

SOUTHWEST

High on the Mountain

Shaun Hubbard carries on family tradition at Ruidoso Downs

BY LENNY SHULMAN



GAY HARRIS

Shaun Hubbard loves being hands-on with horses, such as stakes winner Another Brother

RACING FANS FLOCK to their favorite tourist destinations in the summertime to enjoy the big meets at resort towns such as Saratoga and Del Mar every year. In the Sierra Blanca mountains of south-central New Mexico, another resort and racetrack attracts patrons to its summer cards amidst an alpine atmosphere in the small town of Ruidoso. There, Ruidoso Downs Race Track and the Billy The Kid Casino draws horse-lovers, gamblers, and their families to top Quarter Horse and Thoroughbred racing.

In charge of the facility for the last five years has been a fresh face with a familiar name. Shaun Hubbard, 34, soft-spoken but well-respected, has been calling the shots at Ruidoso since 2011, having worked his way up from the ground floor but also having the lifelong counsel of his grandfather, R.D. Hubbard. The elder Hubbard was the first to bring legal gambling to his native Kansas with The Woodlands greyhound/horse racetrack in the 1980s, was the first to bring a casino/ *(continued on page 34)*

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2016 LEADING SIRES IN LOUISIANA



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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2016 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	Cumulative				
							2016 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	SONGANDAPRAYER (98, Unbridled's Song), The Stallion Station @ Copper Crowne	\$4,500	146/77	0/0	0/0	(Navy Hymn, \$155,627)	\$2,420,412	*920	34	1.15	1.46
2	HALF OURS (03, Unbridled's Song), Clear Creek Stud	\$5,000	131/59	5/5	4/5	(Smittys Cougar, \$205,295)	\$2,226,141	*345	15	1.01	1.22
3	D'WILDCAT (98, Forest Wildcat), Whispering Oaks Farm	\$3,500	87/52	2/3	1/2	(Guns Loaded, \$161,337)	\$1,731,915	*409	15	1.37	1.24
4	CLOSING ARGUMENT (02, Successful Appeal), Whispering Oaks Farm	\$4,000	82/38	2/3	1/2	(Smack Smack, \$394,366)	\$1,682,378	*427	17	1.23	1.16
5	YANKEE GENTLEMAN (99, Storm Cat), Le Mesa Stallions	\$3,500	108/58	2/3	2/2	(Icy Gentleman, \$138,000)	\$1,611,404	*496	20	1.12	1.20
6	MASS MEDIA (01, Touch Gold), Red River Farms	\$1,500	80/44	0/0	0/0	(Littlemissbusiness, \$118,400)	\$1,367,888	*194	4	1.08	1.04
7	CUSTOM FOR CARLOS (06, More Than Ready), Clear Creek Stud	\$3,500	54/33	2/2	2/2	(Crosscheck Carlos, \$122,253)	\$1,014,849	85	2	0.89	1.08
8	MY PAL CHARLIE (05, Indian Charlie), Elite Thoroughbreds	\$2,500	66/29	1/1	1/1	(Chases Dixie Belle, \$76,300)	\$944,740	120	2	0.79	1.14
9	SUN KING (02, Charismatic), Elite Thoroughbreds	\$1,500	66/28	1/1	0/1	(Bold Cait, \$88,800)	\$904,546	270	2	0.70	1.00
10	RUN PRODUCTION (00, Saint Ballado), Whispering Oaks Farm	\$2,500	72/35	0/0	0/0	(Red Production, \$65,577)	\$871,436	191	7	1.09	0.99
11	GOOD AND TOUGH (95, Carson City)	Died, 2012	44/15	1/1	1/1	(Tough Jeans, \$147,280)	\$839,849	*462	14	1.09	1.11
12	FOREFATHERS (04, Gone West), Red River Farms	\$2,000	76/40	0/0	0/0	(Over Yonder, \$58,150)	\$824,133	148	1	0.61	1.13
13	TENPINS (98, Smart Strike), Elite Thoroughbreds	\$2,500	67/30	0/0	0/0	(Who Datawaki, \$63,630)	\$799,725	*358	8	0.89	1.06
