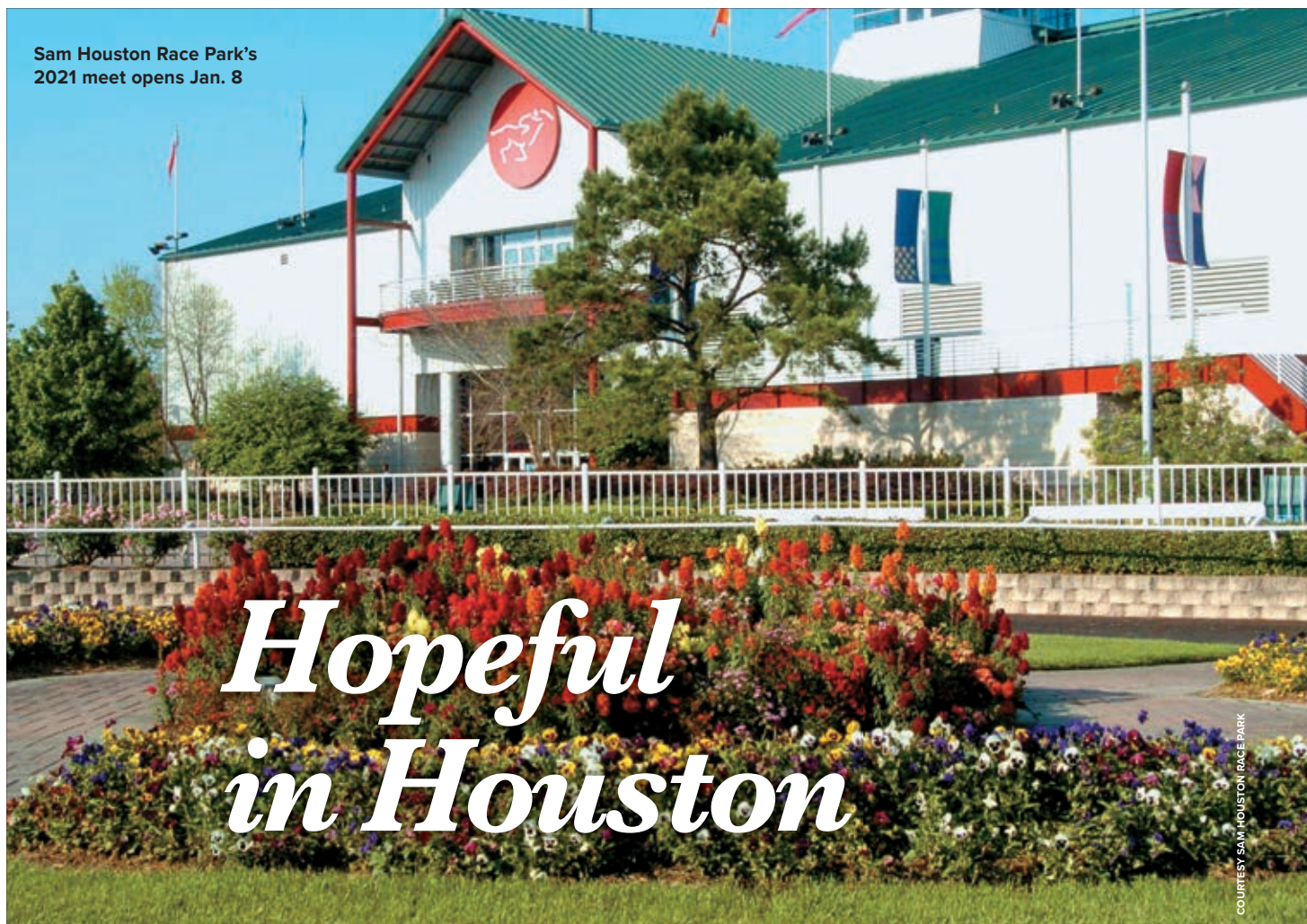


Southwest

ARIZONA ARKANSAS COLORADO KANSAS LOUISIANA
MISSOURI NEW MEXICO OKLAHOMA TEXAS

Sam Houston Race Park's
2021 meet opens Jan. 8



COURTESY SAM HOUSTON RACE PARK

Sam Houston Race Park and Texas racing are on the rise

BY DENIS BLAKE

THE NAMESAKE of Sam Houston Race Park is known for his role as one of the leaders of the Texas Revolution, which resulted in the formation of the Republic of Texas after winning independence from Mexico, and now the track

