

SOUTHWEST Rio Bravo

Francisco Bravo's River Oaks Farm offers top Oklahoma stallions

BY LENNY SHULMAN

WITH A STALLION ROSTER that is superior in the region and decades of fine horsemanship behind it, River Oaks Farm near Sulphur, Okla., is making a name for itself at a time when the Sooner State is far outpacing its neighbor, Texas, as Thoroughbred-friendly property.

Oklahoma-bred incentive programs have paid out nearly \$40 million to owners, breeders, and stallion owners in the state during the past 30 years. Purse supplements and stallion and broodmare awards are paid to owners and breeders of qualifying Oklahoma-breds. Major racetracks in the state are required to card at least two races for Oklahoma-breds per day, and Oklahoma-breds can also earn additional money running in open company.

So the environment is welcoming for an experienced horseman such as Francisco Bravo, who purchased 160 acres of raw land outside Sulphur once he sensed racing and breeding in Texas were starting to go the wrong way. Bravo is well-traveled but is more than happy to have settled down in one place with his wife, Lori, who handles plenty of the work at River Oaks, and their daughter, Natalie.

Bravo is a native of Chile who grew up on a farm riding horses bareback as he played cowboys and Indians with his brother. His father, an attorney, had ridden in the cavalry and enjoyed horses, and he had friends who raced and sent yearlings to the farm.

"It was a great challenge to break those Thoroughbreds and send them to the track," Bravo said.

He came to the U.S. and attended college in Wisconsin, then went to work training show horses in North Dakota and working with Quarter Horses. Planning to stay for three months before returning to Chile, Bravo worked for 10 years before souring on the politics of the show horse world. He decided to relocate to Minnesota and start his own operation near Canterbury Park.



Francisco Bravo with wife, Lori, and daughter, Natalie

DOUG CARPENTER PHOTOS

"Canterbury was going pretty good then in the late 1980s," said Bravo. "I went from barn to barn soliciting business, and to my amazement I was full of horses in three days. I was re-breaking horses who had problems, and doing lay-ups and legwork. There were a lot more of those horses than I imagined. I came home every day and slept in my own bed and didn't have to travel, and it just got bigger and bigger."

While Bravo was working with yearlings and 2-year-olds at one farm, on which he also built a half-mile track and had gates to get horses gate-ready before sending them to Canterbury or to Illinois, he leased another farm and began doing broodmare care. He started breeding horses and stood leading Minnesota stallions Prince Forli and Minneapple. He also got his trainer's license and won with the first two horses he saddled at Canterbury.

"I couldn't believe how easy it was," he said. "Then I had a horse who was 4-5 and he ran fifth of six. That let the air out of the bag."

Minnesota also deflated once owner Ladbroke decided to shut down Canterbury Park in 1992. In three weeks Bravo lost 85% of his business.

"It was heart-breaking," he said. "We had developed such a nice business, but the horsemen didn't want to stay with it. They were looking to sell their stock. I had been doing busi-

ADVERTISERS' INDEX

A&A Ranch 46 www.aaranch.org	Mighty Acres 47 www.mightyacres.com
Clear Creek Stud..... 41, 42 www.clearcreekstudllc.com	Spendthrift Farm 45 www.spendthriftfarm.com
Heritage Place 15 www.heritageplace.com	Thoroughbred Racing Assoc. of Oklahoma..... 7 www.traoracing.com
Keen Farms 44 www.dallaskeen.com/stallions/scrimshaw.html	Whispering Oaks Farm 43 www.whisperingoaksla.com
Kings Lane Farm 44 stew.867309@gmail.com	



You are going to LOVE our stallions!

HALF OURS

UNBRIDLED'S SONG-ZING, BY STORM CAT

**LEADING LOUISIANA SIRE OF 2014 LOUISIANA BREDS
2014 LEADING LOUISIANA SIRE OF LA-BRED 2YOS**

Sire of G1 Breeders Cup Sprint pl GENTLEMEN'S BET.
THE TOP SIRE BY NUMBER SOLD at Breeders Sales Company
of Louisiana 2014 Yearling Sale Yearlings selling for
\$33,500, \$33,000, \$30,000, etc.

