CONNECTICUT DELAWARE MAINE MARYLAND MASSACHUSETTS
NEW HAMPSHIRE NEW JERSEY NEW YORK PENNSYLVANIA
RHODE ISLAND VERMONT VIRGINIA WEST VIRGINIA



NORTHEAST/ MID-ATLANTIC

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Bottom Up

Beverly Least and family make Foggy Bottom Farm a top breaking and training outfit

BY LENNY SHULMAN

hen the improving fortunes of New York racing and breeding are considered, most of the discussion is centered on a north/south axis starting with the New York City-area racetracks Aqueduct and Belmont Park at the southern tip and moves north through the farms of the Hudson Valley and up to Saratoga Racecourse and the concentration of equine farm operations in that area.

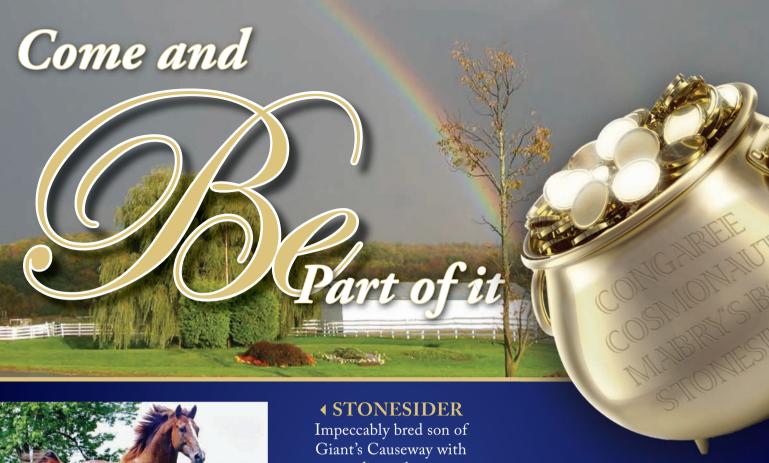
But the ramifications from legalized casino gambling are felt as well nearly 200 miles to the west in the Finger Lakes region of Central New York south of Rochester, where Foggy Bottom Farm has held forth for 40 years under the direction of Beverly Least and her fam-

ily. Foggy Bottom, which stands stallions, including Breeders' Cup Turf (gr. IT) winner Northern Spur, hasn't seen an influx of equine Kentucky expatriates like its brethren to the east, but it has experienced a rush in its business of breaking and training late yearlings and early 2-year-olds to satisfy the increasing demand for racehorses in the state. Its reputation over four decades of delivering to the racetrack horses





Beverly Least with broodmare Rock N Rebecca; above, Foggy Bottom Farm







outstanding sales returns in NA & Europe.

CONGAREE

Sire of KILLER GRACES-G1, NY high weight on the Experimental, plus Gr. stakes

winners JERANIMO-G2, MYTHICAL POWER-G3, etc.

◆ MAYBRY'S BOY

Sire of **Sportswriter** (\$66,200, 3rd Sweet Envoy S. at 3, 2012). A Graded stakes winner with wins every year 2 to 7.



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2012 Leading Sires in New York

State sire lists updated daily online. Go to http://www.bloodhorse.com/horseracing/thoroughbred-breeding/sire-lists

For stallions that stand, will stand, or stood (deceased) in New York (exported stallions are excluded), and have runners in North America. Listed below are all available statistics for the Northern Hemisphere through March 7, 2012. As supplied to The Blood-Horse by The Jockey Club Information Systems Inc., earnings exclude monies from Japan and Hong Kong. Current year stakes winners include all N.H.-foaled stakes winners worldwide and any S.H.-foaled horses that won a N.H. stakes. "Foal counts include Southern Hemisphere. Curmulative stakes winners includes all countries. (A ¶ indicates a sire represented by his first crop to race).

