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SUNSET STABLES NY

Stepping Up

*Dance to Bristol takes
Ollie Figgins III to the big stage*

BY ESTHER MARR

THE NOV. 16 retirement ceremony at Laurel Park honoring three-time graded stakes winner Dance to Bristol was bittersweet for Ollie Figgins III. The 39-year-old trainer stood in the winner's circle with tears streaming down his face, realizing it may be one of the last times he would see the best horse he has had in his barn since taking out his trainer's license in 2005.

But with Figgins' consistent record, coupled with the investment he makes in each horse, the odds for saddling more stars are in his favor.

"I really feel like working with horses is what I was put on earth to do," said Figgins, a third-generation horseman who is based in West Virginia and races primarily at Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races. "It's always come natural to me—even as a child. It's like a bloodline, I believe."

Figgins' Thoroughbred industry roots originated with his grandfather, Ollie Sr., who foaled mares at such prominent Thoroughbred operations as Buckland Farm in Virginia. The eldest Figgins' enthusiasm for the business was passed down to his son, Ollie Jr., who had regional success as a jockey on the Mid-Atlantic circuit in a career spanning more than 20 years. Ollie III grew up watching his father ride and anticipating the day he, too, could join the sport.

It didn't take long. Figgins was galloping horses by the time he was 11, working for his father's cousin at a farm near Middleburg, Va.

"I galloped horses for five years until I was old enough to go to the track," said Figgins. "I didn't ride any races until after I graduated high school because my father wouldn't let me. I was ready to start sooner—I thought I was, anyway."

After finishing high school in 1992, Figgins joined the Delaware Park jockey colony in lieu of going to college. His 5'9" frame was not conducive to a long-term riding career, however. After going 0-for-29 from 1994-96, he decided to go back to the drawing board.



Trainer Ollie Figgins III and jockey Xavier Perez at Laurel Park

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2013 Leading Sires in Maryland

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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2014 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/ Wns	Rstret SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2013 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	E DUBAI (98, Mr. Prospector), Northview Stallion Station	\$5,000	189/105	3/4	0/3	(Fort Larned, \$790,086)	\$4,575,025	*742	31	1.37	1.23
2	ORIENTATE (98, Mt. Livermore), Northview Stallion Station	\$5,000	182/93	8/10	2/8	(Great Hot, \$180,960)	\$3,484,860	*715	38	1.33	1.81
3	NOT FOR LOVE (90, Mr. Prospector), Northview Stallion Station	\$15,000	128/58	2/4	1/2	(Eighttofastocatch, \$294,155)	\$2,724,895	848	74	1.73	1.45
4	DANCE WITH RAVENS (02, A.P. Indy), Northview Stallion Station	\$3,000	113/54	1/1	1/1	(Maddy's Dance, \$153,140)	\$2,304,979	284	9	1.23	1.48
5	GIACOMO (02, Holy Bull), Heritage Stallions	\$5,000	109/57	6/7	2/6	(Disposablepleasure, \$170,360)	\$1,947,734	*237	13	1.18	1.31
6	OUTFLANKER (94, Danzig), Shamrock Farm	\$3,000	67/35	2/2	1/2	(Javerre, \$199,034)	\$1,696,557	*481	22	1.41	1.16
7	GREAT NOTION (00, Elusive Quality), Northview Stallion Station	\$3,500	56/28	3/4	2/3	(Havelock, \$154,023)	\$1,550,773	145	8	1.66	1.24
8	LION HEARTED (96, Storm Cat), Northview Stallion Station	\$3,000	100/44	0/0	0/0	(Mystical Terp, \$92,120)	\$1,420,651	*529	20	1.25	1.32
9	LOUIS QUATORZE (93, Sovereign Dancer), Murmur Farm	\$2,500	69/37	1/2	0/1	(Ribo Bobo, \$246,435)	\$1,329,471	*924	24	1.15	1.35
10	TWO PUNCH (83, Mr. Prospector)	Died, 2011	71/31	1/3	0/1	(Bold Affair, \$195,000)	\$1,247,208	*1090	56	1.43	1.40
11	ROCK SLIDE (98, A.P. Indy), Shamrock Farm	\$2,500	58/28	1/1	0/1	(Rockinontheater, \$146,124)	\$1,128,511	234	7	1.05	1.23
12	SCIPION (02, A.P. Indy), Murmur Farm	\$2,500	45/24	0/0	0/0	(Pitch N Roll, \$125,605)	\$1,038,218	77	2	1.15	1.09
13	GATORS N BEARS (00, Stormy Atlantic)	Died, 2012	51/22	3/4	1/3	(Ju Ju Eyeballs, \$169,280)	\$991,593	144	5	1.08	1.22
14	SHOWING UP (03, Strategic Mission), Heritage Stallions	\$3,000	42/19	2/2	1/2	(Bon Accord, \$124,620)	\$737,548	*83	2	0.84	1.47
15	CHEROKEE'S BOY (00, Citidancer), Murmur Farm	\$2,500	29/11	0/0	0/0	(Who Dat Boy, \$66,680)	\$532,059	69	1	1.26	1.10
16	GREEK SUN (01, Danzig), Marathon Farm	\$1,500	17/11	0/0	0/0	(Periwinkle, \$67,442)	\$357,016	28	0	0.90	1.18
17	GO FOR GIN (91, Cormorant)	Pnsd	33/10	1/1	0/1	(Shaunna Alexandra, \$42,000)	\$262,882	*398	14	1.26	1.42
18	SEEKING DAYLIGHT (98, Seeking the Gold)	Died, 2009	11/6	0/0	0/0	(Queen Chatanika, \$43,102)	\$143,072	*201	1	1.31	1.34
19	M EIGHTY (99, Lite the Fuse)	N/A	4/2	0/0	0/0	(Houston Bull, \$46,610)	\$90,054	13	0	1.20	0.91
20	LA REINE'S TERMS (95, Private Terms), Glade Valley Farms	\$1,000	5/3	0/0	0/0	(Incredible Terms, \$45,800)	\$68,440	19	0	0.48	1.33