2015 Fee: \$4,500 LF9-1 or \$5,000 LFSN
Nominated to Breeders' Cup



B.J.'S MARK

SHEIKH ALBADOU-GEM'S
FOR JULIE,
BY DIAMOND PROSPECT

**16% STAKES HORSES
\$45,000 AVE/ STARTER
68% WINNERS**

2015 Fee: \$1,000 Live Foal, 9-1 or \$1,500 LFSN



CUSTOM FOR CARLOS

MORE THAN READY-MEADOW OAKS, BY MEADOWLAKE

MULTIPLE GSW • TRIPLE DIGIT BEYERS 5X

CUSTOM FOR CARLOS First crop Yearlings sold at
public auction for \$98,000 (OBSAUG), \$70,000
(FTKOCT), \$55,000 (FTKJUL), etc. Watch for them at
the 2YO sales this year!

2015 Fee: \$3,000 LF9-1 or \$3,500 LFSN
Nominated to Breeders' Cup



G.W.'S SKIPPIE

SKIP AWAY-LOGICAL
REASONING,
BY LORD AVIE

**SW AT 2 AND 3
67% WINNERS
\$67,000 AVE/STARTER**

2015 Fee: \$1,500 Live Foal, 9-1 or \$2,000 LFSN
Nominated to Breeders' Cup



STAR GUITAR

QUIET AMERICAN-MINIT TOWINIT, BY MALAGRA

**4-TIME LOUISIANA BRED HORSE OF THE YEAR!
ALL TIME LEADING LOUISIANA-BRED MONEY EARNER
EARNED \$1.75 MILLION • 24 WINS FROM 30 STARTS**

Pedigree includes DR. FAGER on the top and
DAMASCUS on the bottom

2015 Fee: \$3,500 LF9-1 or \$4,000 LFSN
Nominated to Breeders' Cup

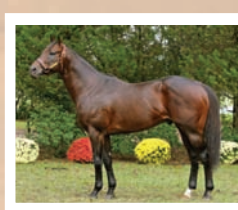


OLE REBEL

CARSON CITY-VELVET
TULIP,
BY VALID APPEAL

**MULTIPLE SW SPRINTER
TRIPLE DIGIT BEYERS 4X
TWO 2014 STAKES HORSES**

2015 Fee: \$1,500 Live Foal, 9-1 or \$2,000 LFSN
Nominated to Breeders' Cup



IDE

FORTY NINER-MAYTIDE, BY NASKRA

**OVER \$24.5 MILLION LIFETIME PROGENY EARNINGS!
AVERAGE/STARTER over \$54,000
72% WINNERS/STARTERS
30% 2YO WINNERS/STARTERS**

Sire of 2013 Louisiana Horse of the Year **IDE BE COOL**

2015 Fee: \$2,000 LF9-1 or \$2,500 LFSN
Nominated to Breeders' Cup



G. W.'S D'ORO

MEDAGLIA D'ORO-SARAH
LANE'S OATES, BY
SUNSHINE FOREVER

**Son of MEDAGLIA D'ORO
a 2014 top 10 Leading Sire.
Out of Champion SARAH
LANE'S OATES**

2015 Fee: \$1,000 Live Foal, 9-1 or \$1,500 LFSN
Nominated to Breeders' Cup



LION TAMER

WILL'S WAY-TIPPECANOE CREEK, BY OLYMPIO

**MILLIONAIRE G1 WINNING SPRINTER/MILER
TRIPLE DIGIT BEYERS 9 TIMES**

Sire of: **HEAVY ON THEMISTER**, (\$485,770) Won EVD
Mile H. setting NTR (1 Mi. in 1:36.38); **SOUTHERN
DUDE**, G3 placed; **Win Lion Win**, 2014 Louisiana Cup
Sprint S. placed; **Pitcher**, stakes placed at 2.

