

Mitchell Scott – Choice Equities Capital Management

Age: 38

Title: Managing Partner

Company description: Investment partnership

Birthplace: Atlanta

Family members: Wife, Cassie; children, Barnes and Mae; dad, Peter; stepmom, Cece; mom, Mary; sister, Holly

Education: B.A., English and economics, Clemson University; MBA, UNC-Chapel Hill

What accomplishments are you most proud of? After work, I come home to a happy house with a great wife and two wonderful kids. That's easily at the top of the list. Professionally, it would be starting and building Choice Equities while achieving a five-year track record as portfolio manager that ranks among the best in my peer group. My dad would frequently encourage me to start my own firm when I thought I had the experience and the client list to do so. He had started a management consulting firm in his early 30s and was well aware of the pluses and minuses of striking out on your own. Even so, for many years, I would tell him I didn't think I was ready. In a lot of businesses, hard work and good instincts can overcome inexperience and lead you to success. I don't think the investment business is one of those. It's an expensive place to learn on the job, and I didn't want to do that.

What community causes or charities have you been involved in during the past year? WakeMed: friends member, vice chairman of events committee and the annual fund committee. YMCA of the Triangle: Investment committee chairman, finance committee member.

What is the greatest obstacle you have overcome in your career? Founding Choice Equities. When I launched the business at the end of 2016, *The Wall Street Journal* and the rest of the financial press were in the midst of a full-fledged attack on the profession of active management. My view then and now is that there will always be a place for active management, especially if those managers are committed to doing it, what I would consider, the right way. It's been really refreshing to have both hands on the wheel and follow the exact vision that I had.

Nothing makes me madder than ... watching my Tigers lose to Alabama in the college football playoffs; a close second would be playing golf at the level I recently have been.

What is your favorite Triangle restaurant? Poole's – assuming you can get a table.

Who would make the guest list for your dream business lunch? Warren Buffett might seem like an obvious answer, given my profession. Picking somebody from my profession, it'd easily be Joel Greenblatt. He put up one of the most impressive long-term year track records ever at Gotham Partners, and I'd love to know exactly how he did it. Dabo Swinney. The guy simply knows how to win. And he does it the right way. He's built an outstanding culture of success at Clemson by emphasizing sound moral values and family focus, and I love his us-against-the-world mentality.

What is your secret talent? When I cook on the Green Egg, people are generally quite complimentary.