

## 36th ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM ON RACING & GAMING TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2009

## Welcome

**Dr. Ronald E. Allen,** Head, Department of Animal Sciences, University of Arizona **Douglas Reed,** Director, Race Track Industry Program, University of Arizona

Mr. Doug Reed: ... but Dr. Allen also has a great deal of experience with thoroughbred horses and breeds and raises his own thoroughbred racing prospects. His racing interests and experience also make him a great instructor for the RTIP program and a great department head in the Animal Science Department, home of the Race Track Industry Program. So please welcome Dr. Ron Allen.

## [Applause]

**Dr. Ron Allen**: I didn't expect an introduction dealing with my science. I try to keep those parts of my life separate, because people on the science side certainly don't understand the racing thing, and many of you on the racing side would probably fall asleep if I started talking about science.

But on behalf of the university, the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, and the Department of Animal Sciences, we welcome you to our 36<sup>th</sup> symposium, and we're very proud of the program that's been developed here. We're particularly proud of the Race Track Industry Program's long record, 36 years of industry service, and providing well-educated graduates to the racing industry. In fact, that's the only reason we exist. From the beginning, it was to provide well-educated graduates to serve this industry and also to provide direct industry service.

The symposium itself is very central to the whole Race Track Industry Program. First of all, after 36 years, it's been able to provide a forum for the industry to come together as a group to air out critical issues, to a place where new ideas have been presented, and we think part of the key to the success of that is that we are neutral turf. The only agenda of the Race Track Industry Program is to serve you as an industry.

The symposium is very central to the total mission of the Race Track Industry Program and a very — another very important and practical way in that it's the primary revenue stream for the Race Track Industry Program. The university provides only about 25 to 30 percent of the total Race Track Industry Program budget. The rest is generated by this event as well as other gifts and contributions from friends.

Many of you know there's a lot of serious belt-tightening going on around the country and state universities and, therefore, we at the university, and particularly in our department, want to say thank you to this industry for your sponsorship, for your attendance, for your contributions. It keeps this program healthy. It keeps us — makes us able to provide the kind of quality students that have fed this and fueled this industry for 30-something years now, and it allows us to again serve the industry and present this program to you today.

Again thank you for being here. My apologies again to the golfers, as Doug said, that you have to sit in this meeting. You're not out on the links today, but I think Doug and Wendy, Steve, have put together an excellent program this year. We're glad to have you. Enjoy the rest of your week. Thank you.

[Applause]

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