

BREAKING BAD HABITS

*Ed Crothers turns horses around
at Cedar Brook Farm*



Ed and Angie Crothers with son, Dakota (right), at Cedar Brook Farm near West Union, Ohio

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CANADA ILLINOIS INDIANA IOWA MICHIGAN MINNESOTA
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STALLIONS 2019



**SW, G1-Placed
by STREET SENSE
ELNAAWI**

*Street Sense – Pilfer, by Deputy Minister
Won Native Dancer S., placed Donn H.-G1,
Brooklyn Inv. S.-G2, Gotham S.-G3, etc.*

Earnings \$407,305

\$2,500 LF

**Indiana's ONLY Son
of UNBRIDLED
MUSTANFAR**

*Unbridled – Manwah, by Lyphard
Won/Placed in Nine Graded Stakes*

Earnings of \$625,010

\$2,000 LF



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2019 LEADING SIRES IN INDIANA


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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2019 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2019 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	GREELEY'S CONQUEST (04, Mr. Greeley), Breakway Farm	\$2,500	22/8	0/0	0/0	(Pretty Greeley, \$56,200)	\$222,278	68	0	0.74	0.92
2	READY'S IMAGE (05, More Than Ready), Midwest Equine & Vet Hospital	\$2,000	29/5	0/0	0/0	(Mannford, \$54,760)	\$161,059	*381	6	0.87	1.14
3	FORT PRADO (01, El Prado)	Pnsd	27/9	0/0	0/0	(Princess Jules, \$19,475)	\$134,360	*193	2	0.76	1.33
4	HUNT CROSSING (09, Corinthian), Indiana Stallion Station	\$1,000	24/6	0/0	0/0	(Classy Crossing, \$19,440)	\$109,093	124	0	0.40	0.70
5	LANTANA MOB (05, Posse)	N/A	9/2	0/0	0/0	(Operation Stevie, \$56,800)	\$88,664	67	4	1.03	1.16
6	DUKE OF MISCHIEF (06, Graeme Hall)	N/A	14/3	0/0	0/0	(Sandy Mischief, \$33,480)	\$81,093	58	0	0.43	0.78
7	TURBO COMPRESSOR (08, Halo's Image), Breakway Farm	Private	12/2	0/0	0/0	(First Deal, \$22,545)	\$74,125	40	1	0.70	1.13
8	UNBRIDLED EXPRESS (04, Unbridled's Song), Swifty Farms	\$2,000	6/2	0/0	0/0	(Unbridled Class, \$55,020)	\$66,059	54	5	1.53	1.12
9	PASS RUSH (99, Crown Ambassador), Swifty Farms	\$2,500	8/2	0/0	0/0	(Completed Pass, \$40,230)	\$58,178	126	6	1.02	1.02
10	NOTIONAL (04, In Excess), Haffner Farm	\$1,000	21/4	0/0	0/0	(Camp Washita, \$10,980)	\$50,800	342	6	0.77	1.10
11	CASHEL CASTLE (99, Silver Ghost), Swifty Farms	\$1,000	4/2	0/0	0/0	(Cashel Rock, \$19,200)	\$39,960	116	4	0.92	0.99
12	ELUSIVE BLUFF (06, Elusive Quality)	N/A	4/1	0/0	0/0	(A M Milky Way, \$33,766)	\$34,457	50	2	0.96	1.00
13	VICTOR'S CRY (05, Street Cry), Holden Farm	\$25,000	8/0	0/0	0/0	(Singandcryindubai, \$11,213)	\$32,071	109	2	1.01	1.22
14	STRONG HOPE (00, Grand Slam)	Died, 2017	5/2	0/0	0/0	(Grandson Slam, \$9,820)	\$20,801	340	5	0.92	1.62
15	MR. MABEE (01, Storm Cat)	N/A	3/2	0/0	0/0	(Star Mabee, \$12,460)	\$20,295	73	0	0.77	0.83
16	SWEET RETURN (GB) (00, Elmaamul)	N/A	5/1	0/0	0/0	(Sugar Cane Girl, \$14,960)	\$17,810	112	0	0.66	0.86
17	CSABA (09, Kitten's Joy), R Star Stallions	\$2,000	9/1	0/0	0/0	(El Tangan, \$9,100)	\$17,507	29	0	0.26	0.81
18	SKYLORD (08, Sky Mesa), Breakway Farm	Private	4/1	0/0	0/0	(Bobby's Bday Girl, \$7,100)	\$13,611	39	1	1.03	0.78
19	IRISH ROAD (00, Unbridled's Song)	N/A	3/1	0/0	0/0	(Kelley's Memories, \$6,205)	\$12,499	96	0	0.71	0.81
20	DEPUTY STORM (01, Forestry)	N/A	3/0	0/0	0/0	(Jrock, \$7,514)	\$12,308	103	2	0.94	1.16

