



Tracks such as Sam Houston Race Park have benefitted from \$25 million generated from equine-related sales being committed to Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse purses

# Trending Up in Texas

***NEW MONEY FOR PURSES, BREEDING INCENTIVES,  
BOOSTS LONE STAR STATE INDUSTRY***

*By* DENIS BLAKE

**E**VERY HORSEMAN KNOWS racing can be an endeavor filled with euphoric highs and gut-punching lows. The history of the sport in Texas is a prime example, and state horsemen have been through a long and bumpy ride.

But now, even with the obstacles created by a pandemic, the Lone Star State looks poised to live up to the promise many saw when pari-mutuel racing was re-legalized some 35 years ago.

Those with a casual knowledge of racing's past might be

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ALL SIRES LISTS ARE THROUGH 2021

COADY PHOTOGRAPHY

# COMPETITIVE EDGE (G1)



◀ **BOB'S EDGE**  
triumphs in Jan. 29, 2022  
King Cotton Stakes at  
Oaklawn (6f in 1:10.50)  
Lifetime earnings \$396,428

COADY PHOTOGRAPHY

## **GLOBAL SUCCESS AT STUD**

- **TEXAS' #1 SIRE BY PROGENY EARNINGS** in 2021
- **NATIONALLY RANKED** sire of 59 winners of **NEARLY \$4 MILLION**
- Sire of SW in both hemispheres, including GIW **ESTACIONAL** (in Chile)
- G3W **EDGEWAY** places in 2021 Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Sprint (G1) and kicked off 2022 by capturing Jan. 2 Kalookan Queen Stakes at Santa Anita

## **COMPETITIVE CAREER**

- Broke his maiden at Saratoga by 10 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> lengths
- Winner of sire-making Hopeful Stakes (G1), just like **CITY ZIP, GULCH, AFFIRMED, SECRETARIAT, BUCKPASSER, NATIVE DANCER, NASHUA, and HAIL TO REASON**
- Won Pat Day Mile S. (G3), earning 110 EQUIBASE SPEED FIGURE

## **BLUE-BLOODED PEDIGREE**

- Son of Kentucky Derby (G1) winner **SUPER SAVER**, sire of 33 SW, including champions **LETRUSKA** (\$2,256,459) and Champion Sprinter & standout young sire **RUNHAPPY** (\$1,496,250)
- Female family of leading stallion **CONSTITUTION**

---

## **COMPETITIVE EDGE**

*Super Saver - Magdalena's Chase, by Cape Town*

**2022 Fee: \$5,000 Live Foal** (payable August 1 of year bred)

**Also Standing:** Bradester, Eagle, Gold Double, My Golden Song, Shoplifted, Too Much Bling

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# 2021 LEADING SIRES IN TEXAS

For daily updated sire lists visit [BloodHorse](#)

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2022 Stud Fee	Rnrs/Wnrs	BT SWnrs/Wns	Rstret SW/BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2021 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	Competitive Edge (12, Super Saver), Valor Farm	\$5,000	98/59	3/4	0/3	(Edgeway, \$431,000)	\$3,970,980	*292	7	1.35	1.24
2	Poseidon's Warrior (08, Speightstown), Century Acres Farm	\$3,500	82/37	2/4	0/2	(Firenze Fire, \$493,500)	\$2,266,734	*244	3	0.97	1.05
3	Mr Speaker (11, Pulpit), Forks of the Paluxy	\$5,000	69/33	3/4	1/3	(Ironstone, \$238,104)	\$2,172,879	*276	5	1.00	1.31
4	Too Much Bling (03, Rubiano), Valor Farm	\$5,000	91/49	1/2	1/1	(Direct Dial, \$156,334)	\$2,027,435	336	28	0.98	1.02
5	Cinco Charlie (12, Indian Charlie), Leadem Farm	\$3,500	51/32	0/0	0/0	(Five Pics Please, \$93,444)	\$1,109,645	94	1	0.74	0.96
6	My Golden Song (03, Unbridled's Song), Valor Farm	\$4,000	39/20	2/4	2/2	(Sunlit Song, \$201,757)	\$953,407	192	16	0.92	0.99
7	Redeemed (08, Include), Century Acres Farm	\$2,000	21/11	1/1	1/1	(I Am Redeemed, \$190,500)	\$598,797	107	1	0.96	1.08
8	Latent Heat (03, Maria's Mon), Eureka Thoroughbreds	\$2,000	35/17	1/2	1/1	(Shannon C, \$140,168)	\$597,291	*377	8	0.84	1.06
9	Aikenite (07, Yes It's True), Leadem Farm	\$1,500	33/19	0/0	0/0	(Mt Suribachi, \$69,375)	\$575,835	78	0	0.88	1.08
10	Moro Tap (10, Tapit), Double Infinity Ranch	\$1,000	36/17	0/0	0/0	(K C Tiz Moro, \$69,899)	\$568,489	*102	1	0.57	0.80
11	Congaree (98, Arazi)	Died, 2020	26/12	0/0	0/0	(Runningwscissors, \$96,275)	\$566,255	*421	13	1.16	1.31
12	The Hunk (07, Speightstown), Eureka Thoroughbred Farm	\$2,000	15/7	1/2	1/1	(Star of the North, \$219,050)	\$377,237	31	1	0.61	0.92
13	Grasshopper (04, Dixie Union)	Pnsd	27/9	0/0	0/0	(Set the Pace, \$74,300)	\$356,685	150	3	0.67	0.85
14	Bradester (10, Lion Heart), Valor Farm	\$2,000	28/6	0/0	0/0	(Give It Everything, \$79,694)	\$331,681	37	0	0.51	0.82
15	Early Flyer (98, Gilded Time)	Pnsd	19/11	0/0	0/0	(Pharme's Phaith, \$36,320)	\$278,922	320	19	0.72	0.88
16	Mr. Besilu (09, A.P. Indy)	N/A	14/7	0/0	0/0	(Sailing Along, \$65,161)	\$269,120	43	0	0.59	0.83
17	Crossbow (08, Bernardini)	Pnsd	14/6	1/1	1/1	(Carbon Stryker, \$102,472)	\$248,844	44	3	0.50	1.01
18	Texas Bling (10, Too Much Bling)	N/A	9/5	0/0	0/0	(Texas Prado, \$36,998)	\$199,218	16	0	0.68	1.26
19	Keep Up (07, Unbridled's Song), Eureka Thoroughbred Farm	\$2,000	11/6	0/0	0/0	(Passport, \$60,625)	\$151,926	41	0	0.56	1.37
20	Stonesider (03, Giant's Causeway)	Pnsd	8/3	0/0	0/0	(Stone Cafe, \$65,579)	\$146,092	*221	4	0.99	1.13
21	Light Up the Score (08, Even the Score)	N/A	4/3	0/0	0/0	(Catch the Devil, \$68,757)	\$133,672	6	0	0.82	1.49
22	Expect a Lot (11, Awesome Again), Eureka Thoroughbred Farm	\$2,000	7/4	0/0	0/0	(Prince Rama, \$42,365)	\$133,581	17	0	0.60	0.94
23	Uncle Abbie (97, Kingmambo)	N/A	8/4	0/0	0/0	(Whipum Naenae, \$54,259)	\$133,194	257	7	0.63	0.65
24	Captain Countdown (96, Relaunch)	N/A	9/3	0/0	0/0	(Best Little Man, \$66,775)	\$133,101	214	2	0.46	0.65
25	Moojab (07, Smarty Jones)	N/A	1/1	0/0	0/0	(Moojab Jr, \$124,954)	\$124,954	9	1	1.37	0.59
26	Lunarpal (02, Successful Appeal)	N/A	8/6	1/1	1/1	(Grizabella, \$59,950)	\$120,284	122	3	0.84	0.89
27	Behindatthebar (05, Forest Wildcat), John Tally Racing Stable	\$1,500	5/1	1/1	1/1	(Fort Polk, \$115,780)	\$118,183	113	1	0.53	0.74
28	Wimbledon (01, Wild Rush)	N/A	6/1	0/0	0/0	(Men of Kyle, \$91,389)	\$111,488	144	4	0.69	0.75
29	Silentio (09, Silent Name)	N/A	3/2	1/1	1/1	(Silence d'Oro, \$99,220)	\$110,921	*33	1	0.84	0.86
30	Fearless Eagle (04, Invisible Ink)	Died, 2020	6/3	0/0	0/0	(Natalies Joy, \$56,382)	\$88,693	22	0	0.57	0.27

