

WAITING ROOM

Wait a While and sire strength power Alan and Brian Cohen's Arindel Farm

BY CHARLIE McCARTHY
PHOTOS BY JOE DiORIO

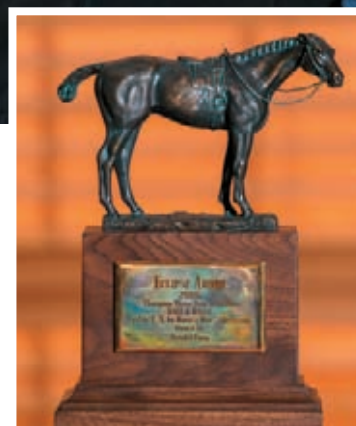
ARINDEL FARM'S BRIAN COHEN arrived at the airport, ready to fly to Kentucky to watch homebred Cookie Dough run in last month's Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies (G1) at Churchill Downs.

Seeing homebred Blonde Bomber finish third in the same race last year heightened Cohen's interest in the Breeders' Cup even more.

Just as he reached the security checkpoint, Cohen's cell phone rang. It was trainer Stanley Gold.

"Stanley called me and told me (Cookie Dough) was sick," Cohen said. "I got out of the line and figured, 'Ah, it's not meant to be.'"

Surely disappointed, the 33-year-old Cohen nevertheless took the approach of a seasoned industry veteran. He understood the setback was a small one in the big picture for Arindel, which has enjoyed increased success in recent years



Brian Cohen at his family's Arindel Farm near Ocala; inset, Wait a While's 2006 Eclipse Award

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2018 LEADING SIRES IN FLORIDA



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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				
							2018 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	FIRST DUDE (07, Stephen Got Even), Double Diamond Farm	\$10,000	153/85	8/13	3/8	(Shamrock Rose, \$848,076)	\$4,741,221	309	10	1.23	1.25
2	WILDCAT HEIR (00, Forest Wildcat)	Died, 2015	178/96	3/5	0/3	(Pay Any Price, \$186,640)	\$3,851,911	*685	34	1.35	1.33
3	ADIOS CHARLIE (08, Indian Charlie), Ocala Stud	\$3,000	102/60	5/7	4/5	(Patternrecognition, \$668,725)	\$3,461,692	177	7	1.54	1.27
4	TWO STEP SALSA (05, Petionville), Get Away Farm	\$5,000	135/66	1/1	0/1	(Fully Loaded, \$106,900)	\$2,432,897	290	7	0.96	0.99
5	HIGH COTTON (03, Dixie Union)	Pnsd	121/71	0/0	0/0	(Very Very Stella, \$124,495)	\$2,225,290	*394	11	0.96	1.24
6	WITH DISTINCTION (01, Storm Cat)	N/A	109/51	2/2	1/2	(Well Defined, \$317,600)	\$2,063,446	*539	13	1.06	1.15
7	BRETHREN (08, Distorted Humor), Arindel Farm	Private	62/27	3/6	2/3	(Cookie Dough, \$372,500)	\$2,063,157	100	3	1.50	1.73
8	SONGANDPRAYER (98, Unbridled's Song), Journeyman Stallions	\$3,000	127/62	0/0	0/0	(Abbaa, \$132,982)	\$2,032,144	*1006	35	1.10	1.41
9	GONE ASTRAY (06, Dixie Union), Northwest Stud	\$5,000	110/54	5/6	3/5	(Noble Drama, \$220,602)	\$1,887,645	*205	9	1.00	1.12
10	POSEIDON'S WARRIOR (08, Speightstown), Pleasant Acres Stallions	\$6,500	57/22	2/4	0/2	(Firenze Fire, \$675,000)	\$1,673,941	*162	2	1.06	1.06
11	SOLDAT (08, War Front), Woodford Thoroughbreds	\$5,000	85/46	1/3	0/1	(Big Drink of Water, \$204,490)	\$1,540,481	147	1	0.72	1.29
12	BIG DRAMA (06, Montbrook), Stonewall's Prestige Stallions	\$5,000	84/43	1/1	0/1	(Mr. Kisses, \$99,490)	\$1,453,639	191	4	0.91	1.29
13	AWESOME OF COURSE (00, Awesome Again), Ocala Stud	\$4,000	73/43	1/1	0/1	(Awesome Anywhere, \$131,420)	\$1,372,424	*215	10	1.40	1.32
14	PROSPECTIVE (09, Malibu Moon), Ocala Stud	\$3,000	50/30	3/3	2/3	(Broadway Run, \$145,400)	\$1,341,808	90	3	0.99	1.16
15	OVERDRIVEN (09, Tale of the Cat)	Pnsd	73/28	0/0	0/0	(Driven by Thunder, \$129,230)	\$1,288,196	134	1	0.87	1.15
16	TREASURE BEACH (GB) (08, Galileo), Pleasant Acres Stallions	\$10,000	87/28	1/1	0/1	(Treasure for Gold, \$94,850)	\$1,213,961	*227	1	0.96	1.42
17	BIONDETTI (08, Bernardini), Woodford Thoroughbreds	\$4,000	63/31	1/1	0/1	(Bella Vincenza, \$152,520)	\$1,203,902	105	1	0.75	1.38
18	FIELD COMMISSION (05, Service Stripe), Solera Farm	\$2,500	52/27	0/0	0/0	(Drafted, \$111,342)	\$1,165,883	107	0	0.83	0.96
19	EXCLUSIVE QUALITY (03, Elusive Quality), Journeyman Stallions	\$1,500	81/37	0/0	0/0	(Qualify, \$76,687)	\$1,018,484	331	7	0.92	1.06
20	GREATNESS (99, Mr. Prospector), Stonewall's Prestige Stallions	\$3,500	38/27	0/0	0/0	(Red Shelby, \$69,450)	\$875,848	*260	7	1.30	1.00

