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Empire Leadership

BY RON MITCHELL

Jeff Cannizzo gets aggressive in New York

When Delaware North announced it was ending its partnership with the New York Racing Association to install video lottery terminals at Aqueduct racecourse, the executive director of the New York Thoroughbred Breeders sprung into action.

Noting that the end of the partnership represented yet another delay in the long-overdue effort for the Empire State's racing and breeding industries to begin reaping the financial benefits of VLTs, NYTB executive director Jeff Cannizzo called upon Gov. David Paterson to "make the re-bidding of VLTs an administration priority."

In his press release Cannizzo reiterated the benefits of VLTs at Aqueduct—an estimated \$1 million daily to the state coffers and millions to the equine agribusiness—and pointed out that "Now, with Wall Street in meltdown, sales tax revenue at historic lows, and a state deficit of staggering proportions, the continued delay in installing VLTs is unfathomable."

Being proactive and taking the offensive on major issues facing the New York racing and breeding industries have been priorities for newly elected NYTB president Barry R. Ostrager, and Cannizzo, who assumed his position last summer.

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Jeff Cannizzo directs the voices of New York Thoroughbred breeders

JOSEPH DIORO

2009 Leading Sires in New York

State sire lists updated daily online.
Go to <http://breeding.bloodhorse.com/sirelists.asp>

For stallions that stand, will stand, or stood (deceased) in New York (exported stallions are excluded), and have runners in North America. Listed below are all available statistics for the Northern Hemisphere through April 1, 2009. As supplied to The Blood-Horse by The Jockey Club Information Systems Inc., earnings exclude monies from Japan and Hong Kong. *Foal counts include Southern Hemisphere. Cumulative stakes winners includes all countries. (A † indicates a sire represented by his first crop to race).

