

BREAKING AND TRAINING 2019-20

BUYING A YEARLING IS THE EASIEST PART of acquiring a racing prospect. Next for the young Thoroughbred lies many lessons to learn, with patience and experience going a long way toward ensuring these lessons are taught well. Aside from merely accepting a bit, a saddle, and a rider, the developing racehorse needs to become accustomed to the routine of the backside, the tight quarters of a starting gate, and to relax when racing in company. Equally important, the young athlete must be fit and ready to compete when it moves on to the track. In this special section are insights into some of the country's leading training centers and what makes their programs successful year after year. With research, finding a quality training center can be the second-easiest decision an owner can make.

AIKEN TRAINING TRACK

Train here, win anywhere and enjoy the lifestyle. Visit our web site and check out our incentives for 2019-20: <https://aiken-trainingtrack.com/>

The Aiken Training Track is known for its 75-year history and the 39 champions who have trained there, including Pleasant Colony, Swale, Forty Niner, Storm Song, and Midshipman, not to mention Kelso. As recently as mid-August 2019, horses that had trained at the Aiken Training Track scored big successes across the country in graded stakes company.

At Belmont, Henley's Joy captured the \$1 million Belmont Derby Invitational Stakes (G1T). Concrete Rose, called "American Beauty" by *BloodHorse*, scored in the \$750,000 Saratoga Oaks Invitational Stakes to go along with her three consecutive graded stakes wins. Other recent graded stakes horses include Killybegs Captain, Sir Anthony, and Eons.

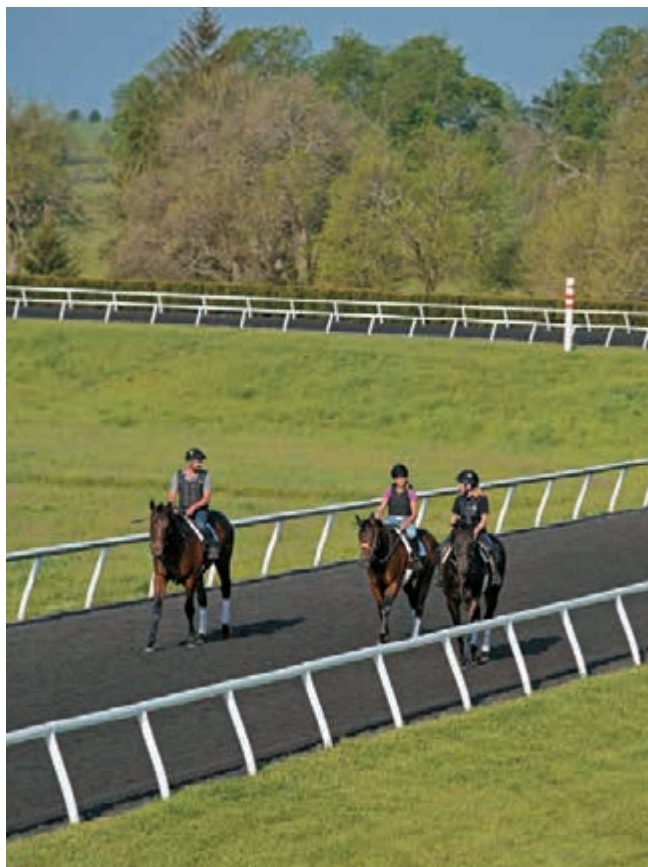
The main Aiken Training Track consists of a well-maintained one-mile red-clay base, sandy-loam cushioned surface with excellent drainage. The track is 100' wide with an eighth of a mile chute. It was modeled after the track at Keeneland. There is a United Puett six-stall starting gate with an experienced gate-man.

"The Aiken Training Track is second to none; it's the best surface of any private training track anywhere," said local horsewoman Cary Frommer.