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Sea Gull, by Mineshaft*

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Bee Silva

EARLY FLYER

*Gilded Time –
Bistra, by Classic Go Go*

2021 FEE: \$2,000



William Miller

MY GOLDEN SONG

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

2021 FEE: \$4,000



William Miller

TOO MUCH BLING

*Rubiano – Rose Colored Lady,
by Formal Dinner*

2021 FEE: \$5,000



Bee Silva

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FARM

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2020 LEADING SIRES IN TEXAS


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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2021 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstret SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2020 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	TOO MUCH BLING (03, Rubiano), Valor Farm	\$5,000	98/38	1/1	1/1	(Direct Dial, \$99,279)	\$1,396,446	312	28	1.01	1.02
2	MY GOLDEN SONG (03, Unbridled's Song), Valor Farm	\$4,000	49/27	1/1	0/1	(Sunlit Song, \$126,383)	\$900,591	175	15	0.92	1.00
3	AIKENITE (07, Yes It's True), Leadem Farm	\$3,000	32/18	0/0	0/0	(Hotfoot, \$55,025)	\$524,046	68	0	0.91	1.15
4	EARLY FLYER (98, Gilded Time), Valor Farm	\$2,000	33/8	2/2	2/2	(Wonders of Hislove, \$88,069)	\$372,614	317	19	0.73	0.89
5	MORO TAP (10, Tapit), Double Infinity Ranch	\$2,500	32/8	0/0	0/0	(Ruby Does Sparkle, \$40,405)	\$247,544	*73	1	0.56	0.83
6	GRASSHOPPER (04, Dixie Union), Valor Farm	\$3,500	23/8	0/0	0/0	(Great Affection, \$67,515)	\$231,856	144	3	0.69	0.86
7	CONGAREE (98, Arazi), Valor Farm	Pnsd	26/6	0/0	0/0	(Runningwscissors, \$75,998)	\$231,352	*412	13	1.17	1.33
8	THE HUNK (07, Speightstown), Eureka Thoroughbred Farm	\$1,500	11/3	0/0	0/0	(Star of the North, \$80,800)	\$139,358	24	0	0.40	0.98
9	CROSSBOW (08, Bernardini), Valor Farm	\$1,500	16/3	0/0	0/0	(Crosstime, \$41,801)	\$137,701	42	2	0.47	1.02
10	LUNARPAL (02, Successful Appeal)	N/A	6/4	0/0	0/0	(Grizabella, \$66,225)	\$114,613	119	2	0.84	0.90
11	STREET MOVE (06, Street Cry)	N/A	4/4	0/0	0/0	(Kingsville, \$36,750)	\$108,451	12	0	1.00	1.36
12	LIGHT UP THE SCORE (08, Even the Score), EZ Thoroughbred Station	\$500	4/3	0/0	0/0	(Miss Photo, \$37,624)	\$107,813	6	0	0.72	1.49
13	UNBRIDLED'S HEART (05, Unbridled's Song)	Died, 2015	7/2	1/1	1/1	(Corluna, \$75,131)	\$100,975	30	1	0.53	0.51
14	REVOLVING (09, A.P. Indy), Double S Thoroughbreds	\$1,000	13/6	0/0	0/0	(High Flying Guy, \$17,802)	\$97,878	47	0	0.62	1.43
15	STONESIDER (03, Giant's Causeway), Valor Farm	Pnsd	10/6	0/0	0/0	(Its a Chance, \$20,451)	\$96,992	*219	4	1.00	1.14
16	KEEP UP (07, Unbridled's Song), Eureka Thoroughbred Farm	\$2,000	16/6	0/0	0/0	(Ucantkeepup, \$18,122)	\$91,635	38	0	0.55	1.44
17	MR. BESILU (09, A.P. Indy), Eureka Thoroughbred Farm	\$2,000	11/3	0/0	0/0	(Luckenbacher, \$15,000)	\$72,700	34	0	0.55	0.85
18	BEHINDATTHEBAR (05, Forest Wildcat), John Tally Racing Stable	\$1,500	8/1	0/0	0/0	(Fort Polk, \$56,645)	\$62,584	108	0	0.52	0.76
19	WIMBLEDON (01, Wild Rush), Key Ranch	\$2,000	12/3	0/0	0/0	(Men of Kyle, \$16,461)	\$59,551	143	4	0.69	0.75
20	¶ BRADESTER (10, Lion Heart), Valor Farm	\$3,000	3/1	0/0	0/0	(Cosmetology, \$33,136)	\$58,588	17	0	1.05	0.85
21	UNCLE ABBIE (97, Kingmambo)	N/A	12/0	0/0	0/0	(Whipum Naenae, \$30,224)	\$58,227	257	7	0.63	0.63
22	INTIMIDATOR (01, Gone West)	N/A	11/4	0/0	0/0	(Stillatune, \$20,400)	\$53,498	213	6	0.53	0.72
23	LITTLEEXPECTATIONS (97, Valid Appeal), Asmussen Horse Center	Pnsd	9/4	0/0	0/0	(Little Avenger, \$30,793)	\$49,361	219	5	0.72	0.95
24	DON GATO (06, Storm Cat)	N/A	6/2	0/0	0/0	(Cash On Fire, \$26,456)	\$47,295	22	0	0.52	0.87
25	FINAL ROW (GB) (97, Indian Ridge), Ivy Rose Equestrian Center	\$1,250	1/1	0/0	0/0	(Robo, \$46,955)	\$46,955	15	0	0.36	0.58
26	CAPTAIN COUNTDOWN (96, Relaunch), Double S Thoroughbred Farm	\$500	8/2	0/0	0/0	(Best Little Man, \$20,702)	\$46,010	213	2	0.46	0.65
27	JOE'S SON JOEY (98, Fast Play), Averett Farm	\$1,000	3/1	0/0	0/0	(Release the Beast, \$31,290)	\$43,816	31	0	0.93	0.91
28	EXPECT A LOT (11, Awesome Again), Eureka Thoroughbred Farm	\$2,000	6/1	0/0	0/0	(Prince Rama, \$21,750)	\$43,792	11	0	0.52	0.96
29	GAFF (02, Maria's Mon)	N/A	9/1	0/0	0/0	(Captain Tyree, \$15,715)	\$37,362	96	0	0.55	0.98
30	COUNTER PUNCH (00, Cozzene)	N/A	2/1	0/0	0/0	(Dustwhirl Wonder, \$31,469)	\$31,769	11	0	0.42	0.43

on the outskirts of the Lone Star State's largest city is hoping for a revolution—or more accurately, a revival—of its own.

One of three Class 1 tracks in Texas, along with Lone Star Park at Grand Prairie near Dallas-Ft. Worth and Retama Park outside of San Antonio, Sam Hous-

ton celebrated its 25th anniversary season in 2019, but at that milestone the track's racing product was more mediocre than majestic. Purses for maiden special weight and allowance races were around \$20,000, and bottom-level pots barely cracked the \$6,000 mark.

Then, after years of unsuccessful attempts by Texas racing interests at legalizing slot machines, video lottery terminals, and historical horse racing machines, House Bill 2463 passed the Texas Legislature and went into effect on Sept. 1, 2019. On the surface the bill sounded

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2020 TEXAS SIRE BY WINNERS

Sire	Rnrs	Wnrs
Too Much Bling	98	38
My Golden Song	49	27
Aikenite	32	18
Early Flyer	33	8
Moro Tap	32	8
Grasshopper	23	8
Congaree	26	6
Keep Up	16	6
Revolving	13	6
Stonesider	10	6
Intimidator	11	4
Littleexpectations	9	4
Lunarpal	6	4
Street Move	4	4
Crossbow	16	3
Wimbledon	12	3
Mr. Besilu	11	3
The Hunk	11	3
Light Up the Score	4	3
Captain Countdown	8	2
Unbridled's Heart	7	2
Don Gato	6	2
Fearless Eagle	4	2
Jet Phone	4	2



COURTESY SAM HOUSTON RACE PARK

Dwight Berube, Sam Houston Race Park's vice president and general manager

somewhat mundane as it put into escrow a portion of state taxes collected on a variety of equine-related goods and services. But the reality is that the escrow means up to \$25 million annually that racetracks and breed associations can use for enhanced purses, breeding incentives, and marketing initiatives. It provided a much-needed boost for racing and breeding industries in Texas, which is surrounded by states with additional gaming at their racetracks. The bill has produced a positive outlook in

Texas for both horsemen and racetracks, rising to a level perhaps not felt since Lone Star Park hosted the Breeders' Cup World Championships in 2004.

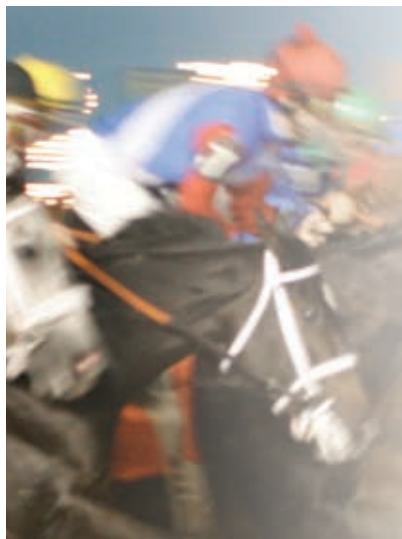
WEATHERING THE STORM

When Sam Houston kicked off its 2020 meet in January—the first Texas meet since HB 2463 passed—maiden special weight and allowance contests had been increased to more than \$35,000, and all signs were pointing to a successful meet. Then, of course, COVID-19 hit. Sam Houston was forced to cancel the last four days of the meet in March due to the pandemic, and the track also lost most of a fifth date when Texas Champions Day, with seven stakes for Texas-breds, had to be scrapped due to a blown transformer on what ended up being the final day of the abbreviated stand.

Despite an abrupt ending to the Thoroughbred meet and the cancellation of its entire American Quarter Horse meet set for the spring, the track still laid the groundwork for future success.

“We were having a really good meet and were up 39% in handle year-over-year, and then the carpet got pulled out,” said Dwight Berube, the track's vice president and general manager.