both in breeding and in racing.

Cohen, himself, boasts good bloodlines. His father, Alan, established Arindel in 2004, choosing a name that was distinctive for the farm. That occurred after the elder Cohen had founded several pharmaceutical companies and led a group that owned the National Hockey League's Florida Panthers.

Now, father and son are working to further solidify Arindel's standing as one of the leading Thoroughbred farms in the Ocala, Fla., area. Brian, as president, focuses on the farm and the racing. Alan

plays the role of bloodstock agent.

"In my biased opinion you couldn't hire anyone better for Arindel," Alan Cohen wrote via email. "Last year he took over the training himself and broke this crop of 2-year-olds. Since then, he's put together a great training team so he can oversee everything on the farm, as well as racing."

As for his own contributions, the elder Cohen said, "I like being the bloodstock agent. We'll see if that was a good idea a bunch of years from now."

Alan Cohen's interest in Thoroughbred

racing began as a kid accompanying his father to racetracks in New York. As for Brian, he said his career path became clear after attending the 2012 Kentucky Derby Presented by Yum! Brands (G1), won by I'll Have Another.

The two Cohens text and talk constantly these days, with single Brian based near Ocala, while Alan, wife Karen, and their two youngest boys live in the Fort Lauderdale area.

"The best thing about all this is getting to share it with Brian," said Alan Cohen, 64, and no longer a Panthers owner. (The Panthers are now owned by another Thoroughbred participant, Vinnie Viola.) "We basically talk horses 24/7. We love it. It's good to have each other. He talks to me about the horses as if they were his kids.

"We're more horse lovers than lovers of horse racing. Having said that, we are pretty competitive. When your horses are your kids, it's fun watching them win anything."

The Cohens have seen their "kids" finish in the money a lot since the Arindel racing program was rejuvenated under Brian's leadership. Following yearly earnings well below \$100,000 between 2010-12, Arin-



Brian Cohen broke Arindel's crop of 2-year-olds this year

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 2014 are excluded), and have runners in North America. Listed below are all available statistics for the Northern Hemisphere through December 2, 2018. As supplied to *BloodHorse* by The Jockey Club Information Systems Inc., lists 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 2017 is \$22,593 or 47% of the 2017 average purse in Japan. To put earnings on par, all Japanese progeny earnings are multiplied by 47% before being credited to a sire's progeny earnings. Hong Kong earnings are adjusted by 15%; Singapore by 68%. 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.

*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.

del's winnings, according to Equibase, have steadily grown since:

- \$138,042 in 2013
- \$452,425 in 2014
- \$821,110 in 2015
- \$847,203 in 2016
- \$1,290,205 in 2017
- \$2,333,318 through Dec. 4, 2018

Progress also has come in the form of Arindel winning the Gulfstream Park owner's title the past two summer meets and finishing second in both the spring and summer meets of 2016.

