

MIDWEST/CANADA

Opportunity Knocks

R Star Stallions takes advantage of Indiana breeding program

BY ALICIA WINCZE HUGHES



SHELLEY WINTER PHOTOS

Jesse Hopper with the late grade 3 winner Saintly Look

LEIGH ANN HOPPER pauses mid-sentence to acknowledge she is well aware she keeps repeating herself.

As the Indiana native details what inspired her and husband Kerry Hopper to establish R Star Stallions in their home state seven years ago—and the successful niche their operation has carved out since—she can’t help coming back to one factor. She could easily run down the litany of stats that back up how the Hoosier State’s Thoroughbred breeding program has grown over the last decade. She could point to the increased quality of stock that populates both her family’s farm and their neighbors’ farms.

But if one wants to get to the core of why Indiana has become one of the burgeoning regional programs within the Thoroughbred industry, as well as R Star Stallions’ increasingly prominent role in that growth, Hopper can sum it up succinctly.

“Opportunity—I’ve used that word a whole lot—but it is really key to what we do,” she said. “Wherever it is that you want to be a player in this, there are just so many avenues that you can choose from that open up to folks in Indiana. The fact there is opportunity out there, our family is just jumping in with both feet to run with it the very best we can.”

As Indiana’s collective racing and breeding program continues to emerge, so too has the Hoppers’ R Star Stallions. Since standing its first stallions in 2010, the facility near Anderson has become a major player in the area in relatively swift fashion, a tribute both to the family’s commitment to their hometown program and the support from clients who want to be part of the upswing.

When Kerry Hopper and his wife took what he describes as “a piece of ground” years ago and decided to see if they couldn’t make a go at the commercial side of the industry, the obvious hope was they would be able to offer a service that could help bolster the overall quality of the state’s breed development program. Five years into its existence the 40-acre R Star Stallions could already claim “mission accomplished” when it landed graded stakes winner Strong Contender for its stallion roster and proceeded to see the son of Maria’s Mon top the Indiana sire list for 2015.

Heading into the 2018 breeding season, there is reason to believe R Star Stallions could be in line for more accolades as its current five-stallion roster includes the regally bred Taprize as well as a new addition in multiple graded stakes winner and millionaire Prayer for Relief.

What started as a leap-of-faith venture for the Hoppers has gone on to more than reinforce their belief they couldn’t be in a better place—geographically or otherwise—to turn their objectives into reality.

“We do reflect on that all the time because we built all the paddocks; we built the barn. We did all the work ourselves.

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Indiana's Leader in 2017

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Stallions for 2018



AIROFORCE

(Colonel John - Chocolate Pop)

MGSW of \$679,130 / enters stud in 2018

Fee: \$2,500

CASHEL CASTLE

(Silver Ghost x Desviacion)

Sire of multiple stakes winner
PUNTSVILLE, (\$311,051), etc.

Fee: \$1,000



FEAR THE KITTEN

(Kitten's Joy - Dynarhythm)

MGSP winner of \$232,505

Fee: \$1,000

FORT PRADO

(El Prado (Ire) x Fort Pond)

IN 2nd Leading Sire -

GSW **PRADO'S SWEET RIDE**, etc.

Fee: \$1,000



GUYS REWARD

(Grand Reward - Beach View)

Multiple Graded Stakes Winner of \$801,457

Fee: \$1,000

MAJESTIC HARBOR

(Rockport Harbor x Champagne Royale)

G1 and MGSW Millionaire, first foals arrive in 2018

Fee: \$4,000



NOTIONAL

(In Excess (Ire) x Truly Blessed)

2017 #1 Sire IN - Sire of **CAKE POP**, etc

Fee: \$2,000

PASS RUSH

(Crown Ambassador x Profitable Knight)

3rd leading IN sire with five 2017 stakes horses

Fee: \$2,500



PATAKY KID

(Rockport Harbor x Prom Princess)