Now the track is set to open its 2021 Thoroughbred meet Jan. 8 and run



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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2021 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2020 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	GEMOLOGIST (09, Tiznow), Acadiana Equine@Copper Crowne	\$4,500	208/96	3/4	1/3	(Horologist, \$345,334)	\$3,756,651	*647	14	1.09	1.28
2	COURT VISION (05, Gulch), Acadiana Equine@Copper Crowne	\$3,500	101/41	1/1	1/1	(Court Return, \$205,875)	\$1,965,869	*370	8	1.14	1.33
3	STAR GUITAR (05, Quiet American), Clear Creek Stud	\$7,500	76/42	1/1	1/1	(Guitar Tribute, \$80,630)	\$1,404,844	155	9	1.13	1.05
4	DAAAHER (04, Awesome Again), Circle H Farms	\$3,000	62/33	0/0	0/0	(Gypsy Janie, \$89,052)	\$1,225,082	173	11	1.24	1.19
5	COUNTRY DAY (06, Speightstown), Peach Lane Farms	\$2,500	63/35	1/1	0/1	(Vintage Hollywood, \$115,910)	\$1,160,248	123	3	1.03	0.99
6	ASTROLOGY (08, A.P. Indy), Acadiana Equine@Copper Crowne	\$4,000	92/35	0/0	0/0	(Aspect, \$81,868)	\$1,092,218	*295	4	0.84	1.15
7	CUSTOM FOR CARLOS (06, More Than Ready), Clear Creek Stud	\$3,500	105/34	1/1	1/1	(Monte Man, \$109,512)	\$1,080,490	276	6	0.77	1.02
8	HALF OURS (03, Unbridled's Song), Clear Creek Stud	\$5,000	90/36	0/0	0/0	(Our Lost Love, \$97,183)	\$1,006,012	*521	22	0.92	1.10
9	SECRET CIRCLE (09, Eddington), Elite Thoroughbreds	\$3,000	34/19	0/0	0/0	(Our Secret Agent, \$131,958)	\$728,278	58	0	1.03	0.96
10	BIND (08, Pulpit), Red River Farms	\$1,500	44/20	2/4	2/2	(Mirabeau, \$105,350)	\$436,663	100	3	0.72	1.00
11	APRIORITY (07, Grand Slam), Elite Thoroughbreds	\$2,000	31/16	1/2	1/1	(Snowball, \$101,800)	\$573,138	70	2	0.76	0.75
12	MY PAL CHARLIE (05, Indian Charlie), Elite Thoroughbreds	\$2,500	48/18	0/0	0/0	(Drilling Report, \$46,840)	\$543,651	205	2	0.66	0.99
13	FLASHPOINT (08, Pomeroy), Le Mesa Stallions	\$1,500	48/20	0/0	0/0	(Impressed, \$55,974)	\$530,910	93	0	0.66	0.75
14	GREELEY'S GALAXY (02, Mr. Greeley)	Died, 2017	55/13	1/2	1/1	(Mariah's Galaxy, \$121,000)	\$506,335	202	3	0.92	0.99
15	REDDING COLLIERY (06, Mineshaft)	Died, 2018	37/15	0/0	0/0	(My Pepper Ann, \$49,425)	\$489,369	101	1	0.75	1.23
16	GUILT TRIP (09, Pulpit), Red River Farms	\$2,000	38/16	0/0	0/0	(Freedomfi, \$54,625)	\$470,876	80	2	0.65	1.29
17	D'WILDCAT (98, Forest Wildcat), Whispering Oaks Farm	\$2,500	56/15	0/0	0/0	(She's Gone d'Wild, \$47,472)	\$436,663	*502	16	1.19	1.17
18	CLOSING ARGUMENT (02, Successful Appeal), Whispering Oaks Farm	\$3,000	37/11	0/0	0/0	(Quikfast N Ahurry, \$90,800)	\$387,136	*505	19	1.13	1.10
19	MASS MEDIA (01, Touch Gold)	N/A	34/14	0/0	0/0	(Kris T., \$43,945)	\$357,501	*241	5	0.97	1.03
20	LEWIS MICHAEL (03, Rahy), Circle H Farms	\$2,500	26/7	0/0	0/0	(Frost Or Frippery, \$125,950)	\$357,041	168	4	0.78	1.02
21	DUE DATE (05, El Prado), Peach Lane Farms	\$2,000	26/12	0/0	0/0	(Pinch Assault, \$44,580)	\$301,975	94	2	0.57	0.82
22	RUN PRODUCTION (00, Saint Ballado), Whispering Oaks Farm	\$1,500	29/13	0/0	0/0	(Mr. Production, \$36,750)	\$295,348	252	10	0.94	0.87
23	PEPPERED CAT (00, Tabasco Cat), Clear Creek Stud	\$1,500	33/16	0/0	0/0	(Lotsa Pepper, \$48,030)	\$288,200	113	1	0.76	0.61
24	CALIBRACHOA (07, Southern Image), Red River Farms	\$2,000	17/8	1/1	1/1	(Southern Beauty, \$56,044)	\$267,044	47	1	0.68	1.28
25	INTERACTIF (07, Broken Vow), Red River Farms	\$2,000	31/10	0/0	0/0	(Averys Miss, \$42,268)	\$236,704	93	1	0.63	0.97
26	YANKEE GENTLEMAN (99, Storm Cat), Le Mesa Stallions	\$2,500	26/8	0/0	0/0	(Yankee Seven, \$44,095)	\$221,097	*545	21	1.01	1.14
27	TIZ THE ONE (07, Tiznow)	N/A	23/7	0/0	0/0	(Tiz the Time, \$44,820)	\$203,632	84	1	0.58	0.88
28	TENPINS (98, Smart Strike), Elite Thoroughbreds	\$2,500	23/7	0/0	0/0	(Tenpins Tempo, \$54,219)	\$197,974	*397	8	0.83	0.99
29	NOWNOWNOW (05, Whywhywhy), Holly Hill Farm	Private	16/8	0/0	0/0	(Lil Ashley B., \$49,725)	\$195,230	44	0	0.39	0.67
30	RUBER'S COURT (01, Doneraile Court), Holly Hill Farm	\$1,000	14/6	0/0	0/0	(Big Boy Dave Rex, \$45,800)	\$182,703	142	0	0.61	0.69
31	SABERCAT (09, Bluegrass Cat), Averett Farm	\$3,500	15/6	0/0	0/0	(Saber Cut, \$81,160)	\$162,955	37	0	0.50	0.75
32	TIME BANDIT (96, Time for a Change), Averett Farm	\$1,000	19/7	0/0	0/0	(Outofthisgalaxy, \$26,605)	\$156,743	308	4	0.83	0.86
33	FOREFATHERS (04, Gone West)	N/A	26/9	0/0	0/0	(Zenucci, \$30,460)	\$153,912	193	1	0.55	1.00
34	GOLD TRIBUTE (94, Mr. Prospector)	N/A	13/5	0/0	0/0	(Gilded Apple, \$31,640)	\$143,738	*502	14	0.94	1.03
35	LONE STAR SPECIAL (05, Malabar Gold), Horse of Course	\$2,500	14/4	0/0	0/0	(Trevilion, \$28,860)	\$125,407	92	4	1.21	0.99
36	ORTHODOX (06, Pulpit), Peach Lane Farms	\$1,000	15/5	0/0	0/0	(Ella's Lil Star, \$28,160)	\$121,286	90	0	0.37	0.63
37	AWESOME BET (08, Awesome Again), Peach Lane Farms	\$1,500	8/3	1/1	1/1	(Net a Bear, \$56,810)	\$118,091	17	1	1.12	0.84
38	CAMEO APPEARANCE (10, Majestic Warrior), Red River Farms	\$1,500	13/6	0/0	0/0	(Have No Fear, \$18,920)	\$117,550	25	0	0.67	1.03
39	CHATAIN (03, Forest Wildcat)	Died, 2017	9/4	0/0	0/0	(Oh Toodles, \$58,215)	\$110,385	103	0	0.51	0.84
40	SAINT AFLEET (01, Northern Afleet), Landlock Equine	\$1,500	11/4	0/0	0/0	(Bending Saint, \$29,780)	\$109,960	109	4	0.69	0.85
41	SMOOTH AIR (05, Smooth Jazz)	N/A	20/3	0/0	0/0	(Freda's Smooth Air, \$32,540)	\$101,807	72	0	0.48	0.70
42	PROUDINSKY (GER) (03, Silvano)	N/A	17/5	0/0	0/0	(Don Guillermo, \$22,130)	\$99,253	61	0	0.46	0.77
43	OLE REBEL (99, Carson City)	Died, 2019	7/2	0/0	0/0	(Knockalittlelouder, \$32,060)	\$88,654	104	2	0.63	0.79
44	TETON FOREST (01, Forestry)	Died, 2017	7/4	0/0	0/0	(Wandernintheforest, \$24,305)	\$75,016	*240	3	0.78	0.98
45	BIG BAND SOUND (07, Bernstein)	N/A	8/4	0/0	0/0	(Mangelsen, \$29,790)	\$69,945	25	0	0.40	0.83
46	IDE LIKE A DOUBLE (05, Ide), Sebastien Farm	\$1,000	5/4	0/0	0/0	(Double Red, \$21,960)	\$64,945	12	0	0.66	0.56
47	FLASHY WISE CAT (05, Catastrophe), Le Mesa Stallions	Died, 2019	6/2	0/0	0/0	(My Wise Cat, \$48,072)	\$63,902	17	0	0.55	0.69
48	ZONG (05, Unbridled's Song), Indian Creek Thoroughbred Farm	\$2,000	15/3	0/0	0/0	(Zyanara, \$14,010)	\$60,455	65	0	0.83	1.01
49	PODIUM (04, Pulpit)	N/A	3/1	0/0	0/0	(Leather and Lace, \$55,796)	\$56,546	29	0	0.48	1.10
50	CROWNED KING (00, Barkerville)	N/A	15/1	0/0	0/0	(Slew City Susie, \$17,340)	\$53,817	53	1	0.88	0.63
51	CLEVER CRY (06, Street Cry)	Died, 2017	13/1	0/0	0/0	(Clever Lad, \$23,585)	\$53,680	58	1	0.32	0.73
52	SILENT PLEASURE (03, Real Quiet), Scarberry Farm	\$2,500	10/3	0/0	0/0	(Such, \$14,285)	\$47,985	46	0	0.43	0.50
53	ARKHOMA (08, Distorted Humor)	N/A	3/2	0/0	0/0	(Like Mike, \$21,300)	\$44,038	3	0	0.71	0.33
54	HARBORAGE (03, Monarchos), Kraft Farm	\$1,000	9/3	0/0	0/0	(Thinking of Her, \$17,825)	\$42,684	79	1	0.57	0.82
55	ROYAL STRAND (IRE) (94, Royal Academy)	N/A	10/1	0/0	0/0	(Jaci's Royalty, \$24,000)	\$41,056	112	2	0.74	0.79

