

ALABAMA

FLORIDA

GEORGIA

MISSISSIPPI

NORTH CAROLINA

SOUTH CAROLINA

TENNESSEE

A Real Corker

BY LENNY SHULMAN
PHOTOS BY LOUISE E. REINAGEL

Westbury Stables' Nora and Al Figliolia enjoy classic success

Nora Figliolia has a problem. She can't bring herself to watch races in which horses bred by her and her husband, Al, run. And so increasingly, she's missing some of the better events on the sport's calendar, such as last year's Kentucky Derby Presented by Yum! Brands and Belmont Stakes (both gr. I).

As relatively new and small breeders under their Westbury Stables banner, the Figliolias probably didn't figure they'd find themselves in this sort of quandary. But in quick succession, runners like Denis of Cork, Awesome Chic, Deep Dish Pie, and Just for Keeps have aced stakes contests in the past two years, causing Nora to find new and creative ways to keep occupied while hooves are flying.

"When Awesome Chic ran for the first time, she won by 17½ lengths," she said. "I
(continued on page 58)

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Nora and Al Figliolia at their Westbury Stables near Ocala, Fla.

DOUBLE HONOR



Gone West - Holiday Snow, by Storm Bird
2009 fee: \$3,500 live foal S/N

IN 2008, SIRE OF 7 BLACKTYPE PERFORMERS

Including **Lovely Isle** (2nd Las Virgenes S.-G1, 2nd Flanders S.);
DOUBLE OR NOTHING (1st Private Terms S., 3rd Withers S.-G3)
JET PROPULSION (3rd Appleton H.-G3);
and 2-year-old multiple SP **Dryden** (2nd Colin S., 3rd Silver Deputy S.).

Sire of Three Graded Performers in 2008 and winners of \$2.6 million

52% 2YO Winners
10% Blacktype Rnrs
77% Wnrs/Strs

prolific sire of early speed

120 2YO winners from 7 crops to race

Classic-placed multiple G2SW of \$899,722

eight triple digit Beyers

IMPERIALISM



Langfuhr - Bodhavista, by Pass the Tab
2009 Fee: \$5,000 live foal S/N

Among the best of his generation, IMPERIALISM won or placed in nine stakes at two, three and four at distances of 7 fur. - 1 1/4 mi., before retiring sound.

By LANGFUHR

Graded Performances:

Kentucky Derby-G1
Hollywood Derby-G1
Santa Anita Derby-G1
San Rafael S-G2
Strub S-G2
San Vicente S-G2
Pat O'Brien Breeders' Cup H-G2

FIRST CROP YEARLINGS
by IMPERIALISM
Selling at OBS Winter
290 / 313 / 375 / 377
438 / 457 / 461 / 470

what more could you ask for?

... how about a breeder's incentive for the first 20 stakes-winning or stakes-producing mares ...

◆◆◆ BREEDER'S BLACKTYPE INCENTIVE ◆◆◆

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SERITA HULT PHOTOS / STATISTICS THROUGH 12/15/08 STALLIONREGISTER.COM


