1999-2000 Annual Report to the Membership



making strides

1999-2000 Annual Report to the Membership

ContentsCommissioner's Message2Year in Review4Financial Highlights6Board of Directors8Advertising and Marketing10Consumer Promotions12Television14Sponsorship16Industry Programs18Organizational Structure20A Final Word:Your Organization22Consolidated FinancialStatements23

"The NTRA and the Thoroughbred racing industry have reasons to be encouraged at the beginning of the new millennium."

commissioner's message

he NTRA and the Thoroughbred racing industry have reasons to be encouraged at the beginning of the new millennium. We reversed downward trends in consumer awareness, made significant progress in national marketing, became more active in the important legislative arena and stand poised to benefit from unprecedented investment in our industry from outside sources.

Consumer research and bottom-line operating results combined to tell us that over a multi-year period, our game had gradually lost visibility to most of the public. But by working together, the industry has been able to stop the negative

trend and

ground in the area of public awareness.

Using industry funding, we have been able to double the number of broadcast hours for racing and also substantially increase and improve cable TV coverage. Thanks to racetracks supplementing their membership dues with additional media dollars, we now have a co-op advertising campaign of approximately \$30 million per year, which also builds public interest and promotes a unified brand for our sport, directly and indirectly benefiting NTRA members.

We've learned a lot more about our current and prospective customers. We've conducted more than 46,000 individual

research surveys and dozens of focus groups.

We now know, for example, that 3 million "core" fans produce most of our handle, but that there are some 31 million "light" and "lapsed" fans, prime targets for our marketing efforts.

We've created a program for customer service training for racetrack and OTB employees. Nearly 10,000 employees have gone through the program to date.



Millions have been exposed to horseracing through inserts in *Sports Illustrated* and *USA TODAY*. This year, the "NTRA Experience"—a mobile, interactive attraction—will generate an estimated 30 million consumer impressions in major racing markets across the country, bringing the track experience to potential fans in a nontraditional approach.

We have more than doubled the American Horse Council's lobbying and legislative budgets in Washington while working vigorously on the Kyl/Goodlatte bill and other initiatives that will ensure racing's ability to prosper in the coming years.

In other areas, a task force on Racing Integrity and Drug Testing has been separately funded and launched, with "super tests" at participating tracks already underway. So, after a little more than two years for the NTRA, there is progress and reason for optimism—but, the truth is, additional priorities must be set and much more work must be done if the industry is going to realize the substantive business growth that is possible.

The good news is that, thanks to the commitment and support of many diverse elements of our industry, the building blocks are in place.

We must continue the TV and advertising programs, since they obviously are working, and, as we are doing this year, add nationally coordinated consumer promotions and direct marketing to the overall marketing and advertising mix.

We must as an industry do a much better job using technology and the Internet to convert consumer interest into new customers and new revenue. We must be much better financed and more active in Washington, D.C. and at the state level in order to protect our current interstate wagering system from serious legislative harm. Much of our progress could be stymied if we are not focused and proactive on these issues.

We must be a catalyst for encouraging the kind of capital investment necessary to upgrade the industry's overall technology infrastructure and to fund a first-class, Internet-based direct marketing program.

We must be open and responsive to the input of our members and more aggressive in our efforts to communicate with you. We must create consensus on programs and policies that will provide the greatest economic benefit to all the stakeholders in the NTRA. For horseracing's future to be very bright—bigger purses, more profitable facilities, stronger sales and better breeding economics—we must do all these things and we need your continued support to make them happen.

Note: We are indebted to retiring directors Doug Donn and R.D. Hubbard for their service to the NTRA during their terms and for their service to the industry over their distinguished careers. Their leadership, dedication and wisdom were much appreciated and will be missed.

Sincerely,

Fin Smith

Tim Smith Commissioner &CEO



1999the year in review

acing's leading economic indicators—wagering, purses and Thoroughbred sales—showed strong increases in 1999. The trend toward industry consolidation and increased investment from outside racing continued. On track, records were set and champions honored.



Pari-mutuel Handle

North American wagering billion—up \$60.3 million or 4.4% over the previous record of \$13.805 billion increased annually for the

Wagering on the 10-race program from the Breeders' Cup Championship at Gulfstream Park set a single-day record of \$100,336,230 and represented a 10% increase from the previous high of \$91,338,477, reached in 1998 Wagering on the eight Breeders' Cup Championship races rose 16% to a record \$96,485,255.