Figgins and crew at the retirement ceremony Laurel Park hosted for Dance to Bristol Nov. 16

"I was honestly too big to begin with, but I decided to try it and rode a few...and I got that out of my system," he said.

Figgins continued galloping horses and worked part-time at a warehouse before signing on as an assistant for his father, who had transitioned into breeding and training a string of horses at Colonial Downs in Virginia.

"While I was there, a guy asked me to claim a horse for him, so I did, and his first time out he won," said Figgins. That horse, named Girlfriendcalling, ignited a new passion, and before he knew it, Figgins' stable had grown from one to 20 horses.

"We did pretty good...when you're winning, people want to work with you, so that's how it worked out," said Figgins. His first big success was a mare aptly named We're in the Money, whom he bought for \$28,000 on behalf of Ray Pennington—now one of his biggest clients—at the 2007 Ocala Breeders' Sales Co.'s spring sale of 2-year-olds in training.

The daughter of Whywhywhy went on to win four state-bred stakes races at Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races, including the \$125,000 West Virginia Division of Tourism Breeders' Classic Stakes in 2008. She retired from racing with

2013 Maryland Sires by Winners

Sire	Rnrs	Wnrs
E Dubai	189	105
Orientate	182	93
Not For Love	128	58
Giacomo	109	57
Dance With Ravens	113	54
Lion Hearted	100	44
Louis Quatorze	69	37
Outflanker	67	35
Two Punch	71	31
Rock Slide	58	28
Great Notion	56	28
Scipion	45	24
Gators N Bears	51	22
Showing Up	42	19

Special Note For Sire Lists:

For stallions that stand, will stand, or stood (deceased) in North America (stallions exported prior to the 2009 breeding season are excluded), and have runners in North America. All available statistics listed for the Northern Hemisphere through December 2, 2013. 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. Cumulative stakes winners includes all countries. (A ♀ indicates a sire represented by his first crop to race.)

*AVERAGE-EARNINGS INDEX and COMPARABLE INDEX: Lifetime AVERAGE-EARNINGS INDEX indicates how much purse money the progeny of one sire has earned in relation to the average earnings of all runners in the same years; average earnings of all runners in any year is represented by an index of 1.00; 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 AVERAGE-EARNINGS INDEX higher than their mares' COMPARABLE INDEX.

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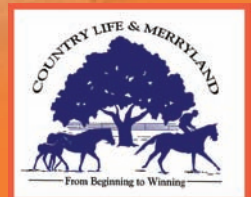
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2013 Leading Sires in New York