Entered stud in 2016, first foals are yearlings of 2018

Fee: \$1,500

UNBRIDLED EXPRESS

(Unbridled Song x Skye Castles)

Son of 2017's Leading Sire in NA

Fee: \$2,000



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2017 LEADING SIRES IN INDIANA



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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2018 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	Cumulative				
							2017 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	NOTIONAL (04, In Excess), Swifty Farms	\$2,000	101/54	1/1	1/1	(Cake Pop, \$189,040)	\$1,527,257	290	6	0.82	1.12
2	FORT PRADO (01, El Prado), Swifty Farms	\$1,000	76/37	1/1	1/1	(Prado's Sweet Ride, \$152,480)	\$1,096,209	*176	2	0.79	1.39
3	VICTOR'S CRY (05, Street Cry), Holden Farm	\$25,000	48/25	0/0	0/0	(Singandcryindubai, \$140,137)	\$966,608	77	1	1.13	1.23
4	PASS RUSH (99, Crown Ambassador), Swifty Farms	\$2,500	37/18	1/1	1/1	(Peyton's Pass, \$118,535)	\$864,640	116	6	1.03	1.05
5	LANTANA MOB (05, Posse), Southern Indiana Equine	\$2,500	28/14	1/1	1/1	(Supreme Justice, \$140,576)	\$554,214	49	3	1.02	1.09
6	STRONG HOPE (00, Grand Slam)	Died, 2017	25/4	1/1	1/1	(Defining Hope, \$146,509)	\$375,741	339	5	0.92	1.65
7	UNBRIDLED EXPRESS (04, Unbridled's Song), Swifty Farms	\$2,000	12/7	1/1	1/1	(Express Run, \$131,698)	\$366,179	24	4	1.65	1.21
8	SKYLORD (08, Sky Mesa), Breakway Farm	Private	17/8	0/0	0/0	(Double Tuff, \$98,453)	\$359,319	26	0	0.96	0.84
9	DEPUTY STORM (01, Forestry), R Star Stallions	\$1,500	20/9	0/0	0/0	(Jonah, \$70,170)	\$356,733	92	2	0.97	1.20
10	MONBA (05, Maria's Mon), Nicks Farm	\$2,000	29/16	0/0	0/0	(Rolling Mo, \$54,471)	\$354,112	68	0	0.68	1.31
11	CASHEL CASTLE (99, Silver Ghost), Swifty Farms	\$1,000	13/5	0/0	0/0	(Puntsville, \$128,725)	\$273,599	113	4	0.89	1.02
12	SANGAREE (05, Awesome Again)	Pnsd	14/6	0/0	0/0	(Lizzy's Lure, \$76,754)	\$269,858	28	0	0.78	0.86
13	COLONIAL COLONY (98, Pleasant Colony), Holden Farm	\$5,000	8/4	0/0	0/0	(Rhinstone Romeo, \$91,152)	\$259,862	74	0	0.44	0.52
14	HUNT CROSSING (09, Corinthian), Indiana Stallion Station	\$1,000	36/7	0/0	0/0	(Monavista Crossing, \$66,390)	\$255,885	92	0	0.36	0.71
15	DOMESTIC DISPUTE (00, Unbridled's Song), Indiana Stallion Station	\$2,000	15/9	0/0	0/0	(Black Salt, \$87,990)	\$254,640	*333	2	0.84	1.15
16	SILVER MOUNTAIN (05, Victory Gallop), Nicks Farm	\$2,000	15/10	0/0	0/0	(She's Going Strong, \$49,386)	\$231,721	25	0	0.59	0.84
17	SWEET RETURN (GB) (00, Elmaamul), Nicks Farm	\$2,000	23/4	0/0	0/0	(Daddy's Boo, \$96,318)	\$217,041	107	0	0.63	0.85
18	SANTIVA (08, Giant's Causeway), Indiana Stallion Station	\$2,000	8/6	0/0	0/0	(D C Nine, \$48,900)	\$204,427	12	0	0.89	0.98
19	DESERT WARRIOR (00, Deputy Minister)	Died, 2015	24/7	0/0	0/0	(Dave, \$28,133)	\$181,610	*291	1	0.81	0.95
20	VIBANK (03, Silver Deputy), Hidden Springs	\$1,000	13/4	0/0	0/0	(Villageofvibank, \$108,559)	\$179,370	101	0	0.84	1.21
21	BYE BYE CRAFTY (02, Crafty Prospector), Cloverhill Farm	\$1,000	6/3	0/0	0/0	(Crafty Spector, \$105,070)	\$176,865	24	0	0.53	0.81
22	MONDAVI (03, Maria's Mon), Breakway Farm	\$1,500	10/5	0/0	0/0	(Ron, \$76,122)	\$172,255	34	1	0.83	0.60
23	CHARGING INDIAN (02, Indian Charlie)	N/A	7/5	0/0	0/0	(Chargingonby, \$100,900)	\$168,581	20	0	0.70	0.84
24	NOBLE'S PROMISE (07, Cuvee), Breakway Farm	\$2,500	11/4	0/0	0/0	(Promising Drive, \$32,688)	\$148,118	16	1	0.87	0.94
25	BOB'S STAR (05, Storm Cat), Sorrell Farm	\$1,000	9/6	0/0	0/0	(Bob's Mistress, \$40,290)	\$138,423	15	0	0.59	0.76
26	ELITE SQUADRON (04, Officer), Indiana Stallion Station	\$1,500	17/5	0/0	0/0	(Shirota, \$33,556)	\$137,015	65	0	0.58	1.05
27	WHAT NOW (07, Distorted Humor), R Star Stallions	\$1,500	6/3	0/0	0/0	(Bar Rag, \$88,642)	\$135,396	11	0	0.87	0.62
28	IRISH ROAD (00, Unbridled's Song)	N/A	16/5	0/0	0/0	(Miso Bad, \$37,080)	\$109,909	91	0	0.73	0.82
29	OCEAN INDY (03, A.P. Indy)	N/A	7/3	0/0	0/0	(The Predictor, \$47,650)	\$107,570	62	1	0.51	0.93
30	DEER LAKE (99, Meadowlake)	N/A	8/3	0/0	0/0	(Well Known Fact, \$39,390)	\$99,378	33	0	0.40	0.78