Purses

North American purses surpassed the \$1 billion mark for the first time in 1999.

In the U.S., purses reached a record \$962.9 million—up 6.5% over 1998's mark, \$904 million—and have increased annually to record highs for six consecutive years.

Wagering on the 10-race program from the Breeders' Cup Championship at Gulfstream Park set a single-day record of \$100,336,230

In 1999, a record 19 North American races carried a minimum \$1 million purse. In 2000, the Santa Anita Derby joined the list of \$1 million+ races in 2000 and the Arlington Million became a \$2 million race.

Thoroughbred Sales

A record 85 horses brought bids of \$1 million or more at auction. Gross sales increased for the seventh straight year, totaling nearly \$1 billion for weanlings, yearlings, two-year-olds and broodmares.

Gross sales of yearlings, the leading indicator for the bloodstock market. increased 24.3% over 1998 to \$440,078,922 and accounted for more than 40% of all Thoroughbred sales.



Industry Investment

Churchill Downs Inc. acquired Hollywood Park and Calder Racecourse for a total of \$226 million in 1999. Churchill Downs now owns Calder, Ellis Park, Hollywood, Hoosier Park and Kentucky Downs racetracks, in addition to other racing-related holdings. In November, the Churchill Downs Board of Directors approved a 2000 Capital Plan of \$12.7 million for expenditures at the Company's racing operations.

MI Entertainment Corp., headed by industrialist Frank Stronach, acquired five racing properties in 1999, Santa Anita Park, Gulfstream Park, Remington Park, Thistledown and Golden Gate Fields, for more than \$273 million. Early in 2000, MI Entertainment added a sixth track, Great Lakes Downs, to its holdings.

A \$9.2 billion merger of Gemstar and TV Guide Inc., parent company of TVG, an interactive wagering company and an NTRA Marketing Partner, will put TVG in the vanguard of cable portal development and interactive TV programming guides aimed at mass consumer audiences. To date, TV Guide's investment in TVGand racing—is more than \$100 million.

Milestones

Jockey Laffit Pincay Jr. rode into the record books with his December 10 victory aboard Irish Nip at Hollywood Park. The race made Pincay the world's winningest jockey, with 8,834 wins, and propelled him past Bill Shoemaker, whose mark of 8,833 had stood since 1990.

Triple Crown winner Secretariat was named 35th on the list of the top 100 athletes of the 20th century, compiled by ESPN for its SportsCentury retrospective. The U.S. Postal Service unveiled a commemorative Secretariat stamp in October.

Robert and Beverly Lewis' Charismatic won the first two legs of the Triple Crown before injuring himself in a valiant effort in the Belmont Stakes, earning Eclipse Awards as Horse of the Year and Champion Three-Year-Old Colt in the process. Jockey Chris Antley's touching reaction to Charismatic's injury was one of our sport's most poignant moments of 1999. Recovered from his injuries, Charismatic now stands at Lane's

End Farm.

financial **highlights**

riorities in 2000 include additional development of core marketing and television programs, continued growth of co-op advertising program, initiation of national consumer promotions and reduction of accumulated operating deficit.

The figures represent budgeted projections for the calendar year 2000 and actual results for the ninemonth period from April 1, 1999-December 31, 1999. The NTRA adopted calendar year reporting in 2000 for National Thoroughbred Racing Association Inc., which does not include NTRA Investments, LLC.

Consolidated Financial Statements for National Thoroughbred Racing Association, Inc. and Subsidiaries, which contain information on NTRA Investments, are attached as an appendix of this report (page 23).

