the average earnings of progeny produced from mares bred to one sire, when these same mares were bred to other sires. Only 32% of all sires have a lifetime AEI higher than their mares Comparable Index.

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(Montbrook–On the Square, by In Reality)

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got to the races, with 11 winners, many of them in their racing debut. Thermal Ablasion and Lennyfromalibu each earned more than \$400,000 and won stakes, while The Parties Over was stakes-placed. Seven of the 11 earned more than \$125,000.

Though Jim Auerbach never saw Unusual Heat's foals run, it was fitting that the stallion's first starter was the filly Frankie Eyelashes. She was named for Jim's Las Vegas friend Frank Regina, whose Vegas moniker was Frankie Eyelashes.

"He worked in the crap pit in Vegas," Madeline said. "He was buddies with Frank Sinatra and that whole crew of guys. These guys all had names like this. It was *Guys and Dolls* personified."

The Auerbachs gave many of their Unusual Heats meaningful names. Thermal Ablasion was named for a medical procedure Jim had to undergo, while Lennyfromalibu was named for one of his doctors, Leonard Goldstein.

A few years later when Barry became ill, Dyan named another Unusual Heat foal Golden Doc A after one of Barry's doctors, James Golden, and his dentist, Videl Arroyo.

Madeline took to the new avenue of Thoroughbred breeding with enthusiasm.

"When we saw that we had great potential, we decided what we really needed was numbers," she said. "We started actively looking for mares."

They bought many mares off the track and one, Lethal Leta, privately in Ken-

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2008 Leading Sires in Oregon

State sire lists updated daily online.
Go to <http://breeding.bloodhorse.com/sirelists.asp>

For stallions that stand, will stand, or stood (deceased) in Oregon (exported stallions are excluded), and have runners in North America. Listed below are all available statistics for the Northern Hemisphere through October 30, 2008. As supplied to The Blood-Horse by The Jockey Club Information Systems Inc., earnings exclude monies from Japan and Hong Kong. *Foal counts include Southern Hemisphere. Cumulative stakes winners includes all countries. (A ♀) indicates a sire represented by his first crop to race.

Rank	Stallion (Foaling Year, Sire), Farm Standing	2009 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2008 Earnings	Cumulative			
								Foals	Stks Wnrs	*A-E Index	*Comp Index
1	POLISH MINER (97, Danzig), Bar C Racing Stables	\$1,500	49/24	0/0	0/0	(Try and Catch Me, \$74,641)	\$839,653	97	0	0.86	1.14
2	SOFT GOLD (BRZ) (92, Fast Gold), Bar C Racing Stables	\$1,000	44/19	0/0	0/0	(Bold Cleo, \$42,440)	\$407,439	112	7	1.07	1.01
3	GOLD MERIDIAN (82, Seattle Slew)	Died	26/11	0/0	0/0	(Aza, \$48,128)	\$147,623	417	14	0.85	1.04
4	BAQUERO (95, Forty Niner), Oakhurst Thoroughbreds	\$1,000	38/17	1/1	0/1	(Swim After, \$12,792)	\$140,124	159	12	0.33	0.54
5	BAGSHOT (94, Smokester), Oakhurst Thoroughbreds	\$750	17/9	2/3	0/2	(Brave Hearted, \$34,630)	\$117,142	42	2	0.41	0.67
6	CASCADIAN (96, Seattle Slew), Bar C Racing Stables	\$1,250	22/11	0/0	0/0	(Giddy Yap, \$36,170)	\$116,319	84	4	0.37	0.70
7	OCHOCO (98, Mr. Prospector), Oakhurst Thoroughbreds	\$1,000	30/11	0/0	0/0	(Delegocho, \$14,440)	\$100,260	47	3	0.27	0.55
8	SANCTUARY (94, Halo), Painted Desert Farm	\$1,000	7/1	0/0	0/0	(Sanctuary's Omooni, \$43,650)	\$96,672	48	2	0.69	0.93
9	KLINSMAN (IRE) (94, Danehill), Oakhurst Thoroughbreds	\$750	15/9	1/1	0/1	(Forty Dates, \$23,400)	\$94,558	43	3	0.36	0.57
10	I'MADRIFTER (98, Slewddled)	Died, 2006	9/5	0/0	0/0	(Rathsallagh Bride, \$22,700)	\$92,481	12	0	0.54	0.55

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tucky. In foal to Jade Hunter at the time, Lethal Leta is now the dam of the Unusual Heat filly Lethal Heat, winner of this year's Hollywood Oaks (gr. II).

Unusual Heat quickly zoomed to the top of the California sire lists. Johnston, whose Old English Rancho has played a large role

in California breeding for decades, noted that each of the stallion's crops seems to improve over the one before.

"He's really a tremendous sire," Johnston said. "He's not just the best in California. He's one of the best in the country. He's an amazing horse, and he doesn't seem to need any particular bloodlines in his mares."

Wolkoff and Hillas eventually left the Unusual Heat partnership, with Auerbach and the Abrams family buying their interests. Not only did Barry and Dyan participate, Barry brought in his brother, David, who had partnered with Barry as far back as the Standardbred days. David had co-owned 1997 Del Mar Oaks (gr. IT) winner Famous Digger, trained by Barry.

With single-minded fervor,

Madeline began promoting Unusual Heat.

"We took this horse—we believed in him after he got going," she said. "Then we did the only thing that we knew how to do, and that was just throw mares at him."

More than that, Auerbach and the Abrams family brought many of Unusual Heat's offspring to the races themselves. Madeline credits what she calls Barry's "affinity" for the youngsters.

"Because he's got a whole barnful of them, he's obviously going to have the best insight," she said. "They're not by-the-book horses. You have to listen to the horse. You have to make accommodations for the horse."

Auerbach also knows her animals. She once told Abrams' entire barn that no one could wear a hoodie when a particular horse came in because the filly hated hoodies.

Though Auerbach and the Abramses sell Unusual Heats at sales, more often they race them and sell all or part of them privately. Ron McCauley of Lexington bought Golden Doc A shortly before she won the Las Virgenes, and he owns part of Lethal Heat and stakes winner Bel Air Sizzle.

Auerbach has also interested Harris, one of her three adult children, in the stallion's promotion. Harris created a Web site for Unusual Heat as well as a Facebook page.

"Unusual Heat has about 50 friends so far," said Harris, referring to one of Facebook's methods for staying in touch via the Internet. "Jockey Rafael Bejarano is one of his friends, as is jockey agent Ron Ebanks. People send us notes all the time on Facebook."

Auerbach believes that one of the attractions of Unusual Heat is his ability to sire solid, blue-collar runners who make money for their owners.

"One number that's so fascinating is how many of his babies have made over \$100,000," Auerbach said. "The number is 51 out of 232. You have almost a one-in-four chance of an Unusual Heat starter making more than \$100,000." 🐾



The Abramses share a quiet moment; top, Unusual Heat's daughter Golden Doc A wins the grade I Las Virgenes

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Nijinsky's Sword born on 5/17/08

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