through April 3 with the specter of COVID-19 still looming but also a new-found hope for the coming years and a renewed focus on its core product.

"We are not sure what's down the road with COVID; nobody knows," said Berube. "But you still have to plan for the meet, and

we have plans in place, but at the very least we assume the current restrictions will still be in place when we open. We have our fingers crossed things don't get worse."

In a state that does not allow for wagering to occur anywhere other than in-person at racetracks—no ADW, no off-track

betting—Sam Houston sat idle for more than two months during the early stages of the pandemic. But once the track reopened for simulcasting, things took a turn for the better.

"The simulcast handle has been excel-
(continued on page 48)

Thrilled to Welcome 2021...And Glad that 2020 is done!...Certainly, we're all in this together

Inviting our peers with farms from surrounding states to embrace
the new Louisiana by-laws and raise their own Louisiana Breds!

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MAKING HISTORY AS A SIRE

#1 2019 Sire of Louisiana Breds
#1 2018 Sire of Louisiana Breds
76% Winners/Starters
16% Stakes Horses
\$61,062 Ave/Starter

Sire of TWO Graded Stakes Horses!

MINIT TO STARDOM, Won G2 Honorable Miss H.,
2nd G2 Gallant Bloom H. Chosen 2019 Louisiana
Bred Champion 4-Year-Old and Up Filly or Mare.
Won 2020 Louisiana Premier Night Matron S.

GIVEMEAMINIT 3rd G1 Hopeful Stakes at two

Six 2020 Stakes Horses In addition to **MINIT TO STARDOM**, sire of **Rue Lala**, 2nd Louisiana Cup Juvenile Fillies S;
Schnell, 2nd D.S. Shine Young F; **Tap Dance Star**, 3rd Red Camelia S.; **Star Fitzstall**, 3rd Louisian Premier Night Championship;
Guitar Tribute, 3rd Louisiana Premier Night Prince.

Fee: In consideration to breeders struggling with the current tough economy, this year only **\$5,000**, 9-1 (Normally \$6,500 Live Foal, 9-1)
or **\$7,500** LFSN • Nominated to Breeders' Cup • Enrolled in eNicks, G1 Goldmine Stallion Match and TrueNicks



2019
A.L. "Red" Irwin
Louisiana Stallion of the Year
Current Leader of 2020
Louisiana Breds

CLEARLY NOW

Horse Greeley - Bend, by Arch

MULTIPLE GRADED STAKES WINNING MILLIONAIRE

Grade 1 placed
\$1,146,138 in earnings

WON OR PLACED IN 15 STAKES 10 GRADED

SET NEW TRACK RECORD at Gulfstream Park

FASTEST 7 Furlongs EVER in New York
(7 furlongs in 1:20) while carrying top weight,
in the final win of his racing career.

WON EVERY YEAR FROM AGES 2 THROUGH 7



Set NTR
at GP at age 7 in final
win of his career

Fee: \$2,000 Live Foal, 9-1 or
\$2,500 LFSN • Nominated to Breeders' Cup • Enrolled in eNicks, G1 Goldmine Stallion
Match and TrueNicks

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Louisiana's Rules will now allow mares to be maintained at their own farms for the majority

CUSTOM FOR CARLOS

More Than Ready-Meadow Oaks, by Meadowlake

Sire of 2018 Louisiana Horse of the Year MONTE MAN

(\$616,423), 15 wins, SEVEN Stakes wins. Winner of the 2020 Costa Rising S.

Sire of 2017 Louisiana Horse of the Year BIG WORLD

G1SW BIG WORLD defeated offspring of CANDY RIDE, GHOSTZAPPER, QUALITY ROAD, and LEMON DROP KID winning Churchill Down's historic \$300,000 GRADE 1 La Troienne Stakes

BIG WORLD sold for \$725,000 at FTNOV2017, The HIGHEST PRICE Ever For A LOUISIANA BRED

67% winners • 33% 2YO winners • \$41,000 Ave/starter

TWO-YEAR-OLD PRICES UP TO \$400,000
YEARLING PRICES UP TO \$98,000



#1 LOUISIANA STALLION
1ST, 2ND & 3RD CROPS
2nd Leading 2020 sire of
Louisiana Breds

Fee: \$3,000 Live Foal, 9-1 or \$3,500 LFSN • Nominated to Breeders' Cup • Enrolled in eNicks, G1 Goldmine Stallion Match and TrueNicks

HALF OURS

Unbridled's Song-Zing, by Storm Cat

LOUISIANA STALLION of the YEAR 4 YEARS RUNNING! 2014 - 2017!

