

= Shackleford (horse) =

Shackleford (foaled February 25 , 2008) is a retired chestnut Thoroughbred race horse who won the 2011 Preakness Stakes . His pedigree traces to major sires of significance , including his grandsire Storm Cat and his damsire Unbridled as well as numerous fourth generation who were champion breeders . The colt was sired by Forestry out of the mare Oatsee , who was purchased in 2006 by Shackleford 's owners for \$ 135 @, @ 000 . After giving birth to Shackleford , Oatsee was bred to A.P. Indy and sold , in foal , for \$ 1 @. @ 55 million .

Shackleford was placed into training with Dale Romans , who raced the colt twice as a 2 @- @ year @- @ old . As a 3 @- @ year @- @ old , he had three races , including the Florida Derby , where he finished second and qualified for the Kentucky Derby . In the Kentucky Derby he finished fourth , and then , at 13 @- @ 1 odds , went on to win the Preakness Stakes on May 21 , 2011 . In doing so , Shackleford became the beneficiary of the largest payoff purse in Preakness history , winning not only the \$ 600 @, @ 000 winner 's purse , but also \$ 550 @, @ 000 as the XpressBet Bonus winner for a total payout of \$ 1 @, @ 150 @, @ 000 . He was retired in 2012 after winning the Clark Handicap in November and currently stands at Darby Dan Farm .

= = Early life = =

Shackleford was foaled on February 25 , 2008 . He was named after Shackleford Banks , a barrier island system in North Carolina , home to a herd of feral Banker horses and a place often visited by his owners .

The horse is owned by Michael Lauffer and W.D. Cubbedge . Lauffer was previously a co @- @ owner of the filly Rachel Alexandra , prior to her 2009 Preakness win . Initially , Lauffer and Cubbedge had put Shackleford up for sale as a yearling at the Keeneland auction , but when the bids failed to reach the reserve price of \$ 275 @, @ 000 , Cubbedge and Lauffer bought back the colt and kept him .

= = 2010 : two @- @ year @- @ old season = =

Shackleford is trained by Dale Romans . The colt 's first race was on October 16 , 2010 , where he finished ninth in a 7 ? 8 @- @ mile (1 @, @ 400 m) \$ 44 @, @ 000 maiden special weight race at Keeneland Race Course on a synthetic surface . That race was won by eventual Blue Grass Stakes runner @- @ up and Kentucky Derby starter Twinspired . In November 2010 , his second start , Shackleford won a \$ 59 @, @ 000 maiden special weight race at Churchill Downs on dirt at 7 ? 8 @- @ mile (1 @, @ 400 m) , taking the rail down the stretch and prevailing over a field of 11 .

= = 2011 : three @- @ year @- @ old season = =

Shackleford 's first start as a three @- @ year @- @ old was an allowance race at Gulfstream Park on February 5 , 2011 , at 1 1 ? 8 @- @ mile (1 @, @ 800 m) . He was ridden by his soon @- @ to @- @ be regular jockey , Jesus Castanon . In that race , he broke well and stalked the leader from second position , then put on a burst of speed and drew clear to win . Romans next entered Shackleford in the Grade II Fountain of Youth Stakes on February 26 at Gulfstream Park . In that race , he was far back early and attempted to rally on the far turn but was hung out wide . He faltered in the stretch and finished fifth to Soldat .

In April 2011 , Shackleford was entered in the Grade 1 \$ 1 @, @ 000 @, @ 000 Florida Derby , again at Gulfstream . He drew post number 5 and was listed at post time as a 60 @- @ 1 longshot . Breaking slowly , he floated wide going into the club house turn . On that turn , he took over the lead from Arch Traveler and To Honor and Serve in a field that stretched 14 lengths back to Dialed In at the rear . Shackleford led down the back stretch and around the final turn , setting a 1 ? 2 @- @ mile (800 m) fraction of 46 @. @ 3 and a 3 ? 4 @- @ mile (1 @, @ 200 m) in 1 : 10 @. @ 6 . At the top of the lane , he was challenged by To Honor and Serve and repelled him . Three strides from the

wire , he was caught by eventual Kentucky Derby co @-@ favorite Dialed In and just missed the win , finishing second by a head .

That second @-@ place finish earned Shackleford a purse of \$ 200 @,@ 000 and enough graded earnings to enter the Kentucky Derby . In addition , by virtue of his start in the Fountain of Youth Stakes and his top @-@ three finish in the Florida Derby , the colt became eligible for the XpressBet Consolation Bonus \$ 550 @,@ 000 , part of the Preakness 5 @.@ 5 Million Dollar Bonus program , if he won the Preakness Stakes . The bonus would pay \$ 500 @,@ 000 to the owner and \$ 50 @,@ 000 to the trainer of a Preakness winner who had finished in the top 3 of either the Florida Derby or the Santa Anita Derby and finished in one of a set of other listed races .

