

SOUTHWEST

IN THIS SECTION

LEADING SIRES IN TEXAS
BY 2014 PROGENY EARNINGSLEADING SIRES IN LOUISIANA
BY 2014 PROGENY EARNINGSLEADING SIRES IN OKLAHOMA
BY 2014 PROGENY EARNINGSLEADING SIRES IN NEW MEXICO
BY 2014 PROGENY EARNINGSLEADING SIRES IN ARIZONA
BY 2014 PROGENY EARNINGSLEADING SIRES IN COLORADO
BY 2014 PROGENY EARNINGSLEADING SIRES IN ARKANSAS
BY 2014 PROGENY EARNINGS

ADVERTISERS' INDEX

42

A & A RANCH, LLC.
WWW.AARANCH.ORG

37, 38-39

CLEAR CREEK STUD, LLC
WWW.CLEARCREEKSTUDLLC.COM

37

EQUINE SALES
WWW.EQUINESALESOFLA.COM

35

LA BAHAI STUD

40

MIGHTY ACRES
WWW.MIGHTYACRES.COM

41

THOROUGHBRED RACING
ASSOCIATION OF OKLAHOMA
WWW.TRAORACING.COM

43

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Investing in Texas

*Century Acres a new player
in Lone Star State*BY ESTHER MARR
PHOTOS BY VICKI LeBLANC

ABOUT 40 MILES northwest of Houston, Texas, in an area known for the horse farms that populate its sandy soil and gently rolling hills, there is a new kid in town. It was around a year ago when partners Teofilo "Teo" Mallet and David Ranslem bravely put down roots in the 100-acre property adjacent to Lane's End Texas, aptly named it Century Acres, and gave legs to the venture they had been planning for years.

"This is the best horse land in this area of the state, and being located next to Lane's End was a no-brainer," said Mallet, 46, who serves as manager of the Hempstead, Texas, operation.

Century Acres may be starting out small—there are currently about 25 horses boarded on the property—but Mallet and Ranslem have big dreams.

"We're trying to bring nice Kentucky blood here to Texas," said Mallet, who purchased nine yearlings by sires such as Pleasantly Perfect, Parading, Stroll, and Sightseeing at the 2013 Keeneland September yearling sale that he plans to pinhook at this year's Texas 2-year-old sale.

"I'm hoping a small fish in Kentucky is a bigger fish in Texas," he explained. "We're trying to give the buyer a different option, because we have so few stallions here. I'm hoping that's a winning strategy."

Mallet and Ranslem also own three mares and board another five on behalf of clients. Their goal is to increase their broodmare band to around 15 with the intention of operating as a commercial, breed-to-sell outfit. The farm will also offer boarding, foaling, sales prep, and lay-ups for outside clients.

"We want to be a boutique farm that



Teofilo Mallet and a few of his friends at Century Acres outside Houston

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*standing in
Texas*

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2014 LEADING SIRE IN TEXAS



Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2014 Stud Fee	Rnrs/Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/Wns	Rstret SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	Cumulative				
							2014 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	MY GOLDEN SONG (03, Unbridled's Song), Valor Farm	\$4,000	22/9	3/5	2/3	(Triumph and Song, \$90,000)	\$297,060	68	7	1.07	1.10
2	TOO MUCH BLING (03, Rubiano), Lane's End Texas	\$4,000	38/10	1/1	1/1	(Scooter's Choice, \$45,305)	\$270,518	121	12	1.28	1.19
3	VALID EXPECTATIONS (93, Valid Appeal), Lane's End Texas	Pnsd	42/12	0/0	0/0	(Valid Message, \$24,160)	\$247,390	631	43	1.24	1.17
4	UNCLE ABBIE (97, Kingmambo), Key Ranch	\$2,000	20/5	2/3	0/2	(Ibaka, \$93,000)	\$226,483	210	8	0.68	0.66
5	EARLY FLYER (98, Gilded Time), Valor Farm	\$3,500	35/7	0/0	0/0	(Fly the Red Eye, \$24,880)	\$156,467	218	15	0.86	0.89
6	SPECIAL RATE (00, Pulpit), Stoneview Farm	\$3,000	22/6	0/0	0/0	(Sassy N Special, \$27,963)	\$128,147	125	2	0.63	0.50
7	CAPTAIN COUNTDOWN (96, Relaunch), Double S Thoroughbred Farm	\$500	21/6	1/1	1/1	(Wampas Kitty, \$35,500)	\$90,896	174	3	0.53	0.68
8	SILENT PICTURE (01, Grand Slam), Key to the Hills Farm	\$1,500	6/2	1/2	1/1	(Quiet Acceleration, \$60,000)	\$83,220	44	1	0.58	0.61
9	SCRIMSHAW (00, Gulch), R&S Stables	\$1,500	19/3	0/0	0/0	(My Boy Gene, \$21,980)	\$81,521	*173	3	1.03	0.92
10	LITTLEEXPECTATIONS (97, Valid Appeal), Asmussen Horse Center	\$1,500	13/5	0/0	0/0	(Expect Elprada, \$19,170)	\$78,505	186	4	0.79	1.02
11	INTIMIDATOR (01, Gone West), Asmussen Horse Center	\$1,500	29/4	0/0	0/0	(Shawn's Thief, \$15,000)	\$74,271	165	5	0.70	0.80
12	ORATORY (02, Pulpit), Eureka Thoroughbred Farm	\$3,500	16/1	0/0	0/0	(Wild Oration, \$14,523)	\$68,689	*156	3	1.26	1.18
13	WIMBLEDON (01, Wild Rush), Valor Farm	\$2,000	11/3	0/0	0/0	(Stay Foolish, \$19,000)	\$44,938	101	4	0.78	0.78
14	TOUCH TONE (98, Pick Up the Phone)	N/A	9/2	0/0	0/0	(Touched by Faith, \$17,507)	\$39,242	107	2	0.66	0.71
15	TRULUCK (95, Conquistador Cielo), Cross-Leiseth Racing	N/A	7/3	0/0	0/0	(Lucky A. C., \$12,072)	\$37,116	177	4	0.69	0.71

