

ALABAMA

FLORIDA

GEORGIA

MISSISSIPPI

NORTH CAROLINA

**SOUTH CAROLINA**

TENNESSEE

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# Webb's Site

BY AMANDA H. DUCKWORTH

## *History, hard work have made the Webb Carroll Training Center in South Carolina a success*

In 2002, a horse owned by a prince won the Kentucky Derby (gr. I) and simultaneously offered up ultimate proof that a country boy can make good. Webb Carroll, who owns the Webb Carroll Training Center in South Carolina, gave War Emblem his early training, and in return, the temperamental colt became a champion right when Carroll needed it the most. Now, six years later, Carroll's training center is still going strong more than 25 years after he started it.

### **EARLY TEACHINGS**

Long before War Emblem was in the national spotlight and bidding for the Triple Crown, Carroll began his love affair with Thoroughbreds. His father, William, was in the business, and he gave his knowledge of the industry to his children.

"I grew up on the farm, working with the broodmares and the babies," said Carroll. "I would go to the races with my dad in the summer, and I got on some horses for him. I ponied horses; I drove the van; I did it all."

Now 62, Carroll still lives in the town he grew up in, St. Matthews, which is located

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Webb Carroll has been running his Thoroughbred training center for 25 years

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# 2008 Leading Sires in Florida

State sire lists updated daily online.  
Go to <http://breeding.bloodhorse.com/sirelists.asp>

For stallions that stand, will stand, or stood (deceased) in Florida (exported stallions are excluded), and have runners in North America. Listed below are all available statistics for the Northern Hemisphere through October 22, 2008. As supplied to The Blood-Horse by The Jockey Club Information Systems Inc., earnings exclude monies from Japan and Hong Kong. \*Foal counts include Southern Hemisphere. Cumulative stakes winners includes all countries. (A † indicates a sire represented by his first crop to race).