				Stakes	Rstrct				Cumu	lative	
Rank	Civilian (Faction Very Civa) Farm Chandian	2012	Rnrs/	Wnrs/	SW/	(Chief Ferner Fernings)	2012	Faala	Stks	*A-E	*Comp
	Stallion (Foaling Year, Sire), Farm Standing	Stud Fee	Wnrs	Wns	BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	Earnings	Foals	Wnrs	Index	Index
1	POSSE (00, Silver Deputy), Vinery New York at Sugar Maple	\$10,000	95/26	2/2	2/2	(Law Enforcement, \$45,000)	\$637,546	*427	15	1.45	1.40
2	BLUEGRASS CAT (03, Storm Cat), Vinery New York at Sugar Maple	\$17,500	73/17	1/1	1/1	(Pretension, \$63,510)	\$478,899	*249	6	1.41	2.21
3	FREUD (98, Storm Cat), Sequel Stallions New York	\$10,000	44/9	1/1	0/1	(Mr. Vegas, \$85,000)	\$378,437	379	29	1.78	1.28
4	TOUCH GOLD (94, Deputy Minister), Adena Springs at McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds	\$10,000	80/25	0/0	0/0	(Dial Direct, \$25,740)	\$335,380	*767	30	1.33	2.04
5	GOLDEN MISSILE (95, A.P. Indy), Milfer Farm	\$5,000	51/11	0/0	0/0	(Winning Drive, \$43,200)	\$283,614	*572	15	1.09	1.64
6	UTOPIA (JPN) (00, Forty Niner), McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds	\$2,500	21/8	0/0	0/0	(Muster Up, \$46,690)	\$248,026	110	0	0.65	1.40
7	ALPHABET SOUP (91, Cozzene), Adena Springs at McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds	\$6,000	56/10	0/0	0/0	(Joan's Choice, \$44,000)	\$212,683	*763	43	1.29	1.26
8	CONGAREE (98, Arazi), Highcliff Farm	\$7,500	33/5	0/0	0/0	(Jeranimo, \$48,000)	\$199,066	*250	11	1.45	1.53
9	DISCO RICO (97, Citidancer), Keane Stud Operations	\$5,000	34/6	0/0	0/0	(Dr Disco, \$44,850)	\$177,122	217	8	1.37	1.25
10	CATIENUS (94, Storm Cat), McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds	\$5,000	47/7	0/0	0/0	(No Detour, \$30,500)	\$176,324	*476	23	1.27	1.30
11	GREELEY'S GALAXY (02, Mr. Greeley)	N/A	17/5	0/0	0/0	(Cluster of Stars, \$30,000)	\$131,915	67	0	0.71	1.22
12	GOLD TOKEN (93, Mr. Prospector)	Died, 2006	12/2	1/1	1/1	(Inherit the Gold, \$60,000)	\$129,120	*281	10	1.36	1.14
13	SAY FLORIDA SANDY (94, Personal Flag), Buckridge Farm	\$2,500	18/4	0/0	0/0	(My Girl Gracie, \$50,400)	\$128,246	*177	1	0.85	1.15
14	ONE NICE CAT (00, Storm Cat)	\$3,500	18/4	0/0	0/0	(Papa's Nice Cat, \$58,400)	\$126,473	83	0	0.84	1.10
15	ROARING FEVER (00, Storm Cat), Dutchess Views Farm	\$3,500	26/5	0/0	0/0	(Elsaroarin, \$31,470)	\$119,295	152	5	1.28	0.99

*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.

that are ready to train and compete has stood the farm in good stead, with clients not only from all corners of the Empire State but from as far away as Chicago, Oklahoma, and California as well.

Least started out in horses as a teen-

ager in East Aurora, outside Buffalo, with a Standardbred mare and foal that were given to her by a friend of her father's.

"I was the kid nobody could find because I was off bareback in the woods someplace thinking 'this is the way to live," Least said.

Neighbors who owned horses taught her how to break young ones, and apparently she did almost too good a job.

"That first one I broke, the people told me I couldn't stand by the fence at the racetrack because when the horse heard my voice he wanted to stop and come over," said Least. "I love every one of them."

After marrying, Least and her husband, Gary, purchased a 90-acre cattle farm in the Genesee Valley just west of the picturesque Finger Lakes that had a dilapidated house and equally rough cow barns. The local fire department came in and took down the old buildings, and the Leasts set about building a small horse barn for their children's ponies. The children, Tarrynn and Gary II, were active in pony club events and soon the Leasts were expanding their operation pasture by pasture. Their first barn had eight stalls, a wash bay, and a tack room. One barn became two, Standardbreds gave way to Thoroughbreds, and the Leasts were on their way.

They claimed their first horse, Sing Millie Sing, because Gary's mother is named Mildred.