14	GREELEY'S GALAXY (02, Mr. Greeley), Averett Farm	\$3,500	40/17	1/1	1/1	(Asset Inflation, \$152,400)	\$742,316	118	2	1.13	1.08
15	LONE STAR SPECIAL (05, Malabar Gold), Horse of Course	\$1,500	21/12	2/3	1/2	(Mobile Bay, \$212,150)	\$688,953	47	3	1.53	1.11
16	BIG TOP CAT (02, Storm Cat)	Died, 2012	46/19	0/0	0/0	(Zendelphian, \$85,700)	\$683,077	148	3	0.73	0.84
17	LION TAMER (00, Will's Way), Clear Creek Stud	Pnsd	42/19	0/0	0/0	(He's a Lady Tamer, \$82,000)	\$592,718	133	2	0.75	1.06
18	LEWIS MICHAEL (03, Rahy), Circle H Farms	\$2,500	41/27	0/0	0/0	(Lewys Vaporizer, \$71,206)	\$589,116	115	3	0.80	1.13
19	GOLD TRIBUTE (94, Mr. Prospector), Red River Farms	\$2,000	30/14	1/1	1/1	(Nubin Ridge, \$138,910)	\$536,335	*481	12	0.97	1.07
20	IDE (93, Forty Niner)	Pnsd	48/19	0/0	0/0	(Ide Stang You, \$52,480)	\$524,316	572	15	1.07	1.06
21	INTERACTIF (07, Broken Vow), Red River Farms	\$2,000	35/18	1/1	1/1	(So Sorry Ruston, \$91,450)	\$474,101	53	1	0.55	1.15
22	TIME BANDIT (96, Time for a Change), Heritage Stud	\$1,000	28/17	0/0	0/0	(It's Time to B, \$43,725)	\$418,745	272	3	0.84	0.90
23	TIZ THE ONE (07, Tiznow), Red River Farms	\$1,500	37/13	0/0	0/0	(Tiz America, \$52,870)	\$368,706	60	0	0.55	1.00
24	ETBAUER (96, Silver Deputy)	N/A	18/11	1/2	1/1	(Believeinsomething, \$130,450)	\$361,358	133	4	0.71	0.72
25	BEHINDATTHEBAR (05, Forest Wildcat), Le Mesa Stallions	\$2,000	32/14	0/0	0/0	(Continental Club, \$50,000)	\$349,053	90	0	0.57	0.86
26	GRAND APPOINTMENT (98, Unbridled), Fallen Oaks Farm	Died, 2015	20/11	0/0	0/0	(Grand Farewell, \$83,760)	\$329,931	78	2	0.93	0.86
27	SAINT AFLEET (01, Northern Afleet)	N/A	30/16	0/0	0/0	(Walking in Faith, \$53,622)	\$311,267	90	3	0.68	0.86
28	OLE REBEL (99, Carson City), Clear Creek Stud	\$1,500	32/11	0/0	0/0	(Jazzy Rebel, \$63,970)	\$296,783	86	2	0.69	0.83
29	TETON FOREST (01, Forestry), Elite Thoroughbreds	\$1,000	16/7	1/2	0/1	(Forest Mouse, \$150,730)	\$270,850	*228	3	0.78	1.02
30	MY FRIEND MAX (92, Danzig)	Died, 2013	21/8	0/0	0/0	(Madelyn's Wild Max, \$61,270)	\$263,919	215	3	0.97	0.90

(continued from page 32)

hotel to California in the 1990s, during which time he also owned and operated Hollywood Park, and also was instrumental in bringing gaming to the Southwest, where he transferred his Kentucky-based Crystal Springs Farm in the 2000s.

Shaun Hubbard was raised on a farm in northern Kansas, and his background in the country has shaped his life. He remembers an old mare on the farm named Babe, and "wanted to be on the back of a horse from as early as I can remember. That doesn't go away."

He also had a strong desire to farm.

"That's what I knew and loved," Hubbard said. "Every aspect of it, from the animals, especially the horses; and plowing the fields and raising crops. I didn't think of anything else that I wanted to do."

Hubbard's life changed after a conversation he had with his grandmother Joan

Dale (R.D. Hubbard's wife), who asked the young man what he was going to do when he got older. Hubbard told her he hadn't



R.D. Hubbard provides valuable counsel to his grandson

thought of anything except to continue farming. She urged him to expand his horizons and not make a decision until after he had seen more of the world.

"She was nothing but absolutely correct," Hubbard says today.