Located close by is a five-eighths-mile training track where horses can jog, gallop, or train in the opposite direction. There

ADVERTISING INDEX

Aiken Training Track	35
www.aikentrainingtrack.com	
Asmussen Horse Center	36
www.asmussens.com	
Benchmark Training Center	37
www.bencharmarktc.com	
Webb Carroll Training Center	39
www.webbcarroll.com	
Classic Mile Park	40
www.classicmile.com	
Highlander Training Center	41
www.highlandertainingcenter.com	
Margaux Farm	42
www.margauxfarm.com	
White Pine Thoroughbreds	43
www.whitepinethoroughbreds.com	
Woodford Thoroughbreds	45
www.whywoodford.com	
Frank Wooten Stables	44
www.frankwootenstables.com	



Working in sets is helpful for young horses to learn the game

ANNE M. EBERHARDT

are miles of clay roads for hacking out. Also available is the 2,300-acre Hitchcock Woods with a mile track, steeplechase fences, and 60 miles of trails with hills.

There are five barns with an assortment of amenities, including one with several accommodations.

The Aiken Training Track offers a quiet setting for older horses needing a break and enough activity to prepare 2-year-olds for racing. It is a perfect setting for pinhookers to start yearlings and get 2-year-olds fit and ready to sell. Recently three seven figure pinhooks are among the graduates.

Horsemen find an advantage in having their horses develop with a natural and distinct winter season rather than continuous warmth. Aiken has cool mornings that turn into sunny afternoons—a pattern known to be good for both man and beast and is home to numerous top-notch veterinarians, therapists, and farriers.

People tend to come for a visit and then make Aiken part of their lives. After watching their horses train, owners can stroll through a vibrant downtown, shop antique stores and upscale clothing stores and then sit in the sun and enjoy coffee or a meal outside.

It is usually possible to attend a world-class equine event as Aiken is home to Olympians in several categories. For the golfer, there are several private and public courses, including Palmetto Golf Club and nearby is the famous Augusta National Golf Club. Aiken also has one of a handful of indoor real tennis courts in the country not to mention Bike Polo on one of its 24 polo fields.

ASMUSSEN HORSE CENTER

Looking for the right place to spot a young horse on its way to the racetrack, an operation with decades of experience and the top-level success to go along with it? Take a look at Keith and Marilyn Asmusen's Horse Center near Laredo, Texas.

Not only do Marilyn and Keith raise and train horses, they've also raised a grade 1 family: son Cash won an Eclipse Award as outstanding apprentice jockey, and went on to be a star in Europe, and is



Joe Diorio
Graduating to the track is a milestone of the breaking and training process

an astute horseman today; and son Steve has won a pair of Eclipse Awards as top trainer and has conditioned top runners such as Horses of the Year Curlin, Rachel Alexandra, and Gun Runner. Steve, a Hall of Fame member, is second all-time in North America by wins and money won.

"The most important thing is, it is our life," Marilyn said. "It's all we've ever done. It's how we make our living. It's how we've raised our family and made our friends.

"There is nobody in the racehorse business that won't say Keith does the best job and puts the best condition on a horse or maintains a better track surface," she said.

The Asmusen's breaking and training operation covers some 86 acres and has 420 stalls. On the other side of Laredo they have another 36 acres for lay-ups. They've been in Laredo for more than 50 years.

The five-eighths-mile track is "as good a surface as there is," according to Keith. "On average, over the last 22 years, we get 96% of our horses to the races."

Keys to success? Keith, a former rider, makes it simple. He points to an attentive staff, of whom many have been with him for more than 20 years. That kind of consistency is vital when it comes to the process of preparing young horses for the racetrack.

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Asmussen also boasts: “Years and years of practice. And I’ve handled anywhere from 100-200 head a year for the last 45 years.

“In a nutshell, you work to get controlled forward motion. That’s it. They’re all a little different, but you need the control and you need the forward motion.

“We start everything pretty easy and quiet and then advance on up the road. Some need a little more shaking up than others, and some need a little pet here and there. But we put a lot of bottom under them and a lot of miles.”

The miles lead to smiles in the winner’s circle.

BENCHMARK TRAINING CENTER

Situated on 100 acres in North Texas, Benchmark Training Center is about 40 miles east of Dallas, making it centrally located for horsemen racing not only at Lone Star Park but at Oaklawn Park in

Arkansas, Remington Park in Oklahoma, and Harrah’s Louisiana Downs near the Texas border in Bossier City, La. New to the Benchmark program is an expansion into the sales arena in both the Florida and California markets.