BY MEREDITH DAUGHERTY
 PHOTOS BY ANNE M. EBERHARDT

AS THE SON of a blacksmith and trainer, Ed Crothers cannot remember a time in his life when he was not surrounded by horses. From Thoroughbreds to Quarter Horses to mustangs—plus a few miniature donkeys and even the occasional zebra—the veteran horseman and self-professed cowboy has seen it all.

“I’ve been around horses my whole life, and I’ve done everything the wrong way,” Crothers said. “That’s the way you learn. If I ever quit and leave the business, I will probably go broke because I can’t function unless I have horses around me.”

For the past two decades Crothers and his wife, Angie, have owned and operated Cedar Brook Farm near West Union, Ohio. Together for 33 years, the high school sweethearts and Ohio natives keep anywhere between 40-50 horses on their property, offering clients a variety of services. Crothers estimates he and his team break close to 200-300 horses per year as well as offer additional retraining and pain-management services for horses experiencing behavioral issues. On average, half of the horses in Crothers’ care are Thoroughbreds.

“It’s about an even split between Thoroughbreds and other breeds because everything has to be broken, no matter what,” Crothers said. “You have to help it get desensitized and build a foundation for whatever kind of horse they’re going to be.

“A lot of horses that we break here at the farm are from Kentucky and are headed to the racetrack. There’s a constant rotation of

horses coming in and out about every two months.”

The majority of Crothers’ operation revolves around breaking and training, with an emphasis on helping those horses that have become unmanageable due to either past trauma or pain-related issues. Applying what he describes as a “holistic approach” to horsemanship, Crothers works with equine veterinarians and chiropractors to treat horses and ensure their soundness before they begin, or continue, their training.

“About 18 years ago I started to ask the question, ‘What makes a bad horse?’” Crothers said. “So then I started working on identifying pain. When we have bad horses come in, I work with them, start doing adjustments and pain management, and I take a bad horse and make him a good horse. I would say 90% of a horse’s being disrespectful is pain. When I take some of the pain away doing body adjustments, people can then ride a horse they could not ride before.”

Known as the “Equine Analyst,” Crothers’ work with behavioral issues helped sustain his farm when the Ohio Thoroughbred



Cedar Brook stallion Factum is a half brother to War Front

breeding program began to suffer.

“I used to run Frisch’s Big Boy Farm in Ohio, and I also ran Classicway Farm years ago,” Crothers said.

Striking out on his own to found Cedar Brook, Crothers followed the example of his previous employers and stood several stallions. But when a general decline in the Ohio Thoroughbred breeding program began to hamper the venture’s profitability, Crothers had to expand the scope of his business.

“We got out of it because in Ohio there wasn’t much reason to breed,” Crothers said. “There was a time in the past that we

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2019 LEADING SIRES IN CANADA