2015 Fee: \$2,000 LF9-1 or \$2,500 LFSN
Nominated to Breeders' Cup



Stallions enrolled in
eNicks,
TrueNicks and
G1 Goldmine Stallion Watch

11591 Hwy 1078, Folsom, Louisiana 70437 • 985-796-5563 • Fax 985-796-3630

e-mail: info@clearcreekstud.com

www.clearcreekstud.com

BREEDING • BOARDING • FOALING • BREAKING • TRAINING • SALES PREP & REPRESENTATION



Taking your Dreams and Making Memories

www.clearcreekstud.com

2014 LEADING SIRES IN LOUISIANA

Go to BloodHorse.com for daily updated sire lists

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB, Sire), Where Stands	2015 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	SONGANDPRAYER (98, Unbridled's Song), The Stallion Station @ Copper Crowne	\$4,500	199/103	4/8	0/4	(Aireofdistinction, \$176,749)	\$3,783,429	*812	37	1.20	1.53
2	E DUBAI (98, Mr. Prospector), Elite Thoroughbreds	\$3,500	167/93	2/2	0/2	(Writingonthewall, \$191,177)	\$3,647,414	*857	32	1.33	1.23
3	D'WILDCAT (98, Forest Wildcat), Whispering Oaks Farm	\$3,500	120/69	3/5	1/3	(Wildcat Red, \$848,600)	\$3,216,192	*366	15	1.42	1.30
4	HALF OURS (03, Unbridled's Song), Clear Creek Stud	\$5,000	123/68	3/4	3/3	(Our Quista, \$201,200)	\$2,549,195	*244	7	1.07	1.27
5	CLOSING ARGUMENT (02, Successful Appeal), Whispering Oaks Farm	\$4,000	101/60	2/4	1/2	(Closing Report, \$149,500)	\$2,097,968	*375	17	1.27	1.23
6	YANKEE GENTLEMAN (99, Storm Cat), Le Mesa Stallions	\$3,500	117/54	1/1	1/1	(Prissy Bele, \$118,815)	\$1,829,603	*419	19	1.23	1.25
7	MASS MEDIA (01, Touch Gold), Red River Farms	\$1,500	78/46	1/4	0/1	(Hear the Chatter, \$185,776)	\$1,663,557	*153	5	1.16	1.09
8	SUN KING (02, Charismatic), Elite Thoroughbreds	\$2,500	111/52	0/0	0/0	(Solomon's Sun, \$69,280)	\$1,296,842	229	2	0.69	1.04
9	TENPINS (98, Smart Strike), Elite Thoroughbreds	\$3,000	87/42	0/0	0/0	(Regal Strike, \$74,860)	\$1,226,789	*316	9	0.95	1.09
10	IDE (93, Forty Niner), Clear Creek Stud	\$2,500	75/30	1/2	1/1	(Ide Be Cool, \$193,100)	\$1,097,087	549	17	1.12	1.07
11	PRIVATE VOW (03, Broken Vow), Red River Farms	\$2,000	60/28	3/4	3/3	(Tensas Harbor, \$189,600)	\$1,034,467	120	4	0.75	1.27
12	GREELEY'S GALAXY (02, Mr. Greeley), Averett Farm	\$2,500	32/17	0/0	0/0	(Asset Inflation, \$111,350)	\$910,838	80	1	1.17	1.20
13	LION TAMER (00, Will's Way), Clear Creek Stud	\$2,500	57/28	0/0	0/0	(Win Lion Win, \$117,897)	\$876,882	101	2	0.81	1.09
14	GOOD AND TOUGH (95, Carson City)	Died, 2012	69/30	0/0	0/0	(Crypto Good, \$57,865)	\$863,550	*445	16	1.12	1.14
15	MY FRIEND MAX (92, Danzig)	N/A	46/22	0/0	0/0	(Adieu My Friend, \$85,285)	\$755,121	214	10	1.00	0.92
16	GOLD TRIBUTE (94, Mr. Prospector), Red River Farms	\$2,000	54/18	0/0	0/0	(Tunica Girl, \$113,500)	\$735,947	*464	11	0.95	1.09
17	AFTERNOON DEELITES (92, Private Terms)	Pnsd	42/20	1/2	1/1	(Afternoon Tango, \$158,290)	\$719,209	*602	26	1.11	1.34
18	MY PAL CHARLIE (05, Indian Charlie), Elite Thoroughbreds	\$2,500	43/20	0/0	0/0	(C' maw Charlie, \$95,225)	\$691,101	72	1	0.91	1.24
19	BIG TOP CAT (02, Storm Cat)	Died, 2012	44/24	0/0	0/0	(Chaotic Kitty, \$84,070)	\$683,552	122	2	0.80	0.88
20	FOREFATHERS (04, Gone West), Red River Farms	\$2,000	46/20	1/2	1/1	(Mr. L. S. Shoe, \$128,400)	\$641,290	77	1	0.66	1.13

ness with Mike Grossman since 1988, breaking and training. He told me the Thoroughbred business in Minnesota was done, and he was right. I went to Florida, but it didn't appeal to me. What I had to offer, people already had with their own farms and their own trainers."

Having been familiar with Texas from his work with Quarter Horses, Bravo set out for the Lone Star State. Grossman and Bill Schenian sent him horses to train, and he also got business from owners in Iowa, Illinois, Kentucky, Colorado, Ohio, Minnesota, and New Mexico.

