

JOCKEYS

JOHNNY LONGDEN
 HEDLEY WOODHOUSE
 JOHN CRAIGMILE
 EMIL SPORRI
 BASIL FRAZIER
 GEORGE HUGHES
 JIM HUNTER
 BILL SKUSE
 RONNIE WILLIAMS
 CHRIS LOSETH
 SAM KRASNER
 BRIAN JOHNSTON
 MICKEY WALLS

OWNERS/BREEDERS

AUSTIN TAYLOR
 LYON APPLEBY
 BOB GILLATLY
 JOE KIRK
 PETER GORDON
 ERIC HAMBER
 RIVERVIEW STABLE
 EMERALD STOCK FARM
 CHARLIE OLDFIELD
 RED ROCK FARM
 REG ELLETT
 CLINE HOGGARD
 FRANK MCMAHON
 JOHN GUNTHER
 NICK & PAULINE FELICELLA
 GLEN TODD
 CANYON FARMS
 PETER REDEKOP

TRAINERS

DOC DARBYSHIRE
 JESSIE MCKENZIE
 GORDON CAMPBELL
 WALLY DUNN
 SAM BRUNSON
 JIMMY HALKET
 JACKIE RUSSELL
 SID MARTIN
 ANGUS MACPHERSON
 SONNY O'CONNELL
 ANDY SMITHERS, JR.
 DAVID CROSS
 DON MORISON

TRAINERS CON'T

BUD MACDONALD
 GEORGE CUMMINS
 HAROLD BARROBY
 CY ANDERSON
 ALAN JACK
 DAVE FORSTER
 'BUNNY' JOHNSON
 LANCE GIESBRECHT
 ALAN MAY
 FRANK BARROBY
 TROY TAYLOR
 R.W. HALL

Hall of Fame

Randy Goulding



2014 Awards & Honours

BUILDERS

ALF COTTRELL
 JACK DIAMOND
 SAM RANDALL
 BOB LEIGHTON
 JACK SHORT
 CLAY PUETT
 BILL LOCHEAD
 MASSIE WHITE
 DOC MCKEON
 STAN GODDARD
 ARCHIE MCDONALD
 DR. PAT TALBOT
 MERV PETERS
 AUBREY DAVIES
 BILL RANDALL, SR.
 DON DUNN
 BRYANT MCAFEE
TOMMY WOLSKI

HORSES

GEORGE ROYAL
 SO AND SO
 DARK HAWK
 MAJOR TURLEY
 MAJOR PRESTO
 QUALITY QUEST
 WESTBURY ROAD
 MAGIC NOTE
 SIMONY
 CUM LAUDE
 LORD VANCOUVER
 EDIE'S BOY

HORSES CON'T

DALKEITH
 TRAVELLING VICTOR
 DELTA COLLEEN
 POLICE INSPECTOR
 ALTA MIRA
 LORD RENRAW
 HI DRIVE
 PAPWORTH
 GOLDEN RESERVE
 TEEWORTH
 AVANTS GOLD
 TY HAWK