Rank	Stallion (Foaling Year, Sire), Farm Standing	2009 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2009 Earnings	Cumulative			
								Foals	Stks Wnrs	*A-E Index	*Comp Index
1	CHIEF SEATTLE (97, Seattle Slew), Empire Stud	\$5,000	73/31	0/0	0/0	(Chief Export, \$52,800)	\$522,788	*315	9	1.22	1.39
2	GOLDEN MISSILE (95, A.P. Indy), Milfer Farm	\$7,500	90/22	2/2	0/2	(Stealth Missile, \$51,800)	\$506,055	*439	10	1.12	1.87
3	FREUD (98, Storm Cat), Sequel Stallions New York	\$7,500	39/11	2/2	2/2	(Uncle T Seven, \$60,000)	\$421,764	239	12	1.80	1.38
4	GOLD TOKEN (93, Mr. Prospector)	Died, 2006	45/13	0/0	0/0	(Leap Day, \$57,300)	\$274,421	*271	6	1.37	1.14
5	AMERICAN CHANCE (89, Cure the Blues)	Died, 2004	28/8	1/3	1/1	(Mor Chances, \$122,520)	\$324,871	*409	30	1.52	1.29
6	DESERT WARRIOR (00, Deputy Minister), McMahon of Saratoga	\$2,500	24/9	0/0	0/0	(Kiss and Fly, \$60,194)	\$305,896	*126	0	0.99	0.96
7	REGAL CLASSIC (85, Vice Regent)	Pnsd	33/9	0/0	0/0	(Joe Corrigan, \$67,740)	\$299,117	*957	44	1.44	1.57
8	SMOOTH JAZZ (99, Storm Boot), Buckridge Farm	\$3,000	25/4	1/1	0/1	(Smooth Air, \$195,000)	\$274,305	78	1	1.66	1.12
9	ELTISH (92, Cox's Ridge), Keane Stud Operations	\$3,500	47/15	0/0	0/0	(Wyatt's Women, \$45,273)	\$272,938	234	12	1.25	1.41
10	MAYAKOVSKY (99, Matty G), Mill Creek Farm	\$3,000	28/7	1/1	1/1	(Mother Russia, \$60,000)	\$252,955	63	1	1.28	1.41
11	DISCO RICO (97, Citidancer), Keane Stud Operations	\$5,000	33/9	0/0	0/0	(Bette to Win, \$29,190)	\$238,526	137	6	1.60	1.22
12	HOOK AND LADDER (97, Dixieland Band), Sequel Stallions New York	\$7,500	39/8	0/0	0/0	(Early Response, \$38,200)	\$232,255	138	6	1.51	1.52
13	WESTERN EXPRESSION (96, Gone West), Highcliff Farm	\$5,000	38/8	1/1	0/1	(I Lost My Choo, \$60,000)	\$222,808	247	4	1.25	1.31
14	A. P. JET (89, Fappiano), Sugar Maple Farm	Pnsd	37/6	0/0	0/0	(See More Spirit, \$42,430)	\$222,280	444	14	1.15	1.34
15	PHONE TRICK (82, Clever Trick)	Died, 2005	31/11	0/0	0/0	(Strummer, \$60,350)	\$219,159	*1112	52	1.52	1.52
16	WHELAWAY (97, Unbridled), McMahon of Saratoga	\$3,000	41/7	0/0	0/0	(Win for Fun, \$50,400)	\$208,093	*226	5	0.97	1.22
17	KING CUGAT (97, Kingmambo), Questroyal at Dutchess Views Farm	\$3,500	36/12	1/1	0/1	(El Cugat, \$45,595)	\$203,563	*394	8	1.31	1.19
18	FAST PLAY (86, Seattle Slew), Questroyal at Dutchess Views Farm	\$2,500	22/6	1/1	1/1	(Two Nickel Bud, \$75,000)	\$196,728	*402	19	1.22	1.44
19	PRIME TIMBER (96, Sultry Song), Sez Who Thoroughbreds North	\$3,000	33/5	0/0	0/0	(Beam of Love, \$74,800)	\$193,005	161	4	1.24	1.39
20	ROARING FEVER (00, Storm Cat), Questroyal at Dutchess Views Farm	\$5,000	17/6	1/1	0/1	(Lesson in Deceit, \$43,542)	\$170,686	75	1	0.73	1.01
21	SAY FLORIDA SANDY (94, Personal Flag), Buckridge Farm	\$3,000	18/5	0/0	0/0	(Say Toba Sandy, \$72,600)	\$157,734	115	1	0.86	1.26
22	OUTOFTHebox (98, Montbrook), Sez Who Thoroughbreds North	\$2,500	29/6	1/2	1/1	(Hypocrite, \$87,500)	\$152,450	197	3	0.73	1.48
23	JADE HUNTER (84, Mr. Prospector), Questroyal at Dutchess Views Farm	\$5,000	30/9	0/0	0/0	(Global Hunter, \$38,000)	\$148,846	*922	43	1.42	1.64
24	READ THE FOOTNOTES (01, Smoke Glacken), Sequel Stallions New York	\$7,500	17/8	0/0	0/0	(Rightly So, \$58,600)	\$144,115	83	1	1.48	1.26
25	KEY CONTENDER (88, Fit to Fight), Highcliff Farm	\$3,500	11/3	1/2	0/1	(Weathered, \$113,767)	\$135,768	220	3	1.15	1.24
26	SMOKIN MEL (94, Phone Order)	Died, 2008	11/4	0/0	0/0	(Smokin Sarah, \$38,250)	\$117,035	42	0	1.34	1.09
27	DISTINCTIVE PRO (79, Mr. Prospector)	Died, 2005	10/4	0/0	0/0	(Commissioner Chris, \$40,915)	\$109,656	*754	44	1.69	1.49
28	BADGE (96, Air Forbes Won), Foggy Bottom Farm	\$4,000	8/3	0/0	0/0	(Heathersdaddybaby, \$53,300)	\$106,248	70	0	1.23	0.69
29	ANASHEED (00, A.P. Indy), Questroyal at Dutchess Views Farm	\$3,500	14/5	1/1	0/1	(Garter Belt, \$45,000)	\$105,819	33	1	0.74	1.22
30	RIZZI (91, Afleet), Sez Who Thoroughbreds North	\$2,000	27/5	0/0	0/0	(Lady Rizzi, \$23,400)	\$91,221	*359	17	1.25	1.27
31	CARRY MY COLORS (96, Roanoke)	N/A	6/1	0/0	0/0	(Calling My Colors, \$75,600)	\$90,495	42	0	0.97	0.40
32	RAFFIE'S MAJESTY (95, Cormorant), Sugar Maple Farm	\$3,000	10/2	0/0	0/0	(Raffie's Deer, \$38,900)	\$90,239	102	9	1.73	1.12
33	WELL NOTED (95, Notebook), Monhill Farm	\$3,000	11/2	0/0	0/0	(El Tamberito, \$28,900)	\$70,133	*65	0	0.72	1.18
34	STANISLAVSKY (00, Dehere), Highcliff Farm	\$3,500	3/2	0/0	0/0	(Empty Wallet, \$48,700)	\$69,798	23	0	1.12	0.99
35	TALK IS MONEY (98, Deputy Minister), Highcliff Farm	\$5,000	20/3	0/0	0/0	(First Lady Glenna, \$12,940)	\$65,914	145	3	0.79	1.91

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"This is an organization where all breeders of New York have a voice; I am solely directing those voices," Cannizzo said, noting the state has lost some breeders who gave up trying to stay in business until the long-awaited arrival of VLTs. "As an organization here in New York, we need to make our voice heard. We need to allow others outside our industry to have an understanding of what we do and how legislation and state-based decisions are impacting our industry."

