



Managing Editor's Welcome

Who Dares Wins

When it comes to becoming a champion, there is little room for the faint at heart, and that philosophy rings especially true in the Thoroughbred world. There, it often comes down to a case of the motto, from 1942, of the British Special Air Service regiment, "Who dares wins."

In this March 2007 issue of *California Thoroughbred*, we pay tribute to some of those champions who have dared and won. From an Eclipse Award winner to all the other Golden State champs of last year and from the four Cal-bred winners at this year's \$3,600,000 Sunshine Millions V to a serious Triple Crown contender of 2007, and even to one who is very sadly no longer with us.

Trudy McCaffery, the CTBA's Vice President who lost her brave battle with cancer on Feb. 12, was a champion of many causes in the breeding and racing community, locally and nationally, so she will be sorely missed.

She was the Magazine Committee Chair when I became Managing Editor in March 2000, so I will miss her a lot. But we should celebrate her life and the accomplishments of the other Californian champions like her.

These include 2006 Eclipse Champion Sprinter Thor's Echo and two-time California Horse of the Year Lava Man, along with the other award winners of last year—champions Moscow Burning, Brother Derek, Bai and Bai, Pirates Deputy and Romance Is Diane, leading sires Swiss Yodeler, Betrando and Tribal Rule, and outstanding trainer Doug O'Neill.

Let's also not forget California's leading breeders of 2006, Martin and Pam Wygod, the latest California Hall of Fame Inductees, John and Betty Mabee, Senator Ken Maddy, Best Pal and Free House, and the trio of McCann's Mojave, Shaggy Mane and Mistical Plan who joined Lava Man as winners at Sunshine Millions.

Also featured in this magazine is Notional, the Cal-bred three-year-old colt whose two graded stakes wins so far this year augurs well for his 2007 Kentucky Derby aspirations. Plus, there's a CTBA Member Profile on Judd Morse, a detailed preview of this year's Barretts March Sale of Selected Two-Year-Olds in Training, wrap-ups of the latest Cal-bred stakes winners in both Southern and Northern California, the 36th Annual Report of the California Horse Racing Board from its Chairman Richard Shapiro, and our annual California Statistical Review.

Until next time, may you breed the best to the best and not just have to hope for the best!

—Rudi Groothedde
rudi@ctba.com



In the Company of . . . Martin and Pam Wygod (left), who became the leading breeders in the Golden State for the first time in 2006 with \$2,970,636 in earnings by their California-breds from their River Edge Farm base, at The Ritz-Carlton Huntington Hotel & Spa in Pasadena during the CTBA's Annual Awards Dinner on February 5, 2007.



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201 Colorado Place, Arcadia, California 91007
Telephone: (626) 445-7800 or
1-800-573-CTBA (California residents only).
FAX: (626) 445-6981.
E-mail address: ctbainfo@ctba.com

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