

The Investor



The Investor was shown by trainer Jack Benson to an AQHA Championship and Superior halter award. PHOTO BY DALCO

It is strange how fate can play such a key role in our lives. We go on living day to day and then suddenly something will happen to change our lives forever. The story of The Investor is one of fate stepping in to control this great stallion's destiny.

It all started when the stallion Three Storms died suddenly, leaving the George Pardi Quarter Horse program with the dilemma of no breeding stallion. The logical thing to do was find a new breeding stallion. So Pardi sent Jack Benson to find the right stallion.

On the way Benson ran into a weanling stud colt at Jerry Wells' place in Oklahoma. The colt caught Benson's eye and it was apparently love at first sight. Benson was able to talk Pardi into buying the young stallion and fate shown brightly on the unproven colt.

The stallion Benson found was The Investor bred by Eldon R. England. Benson's faith in The Investor was rewarded when the young stallion won the yearling class at such shows

“Fate would make its next major impact on The Investor when Benson died in a car crash on January 18, 1989.”

as the Houston Livestock Show and the San Antonio Livestock Show.

The next step for The Investor was a short stint at the track. E. R. Beddo trained The Investor but didn't start the horse on a recognized track. They found the young stallion to have speed and a good start but he didn't have the stamina to run out a distance.

The Investor, under Benson's watchful eye, would blossom into a very good show stallion. He became a Superior halter horse earning 53 points and a total of 29 Grand Championships and 16 Reserve Championships.

The Investor, in the performance arena, became an AQHA Champion with points in cutting, reining, hunt seat and western pleasure. He had 2 cutting points, 8 reining points, 9 western pleasure points and 2 hunt seat points. He missed the NCHA Futurity Semi-Finals by 1 ½ points.

Fate was at work again in 1973 when George Pardi dispersed his Quarter Horse operation. According to Pardi, the sale was necessitated "because Uncle Sam was concerned that the horses were a hobby."

The pending dispersal presented a dilemma for Jack Benson. The Investor could be sold and the trainer would be without his horse. But Pardi remedied the situation by selling The

Investor to Benson for \$25,000. That was \$5,000 down and the rest to be paid over four years.

After the dispersal Benson and his new horse moved to Irvin Catchman's place at Bellville, Texas. Benson would stand The Investor and share in the profits with Catchman.

A young trainer named Brad McCamy and Benson would form Stallions Unlimited in 1977. But by 1979, the writing on the wall indicated that something had to be done to keep things going. So The Investor was syndicated.

They broke the syndicate down to 60 shares with Stallions Unlimited retaining 20 of those shares. The rest were sold to breeders around the country.

During the next few years Stallions Unlimited would stand such top stallions as Hobby Horse and Red Dee Hobby alongside The Investor.

Fate would make its next major impact on The Investor when Benson died in a car crash on January 18, 1989. The death of Benson would finally separate the man from his horse. Life was looking pretty bleak for the horse that had risen out of obscurity. The Investor had become a major force in the pleasure horse industry.

With the death of Benson, The Investor and the Stallions Unlimited facility were put up for sale. This brought The Investor into contact with Dan and Carol McWhirter of Doniphan, Nebraska. The McWhirters were looking to replace their senior sire The Big Investment, a son of The Investor. The Big Investment died unexpectedly leaving the McWhirters with a big void in their breeding program.

Dan and Carol and their new partner Wayne Atchley would finalize the purchase of The Investor in January 1990. They formed The Investor Syndicate and The Investor came to central Nebraska.

Although fate had ended a great association between The Investor and Jack Benson, it had come back to put The Investor in the very capable hands of the McWhirters and Atchley, thus giving the aged stallion a new lease on life.

The McWhirters and Atchley are actively putting together a band of mares that will fit The Investor to insure his last foals will be the best possible legacy for this great stallion.

It all came into focus at the 1980 All American Quarter Horse Congress Pleasure Futurity. The Investor had six foals in the finals and four of the six ended up placing first, second, third and fourth.

Two of the top four finishers in the Congress Pleasure Futurity were trained by Jerry Stanford. The Stanford trained Sure Investment was ridden to the win by Tommy Manion and Stanford was the reserve champion on The Collateral. Stanford continues to be a member of The Investor booster club.

Stanford first saw The Investor at a show in Nederland, Texas, and it was love at first sight, just as it had been for Benson. Stanford explains, "Benson showed him at halter and I haven't seen anything like him in my life. I didn't know Jack Benson. I didn't know any body. I was just a big old kid, so I kept track of The Investor and then I sent some mares over to be bred to him. These were mares owned by my customers. That's the way our relationship got started."

