

Southwest

ARIZONA ARKANSAS COLORADO KANSAS LOUISIANA
MISSOURI NEW MEXICO OKLAHOMA TEXAS

Second-Career Horseman

After short career as a jockey, Scott Young is an up-and-coming trainer in the region

BY DENIS BLAKE

SCOTT YOUNG WAS LUCKY and talented enough to grow up to be exactly what he dreamed about as a young boy—a jockey.

The only problem was that he grew up a little too much, and his 5-foot-10 body saddled him with a constant struggle to make weight. A successful rider needs to make quick decisions and seize winning opportunities at a moment's notice, and Young did just that when he had the chance to shift career paths and become a trainer. Now the 36-year-old conditioner is coming off his best year yet and has been climbing the standings at tracks in the Midwest and Southwest.

"I was kind of born into racing," Young said. "My grandparents were weekend warriors, running at the Oklahoma tracks. I went to the races just about every weekend."



Trainer Scott Young

COADY PHOTOGRAPHY

ADVERTISERS' INDEX

| | |
|--------------------------------|----|
| A&A Ranch | 44 |
| www.aaranch.org | |
| Benchmark Training Center..... | 47 |
| www.benchmarktc.com | |
| Mighty Acres | 45 |
| www.mightyacres.com | |
| Valor Farm | 43 |
| www.valorfarm.com | |

Lea Sage Watson



COMPETITIVE EDGE

Super Saver – Magdalena's Chase, by Cape Town

A Grade 1 winner, ranked #6 in North America for all first-crop sires, with another stakes winner already in 2021!

A daylight winner in all his victories, **COMPETITIVE EDGE** sold for \$750,000 as a 2-year-old and then broke his maiden in his debut at Saratoga by more than 10 lengths. In just his second start, he won the historic Grade 1 Hopeful Stakes at Saratoga by more than five lengths. The Hopeful is thought by many to be the most significant stakes for 2-year-old colts in America, other than the Breeders' Cup Juvenile!

As a 3-year-old, he won the Tamarac Stakes at Gulfstream Park by more than eight lengths and then rolled to a 4 ½-length win in the Grade 3 Pat Day Mile Stakes at Churchill Downs, earning a 102 Beyer for a blazing time of 1:34.18.

COMPETITIVE EDGE has total progeny earnings of nearly \$4 million. His first two crops include 13 stakes horses, among them are Saratoga stakes winners **FIERCE LADY** and **MY ITALIAN RABBI**, Gulfstream Park stakes winner **COMPETITIVE SPEED**, and Grade 2- and Grade 3-placed **Reagan's Edge** and Grade 3-placed **Edgeway**.

2021 FEE: \$5,000 - LIVE FOAL

Payable August 1 of year bred
Property of Douglas Scharbauer

VALOR FARM

Inquiries to Ken Carson
P.O. Box 966 • Pilot Point, Texas 76258
Phone: (940) 686-5552 • Fax: (940) 686-2179
Email: kencarson@valorfarm.com • Website: www.valorfarm.com
Accredited Texas Stallion • Nominated to the Texas Stallion Stakes Series and Breeders' Cup

NEW MEXICO'S LEADING FIRST CROP SIRE
#2 TWO YEAR OLD SIRE | 3 STAKES HORSES

MARKING | By BERNARDINI
\$3,500 Live Foal



Inquires to Fred Alexander (915) 539-2176 | Office: (915) 539-0040 | www.aaranch.org