\* includes Southern Hemisphere foals

aware that Texas has a rich breeding history, thanks in large part to the famed King Ranch, which produced 1946 Triple Crown winner Assault and fellow Hall of Famer Stymie. Before that, Texas was the birthplace of early 1900s superstar Pan Zareta, and in more recent times, 1987 champion sprinter Groovy. That's not bad for a state that had no pari-mutuel racing during any of those eras.

Part of the sport's forgotten history is that Texas briefly had big-time racing in the 1930s, until pari-mutuel wagering was outlawed in 1937. Racing continued for modest purses at small tracks for five decades, and when pari-mutuel betting was legalized again, the roller coaster nearly went off the rails. In 1989, pari-mutuel racing returned to Texas at G. Rollie White Downs, but the track didn't even complete its first meet, and other early racetracks also failed.

The state's three major tracks now in operation—Lone Star Park, Sam

Houston Race Park, and Retama Park—have each experienced struggles since opening in the 1990s. Texas horsemen got a glimpse of their state on the national and international stage

when Lone Star Park hosted the 2004 Breeders' Cup, but Texas has seen a steady decline in breeding activity and purses since then, as the tracks and state-bred programs in surrounding



Fans pack Lone Star Park, one of three major tracks opened in Texas during the 1990s

DUSTIN ORONA PHOTOGRAPHY/REMINOTON PARK



Juvenile filly The Reese Beast, who would prove to be the sale-topper at \$240,000, breezes at Lone Star Park ahead of what would be a very successful Texas Thoroughbred Association 2-year-olds in training sale

which last year was affected by cancelled race days and limited attendance. While that money hasn't seen a big increase, Ruyle is hopeful it will as wagering ramps up on improved Texas racing.

Ruyle said the TTA has always tried to promote breeding and racing in Texas, but now the HIEA funds provide the resources to take that promotion to another level, not to mention that the lucrative opportunity being promoted is resonating with horsemen.

Using HIEA funds, the TTA has added a \$100,000 derby and oaks starting in 2023 for graduates of the yearling sale or 2-year-olds in training sale that the organization

states benefitted with money from added-gaming.

Numerous attempts to bring additional gaming to Texas tracks have proved unsuccessful, and state law doesn't allow for advance-deposit wagering or even off-track betting at locations other than an actual racetrack. Counting the Gillespie Country Fairgrounds, a small track that runs just eight days a year, and one greyhound track, Texas has just five locations where a legal pari-mutuel bet can be made. That's for a state with almost 30 million residents spread over more than 260,000 square miles.

But in 2019, things started to turn around for Texas horsemen with the passage of House Bill 2463, which re-directs sales tax on industry-related items such as feed, supplements, and tack into the Horse Industry Escrow Account (HIEA), which is capped at \$25 million annually. The bulk of those funds, which started flowing in 2020, is designated for purses (split among Thoroughbreds and Quarter Horses,

with small amounts going to Paints, Appaloosas, and Arabians), with some funding also being made available to the state's breed associations to use in a variety of ways, including breeding/racing incentives and promotional programs.

