

NORTHEAST

CONNECTICUT MAINE MASSACHUSETTS NEW HAMPSHIRE
NEW YORK RHODE ISLAND VERMONT



Hot New York sire
Bucchero led
Northeast stallions
through Nov. 9
with progeny
earnings topping
\$5.3 million

Horse By Any Name

***NO MATTER HOW YOU PRONOUNCE THIS SIRE'S NAME,
BUCCHERO IS THE TALK OF NEW YORK***

By **TERESA GENARO**

LET'S GET THIS out of the way: when you're talking about the horse's name, it's Boo-CARE-oh. Not Boo-CHAIR-oh. Not BOO-cher-oh. Not BOO-sher-oh.

But on an autumn morning in Saratoga Springs, owner Harlan Malter had to admit that even he wasn't saying the name correctly.

Malter is the managing partner of Ironhorse Racing Stable, which campaigned Bucchero, and of Ironhorse Stallions, which stands him. Throughout the horse's career, Malter has done his best to correct the many mispronunciations of his life-changing runner's name.

Bucchero is named for a type of Etruscan pottery

ALL SIRES LISTS ARE THROUGH NOV. 9

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2025 LEADING SIRES IN NEW YORK

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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2025 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2025 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative BT SWs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	Bucchero (12, Kantharos), Ironhorse Stallions	\$10,000	144/80	4/11	0/4	(Book'em Danno, \$817,300)	\$5,308,619	223	8	1.18	1.03
2	Central Banker (10, Speightstown), McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds	\$7,500	142/69	2/6	0/2	(Bank Frenzy, \$415,250)	\$4,308,009	485	17	1.25	1.13
3	Solomini (15, Curlin), McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds	\$7,500	109/50	2/2	2/2	(Doc Sullivan, \$194,540)	\$3,461,424	168	5	1.24	1.07
4	War Dancer (10, War Front), Rockridge Stud	\$7,500	78/36	2/3	1/2	(Twenty Six Black, \$284,750)	\$2,109,544	242	5	0.96	1.03
5	Honest Mischief (16, Into Mischief), Sequel Stallions New York	\$7,500	62/22	4/4	4/4	(Spirit of New York, \$150,000)	\$1,926,868	118	6	1.25	1.24
6	Bustin Stones (04, City Zip), Waldorf Farm	\$2,500	55/25	0/0	0/0	(Gone and Forgotten, \$122,200)	\$1,207,790	337	13	1.22	1.16
7	Mission Impazible (07, Unbridled's Song)	Pnsd	49/24	0/0	0/0	(Miztertonic, \$139,390)	\$1,101,516	343	8	0.97	1.12
8	Peace and Justice (10, War Front), Irish Hill & Dutchess Views Stallions	\$7,500	43/20	0/0	0/0	(Beyondexpectations, \$93,520)	\$1,061,725	143	3	1.02	1.16
9	King for a Day (16, Uncle Mo), Irish Hill & Dutchess Views Stallions	\$5,000	37/14	2/2	2/2	(Prince Valiant, \$216,500)	\$1,045,330	71	2	0.94	1.06
10	Freud (98, Storm Cat)	Pnsd	42/23	0/0	0/0	(Schlomo, \$94,060)	\$925,350	*1,457	60	1.41	1.17
11	Union Jackson (12, Curlin)	Pnsd	22/14	0/0	0/0	(Jackson Heights, \$116,610)	\$687,187	94	2	0.93	0.98
12	Big Brown (05, Boundary)	Pnsd	43/13	0/0	0/0	(Van Vollenhoven, \$81,665)	\$574,714	*928	30	1.00	1.32
13	Micromanager (10, Medaglia d'Oro)	Pnsd	16/9	0/0	0/0	(One Time Willard, \$142,340)	\$530,684	95	0	0.79	1.13