"Texas was going pretty good for me; I had plenty of business, but not much of it from Texas. Texas people never fish on their side of the lake. Then the racing there began to slow down and go downhill. I'd gone to Remington Park in Oklahoma in 1992 and always liked it there. Real estate was relatively cheap and it felt like a good change. So we moved."

Bravo brought 50 horses up with him from Texas and purchased what would become River Oaks. He cleaned up the vacant land and divided it into pastures of varying sizes. Then an eight-stall hay barn went up. Next, a training barn with 50 stalls and aisles wide enough to ride indoors in inclement weather. Bravo then constructed an indoor round pen, which also serves as a breeding shed. He expanded the hay barn to 20 stalls.

Bravo entered into the breeding end of the business in Oklahoma at the behest of Grossman, who suggested Bravo get into that aspect of the industry based on the success of the stallions he once stood back in Minnesota.

"I finally became convinced it was a good move," said Bravo, "so I built an



Bravo built River Oaks from scratch

Special Note For Sire Lists:

For 2014 lists: Include 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 December 31, 2014 (February 2, 2015 for 2015 lists). 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.) For 2015 lists: Earnings earnings include adjusted money from Japan, Hong Kong, and Singapore. Adjusted earnings are put on par with average North American earnings from the previous year. For example, the average North American purse in 2014 is \$21,617 or 45% of the 2014 average purse in Japan. To put earnings on par, all Japanese progeny earnings are multiplied by 45% before being credited to a sire's progeny earnings. Hong Kong earnings are adjusted by 19%; Singapore by 54%.

*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.

2015 Stallion Roster



CLOSING ARGUMENT

Successful Appeal - Mrs. Greeley,
by Mr. Greeley
Stud Fee: \$4,000

**Live
Foal
Guaranty**



D'WILDCAT

Forest Wildcat-D'Enough, by
D'Accord
Stud Fee: \$3,500



RUN PRODUCTION

Saint Ballado - Meadow Silk, by
Meadowlake
Stud Fee: \$2,500



SHERMANESQUE

Fusaichi Pegasus - T.V. Countess,
by T.V Commercial
Stud Fee: \$750



LION'S RANSOM

Lion Hearted - Lemon Yellow by
Red Ransom
Stud Fee: \$750



UNBRIDLEDSENSATION

Unbridled's Song - Hot Novel, by
Mari's Book
Stud Fee: \$500



www.whisperingoaksla.com

3411 Mills St.
Carencro, LA 70520
337-896-5102 office
337-896-4555 fax
email: lama4c@aol.com



Walter, Jose, Jesus, Omar, Juan
Phyllis - Manager

SUCCESS BREEDS SUCCESS

Top Ten Texas Sire by 2014 Earnings, 2014 Winners & 2014 Repeat Winners

Sire of current Stakes star **Sharon's Boy** ~ on-the-board in the \$200,000 Jean Lafitte S., \$150,000 Louisiana Legacy and \$50,000 Louisiana Cup Juvenile S. in 2014, and the \$75,000 Big Drama S. in 2015

Keen Farms • Dallas Keen (817) 528-6655 • Donna Keen (817) 689-1214 • www.dallaskeen.com