"My husband, the first time that horse won, said, 'We didn't breed it, we didn't raise it, and we didn't train it, and that is still the most exciting feeling I've had in my life.' And that was it; we were hooked," Beverly Least stated.

Gary Least saw an ad in *The Blood-Horse* for a Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association seminar in Kentucky and suggested to his wife she should join the organization and attend the clinic.

"That seminar was the single biggest influence on me," she said. Armed with the newfound knowledge, Foggy Bottom exploded from running the occasional horse



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McMAHON of Saratoga

2012 Leading Sires in West Virginia

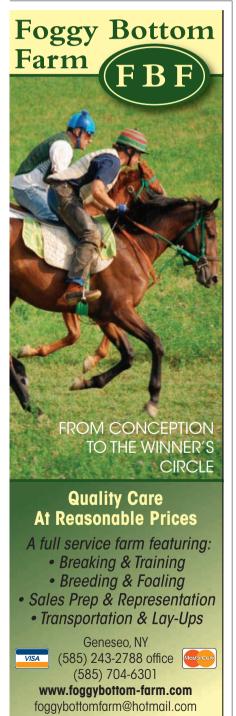
State sire lists updated daily online. Go to http://www.bloodhorse.com/horseracing/thoroughbred-breeding/sire-lists

For stallions that stand, will stand, or stood (deceased) in West Virginia (exported stallions are excluded), and have runners in North America. Listed below are all available statistics for the Northern Hemisphere through March 7, 2012.

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Г.,				Stakes	Rstrct				Cumi	ılative	
Rank	Stallion (Foaling Year, Sire), Farm Standing	2012 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Wnrs/ Wns	SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2012 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	*A-E Index	
1	WINDSOR CASTLE (98, Lord Carson), Taylor Mountain Farm	\$2,500	34/7	0/0	0/0	(Buy My Commissary, \$17,280)	\$174,793	134	5	1.27	1.26
2	LUFTIKUS (96, Meadowlake), Taylor Mountain Farm	\$2,500	29/6	0/0	0/0	(Joyful Kiss, \$34,800)	\$134,536	229	7	1.05	1.10
3	DURING (00, Cherokee Run), O'Sullivan Farms	\$2,500	23/3	1/1	1/1	(Su Casa G Casa, \$68,952)	\$128,750	142	3	0.84	1.20
4	PRIZED (86, Kris S.), O'Sullivan Farms	Pnsd	23/4	0/0	0/0	(Rita Haywood, \$37,200)	\$117,482	*743	29	1.40	1.34
5	BLACK TIE AFFAIR (IRE) (86, Miswaki)	Pnsd	36/10	0/0	0/0	(Dollys Affair, \$15,700)	\$110,601	*914	38	1.31	1.42

*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.





Working on the grass gallop at Foggy Bottom Farm

to buying and/or claiming 26 broodmares and a stallion and led to the Leasts' building a 48-stall barn and eight paddocks.

Foggy Bottom claimed Slice of Reality, who finished third in the 1995 Withers Stakes (gr. II), for \$65,000 at Belmont Park in 1996 and began standing him two years later, supporting him with its mares. Reign Road, who won the 1992 Goodwood Handicap (gr. II) and the Del Mar Budweiser Breeders' Cup Handicap (gr. II), stood at Foggy Bottom from 2000-05. Calls came in from around the country from people interested in standing stallions at the farm, and things took off from there.

"I found out that foaling horses was what I really loved," Least said. "I would literally live in the stall if I had to to foal those babies and raise them. There is something about putting a foal on the ground—there is no greater feeling when that foal is healthy and everything goes right. So, that was the start of the farm and it's been going ever since."

The Leasts built themselves a new home on a hill overlooking the farm, which was named when a visitor looked down over the bottom land from the house one morning and saw it shrouded in fog. An area near Washington, D.C., shares the Foggy Bottom name for the same reason. A stallion barn was constructed along with the T-shaped 48-stall barn.