14	Slumber (GB) (08, Cacique), Rockridge Stud	\$7,500	18/7	0/0	0/0	(Nonna Lynne, \$158,450)	\$512,980	59	4	1.74	1.03
15	Weekend Hideaway (10, Speightstown)	Pnsd	9/6	0/0	0/0	(Zi End, \$120,560)	\$491,177	22	1	1.38	0.95
16	Name Changer (13, Uncle Mo), Kaz Hill Farm	\$2,500	10/4	1/1	1/1	(Storm Changer, \$161,500)	\$334,393	28	1	0.96	1.00
17	¶ Combatant (15, Scat Daddy)	Died, 2022	20/4	0/0	0/0	(Chummers, \$62,900)	\$299,046	40	0	0.57	0.87
18	Majestic City (09, City Zip)	Died, 2022	21/7	0/0	0/0	(On the Ledge, \$70,380)	\$288,907	137	1	0.59	0.96
19	Disco Partner (12, Disco Rico), Rockridge Stud	Private	15/5	0/0	0/0	(Disco Star, \$91,986)	\$275,927	33	0	0.49	1.01
20	Courageous Cat (06, Storm Cat), Questroyal North	\$2,500	16/7	0/0	0/0	(Queens Cat, \$77,720)	\$274,451	243	8	0.84	1.01
21	¶ Galilean (16, Uncle Mo), Questroyal North	\$3,500	14/2	0/0	0/0	(Fancy Lights, \$70,800)	\$246,042	25	0	0.60	1.01
22	Lookin At Lee (14, Lookin At Lucky), Irish Hill & Dutchess Views Stallions	\$2,500	14/5	0/0	0/0	(Greyjoy, \$60,800)	\$201,169	23	0	0.47	1.37
23	Superestrella (08, Storm Cat)	N/A	4/3	0/0	0/0	(Willintoriskitall, \$105,832)	\$190,717	17	0	0.83	0.65
24	Al Khali (06, Medaglia d'Oro)	Died, 2024	7/2	0/0	0/0	(Khali Magic, \$105,800)	\$182,629	27	0	1.13	1.48
25	Bellamy Road (02, Concerto)	Pnsd	10/3	0/0	0/0	(Petrolo, \$50,920)	\$158,933	*756	33	1.07	1.18
26	Frost Giant (03, Giant's Causeway)	Died, 2022	10/3	0/0	0/0	(Can't Fool Me, \$80,725)	\$153,911	*478	16	1.07	1.07
27	Bank Heist (07, Maria's Mon), Kaz Hill Farm	\$1,000	6/3	0/0	0/0	(Kaz Sweet Heist, \$49,657)	\$105,041	109	2	0.77	1.16
28	Giant Surprise (09, Giant's Causeway)	Pnsd	6/3	0/0	0/0	(Giant James, \$53,732)	\$103,018	146	4	1.06	1.15
29	Killybegs Captain (14, Mizzen Mast), Mill Creek Farm	Pnsd	5/1	0/0	0/0	(Lady Captain, \$73,767)	\$89,675	17	0	0.36	0.51
30	Teufflesberg (04, Johannesburg)	Died, 2022	6/3	0/0	0/0	(Clover Street, \$37,898)	\$84,765	183	4	1.09	1.03
31	¶ Waiting (17, American Pharoah), Irish Hill & Dutchess Views Stallions	\$2,500	6/1	0/0	0/0	(Nacho Problem, \$72,185)	\$83,865	11	0	0.42	0.62
32	Beautyinthepulpit (08, Pulpit)	N/A	3/2	0/0	0/0	(Runningthenumbers, \$42,659)	\$68,534	27	0	0.52	0.80
33	Snow Trouble (11, Tapit), Foggy Bottom Farm	\$500	7/1	0/0	0/0	(Banker Murray, \$12,908)	\$52,361	18	0	0.32	0.86
34	¶ Son of Thunder (18, Uncle Mo)	N/A	1/1	0/0	0/0	(Miss Moxee, \$40,400)	\$40,400	1	0	1.38	0.84
35	A Shin Forward (05, Forest Wildcat)	Pnsd	6/2	0/0	0/0	(Toro Forward, \$25,533)	\$38,304	56	0	0.54	0.84
36	Hangover Kid (08, Lemon Drop Kid), Majestic View Farms International	\$1,500	3/2	0/0	0/0	(Call Me a Cab, \$23,310)	\$35,426	22	1	1.05	0.97
37	Sakonnet (14, Scat Daddy)	N/A	3/1	0/0	0/0	(Ligon's Legacy, \$17,610)	\$34,230	4	0	0.50	0.76
38	¶ Just Leo (19, Poseidon's Warrior), Waldorf Farm	Private	3/2	0/0	0/0	(Duck Duck Goose, \$16,700)	\$34,000	4	0	0.39	0.77
39	City Wolf (07, Giant's Causeway), Ocampo Stallions Farm	\$2,500	7/2	0/0	0/0	(Gentle Julia, \$9,555)	\$28,228	69	0	0.35	0.87
40	Tencendur (12, Warrior's Reward)	N/A	1/0	0/0	0/0	(Supreme Song, \$10,323)	\$10,323	8	0	0.33	1.53