Rank	Stallion (Foaling Year, Sire), Farm Standing	2008 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2008 Earnings	Cumulative			
								Foals	Stks Wnrs	*A-E Index	*Comp Index
1	MONTBROOK (90, Buckaroo), Ocala Stud Farm	\$10,000	159/86	4/7	1/4	(Big Drama, \$410,250)	\$3,425,500	627	40	1.56	1.64
2	ALPHABET SOUP (91, Cozzene), Adena Springs South	\$10,000	158/71	4/5	3/4	(Moujane, \$188,778)	\$2,647,884	*570	35	1.46	1.48
3	DOUBLE HONOR (95, Gone West), Get Away Farm	\$3,500	129/72	2/3	0/2	(All Night Labor, \$175,756)	\$2,433,957	398	16	1.26	1.33
4	MILWAUKEE BREW (97, Wild Again), Adena Springs South	\$7,500	96/51	4/6	2/4	(Ginger Brew, \$653,235)	\$2,413,830	156	4	1.34	1.58
5	GRAEME HALL (97, Dehere), Winding Oaks Farm	\$5,000	104/65	6/8	1/6	(Graeme Six, \$194,593)	\$2,409,565	*187	8	1.52	1.58
6	PUT IT BACK (98, Honour and Glory), Bridlewood Farm	\$7,500	114/64	6/15	0/6	(In Summation, \$263,340)	\$2,396,898	*275	12	1.80	1.37
7	HALO'S IMAGE (91, Halo), Bridlewood Farm	\$7,500	141/64	1/1	1/1	(Halo Najib, \$231,577)	\$2,385,251	*430	17	1.38	1.40
8	THREE WONDERS (97, Storm Cat), Hidden Point Farm	Died, 2008	124/65	2/2	2/2	(Acai, \$340,541)	\$2,123,525	196	3	1.16	1.20
9	STRAIGHT MAN (96, Saint Ballado), Signature Stallions	\$6,000	118/56	5/6	3/5	(Get Funky, \$126,819)	\$2,035,681	282	7	1.06	1.22
10	CONCERTO (94, Chief's Crown), Ocala Stud Farm	\$7,500	103/59	1/2	0/1	(Three Part Harmony, \$128,225)	\$1,990,762	293	18	1.61	1.34
11	SWEETSOUTHERNSAINT (95, Saint Ballado), Ocala Stud Farm	\$3,500	90/42	4/6	0/4	(Dulce Realidad, \$221,300)	\$1,900,773	239	9	1.48	1.08
12	CONCORDE'S TUNE (89, Concorde Bound), Ocala Stud Farm	\$3,000	105/57	3/3	0/3	(Silver Moose, \$85,060)	\$1,891,218	374	21	1.30	1.11
13	RED BULLET (97, Unbridled), Adena Springs South	\$10,000	62/39	3/5	0/3	(Fatal Bullet, \$318,286)	\$1,853,832	139	4	1.41	1.99
14	NOTEBOOK (85, Well Decorated)	Died, 2003	63/39	1/1	0/1	(Diamond Stripes, \$680,000)	\$1,687,432	617	49	1.75	1.47
15	D'WILDCAT (98, Forest Wildcat), Vinery	\$6,500	43/26	2/3	1/2	(Authenticat, \$312,387)	\$1,396,312	68	3	1.84	1.52
16	WEST ACRE (95, Forty Niner), Stonehedge Farm South	\$5,000	74/49	1/1	0/1	(Classy Concern, \$77,750)	\$1,336,091	231	5	1.39	1.26
17	ADCAT (95, Storm Cat)	N/A	82/41	1/1	0/1	(Spiritd Seacat, \$77,697)	\$1,331,241	*166	4	0.87	0.90
18	FULL MANDATE (99, A.P. Indy), Hartley/De Renzo Thoroughbreds	\$5,000	105/49	0/0	0/0	(Divine Legacy, \$85,648)	\$1,287,908	167	1	0.75	1.08
19	SLIGO BAY (IRE) (98, Sadler's Wells), Adena Springs South	\$7,500	65/33	0/0	0/0	(Sligovitz, \$231,437)	\$1,279,100	116	1	1.07	2.00
20	FORMAL DINNER (88, Well Decorated), Hidden Point Farm	\$5,000	89/45	2/4	1/2	(Formal Arrangement, \$114,800)	\$1,278,596	*542	22	1.15	1.14
21	B L'S APPEAL (97, Valid Appeal), Randolph Thoroughbreds	\$2,500	59/42	1/1	0/1	(Broken Hearted, \$93,546)	\$1,202,247	99	2	1.19	1.32
22	UNBRIDLED TIME (98, Unbridled's Song), Signature Stallions	\$5,000	73/36	0/0	0/0	(Unbridled Wisdom, \$83,066)	\$1,052,845	139	1	0.81	0.97
23	CIMARRON SECRET (91, Tejano), Cimarron Farm	\$1,250	42/26	2/6	0/2	(Lookinforthesecret, \$315,338)	\$1,014,850	103	3	1.03	0.95
24	TOUR D'OR (82, Medaille d'Or)	Died, 2005	68/34	0/0	0/0	(Tour Ireland, \$100,925)	\$989,547	501	27	1.33	1.23
25	LIDO PALACE (CHI) (97, Rich Man's Gold), Lambholm South	\$5,000	45/20	2/3	0/2	(Vineyard Haven, \$419,000)	\$941,894	85	2	1.01	1.46
26	PROUD AND TRUE (94, Mr. Prospector), Double Diamond Farm	\$2,500	44/29	1/2	0/1	(True Metropolitan, \$268,469)	\$909,734	173	4	1.16	0.97
27	MAX'S PAL (97, Marquetry), Lambholm South	\$2,500	57/32	0/0	0/0	(Max's Bid, \$108,704)	\$857,443	103	2	0.93	1.03
28	PURE PRECISION (99, Montbrook), Lou-Roe Farm	\$3,000	48/23	0/0	0/0	(Mymyboogieshoes, \$145,160)	\$841,200	84	0	1.04	1.21
29	UNTUTTABLE (96, Unbridled), Stonehedge Farm South	\$5,000	71/30	1/1	0/1	(This Ones for Phil, \$79,340)	\$835,436	142	7	1.12	1.44
30	TRUST N LUCK (00, Montbrook), Vinery	\$3,500	68/32	1/2	0/1	(Fear No Evil, \$97,325)	\$829,397	*111	2	0.76	1.25