After a stint at college and time spent working in a factory, Hubbard journeyed to New Mexico and began learning the race-track business. He labored in the kitchen cleaning floors, worked the parking lot, sold programs, and worked in operations. He also learned the casino side, becoming a certified slots technician. At the same time, he became involved with the farms that his grandfather established in the area. One was in the Hondo Valley and would eventually become JEH. The other was the new Crystal Springs near Tularosa, about 40 minutes from Ruidoso. Like its Kentucky ancestor, the farm is managed by Tom and Leslie Goncharoff but is now overseen by

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2016 LEADING SIRES IN NEW MEXICO



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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2016 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	Cumulative				
							2016 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	ATTILA'S STORM (02, Forest Wildcat), A & A Ranch	\$4,000	67/35	4/4	4/4	(Another Brother, \$157,031)	\$1,325,624	163	16	1.25	0.77
2	DIABOLICAL (03, Artax), A & A Ranch	\$6,000	68/40	0/0	0/0	(Diabolical Dame, \$103,620)	\$988,394	125	8	0.93	0.93
3	THE WAY HOME (04, Giant's Causeway), Doubletree Farm	\$2,500	39/22	1/2	1/1	(Ignored, \$162,399)	\$604,364	106	5	0.88	0.98
4	SOUTHWESTERN HEAT (04, Gone West), A & A Ranch	\$2,500	40/22	0/0	0/0	(Bryn's Fancy Pants, \$87,100)	\$569,442	*68	2	0.72	0.94
5	DESERT GOD (91, Fappiano), A & A Ranch	Pnsd	22/10	0/0	0/0	(Zasha, \$155,835)	\$540,179	259	25	1.47	0.75
6	QUINTON'S GOLD (97, Carson City), Doubletree Farm	\$5,000	40/17	2/2	2/2	(Jonesey Who, \$71,990)	\$493,046	119	10	1.32	0.89
7	WEATHER WARNING (04, Storm Cat), Double LL Farm	\$3,000	40/15	0/0	0/0	(Weather Dodger, \$67,857)	\$425,668	*137	4	1.00	1.02
8	FUSAICHI ZENON (JPN) (97, Sunday Silence), Weatherly Horse Farms	\$2,000	20/11	1/1	1/1	(Not My Note, \$124,439)	\$335,799	96	4	0.74	0.84
9	RIGHT RIGGER (06, Unbridled's Song), Lady T Ranch	Private	6/3	2/2	2/2	(Ten Penny Cents, \$171,960)	\$329,222	8	3	2.56	0.88
10	ROLL HENNESSY ROLL (00, Hennessy), A & A Ranch	\$3,500	31/11	0/0	0/0	(Happy Hennessy, \$64,770)	\$320,331	139	10	0.97	0.99
11	DEVON LANE (93, Storm Cat)	Died, 2012	22/10	0/0	0/0	(Tijuana, \$73,254)	\$283,917	440	14	0.77	0.79
12	PRO PRADO (01, El Prado), Hourigan Horse Farm	\$2,000	23/10	0/0	0/0	(Citizen Geller, \$109,648)	\$268,756	74	1	0.72	0.85
13	DOME (98, Storm Cat), Double LL Farm	\$2,500	22/8	1/1	1/1	(Thunder Dome, \$130,283)	\$262,499	228	6	0.73	0.81
14	SWISSE STICK (02, Swiss Yodeler), MJ Farms	\$1,500	9/3	1/3	0/1	(Sippin, \$217,047)	\$256,006	23	1	0.61	0.86
15	DOMINIQUE'S CAT (97, Storm Cat)	N/A	17/12	0/0	0/0	(Dyno Dom, \$37,908)	\$225,777	104	2	0.82	0.62
16	YOUR EMINENCE (01, Saint Ballado)	Died, 2012	25/12	0/0	0/0	(Beaumont Time, \$41,187)	\$209,790	165	3	0.67	0.74
17	FIREJACK (02, Dixieland Band), Hourigan Horse Farm	\$900	13/7	0/0	0/0	(Fantastic Party, \$36,330)	\$193,670	68	1	0.53	0.84
18	PROUD TOWER TOO (02, Proud Irish), Tricar Stables	Private	18/11	0/0	0/0	(Slew's Royal Tower, \$36,889)	\$190,308	70	0	0.36	0.68
19	INDIAN FIREWATER (07, Indian Charlie), Doubletree Farm	\$3,000	12/4	0/0	0/0	(Vocally, \$76,099)	\$184,910	25	0	0.75	1.36
20	REAL DANDY (02, Yankee Victor)	N/A	23/10	0/0	0/0	(My Dandy Girl, \$58,192)	\$183,792	39	1	0.59	1.09

the younger Hubbard.

