

Bentley's Ace always attracted attention with his combination of a refined head and big front end. This shiny, dark bay exhibited the three distinct gaits of a Champion Racking Horse.

Bentley's Ace was purchased in 1972 as a colt from George and Claude Edison of Arab, Alabama. As a \$350 youngster, he was a flighty, mischievous colt. Harold Bentley said, "We knew there was something special about the way he carried himself and look out of those big brown eyes."

Gary Beam, Harold Bentley's son-in-law, took over the training of Bentley's Ace. The first year was a frustrating one for the Beams and the Bentleys. Ace was shown at the 1972 World Celebration in the Two-year-old Division, but could only manage a seventh place.

The next year didn't start off any better. Ace refused to respond to the training and lessons that were being taught to him. Gary and "Coach" Bentley spent many sleepless nights trying to come up with the key to unlock Ace's ability. In August of 1973, the flashy, bay horse, destined to become the Grand Champion in two short years, registered his first impressive win as the Three-year-old Georgia State Champion. The Georgia State Racking Championship is where Gary finally found the handle to Ace.

From Georgia, Ace then was shown at Shelbyville, Tennessee, in the Men's Racking Class where he tied second. To climax his Three-year-old show season, Ace was showed in perfect form at the Racking Horse World Celebration to be crowned the 1973 Three-year-old World Champion.

As a four-year-old, Ace got off to a slow start, but gained momentum all season. Ace was the Four-year-old Georgia Stat Champion. His outstanding form carried through to the climax of the year at the Racking Horse Celebration in Decatur, Alabama, where he won the Four-year-old Championship stake.

The 1975 show season was an outstanding one. Ace went on to claim blues at Jackson, Mississippi; Memphis, Tennessee, Alabama State Championship; Tennessee State Championship; Shelbyville Fun Show; and the National Celebration. Out of 30 classes entered in 1975, Ace claimed 26 blues, 2 reserves and 2 thirds. He continued his outstanding style and winning abilities at the Racking Horse World Celebration in Decatur, Alabama. Bentley's Ace became the 1975 World Grand Champion Racking Horse.

In 1979, Bentley's ace once again made history. He is the first Racking Horse to be held in syndication. He is being syndicated for \$100,000; one hundred shares at \$1,000 each. He is at Bentley Beam Stables, Arab, Alabama.