\*A-E and COMPARABLE INDEX: The lifetime Average-Earnings Index indicates how much purse money the progeny of one sire has earned, on the average, in relation to the average earnings of all runners in the same years; average earnings of all runners in any year is represented by an index of 1.00. The Comparable Index indicates the average earnings of progeny produced from mares bred to one sire, when these same mares were bred to other sires. Only 32% of all sires have a lifetime AEI higher than their mares Comparable Index.



Carroll and his wife, Sarah, make their home in St. Matthews, S.C.



Carroll describes his facility as "no elaborate showplace," but adds that "it sure gets the job done"

2008 Florida Sires By Winners		
Sire	Rnrs	Wnrs
Montbrook	159	86
Double Honor	129	72
Alphabet Soup	158	71
Three Wonders	124	65
Graeme Hall	104	65
Halo's Image	141	64
Put It Back	114	64
Concerto	103	59
Concorde's Tune	105	57
Straight Man	118	56
Milwaukee Brew	96	51
Full Mandate	105	49
West Acre	74	49
Formal Dinner	89	45
Sweetsouthern saint	90	42
B L's Appeal	59	42
Adcat	82	41
Notebook	63	39
Red Bullet	62	39
Unbridled Time	73	36
Texas Glitter	69	34
Tour d'Or	68	34
Sligo Bay (IRE)	65	33
Trust N Luck	68	32
Max's Pal	57	32
Fortunate Prospect	54	31
Untutable	71	30
Colony Light	70	29
Honor Glide	68	29
Proud and True	44	29
Gulf Storm	73	27
Drewman	56	26
D'wildcat	43	26
Cimarron Secret	42	26

2008 Florida Sires By 2-Year-Old Winners			
Sire	Stks 2yos	2yo Rnrs	2yo Wnrs
Peace Rules	94	38	20
Chapel Royal	149	64	20
Graeme Hall	70	25	15
Omega Code	79	33	13
Alke	55	28	13
Milwaukee Brew	72	34	12
Put It Back	75	33	12
Roar of the Tiger	66	30	12
Three Wonders	63	32	10
Pure Precision	44	23	10
Formal Dinner	38	17	9
Full Mandate	70	32	9
Concerto	45	19	8
Olmodavor	64	26	8
Montbrook	46	17	7
Double Honor	57	21	7
B L's Appeal	29	14	7
Lightnin N Thunder	49	16	6
Concorde's Tune	47	15	6
Halo's Image	28	15	6
West Acre	31	11	6
Sligo Bay (IRE)	38	13	6
City Place	37	11	5
Red Bullet	40	7	5
Drewman	62	20	5
Bring the Heat	14	7	5
Greatness	37	16	5
Black Mambo	69	24	5
Awesome Sword	13	4	4
Gimmeawink	54	19	4
Trust N Luck	45	16	4
Colony Light	30	12	4
Wised Up	21	11	4
Wind Whipper	24	12	4
D'wildcat	29	13	4

between Camden and Aiken. He chose to stay in the family business as he got older, and never went to college.

"You were taught that this was a way of life with us, not a hobby," said Carroll. "It was a working family. I stayed with Dad, and did all sorts of things with him. I didn't get a degree—it was just kind of the school of hard knocks.