"That barn is 100 feet long with 14-foot alleyways so you can ride around inside

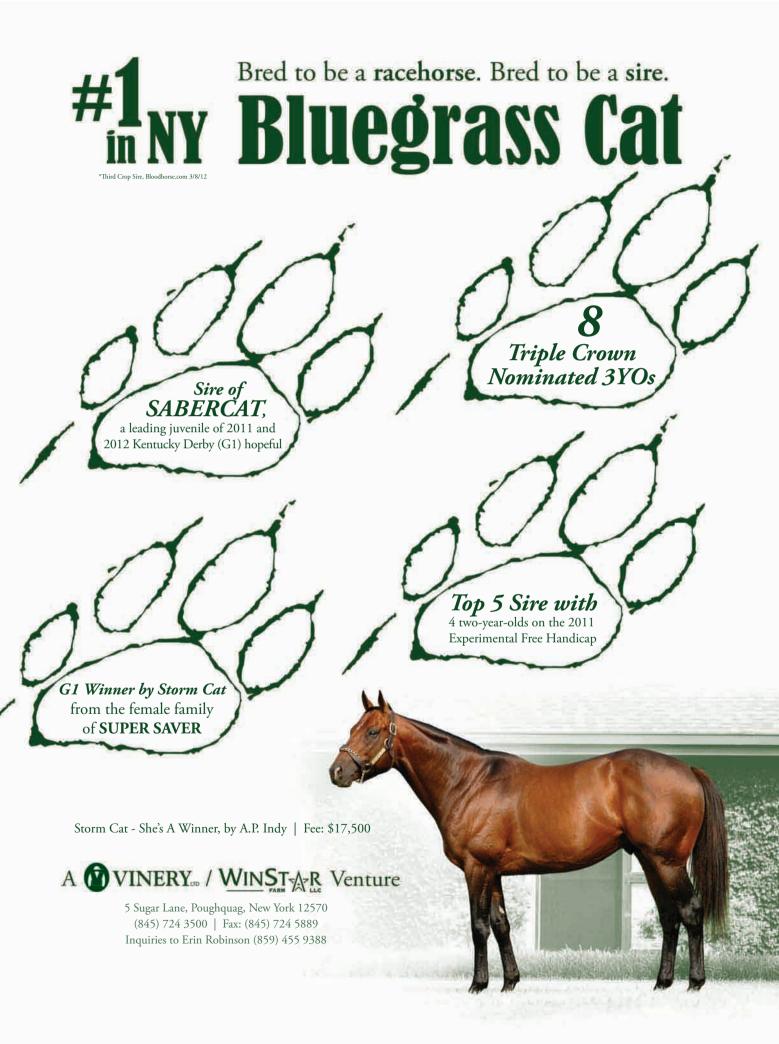
and break young horses," said Beverly Least.

Across the road, where her son Gary Least II has a farm with his wife, Laurel, there is a five-eighths-mile turf training track, Equi-cizer, round pen, sand ring, and a starting gate.

The mare-claiming period lasted just a short time because Beverly Least began taking in outside horses and had less time for her own. Clients wanting New Yorkbreds sent their mares to Foggy Bottom to foal and sometimes be bred. Least would van them as far away as Kentucky if clients wanted the mares bred there and would then bring them back to foal. The operation changed when Gary II became old enough to play an active part.

Beverly's son quickly showed the same aptitude as his mom for working with

2012 New York Sires By Winners								
Sire	Rnrs	Wnrs						
Posse	80	25 17 10 9 9 7						



2012 Leading Sires in Pennsylvania

State sire lists updated daily online. Go to http://www.bloodhorse.com/horseracing/thoroughbred-breeding/sire-lists

For stallions that stand, will stand, or stood (deceased) in Pennsylvania (exported stallions are excluded), and have runners in North America. Listed below are all available statistics for the Northern Hemisphere through March 7, 2012. As supplied to The Blood-Horse by The Jockey Club Information Systems Inc., earnings exclude monies from Japan and Hong Kong. Current year stakes winners include all N.H.-foaled stakes winners worldwide and any S.H.-foaled horses that won a N.H. stakes. "Foal countis includes all countries. In Indicates a sire expresented by his first root to race).

