

TEAM VALOR'S CEO BARRY IRWIN REPRESENTED BY 75TH GRADED WINNER STATE OF PLAY GETS KENTUCKY-BASED SYNDICATOR AN HISTORIC WIN UNRACED PRIVATE 2YO BUY WINS G2 WITH ANTICIPATION AT SARATOGA TEAM VALOR IS TIED WITH REPOLE STABLE FOR NORTH AMERICAN LEAD

When State of Play held off a determined charge from Optimizer to win Thursday's renewal of the \$150,000 With Anticipation Stakes at Saratoga, the colt became the 75th individual Graded stakes winner to represent a partnership formed by Barry Irwin, chief executive officer of Kentucky-based Team Valor International.

Since he began forming partnerships in 1987, Irwin has been sending out Graded stakes winners at a 17 percent clip and Graded stakes horses at twice that rate at 34 percent.

"We've been doing this for 25 years now," Irwin said "and the numbers have pretty much held up from the beginning. Reaching a milestone such as this is very gratifying and it shows that we are able to provide our racing partners with quality action year after year."



State of Play had no trouble repelling a challenge from Optimizer to triumph in the "Win and You're In" Breeders' Cup qualifier at Saratoga and now has a chance to duplicate the stable's 2010 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf victory fashioned by the home-bred winner Pluck.

Stakes of Play is Graded runner number 149 for a partnership formed by Irwin.

This season, Team Valor has won Graded events at home and abroad as follows:

- **ANIMAL KINGDOM**, a home-bred, won the Grade 1 Kentucky Derby.
- **SUMMER SOIREE**, a private purchase, won the Grade 1 Del Mar Oaks.
- **STATE OF PLAY**, an unraced private buy, won the Grade 2 With Anticipation at The Spa.
- **DAVERON**, a German yearling buy, won the Grade 2 Ballston Spa at Saratoga.
- **BRIGANTIN**, a home-bred, won the Group 2 Prix Vicomtesse Vigier at Longchamp.

With 5 Graded stakes winners, Team Valor has won 8 Graded stakes at home and abroad. Domestically, Team Valor is tied with the Repole Stable among all North Americans owners in number of Graded winners with 4 and number of Graded wins with 7. Team Valor finished up a sensational meeting at Saratoga with 5 wins in 11 starts and a pair of Grade 2 stakes victories.