"One of the things I undertook to do when I became president of NYTB was to assure that the breeders would be proactive, particularly with issues affecting New York racing," Ostrager said. "Everything we have been doing, especially with our new board, has been with a view toward the interests of not only the membership, but also the industry at large because our membership cannot prosper if the industry at large is suffering."

In hiring Cannizzo, 30, the NYTB board did not maintain the status quo of selecting an industry insider or someone with extensive experience working with equine

2009 New York Second-Crop Sires By Earnings

Sire	Named Foals	Rnrs	Wnrs	Stks Wnrs	Earnings
Roaring Fever.....	75	17	6	1	\$170,686
Read the Footnotes.....	83	17	8	0	\$144,115
Anasheed.....	33	14	5	1	\$105,819
Stanislavsky.....	23	3	2	0	\$69,798
Captain Red.....	19	5	0	0	\$10,076
Night Caller.....	7	2	1	0	\$6,742

2009 New York Third-Crop Sires By Earnings

Sire	Named Foals	Rnrs	Wnrs	Stks Wnrs	Earnings
Desert Warrior.....	126	24	9	0	\$305,896
Smooth Jazz.....	78	25	4	1	\$274,305
Mayakovsky.....	63	28	7	1	\$252,955
Hook and Ladder.....	138	39	8	0	\$232,255
Say Florida Sandy.....	115	18	5	0	\$157,734
Griffinite.....	31	3	2	0	\$33,437
Ommadon.....	12	3	0	0	\$2,277

WEST VIRGINIA BREEDERS AWARDS

The West Virginia Thoroughbred Breeders Association's Annual Awards Dinner was held March 22, in Charles Town, W.Va.

The breeders of the following West Virginia-breds received honors for the accomplishments of the top runners in each category.

The 2008 West Virginia horse of the year, broodmare of the year, stallion of the year, and breeder of the year were also named that evening.

2-Year-Old Filly – Leva Mae (by Emancipator)
Breeder/Owner: John F. Jones, Jr.

2-Year-Old Colt/Gelding – Russell Rod (by Wheaton)
Breeder: Robert H. Lloyd

3-Year-Old Filly – Saxet Heights (by Outflanker)
Breeder/Owner: Carey K. Miller

3-Year-Old Colt/Gelding – Ghostly Thunder (by Ghostly Minister)
Breeder: Charles "Buck" Woodson

Sprinter – Missacity Luke (by Malibu Moon)
Breeder: Pat Brown

Older Filly/Mare – Julie B (by Eastover Court)
Breeder/Owner: O'Sullivan Farm/Randy Funkhouser

Older Colt/Gelding – Confucius Say (by Eastover Court)
Breeder/Owner: O'Sullivan Farm/Randy Funkhouser

Broodmare of the Year (a tie)
Minister's Lady (by Mane Minister)
Owner: Dr. Maurice Casey
and Roberta Grump (by Verification)
Owner: Robert Lloyd

Stallion of the Year – Luftikus (by Meadowlake)
Owner: Taylor Mountain Farm

Horse of the Year – Ghostly Thunder (by Ghostly Minister)
Winner of four stakes races in 2008, including the West Virginia Breeders Classic.
Breeder: Charles "Buck" Woodson

2008 West Virginia Breeder of the Year
Charles "Buck" Woodson

2009 New York Sires By Winners

Sire	Rnrs	Wnrs
Chief Seattle.....	73	31
Golden Missile	90	22
Eltish.....	47	15
Gold Token	45	13
King Cugat	36	12
Freud.....	39	11
Phone Trick	31	11
Disco Rico.....	33	9
Regal Classic	33	9
Jade Hunter.....	30	9
Desert Warrior.....	24	9
Hook and Ladder.....	39	8
Western Expression.....	38	8
American Chance.....	28	8
Read the Footnotes.....	17	8
Wheelaway.....	41	7
Mayakovsky	28	7
A. P. Jet.....	37	6
Outofthebox.....	29	6
Fast Play	22	6
Roaring Fever.....	17	6
Prime Timber.....	33	5
Rizzi.....	27	5
Say Florida Sandy.....	18	5
Anasheed.....	14	5
Smooth Jazz	25	4
Smokin Mel	11	4
Distinctive Pro	10	4