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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2014 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/ Wns	Rstret SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2013 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	BLUEGRASS CAT (03, Storm Cat), Rockridge Stud	\$7,500	220/116	9/10	1/9	(Percussion, \$289,800)	\$5,247,523	*385	18	1.36	2.04
2	FREUD (98, Storm Cat), Sequel Stallions New York	\$10,000	145/77	9/14	6/9	(Effie Trinket, \$368,628)	\$4,969,841	*478	35	1.77	1.25
3	POSSE (00, Silver Deputy), Rockridge Stud	\$5,000	166/103	4/6	2/4	(In the Fairway, \$136,034)	\$3,828,255	*499	20	1.40	1.39
4	UTOPIA (JPN) (00, Forty Niner), McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds	\$5,000	109/48	2/2	2/2	(Sally's Dream, \$285,132)	\$2,304,951	202	5	1.12	1.30
5	BOB AND JOHN (03, Seeking the Gold), Saratoga Stud	\$6,000	99/60	3/3	1/3	(Jonrah, \$115,267)	\$2,254,079	*160	7	1.01	1.42
6	CONGAREE (98, Arazi), Saratoga Stud	\$7,500	86/46	4/7	0/4	(Don't Tell Sophia, \$334,276)	\$1,970,084	*286	14	1.36	1.48
7	POMEROY (01, Boundary), Rockridge Stud	\$3,500	91/48	5/6	0/5	(Brooklyn Cowboy, \$114,505)	\$1,747,561	*201	9	1.17	1.33
8	CATIENUS (94, Storm Cat), McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds	\$2,500	109/60	0/0	0/0	(Glamour Puss, \$86,130)	\$1,476,454	*518	26	1.16	1.29
9	FROST GIANT (03, Giant's Causeway), Keane Stud Operations	\$10,000	33/13	3/5	3/3	(West Hills Giant, \$256,996)	\$1,436,869	*78	4	2.40	1.16
10	DISCO RICO (97, Citidancer), Keane Stud Operations,	\$5,000	60/27	1/1	1/1	(Vicki's Dancer, \$216,050)	\$1,433,925	235	9	1.31	1.22
11	NOBLE CAUSEWAY (02, Giant's Causeway), Sequel Stallions New York	N/A	92/46	1/1	0/1	(Canal Six, \$82,000)	\$1,315,964	170	3	0.67	1.08
12	GOLDEN MISSILE (95, A.P. Indy), Milfer Farm	\$3,500	80/44	0/0	0/0	(Estrada's Girl, \$163,581)	\$1,304,774	*605	15	1.07	1.57
13	STONESIDER (03, Giant's Causeway), Saratoga Stud	\$3,500	45/18	2/2	2/2	(Stock Fund, \$179,200)	\$1,259,267	*123	2	1.06	1.19
14	TEUFLESBERG (04, Johannesburg), McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds	\$5,000	35/22	3/4	1/3	(Logan's Peak, \$130,077)	\$1,158,003	62	4	2.13	1.23
15	HERE'S ZEALOUS (97, Dehere), Kaz Hill Farm	\$1,000	52/31	0/0	0/0	(Flying Zealous, \$126,050)	\$1,155,662	162	0	0.81	0.96
16	PATRIOT ACT (02, A.P. Indy), Questroyal North	\$2,500	37/21	1/1	1/1	(Empire Dreams, \$173,500)	\$1,109,543	*79	1	1.07	1.08
17	ROARING FEVER (00, Storm Cat), Questroyal North	\$2,500	57/29	1/1	0/1	(Spa City Fever, \$177,300)	\$1,037,029	167	6	1.18	1.00
18	SUNRIVER (03, Saint Ballado)	Died, 2009	59/27	1/1	0/1	(Suilleabhain, \$98,674)	\$1,029,313	107	3	1.06	1.44
19	BUSTIN STONES (04, City Zip), Waldorf Farm	\$5,000	30/19	0/0	0/0	(Keep Bustin, \$208,425)	\$978,458	43	0	1.39	1.63
20	ANDROMEDA'S HERO (02, Fusaichi Pegasus), Dutchess Views Farm	\$1,500	38/18	1/1	1/1	(Go Get the Basil, \$127,740)	\$964,944	73	2	0.93	1.03
21	MR. SEKIGUCHI (03, Storm Cat), Mole's Hill Farm	\$2,500	43/15	0/0	0/0	(Lotosblume, \$67,950)	\$519,835	*76	1	0.88	1.30
22	CONGRESSIONALHONOR (01, Forestry)	N/A	39/13	0/0	0/0	(Thegames a Bustout, \$65,760)	\$494,955	159	0	0.65	0.96
23	ALEX'S PAL (99, Valid Expectations), Centennial Farm	\$3,500	19/7	1/3	0/1	(My Pal Chrisy, \$356,100)	\$491,000	86	2	1.32	0.93
24	ELTISH (92, Cox's Ridge)	Died, 2012	35/12	0/0	0/0	(Ella's Gone West, \$49,350)	\$481,236	301	13	1.18	1.28
25	SAY FLORIDA SANDY (94, Personal Flag)	Pnsd	31/16	0/0	0/0	(Sandyinthesun, \$62,422)	\$377,796	*187	1	0.82	1.13
26	FRIENDLY ISLAND (01, Crafty Friend)	N/A	18/12	0/0	0/0	(Victory Island, \$68,627)	\$372,880	49	0	0.75	1.63
27	¶ COSMONAUT (02, Lemon Drop Kid), Saratoga Stud	\$5,000	7/2	0/0	0/0	(Marvin's Miracle, \$100,000)	\$194,591	18	0	1.44	1.20
28	¶ NOONMARK (03, Unbridled's Song), Sequel Stallions New York	\$5,000	12/4	1/1	0/1	(Mark My Way, \$46,000)	\$186,097	38	1	0.80	1.27
29	JADE HUNTER (84, Mr. Prospector)	Died, 2011	14/5	0/0	0/0	(Jade Run, \$101,178)	\$181,656	*958	44	1.36	1.55
30	A. P. JET (89, Fappiano)	Died, 2010	12/4	1/1	0/1	(Strong Impact, \$115,426)	\$175,418	451	16	1.14	1.25
31	MAYBRY'S BOY (99, Broad Brush), Saratoga Stud	\$2,500	8/3	0/0	0/0	(Sweet Moon, \$46,970)	\$131,956	14	1	1.62	1.64
32	UNCLE CAMIE (00, Abaginone)	Died, 2012	7/4	0/0	0/0	(Uncle Smokey, \$61,400)	\$129,423	25	0	0.76	0.75
33	NORTHERN SPUR (IRE) (91, Sadler's Wells), Foggy Bottom Farm	N/A	11/5	0/0	0/0	(Fall Colors, \$24,175)	\$100,628	97	4	1.18	1.16
34	CROWN DELITE (99, A.P. Indy), Babcock Farm	\$1,500	4/3	0/0	0/0	(Empedrado, \$36,330)	\$73,399	30	0	0.72	1.31
35	VERBATIM RUN (89, Verbatim)	N/A	2/2	0/0	0/0	(Jaz E Jaz, \$48,440)	\$71,675	29	0	0.74	0.59