While \$25 million a year might not match what slot machines at racetracks could do in a state with no casinos, it's been a lifeline for Texas breeders, especially against the backdrop of COVID-19.

"We'd be up a creek if we didn't have the HIEA," said Mary Ruyle, executive director of the Texas Thoroughbred Association, which administers the Accredited Texas-bred program under the supervision of the Texas Racing Commission. "We just couldn't compete with those other states until now."

HIEA funds have helped boost total Thoroughbred purses in Texas from \$13,492,780 in 2019 to \$26,465,211 in 2021, according to the TTA, a 96% increase. The money for Accredited Texas-breds comes from wagering,

holds jointly with Lone Star Park. The purses for the two divisions of the existing sale futurity have been boosted from \$100,000 to \$150,000 each.

"We are also doing out-of-state breeder awards for races in other states when there is no live racing here," Ruyle added. "And now we are doing Texas-sired and Texas-bred awards for open company races in Texas, so we've added more ATB awards.

"We are also working on a statewide Texas Thoroughbred marketing plan and have a new website at txracehorse.com," she added. "We are trying to help people find out about the business and how to get involved."

## SOARING SALES, STEADY FOAL CROP

Numbers suggest horsemen are getting the message. Last year's Texas 2-year-olds in training sale in April produced some eye-catching results, as total sales jumped 66% to a shade over \$2.9 million, and the average spiked 40% to \$32,671 compared with

2019 (the 2020 sale was canceled due to the pandemic).

Then the yearling sale in August produced figures that were not just eye-catching, but eye-popping.

“I saw a huge change with the yearling sale last year,” said Ken Carson, longtime general manager of Valor Farm, the state’s flagship stallion operation. “I’ve never been to a sale in Texas that was better than that. It was totally driven by this new money and larger purses.”

The yearling sale portion of the summer yearling and horses of racing age sale saw gross jump to \$3.2 million—more than six-times the 2019 gross. The average price rose 52% to \$18,293, and the median doubled to \$10,000.

Ruyle said this year’s 2-year-old sale is also trending up with more entries prior to the consignment deadline than anytime she could remember.

The only figure not trending up significantly—at least not yet—is the Texas foal crop. According to The Jockey Club, the state’s foal crop was 306. That’s a staggering decline from 20 years earlier when that figure was

2,035, but the total did mark a small increase from 291 in 2019. Ruyle is hopeful that another small increase might be seen for 2021 with more growth in store as new stallions and mares are sent in by breeders attracted to the increased purses and Accredited Texas-bred money.

### NEW BLOOD, HUMAN AND EQUINE

For almost 30 years Valor Farm has been the bedrock of the Texas breeding industry and has stood many of the state’s most successful stallions, among them perennial leader Too Much Bling and relative newcomer Competitive Edge, who topped the

state’s list last year with nearly \$4 million in progeny earnings. For most of the past decade, Valor was the only breeding operation consistently bringing in upper-tier stallions,

most owned by Valor’s owner Douglas Scharbauer, son of Texas racing and breeding icon Clarence Scharbauer Jr. That has changed for the 2022 breeding season, as the new class of Texas stallions is the strongest in quite some

time. Among the new faces are grade 1 winners Mr Speaker (by Pulpit) and Poseidon’s Warrior (by Speightstown), grade 3 winner Cinco Charlie (by Indian Charlie), and grade 1-placed stakes winner Shoplifted (by Into Mischief).

Mr Speaker will stand at a new stallion farm called Forks of the Paluxy in Bluff Dale, about an hour’s drive from the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex. The son of Pulpit, who is represented by grade 1 winner Speech, is the culmination of a dream for Lori and Mark Collinworth, who own both the stallion and the 195-acre farm. The couple has been involved in racing for about 10 years, but it didn’t make sense to get into the stallion business until now.

“The minute we heard the bill passed, we got on the phone and started on our quest for a stallion,” said Mark Collinworth. “Our plan was always to race and breed here, but the money was just better in other states.”

The Collinworths purchased the property in 2012 and were gradually transforming it to a breeding operation, even while knowing that day might never come. The Collinworths plan to breed about 10 of their own mares to Mr Speaker, and they report seeing strong additional interest.

Over at Valor, Carson said while



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he's seen a change at the sales and in purses at the tracks because of the HIEA, he hasn't seen that transfer yet to breeding.

"As far as making the phone ring this season, it hasn't done much. But it's still early, and I think it will and I hope it will," Carson said. "COVID is the unknown, but we have a good future. The mare population got very low here, and it will take some time to come back."

Ruyle, Collinsworth, and Carson all credit the Texas legislature for giving the state's horsemen a boost.

"Every horseman in Texas should be appreciative of what the legislature did," Carson said. "They saved an industry."

While Texas horsemen have seen promise on the horizon in the past only to watch it fade away, this time there is hope that it sticks.

"Texas has a great Thoroughbred



Last year's Texas 2-year-olds in training sale in April produced some eye-catching numbers

and Quarter Horse racing history, and I think the future is very bright for breeding and racing here," Collin-

sworth said. "It's a great time to get in if someone wants to own a racehorse or be a breeder." **BH**

COURTESY OF TEXAS THOROUGHBRED ASSOCIATION

## BLUE BLOOD IN THE LONE STAR STATE



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Curlin - On My Way, by Giant's Causeway

- G3W SIRE OF SIRES CURLIN that sold for \$550,000 as a yearling
- At 4, smashed 92-YEAR-OLD TRACK RECORD in Saratoga's Birdstone Stakes
- Defeated champions VINO ROSSO, WONDER GADOT, and GOOD MAGIC, G1W COMBATANT, G2W TENFOLD, ROCKETRY, and MARCONI, etc.