2009 West Virginia Third-Crop Sires By Earnings

Sire	Named Foals	Rnrs	Wnrs	Stks Wnrs	Earnings
Bop.....	60	14	5	0	\$94,599
Windsor Castle.....	51	8	3	0	\$68,840
Ghostly Minister.....	28	9	4	0	\$60,346
Sequoia Slew.....	11	3	2	0	\$20,300
Peak Dancer	11	2	1	0	\$18,750
Green Fee.....	29	5	0	0	\$11,390
Cowboy Carson.....	14	2	1	0	\$10,895

(continued from page 1358)

organizations. Instead, Cannizzo joined NYTB after honing his management, marketing, and technology skills within the corporate world.

While technically an "industry outsider," Cannizzo does have

a grassroots working knowledge of horse racing and breeding, having cut his teeth at his father's small Thoroughbred breeding farm in upstate New York and on the backside of Finger Lakes racetrack.

"From as early as I can remember, days and nights were wrapped around Thoroughbreds," said Cannizzo, whose father, Ron Cannizzo, continues to train at Finger Lakes. "A vivid memory I have is of a first-grade book report I did. I went to my father and asked what I should write about. Needless to say, it was titled 'The 8 horse in the last at Belmont.' The first magazine I ever opened was *The Blood-Horse*, and the first newspaper I ever read was the *Daily Racing Form*."

Rather than immediately following in his father's footsteps after graduating from high school, Cannizzo obtained his B.S. from LeMoyne College and entered a leadership management program at aerospace giant Lockheed Martin. Cannizzo worked in Lockheed Martin's interna-

(continued on page 1364)

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2009 Leading Sires in West Virginia

State sire lists updated daily online.
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For stallions that stand, will stand, or stood (deceased) in West Virginia (exported stallions are excluded), and have runners in North America. Listed below are all available statistics for the Northern Hemisphere through April 1, 2009. As supplied to The Blood-Horse by The Jockey Club Information Systems Inc., earnings exclude monies from Japan and Hong Kong. *Foal counts include Southern Hemisphere. Cumulative stakes winners includes all countries. (A ¶) indicates a sire represented by his first crop to race.

Rank	Stallion (Foaling Year, Sire), Farm Standing	2009 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2009 Earnings	Cumulative			
								Foals	Stks Wnrs	*A-E Index	*Comp Index
1	PRIZED (86, Kris S.)	N/A	30/8	1/1	0/1	(Premio Loco, \$75,969)	\$207,864	*660	25	1.39	1.43
2	MAKIN (90, Danzig)	N/A	39/9	0/0	0/0	(Ridden Out, \$25,200)	\$176,366	177	3	0.81	0.74
3	LIMIT OUT (95, Northern Flagship), Naylee Farm	\$2,500	9/2	1/1	0/1	(Any Limit, \$125,000)	\$169,739	53	4	1.63	1.21
4	HOUSEBUSTER (87, Mt. Livermore)	Died, 2005	34/10	0/0	0/0	(Shaunna, \$27,870)	\$162,689	*719	31	1.38	1.67
5	CIVILISATION (98, Gone West), Naylee Farm	\$3,500	35/5	0/0	0/0	(Swish Maravich, \$23,200)	\$158,362	130	0	0.62	0.77
6	MEADOW MONSTER (91, Meadowlake), O'Sullivan Farms	\$3,000	31/6	0/0	0/0	(Green Suede Shoes, \$34,800)	\$145,932	297	8	1.05	1.14
7	BLACK TIE AFFAIR (IRE) (86, Miswaki), O'Sullivan Farms	\$5,000	38/4	0/0	0/0	(Vesper, \$38,453)	\$144,069	*820	34	1.40	1.52
8	LUFTIKUS (96, Meadowlake), Taylor Mountain Farm	\$2,500	38/4	0/0	0/0	(Miss J Lee Ann, \$22,330)	\$133,177	165	4	1.08	1.02
9	KOKAND (85, Mr. Prospector), Blue Spruce Farm	Pnsd	34/9	0/0	0/0	(Cynthia's Angle, \$25,200)	\$132,665	*460	10	1.00	0.92
10	PROSPECT BAY (92, Crafty Prospector), Naylee Farm	\$1,500	17/8	0/0	0/0	(Dumbledore, \$20,170)	\$119,228	249	7	1.01	1.59
11	EASTOVER COURT (91, Seattle Slew)	Died, 2004	15/5	0/0	0/0	(Caber's Cutie, \$29,800)	\$109,744	168	6	1.27	0.96
12	WAY WEST (FR) (90, Gone West)	Died, 2006	27/5	0/0	0/0	(Way Out Verdict, \$17,940)	\$104,940	*326	6	1.00	0.87
13	REPARATIONS (96, Forty Niner), Blue Spruce Farm	\$1,000	9/4	0/0	0/0	(Smile Samantha, \$39,100)	\$94,785	51	2	1.55	0.92
14	BOP (97, Rahy), O'Sullivan Farms	\$2,500	14/5	0/0	0/0	(Cedar Run's Bop, \$20,200)	\$94,599	60	1	0.85	0.98
15	WINDSOR CASTLE (98, Lord Carson), Taylor Mountain Farm	\$2,500	8/3	0/0	0/0	(Henry the Lover, \$20,300)	\$68,840	51	1	1.00	1.16