earnings of more than \$300,000.

In 2007 Figgins claimed Rouse the Cat for \$10,000 on Pennington's behalf at Charles Town. After the son of Sir Cat won a stakes at Monmouth Park and was runner-up in the Nearctic (Can-IIT) and Kennedy Road (Can-IIT) stakes at Woodbine, Figgins decided to try him in the 2008

Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint.

Unfortunately, the gelding failed to fire and wound up a distant 12th, but Figgins was far from discouraged. Instead, he concentrated his efforts on searching for his next big horse.

Not until 2011 did Figgins saddle another stakes winner for Pennington, a Ten-

pins gelding named Figpenn, who scored in the West Virginia Futurity. It proved to be a banner year for the conditioner as earlier that season he had also purchased the Speightstown filly Dance to Bristol for \$42,000 at the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic May 2-year-olds in training sale.

That purchase would change his career.



Dance to Bristol winning the grade I Ballerina at Saratoga

2013 New York Sires by Winners		
Sire	Rnrs	Wnrs
Bluegrass Cat	220	116
Posse	166	103
Freud	145	77
Catienus	109	60
Bob and John	99	60
Utopia (JPN)	109	48
Pomeroy	91	48
Noble Causeway	92	46
Congaree	86	46
Golden Missile	80	44
Here's Zealous	52	31
Roaring Fever	57	29
Disco Rico	60	27
Sunriver	59	27
Teuflesberg	35	22
Patriot Act	37	21
Bustin Stones	30	19
Stonesider	45	18
Andromeda's Hero	38	18
Say Florida Sandy	31	16
One Nice Cat	29	16
Mr. Sekiguchi	43	15

GRADE I

Connections in New York

All Under One Roof

CATIENUS

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\$7,500 Live Foal

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2013 Leading Sires in Pennsylvania