really caters to hands-on service," Mallet explained.

One of the partners' first purchases was Mimi's Affair, a daughter of Perfect Soul—Luv Peddler, by Black Tie Affair, whom they acquired for \$9,500 at the 2007 Fasig-Tipton Texas August yearling sale. Consigned by Five Point Thoroughbreds, agent, she was bought under their former stable name, Haras Agua Azul.

Mimi's Affair had a modest race career, winning once and running third twice in 17 starts and earning \$8,093. The now 8-year-old mare has since produced two foals for Mallet and Ranslem: a yearling filly by Grasshopper named Soul Affair and a newborn Grasshopper colt born Feb. 11. Due to Mimi's Affair's modest race

record and pedigree, Mallet and Ranslem will most likely race her offspring as "sentimental homebreds."

Century Acres' other mares are Rockintotherhythm and Kate's Hurrahy. They bought Rockintotherhythm in foal to Concord Point for \$18,000 at last year's Keeneland November breeding stock sale from Claiborne Farm, agent, and plan to use the winning daughter of Broad Brush—Juke, by Mr. Prospector, as a commercial broodmare.

"I really liked her bloodlines," said Mallet. "She's by Broad Brush and is out of a Mr. Prospector mare, and we don't see a lot of that down in Texas. She also came from a Claiborne family and is a half sister to grade III winner Haka, who I hear Clai-

borne is really high on (as a broodmare)."

Mallet added it was also exciting that Rockintotherhythm was in foal to Concord Point, a son of hot sire Tapit. "We're planning on sending her back to Too Much Bling, which is an A nick," he said.

The farm inherited Kate's Hurrahy, a 19-year-old daughter of Rahy, from its previous owner. A stakes producer, Kate's Hurrahy is now retired and will live out the rest of her days at Century Acres.

Mallet and Ranslem's sole horse in training is Jungle River, a 3-year-old son of River Squall who is slated to begin his season at Retama Park. Jungle River's dam, the El Leopardo mare Amazon Slew, was one of the first horses Mallet and Ranslem bought together along with Mimi's Affair in 2007.

"Amazon Slew was a very athletic, tall filly, but we never got to race her due to an injury," said Mallet. "Unfortunately, she passed away two weeks after Jungle River was born, and he's the first horse we ever bred, so he has some sentimental value. He seems to really enjoy training. He's like his mom—really athletic-looking and 16.2 hands. He's showing a lot of potential and we're hoping that will translate to the track."

The Century Acres land was originally developed by Lane's End owner William S. Farish, who used 300 acres for his own farm, then sold a 100-acre parcel to another horseman. After downsizing his operation, that horseman sold the property to Mallet and Ranslem.



Century Acres got its name from its size: 100 acres

Special Note For Sire Lists:

For stallions that stand, will stand, or stood (deceased) in North America (stallions exported prior to the 2010 breeding season are excluded), and have runners in North America. All available statistics listed for the Northern Hemisphere through March 17, 2014. 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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2014 LEADING SIRES IN LOUISIANA