2014 LEADING SIRE IN TEXAS

Go to BloodHorse.com for daily updated sire lists

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2015 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	TOO MUCH BLING (03, Rubiano), Lane's End Texas	\$4,000	66/47	4/5	3/4	(Vivian Da Bling, \$158,463)	\$1,754,062	130	13	1.29	1.16
2	VALID EXPECTATIONS (93, Valid Appeal) Pnsd	72/38	2/2	1/2	1/2	(Ivan Fallunovalot, \$126,780)	\$1,122,883	635	45	1.22	1.16
3	MY GOLDEN SONG (03, Unbridled's Song), Valor Farm	\$4,000	37/21	4/7	2/4	(Fiftyshadesofgold, \$322,731)	\$1,077,998	68	7	1.15	1.07
4	EARLY FLYER (98, Gilded Time), Valor Farm	\$2,500	65/31	1/2	1/1	(Fly the Red Eye, \$54,501)	\$735,466	220	15	0.82	0.90
5	INTIMIDATOR (01, Gone West), Asmussen Horse Center	\$1,500	67/33	0/0	0/0	(Lady Emily Sage, \$74,470)	\$725,664	169	5	0.64	0.79
6	UNCLE ABBIE (97, Kingmambo), Key Ranch	\$2,000	41/19	2/4	0/2	(Ibaka, \$183,764)	\$638,668	212	8	0.67	0.64
7	SCRIMSHAW (00, Gulch), Keen Farms	\$1,500	34/18	0/0	0/0	(Sharon's Boy, \$57,100)	\$458,198	*177	3	1.01	0.91
8	SPECIAL RATE (00, Pulpit), Stoneview Farm	\$3,000	43/18	0/0	0/0	(Bucking Thunder, \$57,497)	\$425,995	127	2	0.58	0.49
9	LITTLEEXPECTATIONS (97, Valid Appeal), Asmussen Horse Center	\$1,500	28/13	0/0	0/0	(Expecting Cash, \$82,300)	\$326,148	189	4	0.77	1.00
10	SILVER CITY (06, Unbridled's Song), Valor Farm	\$3,500	14/8	1/3	0/1	(Promise Me Silver, \$154,355)	\$324,134	18	1	1.17	0.93



River Oaks offers breaking and training along with year-round mare care

eight-stall stallion barn that has an indoor wash rack, storage area, and my office. Then we built a mare barn with 35 stalls. We continue to build paddocks of different sizes so we can offer private mare and baby care, or put groups of two, four, or 10 mares together. We offer breaking and training, year-round mare care, baby care, yearling care, and breeding. We have a five-eighths-mile dirt track built by an engineering company from Texas. We

have electric gates, and a track conditioner, so we can get the horses here pretty much ready to run.”

Grossman has been a significant backer of Bravo due, in part, to the care and consideration Bravo showed him when Grossman first entered the Thoroughbred world.

“I was brand new and pretty unaware,” Grossman said. “One of the first babies I owned, I sent to Francisco to break, and the horse took it too literally—it broke its shoulder. Francisco nursed it back to health over six months and didn’t charge me a dime. That’s the kind of guy he is. Anybody with that integrity, I’ve stuck with him now for many years.

“He’s as good a horseman as I’ve ever met, and he’ll try with horses no matter what their talent level. He’s always been great at starting young horses; he’s kind to the horse and goes at the horse’s speed, not the owner’s speed. I want-

ed Oklahoma-breds because of the awards program, and the stallions that were standing there didn’t fit my mares, so I brought in some stallions that did.”

Grossman owns four well-bred stallions that stand at River Oaks. Latent Heat (Maria’s Mon—True Flare, by Capote) is Oklahoma’s reigning leading sire with 2014 progeny earnings in excess of \$2 million. Latent Heat is a grade I winner of the Malibu Stakes and the grade II San Carlos Handicap, both at seven furlongs. He is also graded stakes-placed going two turns. His first crop of Oklahoma-breds are yearlings of 2015, and he has sired six stakes winners including Sky and Sea, Heat Transfer, and Skim the Rail. Latent Heat stands for \$3,500.

Top 2-year-old Read the Footnotes, winner of the Remsen Stakes (gr. II) and Nashua Stakes (gr. III), also scored at 3 in the Fountain of Youth Stakes (gr. II). Read the Footnotes (Smoke Glacken—Baydon Belle, by Al Nasr) is the sire of grade I winner Rightly So, and his progeny have earned better than \$12 million. He also stands the 2015 season for \$3,500.

Oratory, a son of the late Pulpit, has progeny earnings of more than \$6.7 million. Out of the Dehere mare Arrested Dreams, Oratory won the Peter Pan Stakes (gr. II) in stakes-record time and also stands for \$3,500.

Chitox is an exciting new stallion on the Oklahoma scene. The

GUNNER'S VIEW (GB)

Medicean
Stark Ballet

FEE \$1,000



» **The ONLY U.S.-based son of MEDICEAN, who shares the same sire as STREET CRY**
 » Half to Group SW **GESTURE** and the dam of 2014 Belmont 2YO SW **OSTROLENKA** (\$193,292)
 » First 3 dams dam by **NUREYEV, GRAUSTARK & BOLD RULER**