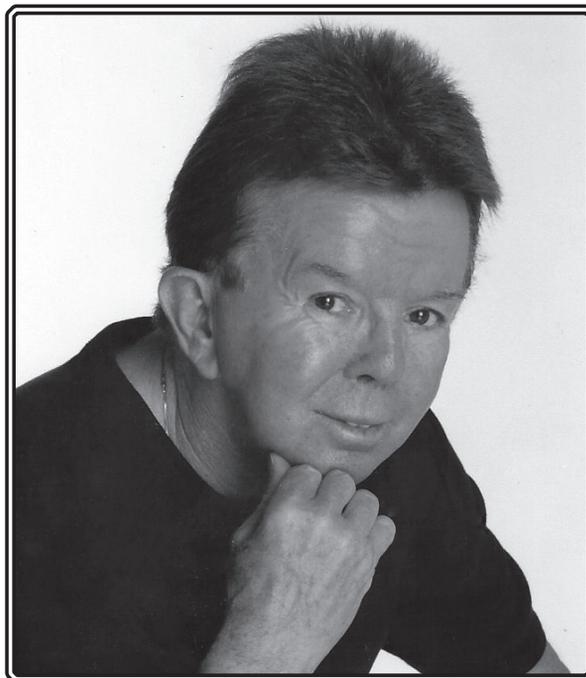
HORSES CON'T

BOLD LADDIE
 KID KATABATIC
 STRAWBERRY MORN
 MR PRIME MINISTER
 SENATE APPOINTEE
 RED'S HAWK
 MAGIC CODE
 SOPHIE J
 ARTIC SON
 DANCEWITHAVIXEN
 LORD NELSON
 MONASHEE
SPAGHETTI MOUSE

Hall of Fame Inductees

Tom Wolski

by Randy Goulding



When Tommy Wolski was beginning his career as a horse racing journalist he told his mother he was working at jobs he shouldn't be doing.

"I told her I didn't know how to write and I had a lot to learn about public speaking," said Wolski.

The result of not knowing what he was doing were two Sovereign Awards for his long-running television show the Sport of Kings. His first in 1998 was for his feature on Frank Barroby titled "The Making of a Jockey."

His piece on Brian O'Connell in 2004 was also judged the best in Canada.

Wolski also won the prestigious Hervey Award from the United States Trotting Association in the Broadcasters division in 2004. He was selected by Tom Dawson, horseracing producer for ESPN, who judged the Broadcasters Awards.

"I was interested from the opening shots and wanted to know more," said Dawson. "I'm a believer in using well placed voice over bridges to connect the dots in a story line, but this feature did a nice job of piecing together first person accounts in a cogent manner."

Dawson's remarks are a good description of what makes Wolski's work compelling journalism.

He uses his extensive knowledge of the industry and humanizes the people involved behind the scenes.

"I've always wanted to bring the people in the backstretch closer to the fans of the sport," said Wolski. "It is a different world and people that aren't involved find it fascinating."

Wolski saw his first horse race at Suffolk Downs when he was 10-years-old growing up in Boston. He started his long career in the sport when he was 14.

"The first time I went to the races I knew I wanted to be a jockey," said Wolski. "A few years later my uncle took me to Narragansett Park where I met a trainer, O. L. Foster. He looked at my feet and told me I was going to stay small so he gave me a shot."

Wolski started out as a hotwalker, moved up to groom, and eventually started galloping horses. He lost a photo when he rode his first race at Lincoln Downs.

"It was a lot different back then," he said. "Apprentice jockeys were like chattel. They were under contract and their contracts could be sold. Mine was sold more than once."

Wolski figures he rode at dozens of different tracks before he landed in Vancouver in 1972, where he has been ever since. No stats are available before 1976 but it is safe to say he won more than 500 races in his career.

"I was riding in Southern California when Mr. Jack Diamond asked me to come up to Exhibition Park and ride," said Wolski. "I thought I would give it a shot and see what it was like. Obviously, I've been pretty happy here."

Wolski was still riding when he started conducting live interviews in the table terrace for his radio show Track Talk.

"It was for CJOR," said Wolski. "I had been a guest on a few different talk shows for them and I enjoyed it. A good friend of mine, Joe Denofreo, recommended I start my own show. He negotiated the deal and that's how my career in the media started. I think it was around 1985."

About the same time Wolski also started his weekly column, Hoss Talk, for the Province Newspaper.

Before he started his successful career in journalism Wolski was encouraged by legendary sports writer Jim Coleman to consider working in the media.

"I met Jim in Toronto and I was just starting to think about what I was going to do after I quit riding," said Wolski. "He told me people liked me, and because I had a unique voice I might be able to do something with it. The main thing he told me, though, was to talk and write about what I know. What I know more than anything else is horse racing."