"Dad died unexpectedly in 1972, and I was trying different things. I was in the trucking business. I managed a huge farm in our county. I was doing farming and agricultural pursuits and not enjoying it at all. When I was 36 or so, I said, 'I want to do something different.' I didn't know what to do, but I wanted to get back

2008 Florida Sires By Stakes Winners		
Sire	Stks Wnrs	Stks Wins
Put It Back	6	10
Graeme Hall	6	8
Straight Man	5	6
Montbrook	4	7
Milwaukee Brew	4	6
Sweetsouthern saint	4	6
Alphabet Soup	4	5
Red Bullet	3	5
Concorde's Tune	3	3
Cimarron Secret	2	6
Formal Dinner	2	4
Lightnin N Thunder	2	4

in the horse business.”

One of the best and worst things about living in a small town is that you know everyone and everyone knows you. In Carroll's case, it was encouragement and help from two people, Joy Carpenter and Odie Clelland, that led to the eventual creation of his training center.

“Joy mentioned she and Odie would try to help me,” said Carroll. “I got back involved with all that I knew how to do. I started breaking some babies for Odie and wintering his babies and using his place. We had a barter-swap deal. Odie gave me so many opportunities. He was so special. He trusted me, and it's unreal what he did for me.

“The rest of the time I had a 1953 Chevrolet pickup truck, and I restored it myself and figured I could sell vitamins. Down the road I went to Aiken and Camden, and I would sell out of the back of the pickup. Then I would come back and deal with the stallions, mares, babies, do the layups, and then break a few babies.”

#### ALL IN A NAME

Of course, it took time and effort for Carroll to get his name out there. St. Matthews isn't exactly the center of Thoroughbred activity in the country, or even in South

Carolina. But Carroll was determined, friendly, and made the most of opportunities given to him.

“I would always go around and recruit,” he explained. “I would make my own little cards. It was country come to town, but you have to do the best you can with what

*“Webb is just a really good, honest guy...He's a big supporter of mine and a good friend.”*

GRAHAM MOTION

you got. Daddy died, and left me the whole world to make a living in.”

Naming his training center was one of the easiest decisions Carroll had to make, mainly because he felt he had little choice in the matter.

“I had to make it work, and I had to tie in Webb Carroll,” he explained. “It couldn't be Blue Sky Farm or Orange Grove Lane. Time was of the essence. It had to work,

and I had to do it better than anyone else. The theory I had was I had everything to gain and nothing to lose because I didn't have anything. We started out with that and bit by bit we worked up.”

Carroll started finding success in Kentucky and Maryland, and having validation from clients like trainer Lucien Laurin gave him the confidence and the ability to continue.

“I kind of named dropped, I keyed off horses that did well, and I got involved with nice people that really helped me,” he said. “I got to know all the Maryland people. Bernie Bond was really instrumental in helping me get started. He was a 2-year-old guru up there.”

It was Carroll's affiliation with Bond that has led to another relationship that continues today. At the same time Carroll was breaking horses for Bond, Graham Motion was working for him, and upon Bond's retirement, Motion took over his stable. He still sends horses to Carroll for their early training.

“He came with a very good reputation, and I continued to support him,” said Motion. “It was just something we always did. He has been very supportive of me, and it has always worked well.”

Given the length of time Carroll and



War Emblem, winner of the 2002 Kentucky Derby and Preakness Stakes, received his early training from Carroll

Motion have known each other, it is not surprising that what was a business relationship has become a genuine friendship as well.

"Webb is just a really good, honest guy," said Motion. "He is a guy you can talk to. He's been a big supporter of mine and a good friend."

**SUCCESSFUL PUPILS**

The main facility of Carroll's training center stands on land that he eventually bought from Clelland. The property offers a seven-eighths of a mile irrigated track, three-quarter-mile grass gallop, swimming pool, paddocks, eight-horse exerciser, and the mild climate for which South Carolina is known. Carroll also has a satellite farm that backs up to the original property.