Stanford continued, "We moved to Brenham, Texas, and I just kept riding foals by The Investor. Nobody would send me any other bloodline. I got all The Investors. All those people that



1980 All American Quarter Horse Congress Pleasure Futurity Champion, Sure Investment, shown by Tommy Manion and owned by The Investor Syndicate earned \$21,962. The total purse offered was \$94,669, the offspring of The Investor won \$55,390 — 58% of the money.

“The Investor had six foals in the finals (the 1980 All American Quarter Horse Congress Pleasure Futurity) and four of the six ended up placing first, second, third and fourth.”

bred mares and I got the foals. Jack guided everybody to me, too.”

Jack Benson has been quoted in many publications as to why he liked The Investor so much and his reply was always something to the effect that The Investor was "a good lover's Stanford echoes the thought of The Investor as a mover and explains that conformation is the key to his success the same conformation that Benson saw in that weanling stud colt the same conformation Stanford saw at that show in Nederland, Texas.

We'll let Stanford explain, "The low hock is the key to The Investor's success. He puts a low hock on his

foals. He puts a hock on a horse the way it's supposed to be low hocks or a hock that is close to the ground. You can take the front legs off a horse because he gets his momentum from his back legs. You want those hocks to come straight down that imaginary line behind the horse and that's what you get with The Investor. If the horse's hock is behind that imaginary line you lose momentum.”

The Investor has put a lot of those good hocks on his foals. He is the sire of 44 AQHA Superior pleasure horses, 125 Register Of Merit performance horses and nine AQHA Champions in the open division alone, He is the fourth leading sire of ROM performers in the AQHA.

The Investor is the sire of such World Show finalists as Miss Cash

Ticket, The Prospectus, Good Investor, Ms Safety Deposit, Miss Balance Plus, Collector's Prize, Invest In Ears, The Joint Venture, Investa Pine, Nitty Investment and Picante. He is the sire of such open World Champions as Impulsions and We Are Magic, as well as three AJQHA World Champions Bonafide and El

Cicatriz.

In the amateur division, The Investor has 10 Superior Pleasure horses and 27 Amateur Show ROMs. Many of his open Superior performers and open ROMs have duplicated their performances in the amateur divisions. These performers would include such Amateur superior Pleasure horsecar Bonafide, Bonnievester, Double Vested, I Am A Sweet One, Invest In Ears and The Collateral.

The Collateral holds a special place in Jerry Stanford's eyes. He was the Reserve Champion of that 1980 Congress Pleasure Futurity. Stanford was at a show in Virginia in 1991 and ran into his old friend The Collateral who was still being shown. This 13 year old son of The Investor has three halter points, 336 open performance points, 122 amateur points, 7 youth halter points and 330 youth performance points. He is superior in western pleasure, trail, amateur western pleasure, youth western pleasure, youth showmanship and youth western horsemanship.

The longevity of The Collateral in the show ring brings up an interesting point for those who have heard that some of The Investors are hard to get along with. Jerry Stanford doesn't see disposition as a problem with The Investor and his foals.

Stanford begins with The Investor's disposition, "You take a horse that

"He puts a hock on a horse the way it's supposed to be - low hocks or a hock that is close to the ground."

had as many performance points as he did in as many events as he was used in and it proves his disposition was a good one."

Stanford continues about The Investor foals, "They were a different minded kind of horse. You had to go very slow. It taught me a whole new way of training horses with The Investors."

"I rode them for seven years. That'll I rode in that seven years. I had some of the greatest pleasure horses in the



The Investor and Jack Benson at Stallions Unlimited at the Brenham, Texas ranch where The Investor stood in the 1980's.

industry, sired by that one horse. The year we knocked them out of the ballpark at the Congress, we were first, second, third, fourth and sixth in the top 10. First and second were mine, sixth was mine. I had five horses in the top 10 that year and they were all sired by The Investor.

"The Investors I rode were horses that you didn't force. You could not force them into doing anything. You could lead them and make them do anything, but don't try to force them to do anything. Some people called them bad minded but they were smarter than' the people who were riding them."

"A lot of people couldn't get along with them because they wanted to carry them too fast. They wanted it done yesterday and it doesn't work that way."