STUD FEE: PRIVATE



### TIZ MISCHIEF

Into Mischief - Indivia, by Tiznow

- G2-placed son of THREE-TIME LEADING SIRE INTO MISCHIEF out of ½ sister to G2W PAYTON D'ORO
- Defeated G1W PROMISES FULFILLED, GSW ROCKETRY, BRAVAZO, ENTICED, QUIP, LONE SAILOR, UNTAMED DOMAIN, etc.

STUD FEE: PRIVATE

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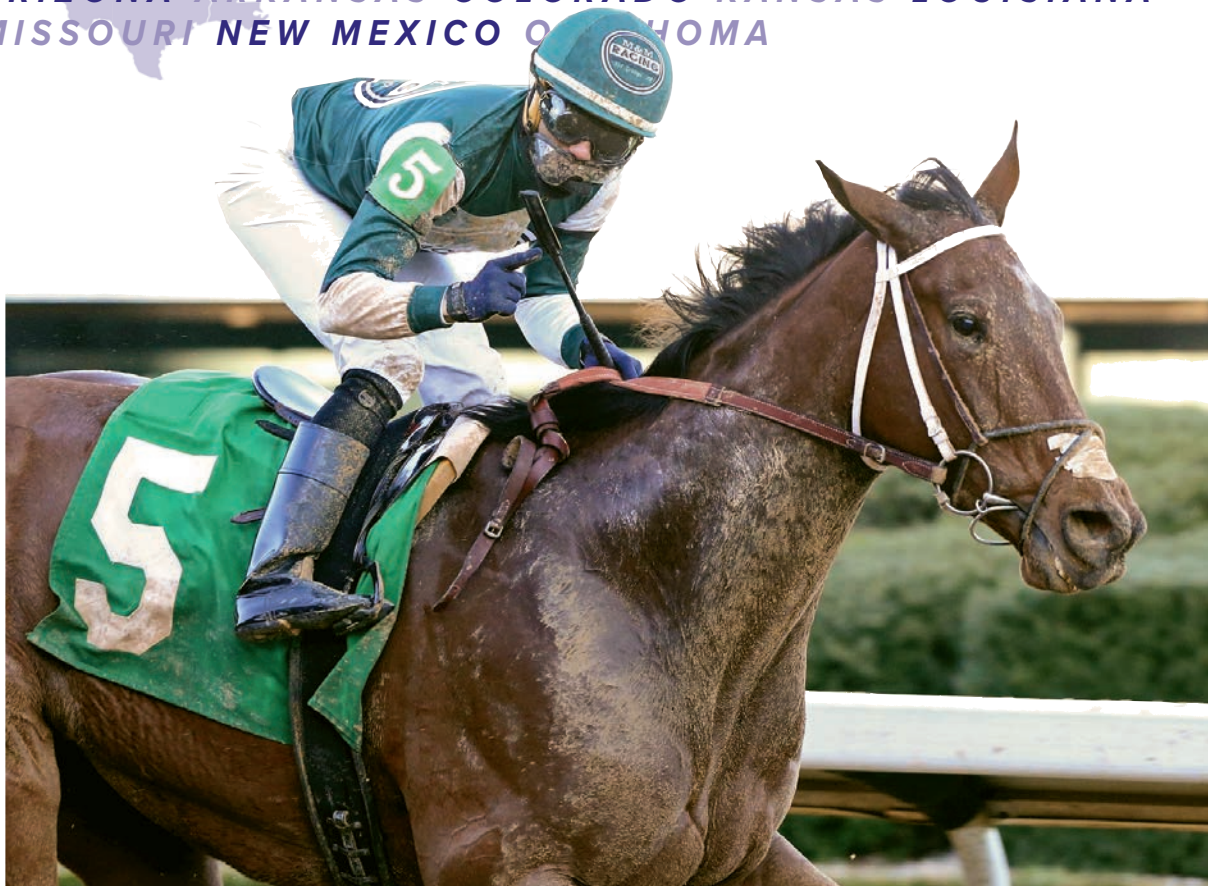
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# SOUTHWEST

ARIZONA ARKANSAS COLORADO KANSAS LOUISIANA  
MISSOURI NEW MEXICO OKLAHOMA



Special Relativity, a two-time stakes winner for Mike Sisk's M and M Racing, heads the broodmare band

## An Eye Toward Arkansas

***SISK BELIEVES ARKANSAS HOMEBREDS  
CAN ADD TO M AND M RACING***

*By* **ROBERT YATES** / *Photos by* **COADY PHOTOGRAPHY**

**M**IKE SISK WAS RAISED IN Tennessee and lives in Texas, but he continues to plant roots in Arkansas, specifically, in or near Oaklawn Park.

Among Sisk's latest business ventures is a 50-acre breeding farm about 20 minutes southwest of Oaklawn. The farm didn't have a name in January, but it did have a purpose. Sisk and his wife, Mickala (M and M Racing), want to tap into the lucrative Arkansas-bred program during Oaklawn's live racing season.

"It's because of those \$80,000, \$100,000 purses," Mike Sisk said with a chuckle in mid-January.

