

## Grade 3 winner Alumni Hall retires to Lane's End

Multiple Grade 3 winner Alumni Hall has been retired to stand next year at co-breeder William S. Farish's Lane's End in Versailles, Kentucky, for \$5,000.



Photo by Z

### ALUMNI HALL

Stakes in 2005 at Keeneland Race Course. He won nine of 28 lifetime starts and earned \$747,756 for trainer Neil Howard and co-owners Farish and W. Temple Webber Jr. and the estate of James Elkins Jr.

"Alumni Hall showed amazing talent, and he has the potential to be a good stallion," Farish said. "I wouldn't be doing this if I didn't plan to breed my own mares to him. It will be great to have him here at Lane's End and join up with A.P. Indy and Mineshaft."

A series of physical setbacks prevented Alumni Hall from beginning his career until his five-year-old season, but he won his debut and four of his first five races, including the Black Tie Affair Handicap at Arlington Park in his fifth career start.

"The thing about Alumni Hall, he had a tremendous amount of talent, but we had to be very patient with him," Farish said. "He never had any major injuries but he was a tough horse to get to the races. He kept coming up with a bucked shin and little things along the way, but it certainly was worth the wait."

Farish said Alumni Hall's strengths included his tactical speed—he won races between 6½ furlongs and 1½ miles both on the pace and from midpack—and his constitution and attitude.

"He had speed, but you could place him anywhere in a race. He has a great attitude," Farish said. "That's why Neil was able to persevere with him for so long. He's a very kind horse and really had all the Grade 1 potential in the world, but we were never able to race him until he was five, and he lost some opportunities there."—*Pete Denk*

## A. P. Warrior's stud fee set at \$20,000

Stonewall Farm Stallions announced a \$20,000 stud fee on Monday for multiple Grade 2 winner A. P. Warrior, the newest arrival at the Versailles, Kentucky, farm.



Photo by Z

### A. P. WARRIOR

The three-year-old A.P. Indy colt retired with four wins from 13 starts and earnings of \$548,595. He won graded stakes on dirt and turf, taking the 2006 San Felipe Stakes (G2) and the La Jolla Handicap (G2). A. P. Warrior also finished second in the Norfolk Stakes (G2) as a two-year-old.

"This is not your typical A.P. Indy," said Stonewall's Director of Stallion Operations Ken Wilkins. "He broke his maiden

first out in July by four lengths going 5½ furlongs and was among the top two-year-olds last year, and a quick look at the pedigree explains his precocity—his dam was a top-weight sprinter in Europe and his third dam [Ocean's Answer] is a half sister to champion two-year-old and [former leading English sire] Storm Bird."

A. P. Warrior is out of the stakes-winning Quiet American mare Warrior Queen, a highweighted sprinter in England and Ireland.

"We expect great things early from A. P. Warrior and think he'll prove extremely popular with breeders," Wilkins said.

A. P. Warrior was bred in Kentucky by Jim Fleming. Stan Fulton paid \$1.3-million for him at the 2003 Keeneland September yearling sale. Stonewall bought him privately two weeks ago.

## Stakes winner Sort It Out to stand in Pennsylvania

Stakes winner Sort It Out has been retired, and he will stand at Vince Tucciarone's Fox Tale Stud in Coopersburg, Pennsylvania, for \$2,000.

The four-year-old Out of Place colt is out of the winning Kris S. mare Vex. His third dam, the stakes-winning Tom Rolfe mare File, produced champion two-year-old male and sire Forty Niner.



Photo by Z

### SORT IT OUT

Sort It Out won four of 21 starts and earned \$312,318. His stakes victory came in the 2005 Whirlaway Stakes at Aqueduct for trainer Allen Iwinski. Sort It Out also finished second in the Coolmore Lexington Stakes (G2) and 17th in the Kentucky Derby (G1) for owners Stonerside Stable and Preferred Pals Stable and trainer Bob Baffert.

"The goal at Fox Tale is to breed commercial yearlings who become stakes-quality two-year-olds, and then go on to compete at the classic level at three," Tucciarone said. "Sort It Out is exactly that kind of horse: a black-type juvenile who took his owners all the way to the Kentucky Derby. Not only that, he's the only son of Out of Place standing in the Mid-Atlantic region."

Sort It Out was bred in New York by Becky Thomas and Lewis Lakin. Stonerside bought into the colt and transferred him to trainer Bob Baffert after the Whirlaway win. Stonerside racing manager John Adger said the infusion of slots money into the Pennsylvania program was one of the primary reasons Stonerside decided to partner with Fox Tale.

"Pennsylvania has a terrific awards program for stallion owners and breeders, and it's just going to keep getting better," Adger said. "Stonerside has long believed in Out of Place as a sire, and we believe his son will continue his sire's tradition at the sales and on the racetrack. It's not a stretch to say we think Sort It Out will turn out to be one of the best values available to Mid-Atlantic breeders."—*Pete Denk*

## Holy Ground, a half brother to Barbaro, retired

Stakes winner Holy Ground, a half brother to Kentucky Derby (G1) winner Barbaro, has been retired.

A homebred of Roy and Gretchen Jackson's Lael Stables, Holy Ground's racing career was compromised by a suspensory injury. Although the four-year-old Saint Ballado colt has not started this season, he won three of nine career starts for trainer Michael Matz, including his 13¾-length romp in the 2005 Stanton Stakes on the main track at Delaware Park last summer.

Headley Bell's Nicoma Bloodstock, which advises the Jacksons' breeding operation, is in discussions on Holy Ground's future as a stallion prospect.

"He had some talent and he had some versatility," Bell said. "We've had quite a bit of interest in him already, as you might expect with Barbaro. I don't know where he'll fit in, but I think considering the aura of Barbaro, he's an exciting kind of prospect for a price. As I said, we've had quite a bit of interest."

Holy Ground also placed in two stakes races on turf, including a third-place finish to Grade 1 winner and Breeders' Cup Turf (G1) contender English Channel in the 2005 Woodlawn Stakes at Pimlico Race Course. Holy Ground finished third in his final career start on December 14 in the Mel's Hope Stakes at Calder Race Course.

After being sidelined with the suspensory injury after the Mel's Hope, Holy Ground was back in training with Matz. But with the breeding season rapidly approaching, the time came to make a decision on his future.

"They tried to bring him back and he's had a suspensory injury," Bell said. "[The Jacksons] just decided the timing being what it is, they just wanted to go ahead and retire him. It's actually been a week now since we first notified a few farms."

In addition to Barbaro, Kentucky-bred Holy Ground is the only other starter out of Grade 3-placed winner La Ville Rouge, by Carson City. La Ville Rouge produced a full brother to Barbaro in April at Mill Ridge Farm in Lexington, and her two-year-old colt Man in Havana, by Quiet American, is currently in training with Matz. —*Mike Curry*