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2009 Leading Sires in Virginia

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								Foals	Stks Wnrs	*A-E Index	*Comp Index
1	HAY HALO (84, Halo), Avonlea Farm	Died, 2008	14/3	0/0	0/0	(Shannon H, \$39,455)	\$74,684	*311	13	1.13	1.10
2	TWO SMART (94, Two Punch)	Died	4/2	0/0	0/0	(Researcher, \$28,139)	\$41,289	34	2	1.01	0.87
3	AARON'S GOLD (90, Slew o' Gold), Mortgage Hall Farm	\$1,000	5/3	0/0	0/0	(Ask the Price, \$19,400)	\$38,200	66	0	0.47	0.96
4	SECRET HELLO (87, Private Account)	Died, 2002	5/1	0/0	0/0	(Domi Knows, \$10,800)	\$18,890	*295	20	1.11	1.26
5	BOWLER'S WHARF (88, Pass the Tab)	N/A	1/1	0/0	0/0	(Mymanmax, \$15,630)	\$15,630	43	1	0.87	1.14
6	MR. EXECUTIONER (93, Deputy Minister), Grey Lady Farm	N/A	3/1	0/0	0/0	(To Catch a Star, \$14,010)	\$15,575	25	0	0.38	0.70
7	LADINOS BAMBINO (96, Heading Back Home), Karl Johnson	N/A	3/1	0/0	0/0	(Ladino's C E O, \$11,860)	\$14,335	10	0	0.22	0.19
8	TOM COBBLEY (86, Seattle Slew)	N/A	3/0	0/0	0/0	(Check Into Cobbley, \$6,400)	\$9,360	69	2	0.80	1.46
9	RED TAIL HAWK (00, Devil's Bag), Mortgage Hall Farm	\$1,000	3/0	0/0	0/0	(Gone Baby Gone, \$6,495)	\$7,530	11	0	0.16	1.29
10	MINER'S MARK (90, Mr. Prospector)	Pnsd	6/0	0/0	0/0	(Cosalinda, \$5,150)	\$7,070	*306	10	1.07	1.39

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								Foals	Stks Wnrs	*A-E Index	*Comp Index
1	ALBERT THE GREAT (97, Go for Gin), Pin Oak Lane Farm	\$3,500	42/14	1/1	0/1	(Albertus Maximus, \$420,000)	\$695,362	*220	4	1.37	1.22
2	CAT THIEF (96, Storm Cat), Penn Ridge Farms	\$6,000	88/35	0/0	0/0	(Dr. W, \$58,500)	\$677,925	*347	11	1.26	1.84
3	BUDDHA (99, Unbridled's Song), Pin Oak Lane Farm	\$3,500	102/33	0/0	0/0	(Hisse, \$58,800)	\$470,661	*445	3	0.67	1.54
4	DELAWARE TOWNSHIP (96, Notebook), Penn Ridge Farms	\$4,000	75/19	1/2	0/1	(Victorina, \$90,780)	\$457,060	207	5	1.21	1.34
5	WISEMAN'S FERRY (99, Hennessy), Dana Point Farm	\$3,000	50/18	0/0	0/0	(Little Wise Guy, \$59,300)	\$372,805	*162	3	0.99	1.08
6	PARTNER'S HERO (94, Danzig), Northview, PA	\$2,500	55/11	0/0	0/0	(Our Partner, \$58,600)	\$367,945	344	15	1.34	1.44
7	ZAVATA (00, Phone Trick), Pin Oak Lane Farm	\$3,500	39/16	0/0	0/0	(Dakota Phone, \$38,000)	\$274,738	*152	1	0.96	1.16
8	TRUST N LUCK (00, Montbrook), Penn Ridge Farms	\$2,000	44/13	0/0	0/0	(Spanish Luck, \$24,000)	\$263,871	*133	3	0.86	1.27
9	SNOW RIDGE (98, Tabasco Cat), Regal Heir Farm	\$5,000	53/16	0/0	0/0	(Madonna Blue, \$20,815)	\$261,175	194	4	1.15	1.32
10	REAL QUIET (95, Quiet American), Penn Ridge Farms	\$7,500	37/13	0/0	0/0	(Quiet Again, \$50,400)	\$240,306	*434	12	1.27	1.30
11	WHEATON (90, Alydar)	Died, 2006	28/10	1/1	0/1	(Russell Road, \$37,875)	\$197,578	323	14	1.28	1.06
12	LITE THE FUSE (91, Buckaroo), Pin Oak Lane Farm	\$3,500	50/7	0/0	0/0	(Papa Fuse, \$18,282)	\$186,260	430	22	1.36	1.23
13	CHANGEIN THEWEATHER (99, Gone West), Xanthus Farms	\$3,500	30/8	0/0	0/0	(Changing Funds, \$25,500)	\$141,999	86	1	0.92	1.25
14	SIPHON (BRZ) (91, Itajara), Pin Oak Lane Farm	\$5,000	35/8	0/0	0/0	(In Command, \$14,240)	\$112,993	*510	13	1.04	1.65
15	EAVESDROPPER (00, Kingmambo), Walmac Pennsylvania at Regal Heir Farm	\$5,000	16/4	0/0	0/0	(Hear No Angel, \$63,000)	\$97,347	*83	0	0.51	1.04