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ALL SIRES LISTS ARE THROUGH 2021

# 2021 LEADING SIRES IN ARIZONA

For daily updated sire lists visit BloodHorse

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2022 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstret SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2021 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	Lotsa Mischief (11, Into Mischief), Fleming Thoroughbred Farm	Private	27/15	1/1	1/1	(Annie's Boy, \$97,752)	\$516,783	46	1	0.59	0.66
2	Uh Oh Bango (07, Top Hit), Triple AAA Ranch	Private	24/15	0/0	0/0	(Beat the Heat, \$46,284)	\$483,108	40	1	0.81	1.00
3	Top Hit (98, Twining)	Died, 2021	20/13	0/0	0/0	(My Crafty Gal, \$67,339)	\$310,083	128	5	0.74	0.79
4	Rocky Bar (98, In Excess), Triple AAA Ranch	Private	28/14	0/0	0/0	(Royal Privacy, \$53,704)	\$283,071	201	11	0.75	0.74
5	Ez Dreamer (05, In Excess)	Died, 2020	19/6	0/0	0/0	(Hey Pilgrim, \$69,006)	\$238,710	63	1	0.48	0.78
6	Ez Effort (09, In Excess), Fleming Thoroughbred Farm	Private	24/9	0/0	0/0	(Collusionist, \$52,000)	\$233,753	65	2	0.55	0.93
7	Distorted Reality (04, Distorted Humor), Fleming Thoroughbred Farm	Private	10/5	0/0	0/0	(Mystic Reality, \$42,692)	\$111,644	125	1	0.41	0.77
8	Margie's Wildcat (01, Storm Cat)	N/A	17/6	0/0	0/0	(Loud N Proud, \$35,914)	\$111,561	149	1	0.58	0.76
9	El Mirage (05, Cee's Tizzy), Weir Stables	Private	1/1	1/1	1/1	(Who B Dat, \$76,235)	\$76,235	11	2	0.52	0.49
10	Maybry's Boy (99, Broad Brush)	N/A	3/0	0/0	0/0	(Robey's Boy, \$14,478)	\$15,538	34	1	0.97	1.38
11	Risque Remarque (06, Ellusive Quest)	N/A	1/0	0/0	0/0	(Mr Zydeco, \$7,538)	\$7,538	29	0	0.54	1.15
12	Red Sky's (96, Skywalker)	N/A	1/0	0/0	0/0	(Montana Jack, \$3,259)	\$3,259	118	2	0.38	0.45
13	What a Laser (07, Lasersport)	N/A	1/0	0/0	0/0	(What a Wind, \$125)	\$125	4	0	0.01	0.10

Cofounder of the Low T Center chain of low-testosterone clinics, Sisk, 53, splits his time between Hot Springs and suburban Dallas, particularly during Oaklawn's live season (Dec. 3-May 8). He opened a Low T clinic several years ago in Hot Springs and is developing 100 acres of land on nearby Lake Hamilton for seven-figure-type homes.

M and M's assault on the owner standings the past four years at Oaklawn has steered revenue into local coffers

through sales tax collected on countless horses it has claimed. M and M's Oaklawn emerald green and white silks even have "Hot Springs, AR" etched across the front and back.

"We love it here," Sisk said.

Now, that love is flowing toward the Arkansas breeding program after workers in March 2021 began carving out a heavily wooded piece of property for the 50-acre farm. Today the property features seven paddocks, ranging in size

from two to 10 acres, and a three-bedroom, 1,800-square-foot house. A barn is pending.

Sisk said he was floored by the topography after initially inspecting the land, and then seeing it once the trees had been removed. He describes the landscape as "beautiful rolling hills" with an elevation change of approximately 1,000 feet.

"You couldn't see the field for all the trees, and we took all the trees out," Sisk said. "There's two ponds and we created



## FLAT OUT – (Flatter – Cresta Lil, by Cresta Rider)

**OKLAHOMA'S LEADING SIRE FOR THREE CONSECUTIVE YEARS —AND RANKS TOP SO FAR IN 2022, WITH 9 WINNERS**

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**LIAISON** 2022 Fee: \$2,000 LF  
Indian Charlie – Galloping Gal,  
by Victory Gallop

**OKLAHOMA'S #2 ACTIVE SIRE BY 2021 EARNINGS, WINNERS, & BT HORSES**

**CO-LEADING OKLAHOMA SIRE in 2022 by number of winners (5)**

**Sire of 16 stakes horses, including 8-time SW BRONX BEAUTY (\$696,670) 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 ARKANSAS



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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2022 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	Mark Valeski (09, Proud Citizen), Lake Hamilton Equine Center	\$1,500	35/18	0/0	0/0	(Lady of Luxury, \$204,960)	\$1,062,051	81	2	1.07	1.14
2	Coil (08, Point Given), Charter Oak Farm	\$1,250	43/20	1/1	1/1	(One Fast Bro, \$114,560)	\$763,316	166	2	0.77	1.10
3	Hamazing Destiny (06, Salt Lake), Starfish Stallions	\$1,500	21/10	1/2	1/1	(Tempt Fate, \$375,480)	\$716,124	50	1	1.01	0.84
4	Laurie's Rocket (09, Bluegrass Cat), Lake Hamilton Equine Center	\$1,000	28/16	0/0	0/0	(Topf Road Rules, \$50,666)	\$459,043	51	0	0.73	1.12
5	Double Irish (11, Tapit), McDowell Farm	\$1,000	15/8	0/0	0/0	(Turnstone, \$139,300)	\$329,709	47	1	1.06	1.00
6	Street Strategy (11, Street Sense), Lake Hamilton Equine Center	\$1,000	22/7	0/0	0/0	(Connie K, \$105,193)	\$326,305	44	0	0.61	0.79
7	Cyber Secret (09, Broken Vow), Horseplay Racing	\$1,500	20/11	0/0	0/0	(Mrs. Beans, \$37,469)	\$311,724	39	1	0.80	0.72
8	Jonesboro (02, Sefapiano), Lake Hamilton Equine Center	\$1,000	19/8	0/0	0/0	(Miss Antioch, \$137,168)	\$300,147	96	3	0.76	0.74
9	Exhi (07, Maria's Mon), Big Oaks Farm	Private	31/15	0/0	0/0	(Oneofthegirls, \$53,509)	\$279,224	98	1	0.58	1.13
10	Mo for the Money (13, Uncle Mo), Anderson Farms	\$1,000	16/5	0/0	0/0	(Lady Astrid, \$91,950)	\$271,183	33	0	0.61	1.14
11	Moonshine Mullin (08, Albert the Great), Lake Hamilton Equine Center	\$1,000	18/8	0/0	0/0	(James's Moonshine, \$55,630)	\$264,200	44	0	0.43	0.73
12	Zong (05, Unbridled's Song)	N/A	19/6	0/0	0/0	(Holy Song, \$45,900)	\$208,290	80	0	0.72	0.99
13	Brahms (97, Danzig), Arkansas State University Equine Center	\$1,000	16/8	0/0	0/0	(Sir Brahms, \$46,820)	\$191,101	*701	13	1.03	1.10
14	Prom Shoes (04, Include), Anderson Farms	\$1,000	6/4	0/0	0/0	(Bebop Shoes, \$82,935)	\$161,571	18	0	0.87	0.57
15	Ordained (08, Pulpit), Starfish Stallions	\$1,500	14/7	0/0	0/0	(Rockthepulpit, \$38,743)	\$148,874	65	1	0.51	0.81