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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2014 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/ Wns	Rstret SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	Cumulative				
							2013 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	ROCKPORT HARBOR (02, Unbridled's Song), Pin Oak Lane Farm	Died, 2013	219/128	13/18	4/13	(Ria Antonia, \$1,156,140)	\$6,990,278	355	21	1.40	1.49
2	ANY GIVEN SATURDAY (04, Distorted Humor), Pin Oak Lane Farm	\$5,000	165/87	4/4	0/4	(Show Some Magic, \$247,879)	\$4,167,882	*348	9	1.14	1.52
3	JUMP START (99, A.P. Indy), Northview PA	\$10,000	143/83	9/13	2/9	(Prayer for Relief, \$391,188)	\$4,136,033	*656	36	1.56	1.35
4	WISEMAN'S FERRY (99, Hennessy), Dana Point Farm	\$5,000	70/40	2/7	0/2	(Wise Dan, \$2,751,972)	\$4,051,560	*269	6	1.71	1.07
5	SMARTY JONES (01, Elusive Quality), Northview	\$7,500	123/72	8/10	0/8	(Better Life, \$678,635)	\$3,810,682	*365	22	1.70	2.18
6	CORINTHIAN (03, Pulpit), Pin Oak Lane Farm	\$4,000	193/95	1/1	0/1	(Justoneatheguys, \$122,299)	\$3,334,128	*332	6	0.93	1.41
7	SILVER TRAIN (02, Old Trieste), Northview	\$5,000	167/97	3/3	0/3	(Ogermeister, \$102,491)	\$3,192,707	*305	13	1.07	1.36
8	FLASHY BULL (03, Holy Bull), Penn Ridge Farms	\$4,500	108/52	2/5	0/2	(Flashy American, \$286,380)	\$2,327,483	164	4	1.20	1.22
9	OFFLEE WILD (00, Wild Again), Pin Oak Lane Farm	\$4,000	108/55	4/7	0/4	(Hogy, \$339,500)	\$2,266,184	*279	9	1.31	1.28
10	PETIONVILLE (92, Seeking the Gold), Penn Ridge Farms	\$6,000	99/51	2/3	1/2	(Tomorrow's Tale, \$125,365)	\$1,769,372	*647	46	1.35	1.24
11	FAIRBANKS (03, Giant's Causeway), Northview	\$3,500	66/28	1/1	0/1	(Synapse, \$125,200)	\$1,517,956	107	1	1.00	1.37
12	REAL QUIET (95, Quiet American)	Died, 2010	69/30	2/4	1/2	(Norman Asbjornson, \$193,250)	\$1,408,135	*623	15	1.20	1.23
13	EUROSILVER (01, Unbridled's Song), Penn Ridge Farms	\$3,500	84/36	0/0	0/0	(Blues and Silvers, \$181,160)	\$1,259,695	*290	7	0.98	1.34
14	ALBERT THE GREAT (97, Go for Gin), Pin Oak Lane Farm	\$2,500	57/34	0/0	0/0	(Chicharito, \$157,450)	\$1,242,031	*345	9	1.15	1.16
15	TRAJECTORY (97, Gone West), Mountain Springs Racing Stable	\$3,500	70/26	1/1	1/1	(Line of Best Fit, \$151,565)	\$1,107,779	353	14	1.11	1.36
16	MEDALLIST (01, Touch Gold), Northview	\$2,500	51/30	1/4	0/1	(Horizontalyspeakin, \$91,810)	\$1,104,955	165	6	1.32	1.46
17	LOVE OF MONEY (01, Not For Love)	Died, 2012	57/26	0/0	0/0	(Lexi's Pal, \$77,904)	\$1,100,588	100	2	1.08	1.24
18	LITE THE FUSE (91, Buckaroo), Pin Oak Lane Farm	\$2,500	50/27	1/1	1/1	(Lisa Stannard, \$138,020)	\$954,228	525	23	1.24	1.20
19	CAT THIEF (96, Storm Cat), Penn Ridge Farms	\$4,000	55/29	0/0	0/0	(Whatthecatdrugin, \$183,434)	\$904,980	*443	18	1.18	1.63
20	PARTNER'S HERO (94, Danzig), Castle Rock Farm	\$1,500	50/21	1/1	1/1	(Vianney Lane, \$106,440)	\$856,207	426	20	1.23	1.35
21	PURE PRECISION (99, Montbrook)	N/A	31/14	1/1	0/1	(Tightend Touchdown, \$427,000)	\$808,447	155	3	1.18	1.03
22	GIMMEAWINK (00, Elusive Quality), Mountain Springs Racing Stable	\$2,500	63/36	0/0	0/0	(Pallium Prize, \$57,103)	\$803,944	*185	2	0.80	1.10
23	DELAWARE TOWNSHIP (96, Notebook), Maui Meadow Farm	\$2,000	40/22	0/0	0/0	(Run With Me, \$54,710)	\$612,321	268	7	1.10	1.25
24	WEIGELIA (01, Safely's Mark), WynOaks Farm	\$3,500	24/13	2/2	1/2	(Isabella Swift, \$96,153)	\$598,325	33	2	1.17	1.04
25	FORMAL DINNER (88, Well Decorated), Mountain Springs Racing Stable	\$2,000	39/24	1/3	1/1	(Caviar N Champagne, \$94,400)	\$569,578	*631	25	1.09	1.10
26	ACTIVIST (94, Wild Again), Godstone Farm	\$2,000	34/13	0/0	0/0	(Paliuli, \$76,530)	\$560,437	166	3	0.97	0.86
27	SIR SHACKLETON (01, Miswaki), Dana Point Farm	\$1,000	36/21	0/0	0/0	(Sir Newcastle, \$70,150)	\$551,223	*89	1	0.65	1.12
28	INVISIBLE INK (98, Thunder Gulch)	Died, 2011	24/14	1/1	1/1	(Adios Nardo, \$105,560)	\$537,558	*108	5	0.87	1.21
29	SNOW RIDGE (98, Tabasco Cat)	Died, 2012	50/22	0/0	0/0	(Snow Fair, \$39,652)	\$526,331	*272	7	1.01	1.17
30	RIMROD (00, Danzig), Castle Rock Farm	\$1,500	26/12	1/2	1/1	(Lenape Rim, \$100,150)	\$483,134	71	2	1.55	1.19

Figgins acquired Dance to Bristol on behalf of one of his other major clients, Susan Wantz, who operates Copperville Farm near Taneytown, Md., with her husband, David.