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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2019 Stud Fee Can\$	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2019 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	GIANT GIZMO (04, Giant's Causeway), Adena Springs North	\$6,500	17/9	0/0	0/0	(Firey and Gorgeous, \$27,990)	\$135,610	201	8	1.61	1.47
2	GOING COMMANDO (00, Unbridled's Song), Ziprick Thoroughbreds	\$1,250	1/1	1/2	0/1	(Escape Clause, \$132,000)	\$132,000	90	3	0.84	0.87
3	IT'S NO JOKE (02, Distorted Humor), Esquirrel Farms	N/A	10/5	0/0	0/0	(Espresso Caliente, \$30,584)	\$122,894	98	3	1.07	1.00
4	MILWAUKEE BREW (97, Wild Again), Adena Springs North	\$3,000	11/3	0/0	0/0	(She's a Brewer, \$33,000)	\$100,688	*590	24	1.19	1.42
5	WHERE'S THE RING (99, Seeking the Gold), Colebrook Farms Stallion Station	\$3,000	13/5	0/0	0/0	(Undercover Cat, \$32,400)	\$96,817	359	9	1.30	1.33
6	OLD FORESTER (01, Forestry), T. C. Westmeath Stud Farm	\$4,000	16/2	0/0	0/0	(Still Krz, \$36,068)	\$92,401	451	17	1.44	1.45
7	NOT BOURBON (05, Not Impossible), Colebrook Farms Stallion Station	\$3,500	9/2	0/0	0/0	(Aljozaliyah, \$47,721)	\$70,501	104	2	1.08	1.33
8	HUNTERS BAY (07, Ghostzapper), Adena Springs North	\$2,500	7/2	0/0	0/0	(Brushing, \$28,074)	\$65,850	20	0	0.80	1.33
9	SIGNATURE RED (06, Bernstein), Adena Springs North	\$3,500	7/3	0/0	0/0	(Redeal, \$33,000)	\$59,129	72	3	1.67	1.05
10	SECOND IN COMMAND (00, Silver Deputy), Road's End Farm	\$2,000	5/4	0/0	0/0	(A Salute to Lt Dan, \$16,851)	\$46,232	146	6	0.69	0.78
11	SILENT NAME (JPN) (02, Sunday Silence), Adena Springs North	\$10,000	13/1	0/0	0/0	(Silent Sonet, \$7,975)	\$31,476	*416	24	1.44	1.24
12	LEONNATUS ANTEAS (04, Stormy Atlantic)	Died, 2018	7/3	0/0	0/0	(Born in a Breeze, \$12,298)	\$27,949	94	2	0.92	1.12
13	SLIGO BAY (IRE) (98, Sadler's Wells), Adena Springs North	\$3,000	6/2	0/0	0/0	(Max Q, \$12,400)	\$27,822	*414	13	1.18	1.35
14	GOTTCHA GOLD (03, Coronado's Quest)	N/A	10/2	0/0	0/0	(Off Duty, \$13,150)	\$27,268	*156	1	0.75	1.29
15	IMPERIALISM (01, Langfuhr), Esquirrel Farms	\$2,500	10/0	0/0	0/0	(Imperial Hint, \$9,000)	\$27,045	245	5	0.85	1.00

had seven or eight stallions here, but the Ohio program got so bad that a lot of people left the business. We used to foal and foal and foal. It was a lot of work back then."

But with the recent resurgence of Thoroughbred breeding in Ohio, the farm has seen a renewed interest from clients ready to breed and foal Ohio-breds.

According to Crothers, the influx of capital is directly correlated to the initiative of then Ohio Gov. John Kasich in 2011, authorizing the installation of slot machines in each of the state's seven racetracks. Since that time, the rebranding of tracks as racinos has bolstered gambling revenue throughout the state, posting year-on-year gains since the change was put in place.

With this in mind, Crothers has made a concerted effort to source and stand new stallions that can offer regional Thoroughbred breeders the types of pedigrees they need to support racing demands.

"It helped when we got the slots, and now the Ohio program in general is getting really, really great," Crothers said. "The little guy can actually have a shot now to go out and win some races. Now I'm much more involved in the stallion ownerships than I have been in the past."

In just the past couple of years, Crothers has added three stallions to the Cedar Brook Farm roster. At the top of the list sits his newest acquisition, Factum, an 11-year-old Kentucky-bred son of the late Storm Cat.

Bred and raced by Joseph Allen, Factum did not enjoy great success on the racetrack, but he is out of the Rubiano mare Starry Dreamer, making him a half brother to War Front. War Front is among the most popular Kentucky-based stallions and has been among the leading sires in



Signage at Cedar Brook Farm

North America—a fact that Crothers hopes will entice breeders to take a chance on his stallion.

"Factum stood in Florida before he came up here, and he's had 10 winners already since January," Crothers said. "War Front is just getting better and better. It seems that if he just breathes on something it

sells well."