# 2021 LEADING SIRES IN COLORADO

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2022 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	Save Big Money (03, Storm Cat), Winner-Maker Farms	\$1,000	19/8	0/0	0/0	(Mizoney, \$59,202)	\$288,502	140	3	0.63	0.88
2	Zip Quik (07, City Zip)	N/A	13/8	0/0	0/0	(Quicktrip Van, \$45,616)	\$142,290	63	0	0.23	0.73
3	Grand Minstrel (05, Grand Slam)	N/A	14/6	0/0	0/0	(Red Wes, \$32,675)	\$114,011	105	0	0.31	0.58
4	Behold de Buy (08, E Dubai)	N/A	13/5	0/0	0/0	(Lil Miss de Buy, \$24,675)	\$90,872	33	0	0.29	0.93
5	Numaany (05, A.P. Indy)	N/A	17/5	0/0	0/0	(Country Cowboy, \$13,512)	\$88,286	45	2	0.78	0.76
6	El Roblar (02, War Chant)	N/A	7/4	0/0	0/0	(Me, \$18,701)	\$51,570	63	1	0.35	0.53
7	Oliver's Twist (92, Horatius)	N/A	6/3	0/0	0/0	(Starlight Twist, \$17,067)	\$40,957	276	2	0.50	0.71
8	Silver Saint (96, Silver Deputy)	N/A	4/2	0/0	0/0	(Rockin O, \$14,820)	\$30,175	53	1	0.29	0.39
9	Laughing Charlie (07, Indian Charlie)	N/A	2/0	0/0	0/0	(Perfect Liicharie, \$635)	\$797	12	0	0.18	0.18

# 2021 LEADING SIRES IN LOUISIANA

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2022 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	Carpe Diem (12, Giant's Causeway), Acadiana Equine@Copper Crowne	\$3,500	173/85	2/2	0/2	(Trumpet Lilly, \$190,610)	\$4,624,970	*313	5	1.01	1.77
2	Exaggerator (13, Curlin), Elite Thoroughbreds	\$5,000	155/80	3/3	1/3	(Crew Dragon, \$127,005)	\$3,349,576	*312	3	0.71	1.53
3	Half Ours (03, Unbridled's Song)	Died, 2021	96/57	1/2	1/1	(Standing Perfect, \$105,000)	\$2,140,469	*558	24	0.92	1.09
4	Star Guitar (05, Quiet American), Clear Creek Stud	\$7,500	101/42	1/1	1/1	(Ova Charged, \$174,600)	\$1,980,827	201	10	1.02	1.02
5	Custom for Carlos (06, More Than Ready), Clear Creek Stud	\$3,000	116/52	1/1	1/1	(Monte Man, \$117,800)	\$1,795,008	324	6	0.73	1.03
6	Daaher (04, Awesome Again), Blue Ridge Farm	\$3,000	59/37	0/0	0/0	(Easy Day, \$121,214)	\$1,580,636	189	11	1.22	1.13
7	Country Day (06, Speightstown), Peach Lane Farms	\$2,500	49/33	1/1	1/1	(Tune In, \$154,650)	\$1,305,147	126	4	1.01	0.95
8	Secret Circle (09, Edgington), Elite Thoroughbreds	\$3,000	35/22	1/1	0/1	(Our Secret Agent, \$167,913)	\$1,298,208	73	1	1.21	0.92
9	Greeley's Galaxy (02, Mr. Greeley)	Died, 2017	44/30	1/1	1/1	(Bertie's Galaxy, \$138,900)	\$1,186,001	203	4	0.92	0.98
10	My Pal Charlie (05, Indian Charlie), Elite Thoroughbreds	\$2,500	48/22	0/0	0/0	(Madison's Place, \$115,120)	\$1,007,227	210	2	0.69	0.95
11	D'wildcat (98, Forest Wildcat)	Died, 2021	45/22	0/0	0/0	(That's D 'cat, \$59,890)	\$758,124	*507	16	1.17	1.16
12	Apriority (07, Grand Slam), Elite Thoroughbreds	\$2,000	44/25	1/1	1/1	(Snowball, \$97,180)	\$729,539	86	2	0.72	0.72
13	Flashpoint (08, Pomeroy)	N/A	51/20	0/0	0/0	(Impressed, \$114,733)	\$726,610	102	0	0.63	0.75
14	Guilt Trip (09, Pulpit), Red River Farms	\$2,000	41/19	0/0	0/0	(Isolation, \$79,480)	\$699,118	86	2	0.66	1.25
15	Closing Argument (02, Successful Appeal), Averett Farm	\$3,000	30/17	1/1	1/1	(Quickfast N Ahurry, \$154,050)	\$666,709	*508	20	1.12	1.08

\* includes Southern Hemisphere foals

the paddocks. You stand on the deck of that house and it's as pretty as any Kentucky horse farm I've ever seen."