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Online auction hosted by
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So, yeah, we look back all the time and see where we came from," Kerry Hopper said. "It's been a long, hard journey, but that is what we set out to do.

"I had been working at other farms, enjoying the racehorse part of it, and I really liked the breeding aspect. It was just one of those things where you think, 'Boy, I would like to do this one day on my own.' And with the Indiana program, it kind of pointed me in the direction to start our own deal, and that's where we went from."

Though their operation is less than a decade old, the reputation R Star Stallions has already crafted is something the Hoppers wear with pride.

It wasn't so many years ago when sires with both proven race credentials and elite bloodlines were a challenge to recruit to Indiana. As the incentive programs have gained traction, the over-



Taprize, by Tapit out of Fun House, stands at R Star Stallions

COURTESY R STAR STALLIONS

2017 LEADING SIRES IN IOWA



For daily updated sire lists
visit BloodHorse.com

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2018 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2017 Earnings	2017 Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	STROLL (00, Pulpit), Iowa State University Horse Farm	\$2,000	89/46	3/5	2/3	(Special Envoy, \$129,510)	\$1,658,490	*287	13	1.04	1.30
2	SING BABY SING (03, Unbridled's Song), Madison County Thoroughbreds	\$2,000	53/26	0/0	0/0	(Kissthatbabygoodby, \$81,892)	\$635,867	81	2	0.67	0.87
3	NATIVE RULER (04, Elusive Quality), Abraham's Equine Clinic	\$2,000	23/13	0/0	0/0	(Zella Rose, \$116,922)	\$621,670	45	0	1.07	0.87
4	WOKE UP DREAMIN (00, Holy Bull), Madison County Thoroughbreds	\$2,000	19/8	2/3	1/2	(Dreamin, \$208,013)	\$524,015	155	5	0.82	0.89
5	HEART OF THE STORM (04, Storm Cat)	N/A	17/8	0/0	0/0	(Sugar Cube, \$121,450)	\$341,154	60	1	0.76	0.84
6	SPANIARD (06, Candy Ride), Bryant Thoroughbreds	\$1,500	19/8	0/0	0/0	(Spanish Hombre, \$77,845)	\$320,833	41	0	0.90	1.56
7	SHORE BREEZE (98, Danzig)	Died, 2016	25/12	0/0	0/0	(Vbreeze, \$41,231)	\$251,401	178	2	0.78	0.74
8	JAFMIL (08, Distorted Humor), Robson Thoroughbreds	Private	10/7	0/0	0/0	(Erratic Behavior, \$63,955)	\$215,237	28	0	0.96	1.20
9	WILD GOLD (90, Wild Again)	N/A	13/6	0/0	0/0	(Do It, \$60,928)	\$156,135	247	3	0.75	0.85

all level of stock has risen to a point where owners are no longer viewing the state as an afterthought when choosing a region in which to invest.

Exhibit A of that can be found on the Hoppers' stallion roster. In Taprizze they have a sire with a pedigree as enviable as any other in the stud book. The 4-year-old son of Tapit is out of 2014 Kentucky Broodmare of the Year Fun House, making him a full brother to champion Untapable and a half sibling to grade 1 winner and sire Paddy O'Prado.