2021 LEADING SIRES IN NEW MEXICO



For daily updated sire lists
visit BloodHorse.com

| Rank | Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands | 2021 Stud Fee | Rnrs/ Wnrs | BT SWnrs/ Wns | Rstrct SW/ BT SW | (Chief Earner, Earnings) | 2021 Earnings | Cumulative | | | |
|------|---|---------------|---------------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| | | | | | | | | Foals | Stks Wnrs | A-E Index | Comp Index |
| 1 | JUSTIN PHILLIP (08, First Samurai) | N/A | 53/10 | 1/1 | 0/1 | (Just Might, \$83,000) | \$309,476 | 216 | 7 | 1.00 | 1.09 |
| 2 | MORNING LINE (07, Tiznow) | Died, 2019 | 30/3 | 1/1 | 0/1 | (Morning Molly, \$88,270) | \$266,106 | *208 | 8 | 1.08 | 1.17 |
| 3 | ATTILA'S STORM (02, Forest Wildcat), A & A Ranch | \$4,000 | 15/2 | 0/0 | 0/0 | (Storm Bayou, \$21,715) | \$37,674 | 327 | 22 | 1.02 | 0.80 |
| 4 | METABOSS (12, Street Boss) | N/A | 3/1 | 0/0 | 0/0 | (Sabuda, \$32,100) | \$35,811 | 11 | 0 | 0.75 | 0.78 |
| 5 | LAUGH TRACK (09, Distorted Humor) | N/A | 6/2 | 0/0 | 0/0 | (Laugharoo, \$10,618) | \$26,293 | 106 | 1 | 0.41 | 0.97 |

"All I ever wanted to do when I was a little kid was to be a jockey, from the time I could walk."

Young competed mostly in his home state and achieved a modest level of success as a multiple stakes-winning rider with 282 Thoroughbred racing victories and earnings of more than \$3.4 million, plus a bit more when adding his Quarter Horse racing mounts.

"I like to say that I didn't make a lot of money as a jockey, but my car never got repossessed and the lights never got turned off, so I did OK," he quipped.

Young also managed to avoid any major injuries, although only a jockey would consider the following as minor: "I broke my nose and dislocated my shoulder and collarbone a few times, but no major arm or leg injuries. I had some concussions and a few cracked or broken ribs, but I was pretty fortunate to never be hurt real bad."

At the end of 2011, Young knew it was time for a change. He had fulfilled his goal of becoming a jockey, and he did not hesitate at moving on to a new challenge.

"I was able to ride a lot longer than I ever expected to, so I felt fortunate to be able to do that," he said about his riding career that started in late 2003. "It had come to the point where I had an opportunity to start training better horses than I was riding, so I felt that was the time to switch. It wasn't a hard decision really. I always knew I would end up switching to training, and the right opportunity came along so I jumped at it."

Young had two individuals help him during that transition—his wife, Chastity, whom he had met while she was a groom at the now defunct Blue Ribbon Downs in Sallisaw, Okla., and an Oklahoma-bred named Specialfite.

A gelded son of Fistfite, Specialfite had

given Young his biggest victory as a jockey in the \$113,200 Oklahoma Classics Sprint Stakes at Remington Park in 2010. Young's last ride was also on Specialfite in 2011, although by that time the veteran racehorse had slid down the claiming ranks and finished fifth against \$5,000 company.

COMING FULL CIRCLE

The following spring Specialfite delivered one of the first wins of Young's training career when he captured a \$5,000 claimer at Will Rogers Downs in Claremore, Okla. The gelding ended up launching a four-race winning streak, culminating with a victory in the \$40,000 Route 66 Stakes at Fair Meadows in Tulsa, Okla. Not many horsemen can say they both rode and trained the same horse to a stakes win, or that the special horse is still on his farm.

It almost didn't happen that way, though.

"The owners wanted to give him away and I was tired of messing with him, but my wife took him in," Young said about Specialfite toward the end of his racing career. "We gave him some time and brought him back slow, so I owned and trained and rode him myself in the mornings. He rewarded us very well."

Running with Young as the owner and trainer, Specialfite remained a competitive claiming horse and in June 2015, at the age of 11, won for a \$5,000 tag to notch his 19th career victory with earnings of \$287,176.

"I was wanting to get him to 20 wins, but I watched his last win and he basically just outgalloped the competition," recalled Young. "So I called my wife and said, 'That's it; he's told us he doesn't



DUSTIN ORONA PHOTOGRAPHY/REMINGTON PARK

Specialfite won 19 times, seven times with Young up, and 10 times with Young as trainer