Sisk expects the project to be completed for the 2023 breeding season. He eventually plans to stand "maybe two or three" stallions and board around five mares. Sisk said there were six homebred yearlings on the farm in January. Four of his mares were in Kentucky.

"We will probably breed some to Kentucky stallions and bring them back to

foal in Arkansas," Sisk said.

"If you're going to reinvigorate it—right?—then you've got to change the way you're doing business. At some point you've got to get some fresh genetics in there. We're probably a year away from that. The goal was obviously to get these babies on the ground, let them be babies, and while they're babies, we finish the barn. You just continue to add to that program every year."

The farm represents a continuing

philosophical shift for M and M, which has leaned heavily on the claim box and private purchases of established horses for success since recording its first career victory Jan. 21, 2017, at Oaklawn with Mishegas.

In addition to Oaklawn, where M and M has won four consecutive meet titles and in 2019 set single-season records for victories (61) and purse earnings (\$1,782,351), it has topped the owner standings by wins at Keeneland

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## 2021 LEADING SIRES IN NEW MEXICO

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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB, Sire), Where Stands	2022 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	Justin Phillip (08, First Samurai)	N/A	105/55	2/8	0/2	(Just Might, \$582,932)	\$2,459,138	222	8	0.99	1.08
2	Morning Line (07, Tiznow)	Died, 2019	70/27	2/2	1/2	(Mud Pie, \$129,040)	\$1,500,847	*214	9	1.03	1.15
3	Marking (12, Bernardini), A & A Ranch	\$4,000	27/14	4/6	4/4	(Slammed, \$237,605)	\$1,038,552	50	5	1.24	1.17
4	We Miss Artie (11, Artie Schiller), Red Feather Equine	\$1,000	36/13	3/5	1/3	(Artie's Storm, \$255,988)	\$845,270	76	4	1.01	1.27
5	Laugh Track (09, Distorted Humor), Double LL Farm	\$2,500	42/19	0/0	0/0	(Our Time to Shine, \$54,071)	\$495,438	111	1	0.43	0.95
6	Abstraction (10, Pulpit), Doubletree Farm	\$3,500	37/14	0/0	0/0	(Evacuee, \$57,160)	\$460,111	94	1	0.71	0.96
7	Read the Footnotes (01, Smoke Glacken)	N/A	18/10	1/1	1/1	(Readtheciffnotes, \$90,342)	\$341,679	*358	20	1.21	1.10
8	Right Rigger (06, Unbridled's Song)	N/A	18/8	0/0	0/0	(Izeright, \$94,397)	\$330,674	45	4	1.24	0.61
9	Quinton's Gold (97, Carson City)	N/A	23/11	0/0	0/0	(Golden Band, \$67,500)	\$330,551	163	10	1.05	0.80
10	Indian Firewater (07, Indian Charlie)	Died, 2017	33/11	0/0	0/0	(On a Warpath, \$51,391)	\$327,639	105	4	0.57	1.00
11	Fusaichi Zenon (JPN) (97, Sunday Silence)	N/A	14/8	0/0	0/0	(Strawberry Whisky, \$63,027)	\$309,207	130	4	0.64	0.78
12	Mr. Trieste (01, Old Trieste), Jenkins Farm	Private	12/8	0/0	0/0	(Jet N G, \$122,278)	\$297,366	61	1	0.67	0.75
13	Diabolical (03, Artax), A & A Ranch	\$4,000	27/7	1/2	0/1	(My Boanerges, \$121,030)	\$296,003	182	13	0.87	0.93
14	Mr. Gold Mover (08, Mr. Greeley), Bar Y Equine	\$1,500	22/10	0/0	0/0	(Foxy Red, \$42,830)	\$282,748	80	2	0.61	0.84
15	Southwestern Heat (04, Gone West)	Died, 2017	22/8	0/0	0/0	(Sunscreen, \$27,524)	\$256,667	*121	6	0.72	0.93

\* includes Southern Hemisphere foals

and Lone Star Park.

M and M was represented by its first victory as a breeder when Frosty Brew, a 2-year-old daughter of Frosted, captured her Sept. 9 career debut at Laurel Park for Hall of Fame trainer Shug McGaughey. Frosty Brew is out of Jeanne's Speight, a daughter of Speightstown who made her final career start for M and M in 2017 at Keeneland after being claimed for \$30,000 at Ellis Park.

Sisk sold a pair of horses at the 2021 Keeneland September yearling sale—a Violence half sister to Frosty Brew for \$70,000 and a Speightstown colt for \$65,000. Both horses were consigned by Buckland Sales. The Speightstown colt is out of Americium, a stakes-winning daughter of Brilliant Speed for M and M and trainer Karl Broberg in 2018. M and

M had claimed Americium for \$30,000 earlier in the year at Lone Star.

M and M's small broodmare band is headed by Special Relativity, a daughter of Cowboy Cal who was claimed by its longtime primary trainer, Robertino Diodoro out of a May 2018 victory at Churchill Downs for \$50,000. As of mid-January, Special Relativity was in foal to two-time Horse of the Year Curlin and has been booked to leading second crop sire of 2020 and third-crop sire of 2021 Constitution.

Special Relativity won six races for Diodoro and M and M, including the \$100,000 Shine Again Stakes in July 2019 at Saratoga Race Course and the \$125,000 American Beauty Stakes for older female sprinters in February 2020 at Oaklawn. Retired after the American

Beauty—M and M's first Oaklawn stakes victory—Special Relativity was bred to Into Mischief and has a yearling colt by North America's three-time reigning champion sire.