Joining Taprizze in terms of family bragging rights is fellow R Star Stallions resident What Now, a son of Distorted Humor who is a half brother to 2013 Preakness Stakes (G1) winner Oxbow. On Aug. 30, What Now sired two state-bred winners on the same card at Indiana Grand Race Course when Bar Rag and Huckleberry Hill prevailed for Don and Pepper Wright, who also own the stallion.

Not only did the Wrights earn the winner's share of the two races, but they also earned another 20% on top of that for a breeder award and another 10% for a stallion award.



A foal at R Star Stallions

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Happy Holidays



The Ohio Thoroughbred Race Fund

2017 LEADING SIRES IN OHIO



For daily updated sire lists visit BloodHorse.com

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2018 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2017 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	COWTOWN CAT (04, Distorted Humor), Mapleton Thoroughbred Farm	\$2,000	91/49	1/2	0/1	(Tiger Blood, \$141,100)	\$1,977,718	193	3	1.12	1.25
2	CITY WEEKEND (02, Carson City), Meadow Springs	\$2,000	40/24	0/0	0/0	(City Slammer, \$82,766)	\$686,919	104	1	0.76	0.90
3	INDY WIND (02, A.P. Indy), Poplar Creek Horse Center	\$2,000	23/18	1/2	0/1	(Starship Jubilee, \$262,311)	\$598,496	75	2	1.14	1.04
4	ALCINDOR (07, Unbridled's Song)	N/A	11/8	0/0	0/0	(True Cinder, \$190,650)	\$496,832	15	0	1.79	1.19
5	PARENTS' REWARD (98, Mr. Prospector), Poplar Creek Horse Center	\$1,500	7/5	0/0	0/0	(Leona's Reward, \$257,576)	\$483,531	59	3	1.06	0.81
6	ADDED EDGE (00, Smart Strike), Raimonde Farms	\$1,500	49/24	0/0	0/0	(Foxy Flea, \$51,038)	\$478,359	171	7	0.69	0.77
7	KISS THE KID (03, Lemon Drop Kid), Poplar Creek Horse Center	\$2,500	19/12	0/0	0/0	(Extravagant Kid, \$119,940)	\$425,024	46	0	1.02	1.55
8	FACTUM (08, Storm Cat), Poplar Creek Horse Center	Private	49/19	0/0	0/0	(Faithful Sue, \$34,390)	\$418,578	78	0	0.46	1.39
9	MOBIL (00, Langfuhr), Mapleton Thoroughbred Farm	\$2,000	34/9	1/1	1/1	(Mobil Solution, \$75,290)	\$397,194	*180	5	1.27	1.28
10	AWESOME PATRIOT (08, Awesome Again), Mapleton Thoroughbred Farm	\$2,500	17/7	0/0	0/0	(Waki Patriot, \$90,725)	\$286,688	34	0	0.83	0.93
11	MERCER MILL (94, Forty Niner), Fair Winds Farm	Private	16/7	0/0	0/0	(Pyrite Mill, \$35,269)	\$221,370	231	15	0.70	0.90
12	VAQUERO (06, Orientate), Raimonde Farms	Private	7/4	0/0	0/0	(Blanconia, \$94,112)	\$203,050	13	1	1.06	0.81
13	MIXMASTER (06, Medaglia d'Oro), Poplar Creek Horse Center	\$2,000	8/4	0/0	0/0	(Master Landon, \$67,535)	\$161,801	13	0	0.82	0.60
14	LIGHTNIN N THUNDER (01, Storm Cat)	N/A	13/5	0/0	0/0	(Tico Thunder, \$48,420)	\$157,715	203	6	0.86	1.05
15	INDIAN EXPRESS (00, Indian Charlie)	N/A	7/3	0/0	0/0	(Bold Envoy, \$46,890)	\$140,498	41	1	0.86	0.70
16	KILLENAULE (02, Fusaichi Pegasus)	N/A	13/7	0/0	0/0	(Angelnale, \$40,352)	\$120,530	94	0	0.48	0.83
17	BIG ATLANTIC (02, Stormy Atlantic), Win Row Farm	\$1,000	7/3	0/0	0/0	(Jacksonstown, \$42,290)	\$117,636	23	1	0.79	0.26