71% WINNERS/STARTERS

10% BLACKTYPE RUNNERS

40% JUVENILE WINNERS

\$50,000 AVE/STARTER

Sire of 22 stakes winners

40 stakes horses on dirt and turf

**Sire of 2019 G2 Honorable Miss H. placed
OURS TO RUN**

Sire of 2019 2YO Louisiana Bred Champion Filly

OUR LOST LOVE From two starts in 2020,
WON Take Charge Brandi S.; 2nd in Louisiana
Premier Night Starlet,



Sire of
OUR LOST LOVE
'19 2YO Louisiana Bred
Champion Filly

TWO-YEAR-OLD PRICES UP TO \$190,000 • YEARLING PRICES UP TO \$66,000

Fee: \$4,500 Live Foal, 9-1 or \$5,000 LFSN • Nominated to Breeders' Cup • Enrolled in eNicks, G1 Goldmine Stallion Match and TrueNicks

Write your own story



of the year and still participate in the lucrative Louisiana Breeding Program

IMPERIAL HINT

Imperialism - Royal Hint, by Lahint

4 TIME G1 STAKES WINNER
MULTI-MILLIONAIRE
WON 11 STAKES- 7 GRADED!

Won G1 Vosburgh S at 5 AND 6
Won G1 Alfred G. Vanderbilt S at 5 AND 6

SET NEW TRACK RECORD
AT SARATOGA -6 f in 1:07.92
defeating Champion MITOLE
FIRE TRIPLE DIGIT BEYERS 11 TIMES!

RACE RECORD 25-14-2-4
\$2,209,055 IN EARNINGS

By Multiple G2SW
IMPERIALISM

From the Danzig Sire Line

Fee: \$2,500 Live Foal, 9-1

Nominated to Breeders' Cup • Enrolled in eNicks, G1 Goldmine Stallion Match and TrueNicks

**Record Setting
Sprinter
Retires to Stud**



Imperial Hint Winning The G1Alfred G. Vanderbilt S. Susie Raisher photo.

PEPPERED CAT

Tabasco Cat-Morning Meadow, by Meadowlake

\$50,000 AVERAGE EARNINGS PER STARTER
80% WINNERS FROM STARTERS • 8% STAKES HORSES

By G1 Preakness and G1 Belmont Stakes Winning Millionaire
TABASCO CAT Son of Storm Cat
Out of G3SW MEADOWLAKE mare, MORNING MEADOW.

Fee: \$2,500 Live Foal 9-1 or Lifetime Breeding Rights \$2,500 due when booked

Nominated to Breeders' Cup

Enrolled in eNicks, G1 Goldmine Stallion Match and TrueNicks

**Proven Son of
Tabasco Cat**



Louisiana's New Non-Resident Mare Rule Offers More Opportunities

The Louisiana Thoroughbred Breeders Association has recently modified the by-laws allowing for a new "Non-Resident Mare" to be eligible to have accredited Louisiana bred foals. The Non-Resident section of the by-law reads:

(b) Non-Resident Mare is a broodmare that arrives in Louisiana in foal and after foaling must be covered by a Louisiana domiciled stallion in that foaling year, and pregnant or not, must remain in Louisiana for a period of ninety (90) days after foaling or until August 1 of the foaling year, whichever is earlier.

With this by-law change, breeders may be able to be a significant part of the Louisiana Breeders program and be rewarded accordingly.

In order to view the full Louisiana Thoroughbred Breeders Association

By-Laws please visit

<https://www.louisianabred.com/default.aspx?pid=28>.

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2020 LEADING SIRES IN ARKANSAS


 For daily updated sire lists
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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2021 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	Cumulative				
							2020 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	MARK VALESKI (09, Proud Citizen), Lake Hamilton Equine Center	\$1,500	35/15	1/1	1/1	(Network Effect, \$221,160)	\$790,377	71	2	1.05	1.20
2	HAMAZING DESTINY (06, Salt Lake), Starfish Stallions	\$1,500	19/12	0/0	0/0	(Hamazing Vision, \$99,368)	\$557,517	42	0	0.87	0.91
3	DOUBLE IRISH (11, Tapit), McDowell Farm	\$1,000	15/7	1/1	1/1	(Sekani, \$126,775)	\$413,458	33	1	1.15	1.12
4	EXHI (07, Maria's Mon), Big Oaks Farm	Private	29/13	0/0	0/0	(Golden Pearl, \$41,785)	\$292,495	91	1	0.61	1.17
5	PORTOBELLO ROAD (04, Storm Cat)	Died	22/12	0/0	0/0	(Souixper Charger, \$65,930)	\$272,212	150	1	0.71	0.88
6	JONESBORO (02, Sefapiano), Lake Hamilton Equine Center	\$500	16/9	0/0	0/0	(Chicken Hawk, \$39,651)	\$243,570	89	3	0.79	0.75
7	LAURIE'S ROCKET (09, Bluegrass Cat), Witt Racing Stables	\$2,500	16/7	0/0	0/0	(Proud Victoria, \$62,850)	\$238,400	46	0	0.88	1.16
8	CYBER SECRET (09, Broken Vow)	N/A	13/6	1/1	1/1	(Dont Tell Noobody, \$150,180)	\$235,773	35	1	0.88	0.83
9	BRAHMS (97, Danzig), Arkansas State University Equine Center	\$1,000	25/11	0/0	0/0	(Sir Brahms, \$44,020)	\$222,372	*700	13	1.03	1.11
10	ORDAINED (08, Pulpit), Starfish Stallions	\$1,500	17/4	0/0	0/0	(Sunday Sermon, \$60,903)	\$177,959	55	1	0.53	0.86
11	COMMANDER'S SHOES (03, Deputy Commander), Rafter R Ranch	\$1,500	23/7	0/0	0/0	(Babadook, \$29,393)	\$138,506	92	0	0.56	0.82
12	POMATINI (05, Lemon Drop Kid), Matthews Farm	Private	4/2	0/0	0/0	(Prospector Fever, \$96,263)	\$102,653	28	0	0.40	0.25
13	MOONSHINE MULLIN (08, Albert the Great), Lake Hamilton Equine Center	\$1,000	14/1	0/0	0/0	(Moonshine Miss, \$23,172)	\$98,326	31	0	0.30	0.74
14	MACHO ROCKET (09, Macho Uno), Arkansas State University Equine Center	\$1,000	7/3	0/0	0/0	(Macho Rocco, \$30,060)	\$83,576	41	0	0.53	0.87
15	ICON IKE (09, Yes It's True), Starfish Stallions	\$1,500	8/4	0/0	0/0	(Tailorbeswift, \$18,450)	\$65,999	17	0	0.50	0.66

(continued from page 44)

lent since we reopened on June 3 after being shut down for 2½ months," added Berube. "And since we reopened, we are actually surpassing last year's numbers."

Now the test will be to keep that momentum going for the live racing meet, and early indications are good with new trainers and horses being attracted by more race dates, higher purses, and renowned racing surfaces, especially the turf course.

Berube expects overnight purses to average around \$215,000 per day

over the 46-day meet.