Revenues	2000	April-Dec. 1999
Membership Dues	\$ 8,477,500	\$ 5,290,499
Handle-Based Fees	14,413,550	10,393,249
Program Revenues	7,792,050	3,012,560
Interest Income	20,000	21,836
Total Revenues	30,703,100	18,718,144
Expenses	2000	April-Dec. 1999
Advertising and Marketing	12,599,500	8,353,782
Program Expenses	9,881,366	6,583,747
General and Administrative	5,196,273	5,376,184
Depreciation and Amortization	260,000	46,525
Interest Expense	550,000	186,884
Total Expenses	28,487,139	20,547,122
Net Income (Loss)	2,215,961	(1,828,978)

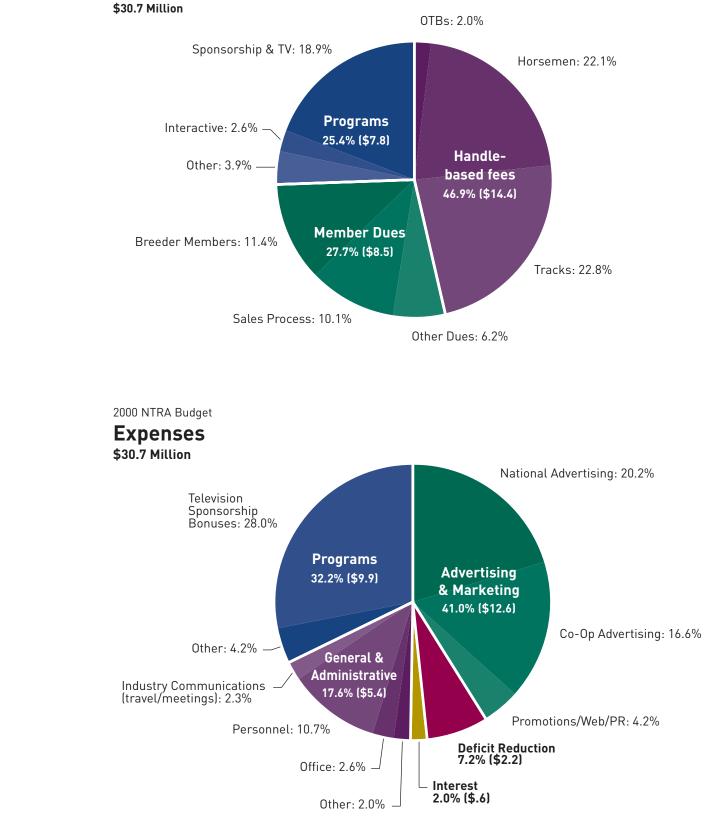
National & Co-Op Advertising Spending





In addition to dues contributions, member tracks and OTBs add to the effective size of the NTRA's advertising campaign through the co-op program.

2000 NTRA Budget Revenues



1999/2000 directors

he NTRA is governed by a Board of Directors composed of the NTRA Commissioner & CEO, five racetrack representatives and five horsemen's representatives who serve staggered, three-year terms.

Racetrack Representatives

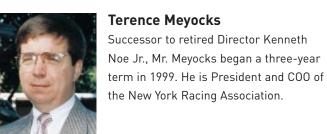


Bill Bork The President and COO of Penn National Gaming, Inc., Mr. Bork began a three-year term in 1998.



Bryan G. Krantz Successor to retiring Director Douglas Donn, Mr. Krantz began a three-year term in 2000. He is President and General Manager of Fair Grounds.







Lonny T. Powell

The President and CEO of Churchill

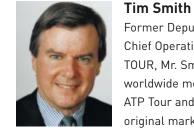
initial one-year term was complete.

of Hoosier Park, Mr. Meeker was re-elect-

ed to a three-year term in 1999 when his

Mr. Powell is MI Entertainment's Vice President of Racing Operations and President and CEO of Santa Anita Park. In 2000, he began a one-year term, the balance of the three-year term of retiring Director R.D. Hubbard.

NTRA Commissioner & CEO



Former Deputy Commissioner and Chief Operating Officer of the PGA TOUR, Mr. Smith also helped reorganize worldwide men's tennis to form the ATP Tour and was responsible for the original marketing plan of the 1996 Olympic Games. He was named NTRA Commissioner in April 1998.

NTRA Senior Management

Gregory C. Avioli **Deputy Commissioner** & COO

Reed Farley

Chip Tuttle Vice President,

Bryan Pettigrew

Senior Vice President, Industry Development & Technology

Keith Chamblin Vice President, Industry

Relations & Marketing

Communications

Special Assistant to the Commissioner

Jim Gallagher

Executive Director, Racing Integrity & Drug **Testing Task Force**



Horsemen's Representatives





The owner of Three Chimneys Farm, Mr. Clay began a two-year term in 1998 and was re-elected to a three-year term in 2000.