"The passion for horses and breeding and raising them, and then racing them doesn't leave many of us," Hubbard noted. "My grandfather is a firm believer in working hard and getting rewarded for time put in; he likes to see young people develop into the best they can be.

"What I've learned more than anything coming up is that a business is only as good as its weakest employee. The people you have around you make or break a business and make you what you are as a leader or manager. I've learned a lot, directly or indirectly, from my grandfather. He has a brilliant mind and strong work ethic, but when it comes down to closing a deal, he also has a charisma that is second to none. That sometimes goes unrecognized, but smart business people usually have that in common, and no one has more of it than R.D. Hubbard."

Ruidoso runs its meet from Memorial Day to Labor Day, and it is a mixed meet with Quarter Horses and Thoroughbreds sharing the seven-eighths-mile track. The Quarter Horse program is far and away the richest in the country, and with

the younger Hubbard in charge, has seen increased purses and nominations year-by-year. In 2016 the All American Quarter Horse Futurity carried a \$3 million purse. The All American Quarter Horse Derby was worth \$2.5 million, and races such as the Ruidoso Quarter Horse Derby, Ruidoso Quarter Horse Futurity, and the Rainbow Quarter Horse Derby and Futurity all carried seven-figure purses.

Top Thoroughbred races such as the

Rio Grande Senior and Seniorita Futurities both carried \$175,000 pots, as did the Mountain Top Futurity for New Mexico-breds.

"The Futurity and Derby series we've assembled for Quarter Horses is second to none in the world," stated Shaun Hubbard. "We're always striving for better-quality horses and better-quality races with higher purses. Those are things we've always felt were achievable. Like anywhere, we've



New Mexico's natural beauty attracts tourists to Ruidoso Downs in the summertime

2016 LEADING SIRES IN TEXAS



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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB, Sire), Where Stands	2016 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	Cumulative				
							2016 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	TOO MUCH BLING (03, Rubiano), Valor Farm	\$4,000	83/43	6/8	3/6	(Bling On the Music, \$153,082)	\$1,525,947	189	22	1.17	1.10
2	GRASSHOPPER (04, Dixie Union), Valor Farm	\$3,500	48/23	2/6	1/2	(Texas Chrome, \$660,245)	\$1,292,112	77	2	0.98	0.96
3	VALID EXPECTATIONS (93, Valid Appeal)	Died, 2015	50/37	3/5	2/3	(Ivan Fallunovalot, \$323,898)	\$1,158,128	657	41	1.21	1.14
4	CONGAREE (98, Arazi), Valor Farm	\$5,000	59/20	0/0	0/0	(Saluda, \$97,145)	\$805,469	*364	13	1.30	1.41
5	MY GOLDEN SONG (03, Unbridled's Song), Valor Farm	\$4,000	40/18	2/2	2/2	(C C's Song, \$74,410)	\$653,860	96	8	1.08	1.01
6	INTIMIDATOR (01, Gone West), Asmussen Horse Center	\$1,500	55/24	1/1	0/1	(Country Candy, \$119,780)	\$629,001	188	6	0.58	0.77
7	STONESIDER (03, Giant's Causeway), Valor Farm	\$3,500	46/17	0/0	0/0	(Big Gally's Answer, \$79,800)	\$579,953	*189	4	1.12	1.21
8	EARLY FLYER (98, Gilded Time), Valor Farm	\$2,500	61/25	1/2	1/1	(Bravura, \$75,000)	\$518,595	259	16	0.79	0.92
9	LUNARPAL (02, Successful Appeal), Lone Star Farms/Rafter S Ranch	Private	23/14	0/0	0/0	(Pyrite Slew, \$64,480)	\$427,694	112	2	0.81	0.94
10	UNCLE ABBIE (97, Kingmambo), Key Ranch	\$2,000	25/11	2/3	2/2	(Ibaka, \$136,734)	\$395,036	225	6	0.67	0.64
11	GAFF (02, Maria's Mon), Seguin Horse Center, Inc.	\$1,500	26/17	0/0	0/0	(Hook, \$55,360)	\$356,503	79	0	0.65	1.01
12	SCRIMSHAW (00, Gulch), R&S Racing	\$1,500	19/11	0/0	0/0	(Gumbo of Choices, \$38,560)	\$248,742	*194	3	0.99	0.90
13	INDYGO MOUNTAIN (06, A.P. Indy)	N/A	7/3	1/3	1/1	(More Than Most, \$136,346)	\$231,201	14	1	1.76	1.65
14	JET PHONE (01, Phone Trick), Valor Farm	\$2,000	15/11	0/0	0/0	(Jet Over, \$40,305)	\$215,145	33	3	1.01	1.19
15	DRUMS OF THUNDER (04, Concerto)	N/A	15/7	0/0	0/0	(Witt Six, \$51,030)	\$187,939	35	0	0.49	0.37
16	LITTLEEXPECTATIONS (97, Valid Appeal), Asmussen Horse Center	\$1,500	17/5	0/0	0/0	(Expecting Cash, \$45,710)	\$155,990	199	5	0.76	0.99
17	TOUCH TONE (98, Pick Up the Phone)	N/A	7/5	0/0	0/0	(Turn Up the Lights, \$69,511)	\$147,940	107	2	0.69	0.72
18	HUMMING (96, Summer Squall)	N/A	8/2	1/1	1/1	(You Funny Man, \$102,610)	\$147,714	86	2	0.64	0.76
19	SEEKING A HOME (98, Seeking the Gold)	N/A	14/3	0/0	0/0	(Fiddlers Tsunami, \$80,218)	\$127,381	144	4	0.71	0.84
20	GOT THE GOODS (01, Pulpit)	N/A	10/6	0/0	0/0	(Goods Gone West, \$31,630)	\$121,826	51	1	0.45	0.71

