

Race Track Industry Program

34th ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM ON RACING & GAMING TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2007

Welcome

Dr. Colin Kaltenbach, Dean, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, University of Arizona

Douglas Reed, Director, Race Track Industry Program, University of Arizona

MR. DOUG REED: It's going to be in the high seventies and sunny. To start things off, first I would like to welcome you to the 34th annual Symposium on Racing and Gaming. I would like to thank some of our sponsors. Last night we got kicked off with a great opening reception by Scientific Games, we appreciate that. This morning we were fed well by equineline.com at the breakfast. And when we take a little break after this session Canterbury Park is the sponsor of our refreshment break. And our panel today is sponsored today by Delaware North Companies Gaming and Entertainment.

To welcome you and start things off, I am pleased to introduce the Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Dr. Colin Kaltenbach. He's been with the U of A since 1989. He has twenty five years as an administrator. He is the director of the Arizona Agriculture Research Station at the U of A and he plays a major role in the integration of research extension and academic programs. So please help me welcome the Dean.

(Applause)

DR. COLIN KALTENBACH: Thank you, Doug, and good morning. It's always a pleasure to welcome people to Tucson, particularly this time of year. Doug already gave you the weather forecast and I know you're well aware of it. If you haven't taken a look at the mountain out here to the north, please take a moment to do that; pretty spectacular view.

You know, there are few constants in life, but this symposium appears to one of them. As Doug said, this is the 34th one. It's always the first week in December. I know that we have a few folks in the room who have been to all 34 of them. We probably also have some newcomers. Whether you are an old-timer or a newcomer, we welcome you to the Symposium.

I want to thank everyone in this room. I want to thank you because without your attendance, without your sponsorships, without your exhibits, without your donations, this Program would not exist. Unfortunately, we don't have enough state money to fund the Program in the manner which we ought to be able to, so we depend on you and your colleagues to help us in that regard, and we are very, very appreciative of that. Right now we are mostly in need of scholarships for students. We have to compete for students with all the other curricula and all the other institutions. Having a good scholarship program helps us very much there, so if you get an opportunity to help us in that regard we would very much appreciate that.

Lastly, I want to thank Doug and his staff and all the students in the Program for their effort to put this symposium together. These things don't just happen, they require tremendous effort and we have a great staff and a great bunch of students and they put together a very strong program which I know that you will not only enjoy but find to be very informative and educational.

So with that, I will turn it back to Doug and just once again say welcome to Tucson and welcome to the Symposium. Thank you.

(Applause)

MR. REED: Thank you, Dean, and I appreciate you mentioning scholarships. On that note, I want to thank many of you in this room because this year, when we talked with our advisory counsel they had made the great suggestion of putting a little check-off, if you will, on your registration, and many of you helped us out with that by making a contribution directly to scholarships. With the rising cost of tuition — I've got one in college now and another one going next year — I know that those things help a lot.

Also, with the nature of our program, most of our students are from out of state because they come from places that racing is popular, no surprise, so a lot of them have the burden of out-of-state tuition, so we do appreciate that help.

One other note, while I'm talking about scholarships, Eugene Joyce will be down here tomorrow, he has talked to me and he would like to start to establish an endowment in the name of his father, Joe Joyce, who many of you knew. Joe was a good friend of mine. I met him when I first worked at Arlington Park, it was nice when I came here, he was on the advisory counsel. I think he was one of the first members of the advisory counsel and had been very active in this program, so I think I would love to see that get established and have a scholarship in his name.

So if you're interested in helping us with that, either see Eugene or myself and we can give you more details.

Also, some of the racing secretaries have been talking to me about doing something similar in the name of Bobby Umphrey, another very, very good friend of mine who I worked with, seems like every racetrack across America, I kind of followed him, and, again, I can't think of another better person to name a scholarship after.

One last thing; the Dean thanked the students and staff and I would like to do the same. Without them, without Wendy, Steve, Betty, Denise, all the student help, really, this wouldn't go on at all and it is, I would like to remind you, a very important function, we hope not only to you, the industry, but we know it's important to the students. And so, take some time and spend some time with them while you're here. They really learn a lot, it's a great opportunity for them. I think it's a unique thing for the students, I don't know too many college programs that bring all the people who come here like yourselves every year to town, it's a great opportunity for our students and they appreciate the student function.

Also, probably I need to thank the advisory council, they're behind the scenes. We always meet with them here, but we always lean on them throughout the year and they are a great help to us in trying to keep everything, the curriculum current, help us when we need help and advice.

Last housekeeping note is please wear your badges. As the Dean said, the funds from this Symposium are really what helps fund our operation, and pays some of the salaries, pays for our copy machine, our computers, and etcetera, etcetera.

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