Also standing at Cedar Brook is 9-year-old Looking Cool. Bred in Kentucky out of the Forest Wildcat mare Coolwind, the son of Candy Ride's best efforts came at 3, when he took the Iowa Derby (G3) for trainer Carl Nafzger. Although he did not succeed again in graded company, Looking Cool banked more than \$400,000 in 38 starts.

Rounding out the stallion roster is Prayer On a Wing. A son of classic winner Fusaichi Pegasus, Prayer On a Wing was bred in Kentucky and campaigned by James Hibernert. The youngest of Crothers' stallions at 8, he is out of the Stormy Atlantic mare Noel and a half brother to stakes winner Gypsy Judy.

Despite the challenges of starting a regional stallion, Crothers said he is encouraged by the progress the Ohio program has made in recent years and hopes that breeders will be equally enthusiastic to get back in the game.

"The breeders awards are also fantastic," Crothers said. "I'm on the board of Ohio Thoroughbred Breeders and Owners, and people are thinking about bringing more mares into the state and keeping them here. That's one of the things we have to do here in order to make a living; mares need to stay in Ohio to foal a registered Ohio-bred, and then they need to be bred back to an Ohio stallion."

"I think the program is just going to get

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 2015 are excluded), and have runners in North America. Listed below are all available statistics for the Northern Hemisphere through March 24, 2019. 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 2018 is \$23,755 or 50% of the 2018 average purse in Japan. To put earnings on par, all Japanese progeny earnings are multiplied by 50% before being credited to a sire's progeny earnings. Hong Kong earnings are adjusted by 15%; Singapore by 66%. 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.



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2019 LEADING SIRE IN OHIO



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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2019 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2019 Earnings	Cumulative			
								Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	COWTOWN CAT (04, Distorted Humor), Mapleton Thoroughbred Farm	\$2,000	29/9	0/0	0/0	(Bow Town Cat, \$58,399)	\$372,266	223	5	1.12	1.21
2	FACTUM (08, Storm Cat), Cedar Brook Farm	Private	33/10	0/0	0/0	(She'smyrisenstar, \$29,040)	\$176,122	106	0	0.54	1.35
3	BIONDETTI (08, Bernardini), Poplar Creek Horse Center	\$2,500	30/7	0/0	0/0	(Das Da One, \$27,560)	\$174,415	126	1	0.75	1.36
4	INDY WIND (02, A.P. Indy), Poplar Creek Horse Center	\$2,000	12/3	1/1	1/1	(Starship Jubilee, \$85,560)	\$136,191	79	2	1.17	1.05
5	CORFU (11, Malibu Moon), Duncan Farms	\$1,500	15/5	0/0	0/0	(Cory Gal, \$28,500)	\$116,140	39	0	0.95	0.93
6	AWESOME PATRIOT (08, Awesome Again), Mapleton Thoroughbred Farm	\$2,500	36/5	0/0	0/0	(Colonel Klink, \$16,800)	\$100,381	*163	1	1.24	1.05
7	A GIANT VALENTINE (03, Giant's Causeway)	N/A	4/1	0/0	0/0	(Here Comes Jigs, \$59,120)	\$69,103	25	0	0.44	0.91
8	MUCH THE BEST (06, Forestry)	N/A	6/1	0/0	0/0	(Sword of Roheryn, \$45,716)	\$69,004	26	0	0.49	0.77
9	HOSTILE TAKEOVER (04, Dixie Union), Raimonde Farms	\$1,500	3/3	0/0	0/0	(Another Sunrise, \$22,957)	\$58,773	24	0	0.61	0.84
10	KETTLE CORN (07, Candy Ride), Fair Winds Farm	\$2,500	11/2	0/0	0/0	(Corn Off the Cob, \$21,480)	\$58,065	47	0	0.83	1.29
11	VAQUERO (06, Orientate), Raimonde Farms	\$1,000	4/3	0/0	0/0	(El Cheapo, \$25,558)	\$57,370	24	1	1.03	1.08
12	MOBIL (00, Langfuhr), Mapleton Thoroughbred Farm	\$2,000	11/2	0/0	0/0	(Speedy Mobile, \$12,670)	\$50,033	*198	5	1.26	1.24
13	KINGSHIP (03, King Cugat)	Died, 2016	4/2	0/0	0/0	(Lady Power, \$20,672)	\$41,680	16	0	0.38	1.02
14	VERTIFORMER (07, Dynaformer), Poplar Creek Horse Center	\$2,000	4/1	0/0	0/0	(Sammy Da Bull, \$30,225)	\$40,124	14	0	0.97	0.48
15	TIDAL VOLUME (06, Tapit), Poplar Creek Horse Center	\$2,500	5/2	0/0	0/0	(No Volume, \$18,682)	\$38,057	44	0	0.45	0.63
16	KISS THE KID (03, Lemon Drop Kid), Poplar Creek Horse Center	\$2,000	7/2	0/0	0/0	(Lady Breanna, \$13,515)	\$35,373	54	1	0.97	1.51
17	BIRD RUN (06, Birdstone), Poplar Creek Horse Center	\$2,000	2/1	0/0	0/0	(Birdacious, \$34,430)	\$34,651	12	0	1.39	0.64
18	TWINSPIRED (08, Harlan's Holiday), Poplar Creek Horse Center	\$2,500	2/1	0/0	0/0	(Inspired to Rock, \$27,463)	\$34,203	16	1	1.70	0.81
19	CITY WEEKEND (02, Carson City), Meadow Springs	\$2,000	9/1	0/0	0/0	(City Sidewalks, \$9,900)	\$23,434	117	1	0.74	0.89
20	MUSIC CITY (06, City Zip), Win Row Farm	\$1,000	1/1	0/0	0/0	(Woodys Watchin, \$23,384)	\$23,384	15	0	0.54	0.38

