

2001 by Whizard Jac).

It was thanks to Rudi Kronsteiner, last year's NRHA Open World Champion, that Einsteins Revolution landed in Vandorp's barn. In late 2003, Kronsteiner advised the Wagners to sell Einsteins Revolution. The colt was a long yearling when Vandorp took him, with the agreement to start and sell the horse.

"I loved him," Vandorp said about his early impression of the prospect. "I put him in the round pen and he loped around, put his head on the ground. He was very little but he was really cool."

The going may have been good, but Einsteins Revolution, or "Junior" as Vandorp calls him, was nearly put out of commission when another horse kicked him in the stifle. The accident was pretty serious and surgery had to be done to remove bone chips from the injured area. Even after they received the bad news and the accompanying vet bill, the Wagners stayed true to their intentions of starting and selling their reining prospect.

It was almost three months before



Reuben Vandorp is congratulated by Bill Florida, Shawn's father.

Einsteins Revolution could return to fulltime training. Early on, Vandorp had a few troubles with the horse. The stallion just didn't seem to have a lot of "whoa" in him.

"He'd stop when you pulled on him but when you just said, 'whoa,' he'd just kind of keep going," Vandorp recalled. "He never even acknowledged you were there. Then one day, he went from being a no-stopper to a plus-one stop-

per. This horse went from being a nice horse to a superstar, overnight."

From about December of his 2-year-old year, Einsteins Revolution was on his way. In August 2002, Vandorp and Wagner agreed to keep the horse and form a partnership.

"At that time we had some huge offers on the table and Christian let me get in well below what half of one of those offers would have been," Vandorp said. "He did me really right. He could have sold him and made a lot more than what he let me get in for."

"But I didn't steal him. I paid a lot for him. I went to the bank. It's not like I paid it off with training, a title, a chicken, a duck and promise. I paid a lot for half of that horse."

He was convinced the investment was right.

"I thought he was very special," Vandorp said. "There was something about the way that he moved. He was so catty, so feely and had a really neat way of carrying himself. He would carry his

head way down low. It took him awhile to figure out how to stop, but it always felt like it was there."

By that time, Tim McQuay had stepped into Einstein Revolution's picture. In July, Vandorp had to undergo a surgery to replace a damaged ear drum.

"I was going to be out for about a week," Vandorp said. "I asked Tim if he wouldn't mind riding that horse — we're friends, neighbors and we do a lot of business together. He said, 'No, I'll help you out.' He jumped right up and rode that horse for me."

When Vandorp returned home after his surgery, he called McQuay to ask about the horse. According to Vandorp, McQuay said that Einsteins Revolution was doing great and that he was impressed with the young stallion. In August, Vandorp showed the horse to a tie for 10th place in the Intermediate Open at the Tulsa Reining Classic. A short time later, a firm decision was made for Einsteins Revolution's fall season.

"About three or four weeks before

Hitting The Books

Einstein chalks up his first major victory as a sire.

For a young sire, Great Resolve is off to a good start. His is a trend that seems to be playing a starring role in recent reining events.

At the NRHA Futurity last year, Conquistador Whiz (by Topsail Whiz out of Sugarita Chex by Bueno Chex) proved himself a sire when a first-crop colt won the Open Championship. KR Lil Conquistador (out of Smart Little Prize by Smart And Trouble) won the Futurity after scoring 225 points.

Now, it was a first-crop colt by Great Resolve that patterned his way into winning NRBC history. Known as Einstein, Great Resolve sired Einsteins Resolve, the 4-year-old stallion that performed to 232 points and the 2006 NRBC Championship.

So, where did he get that name — Einstein?

It all goes back to a legendary reining sire named Great Pine, and that stallion's owner, Larry Rose. To this day, Great Pine is the leading maternal grandsire of reining horses. Going by last year's figures, Great Pine's daughters had produced offspring that earned more than \$2 million in the pen.

As a paternal grandsire, however, Great Pine is also pretty darn impressive. By the middle of 2005, his grandsons had won just over \$1 million in reining dollars. Most of that — \$147,377 worth — was thanks to Einstein and his show success with Tim McQuay. Second on that list was Miss Tinseltown, a mare McQuay rode to \$113,747. Both of those horses are by Great Red Pine, a Great Pine stallion that has sired foals that have amassed over a half million in earnings.

Einstein is out of Silversnow Pinestep, by Greyhound Step. Rose bred and started the horse and in August of the stallion's 3-year-old year, sold Einstein to Pontisso Enterprises from Italy. From Rose's perspective, Great Resolve was smart and deserving of a special nickname.

"He was the greatest horse I ever rode," Rose said, not long after selling the horse. "Einstein was the first horse I broke in 20 years and I was the only person who rode him. I can remember that Great Pine was almost as good, but training has changed a lot since then."

From the sounds of things, Einstein's early training went quite well. The colt's movements reminded Rose of what he felt with Great Pine

"He just trotted around and the first time I said 'whoa' and picked up, I could just feel that same feeling—he just hit that ground with his hocks," Rose said.

McQuay, who had already had a great deal of experience and success with Great Pine get and grandget, recognized commonalities among those reiners. First, there was the low-headedness and the tolerant attitudes. Then, there were the stops.

"The really good Great Pines, they would use their back to stop — just curl their back and stop real strong," McQuay said. "That was something that definitely got passed along in the good ones. You can't teach a horse to stop like that. They have to want to stop like that — and I love it!"

With McQuay at the reins, Einstein performed to the Open Championship at the 2000 Congress Reining Futurity and then finished third at the NRHA Futurity. As a 4-year-old, Einstein made the finals at both the NRBC and NRHA Derby with McQuay riding. In 2002, Duane Latimer rode Einstein to 14th place at the NRBC and eighth place at the NRHA Derby (Latimer rode the horse because McQuay was ill at the time and was not able to show Einstein).

When it was all said and done, Einstein showed just seven times and won \$147,377. He was retired in 2002, the same year his first crop of 19 foals arrived. In total (not counting his 2006 arrivals), Einstein has sired 75 registered Quarter Horse foals.



Great Resolve, better known as "Einstein."

In January 2005, Einstein was sold to Bridgette Lanham, Eastover, S.C. He currently stands at the Vandorp Ranch in Pilot Point, Texas. For more information about the stallion, visit www.einsteininfo.net or call Paige Olsen, Vandorp Ranch's breeding manager, at 214-243-9947.

— KT