* includes Southern Hemisphere foals; ¶ Indicates a first-crop sire



As the richest New Jersey-bred in history, Book'em Danno, a multiple grade 1 winner, is from Bucchero's second crop, when the sire was still standing in Florida

produced between the fifth and seventh centuries B.C.E. in what is now central Italy, the name riffing on his sire Kantharos, himself named for a two-handled drinking vessel common in the ancient world; examples of Etruscan bucchero kantharos can be found in the Harvard Art Museums; the British Museum; and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

And when you're talking about the pottery, the pronunciation is BOO-ker-oh, with a lightly rolled "r."

"The right pronunciation kind of sounds like 'Buckaroo,' which isn't what we were going for, and as long as you're talking about the horse, you can pronounce it however you want to," Malter said.

Indiana-bred Bucchero was purchased for \$43,000 as a 2-year-old, a profile that might not appear a worthy namesake for prized pottery from the age of antiquity,

THIS PAGE: COGLIANESE PHOTOS/WALTER WLODARCZYK; OPPOSITE PAGE: ANNE M. EBERHARDT

but as valuable as those museum pieces are, they couldn't possibly be more treasured than the 13-year-old stallion that Harlan Malter believes can invigorate the stallion market in New York.

Campaigned throughout a racing career that spanned five years by owners Ironhorse Racing Stable, Buccheri won stakes on turf and dirt, at 5½ furlongs and at 1¼ miles. He finished second in the listed Karl Boyes Memorial Stakes over Presque Isle Downs' all-weather surface. By the time he was done racing, he'd run 31 times, compiling a record of 11 wins, six seconds, and three thirds, earning \$947,936.

Malter is a founding partner of Saposh and Malter, a bicoastal financial planning firm, and is thus no stranger to assessing the risks and rewards of investing. On paper, Buccheri was no lock to become a successful stallion. He had a modest pedigree: Kantharos ran three brilliant races, two of them graded stakes, winning by a combined 28½ lengths, but his career ended after those three races, never racing beyond August of his 2-year-old year.

Dam Meetmeontime (by General Meeting) also raced only three times, winning once. She produced three foals, all of which made it to the races, none of which were terribly accomplished, before being sold in foal for \$2,200 as an 8-year-old in 2008.

Several years later, the mare was rescued from a Florida farm on which dozens of horses were found starving and in ill health. Meetmeontime's foal didn't survive the rescue, but Meetmeontime did, rescued by Karen Dodd, who had been involved with the mare earlier in her career.

So far, there was nothing in Buccheri's story that was screaming "successful



Harlan Malter (left) with Buccheri's trainer, Tim Glyshaw. Malter's Ironhorse Racing Stable campaigned the Indiana-bred son of Kantharos through five seasons of racing

stallion." Sure, Buccheri was the highest-earning Indiana-bred horse ever. Sure, he earned nearly a million dollars. Sure, he had demonstrated versatility on the racetrack. Sure, he was a two-time graded stakes winner.

But the path to making a stallion, especially one without a classic Kentucky resume, is a risky one, despite what Buccheri had accomplished. Nonetheless, Malter was convinced that Buccheri had what it took.

"He was a turf sprinter that won at a mile and a sixteenth on the dirt," he said. "That was a real testament to me about who he is. He was, 'I don't care what you tell me to do, I'm going to do it,' and that's why I decided to stand him. It wasn't that he was the biggest horse, it wasn't that he had the best pedigree, it wasn't that he had the best race record. It was that every time we ran the horse, he ran."

