



Managing Editor's Welcome

Hitting The Jackpot

Whether it's the Pick Six at the racetrack, a royal flush in poker, 21 for blackjack or three 7s on a slot machine, there is nothing like the ultimate thrill of hitting the jackpot. Through Dec. 26, California-breds hit their own kind of jackpot when their graded stakes tally numbered 22 for 2005.

Featured on the cover of this January 2006 issue of *California Thoroughbred* is Brother Derek, one of the 18 individual Cal-breds who won at least one graded stakes race last year. His dominating win in the \$407,250 Hollywood Futurity at Hollywood Park on Dec. 17 made him both the seventh Cal-bred to win a grade I event and the fourth locally bred multiple graded stakes winner of 2005.

Last year, grade I victories were also recorded by Dream of Summer, Lava Man and Leave Me Alone—the other three winners of an additional graded stakes, as well as Greg's Gold, Proud Tower Too and Unfurl the Flag. Other notable graded stakes numbers that our winning Cal-breds put together in 2005 include:

- By both sexes, from the ages of two to six
- On the dirt, from 5 1/2 furlongs to 1 1/4 miles
- On the turf, from 6 1/2 furlongs to 1 1/8 miles
- At 11 different racetracks across the country
- At every major meet in Southern and Northern California
- At five prominent racetracks out of state

So, as we head into 2006, let's hope that the next 12 months produce the kind of success, if not more, that was enjoyed last year.

Although none of the Sunshine Millions IV races on Saturday, Jan. 28, are graded, the \$3.6-million in purse money on offer to California-breds and Florida-breds only—in the eight contests split evenly between Santa Anita and Gulfstream Park—is sure to attract many of last year's graded stakes winners. We preview those races in this issue.

This magazine also features many other editorials, including an analysis of the local sires Bertrando, Salt Lake and Bold Badgett, all of whom featured prominently on the 2005 leading sires lists, a CTBA Member Profile on Bob Bone, a preview of the Golden State's new stallions of 2006 and the reintroduction of the California Hall of Fame.

Furthermore, there are articles covering the upcoming Barretts January Mixed Sale, the recent grade III triumph by Bordonaro, the local stakes wins by fellow Cal-breds House of Fortune, Proud Tower Too, Thrilling Victory and Loyaltan during the past month, and the fascinating tale of the locally bred The Rogers

Four. The latest quarterly section from the CTT (California Thoroughbred Trainers) is also included, along with all our regular features and departments.

Well, that's all I have time and space for right now so, until next time, may you breed the best to the best and not just have to hope for the best!



In the Company of . . . Michael Compton (left), former Managing Editor of the *California Thoroughbred* and current Editor-in-Chief of *The Florida Horse*, during Sunshine Millions III at Santa Anita Park on January 29, 2005.

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