"I thought she was a filly we could get in our bankroll," said Figgins. "I liked the way she worked more than her time. She was a tall, lanky filly...she was immature-looking, but she had a lot of pedigree for the money we gave for her."

Figgins knew he might have something special on his hands when Dance to Bristol broke her maiden easily at Laurel Park on her third try at 2.

"I started getting a little high on her without going crazy," he said. "She beat a horse named Jazzy Idea that day who turned out to be a really nice horse."

Dance to Bristol won a minor stakes—the \$58,800 Pandera



Figgins, left, and Ray Pennington at the 2008 Breeders' Cup at Santa Anita Park

2013 Pennsylvania Sires by Winners

Sire	Rnrs.	Wnrs
Rockport Harbor	219	128
Silver Train	167	97
Corinthian	193	95
Any Given Saturday	165	87
Jump Start	143	83
Smarty Jones	123	72
Offlee Wild	108	55
Flashy Bull	108	52
Petionville	99	51
Wiseman's Ferry	70	40
Eurosilver	84	36
Gimmeawink	63	36
Albert the Great	57	34
Real Quiet	69	30
Medallist	51	30
Cat Thief	55	29
Fairbanks	66	28
Lite the Fuse	50	27
Trajectory	70	26
Love of Money	57	26
Trust N Luck	46	24
Formal Dinner	39	24
Snow Ridge	50	22
Delaware Township	40	22
Partner's Hero	50	21
Sir Shackleton	36	21

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2013 Leading Sires in West Virginia

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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB, Sire), Where Stands	2014 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	Cumulative				
							2013 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	LIMEHOUSE (01, Grand Slam), O'Sullivan Farms	\$3,500	125/70	7/13	1/7	(Sandy'z Slew, \$105,523)	\$2,556,225	*309	17	1.25	1.25
2	WINDSOR CASTLE (98, Lord Carson), Taylor Mountain Farm	\$3,000	75/38	2/6	2/2	(Down Town Allen, \$113,860)	\$1,421,166	179	9	1.21	1.15
3	LUFTIKUS (96, Meadowlake), Taylor Mountain Farm	\$1,500	58/24	2/5	1/2	(Amherst Street, \$195,316)	\$1,176,100	261	9	1.03	1.10
4	FIBER SONDE (05, Unbridled's Song), Beau Ridge Farm	\$1,000	20/13	1/2	1/1	(Hidden Canyon, \$109,005)	\$601,066	34	2	1.40	0.75
5	PRIZED (86, Kris S.)	Pnsd	48/18	0/0	0/0	(Premio Loco, \$91,948)	\$599,268	*752	30	1.38	1.32
6	BOP (97, Rahy)	Died, 2012	39/15	0/0	0/0	(Bomber, \$87,590)	\$567,181	*150	5	1.02	0.92
7	REPARATIONS (96, Forty Niner), Blue Spruce Farm	\$1,500	31/21	0/0	0/0	(Red Penny Princess, \$66,493)	\$551,086	115	3	1.08	0.83
8	BLACK TIE AFFAIR (IRE) (86, Miswaki)	Died, 2010	47/17	0/0	0/0	(Marvelous Chester, \$64,010)	\$501,625	*914	38	1.28	1.40
9	DURING (00, Cherokee Run), O'Sullivan Farms	\$1,500	29/12	1/1	1/1	(Jake N Elwood, \$101,850)	\$474,217	151	4	0.86	1.18
10	PEAK DANCER (97, Mt. Livermore), Householder Farm	N/A	21/13	0/0	0/0	(Pacmango, \$53,710)	\$445,117	54	4	1.23	0.94
11	YARROW BRAE (95, Deputy Minister), O'Sullivan Farms	\$750	22/12	1/2	0/1	(Margaret High, \$66,108)	\$443,490	278	10	1.13	1.01
12	FEAR THE CAPE (01, Cape Town), Blue Spruce Farm	\$1,500	12/5	1/2	1/1	(Fear the Facelift, \$184,757)	\$341,691	22	1	1.26	1.00
13	PERUVIAN (92, Conquistador Cielo), Fox Run Stallion Station	\$2,000	4/3	1/4	1/1	(Saginaw, \$228,000)	\$290,689	85	2	1.02	0.87
14	GHOSTLY MINISTER (97, Deputy Minister), Buckstud	\$2,500	22/7	0/0	0/0	(Spooky Story, \$52,410)	\$247,411	59	1	1.03	0.96
15	MEDFORD (95, Meadowlake), Maple Valley Farm	Pnsd	23/7	0/0	0/0	(Perfect Cross, \$67,250)	\$238,805	85	1	0.65	0.82
16	DEVON DEPUTY (96, Deputy Minister)	Died, 2009	14/4	1/3	1/1	(Red Hot Diva, \$117,090)	\$203,858	50	3	0.73	0.77
17	PANA BRASS (92, Dixieland Brass)	Died	7/4	0/0	0/0	(Clink Clink Clink, \$78,880)	\$196,060	30	1	1.04	0.61
18	CIVILISATION (98, Gone West), Naylee Farm	\$1,000	13/6	0/0	0/0	(Follow the Whales, \$54,520)	\$189,806	165	0	0.59	0.71
19	GARNERED (98, Holy Bull), Naylee Farm	\$1,000	12/5	0/0	0/0	(Holy Boom, \$40,610)	\$177,055	64	0	0.72	0.73
20	FOOTNOTES (04, Storm Cat), Beau Ridge Farm	\$1,000	7/4	0/0	0/0	(Just a Trick, \$55,906)	\$164,581	11	0	1.19	0.81
21	DEPUTY ROKEBY (01, Deputy Minister)	N/A	12/6	0/0	0/0	(Ileen's Star, \$42,817)	\$146,731	*33	0	0.57	0.87
22	MESOPOTAMIA (93, Deputy Minister)	N/A	19/6	0/0	0/0	(Don'tmesswithallen, \$38,480)	\$144,194	106	2	0.72	0.99
23	INNER HARBOUR (97, Capote), O'Sullivan Farms	N/A	10/6	0/0	0/0	(Balto More, \$53,595)	\$137,945	44	0	0.58	0.70
24	¶ DENIS OF CORK (05, Harlan's Holiday), Taylor Mountain Farm	\$4,000	7/2	0/0	0/0	(Celtic Moon, \$67,690)	\$134,375	14	0	0.99	1.35
25	GREEN FEE (96, Green Dancer), Blue Spruce Farm	\$1,000	11/4	0/0	0/0	(Garden Tavern, \$24,340)	\$113,985	54	0	0.40	0.77