*A-E AND COMPARABLE INDEX: The lifetime Average-Earnings Index indicates how much purse money the progeny of one sire has earned, on the average, in relation to the average earnings of all runners in the same years; average earnings of all runners in any year is represented by an index of 1.00. The Comparable Index indicates the average earnings of progeny produced from mares bred to one sire, when these same mares were bred to other sires. Only 32% of all sires have a lifetime AEI higher than their mares Comparable Index.



ADAM COGLIANESE

The New York breeding industry is hoping for VLTs to come to Aqueduct soon

(continued from page 1360)

tional business group and also obtained his MBA during that time. He eventually went to work in the digital marketing and media organization operations of Microsoft.

NYTB's search for a new executive director coincided with Cannizzo's desire to become involved in the horse industry. Throughout his professional career he had never fully gotten away from the industry, staying in touch via computer and other forms of information. "Never at any point was the industry out of sight or out of my heart," he said. "I was more or less a bystander for a number of years, listening and watching."

Motivated by the negative publicity aimed at horse racing following the breakdown of Eight Belles in the 2008 Kentucky Derby Presented by Yum! Brands (gr. I) and the downward spiral in the econo-

mies of the racing and breeding industries, Cannizzo noted, "Every time you opened a newspaper or went on the Internet, you were reading about the pain our industry was in. I just couldn't stand by any longer...I had to engage myself and follow this passion I had been engulfed with my entire life. This opportunity was available, as well as a few others. I wanted to be a part of helping the New York product—the product I grew up on and supported—and helping it grow in this state. It really was a win-win situation."

There was also a major fringe benefit to going to work for NYTB. "I ended up here in the state I love and in the best summer place of them all—Saratoga Springs," he said of the bucolic upstate town where the breeders' organization is based.

Despite his lack of experience within equine circles, the NYTB board decided to give Cannizzo a shot at running the

organization.

"While there may be people who have a longer track record in the industry and people who know more people in the industry, Jeff more than compensates for any limitations in those areas with his energy and enthusiasm," Ostrager said. "He is extremely committed, extremely conscientious, and a dynamic, energetic young man who has thrown himself into the duties and responsibilities of the position. It has been an enormously gratifying and refreshing experience to have as part of our team someone with the energy and enthusiasm that Jeff brings to the position."

Ostrager said Cannizzo had also been adept at representing the breeding organization on the board of the Thoroughbred Breeding and Development program, one of the most established and lucrative breed incentive programs in the country.

2009 Leading Sires in New Jersey

State sire lists updated daily online.

Go to <http://breeding.bloodhorse.com/sirelists.asp>

For stallions that stand, will stand, or stood (deceased) in New Jersey (exported stallions are excluded), and have runners in North America. Listed below are all available statistics for the Northern Hemisphere through April 1, 2009. As supplied to The Blood-Horse by The Jockey Club Information Systems Inc., earnings exclude monies from Japan and Hong Kong. *Foal counts include Southern Hemisphere. Cumulative stakes winners includes all countries. (A ¶) indicates a sire represented by his first crop to race.

