



JOEL ROSARIO

Born: Jan. 14, 1985 in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

Residence: Duarte, Calif.

Height: 5'2"

Weight: 109 pounds

Family: Single

Major Victories: Breeders' Cup – Dancing in Silks in 2009 Sprint



Had a break-out year in 2008 in Southern California after relocating from Northern California ... Had career-high earnings of \$7,936,465 in 2008; posted 192 victories and was fifth in earnings among Southern California riders, and 21st nationally ... One-upped himself in 2009 by winning both the Hollywood Park spring/summer and Del Mar jockey titles and scoring his first Breeders' Cup victory ... The Hollywood Park triumph ended a streak of six straight riding titles in Southern California for Rafael Bejarano ... Finished fifth nationally in purse earnings with \$13,073,777; scored 284 victories ... Among top horses ridden in 2009: Graded stakes winners Dancing in Silks, Magnum, Belmont Cat, Well Monied, Evita Argentina, Rendezvous, Mr. Gruff, Noble Court, Obrigado, Oil Man and Necessary Evil ... Has been riding in the U.S. only since 2006 ... Scored first graded stakes and richest win at the time aboard Zappa in the Grade II, \$150,000 San Pasqual Handicap at Santa Anita Jan. 12, 2008, an early birthday celebration for the native of Dominican Republic ... Rode five winners for trainer Jerry Hollendorfer at Bay Meadows on April 14, 2007 ... Finished second to perennial Northern California leading jockey Russell Baze at Golden Gate Fields in 2007 and was runner-up again to Baze at the Bay Meadows meeting ... Before coming to the U.S., won the Angel Cordero Jr. Jockey Challenge at El Commandante in Puerto Rico in 2005 ... Family had horses and donkeys on their ranch outside Santo Domingo ... Rosario has noted that the family did not have a car, so the horses were used for transportation ... He was introduced to the races by an older brother, who enjoyed gambling, the rider says ... He was the smallest in the family so he gravitated to being a rider at age 13 ... Completed his country's jockey school in six months and was licensed to begin riding at 14 ... Was leading rider four times and second once before fellow Dominican Herbert Soto, a bloodstock agent and former trainer, arranged for him to go to California to ride ... He rode at Fairplex Park before heading north to establish himself as a solid rider ... Has shown that he is a strong finisher and has been among the leading riders at all the race meets since he headed south for 2007

Del Mar meet ... Trainer John Sadler has been one of his major supporters during his time in Southern California and considers him one of the strongest finishers on the circuit, even reminiscent of a young Laffit Pincay Jr. ... First name is pronounced: Jo-ell.