GET AWAY FARM

2008 Leading Sires in Florida

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

For stallions that stand, will stand, or stood (deceased) in Florida (exported stallions are excluded), and have runners in North America. Listed below are all available statistics for the Northern Hemisphere through December 24, 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	*A-E Wnrs	*A-E Index	*Comp Index
1	MONTBROOK (90, Buckaroo), Ocala Stud Farm	\$10,000	164/93	5/9	1/5	(Big Drama, \$860,250)	\$4,505,079	627	41	1.59	1.63
2	ALPHABET SOUP (91, Cozzene), Adena Springs South	\$7,500	169/80	4/5	3/4	(Moujane, \$188,778)	\$3,064,243	*574	35	1.44	1.47
3	MILWAUKEE BREW (97, Wild Again), Adena Springs South	\$7,500	100/55	5/8	3/5	(Ginger Brew, \$729,006)	\$2,942,337	156	5	1.45	1.59
4	GRAEME HALL (97, Dehere), Winding Oaks Farm	\$5,000	111/71	7/11	2/7	(Graeme Six, \$194,593)	\$2,932,434	*187	9	1.57	1.55
5	PUT IT BACK (98, Honour and Glory), Bridlewood Farm	\$8,500	127/74	6/15	0/6	(In Summation, \$365,340)	\$2,800,924	*282	12	1.70	1.35
6	HALO'S IMAGE (91, Halo), Bridlewood Farm	\$5,000	146/73	2/2	1/2	(Halo Najib, \$231,577)	\$2,645,386	*432	17	1.36	1.39
7	CONCERTO (94, Chief's Crown), Ocala Stud Farm	\$5,000	110/69	1/4	0/1	(Finallymadeit, \$281,315)	\$2,640,057	*297	18	1.63	1.34
8	DOUBLE HONOR (95, Gone West), Get Away Farm	\$3,500	134/78	2/3	0/2	(All Night Labor, \$186,916)	\$2,632,177	*399	16	1.25	1.32
9	RED BULLET (97, Unbridled), Adena Springs South	\$5,000	72/46	3/5	0/3	(Fatal Bullet, \$718,286)	\$2,561,080	140	4	1.57	1.95
10	THREE WONDERS (97, Storm Cat), Hidden Point Farm	Died, 2008	132/71	2/2	2/2	(Acai, \$341,021)	\$2,405,961	197	3	1.14	1.19
11	STRAIGHT MAN (96, Saint Ballado), Signature Stallions	\$6,000	121/65	6/7	3/6	(Get Funky, \$126,819)	\$2,255,182	282	8	1.06	1.21
12	CONCORDE'S TUNE (89, Concorde Bound), Ocala Stud Farm	\$3,000	112/63	3/3	0/3	(Silver Moose, \$102,460)	\$2,139,530	374	21	1.29	1.10
13	SWEETSOUTHERNSAINT (95, Saint Ballado), Ocala Stud Farm	\$2,500	97/44	4/7	0/4	(Dulce Realidad, \$221,300)	\$2,106,789	242	9	1.45	1.08
14	NOTEBOOK (85, Well Decorated)	Died, 2003	64/41	1/1	0/1	(Diamond Stripes, \$680,000)	\$1,762,796	617	49	1.75	1.47
15	D'WILDCAT (98, Forest Wildcat), Vinery	\$6,500	47/29	2/3	1/2	(Authenticat, \$337,644)	\$1,718,101	68	3	1.88	1.49
16	ADCAT (95, Storm Cat)	N/A	83/44	1/3	0/1	(Briecat, \$226,800)	\$1,653,995	*167	4	0.91	0.89
17	FULL MANDATE (99, A.P. Indy), Hartley/De Renzo Thoroughbreds	\$5,000	122/60	0/0	0/0	(Divine Legacy, \$93,448)	\$1,610,811	*169	1	0.75	1.08
18	WEST ACRE (95, Forty Niner), Stonehedge Farm South	\$5,000	78/56	1/1	0/1	(West Coast Flier, \$108,700)	\$1,594,629	231	5	1.38	1.25
19	FORMAL DINNER (88, Well Decorated), Hidden Point Farm	\$5,000	91/52	2/4	1/2	(Formal King, \$134,335)	\$1,477,775	*545	22	1.15	1.14
20	SLIGO BAY (IRE) (98, Sadler's Wells), Adena Springs South	\$3,500	70/34	0/0	0/0	(Sligovitz, \$273,646)	\$1,438,645	*118	1	1.04	1.93
21	B L'S APPEAL (97, Valid Appeal), Randolph Thoroughbreds	\$2,500	62/45	1/1	0/1	(Brogan Hearted, \$106,236)	\$1,407,335	100	2	1.20	1.31