"Our total purse pool should be in the \$12-million range for the Thoroughbred meet," he said. "Last (meet) was incomplete, but in 2019 I think our total Thoroughbred purses were around \$4.2 million."

The increased purses have made the job of Frank Hopf, senior director of racing operations, a little bit easier, at least when it comes to filling stalls.

"We got 2,300 stall apps for a barn area of 1,130," he said. "We had about 40 new

trainers apply for stalls this year. We've had some from around this region but also Kentucky and some even from Minnesota, Florida, New Mexico, and Washington. Really all parts of the country.

"The last two years have been a lot different than the first three years in this role for me for stall allocation," he added.

In addition to a bulked-up overnight purse structure, Sam Houston will be offering more race days in 2021—46 compared to 39 scheduled (and 34 completed) last meet. The 2021 stakes schedule totals \$2.4 million, up from \$1.8 million originally set for last time around.

The showpiece of the stakes schedule will be the Houston Racing Festival Jan. 31, featuring the track's two grade 3 events, the \$300,000 Houston Ladies Classic and \$200,000 John B. Connally Turf Cup.

While the 1½-mile Connally has been the track's richest and most important turf stakes since the first running in 1995, the Houston Ladies Classic, for 4-year-old and older fillies and mares at 1¼ miles on the main track, took over the mantle as the track's top race when it was inaugurated in 2013. Its short list of winners already includes Midnight Bisou, who kicked off her 2019 campaign with a victory at Sam Houston en route to an Eclipse Award for champion older dirt female. And the 2020 renewal attracted the prior year's Longines Kentucky Oaks (G1) winner Serengeti



CADDY PHOTOGRAPHY

Midnight Bisou winning the 2019 Houston Ladies Classic

Special Note For Sire Lists:

For stallions that stand, will stand, or stood (deceased/pensioned) in the selected region and have runners in North America. Exported sires are excluded. Listed are all available Northern Hemisphere statistics through November 29, 2020. As supplied to BloodHorse by The Jockey Club Information Systems, Inc., earnings include adjusted money from Japan, Hong Kong, and Singapore. For example, the average North American purse in 2019 is \$25,300 or 53% of the 2019 average purse in Japan. To put earnings on par, all Japanese progeny earnings are multiplied by 53% before being credited to a sire's progeny earnings. Hong Kong earnings are adjusted by 17%; Singapore by 85%. Current year stakes winners include all N.H.-foaled black-type stakes winners worldwide. *Foal counts include Southern Hemisphere. Cumulative stakes winners include all countries. The columns represent the following: Rnrs = number of runners or starters; Wnrs = number of winners; BTWnrs = number of black-type stakes winners; BTHrs = number of black-type stakes horses, which include runners that won or placed in a stakes; GSWnrs = graded/group stakes winners; and G1SWnrs = grade/group 1 winners; AWD = progeny average winning distance. All percentages are from runners. Cumulative stakes winners include all available countries. Categorical leaders are in bold.



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2020 LEADING SIRES IN OKLAHOMA



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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2021 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2020 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	FLAT OUT (06, Flatter), Mighty Acres	\$3,000	202/99	4/6	2/4	(Flat Out Speed, \$230,262)	\$4,017,196	404	8	1.08	1.16
2	SUCCESSFUL APPEAL (96, Valid Appeal)	Pnsd	94/47	0/0	0/0	(Jeannie's Beepbeep, \$109,088)	\$1,758,979	*830	56	1.61	1.40
3	LIAISON (09, Indian Charlie), Mighty Acres	\$2,500	145/55	1/1	0/1	(Bronx Beauty, \$131,050)	\$1,588,633	293	3	0.72	1.15
4	WILBURN (08, Bernardini), River Oaks Farms	\$2,500	87/34	1/2	1/1	(Circus Rings, \$162,690)	\$1,018,625	*335	9	0.77	1.08
5	ATREIDES (11, Medaglia d'Oro), River Oaks Farms	\$2,000	61/33	1/1	1/1	(Lookin At Justice, \$80,973)	\$969,200	110	3	0.87	1.33
6	CALEB'S POSSE (08, Posse), River Oaks Farms	\$2,000	48/26	2/2	0/2	(Honor Way, \$216,500)	\$946,020	*118	3	1.11	1.13
7	POLLARD'S VISION (01, Carson City)	Pnsd	59/20	1/1	1/1	(Visionary Ruler, \$87,819)	\$793,797	*783	21	1.14	1.15
8	SHAKIN IT UP (10, Midnight Lute), Caines Stallion Station	\$1,000	64/28	0/0	0/0	(Bray, \$76,125)	\$748,405	*142	1	0.70	1.08
9	EURDEARS (04, Langfuhr), Dunn Ranch	\$1,500	57/22	1/1	1/1	(Three Chords, \$83,675)	\$674,581	174	5	0.81	0.83
10	ORATORY (02, Pulpit)	Died, 2016	26/15	1/2	1/1	(Redatory, \$135,878)	\$492,700	*226	7	1.09	1.11
11	MAGNA GRADUATE (02, Honor Grades), Brewster Ranch	\$2,500	37/14	1/2	1/1	(She's All Wolfe, \$177,394)	\$473,838	*250	9	0.91	0.99
12	LATENT HEAT (03, Maria's Mon), River Oaks Farms	\$2,000	34/17	1/1	1/1	(Northern Playboy, \$78,000)	\$452,921	*368	8	0.85	1.07
13	MR. NIGHTLINGER (04, Indian Charlie)	Died, 2017	40/13	0/0	0/0	(Sweet Baker, \$28,946)	\$361,894	200	4	0.59	0.83
14	THE VISUALISER (03, Giant's Causeway), Kirten Farms	\$1,000	17/8	1/4	1/1	(Welder, \$205,625)	\$342,010	87	2	0.85	0.84
15	BACKSTABBER (06, Elusive Quality), M. Gerald Ball	\$1,000	12/4	1/2	1/1	(Quality Rocket, \$172,442)	\$299,828	19	1	0.93	0.41
16	KIPLING (96, Gulch)	Died, 2019	24/10	0/0	0/0	(Gospel Abe, \$34,960)	\$223,528	364	9	0.94	0.87
17	DOCTOR CHIT (09, War Front), Royal Vista Ranches	\$2,500	21/7	0/0	0/0	(Sedaris, \$51,331)	\$219,498	50	0	0.46	0.73
18	SPECIAL RATE (00, Pulpit), River Oaks Farm	\$2,000	20/8	0/0	0/0	(No Deal, \$60,350)	\$215,888	193	4	0.59	0.64
19	BLUESKIESRAINBOWS (09, English Channel), Sunlight Farm	\$2,500	13/5	0/0	0/0	(Redskiesatnight, \$91,785)	\$213,336	24	0	0.74	1.33
20	CHITZO (05, Forest Wildcat), River Oaks Farms	\$1,500	11/3	0/0	0/0	(Pretty Britches, \$60,082)	\$129,780	61	2	0.76	0.89
21	BEGGARTHYNEIGHBOR (09, Half Ours)	N/A	10/5	0/0	0/0	(Half Ours to Keep, \$62,775)	\$118,616	17	0	0.53	0.32
22	MISTER LUCKY CAT (08, Storm Cat), WestWin Farms	\$1,000	8/5	0/0	0/0	(Contraband, \$24,616)	\$102,817	25	1	0.78	1.06
23	FOREIGN POLICY (02, Danzig), River Oaks Farms	\$1,250	14/7	0/0	0/0	(Smok'n Policy, \$24,915)	\$101,433	57	1	0.84	0.84
24	¶ DEN'S LEGACY (10, Medaglia d'Oro), Mighty Acres	\$2,000	9/2	0/0	0/0	(Lenny K, \$39,886)	\$94,429	20	0	0.65	0.93
25	SASHA'S PROSPECT (96, Mr. Prospector), Chariton Ranch	Private	9/2	0/0	0/0	(Wild Prospect, \$42,839)	\$83,301	*140	1	0.60	0.75
26	BRICKTOWN CAT (04, Tale of the Cat), Dusty Rose Ranch	\$650	4/3	0/0	0/0	(Kallie Sioux, \$46,002)	\$78,162	10	0	0.84	0.33
27	I SPENT IT (12, Super Saver)	N/A	7/3	0/0	0/0	(Don H, \$21,802)	\$75,185	19	0	0.90	1.23
28	MAIMONIDES (05, Vindication), Silver Star Breeding Center	\$1,500	9/2	0/0	0/0	(Big Money Mike, \$48,250)	\$74,332	*121	1	0.74	1.72
29	AFFIRMATIF (06, Unbridled's Song), Caines Stallion Station	\$1,000	18/6	0/0	0/0	(Commander McDivitt, \$25,439)	\$72,640	93	1	0.41	0.74
30	SEBASTIAN COUNTY (05, Hennessy), Royal Vista Ranches	\$2,500	15/4	0/0	0/0	(Apple County, \$18,116)	\$69,953	40	0	0.32	0.68