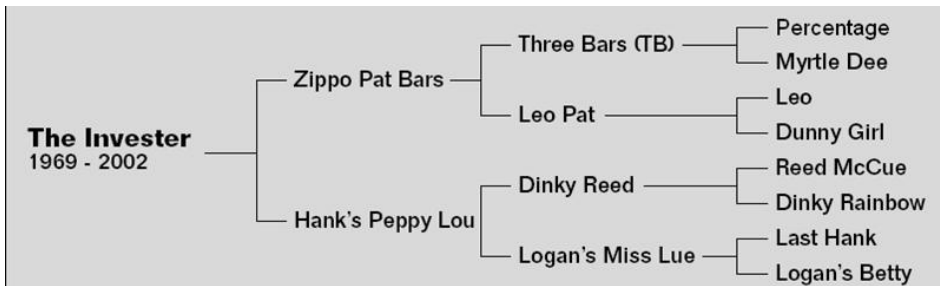
Ironically, a discussion of the disposition and train ability of The Investors leads us to his pedigree. The Investor is linebred 5 X 5 X 4 X 6 to the great foundation sire Joe Reed P-3. This is interesting because many horsemen and breeders will say that the Joe Reed line of horses is very intelligent and they are the type of

horses that can't be forced to do what a trainer wants them to do. They must be lead by the trainer.

The Investor gets two of his crosses to Joe Reed from his sire Zippo Pat Bar, a son of Three Bars. The dam of Zippo Pat Bar was Leo Pat by Leo. Leo was a double grandson of Joe Reed as his sire Joe Reed 11 was by Joe Reed P-3 and his dam was Little Fanny by Joe Reed P-3.

The dam of The Investor was Hank's Peppy Lou by Dinky Reed. Dinky Reed was the sire of several ROM show and race horses including the MA stakes winning AQHA Champion Brent's Pat.

The sire of Dinky Reed was Reed McCue. Reed McCue was one of the last sons of Joe Reed P-3. He was the sire of horses like the AA/ROM race winner Miss Reed McCue. Miss



Reed McCue was the dam of the AAA runner Jayhawker Bar by Three Bars and the Top AAA runner Arrive by the thoroughbred Arrive.

A fourth shot of Joe Reed for The Investor comes through Dinky Reed again. Dinky Reed is the sire of Logan's Betty, the dam of Logan's Miss Lue, the dam of Hank's Peppy Lou. This makes Hank's Peppy Lou 1 X 3 inbred to Dinky Reed.

Before we leave Hank's Peppy Lou, we find another interesting aspect of the pedigree of The Investor. Hank's Peppy Lou is not only line bred to Joe Reed through Dinky Reed and Reed McCue, but she is linebred to another great foundation sire Peter McCue.

Peter McCue was a Quarter Horse that was registered as a thoroughbred and became a famous runner as a thoroughbred. He later stood in Illinois, Oklahoma, Texas and Colorado to cement his place in Quarter Horse history as a foundation sire. His sons include the great Harmon Baker, Hickory Bill, Chief P-5 and A.D. Reed. Harmon Baker was owned by William Anson, the famous Englishman that is credited with starting the revitalization of the Quarter Horse that lead to the formation of the American Quarter Horse Association. Hickory Bill was the sire of Old Sorrel, foundation sire of the King Ranch Quarter Horses. A.D. Reed and Chief P-5 are found in the pedigree of Hank's Peppy Lou.

The A.D. Reed influence starts with Reed McCue who is out of the mare Patsy Reed by A.D. Reed. A.D. Reed was a famous Oklahoma and New Mexico sire that can be found in the pedigrees of such noted horses as

Grey Badger II.

According to Bob Denhardt in his book, Foundation Sires of the American Quarter Horse, A.D. Reed also was registered as a thoroughbred by the Jockey Club. He was registered as "Dr. B.H. 1916 by Speedy Ball, Dam Swing Corners by *Tithonus" (American Stud Book, Vol. XI I, 594).

A.D. Reed is found twice in The Investor's pedigree through his dam's inbreeding to Dinky Reed by Reed McCue.

The A.D. Reed influence doesn't stop at that point. The fourth dam of The Investor is Logan's Ruby by Dr. Blue Eyes by A.D. Reed. The dam of Logan's Ruby is Bell by Dr. Blue Eyes. This makes Logan's Ruby 1 X 2 inbred to A.D. Reed and Hank's Peppy Lou 4 X 6 X 5 X 6 linebred to A.D. Reed.

Peter McCue appears again in Patsy Reed's pedigree through her dam Dolly Hudson. Dolly Hudson was sired by Ace by Peter McCue.

Chief by Peter McCue was one of the original foundation sires selected to receive one of the first 19 numbers in the American Quarter Horse Stud Book. No. 1 in the Stud Book was awarded to Wimpy when he was named the Grand Champion at the 1941 Fort Worth Stock Show. The other 18 numbers were awarded to stallions that were considered foundation stock for the new association.

