



GARRETT GOMEZ

Born: Jan. 1, 1972 in Tucson, Ariz.

Residence: Duarte, Calif.

Height: 5'3"

Weight: 114 pounds

Family: Wife Pam, daughter Amanda and son Jared; daughter Shelby and son Colin by a previous marriage

Eclipse Award: 2007 and 2008

Major victories: Breeders' Cup – Stevie Wonderboy in 2005 Juvenile; Artie Schiller in 2005 Mile; Indian Blessing in 2007 Juvenile Fillies; Midnight Lute in 2007 Sprint; Ventura in 2008 Filly & Mare Sprint; Albertus Maximus in 2008 Dirt Mile;

Midshipman in 2008 Juvenile; Midnight Lute in 2008 Sprint; Life Is Sweet in 2009 Ladies' Classic



Had a magical year in 2008, just missing a record for purse earnings when a slight injury on the final weekend of racing cost him just enough rides to hold him to \$23,344,351 for the year ... Capped off the year's activity with his four-win performance in the two-day Breeders' Cup championships at Oak Tree at Santa Anita; as a result, won the Bill Shoemaker Award as Breeders' Cup top jockey for the third time; won previously in 2005 and 2007 ... In 2009 Breeders' Cup, finished second four times to go along with his victory with Life Is Sweet ... Scored his 3,000th victory in September 2008 ... Leading money earner for four straight years, starting with 2006 when he topped the list of purse winnings with \$21,922,592, much of which came after he moved his tack from Southern California to New York to be first-call rider for trainer Todd Pletcher, following an injury to jockey John Velazquez ... Posted 261 victories on the year ... Won the 2009 money title on his final ride of the year, overcoming Julien Leparoux, who had taken the month of December off to visit his family in France ... Gomez compiled purse earnings of \$18,571,171 to Leparoux's \$18,560,565 ... Posted his best Kentucky Derby finish in 2009, placing second with Pioneerof the Nile in his sixth Derby start ... Had a big win on the day before the 2007 Derby, capturing the Kentucky Oaks aboard Rags to Riches, eventual Eclipse Award winner as the best 3-year-old filly of the year ... After the Oaks, she proved she could beat males by winning the Belmont Stakes with Velazquez aboard, while Gomez finished fourth with Hard Spun ... Had a very solid year in 2005, finishing fifth in the country in purse earnings with \$14,221,321 ... His 245 victories in 2005 led all Southern California riders ... Among other top horses ridden that year: Borrego, winner of the Grade I Pacific Classic and Grade I Jockey Club

Gold Cup; Healthy Addiction, Grade II Lady's Secret Breeders' Cup Handicap; Willow O Wisp, Grade II Del Mar Derby; Harvard Avenue, Grade II Potrero Grande Breeders' Cup Handicap ... Began career at Santa Fe Downs in 1988 and then moved along to Fonner Park and Ak-Sar-Ben ... Second-leading apprentice in 1989 with 182 winners ... Rode the Arkansas-Kentucky circuit for awhile and also rode at Arlington Park before heading west to California ... Won Hollywood Park autumn meet in 1998 and won the spring/summer meet in 2005 ... Captured back-to-back runnings of the Arkansas Derby in 1994 with Concern and 1995 on Dazzling Falls ... Among wins at Arlington Park were 1997 runnings of American Derby, Arlington Classic and Secretariat Stakes, making up what's known as the Mid-America Triple, aboard Honor Glide ... After missing 21 months for personal reasons, including substance abuse, returned to racing in September 2004 ... Has ridden winners of four Pacific Classics – Skimming in 2000 and 2001, Borrego in 2005 and Go Between in 2008.