had problems. We've had fires, floods, freezes, and multiples of those things on occasion. But I take challenges as opportunities. Without challenges you don't see the incentive to stride forward and make things better.

"The market has changed and the industry has changed over the years, both good and bad. We face difficulties nationwide. But at a time of decline in the national industry, we've been very fortunate here at Ruidoso to have enjoyed some of the most glorious years of a prestigious and historic event—the All-American. There's definitely a lot of optimism here on The Mountain, as everybody calls it.

"Certainly the implementation of gaming in New Mexico, which my grandfather was an integral part of, has allowed Ruidoso to sustain and grow in a difficult time for other race-tracks. We've actually seen an increase in participation in our big series."

Ruidoso runs approximately a 50/50 mix of Thoroughbred

and Quarter Horse racing. Although it is more well-known as an iconic Quarter Horse operation, Hubbard said the Thoroughbred side is crucial to the facility's popularity. The state-bred Thoroughbred program, bolstered by casino gaming, offers rich purses to local breeders and owners, as well as bringing an attractive product to fans.

"We have a large tourist component here," said Hubbard. "We get a lot of fami-

lies over the summer. One of the biggest things for our enthusiasts is they come and enjoy seeing the horses. We want to give them Thoroughbreds to watch. It's exciting for the people coming out for the first time."

Hubbard listed some of the challenges he wades through to keep the Ruidoso racing product top-shelf. There is an overlap with other tracks in the state that both dilutes the racing product and the ability to draw fans. There are growing entertainment options that make for a competitive environment. And there are regulations that he said make it difficult to effect changes in a timely manner.

"Change in our industry and in our world is getting exponentially faster, in technology and everything else," Hubbard stated. "We have to stay on top of that in our advertising and marketing. If we don't have the means to change in a timely manner, that means we're falling

(continued on page 38)



Attila's Storm is the leading sire in New Mexico

ADAM COGLIANESE/NYRA

Special Note For Sire Lists:

For stallions that stand, will stand, or stood (deceased) in the states featured in this section (stallions that are dead or exported prior to 2011 are excluded), and have runners in North America. Listed below are all available statistics for the Northern Hemisphere through November 20, 2016. As supplied to Blood-Horse by The Jockey Club Information Systems Inc., 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%. 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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*Bernardini – Forest Heiress,
by Forest Wildcat*