Go to BloodHorse.com for daily updated sire lists

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled). (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2014 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/ Wns	Rstret SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2014 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	D'WILDCAT (98, Forest Wildcat), Louisiana Stallion Station South	\$4,500	81/19	1/2	0/1	(Wildcat Red, \$410,000)	\$834,485	*355	13	1.43	1.33
2	SONGANDAPRAYER (98, Unbridled's Song), The Stallion Station @ Copper Crowne	\$5,000	108/23	2/2	1/2	(Aireofdistinction, \$94,200)	\$668,673	*799	36	1.22	1.58
3	CLOSING ARGUMENT (02, Successful Appeal), Louisiana Stallion Station North	\$5,000	46/21	1/2	1/1	(Closing Report, \$135,000)	\$584,957	*364	16	1.29	1.25
4	PRIVATE VOW (03, Broken Vow), Red River Farms	\$2,000	43/13	1/1	1/1	(Tensas Harbor, \$90,000)	\$383,181	*113	2	0.76	1.36
5	EL CORREDOR (97, Mr. Greeley), The Stallion Station @ Copper Crowne	\$3,500	63/18	0/0	0/0	(Little Ms Protocol, \$34,500)	\$367,187	*1007	34	1.23	1.52
6	BIG TOP CAT (02, Storm Cat)	Died, 2012	26/11	0/0	0/0	(Chaotic Kitty, \$54,000)	\$301,207	*120	2	0.86	0.89
7	HALF OURS (03, Unbridled's Song), Clear Creek Stud	\$5,000	38/15	0/0	0/0	(Half Nelson, \$36,400)	\$271,922	*217	5	1.07	1.32
8	IDE (93, Forty Niner), Clear Creek Stud	\$2,500	47/5	1/2	1/1	(Ide Be Cool, \$135,000)	\$270,713	*548	17	1.14	1.09
9	MASS MEDIA (01, Touch Gold), Red River Farms	\$1,500	31/9	0/0	0/0	(Your Move, \$43,800)	\$261,013	*137	4	1.24	1.10
10	AFTERNOON DEELITES (92, Private Terms)	Pnsd	31/6	0/0	0/0	(Afternoon Tango, \$52,800)	\$221,028	*602	25	1.12	1.36
11	GOOD AND TOUGH (95, Carson City)	Died, 2012	39/8	0/0	0/0	(Crypto Good, \$57,100)	\$218,726	*444	16	1.16	1.16
12	YANKEE GENTLEMAN (99, Storm Cat), Le Mesa Stallions	\$5,000	42/10	0/0	0/0	(Yankee Rebel, \$32,250)	\$214,383	*405	18	1.30	1.28
13	TENPINS (98, Smart Strike), Elite Thoroughbreds	\$3,500	44/7	0/0	0/0	(Queen Nola, \$24,630)	\$213,507	*312	9	0.99	1.09
14	LION TAMER (00, Will's Way), Clear Creek Stud	\$2,500	31/7	0/0	0/0	(Win Lion Win, \$34,307)	\$210,754	*101	2	0.84	1.12
15	RUN PRODUCTION (00, Saint Ballado), Louisiana Stallion Station South	\$3,500	21/6	1/1	1/1	(She Loves Runnin', \$68,100)	\$204,420	*123	7	1.44	1.08
16	TIME BANDIT (96, Time for a Change), Heritage Stud	\$1,000	25/4	1/1	1/1	(Awesome Bandit, \$64,200)	\$201,490	*244	4	0.86	0.92
17	GRAND APPOINTMENT (98, Unbridled), Fallen Oaks Farm	\$1,500	17/8	0/0	0/0	(Gold Appointment, \$36,460)	\$201,434	*58	1	1.05	0.93
18	SALUTE THE SARGE (05, Forest Wildcat), Elite Thoroughbreds	\$2,500	29/7	0/0	0/0	(Coneyo Fontova, \$53,110)	\$197,438	*113	3	0.98	1.32
19	GOLD TRIBUTE (94, Mr. Prospector), Red River Farms	\$2,000	34/6	0/0	0/0	(Tunica Girl, \$27,000)	\$189,453	*462	11	0.97	1.10
20	PORTO FORICOS (95, Mr. Prospector), Clear Creek Stud	Died, 2013	24/9	0/0	0/0	(Social Misfit, \$59,585)	\$168,042	*230	5	1.08	1.16

Century Acres, which boasts one main barn and 20x30 run-in sheds for each of its three paddocks, recently acquired an exercise wheel for prepping yearlings. The farm shares a driveway with Lane's End that allows easy access to their stallions and also employs veterinarian Dr. Marcus Hutka, who works for Lane's End. Another selling point for potential clients is the fact the farm is located a short distance

from the new Texas A&M Equine Center and veterinary hospital.

"One reason we bought this farm was so we could manage the whole career of the horse—from breeding all the way to the racing days," said Mallet, who plans to eventually install a training track at Century Acres. He is also currently in the process of taking out his trainer's license so he can condition the farm's horses himself.

Mallet spoke highly of farm foreman Rogelio Sandoval, who has worked on the Century Acres property for 17 years.