Chief was awarded the No. sin the Stud Book. Thus, we see that The Investor was influenced by two of the

original Stud Book foundation sires, Chief P-5 and Joe Reed P-3.

It was pointed out by Barbara Muse Huntington in her book The Grand Twenty that Chief P-5 was the last living son of Peter McCue. She goes on to verify the quality of Chief by pointing out the fact that this son of Peter McCue was a first place halter stallion at the age of 24 in 1941.

Chief shows up first in The Investor's pedigree as the sire of Dinky Rainbow, the dam of Dinky Reed. The dam of Dinky Rainbow was Black Dixie, a daughter of Chief P-5. This makes Dinky Rainbow 1 X 2 inbred to Chief P-5. Because of her inbreeding to Dinky Reed, we see that Hank's Peppy Lou has four crosses to Chief.

Because of his ties to Ace, Chief and A.D. Reed, Dinky Reed puts a great deal of Peter McCue blood into Hank's Peppy Lou. When you add the blood of A.D. Reed in Logan's Ruby, you find a minimum of 10 crosses to Peter McCue in Hank's Peppy Lou. This makes Hank's Peppy Lou a foundation bred mare that is ax 6 X 4 X 5 X 7 X 8 X 6 X 7 X 6 X 8 linebred to Peter McCue.

The pedigree of The Investor in a combination of linebreeding to Joe Reed P-3 through his sire and dam with a strong dose of Peter McCue through his dam. The Investor has taken this pedigree combination on to be a successful sire in the tradition of his sire and grandsire.

The Investor is a paternal grandson of Three Bars, considered by many to be the most important sire in our industry. The blood of Three Bars is found in every phase of our industry – East Jet, Dash For Cash, Doc Bar, Zippo Pine Bar, Speedy Glow, Impressive, Jewel's Leo Bar, Sonny Dee Bar and Zan Parr Bar all carry the blood of this great sire. Of course, this list would have to include Zippo Pat Bars, the sire of The Investor.

Zippo Pat Bars was bred by Paul



The Investor with Jack Benson winning the yearling halter class at the 1970 Houston Livestock Show.
PHOTO BY JIM KEELAND

Curtner. Curtner was looking to find a replacement sire for Poco Pine, the great son of Poco Bueno. Curtner bred his Leo mare, Leo Pat, to Three Bars and was rewarded with Zippo Pat Bars.

Due to an injury, Zippo Pat Bars had a limited performance record but did run AAA on the track. He was the winner of five races.

Zippo Pat Bars started his stud career in 1968 with his first foals

“The pedigree of The Investor is a combination of line breeding to Joe Reed P-3 through his sire and dam with a strong dose of Peter McCue through his dam.”

coming in 1969. Two of the foals from that first crop were The Investor and Zippo Pine Bar. Both of these sons of

Zippo Pat Bars have gone on to very successful careers as sires.

Zippo Pine Bar has been the perennial leading sire of performance winners and point earning performance horses. He is out of the great producing mare Dollie Pine by Poco Pine.

The first step in the sire career of The Investor was not as a sire of pleasure horses but as a sire of halter futurity horses. Some leading examples of this phase of The Investor's career were Savings Account, Vestida Moneca, La Sangria and El Cicatriz.

The most successful of this group was El Cicatriz, a 1973 bay gelding. El Cicatriz was the winner of the Greater Houston Quarter Horse Association Weanling Futurity. He went on to become a superior halter horse with 121 points and a youth superior halter horse with 123 points. He was the AQHA World Champion Yearling Gelding in 1974.

El Cicatriz introduces us to a very successful cross for The Investor. The

Investor seems to have a strong affinity for mares from the Three Bars sire line that also carry the blood of such stallions as Leo, Joe Reed, King, Chicaro Bill and Joe Moore in their dam's pedigree. El Cicatriz is out of Bar Moon Miss by Jayhawker Bar by Three Bars. The dam of Jayhawker Bar is Miss Reed McCue by Reed McCue by Joe Reed P-3. El Cicatriz is 4 X 6 X 4 linebred to Reed McCue.

Superior performers that fit this scheme would include but not be limited to Bonafide, Miss Cash Ticket, SR Market Investor, Ms Big Spender, Good Investor, Pardin Me, Miss Balance Plus, Mr Investor, Collector's Prize, Invest In Ears, And All That Jazz, Vester Vision, Ms Safety Deposit, King Vestor and Impulsions.

