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Windham Smiling With
Three In All American Futurity

RUIDOSO DOWNS, New Mexico (August 31, 2008) - Jerry Windham beams with pride when discussing the horses who were born at his Windham Ranch in College Station, Texas, in 2006 and offered for sale in 2007.

“Never have we had the crop (of yearlings) that we had last year,” Windham said. “I think we had the best crop that you could ever imagine having and some of those have not had the opportunity to run yet.”

Three representatives of that class will compete in the 50th running of the Grade 1, \$1.9 million All American Futurity on Monday. Windham bred and owns fastest qualifier Stolis Winner, already a two-time Grade 1 winner who is the year's leading earner. He bred and owns 20 percent of second-fastest qualifier Jess Zoomin, a Grade 1 qualifier who holds the 350-yard track record at Remington Park. He also bred eighth-fastest qualifier Winners Version, the only horse to run in the Grade 1 Ruidoso, Rainbow and All American futurities this year.

“We had eight colts in one big pasture, and then we had seven colts right across the fence from them that particular year,” Windham recalled. “And yes, they (the three All American qualifiers) were together.”

Stolis Winner, a gelding by Stoli, and Winners Version, a colt by Holland Ease, are both out of daughters of Windham's late multiple Grade 1 winner and leading sire, Runaway Winner. Runaway Winner sired Winners Dash, a Windham homebred who became his first All American qualifier in 1995.

The second dam of Jess Zoomin, a colt by Shazoom, is Windham's champion Indigo Illusion.

“The Runaway Winner mares have just been great producers,” Windham said. “Whether they really ran much themselves, they seem capable of producing a winner. Of course, for 'Indigo' to have a daughter like this is great. That mare (Jess An Illusion, by Mr Jess Perry) was a hard trier; she didn't run a whole lot, didn't make a whole lot of money, but she is a really, really nice mare.”

Windham, who credits much of his success to his longtime ranch manager, Tommy Zarate, owns some 35 broodmares and each year offers his yearlings for sale. He consigned Jess Zoomin to the Texas Quarter Horse Association Yearling Sale, Winners Version to the Ruidoso Select Yearling Sale and Stolis Winner to the Heritage Place Yearling Sale. When Jess Zoomin sold for \$75,000, Windham asked the new owners if he could become a partner in the colt. Winners Version sold for \$120,000, and Windham repurchased Stolis Winner for \$32,000.

Now the three horses will be reunited when they face each other in the All American.

“I’d be the happiest if Stolis Winner won because he’s the one I own all,” said Windham, an AQHA Past President. “I could probably be just as happy if Jess Zoomin won because he’s a stallion and really has a lot of ability and a lot of potential. Winners Version - if he won it - I’d be tickled pink.”