better here now. I want to try and keep things relatively small and have a really good stallion here that people want to come and visit during breeding season.

While he currently does not have any mares of his own, Crothers said that his core group of clients is looking forward to breeding in Ohio.

"Right now we need a whole lot more mares to come into the state," Crothers explained. "It's going to take a few more years, and we really need to bring good stallions in as well. That's the hard part. When I worked at Frisch's Farm, we had (1975 Belmont Stakes, G1, winner) Avatar, who stood for \$5,000, and he would breed about 60 mares a year. We are a long way from that right now. It will take a few years to get back to that.

"Something that people need to consider is that Ohio stallions get around 10% of anything their foals win in the state. So if we can get good stallions and get the purses up, that helps things to start rolling and gets people involved. I think the Ohio program is going to really fly soon. We have a lot of money coming in because of the slots, and the states that have slots have a real advantage."

As breeding picks up, Crothers has also



Crothers displays the halter he has designed to work on certain pressure points to help horses relax

begun to venture back into the world of Thoroughbred sales, shuttling small groups of five or six foals for his clients to Kentucky in hopes of getting his foot back in the door and enticing buyers to invest.

In addition to consigning his clients' stock, Crothers hopes that the sales will allow him to marry his love of training and pain management with the sales experience

by offering horsemen a new solution for dealing with high-spirited horses.

Several years ago, when Crothers was faced with the process of training a pair of Thoroughbreds with little experience, he found himself at a loss as to how to help control his new charges. On a whim Crothers decided to experiment with a new design for a halter that utilizes the science of pressure points.

"I've been doing this for years, and I go to a lot of clinics and we get a lot of problem horses," Crothers said. "I invented a halter that has special buttons on it, and I'm trying to get that into use at the Kentucky sales. I designed it because one day I had two Thoroughbreds come to the barn; one dragged me down the aisle of the barn, and the other one whipped me around and banged me up pretty bad. So I asked God for help, came in the office, grabbed a halter, drove some nails through it, and then I had an idea. I went to the hardware store, bought some little studs, and put those in all the places where I'd had nails. I put the halter on the horses and they responded. They started backing up and working fine."