The foals Vester Vision, Ms Safety Deposit, Shes Slippin Around, And All That Jazz and Invest In Ears all go to Three Bars through Triple Chick or his full brother Three Chicks. Triple Chick and Three Chicks are out of the Chicaro Bill mare Chicado V. Other sons of Three Bars that figure prominently in these pedigrees would include Magnolia Bar, Gay Bar King, Lightning Bar, War Chant and, to a lesser extent, Domino Duke, Clabber Bar and Tonto Bars Gill.

The majority of the Gay Bar King influence in these pedigrees comes through his son, Mr Bar Gold. Mr Bar Gold was a Superior cutting horse and a Superior halter horse that died before his' full potential was realized as a sire. His daughters and granddaughters produced the Superior performers Good Investor, Pardin Me, Miss Balance Plus and Mr Investor.

The pedigree of The Investor is a combination of linebreeding to Joe Reed P-3 through his sire and dam with a strong dose of Peter McCue through his dam. The Investor partaken this pedigree combination on to be a successful sire in the tradition of his sire and grandsire.



The Investor with Dan, Carol and son Daniel McWhirter at their Doniphan, Nebraska home where he resided from 1989 to 2002. PHOTO BY FAYE ZMEK

Mr Bar Gold was sired by Gay Bar King and his dam was the great producing mare Miss Rock 93 by Blue Rock. Miss Rock 93 shows her own affinity for crossing with The Investor. Her daughter Roxanna Bar was the dam of Roxanna Lee, the dam of Ready Asset, a superior performer and The Credit Crunch, a World Show Finalist. Roxanna Bar was sired by Magnolia Bar while Roxanna Lee was sired by Mr Spanish Lee by Leo.

Space will limit our look at how The Investor crosses with other bloodlines, but his affinity for mares of a variety of bloodlines has certainly been effective. He has Superior performers out of mares from such sire lines as Leo, King, Old Sorrel, Depth Charge, Brian H, Top Deck, Jazz, Oklahoma Star, Custus Rastus and Skipper W.

The Skipper W sire fine is represented by several top performers but the most important may have been The Big Investment. Although The Big Investment had not earned a Superior in performance, his foals were taking off where he left off. His performers include such top pleasure horses as Principle Investment, Investment Asset, Gilt Edged Lady, Investment Creditor,

Jewels Investment and Giant Risk. Principle Investment was the leading money winning pleasure horse in 1989.

When the McWhirters lost The Big Investment, they were just beginning to see the impact of their promising young sire, so a logical place to find a replacement was with The Investor.

The new breeding program calls for The Investor Syndicate to set in motion a breeding plan that will allow them to utilize The Investor to the best of his ability. He is being bred to many of the finest mares in the pleasure horse industry including Miss Cozy Chick, the dam of Invest In Ears', Miss Rita Rebel, dam of Investment Asset', The Country Miss, the only living filly out of The Country Girl, the dam of The Big Investment and several daughters of Tiger Leo. Tiger Leo was the leading broodmare sire in the pleasure industry in 1989.

The Investor Syndicate breeding program is even looking at inbreeding and linebreeding back to The Investor with daughters of The Big Investment. The McWhirters also are standing three sons of The Big Investment that will figure in the inbreeding program. The idea behind this phase of the program is to maintain the influence

of The Investor and his son The Big Investment.

A second phase of this inbreeding and linebreeding is looking into breeding to mares that carry the blood of Zippo Pine Bar. Zippo Pine Bar was a long time Nebraska resident before his move to Texas.

Earlier in our review we looked at the success of The Investor at the All American Quarter Horse Congress, how has he fared since that awesome display in 1980? The 1990 All American Quarter Horse Congress may just give us an idea of how awesome and lasting the influence of The Investor will be. Of the Top 10 finalists in the Ford 3 Year Old Snaffle Bit Derby, six were Investor sons or grand- sons. They were Impulsions (1st) and Investor Cluso (9th) by The Investor, while Investment Asset (3rd), Principle Investment (6th), Investment Creditor (8th) and Vested Glory (10th) were sired by The Big Investment.

Fate certainly has played a key role in the life of The Investor. The Investor certainly has had his life controlled by a number of happenings or factors that he had no control over. However, without his own ability as a show horse and sire, he would not have been able to continue on his successful journey in life - a journey which partaken him to Nebraska and one last opportunity to add to his status as a sire in the Quarter Horse Industry.

Editor's Note: Larry Thornton is a pedigree analyst and breeding consultant. If you have any questions about this article or other bloodlines, feel free to call him at 501-293-3101. Larry is the author of the book "The Working Lines". If you are interested in getting a copy, you may contact Southern Publishing, P.O. Box 71, Meridian, MS 39302-0071; 601-693-6607.