22	UNBRIDLED TIME (98, Unbridled's Song), Signature Stallions	\$5,000	80/39	0/0	0/0	(Unbridled Wisdom, \$96,468)	\$1,177,951	141	1	0.79	0.96
23	TOUR D'OR (82, Medaille d'Or)	Died, 2005	69/35	0/0	0/0	(Tour Ireland, \$101,104)	\$1,095,038	502	27	1.33	1.22
24	WAGON LIMIT (94, Conquistador Cielo), Bridlewood Farm	\$2,500	53/35	2/2	0/2	(Tazaliya, \$98,850)	\$1,082,085	118	5	1.69	1.33
25	GREATNESS (99, Mr. Prospector), Adena Springs South	\$3,000	51/27	1/2	1/1	(Amazing, \$201,935)	\$1,078,291	76	1	1.08	1.02
26	CIMARRON SECRET (91, Tejano), Cimarron Farm	Died, 2008	44/26	2/6	0/2	(Lookinforthesecret, \$315,338)	\$1,076,671	103	3	1.02	0.94
27	UNTUTTABLE (96, Unbridled), Stonehedge Farm South	\$5,000	77/38	1/1	0/1	(This Ones for Phil, \$90,340)	\$1,061,827	142	7	1.11	1.43
28	LIDO PALACE (CHI) (97, Rich Man's Gold), Lambholm South	\$5,000	49/22	2/3	0/2	(Vineyard Haven, \$419,000)	\$1,024,179	87	2	0.99	1.46
29	PROUD AND TRUE (94, Mr. Prospector), Double Diamond Farm	\$2,500	47/31	1/2	0/1	(True Metropolitan, \$268,806)	\$1,013,361	173	4	1.15	0.96
30	PURE PRECISION (99, Montbrook), Lou-Roe Farm	\$3,000	55/26	0/0	0/0	(Mymymyboogieshoes, \$161,730)	\$993,710	85	0	1.01	1.21
31	† CHAPEL ROYAL (01, Montbrook), Signature Stallions	\$10,000	81/36	0/0	0/0	(Our Lady Chapel, \$58,980)	\$986,673	153	0	0.71	1.31
32	MAX'S PAL (97, Marquetry), Lambholm South	\$2,500	59/35	0/0	0/0	(Max's Bid, \$110,384)	\$955,565	103	2	0.92	1.01
33	DREWMAN (98, Unbridled), Ocala Stud Farm	\$2,500	57/29	0/0	0/0	(Theycallmetater, \$91,850)	\$891,428	114	0	0.94	1.35
34	COLONY LIGHT (89, Pleasant Colony), Rising Hill Farm	\$2,500	73/33	1/1	0/1	(Balanced Attack, \$110,215)	\$857,612	358	12	1.08	1.14
35	FORTUNATE PROSPECT (81, Northern Prospect)	Pnsd	54/32	0/0	0/0	(Fortunate Storm, \$98,920)	\$853,323	738	30	1.46	1.57
36	TEXAS GLITTER (96, Glitterman), Signature Stallions	Died, 2008	73/35	0/0	0/0	(Lola B., \$68,346)	\$787,188	133	0	0.70	1.01
37	LIGHTNIN N THUNDER (01, Storm Cat), Bridlewood Farm	\$2,500	36/13	2/4	1/2	(La Chica Sensual, \$365,660)	\$734,483	77	2	1.08	1.22
38	† PEACE RULES (00, Jules), Vinery	\$7,500	46/23	1/1	0/1	(Missunitednations, \$70,400)	\$734,098	97	1	0.96	1.77
39	WEKIVA SPRINGS (91, Runaway Groom), Double Diamond Farm	\$2,500	56/25	2/2	0/2	(Silversider, \$61,737)	\$714,852	348	15	0.90	1.32
40	GULF STORM (97, Storm Cat), Lou-Roe Farm	\$3,500	79/28	1/1	0/1	(Gallant Lawyer, \$60,092)	\$708,680	131	3	0.55	0.99
41	WISED UP (95, Dixieland Band), Rising Hill Farm	\$3,500	38/18	0/0	0/0	(Looky Here, \$71,374)	\$639,172	114	3	1.12	0.85
42	WEEKEND CRUISE (97, A.P. Indy), Ups and Downs	\$2,000	51/25	0/0	0/0	(Quick Getaway, \$86,570)	\$546,024	113	0	0.64	0.80
43	† OLMODAVOR (99, A.P. Indy), Adena Springs South	\$5,000	32/12	2/2	2/2	(High Mist, \$145,263)	\$539,212	*64	2	1.04	1.45
44	PENTELICUS (84, Fappiano)	Died, 2002	43/23	0/0	0/0	(Without a Doubt, \$75,510)	\$533,349	609	22	1.13	1.55
45	† ALKE (00, Grand Slam), Vinery	\$3,000	31/17	0/0	0/0	(Broadway Al, \$74,741)	\$531,024	*56	0	1.00	1.15