Stakes—that season at Aqueduct, and one the following season at Laurel. It wasn't until this year, however, that her career really took off.

While teamed with jockey Xavier Perez, Dance to Bristol reeled off seven straight victories from February through August, including a win in the Skipat Stakes at Pimlico Race Course on Preakness weekend, and three graded races in New York: the Bed

o' Roses Handicap (gr. III), Honorable Miss Handicap (gr. II), and Ballerina Stakes (gr. I).

Dance to Bristol finished her career with 10 wins and eight second-place finishes in 20 career starts, and \$980,880 in earnings. The chestnut filly, who raced nine times in Maryland with five victories and four runner-up finishes, made her last start in the Nov. 2 Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Sprint (gr. I), where she finished sixth.

"She's been a godsend from the first day she came to the barn," said Figgins of Dance to Bristol, who now resides at Mill Ridge Farm near Lexington and will be bred to War Front in 2014. "She's an angel to be around and loves what she does. It's great to have a horse like her that you can take all over the country and run on big stages and always compete. She's a special horse. It was sad to see her have a bad day on the wrong day (in the Breeders' Cup)."

Figgins trained Dance to Bristol with the same philosophy he uses with all of his other horses.

"I do things the older way, the way I was taught, which is pretty simple and basic," said Figgins.

His basic premise is to train his horses hard so that when they are entered, they are ready to run and don't need to be raced into shape.

"A lot of modern-day trainers like to train on the lighter side. But I train pretty hard...when I take them to run (a race), I go over there to win—I like to get them fit," said Figgins, whose horses often have 15-16 published workouts before making their career debuts. After that, he only gives them a couple of days off before sending them back to the track to jog.

"I think horses like to be out—I don't think they like to be in their stalls and in the barn," he explained. "I train every day...I don't train hard every day, but I like to train as many days as I can."

Figgins' feeding program is also what many would consider old school.

"We cook our oats in the wintertime, which is something I was taught from a young age," he said. "Nobody really does that anymore, but we have an older way of doing things, I guess."

Wantz said one of the characteristics she appreciates about Figgins, with whom she currently has six horses, is the way he understands the different nuances of her horses and thus runs a flexible program.