Oklahoma's Foremost Stallion Roster

Den's Legacy • Flat Out • Liaison

MIGHTY ACRES Pryor, Oklahoma • (918) 825-4256 • www.MightyAcres.com

2021 LEADING SIRES IN OKLAHOMA



For daily updated sire lists visit BloodHorse.com

| Rank | Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands | 2021 Stud Fee | Rnrs/ Wnrs | BT SWnrs/ Wns | Rstrct SW/ BT SW | (Chief Earner, Earnings) | 2021 Earnings | Foals | Cumulative | | |
|------|--|---------------|---------------|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|-------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| | | | | | | | | | Stks Wnrs | A-E Index | Comp Index |
| 1 | FLAT OUT (06, Flatter), Mighty Acres | \$3,000 | 108/34 | 3/3 | 0/3 | (Chateau, \$156,200) | \$1,079,397 | 442 | 10 | 1.09 | 1.16 |
| 2 | SUCCESSFUL APPEAL (96, Valid Appeal) | Pnsd | 36/9 | 0/0 | 0/0 | (Charity Stripe, \$19,074) | \$165,878 | *841 | 56 | 1.60 | 1.40 |
| 3 | LIAISON (09, Indian Charlie), Mighty Acres | \$2,500 | 53/7 | 0/0 | 0/0 | (Super Kojak, \$17,600) | \$158,962 | 302 | 3 | 0.71 | 1.15 |
| 4 | ATREIDES (11, Medaglia d'Oro), River Oaks Farms | \$2,000 | 26/5 | 0/0 | 0/0 | (Two Sixtyone, \$43,800) | \$149,517 | 121 | 3 | 0.87 | 1.32 |
| 5 | WILBURN (08, Bernardini), River Oaks Farms | \$2,500 | 28/8 | 0/0 | 0/0 | (Free to Fly, \$41,000) | \$138,170 | *345 | 9 | 0.76 | 1.08 |
| 6 | SHAKIN IT UP (10, Midnight Lute), Caines Stallion Station | \$1,000 | 25/4 | 0/0 | 0/0 | (Shakin Silver, \$17,200) | \$82,570 | *161 | 1 | 0.69 | 1.06 |
| 7 | CALEB'S POSSE (08, Posse), River Oaks Farms | \$2,000 | 17/3 | 0/0 | 0/0 | (Rebel Posse, \$22,660) | \$70,919 | *123 | 3 | 1.12 | 1.12 |
| 8 | MR. NIGHTLINGER (04, Indian Charlie) | Died, 2017 | 14/4 | 0/0 | 0/0 | (Dancing Chicken, \$22,680) | \$67,738 | 200 | 4 | 0.59 | 0.83 |
| 9 | EUROEARS (04, Langfuhr), WestWin Farms | \$1,500 | 20/0 | 0/0 | 0/0 | (Euro Me, \$15,450) | \$53,390 | 191 | 5 | 0.81 | 0.81 |
| 10 | CHITZOZ (05, Forest Wildcat), River Oaks Farms | \$1,500 | 2/1 | 0/0 | 0/0 | (Granny Jewell, \$22,785) | \$36,985 | 65 | 2 | 0.77 | 0.88 |

want to keep running.' So he's in the paddock behind our house at the farm living the good life."

While Scott trains at the track—currently at Sam Houston Race Park before heading to Prairie Meadows this spring—Chastity operates the farm near Pryor, Okla., on

land purchased from Mighty Acres, one of the state's top breeding operations.

With 20 acres and just two broodmares, the Youngs' breeding program is not likely to threaten their neighbor, but it does give the couple a place for layups and room to raise a few foals. The couple did have suc-

cess with their first homebred to hit the track, as Talkin Shannon, a daughter of Foreign Policy, earned nearly \$90,000 with four wins.

Even at 17-years-old, Specialfite is still doing his part to help his owners: He is Chastity's assistant with the young hors-



FLAT OUT

Flatter – Cresta Lil, by Cresta Rider

**SIRES EXACTA IN THE GRADE 3 TOM FOOL HANDICAP AT AQUEDUCT 3/6/21
SIRE OF 2021 INSIDE INFORMATION S. (G2) WINNER PACIFIC GALE**

A superior and sound racehorse who earned more than \$3.6 million with G1 wins, including the Cigar Mile and Jockey Club Gold Cup (twice). His first four crops include 34 stakes horses and the earners of more than \$14 million!

2021 FEE: \$3,000 LIVE FOAL (Nominated to the Breeders' Cup)



MIGHTY ACRES

675 W. 470 Rd., Pryor, OK 74361 • 918.825.4256
Fax 918.825.4255 • Randy Blair: 918.271.2266
randyblair@mightyacres.com • www.MightyAcres.com

MIGHTY ACRES 2021 STALLION ROSTER

Also Standing:

DEN'S LEGACY 2021 Fee: \$2,000 LF
Medaglia d'Oro – Sunshine Song,
by War Chant

OKLAHOMA'S LEADING FRESHMAN SIRE OF 2020!