Rank	Stallion (Foaling Year, Sire), Farm Standing	2009 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2009 Earnings	Cumulative			
								Foals	Stks Wnrs	*A-E Index	*Comp Index
1	DEFRERE (92, Deputy Minister), Walnford Stud	\$6,000	38/10	0/0	0/0	(Peanut, \$39,230)	\$185,464	*447	20	1.32	1.24
2	CRAFTY FRIEND (93, Crafty Prospector), Walnford Stud	\$6,000	27/8	0/0	0/0	(Savethebestforlass, \$39,600)	\$164,347	314	9	1.03	1.22
3	UNBRIDLED JET (96, Unbridled), Sleeter Farm	\$4,000	23/7	0/0	0/0	(Scheing E Jet, \$18,000)	\$108,588	*210	7	1.16	1.26
4	PRIVATE INTERVIEW (92, Nureyev), Colonial Farms	\$2,500	17/6	0/0	0/0	(Max Hazard, \$26,400)	\$99,664	192	4	1.16	1.32
5	UNLIMITED SKY (89, Northrop)	Died, 2004	4/2	0/0	0/0	(Unwritten, \$43,200)	\$53,249	9	0	1.21	1.06

*A-E and COMPARABLE INDEX: The lifetime Average-Earnings Index indicates how much purse money the progeny of one sire has earned, on the average, in relation to the average earnings of all runners in the same years; average earnings of all runners in any year is represented by an index of 1.00. The Comparable Index indicates the average earnings of progeny produced from mares bred to one sire, when these same mares were bred to other sires. Only 32% of all sires have a lifetime AEI higher than their mares Comparable Index.

State sire lists updated daily online.
Go to <http://breeding.bloodhorse.com/sirelists.asp>

2009 Leading Sires in Maryland

For stallions that stand, will stand, or stood (deceased) in Maryland (exported stallions are excluded), and have runners in North America. Listed below are all available statistics for the Northern Hemisphere through April 1, 2009. As supplied to The Blood-Horse by The Jockey Club Information Systems Inc., earnings exclude monies from Japan and Hong Kong. *Foal counts include Southern Hemisphere. Cumulative stakes winners includes all countries. (A ♀ indicates a sire represented by his first crop to race).

Rank	Stallion (Foaling Year, Sire), Farm Standing	2009 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2009 Earnings	Cumulative			
								Foals	Stks Wnrs	*A-E Index	*Comp Index
1	NOT FOR LOVE (90, Mr. Prospector), Northview Stallion Station	\$25,000	109/32	2/2	0/2	(Not for Silver, \$69,010)	\$843,997	667	55	1.84	1.49
2	LION HEARTED (96, Storm Cat), Northview Stallion Station	\$3,500	104/35	0/0	0/0	(Silver Heart, \$40,200)	\$796,742	*372	9	1.29	1.34
3	OUTFLANKER (94, Danzig), Maryland Stallion Station at Bonita Farm	\$6,500	78/27	0/0	0/0	(Apple Special, \$55,020)	\$650,322	370	17	1.45	1.17
4	LOUIS QUATORZE (93, Sovereign Dancer), Murmur Farm	\$6,000	77/20	0/0	0/0	(Dancin Banker, \$37,200)	\$377,379	*805	17	1.21	1.48
5	TWO PUNCH (83, Mr. Prospector), Northview Stallion Station	N/A	57/18	0/0	0/0	(Twopunchestogo, \$40,560)	\$360,519	*939	52	1.50	1.46
6	ALLEN'S PROSPECT (82, Mr. Prospector)	Died, 2003	38/12	0/0	0/0	(All Giving, \$42,800)	\$231,428	1049	69	1.30	1.34
7	GO FOR GIN (91, Cormorant), Bonita Farm	\$4,000	36/7	0/0	0/0	(Bootleg Annie, \$66,288)	\$199,244	*332	13	1.42	1.51
8	ROCK SLIDE (98, A.P. Indy), Maryland Stallion Station at Shamrock Farms	\$4,000	30/8	1/1	0/1	(Rock On Justin, \$49,480)	\$178,364	101	2	0.96	1.36
9	EASTERN ECHO (88, Damascus)	Died, 2004	22/5	1/1	1/1	(Sound the Charge, \$35,930)	\$168,690	*523	27	1.21	1.43
10	CROWD PLEASER (95, A.P. Indy)	Died, 2006	12/6	0/0	0/0	(Tease, \$58,300)	\$164,998	136	4	1.08	1.25
11	MOJAVE MOON (96, Mr. Prospector), Bonita Farm	\$2,500	37/8	0/0	0/0	(Sumacha'hot, \$34,280)	\$154,081	177	0	0.77	1.31
12	DOMESTIC DISPUTE (00, Unbridled's Song), Northview Stallion Station	\$3,500	28/6	0/0	0/0	(Domesticlista, \$19,320)	\$153,663	*124	0	0.56	1.31
13	CRYPTO STAR (94, Cryptoclearance), Murmur Farm	\$2,500	25/4	0/0	0/0	(Jose Adan, \$51,000)	\$130,472	162	2	0.96	1.08
14	SEEKING DAYLIGHT (98, Seeking the Gold), Maryland Stallion Station at Shamrock Farms	Died, 2009	17/8	0/0	0/0	(Light Fever, \$26,600)	\$120,861	*133	1	1.09	1.36
15	NO ARMISTICE (97, Unbridled), Country Life Farm	\$3,000	21/5	0/0	0/0	(No Siree, \$22,098)	\$90,436	80	1	0.75	1.05