Benchmark Training Center is well known for producing top-line runners. The training center developed the 2017 sale-topper at the Texas Thoroughbred Association’s sale of 2-year-olds in training at Lone Star Park with a Tale of the Cat colt selling to Louisiana-based Whispering Oaks Farm for \$120,000. Named Morethanfishin, the dark bay gelding broke his maiden impressively last May at Evangeline Downs.

Recent stakes winners that underwent their schooling at Benchmark, located near Quinlan, Texas, and operated by Gerwyn “Taffy” Jones and his wife, Jane, are One Liz and Ruby Sioux, who annexed the Jack Bishop Stakes at Prairie Meadows.

Texas Chrome, another Benchmark grad, was a consistent stakes star from 2015-17, earning more than \$1 million, including the purses from scores in the grade 3 Super Derby and Oklahoma Derby.

Among the amenities offered by Benchmark is a five-eighths-mile training track. The recent addition of 16 new stalls makes room for 72 head. The facility also has a multi-stall starting gate, a Eurociser, and multiple turn-out paddocks, ranging from one to five acres, that are ideally suited for layups.

“Our track is a wide racetrack with a dirt surface,” Jones said. “It is a very kind surface and has been very kind to the horses.”

After working on the East Coast, Jones, who began honing his horsemanship more than 35 years ago in his native Wales, has been developing Benchmark over the last 20 years.



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Jones estimates that some 80%-90% of the horses that receive early training at Benchmark win at least once after making the move to the racetrack.

Jones attributes the success of Benchmark's trainees to his patient training style, which contrasts to the hurried pace employed by many other facilities.

"I am bringing a little bit of a European technique to the method of training," Jones said. "I am not as aggressive as some Americans get with their young horses. We let the horses grow into themselves and mature to be the athletes they can be."

WEBB CARROLL TRAINING CENTER

Webb Carroll Training Center continues to turn out phenomenal graduates year-after-year, and the 2019 season is no exception so far. Country House, elevated to first in the Kentucky Derby Presented by Woodford Reserve (G1), spent seven months at the 50-acre-plus training center just outside St. Matthews, S.C. His half sister, the grade 3-winning English Channel filly Mitchell Road, also went through her early paces there.

The training center features state-of-the-art racing surfaces and facilities,



Learning how to break from the starting gate is a key element of getting to the races

including a seven-furlong irrigated dirt oval, a six-furlong irrigated turf course, a starting gate with an experienced crew, small and large turn-out paddocks, a swim facility, and an eight-horse Eurociser. Travis Durr, a lifelong horseman, took over as owner of the training center from Webb Carroll after working under the master for a decade.

The center's philosophy has always been to condition youngsters in as much of a "racetrack atmosphere" as possible.

"We send them out in sets of 16 during the winter when we're full and do a lot of gate work. They get to see horses coming and going, which helps them acclimate to

the racetrack a whole lot easier," said Durr. "We send out a sound, educated horse that trainers can move forward with."

Ninety-five percent of the focus at Webb Carroll is on breaking and training, but Durr also uses his sharp eye for a horse in assisting with buying yearlings. He bought Daphne Moon with trainer Jeremiah Englehart and watched the 2-year-old daughter of Cairo Prince win first time out in a maiden special weight Aug. 4 at Saratoga.

The training center's commitment to producing race-ready horses has produced a slew of 2019 stakes winners that include Heavenhasmynikki, who took the

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May 11 Vagrancy Handicap (G3) at Belmont Park; Firenze Fire, who won Belmont's May 11 Runhappy Stakes; Pat on the Back, winner of the May 27 Commentator Stakes and the April 26 Affirmed Success Stakes at Belmont; and Dirty, who won the April 20 King T. Leatherbury Stakes at Laurel Park. Others include Irish Strait, winner of the Henry S. Clark Stakes at Laurel; Timeless Curls, winner of the Nellie Morse Stakes at Laurel; Harlan Punch, who won the Louisiana Stakes at Fair Grounds Race Course & Slots; Hembree, winner of the El Prado Stakes at Gulfstream Park; a pair of Suffolk Downs scorers—Rise Jim Stakes winner Dr. Blarney and Last Dance Stakes winner Saint

are also miles of trails and open fields for galloping, fit for young horses or those older runners who need to freshen up.