*Grade 3 winner by a top international
sire. His first crop is already making
news!*

LIAISON 2021 Fee: \$2,500 LF
Indian Charlie – Galloping Gal,
by Victory Gallop

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

*Sire of 16 stakes horses, including
8-time SW BRONX BEAUTY (\$630,070)
and \$500K Kentucky Downs
Juvenile Turf Sprint SW and
Breeders' Cup starter MOONLIGHT
ROMANCE (\$421,040).*

(Nominated to the Breeders' Cup)

2021 LEADING SIRES IN LOUISIANA

 For daily updated sire lists visit BloodHorse.com

| Rank | Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands | 2021 Stud Fee | Rnrs/ Wnrs | BT SWnrs/ Wns | Rstrct SW/ BT SW | (Chief Earner, Earnings) | 2021 Earnings | Foals | Cumulative | | |
|------|---|---------------|------------|---------------|------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|-------|------------|------|------------|
| | | | | | | | | | Sire | A-E | Comp Index |
| 1 | HALF OURS (03, Unbridled's Song), Clear Creek Stud | \$3,000 | 62/14 | 1/2 | 1/1 | (Standing Perfect, \$105,000) | \$583,199 | *553 | 24 | 0.93 | 1.10 |
| 2 | STAR GUITAR (05, Quiet American), Clear Creek Stud | \$7,500 | 61/15 | 0/0 | 0/0 | (Guitar Slim, \$39,320) | \$502,285 | 181 | 9 | 1.12 | 1.03 |
| 3 | GEMOLOGIST (09, Tiznow), Acadiana Equine@Copper Crowne | \$4,000 | 97/18 | 0/0 | 0/0 | (Real Talk, \$36,113) | \$445,402 | *730 | 14 | 1.08 | 1.28 |
| 4 | CUSTOM FOR CARLOS (06, More Than Ready), Clear Creek Stud | \$2,500 | 63/15 | 0/0 | 0/0 | (Sienna Breeze, \$48,660) | \$396,485 | 317 | 6 | 0.77 | 1.04 |
| 5 | BIND (08, Pulpit), Red River Farms | \$1,500 | 34/8 | 0/0 | 0/0 | (Binding Agreement, \$43,800) | \$275,667 | 121 | 3 | 0.75 | 1.00 |
| 6 | GREELEY'S GALAXY (02, Mr. Greeley) | Died, 2017 | 36/8 | 0/0 | 0/0 | (Greeley's Dealer, \$36,310) | \$262,939 | 202 | 3 | 0.91 | 0.99 |
| 7 | D'WILDCAT (98, Forest Wildcat), Whispering Oaks Farm | \$2,500 | 31/12 | 0/0 | 0/0 | (G'wildcat, \$37,560) | \$235,194 | *507 | 16 | 1.19 | 1.17 |
| 8 | MY PAL CHARLIE (05, Indian Charlie), Elite Thoroughbreds | \$2,500 | 28/7 | 0/0 | 0/0 | (Miss Charlie Sioux, \$46,000) | \$205,170 | 210 | 2 | 0.68 | 0.98 |
| 9 | CLOSING ARGUMENT (02, Successful Appeal), Whispering Oaks Farm | \$3,000 | 21/5 | 1/1 | 1/1 | (Quikfast N Ahurry, \$93,000) | \$199,420 | *508 | 20 | 1.13 | 1.09 |
| 10 | DAABER (04, Awesome Again), Circle H Farms | \$3,000 | 28/3 | 0/0 | 0/0 | (Adhwaa, \$62,150) | \$190,433 | 183 | 11 | 1.25 | 1.17 |

es. He holds a special place in both their hearts, and he also holds a place in the history books as the six-furlong track record holder with a 1:08.61 clocking at Blue Ribbon Downs in a victory on the final racing day ever at that track in 2009.

"I have babies turned out with him," Chastity said about the horse who faced the starter 47 times. "We have a couple of 2-year-olds and a yearling, and he's really good when we wean horses and put them out there."