Nominated to: Breeders' Cup & Texas-bred Program

KINGS LANE FARM Montgomery, Texas

Jennifer H. Stewart, Kings Lane Farm, 205 Kings Lane, Montgomery, TX 77356

stew.8675309@gmail.com • 936.828.1034

FLASHPOINT

SUPERFAST
MULTIPLE GRADED
STAKES WINNER



POMEROY / TWO PUNCH LIL, BY TWO PUNCH | 2015 Fee: \$2,500 Stands & Nurses

“ We began the Breed Secure program in 2012, and those who supported stallions like Into Mischief, Temple City, and Warrior’s Reward now have offspring by arguably three of the hottest young sires in North America. It puts breeders in a good position to enter the market with a product that is likely to be in demand, and do so with no burden of the stud fee as risk. ”

Brianne Hughes



Introducing to
LOUISIANA

SPENDTHRIFT
breed
SECURE

Call **Mark Toothaker** today at (859) 421-0151 to learn how Spendthrift’s **BREED SECURE** Program can benefit you.

STANDING AT: Le Mesa Stallions

Brett Brinkman: 160 Portneuf Rd., Carencro, Louisiana 70520 | (337) 896-7077 | Cell: (352) 817-3919

Standing NM's 2014 Sire of the Year – **DIABOLICAL**
& 2014 Freshman Sire of the Year
SOUTHWESTERN HEAT



Inquires to Fred Alexander (915) 539-2176 | Office: (915) 539-0040 | www.aaranch.org

2014 LEADING SIRES IN NEW MEXICO

Go to BloodHorse.com for daily updated sire lists

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2015 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2014 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	DESERT GOD (91, Fappiano)	Pnsd	52/29	5/8	4/5	(Proceed, \$235,389)	\$1,694,571	258	27	1.51	0.74
2	DIABOLICAL (03, Artax), A & A Ranch	Private	64/38	8/10	8/8	(Liberty Lover, \$274,361)	\$1,395,360	83	8	1.03	1.02
3	QUINTON'S GOLD (97, Carson City), Doubletree Farm	\$5,000	40/25	3/5	3/3	(Lux, \$216,346)	\$1,107,204	82	8	1.57	0.87
4	ATTILA'S STORM (02, Forest Wildcat), A & A Ranch	\$3,000	45/22	3/5	3/3	(Renewed Vows, \$207,910)	\$1,088,888	92	10	1.41	0.82
5	ROLL HENNESSY ROLL (00, Hennessy), A & A Ranch	\$3,500	32/16	3/5	3/3	(Twixy Roll, \$205,328)	\$726,173	109	10	1.09	1.03
6	THE WAY HOME (04, Giant's Causeway), Doubletree Farm	\$3,500	36/23	1/1	1/1	(Way to Go Gerda, \$86,439)	\$646,642	73	4	1.05	0.97
7	WEATHER WARNING (04, Storm Cat), Double LL Farm	\$3,000	42/19	0/0	0/0	(Weather Bill, \$53,515)	\$560,232	*93	3	1.26	1.07
8	DEVON LANE (93, Storm Cat)	Died, 2012	47/17	1/2	1/1	(Devons Ca Ching, \$151,170)	\$509,568	434	19	1.78	0.80
9	GHOSTLY MOVES (92, Silver Ghost)	N/A	36/14	1/1	1/1	(Atomic Echo, \$72,176)	\$432,835	229	23	0.83	1.03
10	YOUR EMINENCE (01, Saint Ballado)	Died, 2012	36/18	0/0	0/0	(Strawberry Bling, \$47,510)	\$431,079	150	3	0.69	0.74
11	PREMEDITATION (99, Afternoon Deelites), A & A Ranch	\$2,500	26/12	2/2	2/2	(Beau Wizer, \$107,598)	\$398,571	74	6	1.09	0.88
12	DOMINIQUE'S CAT (97, Storm Cat), McKenna Thoroughbreds	\$2,500	21/12	1/1	1/1	(D Cat's Trip, \$54,018)	\$366,433	93	4	0.85	0.62
13	TO TERAS (00, Unbridled's Song), New Mexico State University	\$1,500	22/11	1/1	1/1	(Thunder Agard, \$118,491)	\$351,961	71	2	0.84	0.61
14	SILVER WAGON (01, Wagon Limit), McCallum View Farm	\$2,500	19/9	0/0	0/0	(The Big Deluxe, \$121,644)	\$351,850	49	1	1.14	1.33
15	PROUD TOWER TOO (02, Proud Irish), Tricar Stables	Private	23/6	0/0	0/0	(Proud Step, \$71,676)	\$235,640	57	0	0.34	0.71