Empress, who was upset by the Steve Asmussen-trained Lady Apple.

"We've been fortunate the last couple of years with some big horses coming through here," said Hopf. "We are already getting a lot of interest in the race (in 2021), and we hope that it will earn grade 2 status soon."

MORE MONEY, MORE COMPETITION

The flip side of higher purses is that some horsemen will be left without the stalls they requested, and the quality of competition on the track figures to be tougher than at any time in recent memory at Sam Houston.

One trainer who is up for the challenge is Mindy Willis, a longtime fixture at the track and around the region.

"It's nice to have new people come in," said Willis, who finished fifth by earnings in the trainer standings for the 2020



Lady Apple upset Serengeti Empress in the 2020 Houston Ladies Classic



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A Division of Center Hills Farm



FLAT OUT

(Flatter-Cresta Lil, by Cresta Rider)

OKLAHOMA'S LEADING STALLION BY PROGENY EARNINGS AND BY MARES BRED IN 2020!

\$~VXSHULRU~DQG~VRXQG~UDFHKRUVH~ZKR~RHD~\$30~HGT~PAU with G1 wins including the Cigar Mile and Jockey Club Gold Cup (twice). His first four crops include 31 stakes horses and the earners of more than \$13 million!

2021 FEE: \$3,000

1RPLQDWHG~WR~HHGH&XS



LIAISON

(Indian Charlie-Galloping Gal, by Victory Gallop)

OKLAHOMA'S #2 ACTIVE SIRE BY 2020 EARNINGS AND WINNERS!

*\$~*UDGH~ZLQQHU~DW~ZKR~LQ~M&S~W&K~R&X~M&E~U
~VWDNHV~KRUVHV~LQFOXGLQ~BRONN&BEAUTY
(\$598,270) and \$500K SW and Br~HHGH&XS~VWDUWHU~
MOONLIGHT ROMANCE (\$421,040).*

2021 FEE: \$2,500

1RPLQDWHG~WR~HHGH&XS



DEN'S LEGACY

(Medaglia d'Oro-Sunshine Song, by War Chant)

OKLAHOMA'S LEADING FRESHMAN SIRE OF 2020!

*Grade 3 winner by a top international sire.
+LV~AUVR&SFLV~DD&G~PDNLQJ~QHYZ°*

2021 FEE: \$2,000



All fees are stands and nurses

All stallions are nominated to the Oklahoma Bred Program, Oklahoma Stallion Stakes, Iowa Stallion Stakes and Minnesota Stallion Stakes



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CADDY PHOTOGRAPHY

Brad Cox-trained Dot Matrix winning the 12-furlong John B. Connally Turf Cup

Sam Houston meet. “The people that have been there for years will have to realize that when purses get better, the horses get better and you have to upgrade. I’ve never been worried about that. It just makes you step up to the plate and compete.”

Among the expected newcomers to Sam Houston for the 2021 meet is Brad Cox, fresh off a four-victory performance at the Breeders’ Cup World Championships. He’ll join a deep pool of conditioners, where last meet’s top four earners were Asmussen, Karl Broberg, Bret Calhoun, and Danny Pish.

“The surfaces are great, and the grass is second to none,” opined Willis. “When

those big guys come in for the major turf races, they see what a good course it is.”

Indeed, the Cox stable got to see the turf course first-hand when Dot Matrix won the 2020 Connally Turf, snapping an incredible run of six consecutive wins in the race by trainer Mike Maker, including the 2017-19 runnings with Bigger Picture.

Seeking to capitalize on the reputation of its grass course, Sam Houston introduced the \$200,000 Texas Turf Mile for 3-year-olds for the 2020 meet, and it will again be part of the Houston Racing Festival with more than \$1 million in total purses that day.



COURTESY SAM HOUSTON RACE PARK



ANNE M. EBERHARDT

Left, trainer Mindy Willis, a fixture at Sam Houston Race Park, with stakes-winning Texas Belle; right, last year’s leading trainer Steve Asmussen

HOPE FOR MORE TEXAS-BREDS

When Texas hosted the Breeders’ Cup in 2004, more than 3,000 mares were bred in the state and the state’s number of stallions reached nearly 400. Even considering the contraction of annual foal crops nationwide, the decline of Texas’ breeding program since then has been staggering—according to the latest figures from The Jockey Club, just 415 mares were bred in 2019 with 87 stallions on the books. The Texas foal crop numbered more than 2,000 at the start of this century, and for 2019 it is projected to be 271. Despite those dire numbers, there is a glimmer of hope.

“We want to help start building the Texas breeding program back and improving that,” said Hopf. “So we think a better Texas-bred stakes schedule can be part of that.”

To that end, Sam Houston’s stakes schedule includes 14 events for Texas-bred or Texas-sired horses, and the seven stakes that constitute Texas Champions Day will be worth \$100,000 apiece, double the value in 2019.

“I’ve got clients looking for Texas-breds now,” said Willis. “For a while no one was breeding much in Texas because the purses weren’t much, but now people are starting to breed again.”

“We’ve had more calls about accreditation, and we’ve had some new stallions coming in this year,” added Mary Ruyle, executive director of the Texas Thoroughbred Association.

It’s too early to tell whether the anecdotal increase in interest will translate to more Texas-bred foals, especially given the uncertainty of a health pandemic, but there was enough interest from area buyers and consignors for the TTA to bring back a winter mixed sale this December, the first of its kind in nearly a decade. The TTA and Lone Star Park already operate a 2-year-olds in training and a yearling sale annually.