Crothers took the new halter design to Dr. Robert Hunt at Hagyard Equine Medical Institute in Kentucky and asked the vet-

2019 LEADING SIRES IN IOWA

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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2019 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2019 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	STROLL (00, Pulpit)	N/A	38/16	0/0	0/0	(Strolling, \$91,800)	\$407,232	*317	14	1.01	1.26
2	SING BABY SING (03, Unbridled's Song), Madison County Thoroughbreds	\$2,000	14/5	0/0	0/0	(Bonjour Baby, \$30,260)	\$92,950	92	3	0.62	0.85
3	NATIVE RULER (04, Elusive Quality), Abraham's Equine Clinic	\$2,000	9/2	0/0	0/0	(Major Kelly, \$11,450)	\$24,627	67	0	0.91	0.80
4	HEART OF THE STORM (04, Storm Cat)	N/A	4/1	0/0	0/0	(Sugar Cube, \$15,700)	\$18,897	64	1	0.73	0.82
5	CANAVERAL (91, Relaunch)	Pnsd	2/1	0/0	0/0	(Cape McKinzie, \$13,260)	\$13,450	171	2	0.63	0.89

2019 LEADING SIRES IN ILLINOIS

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2019 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2019 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	THREE HOUR NAP (02, Afternoon Deelites)	N/A	6/2	1/1	0/1	(Wynn Time, \$45,000)	\$59,664	39	1	1.15	1.01
2	WELL POSITIONED (06, Awesome Again), Wildwood Stables	Private	7/2	0/0	0/0	(Suz, \$19,200)	\$52,660	28	0	0.57	1.09
3	SMOKE WARNING (02, Smoke Glacken)	N/A	7/3	0/0	0/0	(Andrew the Giant, \$12,600)	\$46,770	25	0	0.47	0.57
4	GHAALEB (08, Unbridled's Song), Wildwood Farm	Private	4/2	0/0	0/0	(Isabellacannetella, \$19,200)	\$37,350	28	0	1.04	1.01
5	MALTESE DOG (05, War Chant)	N/A	12/3	0/0	0/0	(Ed's Rocket, \$9,600)	\$37,123	27	0	0.59	1.47

2019 LEADING SIRES IN NEBRASKA

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2019 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2019 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	COUGAR CAT (02, Storm Cat)	N/A	6/0	0/0	0/0	(Dixie Cat, \$18,617)	\$28,243	43	0	0.59	0.84
2	SHADOW HAWK (99, Mr. Prospector), Rogers Ranch	\$1,250	10/2	0/0	0/0	(Be My Shadow, \$7,300)	\$21,136	99	0	0.66	0.65
3	HOLIDAY JUSTICE (05, Harlan's Holiday)	N/A	7/2	0/0	0/0	(Gogetmbugs, \$5,098)	\$18,118	22	0	0.42	0.72
4	EL CABALLO (04, El Corredor), Rogers Ranch	Private	4/2	0/0	0/0	(Kenhedoit, \$6,336)	\$12,117	25	0	0.50	0.69

erinarian for a testimonial regarding its effectiveness.

"It works off of pressure points," Crothers explained. "I put buttons on the brow band, on the sides, and nose. Dr. Hunt said the buttons lie along the nerves of a horse's face, and when you start working with them, it triggers a chemical that helps them relax and start thinking, instead of panicking.

"The biggest thing about teaching an ani-

mal is that it's all about release," Crothers explained. "What happens is when you pull on a horse wearing this halter, it presses down and then there's instant release. So if you're trying to lead a horse in the sales ring, for example, the buttons on the side help provide pressure so they can't turn right or left when you pull straight; the only directions they can go are forward or back. My goal is that eventually everyone at the sales will be using them."

Manufactured by the local Amish population in Ohio, Crothers' halters have been used in a modified form both in the United States and abroad to help with the breaking and training of cattle.

An entrepreneur out of necessity, Crothers has also designed a "buck-off" cable for his own personal use at his farm that allows him and his team to break horses with the security of a retractable safety cable that extracts riders from potentially dangerous situations.

Working side by side with Angie, Crothers said he has no plans to slow down. With a revolving door of horses demanding his attention, he still finds time to speak at clinics and participate in programs such as the Retired Racehorse Project's Thoroughbred Makeover. But even though he enjoys his outside commitments, Crothers said there is no place he would rather be than working his farm.

"The goal, ultimately, at least with breeding, is to be able to sell Ohio-bred Thoroughbreds at the larger sales," Crothers said. "My wife is hoping that I will stop breaking horses because she worries about me. But I love doing it. The badder they are, the more I love it. I love figuring it all out." **BH**



Cedar Brook is home to some 40-50 horses at any one time