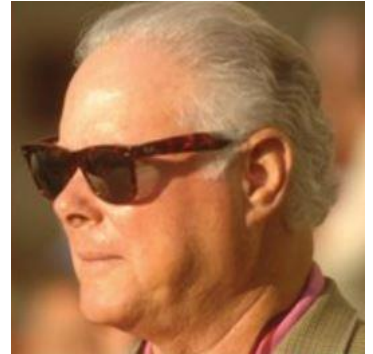


## **MILESTONE 300 STAKES WINS FOR RUNNERS SYNDICATED BY BARRY IRWIN BELVOIR BAY HITS UNPRECEDENTED MARK FOR A U.S.-BASED PARTNERSHIP NO OTHER PUBLIC PARTNERSHIP HAS COME CLOSE TO MATCHING OUTPUT**

When Belvoir Bay cruised to victory on Memorial Day, her Grade 2 triumph fashioned yet another new accomplishment for Barry Irwin's racing partnerships. Since 1987 Irwin's partnerships have developed 149 individual stakes winners that now have won 300 stakes races.

Although starting operations 18 after Dogwood Stable, 5 years after Centennial Farms racing stable and 4 years before West Point Thoroughbreds, Irwin has more than doubled the output of stakes winners and stakes wins of his traditional competitors.



With a month remaining in the initial half of the current season, Team Valor has already sent out 9 runners that have earned stakes brackets by winning or placing in a black-type event. In 2018, TVI has won 3 stakes races and placed in an additional 10 stakes races. The good news is that some of the stable's most promising runners are only just getting untracked, among them runners eyeing Grade 1 races in June and July at Belmont Park and Saratoga in Talk Veuve To Me (Grade 1 Acorn), Kingstar (Grade 1 Belmont Derby) and Capla Tempress (Grade 1 Belmont Oaks).

Developing stakes winners and winning stakes is nothing new for Barry Irwin, as in the past 31 racing seasons 1 in 4 of his runners has won a stakes race and 28 percent of his more than 1,000 wins have come in black-type races.

Among the runners, 20 of them worldwide have been accorded status either as Champions or Highweights at seasons end, among them Eclipse Award winning Colt at 3 Animal Kingdom, English Champion Mare Sweet Stream, Irish Champion Filly at 2 Torgau, South African Champion Fillies at 3 Ebony Flyer and Captain's Lover and Dubai Horse of the Year Ipi Tombe. Among the runners have been Breeders' Cup hero Prized in his first ever race on grass when he won the \$2-million Turf and homebred hero Pluck in the \$1 million Juvenile Turf for colts.



Pride of place among all of the runners surely must go to Animal Kingdom, a homebred developed into a winner of the Kentucky Derby and Dubai World Cup. This was a Team Valor partnership from the ground up, as Irwin has syndicated his sire Leroixdesanimaux and imported his dam Dalia from Germany. Unlike several partnerships one sees today, it was not a case of somebody buying or leasing a small percentage on the eve of the Derby and claiming an important accomplishment.

Irwin said "We owe a debt of gratitude to our loyal partners, for whose account all of these runners are campaigned, because without their loyal support and dedication, none of these accomplishments would have been possible. They have been mightily rewarded and deservedly so, because this is the toughest game played outdoors and it required fortitude, courage and long-term commitment."