"He worked for the previous farm owner, and then stayed with me," Mallet explained of Sandoval, who fulfills the day-to-day barn duties and assists with yearling sales preparation. "I'd be lost without him; he's forgotten more than I know in the horse business. I was really

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NEWS
FLASH



Steve Queen

LA-bred Vicar's in Trouble, an \$8,000 graduate of our Inaugural Yearling Sale, wins the Grade 3, \$200,000 Lecomte Stakes by daylight and is now on the trail to the Kentucky Derby!

2-YEAR-OLDS IN TRAINING SALE

AUCTION:

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Half Ours

Unbridled's Song-Zing, by Storm Cat

OBS 2YO Brings \$190K
Leading Sire at
2014 EVO
2YO In Training Sale

SIRE OF GENTLEMEN'S BET (9-5-0-3, \$416,700) Placed in '13 G1 Xpressbet Breeders' Cup Sprint. Won Iowa Sprint S., and placed in the G1 Alfred G. Vanderbilt H. and G3 Count Fleet H., and 2014 Azalea S. placed, **ALL WOMAN** (8-3-3-1) Won Louisiana Jewel at 2, **LE GRIS** won D. S. "Shine" Young Memorial F., etc.

68% WINNERS FROM STARTERS

OBS 2YO BY HALF OURS SELLS FOR \$190,000

THE TOP SIRE BY TOTAL at 2014 Evangeline Downs 2YO In Training Sale

THE TOP SIRE BY TOTAL at Breeders Sales Company of Louisiana 2013 Yearling sale Yearlings selling for \$50,000, \$45,000, \$42,000, \$39,000 etc.b

RECORD SETTING GRADED STAKES WINNER. Undefeated at two. Broke maiden by 10 3/4 at KEE. Won the \$120,000 Three Chimneys Juv. S. at Churchill setting a **NEW STAKES RECORD.**

2014 Fee: \$4,500 Live Foal, payable September 1st of year bred or **\$5,000 Live Foal**, payable when foal stands and nurses • Nominated to Breeders' Cup



Custom For Carlos

More Than Ready-Meadow Oaks, by Meadowlake

First Yearlings
are
Impressive!

GRADED STAKES WINNER at 3 and 4

EARNED TRIPLE DIGIT BEYERS FIVE TIMES!

Won the G3 Jersey Shore Stakes going 6 f. in 1:08 FLAT!

On the board in 11 of 15 starts. Earned \$483,865

By G1SW millionaire **MORE THAN READY**, out of **Meadow Oaks**, a stakes placed winning daughter of **MEADOWLAKE**. Half brother to **MIMI'S BLING**

CUSTOM FOR CARLOS yearling colt sells for \$44,000 at OBSFEB Winter Mixed Sale.



2014 Fee: \$3,000 Live Foal, payable September 1st of year bred or **\$3,500 Live Foal**, payable when foal stands and nurses • Nominated to Breeders' Cup
SHARES AVAILABLE WITH BONUS BREEDING PROGRAM

4-TIME LOUISIANA BRED HORSE OF THE YEAR!

Star Guitar

Quiet American-Minit Towinit, by Malagra

ALL TIME LEADING LOUISIANA-BRED MONEY EARNER

EARNED \$1.75 MILLION • 24 WINS FROM 30 STARTS

- A Stakes Winner every year from ages two to seven
- Set **New Track Record** at Evangeline Downs in final start - 1 1/16 miles in 1:43.71
- **Won 22 stakes:** Won Louisiana Champions Day Juvenile at 2; Louisiana Champions Day Sprint at 3, Louisiana Champions Day Classic at 4, 5, and 6; Won Louisiana Premier Night Championship S. at 4, 5, 6, and 7; Won the Evangeline Mile at 4, 5, and 6, etc.; placed in the **G3 Alysheba S.**
- Pedigree includes **DR. FAGER** on the top and **DAMASCUS** on the bottom, making him a powerful cross to two legends, archrivals and Hall of Famers

2014 Fee: \$3,500 Live Foal, payable September 1st of year bred or **\$4,000 Live Foal**, payable when foal stands and nurses
Nominated to Breeders' Cup Series

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the ground & they
are outstanding!



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2013 LOUISIANA STALLION OF THE YEAR Topped Louisiana Sires of Louisiana-Bred runners by Earnings to earn the Andrew L. "Red" Erwin Louisiana Stallion of the Year. Previously won the award in 2009.