				Stakes	Rstrct				Cumu	lative	
Ĭ		2012	Rnrs/	Wnrs/	SW/		2012		Stks	*A-E	*Comp
22	Stallion (Foaling Year, Sire), Farm Standing	Stud Fee	Wnrs	Wns	BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	Earnings	Foals	Wnrs	Index	Index
1	JUMP START (99, A.P. Indy), Northview PA	\$10,000	68/19	1/1	0/1	(North Freeway, \$69,000)	\$579,138	*555	26	1.58	1.39
2	E DUBAI (98, Mr. Prospector), Northview PA	\$9,000	95/20	1/1	0/1	(Fort Larned, \$38,550)	\$489,867	*681	26	1.27	1.26
3	SMARTY JONES (01, Elusive Quality), Northview PA	\$7,500	58/9	1/1	0/1	(Isn't He Clever, \$102,000)	\$438,264	*324	10	1.72	2.48
4	REAL QUIET (95, Quiet American)	Died	32/9	2/3	0/2	(Singlet, \$90,000)	\$391,682	*596	13	1.21	1.26
5	SILVER TRAIN (02, Old Trieste), Northview PA	\$7,000	74/13	0/0	0/0	(Zetterholm, \$78,200)	\$391,642	*228	8	1.18	1.45
6	PETIONVILLE (92, Seeking the Gold), Penn Ridge Farms	\$6,000	66/16	1/1	0/1	(Vamoose, \$35,500)	\$352,441	*619	41	1.40	1.26
7	EUROSILVER (01, Unbridled's Song), Penn Ridge Farms	\$3,500	58/13	0/0	0/0	(Devilish Silver, \$30,855)	\$257,290	*269	6	1.06	1.41
8	OFFLEE WILD (00, Wild Again), Pin Oak Lane Farm	\$4,000	46/10	0/0	0/0	(Middle of the Nite, \$47,550)	\$228,749	191	6	1.51	1.32
9	WISEMAN'S FERRY (99, Hennessy), Dana Point Farm	\$3,500	47/8	0/0	0/0	(Copper Forest, \$29,300)	\$223,499	*248	5	1.30	1.06
10	UNBRIDLED ENERGY (02, Unbridled's Song), Pin Oak Lane Farm	\$3,500	36/11	0/0	0/0	(Unbridled Pride, \$29,070)	\$216,858	*155	3	1.09	1.22

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horses. Taking advantage of the farm's proximity (37 miles) to Finger Lakes Racetrack, Gary II spent several years as an assistant to longtime Finger Lakes trainer Mike LeCesse before going out on his own for five years. As a college graduate, Least was not your typical racetracker. But he was determined to work with horses, and he learned the business while at the track.

At this point the farm had a small racing stable; Beverly was breeding and foaling; and Gary II was breaking horses on the side for extra income. The family decided that concentrating on one aspect was preferable to being a jack of all trades, and it decided to stay with breaking and prepping.

"We've had some magnificent stallions come into the state to the big farms," said Beverly Least, "so we're not doing as much breeding as we once did, and we moved more toward the breaking and training."

Utilizing his connections at the racetrack as well as Foggy Bottom's strong reputation, Gary Least II keeps

as busy as he'd like.

"This year the horses we're working with are mostly going to Aqueduct and Belmont," he said. "When the slots were imminent (at Aqueduct), everyone wanted horses. People had a bunch of horses out in pastures that they all of a sudden wanted to get to the racetrack. We see a lot of clients from the Midlantic tracks as well, and, of course, from Finger Lakes from my years of working there."

Least limits his students to 15 at a time, most of whom will complete their training in 45 days.

"We open up in November with 'baby camp' when they're still yearlings," Least said. "You get on them and they bump around in the barn and they're nice and easy to work with at that stage. As 2-year-olds, when they leave here they're able to walk onto the horse trailer; go into the starting gate; their teeth will be done; their feet will be done; they'll have all their shots; and we'll get them as far as a canter and maybe as far as their first breeze and then get them back into the hands of the trainers at the racetrack, who don't have the time to do what we do. That's our niche."

Least went to Ocala, Fla., and picked the brains of folks down there who'd been preparing horses for years before determining his own procedures.

"We're old-fashioned in the methods we use," he stated. "We don't rush; we're very calculated and go slowly. I went through the Monty Roberts stage. You can break a horse in a day, but I wouldn't advise it. The slower you go, the faster you get there. If we have to handle them three times a day to get them used to that, then that's what we do. We don't cut corners, and we're dedicated.

"We have five riders and a couple of days a week we send them out in groups of five. As the season goes on and the turf track gets torn up, we open another section of it that we call the 'inner turf.' We do a ton of ring work early on in a 120-foot round sand arena. And we also have the indoor area in the barn."