46	FRENCH ENVOY (96, Deputy Minister), Stonehedge Farm South	\$5,000	38/16	1/1	0/1	(Deputy General, \$93,640)	\$497,607	73	3	0.84	0.95
47	BRING THE HEAT (98, In Excess), Ward Ranch	N/A	20/9	2/3	2/2	(Streamin Heat, \$118,758)	\$479,750	30	3	1.39	0.79
48	† ROAR OF THE TIGER (99, Storm Cat), Hartley/De Renzo Thoroughbreds	\$6,000	36/15	0/0	0/0	(Prowl On, \$65,325)	\$478,133	67	0	0.87	1.26
49	OPS SMILE (92, Caveat), Heavens Gate Farm	\$1,000	26/14	0/0	0/0	(Aseninvoque, \$54,680)	\$467,711	110	1	0.91	1.09
50	SWORD DANCE (IRE) (84, Nijinsky II)	Pnsd	30/15	1/1	0/1	(Ryan's for Real, \$141,300)	\$464,666	*555	25	1.32	1.38
51	† OMEGA CODE (00, Elusive Quality), Hartley/De Renzo Thoroughbreds	\$7,500	40/19	1/1	0/1	(Code Runner, \$96,054)	\$455,263	83	1	0.72	1.39
52	GIBSON COUNTY (97, In Excess), Ocala Stud Farm	Died, 2008	26/10	1/1	1/1	(American County, \$179,468)	\$451,889	43	2	0.96	0.99
53	MIGRATING MOON (90, Silver Buck), Ups and Down Farms	N/A	32/16	0/0	0/0	(Brooksby, \$55,830)	\$451,075	170	3	1.09	0.84
54	NORTHERN TREND (88, Sunny North)	Died, 2006	41/21	0/0	0/0	(Chief's Sword, \$67,474)	\$445,810	*142	1	0.96	0.74
55	INDY KING (99, A.P. Indy), Adena Springs South	\$1,500	31/11	1/1	0/1	(Indy Joe, \$130,887)	\$443,677	51	1	0.93	0.94
56	DILIGENCE (93, Miswaki), Hartley/De Renzo Thoroughbreds	\$3,500	27/13	0/0	0/0	(Lucrative Deal, \$71,845)	\$402,117	179	7	1.03	1.23
57	MONSIEUR CAT (98, Tabasco Cat), Rising Hill Farm	\$1,250	22/8	0/0	0/0	(El Churruca, \$221,948)	\$395,284	40	0	0.85	1.70
58	METFIELD (88, Seattle Slew), Ups and Down Farms	N/A	12/7	1/3	0/1	(M J's Enchanteur, \$276,975)	\$392,842	331	13	0.96	1.23
59	STACK (82, Nijinsky II)	Died, 2008	34/17	0/0	0/1	(She's Stacked, \$74,592)	\$382,013	*310	9	0.92	0.67
60	TACTICAL ADVANTAGE (90, Forty Niner)	Died, 2002	25/13	1/1	0/1	(Precisely That, \$68,608)	\$368,950	*475	17	1.21	1.35
61	ADHOCRACY (90, Spend a Buck)	Died, 2006	7/5	1/1	0/1	(Adhrhythm, \$155,598)	\$366,285	40	4	2.05	1.23
62	SKIP TRIAL (82, Bailjumper)	N/A	35/13	0/0	0/0	(Gypsy Trial, \$74,345)	\$351,958	*439	28	2.03	1.63
63	DOWN THE AISLE (93, Runaway Groom), Ben-D Farm South	\$2,500	33/14	0/0	0/0	(Mount Weather, \$67,910)	\$348,642	106	0	0.57	0.86
64	† BLACK MAMBO (99, Kingmambo), Bridlewood Farm	\$4,000	31/9	0/0	0/0	(Big Push, \$68,284)	\$348,134	69	0	0.71	1.35
65	† GIMMEAWINK (00, Elusive Quality), Hidden Point Farm	\$5,000	27/11	0/0	0/0	(Gimmesatisfaction, \$58,530)	\$291,865	58	0	0.63	1.26
66	AMERICAN SPIRIT (96, Storm Boot), Double Diamond Farm	\$1,500	8/3	1/1	1/1	(Ablaze With Spirit, \$230,720)	\$278,204	20	1	1.66	0.85
67	BEST OF THE REST (95, Skip Trial), Ocala Stud Farms	\$2,500	12/7	0/0	0/0	(Best Tigress, \$69,970)	\$275,521	14	0	1.35	1.27
68	WIND WHIPPER (96, Storm Cat), Paradise Farm	N/A	53/14	0/0	0/0	(Serapi Cat, \$41,212)	\$273,322	145	0	0.43	0.90
69	SCORPION (98, Seattle Slew), Pinecrest Stables (Home of Santa Cruz Ranch)	N/A	22/11	0/0	0/0	(Affirmation, \$45,667)	\$266,191	56	0	0.68	1.22
70	INVISIBLE INK (98, Thunder Gulch), Rising Hill Farm	\$3,500	35/12	1/1	0/1	(Fearless Eagle, \$33,750)	\$263,041	*56	2	0.68	1.10

