



Patrick Biancone

Born: June 7, 1952 in Mont de Marsan, France.

Resident: Arcadia, Calif.

Family: Elaine (wife), Marie, Julie and Andie (daughters), and Joseph (son).

Patrick Biancone's record at Keeneland

Total wins: 24

Stakes Wins (7)

- Trained 1983 Horse of the Year and Eclipse Award-winning turf horse All Along (Fr).
- Won the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe in consecutive years—with All Along in 1983 and Sagace in 1984.
- Won the French Derby twice—with Bikala (1981) and Hours After (1988).
- Won the Champion Stakes at Newmarket three times—with Palace Music (1984) and Triptych (1986-1987).
- Won the Beverly D Stakes in 2005 with Angara (GB) and in 2006 with Gorella (Fr).
- Won five stakes at Keeneland in 2006, including the Juddmonte Spinster (G1) with Asi Siempre.
- Leading trainer at Keeneland in the fall of 2006.
- Won the Hong Kong Derby twice.
- Saddled runners-up in consecutive runnings of the Toyota Blue Grass Stakes—Brancusi in 2003 and Lion Heart in 2004.

After winning his first two Keeneland stakes in 2005, French trainer Patrick Biancone returned to win five more last year. His stable won 66 races in 2006 and earned \$5,347,379 to rank 13th.

His runners won 23 stakes with the most significant victories coming in the Beverly D with Gorella and the Spinster with Asi Siempre. Gorella won two other stakes, the First Lady (G2) at Keeneland and the Just a Game Handicap (G2) at Belmont. Other top performers were Silver Cup (Ire), who won three graded stakes, while Ball Four, Stream Cat, Cosmonaut, Lady of Venice (Fr) and Louve Royale all won two stakes apiece.

Biancone topped the trainers' standings during Keeneland's fall meet with 11 victories, while his protégé, Julien Leparoux, was the leading rider.

The previous year, on Aug. 13, Angara won the Beverly D in a four-horse photo finish and Pomeroy scored a four-length victory in the Alfred G. Vanderbilt (G2) at Saratoga. Angara earned \$450,000 and Pomeroy \$120,000, the two victories coming about 20 minutes apart.

His stable won stakes at eight different tracks in 2005—Santa Anita, Fair Grounds, Keeneland, Belmont, Saratoga, Arlington Park, Turfway Park and Monmouth Park, and now-retired Gary Stevens was aboard for nine of the 11 stakes victories.

Stevens, who rode Angara in the Beverly D, told *The Blood-Horse*: "Patrick is like a great chess player. He told me back at Keeneland (after winning the Bewitch Stakes) the first time I rode her what the plan was for her."

Other stakes Biancone won in 2005 included the Saratoga Special (G2) with Henny Hughes; the San Rafael (G2) with Spanish Chestnut; the Risen Star (G3) with Scipion; and the Kentucky Cup Juvenile (G3) with Stream Cat. Overall, he saddled the

winners of 33 races and the earners of \$3,096,875 to rank 31st by earnings.

He also took young Leparoux under his wing and has been instrumental in his riding success so far.

Biancone, who turns 55 in June, is the grandson of 1940s leading French jockey Joseph Biancone who later became a trainer. And he is the son of Pierre Biancone, who was the leading jump jockey in France in 1959 and 1960. He also turned to training and scored his biggest successes with steeplechase horses, winning the major jump races in France.

Patrick began his racetrack association as a jockey as well and was Europe's amateur riding champion in 1973. He then worked for his father prior to coming to the United States to work for Hall of Fame trainer LeRoy Jolley for two years.

"LeRoy was a big influence on me," he told *The Blood-Horse*. "He was very important in my approach to racing. When I eventually brought my own horses to America, I had knowledge of the sport and who I was going to run against. I had also learned about speed and conditioning from LeRoy, which is something Americans weren't used to from European trainers."

Returning to France, he set out on his own in 1975, saddling his first winner, Kalium, at Le Touquet in May. It wasn't long before he was training horses for well-known owners Daniel Wildenstein and Alan Clore.

For Wildenstein, he conditioned 1983 Horse of the Year and champion turf horse All Along. She embarked on an impressive streak of four straight wins when she captured the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe. Two weeks later, she won the Rothmans International by two lengths. She won the Turf Classic 13 days later and then the Washington, D.C. International after another two-week interval. She earned a \$1 million bonus for

sweeping the three North American races and became the first female Horse of the Year since 1965 when Moccasin shared the title.

The following year, Biancone won the Arc de Triomphe again, this time with Sagace. He was prevented from winning it three consecutive years in 1985 when original winner Sagace was disqualified and placed second behind Rainbow Quest.

He won the French Derby twice—with Bikala in 1981 and Hours After in 1988—and the Champion Stakes at Newmarket three times, with Palace Music in 1984 and Triptych in 1986 and 1987. (Palace Music later sired Cigar, two-time Horse of the Year and leading career money-earner.)

Triptych, who was owned by Alan Clore, had previously won the Prix Marcel Bousac (G1) at 2, the Irish 2000 Guineas (G1) at 3 and the Champion Stakes (G1) as a 4-year-old. At 5, in addition to her repeat victory in the Champion Stakes, she also won the Phoenix Champion Stakes, the Prix Ganay, the Coronation Cup and the Matchmaker International, all Group 1 events. She won the Coronation Cup again as a 6-year-old.

Biancone saddled the runners-up in the first two runnings of the Breeders' Cup Turf—All Along in 1984 and international star Strawberry Road (Aus) in 1985.

After he turned down an offer to become Wildenstein's private trainer and Clore declared bankruptcy, Biancone headed to Hong Kong where he enjoyed a great deal of success. He won the Hong Kong Derby twice—in 1993 with Helene Star and in 1998 with Johan Cryuff. But in September of 1999, two positive drug tests prompted a 10-month suspension. Although Biancone was found not to be involved, he nonetheless had to take responsibility as the trainer.

He left Hong Kong and went to work for a year for Frank Stronach during which time he saddled Trailthefox for a win in the 2000 Arlington-Washington Futurity (G2).

By late 2000, he started his U.S. stable in California with 15 horses.

In 2002, he won the Futurity (G1) with Whywhywhy, the Saratoga Special (G2) with Zavata and the Gotham (G3) with Mayakovsky as his stable earned \$1,023,969.

The next year, Lion Heart won the Hollywood Futurity (G1), Whoopi Cat the Adirondack (G2) and Zavata the Amsterdam (G3) and his stable earned \$1.7 million.

He won the 2004 Matron (G1) with Sense of Style, the Haskell Invitational (G1) with Lion Heart and the Man o' War (G1) with Magistretti. Lion Heart also ran second in the Kentucky Derby and Blue Grass. The stable registered earnings of \$3,397,917 to rank 31st.

For 2007, Gorella, Asi Siempre and Muralakana all remain in training.

Biancone is credited with 34 stakes winners in the United States and Canada, according to Equineline.com and has won 257 races and earned \$22,522,184 through Jan. 9, 2007.