Ide

Forty Niner-Maytide, by Naskra

\$23.7 MILLION LIFETIME PROGENY EARNINGS!
AVERAGE/STARTER over \$54,500
71% WINNERS/STARTERS
29% 2YO WINNERS/STARTERS

Sire of

IDE BE COOL, 2013 Louisiana Bred Champion Two-Year-Old Colt. '13 Louisiana Legacy S., '13 Louisiana Champions Day Juvenile S., '14 Louisiana Premier Night Prince S., '14 Pelican S.
IDEFROMTHEBAYOU, set NCR winning Louisiana Showcase Starter S., @7.5 f. T in 1:28.90 (\$323,061)
THEZACRAZYGIRL, winner of four stakes races and \$396,800
Glamoride, twice stakes placed winner as a 2yo in 2013, 2nd \$150,000 Louisiana Jewel Stakes

2014 Fee: \$2,000 Live Foal, payable September 1st of year bred or **\$2,500 Live Foal**, payable when foal stands and nurses • Nominated to Breeders' Cup



Sire of Undefeated
IDE BE COOL
 4 time Stakes Winner

LEADING SIRE OF LOUISIANA-BREDS
HIS 1ST, 2ND AND 3RD CROPS!

Lion Tamer

Will's Way-Tippecanoe Creek, by Olympio

Sire of:

HEAVY ON THEMISTER, 2013 SW. Won 12 Evangeline Mile H. in track record time! (1 Mi. in 1:36.38), as well as a 6 furlong track record (1:08.93) to his credit at Evangeline Downs.

SOUTHERN DUDE, 2013 SW and G3 placed, earned triple digit Beyers in his first start.

Lion Warrior, juvenile stakes placed winner

MILLIONAIRE G1 WINNING Sprinter/Miler
TRIPLE DIGIT BEYERS 9 TIMES

Broke his maiden at 2 (6 f1:08 3/5 at Belmont). At 3, won the G2 Hutcheson S. in 1:22 3/5. Won the G1 Cigar Mile H. in 1:32 3/5 (111 Beyer); etc

2014 Fee: \$2,000 Live Foal, payable September 1st of year bred or **\$2,500 Live Foal**, payable when foal stands and nurses
 Nominated to Breeders' Cup Series



B.J.'s Mark

Sheikh Albadou-Gem's For Julie, by Diamond Prospect

13%
STAKES
HORSES
\$43000 AVE/
EARNINGS
66%
WINNERS



Stakes horses include

2013 Elge Raspberry winner, **KISSES FOR CARROTS**, **HUD'S PLAYMATE** (\$185,294), **MAID IN CHINA** (\$95,000), **Convinceable** (\$153,958), **Warren's Mark** (\$152,282), and **Gracie'sGem** (\$126,030).

2014 Fee: \$1,000 Live Foal, September 1st or **\$1,500 Live Foal**, payable when foal stands and nurses

Ole Rebel

Carson City-Velvet Tulip, by Valid Appeal

Multiple
SW Sprint
Specialist
TRIPLE
DIGIT
BEYERS 4
TIMES!



SIRE OF

HUD'S REBELLION, 2013 Louisiana Champions Day Turf winner, 2nd Louisiana Legends Classic and Louisiana Cup Turf Classic. Earnings of \$250,356.

Warren's Rebel, (14-4-3-3) placed in the '13 Ragin Cajun S. Earnings of \$140,610.

2014 Fee: \$1,000 Live Foal, September 1st or **\$1,500 Live Foal**, payable when foal stands and nurses
 Nominated to Breeders' Cup Series

G.W.'s Skippie

Skip Away-Logical Reasoning, by Lord Avie

STAKES
WINNER
AT 2 AND 3
 By Champion G1SW and multi millionaire **SKIP AWAY**, out of a winning daughter of **LORD AVIE**.



75% Winners

Sire of 2013 SW **SKIP THE PINOT**, 2014 Stakes Placed. (11-4-2-3, \$175,700)

2014 Fee: \$1,500 Live Foal, September 1st or **\$2,000 Live Foal**, payable when foal stands and nurses
 Nominated to Breeders' Cup Series