*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.

Once Again...Leading the Way

For the third time in four years, more mares were bred at Hartley/DeRenzo in 2008 than any other Florida stallion operation.

New 2009



BELGRAVIA

Mr. Greeley - Peaks Mill
Florida's only Graded SW by MR. GREELEY
\$5,000 LFSN

New 2009



THE GREEN MONKEY

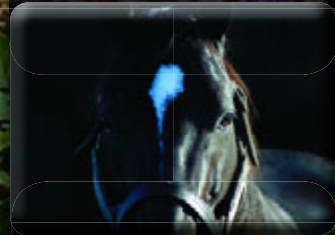
Forestry - Magical Masquerade
World record holder - Florida's only FORESTRY
\$5,000 LFSN



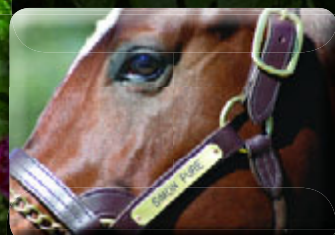
PAVAROTTI
A.P. Indy - Snow Forest
NTR-setting SW by A.P. INDY
\$5,000 LF S&N



FULL MANDATE
A.P. Indy - Clear Mandate
FL's leading 2nd crop sire of winners
\$5,000 LF S&N



WITH DISTINCTION
Storm Cat - Extravagant Woman
FL's most sought-after sire in '08
\$7,500 LF S&N

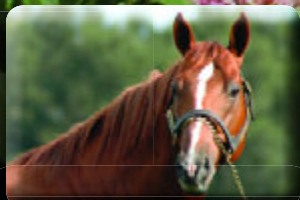


SIMON PURE
Silver Deputy - Life's Magic
Florida's only SILVER DEPUTY
\$5,000 LF S&N

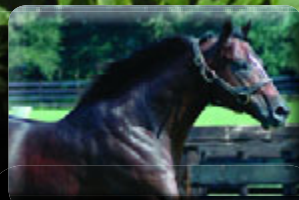
Standing Four of the Top Freshman Sires in Florida



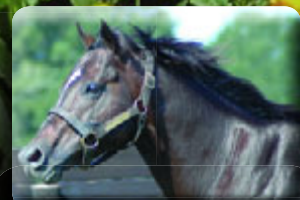
WERBLIN
Unbridled's Song - Roll Over Baby
Undefeated 2YO by Unbridled's Song
\$5,000 LF S&N



ROAR OF THE TIGER
Storm Cat - Mariah's Storm
Storm Cat's #1 freshman sire
\$6,000 LF S&N



OMEGA CODE
Elusive Quality - Tin Oaks
#2 freshman by FL-sired winners
\$7,500 LF S&N



CITY PLACE
Storm Cat - Glitter Woman
Storm Cat's co-#1 freshman by SHs
\$5,000 LF S&N

Nominated to:



Hartley/DeRenzo

Leading the way...

Nominated to:
Florida Stallion
Stakes & Florida
Thoroughbred
Charities Stakes

(continued from page 54)

was in the kitchen cooking, and we had a bunch of people over and everybody was screaming for me to come watch the race. For Denis of Cork in the Kentucky Derby, I had my head stuck in a friend's shoulder. The Belmont? I wasn't watching there, either."