2014 LEADING SIRES IN ARKANSAS

Go to BloodHorse.com for daily updated sire lists

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2015 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2014 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	BRAHMS (97, Danzig), Trophy Club Training Center	\$2,000	76/43	3/9	1/3	(Sunbean, \$621,250)	\$1,894,094	*617	18	1.09	1.18
2	THE DADDY (02, Valid Expectations), Trophy Club Training Center	\$1,500	52/31	2/2	1/2	(Manchurian High, \$132,760)	\$1,007,928	*128	5	1.02	1.23
3	PRIMARY SUSPECT (01, Hennessy), McDowell Farm	\$1,000	35/22	1/1	1/1	(Sea N Suds, \$83,380)	\$644,185	92	4	0.77	1.13
4	HESABULL (93, Dispersal)	N/A	49/22	1/1	1/1	(Valid Commander, \$89,475)	\$575,167	181	6	0.85	1.06
5	PORTOBELLO ROAD (04, Storm Cat), Anderson Farms	\$1,000	33/19	0/0	0/0	(He Is a Roadster, \$54,900)	\$496,763	74	0	0.69	1.03

son of Forest Wildcat proved himself equally adept on dirt or turf, breaking his maiden by 10¼ lengths on the Monmouth Park main track and subsequently flying over Monmouth's turf course to win a stakes in 1:01.85 for 5½ furlongs. He is out of the Affirmed mare Wichitoz, who is a half sister to champion sprinter Rubiano

and the dam of leading sire Tapit, and is from the family of Relaunch, Glitterman, and Summer Bird. He stands for \$2,000.

Speaking of well-bred, River Oaks also stands Foreign Policy, a son of Danzig out of the Cryptoclearance mare Strategic Maneuver, winner of the Spinaway and Matron stakes (both gr. I). Foreign Policy

is a half brother to grade II winner Cat Fighter and a full brother to group III winner Ishiguru. Danzig is one of the greatest sires of our time, and a sire of sires such as Danehill, War Front, Hard Spun, and Exchange Rate. Foreign Policy is already the sire of two-time stakes winner Foreign Sultress and stakes-placed Cheyenne Blues. He stands the 2015 season for a fee of \$1,250.

"It's exciting to have the kinds of stallions we stand," said Bravo. "We are proud to have these kinds of horses. It certainly has helped to create traffic for the farm. People come in and look at the stallions; then perhaps they send mares here and leave the babies to be broken.

"There are good incentives in place here for breeders. Having come from Minnesota after that went downhill, and then Texas, it looks pretty good here. But the breeding aspect is still tough. We stand some very nice horses, but it's still hard to get mares to them. A good book for Latent Heat or Read the Footnotes is 35-40 mares. We have some mares from Texas, New Mexico, and Kansas that people keep with me, but the majority of business is local. Most people breed



Bravo: "I have good people who work for me. It's all pretty well-organized."