While any new Texas-bred foals figure to have more money to run at in the state, breeders can now earn awards when those horses win races out of state. Using some of the money from the escrow fund, the TTA this year launched a new bonus program that pays breeders when their Texas-breds hit the board in races anywhere in the U.S.,

NEW AT STUD!
IN 2021



AMERICAN ANTHEM

(Bodemeister-Indy's Windy, A.P. Indy)

2020, \$848,490

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By **BODEMEISTER** (\$1,304,800), Sire of Over \$21 Million including
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Out of **INDY'S WINDY** (\$70,355), a daughter of **Horse of the Year A.P. INDY** (\$2,979,815) **2-Time Leading Sire** of Over \$137.2 Million and & a half-sister to **Champion BANSHEE BREEZE** (\$2,784,798), **UNBRIDLED WIND** (\$135,019, grandam of **TIZ WINDY**, \$321,791, **Patch**, \$532,450), **Charm** (\$110,831, dam of **WHIRL**, \$189,955; grandam of **Tickety Boo**, 2020, \$112,628).

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2020 LEADING SIRES IN NEW MEXICO



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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2021 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	Cumulative				
							2020 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	JUSTIN PHILLIP (08, First Samurai), The Quarter Company	\$5,000	108/54	1/1	0/1	(Just Might, \$153,275)	\$1,736,856	201	6	1.00	1.09
2	MORNING LINE (07, Tiznow)	Died, 2019	86/34	0/0	0/0	(Rowdy Yates, \$146,158)	\$1,489,225	*182	5	1.08	1.17
3	ATTLA'S STORM (02, Forest Wildcat), A & A Ranch	\$4,000	88/46	4/4	4/4	(Aisle Runner, \$153,133)	\$1,362,507	*312	22	1.03	0.80
4	SOUTHWESTERN HEAT (04, Gone West)	Died, 2017	36/15	1/1	1/1	(Wheredoesethecashgo, \$92,943)	\$467,170	*121	6	0.74	0.94
5	SHAME ON CHARLIE (04, Indian Charlie)	N/A	17/10	1/1	1/1	(Effort N Results, \$136,560)	\$398,262	35	5	1.24	0.61
6	INDIAN FIREWATER (07, Indian Charlie)	Died, 2017	42/17	1/1	1/1	(Comic Hot Toddy, \$78,364)	\$397,381	105	4	0.61	1.03
7	ABSTRACTION (10, Pulpit), Doubletree Farm	\$3,500	43/22	0/0	0/0	(Evacuee, \$57,643)	\$396,600	79	1	0.79	0.96
8	QUINTON'S GOLD (97, Carson City), Graham Farms	Private	33/15	0/0	0/0	(Orogrande, \$52,905)	\$368,552	162	10	1.09	0.82
9	READ THE FOOTNOTES (01, Smoke Glacken), Creekside Farm	\$2,000	31/10	0/0	0/0	(Casino Queen, \$48,847)	\$322,756	*355	19	1.22	1.11
10	DIABOLICAL (03, Artax), A & A Ranch	\$4,000	37/16	0/0	0/0	(Next Affair, \$49,375)	\$309,426	177	12	0.90	0.92
11	LAUGH TRACK (09, Distorted Humor), Double LL Farm	\$2,500	39/10	0/0	0/0	(Ima Saint Too, \$34,096)	\$242,761	89	1	0.41	0.87
12	MARKING (12, Bernardini), A & A Ranch	\$3,500	13/4	1/1	1/1	(Delbert Too, \$122,535)	\$235,136	28	1	0.97	1.15
13	RIGHT RIGGER (06, Unbridled's Song), Hunter Creek Farms	\$3,500	8/4	0/0	0/0	(Rig Time, \$170,000)	\$200,924	25	4	1.53	0.52
14	FUSAICHI ZENON (JPN) (97, Sunday Silence), Weatherly Horse Farms	\$2,000	18/12	0/0	0/0	(Baby Shamu, \$24,312)	\$163,630	125	4	0.62	0.80
15	MR. GOLD MOVER (08, Mr. Greeley), Bar Y Equine	\$1,500	21/8	0/0	0/0	(Peggy B Fast, \$30,373)	\$153,367	70	2	0.65	0.86
16	ROLL HENNESSY ROLL (00, Hennessy), A & A Ranch	\$2,500	26/7	0/0	0/0	(Let It Roll, \$28,785)	\$141,914	186	12	0.90	0.93
17	STELLAR RAIN (08, Storm Cat), TNL Farm	\$1,200	11/5	0/0	0/0	(Susans Violette, \$60,000)	\$128,330	34	1	0.78	0.88
18	MR. TRIESTE (01, Old Trieste), McKenna Thoroughbreds	\$1,500	10/6	0/0	0/0	(Jet N G, \$46,325)	\$126,669	56	1	0.65	0.78
19	DOME (98, Storm Cat), Double LL Farm	\$2,500	11/4	1/1	1/1	(Thunder Dome, \$102,200)	\$126,396	262	7	0.71	0.79
20	MONTEREY JAZZ (04, Thunderello), Sierra Blanca Equine	\$1,250	21/5	0/0	0/0	(Ancient Land, \$70,625)	\$123,925	47	1	0.44	0.63
21	MCKENNA'S JUSTICE (07, Medaglia d'Oro)	Died, 2017	14/6	0/0	0/0	(McGlorious, \$42,800)	\$113,785	27	0	0.75	0.61
22	SONG OF NAVARONE (04, Sultry Song), Lucky Six Farm	Private	16/2	0/0	0/0	(Blazing Navarone, \$60,000)	\$98,309	44	1	0.78	0.71
23	DELHOMME (10, Dixie Union), A & A Ranch	\$1,500	8/4	0/0	0/0	(Deleterious, \$27,416)	\$91,645	21	0	0.66	0.97
24	EXCESSIVE PASSION (07, Vronsky)	N/A	5/2	0/0	0/0	(Chary Ride, \$68,460)	\$79,937	15	0	0.55	0.61
25	SILVER WAGON (01, Wagon Limit), Hunter Creek Farms	\$2,500	18/5	0/0	0/0	(Devon's Choice, \$17,040)	\$78,263	104	1	0.65	1.09

provided that there's not a live meet currently running in Texas (and \$50,000 and up stakes are eligible for awards at any time). And to offer an additional incentive, breeder awards are also now being paid for Texas-breds that hit the board against open company within the state of Texas.

MORE FOCUS ON RACING

Like many other tracks—especially those without revenue from other types of gaming—Sam Houston has expanded its entertainment menu to include concerts and other types of “racing,” such as wiener dogs, ostriches, and the like.

Berube said that concerts are out for the 2021 meet, for obvious reasons, and that other on-track promotions are likely to be scaled back.

“We are planning to do wiener dogs and camel and ostrich racing, but with COVID we've cut back on those types of promotions outside of racing,” he said. “We are

definitely focused on racing this year.”

The track's schedule will offer afternoon racing on Thursdays in January, with



Despite COVID-related cutbacks, Sam Houston Race Park is ‘focused on racing this year’

Wednesday afternoon racing being added starting in February. Friday and Saturday racing will be in the evenings, save for the lone Sunday afternoon program on Jan. 31 with the Houston Racing Festival.

Using funds from the escrow account, the track is planning to promote its simulcast signal on TVG and with marketing

through industry publications, websites, and radio/satellite shows. With solid field sizes anticipated, thanks to a full backside and more nationally recognized trainers running at Sam Houston, the track's simulcast signal should be attractive to bettors, especially with a 4 p.m. Central post on Wednesdays and Thursdays against somewhat limited competition.

For Berube, who has been at Sam Houston for more than 25 years, it's been a long time coming for the track and for Texas racing.

“I was here for the original construction of the track, so I go way back,” he said. “Without question, this is the most exciting time I remember in Texas racing.”

Denis Blake is the editor of The Horsemen's Journal and editor and publisher of American Racehorse magazines.