It is the track, a rare one-mile oval, that is the centerpiece to the facility.

"We have the best racetrack in the state of Florida," said owner Dominic Martelli.

The history of the track is what makes it special.

Classic Mile Park was part of a larger property owned and operated by the late Fred Hooper, a legendary breeder/owner in the sport of Thoroughbred racing.

After Martelli purchased the property and began developing it in the mid-1980s, Hooper oversaw the track's construction.

track," Martelli said of Hialeah's owner, the late John Brunetti. "We copied Hialeah. We have wider turns and when you make a turn, it's banked 24 inches. On the turn it starts at zero and climbs 24 inches and then back down. When the horses gallop around the track, there is less stress on their legs."

Safety is also a key component to Classic Mile's success, along with a set of rules and regulations to live by. The track is available for use 365 days a year, rain or shine.

"From time to time, we have people that say, 'I can't go there because there are too many rules.' But guess what? I hear more people say, 'We're not going anywhere unless you change the rules.'"

Martelli, a successful homebuilder in New Jersey before heading south in 1987, said running Classic Mile is, "a challenge, but a pleasure every day. The horse business is one that will disappoint you every day, but that one minute of pleasure more than makes up for it."

Those minutes can be made during the training hours at Classic Mile Park.

HIGHLANDER TRAINING CENTER

Many years have passed and many dreams have faded since anybody dared to do anything like this. Larry Hirsch has made a huge bet on Texas horse racing.

Chairman of Highlander Partners, and a longtime horse owner, Hirsch has developed a pastoral patch of Northeast Texas, once known for its therapeutic springs, into one of the region's finest training centers. And the development is ongoing, with planned improvements for the state-of-the-sport facilities reaching out many years.

Hirsch's bet isn't on Texas racing solely. Located near Sulphur Springs, the Highlander Training Center is within an easy van-ride of Remington Park, Louisiana Downs, and Oaklawn Park. Even closer, though, about 90 minutes away sits Lone Star Park at Grand Prairie.

"We're very committed to Texas racing," Hirsch said. "Texas was founded on horseback; horses run through the state's history and heritage. In order to bring back first-class racing, Texas needs a first-class training facility."

And so there's Highlander—two barns,



JOE DORNO

Most training facilities help get young horses ready for the 2-year-old sales

Alfred—and Armistice Day, winner of the July 20 Toronto Cup Stakes at Woodbine.

The future continues to look bright from the early talent shown by 2-year-olds Sweet Kisses, a Carpe Diem filly who won a six-furlong maiden special weight at Saratoga July 19; and Immediate Impact, an Into Mischief filly who aced her July 28 debut going 5½ furlongs at Del Mar.

CLASSIC MILE PARK

Classic Mile Park, a 700-acre training center in the heart of horse country in the Ocala, Fla., area is truly a classic. The center has some 700 stalls available and plenty of turnout paddocks and round pens. There

"He took a liking to me," Martelli said. "He came by uninvited and wound up overseeing the entire build.

"If you want a good track, you have to have a good base," Hooper told Martelli. "We did what he told us."

As for the cushion Hooper pointed Martelli to the rich Ocala limestone soil that came directly from the farm.

"That was the same dirt he trained (champion) Precisionist and all of the other good horses on," Martelli said.

The design of the track came from Hialeah Park, the famed racetrack in South Florida.

"He did more than help me lay out the



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push them unnecessarily. That's horsemanship. And when it comes down to it, that is the secret to our success. Our young Thoroughbreds are allowed to develop at their own pace. While many of our graduates enjoy early success, all of them are handled with the long haul in mind, most of which have a long career lasting many seasons.



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13 private paddocks, eight pastures, 24-hour surveillance, True Center starting gates, vet room and courtyard, covered round pen, rubberized walkways, on-site housing for staff, and a meticulously maintained, destined-for-expansion training track. The new 32-stall barn, with its automatic insect control system and its temperature-controlled water, is like a five-star equine hotel. The 12'-by-12' stalls have rubber-matted mattress floors and walls, and the walk-on scale assists in monitoring horses' health and development.