"Absolutely, the quality of stallions has improved over the years, and we're seeing that with the quality of mares as well," Leigh Ann Hopper said. "We want to make sure the quality of

the stallions offered match for someone's better mare out of their stock or out of their barn. We feel like every one of (our stallions) brings excellence to the table, depending on what it is our customer is shopping for.

"We're not a farm with 50 years of a reputation, but we believe we have quality services that we can offer, and we certainly appreciate the folks who find that to be a priority."

Though the Hoppers started out standing six stallions, their farm has expanded in recent years to include boarding mares and sales prep. They have also acquired some mares themselves, maintaining a compact band of about six. What they are particularly enthused about, however, is that their family business is branching out in other ways.

Jesse Hopper, son of Leigh Ann and Kerry, took out his trainer's license this year after being reunited with one of the farm's former graduates. Hoosier Maiden, a 4-year-old daughter of Charging Indian that Jesse Hopper bred, had been campaigned by Cathi Jones for her first seven starts before being sent back to R Star

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Santa Anita Gold Cup (G1) Winner — 111 Beyer



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R Star Stallions has been standing stallions since 2010

2017 LEADING SIRES IN ILLINOIS



For daily updated sire lists
visit BloodHorse.com

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2018 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2017 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	ROAD RULER (02, Unbridled's Song), JB Stables	\$2,000	40/21	0/0	0/0	(Flashdance Road, \$69,541)	\$671,205	106	0	0.85	0.74
2	THREE HOUR NAP (02, Afternoon Deelites), Oak Tree Farm	\$1,000	16/7	0/0	0/0	(Five Star Nap, \$79,640)	\$251,128	28	0	0.92	1.12
3	BRAVE 'N AWAY (00, Skip Away), Timothy Hughes	\$1,000	10/6	0/0	0/0	(Launch Away, \$47,367)	\$182,742	45	0	0.46	0.58
4	FOREST ATTACK (04, Forestry), McCrosky Farm	\$1,000	20/6	0/0	0/0	(Scarlet City, \$24,500)	\$141,539	51	0	0.28	0.98
5	EL MEDWAR (04, Elusive Quality), Hondo Ranch	Private	8/6	0/0	0/0	(Enchanted Facts, \$66,600)	\$137,949	16	0	0.87	1.17

