

# "There's a good story about..."

by Brock Sheridan

## Turf writers and racing columnists In Texas

The Dallas Morning News  
Gary West, Turf Writer

West recently joined *The Morning News* after writing for *The Fort Worth Star Telegram* since 1987.



Gary West

West began his career in racing at an early age, working for his father, Jerry West, who was a trainer in Kentucky and throughout the midwest.

West attended the University of New Orleans where he received his B.A. and M.A. in English.

Following college, West taught English at the University of Tennessee and at the University of New Orleans until he took a position with the *Houma Daily Courier* covering sports in 1985. West joined the *Fort Worth Star Telegram* in 1986.

The Dallas Morning News  
Harry Stern, Turf Writer and Handicapper

Stern took his first job in racing in 1985 covering Louisiana Downs for the Bossier Press Tribune, a weekly newspaper in Bossier City, La.



Harry Stern

In November 1987 Stern moved to *The Dallas Morning News* as a handicapper. He began writing for *The Morning News* in 1988 covering Oaklawn Park, Remington Park and Louisiana Downs. Stern has covered Trinity Meadows racing and handicapping for *The Morning News* since the track opened in 1991.

Fort Worth Star Telegram  
John Naylor, Racing Correspondent

Naylor became interested in horse racing while typing charts and entries for the *Fort Worth Star Telegram* at Trinity Meadows following his graduation from Texas Tech in 1991. What started off as a part time job has turned into a career for Naylor.



John Naylor

In 1992 the *Fort Worth Star Telegram* gave him his first chance to write and he has worked as a handicapper and writer for the Fort Worth paper every since.

Houston Post  
Steve Davidowitz, Turf Writer and Handicapper

Davidowitz pitched seven nohitters while attending Rutgers University where he also received a B.A. in Psychology. He worked with *The Philadelphia Journal* in 1972 as a racing columnist. He wrote his first book, *Betting Thoroughbreds* in 1977. In 1991 he moved to the *Minneapolis Star Tribune* as a racing columnist and handicapper.



Steve

He joined *The Racing Times* in 1991 as a national columnist.

After the demise of *The Racing Times* Davidowitz became a freelance writer, consultant and authored *Betting Thoroughbreds in the 90's* to be published by E.P. Dutton-New American Library in the summer of 1995.

He moved to *The Houston Post* in

April to cover horse racing and handicap at Sam Houston Race Park.

The Houston Chronicle  
Rich Burk, Turf Writer and Handicapper

Rich Burk became interested in horse racing in 1973 after attending the races at the Fair Grounds. "It was after Secretariat's sweep of the Triple Crown and I was pretty fascinated," says Burk.



Rich Burk

Burk graduated from the University of Houston with a B.A. in English and Journalism and immediately went to work for *The Houston Post*.

In 1986, when it appeared that pari mutuel racing was coming to Texas, Burk convinced his editor at *The Houston Chronicle* to allow him to cover horse racing.

He now covers Sam Houston Race Park on a daily basis and handicaps for the paper as well.

The Texas Thoroughbred  
Brock Sheridan, Editor

Sheridan became interested in horse racing while working with his father, Philip Sheridan, who trained Quarter Horses in Arizona, New Mexico and Colorado.



Brock Sheridan

Upon graduation from the



University of Arizona with a B.S. in Business and a Race Track Industry option, he worked as a racing official in Louisiana, Washington, Colorado, Kentucky, Texas and Oklahoma.

He went to work for Louisiana Downs in 1987 and became the Director of Publicity in 1988. In 1990 Sheridan went to work for R.D. Hubbard and Brad MacKenzie in Southern California, working first as Director of Public Relations and Advertising at Los Alamitos and later at Hollywood Park as interim Director of Marketing and later Advertising Director.

In August 1993 he moved to Texas to assume his current position with *The Texas Thoroughbred*.

#### The San Antonio Express News Tim Price, Turf Writer

Price has always been a fan of horse racing, even as a young boy growing up in Irving, Texas.



Tim Price

He graduated from the University of Texas at Arlington with a B.A. in Liberal Arts, majoring in English.

After graduating from college, Price served a brief stint with the Sports Information Department at UT Arlington before taking a position with the *San Antonio Express News* in the sports department in the summer of 1986.

In 1991 Price left the *Express News* to become editor of *The Texas Thoroughbred* magazine, a position he held until May of 1993 when he returned to the San Antonio newspaper.

#### The Denton Record Chronicle Allen Bogan, columnist

Regarded as an expert on Texas racing history, Allen Bogan became interested in Thoroughbred racing in 1935 when he and a friend cashed a \$2 win ticket on Prince Fox, who paid \$5.80 at Arlington Downs, located between Dallas and Fort Worth.

Bogan began writing in the

1940s for the Dallas Journal but did not write his first horse racing story until 1953 when he wrote a six-part series on horse racing for the *Denton Record Chronicle*, for which he had served as managing editor since 1950.

Bogan was the first editor of *The Texas Thoroughbred* magazine in 1960. Bogan, remained as editor, or associate editor until 1976 when he resigned. However, at least one of Bogan's articles or columns has appeared in every magazine since.

Bogan retired in 1976 but continues to write a weekly column for the *Denton Record Chronicle* and was named the TTBA Man Of The Year in 1983.

#### Daily Racing Form Steve Andersen, columnist

At age 18, Steve Andersen became interested in horse racing on May 4, 1985. "Chief's Crown (the 6-5 favorite) did not win the Kentucky Derby and I had to ask why," Andersen said.



Allen Bogan



Steve Anderson

After that, Andersen began to occasionally attend the races at Louisiana Downs while in college and working for *The Dallas Morning News*.

Andersen left the paper in 1989 to become Director of Publicity at Ruidoso Downs in New Mexico. Following that meeting, he went to Southern California to work in publicity at Los Alamitos Race Course. In 1990, he returned to *The Dallas Morning News* and stayed with the paper until June of 1991 when he was named associate editor at *QuarterWeek Magazine*. He eventually was promoted to editor and later began *Race Arabian*, a monthly magazine covering Arabian horse racing around the world.

While in Los Angeles, Andersen also wrote a weekly column for the

*Los Angeles Times* covering Quarter Horse and Harness racing. In April of 1994, Andersen left Los Angeles to join *Daily Racing Form*.

#### Daily Racing Form Anne Lang, columnist

Anne Lang writes a weekly column in *Daily Racing Form* that concentrates on the Thoroughbred breeding industry in Texas.



Anne Lang

Lang served as the editor of *The Texas Thoroughbred* magazine from 1982 until 1989 and continues to contribute articles for that publication today. Lang considers herself a freelance journalist because she is a contributing writer for Cowles Magazine, Inc., publishers of *Western Style, Horse & Rider* and additional national journals. She has also been published in *The Blood-Horse, Thoroughbred Times, Horseman's Journal, Racing Times, Equus* and *The Backstretch*. Lang graduated from Michigan State University, cum laude, with a B.A. in Humanities/Journalism in 1977.

#### The Austin American Statesman Eddie Donnally, columnist and handicapper

A former jockey, Donnally won some 1,200 races and rode at 50 different tracks in North America.



Eddie Donnally

He began writing for *The Dallas Morning News* in 1981. He is a two-time winner of the Eclipse Award.

Donnally resigned from *The Dallas Morning News* in 1988 to become a principal in Criterion Productions, a television production company in Dallas which he sold in 1992. He then moved to Southern California where he wrote two novels yet to be published.

He joined the Austin paper in April to cover Sam Houston Race Park.