All stallions enrolled in eNicks, TrueNicks and G1 Goldmine Stallion Watch



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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				
							2014 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	CACTUS RIDGE (01, Hennessy), Royal Vista Ranches	\$5,000	42/15	2/2	0/2	(Seeking Ms Shelley, \$46,200)	\$321,748	*407	20	1.28	1.06
2	READ THE FOOTNOTES (01, Smoke Glacken), River Oaks Farm	\$3,500	32/10	0/0	0/0	(Between the Lines, \$43,000)	\$318,114	*268	13	1.42	1.19
3	LATENT HEAT (03, Maria's Mon), River Oaks Farm	\$3,500	51/14	0/0	0/0	(Dagburnit, \$44,460)	\$311,175	*245	3	0.98	1.08
4	KIPLING (96, Gulch), Mighty Acres	\$2,500	48/12	0/0	0/0	(Kipling's Joy, \$38,305)	\$195,615	290	10	1.15	0.89
5	DON'T GET MAD (02, Stephen Got Even), Rockin' Z Ranch	Died	31/8	0/0	0/0	(Highroller Dave, \$30,460)	\$194,197	*124	4	1.25	0.94
6	TOCSET (00, Awesome Again), Mighty Acres	\$2,500	32/11	1/1	0/1	(Az Ridge, \$35,366)	\$158,224	*305	14	1.12	1.24
7	OMEGA CODE (00, Elusive Quality), Rockin' Z Ranch	\$2,000	29/4	0/0	0/0	(Misty Mae, \$25,450)	\$103,550	297	8	0.70	1.29
8	NOTIONAL (04, In Excess), Rockin' Z Ranch	\$2,000	29/6	0/0	0/0	(Hopeful Notion, \$25,800)	\$102,932	156	3	0.78	1.23
9	TACTICAL CAT (96, Storm Cat), Raywood Farm	\$1,000	23/5	0/0	0/0	(Devilishly Clever, \$33,471)	\$102,219	543	26	1.07	1.26
10	LUCKY LIONEL (93, Mt. Livermore), Diamond G Ranch	\$1,000	14/2	0/0	0/0	(Tight Britches, \$26,400)	\$87,001	343	14	1.16	1.24
11	SERVICE STRIPE (91, Deputy Minister), Caines Stallion Station	\$1,000	13/1	0/0	0/0	(Service for Ten, \$45,000)	\$79,715	365	20	1.18	1.02
12	FREEFOURINTERNET (93, Tabasco Cat)	N/A	11/5	0/0	0/0	(Fastnfree, \$23,643)	\$73,367	85	1	0.85	0.96
13	WESTERN EXPRESSION (96, Gone West), Kirtan Farms	\$1,500	12/1	0/0	0/0	(Western Tryst, \$44,200)	\$67,380	*310	5	1.13	1.32
14	EVANSVILLE SLEW (92, Slew City Slew)	Died, 2012	30/4	0/0	0/0	(Maybelle Slew, \$14,900)	\$57,878	*517	34	1.10	0.92
15	ARTAX (95, Marquetry)	Died, 2012	12/5	0/0	0/0	(Aaron's Tornado, \$12,000)	\$53,358	*454	6	0.99	1.29

lucky he stayed on. He's probably foaled at least 500 mares during his career."

Charlie Rimer, a former employee of the Hancock family's Claiborne Farm, serves as Century Acres' Kentucky-based blood-

stock agent. Mallet is a longtime student of pedigrees and feels confident about that part of the process, but Rimer has been helpful with the conformation aspect of choosing matings.

"I like to find a mix of what's popular commercially, but also find some stallions that had some staying power and raced past their 3-year-old year," said Mallet. "That's difficult to do nowadays."

Mallet has come a long way since casually riding hunter jumper horses in his native Mexico City as a young boy.

"That's when I fell in love with horses," he said.

Always in the back of his mind were dreams to pursue his equine passion, but living in the city prevented Mallet from riding as much as he wished, and horse racing was difficult to keep up with when he later moved to Texas with his family.

"We didn't have much exposure to horse racing when we first moved to Houston," Mallet explained. "It was difficult to follow when I was young—we only had network TV—and there was no place to buy *The Blood-Horse*, Equibase, and there was no *Daily Racing Form*, except at the track, and Texas didn't have tracks."

When Texas obtained pari-mutuel wagering in 1987, Mallet became a racetrack regular. While attending the University of Texas, he routinely went to the races with his college buddies at the now-shuttered Manor Downs.

"(Manor Downs) used to have weekend fair meets," Mallet explained. "It was a small track...we would go during college, and while we were home we'd go to the Houston track (Sam Houston Race Park). It was really fun...even though I wasn't riding anymore, I really enjoyed the racing aspect of (the horse industry)."

After graduating from college with a degree in economics, Mallet worked for a bank managing assets and later became an insurance bond manager in the Houston area. But he always had a nagging feeling he was neglecting his true calling in life. In a brave move, Mallet quit his job in 2002 and moved to Rockport, Texas, where he lived on a sailboat and learned to fish.

"That was before I got serious about buying a horse or a ranch, but it was when I knew I wasn't going to be in a suit from 9-5 for the rest of my life," said Mallet. "It was my 'discovery' time."