2017 LEADING SIRES IN MICHIGAN



For daily updated sire lists
visit BloodHorse.com

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2018 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2017 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	UNBRIDLED ENERGY (02, Unbridled's Song), Hubel Farms	Private	33/14	1/1	1/1	(Huntstown, \$107,467)	\$422,655	*243	5	0.83	1.12
2	EQUALITY (99, Mt. Livermore), Dickinson Farms	Private	29/10	0/0	0/0	(Boo Dutton, \$51,251)	\$229,011	166	7	0.64	0.78
3	GUN POWER (97, Unbridled), Campbell Stable	\$1,000	14/6	0/0	0/0	(Circle Can Win, \$39,235)	\$148,670	47	0	0.54	0.75
4	BAPTISTRY (01, Deputy Minister)	N/A	15/12	0/0	0/0	(Runnin Gun, \$23,396)	\$148,417	28	0	0.41	0.69
5	ZULU MAGIC (05, Johannesburg), Davidson's Tracks-N-Time	\$1,000	8/4	0/0	0/0	(Brother Z, \$46,259)	\$121,369	9	0	0.67	0.54

Stallions for the original purpose of being rehomed. After rehabbing the filly, Jesse Hopper brought Hoosier Maiden back to the races last summer, becoming his first starter before she moved on to owner/trainer Terry Phillips, who won with the chestnut filly at Indiana Grand this past August.

"This is a family deal for us, and our son is a big part of it," Kerry Hopper said. "We're passing on a lot of opportunities for him, and it's a big impact he has had on the place. He just got his trainer's license; he's starting out with that, and it's just another avenue we're taking.

"It's really nice to be able to breed the horse, foal the baby, raise it, watch it grow, and then either take it to the sale or go see it at the track. For Jesse to be able to take off and do that, we're really proud and excited about that part of it."

Quick as the Hoppers are to stress that their success is a team effort, so too are they willing to give a tip of the cap to the collective dedication of the tracks and fellow breeders that have worked to make Indiana products notable beyond state lines.

This November saw a pair of Indiana-bred horses make starts on the two-day Breeders' Cup World Championships card, with Bucchero running fourth in the Turf Sprint (G1T) and Piedi



COURTESY R STAR STALLIONS

What Now sired two state-bred winners on one card Aug. 30

SAHARA SKY

(Pleasant Tap--Seeking the Sky, by Storm Cat) - 16.1 Hands

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By Champion and leading sire **PLEASANT TAP**
Sahara Sky's Grade 3-winning Dam (Seeking The Sky)
by Storm Cat is a three-quarter sister to the dam of
2015 Champion 2YO and 2016 Grade 1
Kentucky Derby Winner **NYQUIST** (\$5,163,000).

First Foals Arrive in 2018

2018 Fee: \$4,000 payable by breeder only when
the resulting foal wins a race at an Indiana Race track.
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MB Kentuckiana Stallions - Palmyra, Indiana
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2017 LEADING SIRES IN CANADA



