

BY RYAN CONLEY

ROYAL EMPIRE OVER THE \$1-MILLION MARK

Runners by Alabama-based stallion Royal Empire pushed the sire's lifetime progeny earnings over the \$1-million mark this year, which may be a first for the state's breeding program.

Through Oct. 25, progeny earnings for the 12-year-old unraced son of champion Forty Niner totaled \$1,061,565, with \$315,468 of that coming this year alone. Royal Empire, bred in Kentucky by Kenelot Stables out of the Caerleon mare Kostroma, has stood his entire career at Bobby Pruitt's Flying P Ranch near Hope Hull, Ala.

Pruitt, 69, acquired Royal Empire as an unraced stallion prospect, and breeds the stud primarily to his own mares. Three Pruitt-bred runners have earned more than \$50,000 this year alone, led by the 6-year-old homebred Comalagold, who has earned \$53,360 in 11 starts. Fancy Empire, a stakes winner owned by Matthew Kintz, follows at \$52,152, while Big Fred, another stakes winner owned by Fred Hyatt, has earned \$51,735.

"He's been getting these real nice mares—those that cost \$700 or \$800," said a chuckling Pruitt of Royal Empire. "In all honesty, what he's done is pretty good considering there just aren't any mares to speak of in Alabama."

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BOBBY PRUITT

Royal Empire stood for a fee of \$1,000 from 1998-2004, and \$1,500 since. Pruitt founded the 80-acre Flying P Ranch in 1989 after serving 38 years on the Montgomery police force, and another 15 years as a state employee of Alabama.

DIZNEY RE-ELECTED

Donald Dizney was re-elected president of the Florida Thoroughbred Breeders' and Owners' Association Oct. 7 during the organization's annual membership meeting at Golden Hills Golf & Turf Club near Ocala, Fla.

Dizney, a hospital industry executive who owns Double Diamond Farm near Ocala, has served as the reigning FTBOA president since replacing Harold Plumley, who resigned his post due to health reasons in February 2004.

Dizney, the chairman of Orlando-based United Medical Corporation, also served as FTBOA president in 1986-89 and 1999-2000.

Others on the FTBOA executive board for 2007 include: Richard Hancock, executive vice president; Gilbert Campbell, first vice president; Dean De Renzo, second vice president; Mark Roberts, secretary; and Sheila DiMare, treasurer. DiMare replaces Norman Casse, who recently announced his retirement as chairman of Ocala Breeders' Sales Co.

Separately, Eddie Martin, Michael Mulligan, and Jessica Steinbrenner were elected and Charlotte Weber re-elected to the

FTBOA board of directors. They join Fred Brei, Diane Dudley, George Isaacs, Barry Eisaman, J. Michael O'Farrell, and Nadia Sanan Briggs on the board.

CASSE STEPS DOWN AT OBS

Norman Casse has stepped down as chairman of Ocala Breeders' Sales Co. after 27 years, and was replaced by J. Michael O'Farrell, president of Ocala Stud, during an Oct. 6 shareholders meeting. Casse remains on the board of directors.

O'Farrell is the son of the late Florida industry pioneer, Joe O'Farrell, who helped found Ocala Stud in 1956. Other officers elected include Francis Vanlangendonck, vice president, and Steve Silver, secretary/treasurer. Dr. Barry Eisaman was elected as a new member to the board of directors, replacing J.B. McKathan.



Donald Dizney

SKIPTOTHEGOODPART ON RECORD ROLL

South Carolina-bred Skiptothegoodpart set his third record of the year when he won a five-furlong starter allowance at Turfway Park Sept. 29. The 5-year-old gelded son of Skip Away—Cally, by Salt Lake, toured the Polytrack oval in :57.23, bettering the previous standard of :58.81 (Turfway's dirt track records were all archived in April 2005 with the close of the winter/spring meet).

Earlier, Skiptothegoodpart, who was bred by Camden Stud and Skip Away, set five-furlong turf standards at Indiana Downs May 9 (:56.54) and River Downs (:56:00) June 18. The gelding added his fourth victory of the year Oct. 20 at Keeneland when he covered six furlongs of the new Polytrack oval in 1:09.55.

Skiptothegoodpart is owned by Four Board Stable and trained by William Denzik Jr.

Florida First-Crop Sires By Earnings						
Sire	Named Foals	Rnrs	Wnrs	Stks Wnrs	Earnings	
Three Wonders	68	34	12	1	\$581,209	
Graeme Hall	66	21	13	1	\$429,152	
Snow Ridge	60	24	11	1	\$355,817	
French Envoy	45	22	10	1	\$273,045	
Red Bullet	54	13	4	1	\$197,019	
Gibson County	13	6	5	1	\$164,362	
Outofthebox	66	25	5	0	\$162,818	
Max's Pal	46	12	4	1	\$122,441	
Unbridled Time	50	24	2	1	\$116,981	
Parents' Reward	10	7	2	1	\$105,343	
Mongoose	29	10	2	0	\$96,287	
Fappie's Notebook	19	10	4	0	\$79,648	

Florida Second-Crop Sires By Earnings						
Sire	Named Foals	Rnrs	Wnrs	Stks Wnrs	Earnings	
Trippi	137	77	46	4	\$2,280,638	
Exchange Rate	79	52	30	3	\$1,591,525	
Delaware Township	83	45	28	2	\$1,200,096	
Put It Back	75	40	24	2	\$1,025,701	
Snuck In	109	59	25	1	\$766,690	
Flame Thrower	63	28	16	0	\$576,392	
Cloud Hopping	65	30	17	0	\$409,492	
B L's Appeal	43	26	15	0	\$390,925	
Weekend Cruise	57	25	12	0	\$254,537	
Lexicon	49	21	8	0	\$191,821	
Austinpower (Jpn)	18	8	5	0	\$187,683	
Dance the Ballado	14	7	5	0	\$170,545	