It was during that transitional period that Mallet began studying books on Thoroughbred pedigrees and training methods. He

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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				
							2014 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	DESERT GOD (91, Fappiano), A & A Ranch	Pnsd	36/11	1/1	0/1	(Proceed, \$72,000)	\$338,828	258	25	1.50	0.74
2	ATTILA'S STORM (02, Forest Wildcat), A & A Ranch	\$3,000	25/6	1/1	1/1	(Reaper, \$51,000)	\$197,546	91	9	1.54	0.87
3	YOUR EMINENCE (01, Saint Ballado)	Died, 2012	21/6	0/0	0/0	(Lisa Sue, \$33,200)	\$149,650	150	3	0.72	0.76
4	DEVON LANE (93, Storm Cat)	Died, 2012	20/4	1/1	1/1	(Devons Ca Ching, \$78,290)	\$149,437	434	19	0.80	0.81
5	QUINTON'S GOLD (97, Carson City), Doubletree Farm	\$3,500	30/8	0/0	0/0	(Rascal Who, \$25,534)	\$144,368	82	7	1.60	0.88
6	PREMEDITATION (99, Afternoon Deelites)	N/A	19/3	1/1	1/1	(Mr. Wizard, \$74,940)	\$134,685	74	6	1.16	0.88
7	THE WAY HOME (04, Giant's Causeway), Doubletree Farm	\$3,500	19/4	1/1	1/1	(Western Way, \$55,465)	\$131,743	73	4	1.19	0.96
8	TO TERAS (00, Unbridled's Song), New Mexico State University	\$1,500	12/6	0/0	0/0	(Pure Tera, \$43,828)	\$112,106	71	1	0.86	0.64
9	IRISH ROAD (00, Unbridled's Song), Cedar Creek Ranch	N/A	6/2	0/0	0/0	(Major Highway, \$74,240)	\$106,549	58	0	0.94	0.90
10	DIABOLICAL (03, Artax), A & A Ranch	\$3,500	24/4	0/0	0/0	(Mays Or Mantle, \$20,062)	\$83,307	82	1	0.93	1.11
11	ROLL HENNESSY ROLL (00, Hennessy), A & A Ranch	\$3,500	18/2	0/0	0/0	(Rollsetroll, \$24,662)	\$76,538	109	9	1.08	1.07
12	DOMINIQUE'S CAT (97, Storm Cat), McKenna Thoroughbreds	\$2,500	10/4	0/0	0/0	(Ryangela, \$24,180)	\$63,742	93	3	0.85	0.63
13	PROUD TOWER TOO (02, Proud Irish), Tricar Stables	N/A	10/4	0/0	0/0	(Proud Step, \$25,014)	\$61,976	57	0	0.29	0.71
14	GHOSTLY MOVES (92, Silver Ghost)	N/A	26/2	0/0	0/0	(Dont Ask Ghost, \$17,766)	\$61,200	229	22	1.05	1.05
15	REUBEN (97, Rubiano), TNL Farm, Inc.	\$1,000	7/3	0/0	0/0	(Funnysouldask, \$30,211)	\$58,693	36	0	0.59	0.47

2014 LEADING SIRES IN ARIZONA

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2014 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	Cumulative				
							2014 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	TOP HIT (98, Twining), Triple AAA Ranch	N/A	19/7	0/0	0/0	(Easy Hit, \$13,011)	\$84,962	81	9	1.03	0.92
2	MARGIE'S WILDCAT (01, Storm Cat), Fleming Thoroughbred Farm	N/A	16/6	0/0	0/0	(Easy Solution, \$15,000)	\$59,440	84	0	0.73	0.96
3	DEPUTY WILD CAT (99, Deputy Minister)	Died, 2012	12/3	0/0	0/0	(Deputy Vic, \$9,908)	\$36,915	131	2	0.89	1.03
4	CHELOKEE (04, Cherokee Run), University of Arizona Horse Center	\$1,500	11/2	0/0	0/0	(Luvmealldayindyusa, \$20,160)	\$30,756	39	0	0.68	0.85
5	CHESTERTOWN SLEW (02, Seattle Slew)	N/A	5/1	0/0	0/0	(Easter Girl, \$28,485)	\$30,245	23	0	0.50	2.87

2014 LEADING SIRES IN COLORADO

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2014 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	Cumulative				
							2014 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	CRAFTY SHAW (98, Crafty Prospector), Menoken Farms	\$2,000	10/2	0/0	0/0	(Diva's Diamond, \$25,200)	\$47,850	*77	3	0.72	1.14
2	OLIVER'S TWIST (92, Horatius), Menoken Farms	\$1,000	2/1	0/0	0/0	(Magical Twist, \$18,940)	\$20,464	252	13	0.54	0.77

especially focused on biographies about "old school" trainers such as Ben Jones, who became one of his inspirations in the business.

In 2006 Mallet connected with Ranslem through his sister, who was good friends with Ranslem's wife, Leigh Ann.

"He had some clients from Kentucky

and was attending Kentucky Derbys on a regular basis," Mallet said of Ranslem, who owns a retail natural gas company in Houston.

The two men bought their first three horses together in 2007 and six years later purchased Century Acres as a joint venture.