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EARLY FLYER

Gilded Time – Bistra, by Classic Go Go

2017 FEE: \$2,500



GRASSHOPPER

*Dixie Union – Grass Skirt,
by Mr. Prospector*

2017 FEE: \$3,500



JET PHONE

Phone Trick – Jet Route, by Alydar

2017 FEE: \$1,500



MY GOLDEN SONG

*Unbridled's Song –
Golden Par, by Gold Meridian*

2017 FEE: \$4,000



STONESIDER

*Giant's Causeway –
Added Gold, by Gilded Time*

2017 FEE: \$3,000



TOO MUCH BLING

*Rubiano – Rose Colored Lady,
by Formal Dinner*

2017 FEE: \$4,500



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2016 LEADING SIRES IN OKLAHOMA



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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2016 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	Cumulative				
							2016 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	POLLARD'S VISION (01, Carson City), Mighty Acres	\$3,000	96/51	1/1	0/1	(Eye Luv Lulu, \$151,367)	\$2,043,211	*683	18	1.29	1.20
2	WILBURN (08, Bernardini), Rockin' Z Ranch	\$3,500	114/58	2/2	1/2	(Ohio Gold, \$178,580)	\$1,902,863	*194	3	0.69	1.15
3	NOTIONAL (04, In Excess), Rockin' Z Ranch	\$3,000	122/58	1/1	1/1	(Victor Jara, \$108,761)	\$1,655,643	*272	6	0.85	1.12
4	CACTUS RIDGE (01, Hennessy)	Pnsd	74/37	4/5	1/4	(Steel Cut, \$226,550)	\$1,649,762	*450	23	1.26	1.05
5	LATENT HEAT (03, Maria's Mon), River Oaks Farms	\$3,500	102/59	2/2	1/2	(Rocket Heat, \$147,565)	\$1,604,308	*310	5	0.91	1.10
6	MAGNA GRADUATE (02, Honor Grades), Rockin' Z Ranch	\$2,500	85/46	0/0	0/0	(Graduatewithhonors, \$69,040)	\$1,506,714	*205	6	0.99	1.10
7	READ THE FOOTNOTES (01, Smoke Glacken), River Oaks Farms	\$3,500	70/38	1/1	1/1	(Literata, \$195,800)	\$1,429,168	*310	17	1.34	1.19
8	DON'T GET MAD (02, Stephen Got Even)	Died, 2013	59/35	1/1	1/1	(Tuff Kid, \$87,956)	\$1,090,311	*166	7	1.14	0.95
9	MR. NIGHTLINGER (04, Indian Charlie), Mighty Acres	\$2,000	75/39	1/1	1/1	(Hallelujah Hit, \$79,173)	\$926,766	140	2	0.60	0.88
10	AMERICAN LION (07, Tiznow), River Oaks Farms	\$1,000	67/28	0/0	0/0	(Extinct Charm, \$175,680)	\$866,019	*124	1	0.73	1.13
11	KIPLING (96, Gulch), Mighty Acres	\$2,500	57/20	0/0	0/0	(Seeyouatthedisco, \$76,315)	\$845,060	327	9	1.03	0.90
12	EUROEARS (04, Langfuhr), JEH Stallion Station-Oklahoma Division	\$1,500	31/21	2/3	2/2	(Euro K Shotgun, \$152,245)	\$758,200	60	2	0.99	0.89
13	SAVE BIG MONEY (03, Storm Cat), Mighty Acres	\$2,000	44/20	0/0	0/0	(Mimi's Money, \$90,739)	\$681,107	86	1	0.75	1.00
14	ORATORY (02, Pulpit), River Oaks Farms	Died	47/20	1/1	1/1	(He's So Zazzy, \$92,909)	\$664,504	*194	4	1.17	1.13
15	TACTICAL CAT (96, Storm Cat), Raywood Farm	\$1,000	48/25	0/0	0/0	(By Golly Its a Cat, \$58,005)	\$604,598	585	24	1.02	1.20
16	SERVICE STRIPE (91, Deputy Minister), Caines Stallion Station	\$1,000	23/13	0/0	0/0	(Navy Nurse, \$73,100)	\$442,890	383	18	1.15	1.00
17	LUCKY LIONEL (93, Mt. Livermore)	N/A	22/14	0/0	0/0	(Hot Hand, \$67,806)	\$392,886	360	9	1.12	1.20
18	LIQUOR CABINET (IRE) (01, Hennessy), Oklahoma Equine	\$1,000	26/12	0/0	0/0	(Hide the Hooch, \$76,537)	\$375,322	75	1	0.62	0.90
19	CHITOZ (05, Forest Wildcat), River Oaks Farms	\$2,000	20/9	1/1	1/1	(Okie Diva, \$99,586)	\$343,502	32	1	0.59	0.87
20	EVANSVILLE SLEW (92, Slew City Slew)	Died, 2012	28/13	0/0	0/0	(Star's Valentino, \$38,692)	\$296,935	*520	25	1.05	0.91

(continued from page 36)

behind. Our industry would benefit if we could get some relief on a state and federal level when we need to change and get some regulatory relief in this sport."