= = = Triple Crown races = = =

In the 2011 Kentucky Derby , Shackleford broke well and outran Comma To the Top for the lead passing the stands for the first time . He continued to lead around the clubhouse turn and into the stretch . With about 200 yards (183 m) to go , he was overtaken by the eventual winner , Animal Kingdom , who won by 2 3 / 4 lengths . Meanwhile , Shackleford , now in second place with about 50 yards (46 m) left to go , was caught by Nehro and Mucho Macho Man . He finished fourth by a length and a half in the field of 20 .

Two weeks later , at the 2011 Preakness Stakes , Shackleford went off at odds of 13 @-@ 1 . He broke from the 5 gate in a capacity field of 14 . Passing the grandstand for the first time , Flashpoint took the lead with Shackleford at his flank in a fast 22 @-@ 3 / 5 for the first 1 ? 4 @-@ mile (402 m) . Down the backstretch , the leaders slowed the pace , clocking 3 ? 4 @-@ mile (1 @,@ 200 m) in 1 : 12 @.@ 01 . At the top of the home stretch , Shackleford took the lead . Astrology challenged him until the 200 yards (183 m) mark . Castanon then used the whip and Shackleford accelerated , holding off the strong late charge of Animal Kingdom to win by half a length .

Bets on Shackleford paid \$ 27 @.@ 20 , \$ 10 @.@ 20 and \$ 6 @.@ 80 . With that win , Shackleford became the beneficiary of the largest payoff purse in Preakness history . He won \$ 600 @,@ 000 for coming in first in the Preakness and \$ 550 @,@ 000 as the XpressBet Bonus winner for a total payout of \$ 1 @,@ 150 @,@ 000 .

On June 11 , 2011 , the three year @-@ old finished fifth in the Belmont Stakes after holding the lead for much of the race on a sloppy track . As the pacesetter , Shackleford led throughout most of the 1 @-@ 1 / 2 mile race , which started with a moderate quarter @-@ mile in : 23 @.@ 9 , then slowed to a leisurely : 49 @.@ 0 for the opening half , 1 : 14 @.@ 5 for three @-@ quarters , and 1 : 39 @.@ 9 for a mile . After leading the first nine furlongs , he faded in the stretch . Winner Ruler On Ice as well as Stay Thirsty , Brilliant Speed and Nehro passed him .

= = = Triple Crown summary = = =

Shackleford 's first- and fourth @-@ place finishes in Preakness Stakes and Kentucky Derby respectively handed the Triple Crown 's consolation title to Animal Kingdom . But Shackleford ended the trifecta of classic races with the a second @-@ place finish in the Triple Crown Productions ' Highest combined Triple Crown finish for the 2011 season . He was outfinished three year @-@ old archrival Animal Kingdom by three points , 15 points to 12 points . Ruler on Ice finished third with ten points and Nehro finished fourth with six points . That finish put Shackleford squarely in contention (along with Animal Kingdom) for the " Eclipse Award " as the American Champion Three @-@ Year @-@ Old Male Horse .

= = = Remainder of season = = =

On July 31 , 2011 , Shackleford lost by a head in the Haskell Invitational at Monmouth Park in New Jersey to the Bob Baffert @-@ trained colt Coil , who had a six @-@ pound weight break advantage . In that race , Shackleford stumbled at the start , then caught up down the backstretch . Around the final turn , he took the lead . On August 27 , 2011 , Shackleford was eighth in the 2011 Travers

Stakes , which was won by the Pletcher @-@ trained colt Stay Thirsty . On October 1 , 2011 , he finished second to Wilburn in the Indiana Derby . On November 5 , 2011 , he ran second to Caleb 's Posse in the Breeders ' Cup Dirt Mile . On January 3 , 2012 Shackleford was nominated as one of three finalists at the Eclipse Award for American Champion Three @-@ Year @-@ Old Male Horse , but the award went to Animal Kingdom .

= = 2012 : four @-@ year @-@ old season = =

On February 11 , Shackleford was seventh out of a field of eleven horses in the Grade 1 Donn Handicap run at Gulfstream Park . Ruler on Ice also ran and finished eighth . On April 7 , 2012 , Shackleford ran in the \$ 400 @,@ 000 Grade 1 Carter Handicap at seven furlongs at Aqueduct Racetrack . Longshot Jackson Bend won by a nose over Caleb 's Posse , with Shackleford another length and a half back in third .