"Our claim to fame is putting them in large sets and really educating them," said Carroll. "I put the large sets together, and I have horses coming at each other. I take

12 to the racetrack, and I send six one direction and six the other. I simulate every kind of condition known to man."

Trainer Larry Jones echoed those sentiments, saying, "He sends horses in very smart, and they have their education. They come in looking forward to doing their work. The thing that sold me on him is how happy the horses were when they came in."

Some of the best-known horses to come from Carroll's program include grade I winner Offlee Wild and grade II winner Tale of the Cat. A current runner, multiple grade II winner Rite Moment, is also a graduate of the training center.

"It is a working farm," said Carroll. "It is no elaborate show place, but it sure did get the job done. I give them time off to be the best that they can be, and do therapy with the young horses that need it. If you want to get them there early, I'll try to get there, but I want to try to send out a sane, fit, educated, sound horse."

But the horse most associated with the training center is War Emblem, due to the fact he won two classic races and an Eclipse Award for champion 3-year-old male. Beyond the obvious reasons why the colt, who was originally owned by Russell Reineman, means a great deal to Carroll, he came along at a time when Carroll needed something positive.

"I had gotten very disenchanted with the business," said Carroll, who was also dealing with personal issues in the years just prior to the colt's Run for the Roses. "I was basically too broke to go broke. I had gone through my second divorce, and it was just rough. The Reinemans stuck with me when it was hard to keep going. What are the chances of a good old country boy out in the middle of nowhere having a Kentucky Derby winner?"

War Emblem was bred by Charles Nuckols Jr. and Sons, and Carroll is friends with the Nuckols family. He met them while handing out cards at Keeneland during one of the sales, and that friendship eventually led to the Reineman family sending Carroll horses to break. They sold 90% of War Emblem prior to the Kentucky Derby.

"I had nothing to do with War Emblem winning the Derby, but I did have him for seven months on my farm," said Carroll. "You can't take that away from me. I didn't know (trainer) Bob Baffert or Prince (Ahmed) Salman. But we broke him, took our time with him, and gave him the time he needed. He wasn't pushed or abused in any way, but he really was a rough hombre. The fitter he got, the worse he got."

In years past, Carroll used to sell horses at the Fasig-Tipton 2-year-olds in training sale in Maryland, and he was packing for his trip up there the day War Emblem won the Kentucky Derby. In fact, he was too busy packing to really watch the race until his family called him into the room.

"They said, 'You better come back; he is on the lead,'" Carroll recalled. "He got a little farther, and I said, 'This horse is going to hit the board for sure.' Then I said, 'You know, this horse is going to win the Kentucky Derby!' Unreal. I got to the sale, and I was on a buzz all night. I had a sign made—Kentucky Derby winner broke and trained here. Then he goes and wins the Preakness (gr. I).

"This was at a time when I was at a low ebb. That horse and the Reinemans picked me up and made things good for me. It was nothing but a miracle with the horse winning the Derby. It was a godsend, and I utilized it."

Another thing that helped Carroll regain his enthusiasm for his career choice was that his personal life had begun to settle down again. He got remarried to a school teacher, Sarah, and they continue to love and support each other.

"Things stabilized in a way with the

**2008 Florida Third-Crop Sires  
By Earnings**

Sire	Named Foals	Rnrs	Wnrs	Stks Wnrs	Earnings
Graeme Hall.....	187	104	65	6	\$2,409,565
Three Wonders.....	196	124	65	2	\$2,123,525
Red Bullet.....	139	62	39	3	\$1,853,832
Unbridled Time.....	139	73	36	0	\$1,052,845
Max's Pal.....	103	57	32	0	\$857,443
Texas Glitter.....	133	69	34	0	\$728,479
Honor Glide.....	117	68	29	0	\$582,996
Fappie's Notebook.....	46	28	16	1	\$546,758
Mongoose.....	59	34	17	0	\$477,542
Bring the Heat.....	30	18	9	2	\$476,720
French Envoy.....	73	37	16	1	\$431,215
Gibson County.....	43	24	10	1	\$406,360
Monsieur Cat.....	40	21	8	0	\$358,710
Forbidden Apple.....	66	36	17	0	\$335,084
Scorpion.....	56	21	11	0	\$240,804
Invisible Ink.....	56	33	12	1	\$230,262

