

From the Executive Office



Leaders in the Industry

For the second consecutive year, the California Thoroughbred Breeders Association will distribute a 10 percent advancement on breeders awards earned for the first six months of the year. This payment should be received within the next month and will assist in aiding breeders with cash flow for stallion fees due in September. As in the past, we will also offer the option of declining the advancement and receiving full awards next March.

And what a spectacular first half of the year it has been! California-breds have been dominant in many divisions. Gourmet Girl and Lazy Slusan top the older female division in the country, each with two grade I stakes wins thus far in 2001. They are currently ranked one, two in the *Daily Racing Form (DRF)* national rankings and should be battling for year-end honors in their division.

With 2000 Horse of the Year Tiznow, who dominated the Santa Anita Handicap in March, now back in training, the older male division is his for the taking. He also currently sits at the top of his division in the aforesaid *Daily Racing Form* rankings.

Also, recently retired Golden Ballet (still number one on the *DRF* lists) dominated her division with two grade I wins this year, and Go Go has proved to be the best filly and mare sprinter on the West Coast, if not in the nation.

All in all, we have had nearly two-dozen graded stakes wins thus far in 2001, with numerous other stakes winners across the country. In fact, it is very difficult to find a California-bred not placing in the premier

stakes races run in the state of late. With California racing more dependent on the state-bred product, it is both important and necessary that we produce such quality.

In an editorial in this publication in November 1999, I stated that, "the California-bred product is no longer a secret, as the nation continues to witness our stock rise." This point certainly continues to hold true as a result of the success mentioned above.

We also hope to continue to realize similar growth in the auction ring, especially at the Del Mar Yearling Sale on the 13th and 14th of this month. Previous graduates of the event have been instrumental in the aforementioned stakes achievements of this year and, with eleven two-year-old winners already from the 2000 auction, including two who have gone on to win in stakes company, the prospects for a future star are bright.

The ongoing accomplishments by Cal-breds make it difficult to keep the sale catalog pages current. This necessity has sparked the inclusion of a catalog update section, which is located on pages 20 and 21 of this issue of *California Thoroughbred*. Further update booklets will also be available at the sale.

With the improved quality of stallions and mares, there is reason to be optimistic that our racing and sales results will continue to prosper. Good luck to all the breeders/consignors participating in the upcoming sale and in next month's editorial, I'm looking forward to documenting our success there. See you at Del Mar.

— Doug Burge