Oklahoma's Foremost Stallion Roster

Kipling • Save Big Money • The Visualiser • Toccet

MIGHTY ACRES Pryor, Oklahoma • (918) 825-4256 • www.MightyAcres.com

2014 LEADING SIRES IN OKLAHOMA Go to BloodHorse.com for daily updated sire lists

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2015 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2014 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	LATENT HEAT (03, Maria's Mon), River Oaks Farm	\$3,500	125/61	3/2	1/3	(Sky and Sea, \$150,700)	\$2,260,121	*265	6	0.95	1.08
2	READ THE FOOTNOTES (01, Smoke Glacken), River Oaks Farm	\$3,500	79/43	2/2	2/2	(Storied Lady, \$239,336)	\$2,122,865	*277	15	1.40	1.19
3	CACTUS RIDGE (01, Hennessy), Royal Vista Ranches	\$5,000	75/51	5/5	1/5	(Cactus Joe, \$199,809)	\$2,017,713	*409	23	1.28	1.05
4	NOTIONAL (04, In Excess), Rockin' Z Ranch	\$2,000	101/58	2/2	1/2	(Far Right, \$155,766)	\$1,733,486	177	5	0.85	1.18
5	KIPLING (96, Gulch), Mighty Acres	\$2,500	103/47	2/2	2/2	(Kipling's Joy, \$100,738)	\$1,518,107	294	12	1.09	0.88
6	TOCCET (00, Awesome Again), Mighty Acres	\$2,500	71/35	1/2	0/1	(Az Ridge, \$139,644)	\$1,276,344	*309	14	1.09	1.22
7	DON'T GET MAD (02, Stephen Got Even)	Died, 2013	51/30	1/1	0/1	(What Lola Wants, \$139,812)	\$1,138,076	*129	4	1.23	0.97
8	ORATORY (02, Pulpit), River Oaks Farm	\$3,500	40/22	0/0	0/0	(Tujoes, \$89,685)	\$948,380	*158	3	1.25	1.16
9	TACTICAL CAT (96, Storm Cat), Raywood Farm	\$1,000	60/29	2/2	2/2	(Heykittykittykitty, \$96,680)	\$807,391	548	27	1.05	1.23
10	EVANSVILLE SLEW (92, Slew City Slew)	Died, 2012	70/32	0/0	0/0	(Two Moons, \$67,300)	\$790,976	*519	34	1.07	0.91
11	OMEGA CODE (00, Elusive Quality), Rockin' Z Ranch	\$2,000	61/27	3/3	2/3	(Fesstune, \$96,013)	\$725,289	301	10	0.69	1.26
12	SERVICE STRIPE (91, Deputy Minister), Caines Stallion Station	\$1,000	34/22	0/0	0/0	(Service for Ten, \$79,025)	\$695,739	365	20	1.17	1.01
13	FREEFOURINTERNET (98, Tabasco Cat)	N/A	25/18	0/0	0/0	(Fastnfree, \$78,088)	\$482,664	85	1	0.87	0.95
14	LUCKY LIONEL (93, Mt. Livermore)	N/A	36/18	0/0	0/0	(Tight Britches, \$67,820)	\$468,711	343	14	1.14	1.23
15	SAVE BIG MONEY (03, Storm Cat), Mighty Acres	\$2,000	25/11	0/0	0/0	(Rich Uncle, \$61,120)	\$391,165	42	1	0.69	1.07

to race. The sales here are slowly improving, but a good yearling market still needs to be developed.”

The Bravos own eight or nine mares themselves, and others in partnership. About 50-60 mares will foal at River Oaks this year, and good staff is essential. A night watchman stays with the expectant mares all night. Lori handles the book-keeping and also helps with many other aspects of the farm. Bravo lauds her as “a good horsewoman,” which is particularly important because he is frequently away training horses at racetracks such as Sam Houston, Lone Star Park, Blue Ribbon

Downs, and Canterbury Park.

“I have good people who work with me and make it possible for me to travel,” Bravo said. “My wife is invaluable. She has a great eye. My training barn man has been with me for years; same for the mare barn man and night watchman. They know me; they know what kind of mood I’m in when I leave my home at 6 a.m. each morning. My racetrack assistants have been with me for many years as well. It’s all pretty well-organized.”

No matter where his racetrack training may take him, Bravo is a man who, after having lived the life of a nomad for years,

seems relieved to have a solid home base to return to. And he is also grateful to be able to work at something he loves.

“It hasn’t been an easy journey, but the horses have been good to me and my family,” he said. “It’s all we have ever done. Since I graduated from college with a degree in animal science, I’ve always wanted to have my own place. Although it has its ups and downs, it’s good to be your own boss. I used to ski, but it takes too much time. Now I have some carriages and do some driving with the horses. The best part of all is to just be at the farm and enjoy it. This is more than a job. It’s a way of life.” **BH**

MIGHTY ACRES Oklahoma's Foremost Stallion Roster

KIPLING

#1 Sire by 2014 Oklahoma-Bred Earnings
 Top Five Oklahoma Sire by 2014 Earning & Winners
 2014 Sire of \$126,000 OKC Turf Classic SW ROBBYTYME
 Oklahoma's **ONLY** sire of a G1 Breeders' Cup Winner
 Son of **GULCH & A.P. INDY**'s half-sister
 \$2,500 LFSN

TOCCET

Oklahoma's Co-Leading Sire of G1 Stakes Winners
 Top Six Oklahoma Sire by 2014 Earning & Winners
 76% Wnrs/Rnrs & 12% Stakes Horses/Rnrs
 Average Earnings Per Runner over 20 Times His Fee
 Proven son of Leading Sire **AWESOME AGAIN**
 \$2,500 LFSN

Also Standing for 2015

SAVE BIG MONEY – by Storm Cat – \$2,000 LFSN

THE VISUALISER – by Giant's Causeway – \$1,500 LFSN



MIGHTY ACRES

675 W. 470 Rd., Pryor, OK 74361 / 918.825.4256 / RandyBlair@MightyAcres.com / www.MightyAcres.com