The gelding still loves to run, even if he's no longer racing.

"You still can't catch him; he's good at weaving," Chastity said with a laugh.

LEARNING FROM A PRO

All the time he was riding, Young would keep an eye on how trainers operated, trying to gain and store some knowledge for the career change he knew would someday come. One of those who offered advice and guidance was longtime Oklahoma trainer Roger Engel.

"Scott was a pretty intelligent rider, and you could tell he was going to be a good horseman," Engel said. "He always struggled with his weight being so tall. You got to take your hat off to guys like that, and you know they really want to ride."

Even though Young would become a competitor with him in the training ranks, Engel was happy to help the new trainer get started.

"I appreciate people who work hard, and they both work hard," Engel said about the Youngs. "So when he asked me, I'd try to



Young received advice and guidance from longtime Oklahoma trainer Roger Engel

give him some advice and helped him get a few horses."

Engel knows firsthand how much work it is being a trainer, and the conditioner of more than 900 career winners is returning this year to training after taking a break for a couple of years. Engel plans to run a small stable now while the Youngs have a barn of approximately 50-60 horses.

"That's a lot of horses and lots of headaches and you need to put the time in," Engel added. "But it's refreshing to see young people like that in the business. You don't always find people who want to work hard."

"We both give Roger a lot of credit," Chastity said. "If I can't figure something out, I can call him and he's so wonderful. He's old school and so helpful."

Scott says he does miss riding some-

times. He is fully aware how much work is involved as a trainer. Even though the hours are longer than being a jockey, he wouldn't go back to riding.

"Not having to reduce and cut weight, I can't tell you how much happier I am," he said. "I love it now. I like being at the barn, and I can still get on horses every day. Absolutely it's more work than when I was a jockey, hands down. More hours, more work, probably double or triple the hours."

Part of what keeps Young busy is communication with his owners, as he said his biggest client only has four or five horses, so that means he's got a long list of owners to keep up to date on their horses.

LETTING RIDERS DO THEIR THING

As a former jockey, Young certainly is qualified to provide instructions to a rider of one of his horses, but he also knows that such guidance often goes out the window when the gates open.

"I let jockeys do their thing," he said. "If there's something we need to change up on

2021 ARKANSAS SIRES BY WINNERS

| Sire | Rnrs | Wnrs |
|------------------|------|------|
| Coil | 20 | 5 |
| Mark Valeski | 16 | 3 |
| Laurie's Rocket | 14 | 3 |
| Brahms | 11 | 3 |
| Gandhi | 8 | 3 |
| Hamazing Destiny | 14 | 2 |
| Ordained | 7 | 2 |

Special Note For Sire Lists:

For stallions that stand, will stand, or stood (deceased) in the selected region (stallions that have died or been exported prior to the 2016 breeding season are excluded), and have runners in North America. Listed below are all available Northern Hemisphere statistics through March 7, 2021. As supplied to *The Blood-Horse* by The Jockey Club Information Systems, Inc., earnings 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 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. (A ¶ indicates a sire represented by his first crop to race).