"We primarily breed to race, and because he's a former jockey,



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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2014 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/ Wns	Rstret SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	Cumulative				
							2013 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	DEFRERE (92, Deputy Minister), Wainford Stud	\$1,500	64/31	0/0	0/0	(Peri Whan, \$113,520)	\$1,343,430	*562	22	1.24	1.19
2	DON SIX (00, Wild Escapade)	N/A	30/16	2/2	1/2	(Saucy Don, \$93,565)	\$703,136	67	2	1.21	1.22
3	MO MON (98, Maria's Mon)	Died, 2011	31/12	1/1	1/1	(Elba, \$116,485)	\$560,751	122	3	0.79	1.18
4	UNBRIDLED JET (96, Unbridled)	Died, 2011	21/11	1/1	1/1	(Pinot Grigio, \$98,038)	\$447,196	*250	9	1.04	1.23
5	PRIVATE INTERVIEW (92, Nureyev), Colonial Farms	\$1,000	16/7	0/0	0/0	(Tactical Saenz, \$79,925)	\$241,178	219	4	1.10	1.23
6	PARK AVENUE BALL (02, Citidancer), Colonial Farms	\$1,000	13/4	0/0	0/0	(Park Avenue Appeal, \$61,900)	\$201,281	30	0	0.64	1.35
7	IRON DEPUTY (99, Silver Deputy), Wainford Stud	\$1,000	6/2	1/1	1/1	(Gunfighter, \$113,060)	\$198,200	26	2	1.57	1.31
8	COZY DELL (97, Cozzene)	N/A	3/3	0/0	0/0	(Champagne Rain, \$73,375)	\$111,405	8	0	1.25	0.93
9	HEY CHUB (00, Carson City), Joe-Dan Farm	N/A	3/3	0/0	0/0	(Tubby Chub, \$38,775)	\$92,392	10	0	1.50	1.68
10	HIT THE TRAIL (99, Cahill Road)	Died, 2012	5/1	0/0	0/0	(Trail Rockin, \$49,610)	\$70,378	28	1	0.96	1.19

he looks at horses differently from someone that never rode,” said Wantz. “He has a good work ethic, as well as horsemanship knowledge. Overall, he’s a good, honest person, and that’s rare in this business.”

Pennington, for whom Figgins has saddled more than 100 winners, also commended Figgins for his horse insight.

“He’s the horseman, and I’m the numbers guy,” said Pennington. “His instincts are fantastic. He seems to have a sixth sense in his ability to pick out 2-year-olds in training. I have a small budget, but Ollie works with me on \$5,000 and \$10,000 claimers and \$25,000 purchases and has been able to compete with the best.”

Pennington and Figgins owned Charge Me, the dam of the aforementioned Figgenn. While the mare died from foaling complications last season, the trainer and owner are still campaigning her offspring, including her juvenile Riding That Train, who finished third in his debut at Charles Town this summer.

“He has tremendous potential,” said Pennington of the son of Bop (by Rahy).

Whether it’s Figgins’ stringent routines, his feeding methods, or a combination of both, his stable principles have produced impressive results.

He keeps a barn of 35 horses at Charles Town, plus another string of 12-15 at Bowie Training Center in Bowie, Md. In spite of many of those horses running for claiming prices of \$10,000 or less, Figgins does the best with what he has, while always keeping an eye out for developing stars.

“He takes the same care, expertise, and knowledge with the cheap claimers as he does with the big horses,” said Wantz.

Through Dec. 2, Figgins had won with 61 of 405 starters in 2013. At his home base at Charles Town, he finished in the money in 36 of 76 starts from July 1-Sept. 30 (47%), and finished second in the standings during that time period behind Jeff Runco, who started nearly twice as many horses as Figgins.

In his career, Figgins has won 442 of 2,513 starts (through Dec. 2), with total purse earnings of \$9,062,842.

The trainer also owns three mares with

his wife, Carisa, and had his first winners as a co-breeder this year with Fancidear and Shakin N His Boots. He plans to continue operating a small breeding program on some land he leases near his home.

Figgins credits his staff, led by his brother, Jason, for helping his operation run efficiently.

“My brother is kind of like me when I’m not there...he runs the barn, besides making the entries,” said Figgins of Jason, who serves as assistant trainer. “He does all the feeding and watches the horses train. He’s just another me—we had the same upbringing and have the same philosophies.”

Figgins believes in having an open door policy with his clients when it comes to making decisions about their horses.

“You have to keep them involved in it,” he said. “You’ve got to remember that you’re working for them and it’s their horses. A lot of trainers have the attitude of ‘My way or the highway,’ but I try not to be that way.

“I keep them involved with who rides the horses...I call them on the phone and give them my evaluation of the horse and what they may be worth or not worth. Then some of them say, ‘Run where you need to run them,’ and others say, ‘Let’s give them a chance’ (in a certain race). I think that’s a big part of my success—working well with my clients and making decisions together.”

Figgins has considered moving to a bigger circuit but for now is committed to the Mid-Atlantic region because his five children are all still in school.

“They all ride and show horses,” said Figgins, who hopes his oldest daughter, Kelsie, 17, will someday be involved in his business. “She’s leaning more toward the racehorse industry than any of the others,” he explained.

Considering Figgins’ keen ability to maximize his horses’ potential and build positive relationships with his clients, it wouldn’t come as a surprise if the trainer’s next big winner arrived sooner rather than later.

“I’m itching to go elsewhere...you get that taste of bigger racing and you want to be a part of it more often,” he said.

No one ever said the big stages can’t be shared with the small trainers. **BH**



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