"We weren't doing much before 2010," Brian Cohen explained. "We went to the (Keeneland) November sale in 2010 to start our breed-to-race program from the farm. Those horses started racing in 2013."

Over the years the Cohens have preferred to remain fairly private and in the background. But Brian Cohen admitted that while he's not very comfortable talking about himself, he enjoys discussing the horses.

"One hundred percent of my time is Arindel. I love it so much," said Brian, who's often joined on the farm by his English Bulldog, Pancake, and his black lab, Riley.

"I'm here with the babies, and we have other mares, and we get to see them grow up. Now we're breaking the next crop of yearlings."

Arindel's approximately 700-acre spread is home to 70 broodmares. The farm has produced between 37-48 foals each year between 2014-17.

Two horses stand tallest among all those who have been part of Arindel's history to date—Wait a While and Brethren. Both presently reside on the farm.

A Maria's Mon daughter out of the A.P. Indy mare Flirtatious, Wait a While became champion 3-year-old filly in 2006.

"Back then it was so different," Brian said. "We couldn't really watch all the big grade 1 races on TV. We'd get results from the phone, talking to someone who was there. But we really weren't big into it at that point. I wish I could have appreciated what she had done back then, (but) we're looking for another one like that right now."

Bred by William S. Farish & W. Temple Webber Jr., Wait a While was purchased for \$260,00 at the 2005 Ocala Breeders' Sales' Select Sale of 2-year-olds in training. She raced 24 times from 2005-08, compiling a 12-3-4 mark and earning \$2,181,917. Her career ended with a controversial finish in the Emirates Airline Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Turf (G1T) in which she was disqualified from third to 10th after testing positive for procaine, a local anesthetic.

Arindel's early racing program also was bolstered by a Lode-sired filly named Safari Queen, an Argentine-bred who's out of Safari Girl. The chestnut went 6-3-0 in 15 starts for Arindel during 2006-07 after beginning her career with three wins in four Argentina starts.

"I wasn't that involved then; I was doing other things and finishing school," Brian Cohen said. "I didn't love the horses back then. Now, it's been five or six years I've

been in it full-time, and it's literally the only thing that occupies my mind."

Wait a While also has produced quality foals. Wait No More, by Medaglia d'Oro, went 2-1-2 in eight starts in 2014-15. Zai-kov, by Distorted Humor, won his only two starts before suffering a fractured humerus while training at Belmont Park in October 2014 at age 4.

Wait, a 4-year-old son of Distorted Humor, will stand his first season at stud in 2019 at Arindel. The gray colt went 2-2-1 in six starts, the last being an allowance optional claiming win at Gulfstream Park in April 2017.

"We plan on supporting him and will give him 11 of our mares this year," said Cohen.

Wait's 2019 live foal fee is listed as \$2,500. Brethren, a son of Distorted Humor and half brother to 2010 Kentucky Derby winner Super Saver, stands at Arindel for \$7,500. The bay horse, bred



Brethren, the sire of Cookie Dough, ranks seventh on the Florida general sires list

2018 FLORIDA SIRES BY WINNERS

Sire	Rnrs	Wnrs
Wildcat Heir	178	96
First Dude	153	85
High Cotton	121	71
Two Step Salsa	135	66
Songandprayer	127	62
Adios Charlie	102	60
Gone Astray	110	54
With Distinction	109	51
Soldat	85	46
Big Drama	84	43
Awesome of Course	73	43
Exclusive Quality	81	37
Biondetti	63	31
Prospective	50	30
Treasure Beach (GB)	87	28
Overdriven	73	28
Brethren	62	27
Field Commission	52	27
Greatness	38	27
In Summation	61	26
Poseidon's Warrior	57	22
Rattlesnake Bridge	51	20
J P's Gusto	38	20
Flashstorm	36	19
Telling	25	16
Winslow Homer	24	14
Backtalk	28	12
Rock Hampton	18	11
Silver Tree	16	11
He's Had Enough	42	10
Hear No Evil	28	10

by WinStar Farm, was moved to stand at Arindel last year after owners Winchell Thoroughbreds and WinStar sold majority interest to the farm.