Sisk said the young Kentucky-bred colt, along with five Arkansas-bred yearlings, was roaming the Arkansas farm in mid-January.

"We don't have any stallions," Sisk said. "As of right now, we've got the babies on there, and we're just letting horses be horses. We brought Special Relativity's and Into Mischief's baby down because I was obviously paying a day rate up in Kentucky. The whole idea of building this farm was to reduce some of our day rate and then make it an Arkie-bred place."

The Into Mischief colt already stands out physically, Sisk said, but he hasn't



**"IF YOU REALLY WANT TO RACE AT OAKLAWN, THEY RUN THESE ARKIE-BREDS EVERY WEEKEND, YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO BUILD YOUR OWN."**

—MIKE SISK ON BREEDING BEING THE BEST OPTION TO ACQUIRE AN ARKANSAS-BRED



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## 2021 LEADING SIRES IN OKLAHOMA

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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2022 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstret 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	217/133	7/10	1/7	(Chateau, \$293,450)	\$6,320,375	456	13	1.09	1.14
2	Liaison (09, Indian Charlie), Mighty Acres	\$2,000	125/53	0/0	0/0	(Bronx Beauty, \$88,300)	\$1,603,738	312	3	0.68	1.12
3	Successful Appeal (96, Valid Appeal)	Pnsd	80/41	1/1	1/1	(Topless, \$108,012)	\$1,598,954	*844	57	1.57	1.38
4	Pollard's Vision (01, Carson City)	Pnsd	57/36	1/1	1/1	(Gotta See Red, \$96,170)	\$1,165,468	*806	21	1.12	1.15
5	Wilburn (08, Bernardini), River Oaks Farms	\$2,000	69/31	0/0	0/0	(Free to Fly, \$201,620)	\$1,102,547	*350	9	0.75	1.07
6	Shakin It Up (10, Midnight Lute), Caines Stallion Station	\$1,500	60/31	1/1	0/1	(Front Circle, \$93,403)	\$1,074,563	*164	2	0.70	1.09
7	Atreides (11, Medaglia d'Oro), River Oaks Farms	\$2,000	56/30	0/0	0/0	(To the Front, \$109,823)	\$1,063,697	123	3	0.85	1.28
8	Den's Legacy (10, Medaglia d'Oro), Mighty Acres	\$2,000	30/14	3/5	3/3	(Run Sleppy Run, \$170,352)	\$967,554	46	3	1.14	0.87
9	Euroears (04, Langfuhr), WestWin Farms	\$1,500	51/25	0/0	0/0	(Euro Me, \$98,357)	\$823,124	192	5	0.78	0.80
10	Magna Graduate (02, Honor Grades), Brewster Ranch	Private	30/17	2/2	2/2	(She's All Wolfe, \$164,476)	\$712,448	*263	10	0.91	0.97
11	Caleb's Posse (08, Posse), River Oaks Farms	\$2,000	33/15	0/0	0/0	(High Rolling Dude, \$79,488)	\$665,092	*125	3	1.07	1.07
12	Mr. Nightlinger (04, Indian Charlie)	Died, 2017	34/19	0/0	0/0	(Lingering Promise, \$86,414)	\$586,190	200	4	0.60	0.82
13	Blueskiesrainbows (09, English Channel), Sunlight Farm	\$2,500	24/12	0/0	0/0	(Cielo Blu, \$64,984)	\$422,075	35	0	0.68	1.30
14	Backstabber (06, Elusive Quality), M. Gerald Ball	\$1,000	14/5	1/1	1/1	(Quality Rocket, \$133,806)	\$259,900	26	1	0.85	0.39
15	Kipling (96, Gulch)	Died	15/10	0/0	0/0	(La Morena, \$47,056)	\$246,642	364	9	0.93	0.87

\* includes Southern Hemisphere foals

decided whether he'll sell or race him.

"It's too early," Sisk said. "Everybody wants to make the Kentucky Derby (G1), but at some point you've got to take some chips off the table in this game. It just depends. Your heart says you want to keep him. Your accountant says you need to sell him."

Diodoro is anxious to see how Sisk's latest business venture plays out in the next few years. Oaklawn has the highest purse structure of any other winter venue, with Arkansas-breds in restricted events chasing \$84,000 pots in maiden special weight races and at least \$100,000 in allowance heats to begin the meeting. Reg-

istered Arkansas-breds also can collect bonuses of \$4,000, \$2,000 and \$1,000 for finishing first, second, or third, respectively, in open company (excluding stakes and handicap stakes).

"He's got some nice mares like Special Relativity and a few others that we had before," Diodoro said. "It will be interesting to see what happens with the way the racing is going here. You've got to have some Arkansas-breds. I guess we have one claiming Arkansas-bred."

That Arkansas-bred total figures to grow in the future.

"We'll breed to race," Sisk said. "It's only 50 acres. You can't really breed to

sell. Obviously, at Oaklawn, if they end up being a maiden claimer, they'll end up getting sold anyway. If I had 1,500 acres, you could probably get away with that. But 50 acres, you're almost having to kind of build your own race horse. It's impossible to go buy a good Arkie-bred. They're not going to run them for a tag. Nobody's going to sell them because they're so valuable. If you go to the Texas sale, which is really the only place you can get them, well, that's a crap shoot. If you really want to race at Oaklawn, they run these Arkie-breds every weekend, you're going to have to build your own." **BH**



With Oaklawn Park's lucrative stakes for Arkansas-breds in races such as the Nodouble Breeders' and Downthedustyroad Breeders' stakes, which this year offered purses of \$150,000 each, competition can be stiff (pictured are 2021 editions of these races where Tempt Fate won the Nodouble and The Mary Rose won the Downthedustyroad (at right)