Nora missed Denis of Cork's third-place effort in the Derby and runner-up finish in the Belmont, but that's about all the Figliolias have missed out on since beginning to develop their Westbury Stables operation and farm near Reddick, Fla., just six years ago.

A pair of retired New York business executives, Nora and Al Figliolia had always wanted to own land, and they used to travel to Ocala to visit friends in the area. Then, in the early 1990s, Nora became ill with a couple of auto-immune diseases, and the physical therapies prescribed for her weren't working. One of their friends, a doctor in Ocala, suggested she try therapeutic horseback riding. Not only did the riding improve her physical well-being, but the couple fell in love with horses, and soon had six riding ponies.

Next up was a place to keep them. "Al has been developing land since he was young; that's his passion," noted Nora. "We both wanted to be surrounded by nature; we used to go for rides on Sunday afternoons and dream about having a big piece of land and being in the country. And we were fortunate enough through friends to meet Barbara and Francis Vanlangendonck, Nick and Jackie de Meric, and Brent and Crystal Fernung. So it was a no-brainer when we found 47 acres that Leo and Jeanette Hamill were selling in 2002 that was already a horse farm (the Westbury operation has since expanded to more than 200 acres). It was good for our six riding ponies, and since we were surrounded by all these wonderful people in the Thoroughbred business, we thought we'd go ahead and buy a few broodmares and see how it went."

Since this writer is a native of Westbury, N.Y., I asked if that town on Long Island was the inspiration for the name of the Figliolia's operation. "Well, at first we came up with the name Pegasus Stables," said Nora, "but that was a name being used by other outfits, so we decided to pick something else. Al was looking at a coffee-table book I'd given him that had aerial photos from all over the world. He happened to flip to a page of a place called Westbury, in England, that has natural salt formations in the shape of big, white horses. One of our favorite pets is a big, white Percheron we call Big Daddy, and Al said, 'Westbury Stables, that's a great name.'"

There were a few lessons learned when the Figliolias went to buy those first broodmares. They went to Keeneland to purchase a mare with \$250,000 burning



Our Patty, dam of Deep Dish Pie, with farm employee Jennifer Jenkins

a hole in their pockets. "We thought for that money we'd get something wonderful," Nora said. "And we're sitting there for a couple of days and they're going for \$4 million, \$3 million; and then after a few days the prices were getting more reasonable—\$1 million, \$800,000. And we're looking at each other and feeling very intimidated."

The Figliolias' plan starting out was to create a small, quality operation. They currently have 16 broodmares with a goal of getting to 20, and tend to go about their business in a quiet and efficient manner.

"Al and I are both dedicated and focused people," said Nora. "When we first met Leo Hamill, from whom we bought our farm, we realized he was dedicated to creating good stock, and kept things close to the vest. But people knew if they were

buying a horse off his farm, it was going to be a good, quality horse that was well-raised; one that had been handled and taken good care of; and that's exactly our philosophy as well. We started with just a couple of broodmares and wanted ones with nice pedigree and conformation. We breed them to nice stallions and wanted to stay small enough where we could keep our hands on them and our eyes on everything.

"We were watching a training race recently that included one of our babies who had just started to work, and they had 10 or 11 horses in the field and three or four of them wouldn't load; one dropped the jockey; and our little filly came along and she walked right into that gate and Al and I looked at each other and said, 'See? See?'"

After their early adventure at Keeneland,

SHOWING UP

"80% of success is Showing Up."

-- Woody Allen

The most versatile colt of his stellar generation: won at 6, 8, 8.5, 9 & 10 furlongs.

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The Figliolias with Unbridled Girl, the dam of Denis of Cork, and farm manager Melissa Bailey

the Figliolias have managed to do just fine buying mares. They purchased Unbridled Girl (Unbridled—Sound Wisdom, by Pirate's Bounty) at the 2004 Ocala Breeders' Sales Co.'s January mixed sale for \$95,000. Their first breeding of Unbridled Girl, to Harlan's Holiday, produced Denis of Cork, winner of the Southwest Stakes (gr. III) and dual-classic placed earner of \$613,252. Denis of Cork is being pointed toward a 4-year-old campaign in 2009 by owners

Mr. and Mrs. William K. Warren Jr. and trainer David Carroll. The Figliolias sold Unbridled Girl, in foal to Harlan's Holiday, to S.K.A.S. for \$750,000 at the 2008 Fasig-Tipton November mixed sale in Kentucky. She was consigned by the Vanlangendoncks' Summerfield, agent.