“Dad is over the moon about him—he’s too confident,” Brian said with a chuckle. “He’s very confident. And (Brethren) has shown to have runners and they’ve all been that. We’ve had a great year, but it wouldn’t have been that without Brethren. And we’re confident in our crop next year to do what this year’s crop did, and hopefully better.”

Undeclared as a 2 year old, Brethren went 5-2-1 in 18 starts and won or placed

But we’re taking care of her now, and she’ll be back, pointing toward the Gulfstream races.”

Brethren is also the sire of a filly out of Horah for Bailey (by Doneraile Court) named Nacho Mama, who set a track record for 4½ furlongs at Gulfstream Park in her only start Aug. 12.

Nacho Mama suffered “a little setback to miss the (Florida) Sire Stakes,” said Cohen, who added the filly is recovering on the farm and will run at Gulfstream this winter.

“We have full siblings coming left and right because they’re all Brethrens—we’re

er named Poe who’s pretty popular on the farm right now,” Cohen said. “There’s a full brother to Nacho Mama, a weanling now, who has been the standout of the crop so far.”

That’s another one out of Horah for Bailey, who also foaled runners such as multiple stakes-placed Awesome Mass, by Brethren, and graded stakes-placed stakes winner Richard the Great, a son of Distorted Humor.

“The whole family has been great for us,” Cohen noted.

Brethren’s impact on Arindel doesn’t figure to subside anytime soon. In fact, Wait a While currently is in foal to him.

“We have a lot of Brethren mares coming off the track, coming back to Arindel, which I’m excited about,” Alan Cohen said. “Get Lucky, Brethren’s second dam, is out of Dance Number, a grade 1 winner, (and) she is out of Numbered Account, a grade 2 stakes-placed stakes winner 2-year-old champion.

“Get Lucky combined with her six daughters to produce 11 graded stakes winners, five being grade 1 winners; and a Kentucky Derby winner from 62 offspring. His sister had a grade 1 winner, too. We’re hoping he will make a nice broodmare sire.”

Further reason why the Cohens see a bright future for Arindel.

“As a stallion, this year only Cross Traffic has more earnings per named 2-year-old than Brethren,” Alan Cohen stated. “He’s ahead of every other major stallion. We’re pretty confident he’s got the horses to do that again next year. We’ll see. That’s the fun part of racing. You never know.”

You never know—words that also could apply to Arindel’s beginning.

“It wasn’t like Dad was buying Wait a While to start a giant breeding operation in Florida. It was to race a couple and have fun,” Brian Cohen said. “Now, it’s a business. However it got there, we’re breeding and we’re loving it.

“We’re grateful for everything we have. The horses, the mares...We love the horses. That’s the most important thing on our farm. Everyone loves the horses. It’s always ‘horse first.’” **BH**

Charlie McCarthy is the South Florida correspondent for BloodHorse.



Wait, by Distorted Humor out of Wait a While, will stand his first season at stud in 2019

in stakes races at 3, 4, and 5. He won the Sam F. Davis Stakes (G3) at Tampa Bay Downs and finished third in the Tampa Bay Derby (G2).

The Brethren-sired foals have gone from 22 in 2015, to 29 in 2016, to 41 last year.

Brethren’s highest-earning offspring is Cookie Dough, a dark bay filly out of the Fusaichi Pegasus mare Brooke’s Valentine. She has earned \$372,500 with two wins and two thirds in five starts before being scratched from the World Championships.

“I couldn’t explain how confident my trainer and rider (Jeffrey Sanchez) were,” Cohen said of his connections’ feelings before the Juvenile Fillies. “She went from the Florida weather to the cold of Kentucky and caught a cold at the wrong time.

so pro-Brethren and we’re so happy with all the babies he’s given us,” Cohen said. “They’ve all been runners.”

Arindel’s crop of 2 year olds—two-thirds of which are fillies—also includes some non-Brethrens, such as an unraced bay son of Distorted Humor out of Wait a While named Andor.

“That’s one we’re excited about,” Brian Cohen said.

Filly Joel is a daughter of Dialed In out of Sally’s Song (by Unbridled’s Song). She’s 1-0-2 in four New York starts for trainer Rudy Rodriguez. She won a maiden special weight Oct. 25 at Belmont Park by 6¼ lengths and finished third in the Dec. 1 Demoiselle Stakes (G2).

Arindel looks forward to having another impressive group of 2-year-olds in 2019. “Cookie Dough has a full yearling broth-