2021 LEADING SIRES IN TEXAS



For daily updated sire lists visit BloodHorse.com

| Rank | Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB, Sire), Where Stands | 2021 Stud Fee | Rnrs/ Wnrs | BT SWnrs/ Wns | Rstrct SW/ BT SW | (Chief Earner, Earnings) | 2021 Earnings | Foals | Cumulative | | |
|------|---|---------------|---------------|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|-------|------------|-----------|------------|
| | | | | | | | | | Stks | A-E Index | Comp Index |
| 1 | COMPETITIVE EDGE (12, Super Saver), Valor Farm | \$5,000 | 59/15 | 1/1 | 0/1 | (Competitive Speed, \$66,035) | \$564,078 | *251 | 5 | 1.22 | 1.27 |
| 2 | TOO MUCH BLING (03, Rubiano), Valor Farm | \$5,000 | 53/17 | 1/1 | 1/1 | (Direct Dial, \$43,800) | \$534,269 | 330 | 28 | 1.01 | 1.02 |
| 3 | CONGAREE (98, Arazi) | Died, 2020 | 12/3 | 0/0 | 0/0 | (Runningwscissors, \$57,100) | \$148,479 | *417 | 13 | 1.17 | 1.32 |
| 4 | MY GOLDEN SONG (03, Unbridled's Song), Valor Farm | \$4,000 | 23/6 | 0/0 | 0/0 | (Sunlit Song, \$38,180) | \$141,985 | 187 | 15 | 0.92 | 1.00 |
| 5 | MORO TAP (10, Tapit), Double Infinity Ranch | \$1,000 | 16/4 | 0/0 | 0/0 | (Moro Coffee, \$33,119) | \$114,407 | *95 | 1 | 0.56 | 0.81 |
| 6 | THE HUNK (07, Speightstown), Eureka Thoroughbred Farm | \$1,500 | 5/3 | 1/1 | 1/1 | (Star of the North, \$89,100) | \$103,260 | 31 | 1 | 0.49 | 0.98 |
| 7 | STONESIDER (03, Giant's Causeway) | Pnsd | 7/2 | 0/0 | 0/0 | (Stone Cafe, \$58,650) | \$92,682 | *220 | 4 | 1.00 | 1.14 |
| 8 | CROSSBOW (08, Bernardini), Valor Farm | \$1,500 | 8/2 | 1/1 | 1/1 | (Carbon Stryker, \$51,740) | \$81,390 | 44 | 3 | 0.49 | 1.01 |
| 9 | GRASSHOPPER (04, Dixie Union) | N/A | 14/2 | 0/0 | 0/0 | (Fando, \$22,420) | \$71,437 | 150 | 3 | 0.69 | 0.86 |
| 10 | CAPTAIN COUNTDOWN (96, Relaunch), Double S Thoroughbred Farm | \$500 | 5/2 | 0/0 | 0/0 | (Best Little Man, \$31,835) | \$60,959 | 214 | 2 | 0.46 | 0.65 |

the style of the horse, then I'll make that suggestion, but the jockeys I use I try to let them do their job and I do my job. It works out better that way."

As far as the feeling of winning, Young said the experience is not so different as a trainer compared to a jockey, but perhaps the thinking is.

"As a jockey, you feel like you are the one who got it done when you win, and as a trainer you expect it to happen," he said, adding with a laugh, "And if it doesn't happen, then it's most definitely the jockey's fault."

BOUNCING BACK

While 2020 was a tough year for just about everyone because of the COVID-19 pandemic, it was also a successful one for Young in terms of racing, following a difficult statistical year in 2019.

"It was some unfortunate luck," he said about 2019, which saw him win just 45 races with earnings of \$873,432, his lowest totals since 2013. "I almost got cleaned out of horses at Oaklawn in the first 30 days I was there from claiming, and I wasn't able to get as much claimed back to restock. Some of my 2-year-olds didn't work out, so it wasn't a good year."

The pandemic notwithstanding, 2020 was his best year yet with career highs in wins at 95 and also earnings at more than \$1.5 million. Young was second behind Robertino Diodoro for the training title at Will Rogers Downs with 27 wins, and tied with Austin Gustafson for second with 27 wins, at Remington Park, though he and the rest were far behind perennial leader Steve Asmussen's 76 trips to the winner's circle.

With Young's training career now span-

ning just a bit longer than his riding career, his second-career stats far eclipse those of his first career as he has saddled more than 500 winners with earnings of \$9.3 million.

Young is content competing in the Southwest and Midwest for now but did say he's given thought to taking a shot at running in Kentucky down the road. Things have worked out pretty much as planned so far, so it's hard to discount his chances.

"I don't think I'd change a thing," he said about his career thus far. "I've been fortunate to be able to do what I do and love what I do. I have the life I do because of horses. Horses have been very good to me and my family." **BH**

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

BENCHMARK TRAINING CENTER



TURNING OUT SUCCESSFUL RUNNERS

Accepting consignments for sales
in the Southwest, California and Florida.

Let us market your horses to their best advantage.



Full Service Training Facility
with Quality Services.
Call about our Competitive Pricing!

Benchmark

Gerwyn "Taffy" Jones, Owner/Trainer
Mark Brennan, Farm Manager
9645 County Road 2300, Quinlan, TX 75474
Phone/903.356.2998 • Fax/903.356.3480
taffyjones@benchmarktc.com
www.benchmarktc.com