

RTIP NEWS

CONTACT: Doug Reed
520 621-5660
dreed@ag.arizona.edu

March 9, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CHRB Equine Medical Director Discusses Drug Testing & Veterinary Protocol with Students

Dr. Rick Arthur DVM, Equine Medical Director of Veterinary Medicine at UC Davis and the California Horse Racing Board (CHRB) held a lecture entitled "Racing Law: Medication, Drug Testing & Vet Services" in the *Advanced Racing Law* class.

Dr. Arthur gave students a behind-the-scenes job description of veterinary positions found in the racing industry as well as the process of race day drug testing. Arthur also stressed the importance of veterinary documentation, explaining how most career-ending injuries in racehorses are attributed to pre-existing stressors.

After being prompted by a student, Arthur also addressed the controversial participation of Life at Ten in the November 5, 2010 Breeder's Cup Ladies Classic. "That wouldn't have happened in California," said Arthur. "I am confident in that."

The reason for this is due to the working relationship that California racing stewards and veterinarians have with one another; a relationship that Arthur describes as "very good".

"The issue is encouraging jocks to talk to vets. That means mutual confidence in each other." When this positive working relationship is established it enables the industry to work towards a common goal of ensuring the safety of the horses and the integrity of the sport.

The University of Arizona's Race Track Industry Program offers both a Bachelors and Masters degree program with an emphasis on the pari-mutuel racing industry and hosts the annual Symposium on Racing & Gaming held every December in Tucson, Arizona.

For more information, visit the RTIP Web site at www.ua-rtip.org