Returning to Churchill Downs on Derby Day , May 5 , 2012 , Shackleford raced in the \$ 400 @,@ 000 Grade 2 Churchill Downs Stakes at seven furlongs on the dirt . In that race , he beat the favorite , American Champion Sprint Horse Amazombie , by a length . The two horses separated themselves from the rest of the field by five lengths with Shackleford on the inside . Just inside the sixteenth pole , he edged away and beat Amazombie under jockey Mike Smith by a length . Gantry was another five and a half lengths back in the third . The time was 1 : 21 on a fast track .

On Memorial Day , May 28 , 2012 , Shackleford raced in what analysts called the deepest field of the year featuring favorites To Honor and Serve , Caleb 's Posse , Jackson Bend and Caixa Eletronica in the \$ 750 @,@ 000 Grade 1 Metropolitan Handicap (known by most as the Met Mile run at one mile on the dirt at Belmont Park) . Shackleford had just enough left to withstand the furious late rush of Caleb 's Posse , stopping the clock in 1 : 33 1 / 5 over the fast track to win by a nose . Favorite To Honor and Serve was another three and half lengths back in third . With this win , Shackleford turned the tables on old rival Caleb 's Posse , who beat him in the 2011 Breeders ' Cup Dirt Mile . The horses met each other four times , with each winning two races . However , Caleb 's Posse retired soon after the Met Mile .

On November 23 , Shackleford ended his career with a victory in the Grade 1 , \$ 500 @,@ 000 Clark Handicap at Churchill Downs with Preakness jockey Castanon on board . He defeated Take Charge Indy by one length in the 1 @-@ 1 / 8 mile race that he completed in a time of 1 : 49 @.@ 12 seconds .

= = Racing statistics = =

= = Stud career = =

Shackleford was retired to stud duty in November 2012 and was sent to the Darby Dan Farm in Lexington , Kentucky . He will stand for a \$ 20 @,@ 000 stud fee for the 2013 breeding season . His first foals will race in 2016 .

= = Pedigree = =

Shackleford was sired by Forestry , and out of Oatsee , a daughter of Unbridled . Oatsee was purchased in 2006 by Shackleford 's owners for \$ 135 @,@ 000 , and after giving birth to Shackleford , was bred to A.P. Indy and sold , in foal , for \$ 1 @.@ 55 million . His pedigree traces to major sires of significance .

Shackleford has champion breeding lines on both sides . Northern Dancer , the paternal great @-@ grand sire of Forestry , was a four @-@ time leading sire in Great Britain and Ireland , leading sire in North America (1971) , and the leading broodmare sire in North America (1991) . He also traces on his sire 's side to fourth generation sires , Secretariat , His Majesty and Dr. Fager , who were all leading sires . Mr. Prospector , the paternal great @-@ grandsire of his dam Oatsee , was a nine

@-@ time leading broodmare sire in North America twice the leading sire in North America . Shackleford 's grandsire , Storm Cat , was a two @-@ time leading sire in North America and his maternal grandsire is Unbridled , who sired multiple winners of various Triple Crown races .

Shackleford inherits speed through his sire , Forestry , who had his most notable wins at one @-@ turn events : the Grade 1 7 ? 8 @-@ mile (1 @,@ 400 m) King 's Bishop Stakes at Saratoga and the Grade 2 1 1 ? 16 @-@ mile (1 @,@ 700 m) Dwyer Stakes at Belmont . Most of Forestry 's notable progeny are similarly described , with a few exceptions . In addition , Forestry 's maternal grandsire was Pleasant Colony , who won both the Kentucky Derby and , like Shackleford , the Preakness Stakes . Shackleford inherits stamina through his dam . His breeding is considered most similar to Etched , another son of Forestry who is a two @-@ time Grade 2 winner at 1 1 ? 8 @-@ mile (1 @,@ 800 m) . Both inherited stamina from Unbridled @-@ line mares , with Etched having Unbridled 's Song as a grandsire and Shackleford 's grandsire being Unbridled himself . Oatsee has transmitted Unbridled 's stamina , producing six racing foals of whom four have been winners including Lady Joanne , who won the Alabama Stakes and Baghdaria , winner of the Silverbulletday Stakes , Grade 3 Iowa Oaks and G3 Indiana Oaks . Unbridled was a 1 1 ? 4 @-@ mile (2 @,@ 000 m) specialist who won both the Kentucky Derby and the Breeders ' Cup Classic in 1990 . Unbridled has sired progeny who separately won each of the Triple Crown races , including Grindstone , Red Bullet , and Empire Maker , achieving the feat only three years after his grandsire Mr. Prospector did with Fusaichi Pegasus , Tank 's Prospect and Conquistador Cielo . Shackleford 's pedigree chart is as follows :