As the face of racing for the past 30 years nobody has done more to support the sport. With three national awards for journalism, and what he has meant to the horse racing in British Columbia, Tommy Wolski is most deserving of being inducted into the British Columbia Horse Racing Hall of Fame.



Spaghetti Mouse

by Randy Goulding

During a career that stretched over 9 seasons, Spaghetti Mouse won 10 stakes races and placed in 15 others while becoming the all-time leading BC-bred for money won with earnings of \$929,850 dollars. In doing so, Spaghetti Mouse won many accolades.

In 2005, after winning 2 stakes including the BC Derby, he was named Champion BC-bred Three Year-Old and won the Appleby Trophy as the BC-bred Horse of the Year. In 2006 he repeated as the Appleby Trophy winner and was named Champion BC-bred Handicap Horse when he won 3 stakes in a row including the Lt. Governor's, a Grade 3 race in those days.

The Mouse had only 5 starts in 2007 but he still was able to win his second consecutive Grade 3 Lt. Governor's. In 2008 he was back full strength and won 4 stakes in a row, among them a third consecutive Lt. Governor's and his second S.W Randall and BC Cup Classic. For that he was named Champion Older Handicap Horse of the year in British Columbia. All in, Spaghetti Mouse was named a BC Champion 5 times.

Before he was Spaghetti Mouse, he was Hip 18 at the 2003 CTHS Yearling and Mixed sale, one of a 108 yearlings sold that night. Roxanne Sargent consigned him for his breeders Bill and Susan Stewart of Black Canyon Thoroughbreds and he sold for \$21,000. Sixteen yearlings went for more. Those 16 horses earned a little over \$701,000 in their careers, about \$228,000 less than the Mouse.

"He was good-bodied," Roxanne Sargent

recalls, "and he was one of those horses that walks like they own the ground. You could see how confident he was and I remember that Mrs. Felicella liked him a lot."

They named him Spaghetti Mouse in part because they had recently been to Disneyland where the "Mouse" theme loomed large. Pauline Felicella remembers him as a horse they liked at the sale and were able to buy for considerably less than she and Nick sometimes spent for horses. She also recalls that "as a two-year old he was growthy and a little awkward and clumsy and tended to want to fall over his own feet. We had no idea he would become the horse he did."

His first start, with the late Gary Demorest training, was at 3 ½ furlongs in September of 2004 at Hastings Racecourse, where all 52 of his starts took place. He went off at almost 9-1 and ran a non-threatening fifth. Next out was at 6 ½ furlongs and he closed strongly to finish second. The Mouse broke his maiden in his third and last start as a two year-old and it was onwards and upwards from there. Subsequent to Gary Demorest's passing, Spaghetti Mouse was trained by Ned Sams and Lenore Dubois.

Spaghetti Mouse became a star in 2005 with two stakes wins, one of them the BC Derby. Pauline Felicella describes him as a horse that "loved the attention and knew when he was being looked at. He had a mind of his own and knew what to do and when to do it. On post parade he knew when it was time to go to the gate and you could not get him there until he knew it was time."

Pedro Alvarado who rode him to four consecutive stakes victories in 2008 remembers Spaghetti Mouse as being "a horse with good tactical speed that would lose interest if he did not have a horse to compete with." Alvarado recalls "I used to look for horses to run beside so he would stay focused on business and not get to the front too soon. He was a great horse and I am grateful I had the chance to ride him."

Between 2005 and the end of 2009, Spaghetti Mouse started 33 times, with 30 of those starts coming in stakes races. In those 30 stakes starts he won 10 times and placed in 14 others. In 2010 he won an Allowance race as an eight year-old and was stakes-placed 3 times. He was stakes-placed at nine, but in 2012, after a couple of races that were not up to the Mouse standard, the ten year-old was most appropriately retired in a ceremony at Hastings Racecourse, the scene of his many triumphs.