Whether it's breeding, foaling, or breaking horses, Foggy Bottom has remained in business because of its devotion to giving top-flight care to the horses.

Said Beverly Least, "In this business, when you're good at a certain thing, word of mouth carries you. As we became adept at putting foals on the ground, we had people calling us from all over the country who were interested in New York-breds and wanting to know someone who could get it done safely. When trainers get a horse and they don't have to spend a month retraining and re-prepping it, that word also spreads. It doesn't matter to people that we aren't in the Hudson Valley."

Joe Lech, a Westchester County horse owner, keeps a mare at Foggy Bottom and has been pleased with all aspects of the farm.

"I'm just a small guy in the business," Lech said, "but Beverly always wants to help. She's been very helpful looking at matings and giving me ideas and trying to educate me. She's foaled three babies for us, and all were healthy and brought up right. Part of the horses' success comes from the pedigree and part comes from the way they're handled. The horses are always treated well there. It's a great environment for them."

Least looks for natural ability around horses when picking staff to work the farm. The farm's exercise riders range from a teenager



Gary Least II and his wife, Laurel, with stallion Slice of Reality

to one rider in his late 50s.

"It's nice having people who have that quality around horses to deal with the quirky attitudes," she said. "Sometimes the best attribute is common sense."

Least said she doesn't at all mind being located away from the central Thoroughbred corridor of the state.

"Certainly the Hudson Valley gets a lot more traffic than we do, especially from the bigger breeders," she noted. "But that's fine. We're a family operation that's hands-on and we've always adjusted. We came in when the state breeding fund was just starting out and we were able to ride that wave; then we had the down economy in the '80s, so we've been through the ups and downs."

While Foggy Bottom concentrates on breaking and training, Beverly Least still keeps active foaling. The farm owns just a few mares now, but with client horses she estimated she put 20 foals on the ground last year, about half of what she used to do. The farm also does sales prep for clients and might expand that service in the future.

Standing stallions for private owners has long been a component of the Foggy Bottom operation. Northern Spur, a son of the great sire Sadler's Wells, won the 1995 Breeders' Cup Turf and is standing the 2012 season at Foggy Bottom.

"You can't say enough about the potential he would have had if he was syndicated on a commercial level," said Least. "I study genetics like crazy, and I bought a Point Given mare just to breed to him. His progeny have run well on dirt and turf."

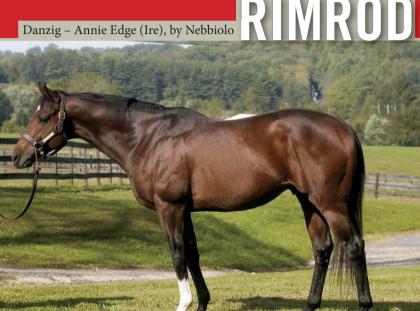
Also standing at Foggy Bottom is Liberatedbyforce, a son of Belmont Stakes (gr. I) winner and Horse of the Year Conquistador Cielo. His first crop is now 3 years old. Least said the fact he placed in open company in Canada when he was just 18 months old indicates precociousness. "He throws a very nicely conformed horse," said Least, "straight leg, good shoulder, and nice hindquarter."

Least calls Slice of Reality her baby. After Foggy Bottom claimed him, it was Least who picked him up and brought him to the farm herself. She says his foals are "born broke; they're easy to deal with,

2011 New Jersey Sires By Winners								
Sire	Rnrs	Wnrs						
Defrere								
Don Six	24	16						
Crafty Friend Mr. Sinatra								
Close Up Unbridled Jet								
Mo Mon	26	8						
Private Interview	20	8						

2011 Leading Sire in the Mid-Atlantic By Avg Earnings Per Runner*

2011 Leading Active Sire in the COUNTRY by Avg Earnings Per Runner*



Compare RIMROD with Other Leading Sires 2011 Average Earnings Per Runner

0 0	
Awesome of Course (FL)	\$59,220
Rimrod (PA)	\$47,849
Bernardini (KY)	\$41,973
Distorted Humor (KY)	\$41,653
Tapit (KY)	\$40,480
War Front (KY)	\$39,684
Jump Start (PA)	\$37,531
Smart Strike (KY)	\$35,782
Freud (NY)	\$31,228
Unbridled's Song (KY)	\$28,829
Malibu Moon (KY)	\$27,124
Smarty Jones (PA)	\$26,146
Not For Love (MD)	\$24,486
E Dubai (PA)	\$23,678
Silver Train (PA)	\$22,509

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2012 Leading Sires in Maryland

State sire lists updated daily online. Go to http://www.bloodhorse.com/horseracing/thoroughbred-breeding/sire-lists

For stallions that stand, will stand, or stood (deceased) in Maryland (exported stallions are excluded), and have runners in North America. Listed below are all available statistics for the Northern Hemisphere through March 7, 2012.