For daily updated sire lists
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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2018 Stud Fee Can \$	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	Cumulative				
							2017 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	OLD FORESTER (01, Forestry), T. C. Westmeath Stud Farm	\$4,000	117/69	3/10	2/3	(Pink Lloyd, \$512,636)	\$3,491,833	369	16	1.47	1.50
2	SILENT NAME (JPN) (02, Sunday Silence), Adena Springs North	\$10,000	106/53	6/8	5/6	(San Nicola Thunder, \$213,897)	\$2,983,491	*356	20	1.43	1.24
3	MILWAUKEE BREW (97, Wild Again), Adena Springs North	\$5,000	76/39	3/4	2/3	(Lilly's Goldie, \$148,788)	\$1,812,676	*547	24	1.19	1.45
4	GIANT GIZMO (04, Giant's Causeway), Adena Springs North	\$7,500	73/33	1/1	1/1	(Cooler Mike, \$99,148)	\$1,479,007	138	8	1.77	1.53
5	SLIGO BAY (IRE) (98, Sadler's Wells), Adena Springs North	\$5,000	48/21	1/2	0/1	(Gran Will, \$870,177)	\$1,458,882	*392	12	1.18	1.38
6	WHERE'S THE RING (99, Seeking the Gold), Colebrook Farms Stallion Station	\$3,000	69/35	0/0	0/0	(Crumlin Queen, \$87,457)	\$1,293,513	333	9	1.31	1.35
7	IMPERIALISM (01, Langfuhr), Esquiroi Farms	\$2,500	44/17	1/4	0/1	(Imperial Hint, \$660,350)	\$1,214,977	228	5	0.83	1.00
8	WILKO (02, Awesome Again)	N/A	70/32	2/5	0/2	(Melnich, \$313,755)	\$1,186,615	*236	6	1.05	1.20
9	JERSEY TOWN (06, Speightstown), Road's End Farm	\$2,000	48/24	1/2	1/1	(Jersey Justice, \$140,376)	\$1,147,853	*84	1	0.87	1.22
10	ROSBERG (01, A.P. Indy)	Died, 2014	47/30	3/4	1/3	(Anstrum, \$92,398)	\$735,873	86	10	0.86	0.85
11	VALUE PLUS (01, Unbridled's Song), Strideaway Thoroughbreds	\$2,500	27/17	0/0	0/0	(Long On Value, \$302,225)	\$666,471	*358	3	0.94	1.11
12	SIGNATURE RED (06, Bernstein), Adena Springs North	\$3,000	17/14	1/1	1/1	(Red Explosion, \$109,131)	\$649,629	43	2	2.14	1.21
13	KENTUCKY BEAR (05, Mr. Greeley), Colebrook Farms Stallion Station	Private	35/22	0/0	0/0	(Nupogodi, \$69,602)	\$573,159	69	2	1.18	1.27
14	STORM VICTORY (00, Storm Cat), Klimes Farm	\$2,000	47/28	1/1	1/1	(Power Corrupt, \$68,414)	\$524,557	223	7	0.54	0.63
15	SECOND IN COMMAND (00, Silver Deputy), Road's End Farm	\$2,000	51/26	1/1	1/1	(Morning Blurs, \$62,194)	\$514,739	112	6	0.71	0.79



R Star Stallions has added boarding mares and sales prep to their roster of services

Bianchi coming home fifth in the 14 Hands Winery Juvenile Fillies (G1). Bucchero's sire, Kantharos, was standing in

Florida when the colt was conceived and his dam, Meetmeontime, was sent to foal in Indiana specifically to take advantage

of its state-bred program.

"We are so appreciative of the way the tracks and all the entities have worked to make this program what it is," Kerry Hopper said. "It's all a big team working together. Everybody takes good care of their horses, and everyone is on the up and up and pays their bills. And we have some great clients."

Weeks after it was announced that Prayer for Relief was joining Deputy Storm and his brethren on the R Star Stallions roster, the farm received another boost with the news that multiple graded stakes winner Csaba would be relocating to its facility from Florida. The son of Kitten's Joy represents just the kind of horse that might have been out of Indiana's reach years earlier—a son of a leading sire with proven ability on the track.

That he is the latest in a series of upticks for R Star Stallions speaks volumes about where both the operation and the region could be headed in the years to come.

"We feel that we offer good services and

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Midshipman - War Correspondent - Tale of Ekati
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2017 LEADING SIRE IN MINNESOTA