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2009 Maryland Sires By Winners

Sire	Rnrs	Wnrs
Lion Hearted	104	35
Not For Love	109	32
Outflanker	78	27
Louis Quatorze	77	20
Two Punch	57	18
Allen's Prospect	38	12
Mojave Moon	37	8
Rock Slide	30	8
Seeking Daylight	17	8
Go for Gin	36	7
Domestic Dispute	28	6
Crowd Pleaser	12	6
Polish Numbers	11	6
Eastern Echo	22	5
No Armistice	21	5
Crypto Star	25	4
Citidancer	12	4
Yarrow Brae	25	3
Great Notion	11	3

Administered by the NYTB, the breeding and development fund distributes more than \$14 million in breeder and owner awards annually.

In 2008 there were 45 stakes won by 35 New York-breds, with 13 graded stakes winners accounting for victories in 16 such stakes. According to NYTB statistics, there were 56 top-three finishes by New York-breds in graded stakes as 76 horses bred in the state finished second or third 129 times in black-type races in 2008.

Cannizzo said those numbers reflect the best year ever for New York-breds, a success rate that will be hard to duplicate in coming years unless action is taken to limit the damage from the economic downturn.

"Breeders are hurting now more than

ever; it is a very difficult time right now," Cannizzo said, adding that the entire industry is being redefined by the shakeout that is taking place. "The redefining that is occurring in the shorter term will make our industry stronger in the long term, and with a better base."

He sees educating the general public and exposing them to the positives offered by horse racing as a key to expanding the sport's fan base.

"What we need to do is educate the consumers on our industry—its roots and the people whose daily lives make up this sport. We need to get people attracted and connected to what we do. Exposure is the key. I think exposure is probably the most important thing our organization or any other organization can do within the industry. People need to be exposed to all components of our industry—breeding, racing, and auctions."

Noting some parallels between the current economic downturn and a similar situation in the mid-1980s, Cannizzo said one major difference is that there are

fewer owners involved in Thoroughbred racing today.

"We don't have that same ownership base today," he said. "It is the law of supply and demand. If you have owners, then breeders have a market to sell to. Seeking new owners is a challenge and is vital to the industry. As an industry, we need to empower those people more because they are a key driver to our future. We need to be doing more for people that buy Thoroughbreds and own them to race. They are also key drivers to attracting new ownership and new fans at the track."

Regardless of the challenges facing the horse breeding and racing industries, Cannizzo said finding solutions will require a collective effort.

"Collectively, we need to listen, analyze, and begin to take action," Cannizzo said of how the horse industry needs to respond to the challenges it faces. "We have been listening and we have analyzed, but the next step is to take action. If we don't take action or address the changes we need to make, we won't survive." 🐾

2008 Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horseman's Association Award Winners*

Leading Trainer – Scott A. Lake

Leading Owner – Plumstead Stables

Winningest Horse – Bank'n On Gold (by Banker's Gold)

2YO Colt or Gelding – St. John's Gospel (by Activist) - Owner: Lerr R. Christian

2YO Filly – Just Jenda (by Menifee) – Owner: Cindy Jones

3YO Colt or Gelding – Monsoor (by Mt. Livermore) – Owner: Mandi Racing Stable

3YO Filly – Dulce Realidad (by Sweetsouthern saint) – Owner Stud El Aguila

HORSE OF THE YEAR – DULCE REALIDAD

*For a complete list of 2008 PTHA Award Winners: http://www.patha.org/pennsylvania_thoroughbred_horseman.htm