## TEAM VALOR HEADLINE NEWS January 21, 2012

## HOME-BRED HOWE GREAT GIVES TEAM VALOR'S BARRY IRWIN MILESTONE GULFSTREAM SCORE IS STAKES VICTORY 250 FOR AN IRWIN PARTNERSHIP KITTEN'S JOY STAKES IS SECOND TEAM VALOR STAKES TRIUMPH OF DAY



When home-bred Howe Great crossed under the wire 2 ½ lengths clear of stablemate Lucky Chappy giving Team Valor International a 1-2 finish in Gulfstream Park's \$100,000 Kitten's Joy Stakes, he provided his breeder Barry Irwin with his 250<sup>th</sup> victory in a stakes with a horse he had syndicated since 1987.

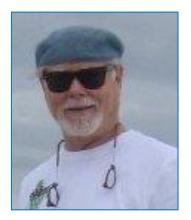
Interestingly, the Florida score was the stable's second of the day, as earlier in South Africa at the Kenilworth race course, Team Valor International won a Listed stakes with National Yearling Sale bargain Comtesse Dubois in the black-type Laisserfaire Stakes.

Comtesse Dubois and Howe Great became Irwin's 122<sup>nd</sup> and 123<sup>rd</sup> stakes winners today and once again boosted the stable to the top of the standings in stakes scores among public partnership stables. Team Valor is the first public syndicate to win 2 stakes so far this season.



Team Valor International has dominated the log over the last few racing seasons, in two of the last three seasons winning at least twice as many stakes races at the runner-up, and the other season winning 19 stakes to the runner-up's 10 stakes tallies.

Owned by Barry Irwin, Team Valor International reached a high-water mark last season when its home-bred Animal Kingdom won the Kentucky Derby and an Eclipse Award as the Champion Colt at 3 in North America.



A year earlier, from the same crop of foals that produced Animal Kingdom, Team Valor won the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf with yet another homebred in Pluck.

Interestingly, all three of these stakes winners—Animal Kingdom, Pluck and Howe Great—were produced by mares imported for racing and eventual breeding by Barry Irwin. Furthermore, two of them were sired by horses bought by Irwin. It was the TVI CEO that bought Howe Great's sire Hat Trick in Japan before selling him to Walmac Farm of Kentucky. And it was Irwin who brokered the deal that landed Animal Kingdom's Brazlian-bred sire Leroidesanimaux for Stonewall Farm.

Team Valor International certainly is international in scope, as well as success on the race courses of the world.