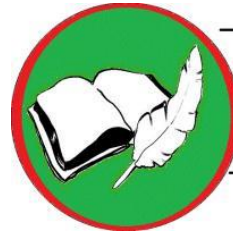


**STORY ON T.B. DOWNS VIOLATION NOMINATED FOR BERGSTEIN AWARD
PAULICK'S PIECE CAME DAYS BEFORE 7-MONTH PROBE ENDED WITH BAN
PUBLISHER OF *PAULICK REPORT* RECEIVES THIRD NOMINATION THIS YEAR**

Ray Paulick's persistent coverage of a drug violation at Tampa Bay Downs culminated in a story on September 18 that has been nominated for the Stan Bergstein Writing Award.

Less than a week after the story was published on the *Paulick Report* website [here](#), Florida's state racing body finally acted after a 7-month investigation, suspending Jane Cibelli for 60 days. Tampa Bay Downs responded with an announcement that Cibelli, one of the track's perennial leading trainers, would not be granted stalls or allowed to enter horses in the 2013-'14 meet.



**The Stanley
Bergstein Award**

"Ray has been on this story for months, and it is clear that his coverage generated results," said Team Valor CEO Barry Irwin, who launched the \$25,000 writing prize last year. "This kind of reporting embodies the true spirit of the award and what we hope to encourage and recognize."

The nomination is the third for Paulick this year. The previous two stemmed from his coverage of a rash of sudden equine deaths within one stable in Southern California. Paulick also was a finalist for the inaugural award last year, which went to the *New York Times* for a piece on the role of veterinarians in the widespread use of drugs in horse racing.

The Stan Bergstein Writing Award carries a \$25,000 prize and will be presented at the University of Arizona Race Track Industry Program's Global Symposium on Racing and Gaming on December 10. The 4 judges are Ray Kerrison of the *New York Post*, Bill Plaschke of the *Los Angeles Times*, former *Sports Illustrated* senior writer Billy Reed and Jeff Siegel of HRTV.

Team Valor also has nominated stories from a *Thoroughbred Daily News* series on drugs in racing and a piece from the *Blood-Horse* on a series of investigative errors following the questionable death of a horse prior to a race at Mountaineer Racetrack.

Stories may be submitted for consideration to Jeff Lowe at jeff@teamvalor.com by November 1.