For daily updated sire lists visit BloodHorse.com

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2018 Stud Fee	Rnrs/Wnrs	BT SWnrs/Wns	Rstrct SW/BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	Cumulative				
							2017 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	KELA (98, Numerous), Stillwater Equine Clinic	Private	44/20	1/1	0/1	(Joyous Lady, \$160,398)	\$750,519	*263	3	0.93	0.93
2	LAW ENFORCEMENT (05, Posse)	N/A	7/4	0/0	0/0	(Fireman Oscar, \$93,325)	\$171,929	20	0	1.22	0.59
3	MATT'S BROKEN VOW (05, Broken Vow), Dove Hill Farm	\$2,500	12/6	0/0	0/0	(Matchlock, \$51,351)	\$163,786	47	0	0.48	0.86
4	MAGIC CAT (95, Storm Cat), Benz Lake Farm	\$1,250	21/10	0/0	0/0	(Magic Cowboy, \$38,230)	\$118,305	257	10	0.65	0.89
5	SAM LORD'S CASTLE (98, Carson City), Boehlke Farm	\$1,000	8/5	0/0	0/0	(Johnny the Jet, \$54,300)	\$110,057	46	0	0.62	0.77
6	EASTWOOD DACAT (06, Storm Cat)	N/A	7/3	0/0	0/0	(Best of the Bleu's, \$44,040)	\$98,662	14	0	0.42	1.10

stand good stallions and have good business practices and integrity about us," Kerry Hopper said. "We try to treat our people right—our clients, the people we do business with—and we think it shows. We never stop looking for improvement or a

better way to do it. That's just our motto."

Added Leigh Ann Hopper, "This is something that we really feel was an opportunity, and that opportunity was created for everyone across the board who was willing to jump in with both feet. It's

not always a comfortable thought. There is a whole lot of work and a whole lot of sacrifice in it. But we felt like there was an excellent opportunity created and we were going to give it our utmost to make it work." **BH**

INDIANA-BRED INCENTIVES

The incentives offered in the Thoroughbred Breed Development program include:

40% Supplement to Indiana Breds in Open Races – A 40% purse supplement for any Indiana-bred that finishes 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in any open race, except claiming races with a price less than \$10,000, will be paid. In addition, a registered Indiana-bred that enters or races in an open race will retain its previous preference date when returning to restricted Indiana-bred races. Such a horse, when entering consecutive open races, shall retain the preference date of its most recent open race.

Restricted Races for Indiana Breds – A number of restricted races are written for registered Indiana-bred horses. The purse of the restricted race is equal to the purse of its open race counterpart. In addition, one-third of the restricted races for \$10,000 claiming and above are written

for Indiana-sired horses (Indiana-bred foals sired by an Indiana registered stallion).

Stakes Program – Stakes races restricted to registered Indiana-bred horses are currently conducted throughout the race meet at Indiana Grand, including four stakes with elevated purses.

Breeders' Awards – Breeder awards are paid to the breeder of a registered Indiana-bred that wins an award-eligible race at a licensed pari-mutuel track located in Indiana.

The amount of the award is 20% of the gross purse (including purse supplement in open races) for all allowance, stakes, and claiming races when entered for a claiming price of greater than or equal to \$10,000.

Stallion Owner Awards – Stallion owner awards are paid to the owner of a registered Indiana stallion whose progeny have won an award-eligible race at

a licensed pari-mutuel track located in Indiana.

The amount of the award is 10% of the gross purse (including purse supplement in open races) for all allowance, stakes, and claiming races when entered for a claiming price of greater than or equal to \$10,000.

Out-of-State Breeders' Awards - Out-of-state breeders' awards are paid to the breeder of a registered Indiana-bred that wins a race in another state or in Canada. The amount of the award is 10% of the winner's share of the purse for any race, when entered for a claiming price of greater than or equal to \$10,000. The amount of the award shall not exceed \$10,000. This award is applicable only when there is no live Thoroughbred race meet in progress in Indiana (except for stake races and for 2-year-olds winning prior to July 1 of the race meet).

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 2013 are excluded), and have runners in North America. Listed below are all available statistics for the Northern Hemisphere through December 10, 2017. As supplied to BloodHorse 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 2016 is \$22,141 or 45% of the 2016 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 17%; Singapore by 65%. Current year stakes winners include all Northern Hemisphere black-type stakes results from all available countries. *Foal counts include Southern Hemisphere. Cumulative stakes winners include 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.