They bought Angel Kate (Mt. Livermore—August Days, by In Reality) for \$80,000 at the 2002 OBS October mixed sale, and their first breeding of her, to Bro-

ken Vow, produced Just for Keeps, winner of the 2008 Mamzelle Stakes at Churchill Downs. Just for Keeps placed in three additional stakes contests in 2008 and has made better than \$227,000 to date for Ken and Sarah Ramsey.

Our Patty (Personal Flag—Axe Creek, by Gulch) was one of the first mares purchased by Westbury Stables, and she produced Deep Dish Pie, by Hennessy, who won the 2007 Prix des Sablonnets in France and was runner-up in two additional stakes events there. The Figliolias also bought stakes winner Amber's Way (Forest Wildcat—Simply Saucy, by Lord Avie) for \$135,000 at Keeneland November in 2004, and she has a yearling Song-and-prayer filly and was bred to Fusaichi Pegasus.

The Figliolias have leaned heavily on their established friends in the business for education. "Being that we're surrounded by these wonderful people," said Nora, "I feel if we can learn what they've forgotten, then we'll be successful. I try to watch the mares, watch the horses, be aware, go to the sales and watch people look at horses. Every day is a learning curve, and that's actually a wonderful thing."

Last spring they experienced a really wonderful time, what with Just for Keeps winning the Mamzelle on Thursday of Derby week, Awesome Chic running in the Kentucky Oaks (gr. I) the next day, and Denis of Cork competing in the Derby the day after that.

"For us to win (as breeders) the Mamzelle that Thursday—wow," said Nora. "And the best part was going to the barns in the mornings and the mist is on the track and you hear the hoofs before you see the horses come out of the mist. We were sitting with a gentleman there one morning—Bennie Stutts—and he was so

2008 Florida Sires By Winners		
Sire	Rnrs	Wnrs
Montbrook	164	93
Alphabet Soup	169	80
Double Honor	134	78
Put It Back	127	74
Halo's Image	146	73
Three Wonders	132	71
Graeme Hall	111	71
Concerto	110	69
Straight Man	121	65
Concorde's Tune	112	63
Full Mandate	122	60
West Acre	78	56
Milwaukee Brew	100	55
Formal Dinner	91	52
Red Bullet	72	46
B L's Appeal	62	45
Sweetsouthern saint	97	44
Adcat	83	44
Notebook	64	41
Unbridled Time	80	39
Untutable	77	38
Chapel Royal	81	36
Texas Glitter	73	35
Tour d'Or	69	35
Max's Pal	59	35
Wagon Limit	53	35
Sligo Bay (IRE)	70	34
Colony Light	73	33
Fortunate Prospect	54	32

2008 Florida Sires By 2-Year-Old Winners			
Sire	Stks 2yos	2yo Rnrs	2yo Wnrs
Chapel Royal	153	81	36
Peace Rules	97	46	23
Omega Code	83	40	19
Put It Back	79	44	19
Full Mandate	72	46	18
Alke	56	31	17
Graeme Hall	70	30	17
Concerto	48	25	15
Roar of the Tiger	67	36	15
Three Wonders	64	39	13
Milwaukee Brew	72	37	12
Olmodavor	64	32	12
Gimmeawink	58	27	11
Pure Precision	45	28	11
Formal Dinner	41	19	10
Montbrook	46	19	10
Double Honor	58	26	10
Concorde's Tune	47	21	9
Halo's Image	29	17	9
West Acre	31	14	9
B L's Appeal	30	16	9
Black Mambo	69	31	9
Spanish Steps	58	23	8
Red Bullet	41	14	8
Greatness	37	21	8
City Place	39	16	7
Lightnin N Thunder	49	20	7
Untutable	30	21	7
Straight Man	26	11	7
Drewman	64	21	7