As supplied to The Blood-Horse by The Jockey Club Information Systems Inc., earnings exclude monies from Japan and Hong Kong. Current year stakes winners include all N.H.-foaled stakes winners worldwide and any S.H.-foaled horses that won a N.H. stakes. "Foal counts include Southern Hemisphere. Curmulative stakes winners includes all countries. (A ¶ indicates a sire represented by his first crop to race).

				Stakes	Rstrct				Cumu	ılative	
Rank	Stallion (Foaling Year, Sire), Farm Standing	2012 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Wnrs/ Wns	SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2012 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	*A-E Index	*Comp Index
1	LION HEARTED (96, Storm Cat), Northview Stallion Station	\$3.000	57/25	1/1	0/1	(Funky Munky Mama, \$37,500)	\$488.558	*488	19	1.30	1.33
2	DANCE WITH RAVENS (02, A.P. Indy), Northview Stallion Station	\$2,500	67/10	0/0	0/0	(Universal Language, \$63,600)	\$422,442	248	1	1.16	1.50
3	NOT FOR LOVE (90, Mr. Prospector), Northview Stallion Station	\$15,000	66/14	0/0	0/0	(Hello Lover, \$37,800)	\$381,715	799	71	1.78	1.47
4	TWO PUNCH (83, Mr. Prospector)	Died, 2011	34/10	0/0	0/0	(Lil Punch, \$47,400)	\$270,421	*1053	55	1.45	1.42
5	OUTFLANKER (94, Danzig), Shamrock Farm	\$3,000	27/9	0/0	0/0	(Fivefourthreetwone, \$43,236)	\$232,938	*457	19	1.41	1.17
6	GREAT NOTION (00, Elusive Quality), Northview Stallion Station	\$2,500	28/9	0/0	0/0	(Mass Destruction, \$29,010)	\$205,074	113	5	1.71	1.23
7	ROCK SLIDE (98, A.P. Indy), Shamrock Farm	\$2,500	38/8	0/0	0/0	(My Salty Dog, \$26,000)	\$188,127	209	6	1.12	1.27
8	GATORS N BEARS (00, Stormy Atlantic), Shamrock Farm	\$1,500	30/5	1/2	0/1	(Action Andy, \$66,000)	\$180,094	130	2	1.00	1.25
9	LOUIS QUATORZE (93, Sovereign Dancer), Murmur Farm	\$3,000	39/6	0/0	0/0	(Ribo Bobo, \$36,280)	\$178,703	*894	23	1.17	1.39
10	GO FOR GIN (91, Cormorant), Bonita Farm	Pnsd	21/7	0/0	0/0	(Bear's Delite, \$18,000)	\$100,085	*388	13	1.31	1.46

*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.

stay sound, and pay their own way, even though he's never been bred to a really nice mare. They have good minds and stay sound."

When the farm stood Crusader Sword, Least said they got him a book of up to 50 mares. Those numbers have come down, especially with the influx of higher-end stallions to other New York farms. The Foggy Bottom stallions bred about a dozen mares each last year.

"The tide has turned in the state, and that's not a bad thing," Least said. "We've

had commercial stallions come to New York, and you won't find me throwing stones at that. We'll change with the market and do what the market wants and needs. Right now it needs people to break and train these young horses and we're good at that."

And Foggy Bottom is good because of its leader's love of—and devotion to—horses. Least laughed when asked if she had any hobbies.

"There's no life outside horses," she said. "There's not the time nor desire for

anything else. It's totally consuming, as it should be. It's 24/7/365 and each season takes on a life of its own. There's no downtime. A person getting into this business of owning or managing a farm, you have to know going into it you don't have a birthday or holidays. You can maybe fit those things around the farm, but they exist in the background.

"What I love about this is the horses. When I get up in the morning and look out over them, this is all I ever imagined doing."