Hubbard, in addition to being president and general manager of Ruidoso, has taken over his family's horse operation as well. That includes about a dozen broodmares, racing stables of about 20 Quarter Horses (including about-to-turn 2-year-olds) and a dozen Thoroughbreds, and the stallion Attila's Storm, who stands at A & A Ranch near Anthony, N.M.

"He's basically taken over the horse operation and is making the decisions about who we're breeding to and everything along those lines," said R.D. Hubbard of his grandson. "We have a good program going. Attila's Storm is the leading sire in New Mexico, with his starters earning more than \$50,000 on average; and we just won two big races with two of our juveniles. It's been

unbelievable."

That Hubbard double occurred Oct. 30 when homebred Sippin, who is five-for-five, won the New Mexico Classic Cup Lassie Championship Stakes at Zia Park and Another Brother, by Attila's Storm, took the New Mexico Classic Cup Juvenile Championship Stakes.



Crystal Springs manager Tom Goncharoff

In open company the Hubbards have a couple of well-meant 2-year-olds as well. Bernin Sensation (Bernardini—Kelli Cat, by Storm Cat) broke his maiden Sept. 24 at Los Alamitos for trainer Bob Baffert. Pour House (Shackleford—Something Brewing, by Meadowlake) is nearing a start with Todd Pletcher in Florida.

Shaun Hubbard's enthusiasm level picks up while discussing the stable's racetrack exploits.

"Another Brother's dam, whom we foaled out back in 2003, is Hang Glide, and she ran second a bunch of times behind Peppers Pride. She ran out \$210,000, and who knows what she would have done if not for Peppers Pride. But she had five straight foals that were colts (all full brothers by Attila's Storm), and four of them have gained black type. Thermal ran out \$400,000; Reaper ran out \$352,120; Glide Path was stakes-placed; and the fourth one we named Another Brother, and all of them won or placed in the same stakes race at Zia, so that's kind of neat.

“Attila’s Storm (Forest Wildcat—Sweet Symmetry) has been very gratifying for us. We bought the horse and brought him to New Mexico to take advantage of the breeding incentives here. He’ll breed close to 80 mares, which is exceptional at a time when mare numbers have dropped here. He stood for \$4,000 this year and has been very popular. He could have the champion 2-year-old and 3-year-old in the state this year.”

In addition, the Hubbards’ Quarter Horse A Revenant is a leading contender for champion 2-year-old male following his victory in the Rainbow Futurity.

“It’s a team effort,” Hubbard said of the family’s operation. “Tommy and Leslie Goncharoff do a phenomenal job running the farm. We have groups of children come in on tours, and they spoil those youngsters to death and let them pet the horses. That creates fans, and that’s what this is all about. I try to get over there once



GAY HARRIS

Shaun Hubbard with Boomer

a week or so. I enjoy every aspect of the business, especially the horses themselves and the breeding, the matings. If they can

run, that’s always fun, too. I love looking at weanlings and yearlings and enjoy the commercial auction side too.”

It’s pleasing to his grandfather that Shaun has embraced a leadership role.

“It’s a big relief to me to know that our interests in the horse business and the racetracks will be continued,” R.D. Hubbard noted. “I’m behind Shaun 100%. In the past there were times I made suggestions he didn’t like, but he consults me a lot more now than he used to and I’m glad to help. He’s well respected by the horsemen; he’s a much better people person than I ever was. I’m very proud of him.”

Shaun returns the praise.

“I’ll sit back sometimes and realize how much I’ve learned from my grandfather,” he said. “It’s not always what to do; sometimes it’s what not to do or how to do something a little differently. What I’ve been able to pick up from him is invaluable. I’m so grateful for our close relationship.” **BH**

MIGHTY ACRES 2017 STALLION ROSTER



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