**2008 Florida Second-Crop Sires  
By Earnings**

Sire	Named Foals	Rnrs	Wnrs	Stks Wnrs	Earnings
Milwaukee Brew.....	156	96	51	4	\$2,413,830
D'wildcat.....	68	43	26	2	\$1,396,312
Full Mandate.....	167	105	49	0	\$1,287,908
Sligo Bay (IRE).....	116	65	33	0	\$1,279,100
Lido Palace (CHI).....	85	45	20	2	\$941,894
Pure Precision.....	84	48	23	0	\$841,200
Trust N Luck.....	111	68	32	1	\$829,397
Drewman.....	112	56	26	0	\$762,744
Greatness.....	76	45	24	0	\$707,298
Deputy Wild Cat.....	40	24	14	1	\$692,280
Gulf Storm.....	128	73	27	0	\$655,112
Lightnin N Thunder.....	77	32	12	2	\$650,872
Indy King.....	51	26	11	1	\$396,912
American Spirit.....	20	7	2	1	\$254,608
Best of the Rest.....	14	12	7	0	\$224,285
Skip to the Stone.....	53	21	7	1	\$189,814

kids and the business before the Derby,” Carroll said. “I went to a Christian singles party during the holidays, and I met my wife there. Things were starting to look a little better.”

### THE FUTURE

Twenty-five years after establishing his training center, Carroll shows no signs of slowing down, and people are still noticing how well he does his job. Last year, owner Rick Porter sent all of his horses to Carroll based on Jones’ suggestion, and Carroll will be receiving Porter’s horses again next year.

“I went down to visit him and saw his operation, the people he had working for him, and his overall setup, and I thought it was terrific,” said Porter. “We try to buy big, two-turn horses. We know we need somebody that’s not going to push them.

“I have just been very happy with how the horses came to Larry. They all had plenty of weight on them, they were well gate trained, and they were all very professional. He had done a great job in training their minds as well as their bodies. Webb is out in the middle of nowhere, but he has a great setup and a mom-and-pop operation. I think they are terrific.”

Carroll received 14 horses from Porter last year, including an \$800,000 Unbridled’s Song colt, and he took his job very seriously. Named Old Fashioned, that colt broke his maiden at first asking Oct. 6 at Delaware Park.

“The 14 horses that came into my barn represented \$4.6 million,” he said. “I almost wanted to live with them.”

When asked if he is considering retirement, Carroll laughed at the suggestion.

“Every day I can’t wait to go out there,” he said. “I don’t see any retirement in sight. I just enjoy it. It is a trip that has been good. It has been hard, it has been fair, and it’s been fun.”

Those who have worked with Carroll also note his dedication to the game.

“He works really hard,” said Jones. “I may call at 7 p.m., and his wife tells me he is on the tractor working the track. I never have caught him in the office. He is working with the horses.”


Although Carroll followed in his father’s footsteps, none of his children are interested in continuing the family business, and he is OK with that.

“I am kind of glad,” he said. “It is a rough game. Daddy didn’t want me to be in it. He knew it was rough, but it was all I knew. When I fell back into this thing, the chances of me making it were slim to none.

“In this ever-changing game, they know who I am. I think they know I am a good guy, and I think they know I am a pretty good horseman. I wish I could thank everyone personally that has helped me along the way.”



Carroll’s facility includes a seven-eighths-mile track, a three-quarter-mile grass gallop, a swimming pool, and an eight-horse exerciser



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