Buccheri stood from 2019 to 2023 in Florida at Pleasant Acres Stallions, where he produced a number of six-figure earners, including the multiple stakes

winner Ms. Buccheri (\$382,300); graded stakes-placed stakes winner Beauty of the Sea (\$353,231); multiple stakes winner Buccherino (\$506,800); and multiple graded stakes winner Queen Maxima (\$570,460).

Malter had been told that for a stallion to be successful, he had to produce a freak, and that freak arrived in 2021, perhaps fittingly from a low-profile pedigree and connections. Millionaire Book'em Danno was bred in New Jersey by Greg Kilka and Bright View Farm; his dam Adorabella is an unraced daughter of Ghostzapper, and he was selected out of a field in Virginia by Jay Briscione, the managing partner of Atlantic Six Racing. The dark bay gelding has earned nearly \$1.9 million, winning 10 races from 16 starts, adding three runner-up and one third-place finish. His four graded stakes wins, including the Woody Stephens and Forego (both G1), have come at Saratoga Race Course.

Though Malter lives in California with his wife and children, he is a

"HARLAN AND JOHN DOWD ARE TWO INDIVIDUALS THAT HAVE PROVEN TO SUPPORT THE PROGRAM, AND WE'RE EXCITED ABOUT THE OPPORTUNITIES IN THE (BUCCHERO) FOALS THAT WE'LL SEE GOING FORWARD, FOALS THAT WILL CONTINUE TO FLY THE BANNER FOR THE NEW YORK-BRED PROGRAM."

—NAJJA THOMPSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF NEW YORK THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS

NORTHEAST

northeasterner by birth and by nature. He grew up in Boston and attended Columbia University, frequenting a New York City OTB on Manhattan's Upper West Side, and he counts among the best times of his life the summer days that he'd road-trip to Saratoga Race Course from Massachusetts.

So when Buccherio's stallion career began to take off, it was not to Kentucky that Malter looked, but to New York, his bullish outlook on the state's breeding and racing industries surpassed only by his confidence in his horse.

Buccherio stood in 2023 at McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds and in 2024 at Questroyal North Farm under the Ironhorse Stallions banner. In October, Ironhorse Stallions announced a long-term arrangement to stand Buccherio at the current GMP Farm in Schuylerville, which is under contract for purchase by River Valley Farm. GMP will maintain their hyperbaric therapy center on the property.

"I'm kind of a New Yorker at heart," Malter said. "I got my absolute love of horse racing from being in the picnic area at Saratoga, and being in New York was always something I was eyeing."

"It's exciting to see the commitment that Ironhorse Stallions has made to New York," said Najja Thompson, executive director of New York Thoroughbred Breeders. "This sounds like a promising venture and an opportunity that also includes a racehorse syndicate that will support the New York-bred program. Harlan and John Dowd are two individuals that have proven to support the program, and we're excited about the opportunities in the foals that we'll see going forward, foals that will continue to fly the banner for the New York-bred program."

Situated on the old Stone Bridge Farm property, GMP is a full-service facility, offering myriad equine therapies. Current owner Anthony Melfi renovated many of the existing structures to create a state-of-the-art program, including a seven-eighths-of-a-mile Tapeta training track.

"Let's keep everything here," Malter declared. "We have Rood & Riddle



Florida-bred Queen Maxima, a daughter of Buccherio, is a two-time graded stakes winner



Malter with former multiple graded stakes-winning trainer John Dowd, who will manage farm operations at Ironhorse Stallions

(Equine Hospital) in Saratoga. Let's have sires so that people don't have to ship out of state. Let's have some training facilities. What we're trying to do is develop horses from stallion to racetrack. We can start keeping more horses instead of going to Florida. New York is more than capable of developing horses to be ready for July and August, and we can do it here without ever leaving New York."

"When mares leave the state, someone else is getting paid to take care of them," said former trainer Dowd, who will manage operations at the farm for Ironhorse Stallions. "That's five or six months of revenue that leaves the state."

Ironhorse Stallions owns about 25 mares and will be looking to add to that number in upcoming months. Various partners supported Buccherio during the 2025 breeding season with nearly 60 mares, which represents only about a third of the 192 mares he bred this year. Many of those mares are based in New York, but breeders also shipped a fair number of their mares from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Florida, and Indiana.