But Highlander's "greatest asset," according to Steve Jackson, a renowned equine nutritionist and professor of animal science at the University of Kentucky, is the staff that abounds with experience and horsemanship. Jeff Hooper, a former executive director of the Texas Thoroughbred Association and vice president at Lone Star, was recently named Highlander's chairman and chief executive officer.

Specializing in the breaking, conditioning, and education of young horses, president and head trainer Jimmy "Scooter" Dodwell has prepared literally hundreds of stakes winners, including Horse of the Year Rachel Alexandra. He works closely with assistant trainers Jose "Cuco" Mendez and Jon Newbold; collectively, they have more than 80 years of experience.

Only time will determine whether Hirsch wins his bet, but horsemen already have won. The response from top trainers has been encouraging and enthusiastic. Brendan Walsh said Highlander does a "fantastic job," pointing out that when his six graduates arrived at the racetrack they were "as good as they could possibly be." And Bret Calhoun said his Highlander graduates have been "sound, healthy, and well-educated."

Forming one of the region's most successful partnerships about 15 years ago, Hirsch and his longtime friend Wayne

Sanders, a former CEO of Kimberly-Clark, have campaigned many standouts, including graded stakes winners Baghdaria and Bahnah, while winning more than 330 races and \$11.5 million in purses.

As a youngster growing up in Queens, N.Y., Hirsch recalled he sometimes would save a few bucks so he could go out to Belmont Park and slap down \$2 on a personal favorite, or perhaps a hope. Now, the wager and the hope have grown to Texas-sized proportions.

MARGAUX FARM

A full-service operation on 640 acres of rolling land near Lexington, Margaux boasts three separate training tracks, including a five-furlong all weather European-style gallop that undulates over hills; a straight 1¼-mile all-weather track; and a 1¼-mile turf course that has an uphill finish. The farm is ideally located just a short drive from the Keeneland and

"We have stabled at *Classic Mile* for the last few winters and have been most pleased with how our horses are prepared for our spring season. We can let horses down with the large paddocks and bring them along on a great training surface."

— Arnaud Delacour

"To me it's all about soundness. I highly commend the *Classic Mile* team for maintaining an outstanding track."

— Mike Bell

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Fasig-Tipton auction grounds and is close to some of the best veterinary clinics in the country. With a resident broodmare band also on the farm, Margaux has the unique ability to raise horses that then transition to its training division, return back to the farm for lay-ups, and eventually to broodmare careers for fillies that are retained by their owners.

The farm also continually upgrades its facilities, having added last fall a new 26-stall rehab barn that features an Aquatred, a cold saltwater spa, a salt therapy room, and two Theraplate stalls. But perhaps the biggest addition came in March when Richard Budge took over the reins as general manager of Margaux Farm.

Only a few months into his new job, Budge is raising the bar at the Central Kentucky farm already renowned for its high-quality facilities, customer service, and string of stakes-winning graduates.

A native of England and former head trainer at WinStar Farm for 17 years, Budge oversaw the development of multiple grade 1 winners as well as Triple Crown champion Justify.

“Richard’s experience and reputation speak for themselves. He’s a great asset to the farm,” said Amanda Motz, who is head of client relations and marketing for the

farm owned by Jim and Susan Hill. The farm’s most recent stakes-winning graduates include Allied Racing Stable’s Mr. Money, who has reeled off three consecutive graded stakes wins since Kentucky Derby Day—the May 4 Pat Day Mile Stakes presented by LG&E and KU (G3), the Matt Winn Stakes (G3), and Indiana Derby (G3). The colt is being considered for the Aug. 24 Runhappy Travers Stakes (G1) or Sept. 21 Pennsylvania Derby (G1).

Other top runners of 2019 include undefeated juvenile Mr. Hustle, who became a stakes winner in his second lifetime start by $\frac{3}{4}$ lengths in the listed Victoria Stakes at Woodbine. The gelded son of Declaration of War is owned by William Werner and trained by Roger Attfield.

Both colts started their careers under the watchful eye of farm trainer Dermot Littlefield, who is known for his patient style of training, allowing young horses to develop physically, as well as mentally, at their own pace, with the end goal being happy, willing horses that enjoy their job and are ready to handle the rigors of the racetrack once they leave the farm.