"I looked at (buying horses with Mallet) as a fun thing to try," said Ranslem. "My wife and I weren't that into horse racing, but we enjoyed it. I thought it would be a low-risk activity to do with him. It wasn't a hard sell to get me aboard, but at the same time I knew it was a very tough, competitive business."

Ranslem told Mallet that if they could find some well-developed acreage close to Houston, he would be interested in starting a breeding operation at some point.



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2014 LEADING SIREs IN ARKANSAS

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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				
							2014 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	BRAHMS (97, Danzig), Trophy Club Training Center	\$2,000	47/11	2/3	2/2	(Sunbean, \$156,000)	\$468,887	*616	17	1.09	1.20
2	HESABULL (93, Dispersal), Lake Hamilton Equine Associates	\$500	35/12	1/1	1/1	(Valid Commander, \$81,550)	\$315,420	180	6	0.90	1.08
3	PRIMARY SUSPECT (01, Hennessy), McDowell Farm	\$1,000	27/8	0/0	0/0	(Gloria Victoria, \$53,900)	\$274,376	91	3	0.76	1.15
4	PORTOBELLO ROAD (04, Storm Cat), Anderson Farms	\$1,000	18/7	0/0	0/0	(He Is a Roadster, \$47,400)	\$177,557	71	0	0.72	1.08
5	THE DADDY (02, Valid Expectations), Trophy Club Training Center	\$1,500	31/12	0/0	0/0	(Sommerville Miss, \$17,295)	\$160,617	*127	3	1.04	1.26
6	HIGH CASCADE (98, Woodman), Becky Bynum, DVM	\$1,000	25/7	0/0	0/0	(Ollie Baby, \$22,940)	\$142,237	*164	1	0.52	0.64
7	COMMANDER'S SHOES (03, Deputy Commander), Lake Hamilton Equine Assoc.	\$500	13/5	0/0	0/0	(Guska Mon Shoes, \$22,500)	\$81,924	35	0	0.48	0.67
8	STORM AND A HALF (97, Storm Cat), McDowell Farm	\$1,500	28/4	0/0	0/0	(Stormin Encore, \$13,800)	\$77,191	424	19	0.80	0.96
9	RICHTER SCALE (94, Habitony), Chad White	\$1,500	21/3	0/0	0/0	(Huttig, \$21,205)	\$73,010	361	9	0.77	1.23
10	MIDWAY ROAD (00, Jade Hunter), Trophy Club Training Center	\$750	16/6	1/1	0/1	(Winding Road, \$13,300)	\$63,280	79	2	0.61	1.07

When the Hempstead land became available, it seemed like the perfect fit.

"We've enjoyed the farm so far and hope to spend more time out there," said Ranslem, whose two young daughters board their riding ponies at Century Acres. "We are looking to get more of our own horses to the races, and we want to nurture the farm, purchase more horses, train them, and sell them at auction."

Ranslem said Mallet's willingness to take the reins and assume the day-to-day responsibilities at Century Acres has fueled his own excitement for the business.

"Teo's energy and the amount of time he's willing to spend on it are my driving force to keep nurturing the relationship," said Ranslem. "In the past, when things were slow (with our racing stable), if he had let things subside, I would have been fine with it, but he kept at it, and because of that we've been able to set it up for much more success.

"He's very motivated—the things we talk about, he puts into action—whether it's getting new horses or working on the property and the house," Ranslem added. "It's really kept me on his side."

Mallet's enthusiasm is rooted in his passion for the Thoroughbred industry, which he hopes will help establish his operation as a success. "I was really competitive in sports as a youngster, so this is a way to own a sports team for me...you really get to manage the players and their whole careers," he explained.

Mallet and Ranslem know it may be difficult to compete in the upper echelons of breeding and racing while being based in Texas. The state's Thoroughbred industry has struggled in recent years due to the absence of casino gambling that has boosted surrounding states' purses and breeding programs. But the Lone Star State is home to the Century Acres partners, and they are committed to their operation.

"A lot of our expansion depends on the future of Texas racing,"

said Mallet. "If it's going to continue to stagnate it will be difficult to grow the operation, but we're realistic about that. We've made an investment here because we think eventually something will be done and purses will be on par with our neighbors in Louisiana and Oklahoma. If that happens, then in five years we think we could have a full broodmare band."

The most important thing to Mallet and Ranslem is that they are involved in a venture they both love.

"The paperwork and management part is just work, but the time in the morning with the horses—whether it's walking them in, checking on them, or getting them ready for the sales—is what I love," said Mallet.

"I'd rather be in the barn working with the horses than on a beach vacation," he added. "I went from being miserable to doing exactly what I wanted to do in life." **BH**

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* *The Blood-Horse*, Feb. 8, 2014, pages 82A-D



David Ranslem, left, and Mallet have about 25 horses on the farm

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