2008 Florida Sires By Stakes Winners			
Sire	Stks	Wnrs	Stks Wins
Graeme Hall	7	11	11
Put It Back	6	10	10
Straight Man	6	7	7
Montbrook	5	9	9
Milwaukee Brew	5	8	8
Sweetsouthern saint	4	7	7
Alphabet Soup	4	5	5
Red Bullet	3	5	5
Concorde's Tune	3	3	3
Cimarron Secret	2	6	6
Formal Dinner	2	4	4
Lightnin N Thunder	2	4	4
Bring the Heat	2	3	3
Double Honor	2	3	3
D'wildcat	2	3	3
Lido Palace (CHI)	2	3	3
Halo's Image	2	2	2
Olmodavor	2	2	2
Three Wonders	2	2	2
Wagon Limit	2	2	2
Wekiva Springs	2	2	2



Denis of Cork winning the 2008 Southwest Stakes

eloquent talking about when he was a little boy he'd sit on the fender of his father's truck and watch the Derby contenders. He worked his entire life dreaming, and he finally made it to the Derby. And I looked at my husband and started to cry. We were so blessed to be there, and hopefully we'll be able to do something good with the success we might have."

Along those lines, the horses campaigned by the Figliolias race for a cure for cancer, and their silks have ribbons on them indicating such. Although those racehorses have up till now been ones that didn't sell at auction, Al and Nora have caught the racing bug and plan to keep one horse back per year to race.

The couple really enjoys studying pedigrees and picking out matings. They put out feelers and send pages on their mares to stallion stations to get an idea of what studs they'll be able to go to. Then they like to make their decisions soon after the stallion fees come out in November. They've sent their mares to stallions such as Harlan's Holiday, Awesome Again, Dynaformer, and Fusaichi Pegasus. While most of the Westbury mares go to Kentucky, some are kept in Florida, and the Figliolias would like to see the Florida breeding program flourish.

"We've gotten involved in building a small stallion portfolio here in Florida," said Nora. "If people would stand their ground down here and keep some of their top stallions here...there are a lot of nice mares here with several farms building good broodmare bands. We'd love to see some of these mares stay and be bred down here."

Awesome Chic and Denis of Cork have been the stars of the Westbury operation, and were early standouts, although not as early as when some people claim they

can tell who will excel.

"The people who talk about 'the minute he was foaled out we knew...' really get me," said Nora. "I say, 'How the heck did they know that?' Denis is a very flashy individual. He was always athletic and playful. Awesome Chic—when we turned her out in the field, her hoofs didn't hit the ground. She would gallop around and around, stop to take a drink, look at us, and back she went to galloping."

The Figliolias have developed their farm into a showplace, thanks to Al's talent for design and development. Of the six barns presently on the grounds, the eight-sided yearling barn is the pride and joy of the operation, featuring 20 stalls, an observation deck, and even a chandelier. Just completed is a barn for the mares, with another one on the drawing board, actually

an original barn on the farm that Al wants to rebuild, along with a covered bridge to connect the two broodmare barns. There is also a quarantine barn for horses coming off the track or back from sales.

Nora is quick to credit key staff members for Westbury's success. Melissa Bailey serves as farm manager and was formerly a Navy nurse. With a background in both medicine and horses, she has well-rounded experience for her job. Al Morton serves as special projects manager in charge of all the new construction of barns and roads. There is an elaborate underground piping and plumbing system that draws runoff into the farm's various ponds, some of which include fountains.

From the sage advice of their friends, to the beautiful environs of their farm, to raising Thoroughbreds, to achieving remarkable success quickly, the Figliolias are cognizant of their good fortune, and they are enjoying each moment of it.

"We are very religious people," Nora said, "and we feel we've been very blessed here. We've been blessed to be able to take care of the horses, because this is really their success. We're giving them the opportunity. We feel very responsible because we take them out of their natural environment and run a business, but the bottom line is your product is a living thing, so there is a big responsibility to give them the utmost care.

"The miracle of life is what's so great about this. Having the opportunity to be with the mares and be there when they foal out, and to hold that life. Hearing the mare nicker to that foal and having that big brown eye look up at you and then watching it grow and having it go out and do something productive and knowing you gave it a good start. It's wonderful, a complete miracle." 🐾



Mares take in some water at Westbury Stables