“We’re very fortunate to have the team of people in place that we do, from management to assistants to grooms,” Motz said. “Good people make all the difference.


“We have a nice group of 2-year-olds this year that we’re hoping have a strong summer and fall before going on to successful 3-year-old campaigns.”

WHITE PINE THOROUGHBREDS

Youth and enthusiasm can carry a business a long way, especially when a new outfit strikes early. Justin Wojczynski’s White Pine Thoroughbreds near Lexington is a fresh face in the breaking and training and juvenile sales consignment business, and he’s off and running. His initial consignment to the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic 2-year-old sale in 2018 featured a filly by Twirling Candy—Solerina, by Powerscourt, purchased for \$20,000 as a yearling. The filly, Concrete Rose, graced the cover of the July 13 *BloodHorse* after winning the \$750,000 Belmont Oaks Invitational Stakes (G1T). She’s since added the Aug. 2 Saratoga Oaks Invitational Stakes.

“When we bought her, she was just a really pretty, easy-going filly,” Wojczynski said. “She got on with her job without any fuss. In her early training she was green, but after she’d get going an eighth of a mile, she would level off, get down, and really roll. She’s been very special for us.”

Wojczynski wasn’t raised in the Thoroughbred industry but worked for several



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outfits, including Pin Oak Stud, Lane's End, Rusty Arnold, and Cary Frommer. He sought to learn as many different aspects as he could in the game and found his favorite part of the business was breaking and training.

"It fit me best," he said. "Part of the joy for me is seeing these babies develop into athletes. It's a good time in the horse's life to be a part of. Whether I'm preparing for the racetrack or the sales, my focus is producing a horse that has a good foundation that can go straight on."

The breaking process at White Pine Thoroughbreds is pretty simple with the goal of keeping the horses outside and in turnout as much as possible. Once the horses are broken and jogging well, they are transitioned to The Thoroughbred Center near Lexington where they receive their more important lessons.

"Being at The Thoroughbred Center, the babies are with older horses, younger horses, all sorts of horses," Wojczynski said. "We teach them to back up, gallop with horses to their inside, to be the horse on the inside...being located there is a big advantage for them because once they get to the races or the sales, they've already seen a lot of things. The facility is owned and managed by Keeneland. There is turnout,

and the track itself has an excellent surface year-round."

White Pine Thoroughbreds has already proved it can develop and sell grade 1 horses...and it wears that badge proudly.

WOODFORD THOROUGHBREDS

When a pair of grade 1 winners comes out of a particular Thoroughbred program, it's as good a sales tool as there is. So, last year was a pretty good one for Woodford Thoroughbreds, as they bred, raised, and sold both Midnight Bisou and Discreet Lover.

Midnight Bisou won the Mother Goose and Cotillion stakes (both G1) last year and also ran third in the Longines Breeders' Cup Distaff (G1). Discreet Lover finished an excellent 2018 campaign with a victory in the Jockey Club Gold Cup Stakes (G1) and participated in the Breeders' Cup Classic (G1). In addition, training graduate Somelikeithotbrown finished 3rd in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf (GI).

So, what's for an encore? Easy. Midnight Bisou has already racked up five stakes wins in 2019, including scores in the grade 1 Apple Blossom Handicap and Ogden Phipps Stakes, a Breeders' Cup Win and You're In, and, most recently, the July 20 Molly Pitcher Stakes (G3) at Monmouth.

As well, there are already 10 2-year-olds of 2019 that have found the winner's circle after coming out of the Woodford Thoroughbred program. The training center has produced winners Bull of Bayern (June 26, Belmont Park) and Time Limit (Belmont, June 23). Juvenile sale grads so far are Scoring (by Justin Phillip, June 16 at Santa Anita), Long Weekend (by Majesticperfection, Churchill Downs, June 23), Goldentill (by Goldencents, Prairie Meadows, May 17), A Girl Like Me (by Honor Code, Prairie Meadows, July 12), Fifthatnarraganset (by Cairo Prince, July 25 at Arlington International), Nothing-butflowers (by Violence, July 26 at Indiana Grand), Creekmore (The Big Beast, Aug. 2 at Prairie Meadows), and Colby (by Super Saver, Aug. 10 at Monmouth).