Among those who have purchased seasons in Buccherio is Aron Wellman, president and founder of Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners, an ownership

THIS PAGE, TOP: MATHEA KELLEY; BOTTOM: COURTESY IRONHORSE STALLIONS/JACK HARVEY; OPPOSITE PAGE, TOP: SKIP DICKSTEIN; BOTTOM: COADY MEDIA

group that alone or in partnership has campaigned horses to Triple Crown and Breeders' Cup wins.

"Harlan and I have been friends for several years," he said, "and when he campaigned Buccherò, I was a fan of the horse and rooting for Harlan and his partners. Then he came up with this ludicrous idea of standing him at stud, and I was very clear that I thought it was an asinine idea."

A good-natured tone undercuts the astringency of Wellman's words, along with the awareness that he had been very, very wrong.

Malter also consulted with the late trainer Christophe Clement, who was no more encouraging—if a little more diplomatic—than Wellman.

"I saw him at the Breeders' Cup," Malter said, "and he said, in that very French way, 'I beg you. Don't. He's such a cool horse. Just enjoy him. It's impossible to make a stallion. Absolutely impossible.'"

But despite a fairly privileged upbringing that included attending some of this country's finest secondary schools and universities, Malter embraced the challenge and the underdog role.

"I always loved baseball, and I always played baseball," he said. "In 1978, the year the Yankees won the World Series, I collected a full set of baseball cards. My father said to me, 'Go through the whole set and find anybody you think has a Jewish name. That's what you're up against. You're going to have to work harder."

"So there I was at Columbia, this big goofy Jewish kid playing Division 1 baseball, and that's what I saw in Buccherò. He wasn't American Pharoah, he wasn't a freak, but he was everything you want in an athlete, and that's what gave me the confidence to do this."

Through early October, Buccherò has been represented by 65 yearlings



Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners' Aron Wellman owns seasons in Buccherò. Originally a naysayer concerning Buccherò's chances of success as a sire, Wellman says now, "I'm very happy to eat some crow."



Among Buccherò's accomplishments on the racetrack are back-to-back victories in Keeneland's Woodford Stakes

and 65 2-year-olds offered at auction and all of them sold. His yearlings averaged \$24,975 and include two that sold for six figures. His top seller, among all horses sold at auction, is a yearling filly that sold for \$240,000 during the Fasig-Tipton New York-Bred Yearling Sale to Corbin Blumberg as agent. The sire's 2-year-olds have averaged \$47,392 and

include eight sold for six figures.

"The weanling market is the last box we have to check," Dowd said. "Breeders want to know that they can sell a baby as a weanling or yearling or 2-year-old, and we've seen the results at that yearling and 2-year-old sales. I think that there are two or three weanlings that are going to sell really, really well."

Buccherò stood for \$10,000 this year, and Malter raised that fee to \$12,500 for 2026. He's going to reduce Buccherò's book by approximately 25%, likely to 140.

"We want to reward the people who pay a higher stud fee with a smaller, more select group of babies," he said.

Malter is already fielding calls from prospective breeders, from both in New York and outside it, and he's in the market for other stallions to bring to New York, preferably those who come straight to the state from the race-track, and preferably one with a career similar to Buccherò's.

"There was a formula to him, and there are horses out there that fit that formula," he said. "It's what I said about Buccherò all the time: Put him in the gate, open the gate, let him do his job."

The formula is obviously working, and it's made a believer out of Wellman.

"They've managed to accomplish the impossible," he said. "I couldn't have more respect for what they've done, establishing Buccherò as a respected, successful stallion. Harlan and Buccherò are kind of mirror images of each other. Buccherò is a sort of blue-collar Indiana-bred that took his talents to the highest level through hard work and determination. Harlan is no different.

"You've got to admit when you're wrong, and I was definitely wrong. I'm very happy to eat some crow." **BH**

"THE RIGHT PRONUNCIATION KIND OF SOUNDS LIKE 'BUCKAROO,' WHICH ISN'T WHAT WE WERE GOING FOR, AND AS LONG AS YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT THE HORSE, YOU CAN PRONOUNCE IT HOWEVER YOU WANT TO."

—HARLAN MALTER, MANAGING PARTNER OF IRONHORSE RACING STABLE AND IRONHORSE STALLIONS