"They're coming out running," said Shannon Castagnola, Woodford Thoroughbreds' director of marketing. "It's exceptional when horses can go straight from our training program to the winner's circle."

The program is headed by John Gleason.

Gleason, who has been with Woodford for more than six years, has a wealth of experience, having previously worked for Bryan and Holly Rice's Woodside Ranch where he had his hands on horses for such major owners as Robert and Beverly Lewis,



Concrete Rose: G1 winner, White Pine Grad

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JOE DIORIO

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W.T. Young's Overbrook Farm, and JMS Stable. His knowledge and horsemanship are irreplaceable.

Spanning more than 1,000 acres near Ocala, Fla., Woodford Thoroughbreds prides itself on the amount of turnout paddocks it offers, the on-premises swim facility, and access daily to quality professionals, i.e. vet, farrier, acupuncturist. It boasts one of North America's only 1½-mile and half-mile turf gallops, which are carved into the surrounding woods.

The Woodford team isn't resting on their laurels. A big key to the success of Woodford graduates is the five-furlong training track. Always considered a very safe surface, Castagnola reports that, "We took the dirt track down to its base, had it laser-leveled and a

new irrigation system installed, and then we put the cushion back on. It had always been a very safe surface, but continuing maintenance keeps it that way. Now it's top notch. It's really important to us to reinvest in the facility."

FRANK WOOTEN STABLES

Individual care and attention to detail are trademarks at Frank Wooten Stables near Camden, S.C. The hands-on team of Frankie and Daphne Wooten also offer a top-line level of consistency having been in the business since 1986. Despite their small numbers, the number of big horses to come from their program is impressive.

Some of the recent graduates to blossom on the racetrack include Fault, a daughter

of Blame who won the 2018 Santa Margarita Stakes (G1) and the Buena Vista Stakes (G2T); Tom's d'Etat, winner of the Aug. 2 Alydar Stakes at Saratoga who ran second earlier this year in the Stephen Foster Stakes (G2); 2019 grade 3 winner Bobby's Wicked One; and Real News, third in the Penn Mile Stakes (G2T) in June.

"In 30 years we've had a Breeders' Cup winner (Action This Day) and quite a few grade 1 winners (and others such as six-time grade 1-placed Upstart), so for a small operation, our percentages are good," Daphne said. "We can treat the individual horse."

The 22-acre facility fits snugly between the historic Camden Training Center and the Springdale Training Center, which is the horse haven for the jumper set.

"Camden is a great place with all of the history it has horse-wise," said Daphne. "The flat track is where Mr. Whiteley trained. It's where Ruffian was broken and trained. Springdale is where they hold the Carolina Cup races, and it's where Jonathan Sheppard had Storm Cat."

In fact, Frankie broke yearlings for Frank Whiteley and later became a successful steeplechase rider before turning his attention to breaking yearlings. Daphne was an accomplished three-day eventer.

With the small numbers, the Wootens have plenty of time to attend to each horse. Each is treated as an individual, because like children they develop at different speeds. Some are naturally easy to break and very willing to please; others are very wary and take many hours of one-on-one time. No matter how many hours are needed, each yearling is given the time.

"We're a small, boutique operation," Daphne said. "Both Frankie and I are very hands-on with the horses."

And the staff at Frank Wooten Stables is long on experience.

"We're fortunate in that a lot of our staff has been here a long time," Daphne said. "We have a great assistant in Jorge Perez as well, who has been here five years."

Individual attention, along with the facilities and the great weather year 'round in the Camden area, adds to the appeal of Frank Wooten Stables. **BH**

Frank Wooten Stables

We pride ourselves on giving each and every horse individual attention. As a small stable we have the opportunity to nurture each horse to the best of their abilities. Horses, like people, have many personalities, and we try to bring out their best.

OUR PROGRAM HAS PRODUCED:

- ★ A Breeders' Cup Winner
- ★ An Eclipse Champion 2-Year-Old
- ★ Multiple Grade 1 Winners and Stakes Winners
- ★ Many State-Bred Champions

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