Chairman of the Board and CEO of the Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association, Mr. Foreman began a two-year term in 1998 and was re-elected to a three-year term in 2000.



Robert Lewis

Successor to retired Director Ed Friendly, Mr. Lewis is a leading Thoroughbred owner and the chairman of Thoroughbred Owners of California. He began a three-year term in 1999.

Ogden Mills Phipps

A well-known owner who has been the Chairman of The Jockey Club since 1983, Mr. Phipps began a three-year term in 1998.



Bill Walmsley

Past-President of the National Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association (HBPA) and current President of the Arkansas HBPA, Mr. Walmsley began a three-year term in 1998.

advertising & marketing

he NTRA's national ad campaign for 2000 uses popular music and the concept of turning the camera on the fan experience. By highlighting the emotional connection of the fan to the action on the track—through wagering—the commercials re-create the unique participatory experience of our game.





The NTRA Marketing Summit

The NTRA has, for the second year, held a two-day Marketing Summit for industry members. The Summit features educational workshops and "hands-on" programs that participants can implement in their local markets. The 2000 Summit attracted more than 200 attendees from 46 NTRA member tracks and other industry organizations.

Customer Service Training

Nearly 10,000 employees at 12 NTRA member tracks have participated in NTRA Customer Service Employee Training Program, which is specifically tailored for the racing and pari-mutuel industries

Licensing and Merchandise WhatsHotNow.com, a lead-

ing e-commerce service provider, has partnered with the NTRA to design, host and maintain the NTRA's official online store. Two-thirds of member tracks have signed on to participate in the merchandise consignment program with WHN.

NTRA Properties' list of licensed, co-branded products now includes images from leading Thoroughbreds, jockeys, breeding farms, owners, the Breeders' Cup, member racetracks and NTRA's own trademarks.

Advertising

Projected to reach \$30 million in 2000, the NTRA's co-op advertising program rewards participating members for spending additional media dollars on NTRAcreated and/or-branded advertising in their local markets. Nearly 100% of member racetracks participate in the program in some form, helping to promote a national, recognizable brand for Thoroughbred racing. In addition, in 1999 the NTRA developed and produced co-op advertising to promote the Breeders' Cup Championship day and the Ultra Pick-6.

New for 2000, NTRA Creative Services, a division of the NTRA's advertising department, develops branded, customized advertising for member tracks to use in their local markets.



The ads were developed by the NTRA's New York Citybased advertising agency of Merkley Newman Harty.

Research

An integral component of the NTRA's marketing efforts is consumer research. Commissioned by the NTRA, the ESPN Chilton Sports Poll has conducted 46,000 interviews since March of 1998 to establish national tracking of consumer attitudes toward racing. Through this research, the NTRA has been able to learn more about our customer base and identify audiences to target with various marketing strategies.













consumer **promotions**

or 2000, the NTRA has offered its members new "turnkey" promotions that can be implemented in local markets using NTRA-created materials and at a minimal cost to member racetracks. The promotions help drive attendance at major events and expand the NTRA's fan education programs.



A young fan tries the Final Furlong game, part of the NTRA **Racing Experience**, an interactive mobile marketing exhibit visiting markets across the U.S. in 2000.

12

The NTRA Racing

This 60-foot, interactive, mobile exhibit began crisscrossing the country in May 2000, bringing the track experience to the fans and potential fans. Sponsored by Breeders' Cup, TVG and the AQHA, the touring attraction features "howto" race calling, wagering simulation games, replica trophies from major races and other fan education and participation areas.

NTRA Fan Guides

Complimentary educational brochures commemorating major events and featuring information for novice racegoers will be distributed at participating member tracks throughout 2000. Circulation is expected to top 1.8 million

\$1 Million Mystery **Mutuel Voucher**

The NTRA-sponsored \$1 Million Mystery Mutuel Voucher, planned for August 2000, will be racing's first nationally coordinated directmail campaign. Fans will receive voucher coupons, redeemable at participating member tracks and OTB sites, one of which will be worth \$1 million.

The NTRA Breeders' Cup Challenge

This international online promotion starts in the weeks leading up to the 2000 Breeders' Cup Championship day. With prizes totaling in the multimillions, the promotion is geared to Internet usage leading up to the November 4 Championship event.



The Down the Stretch **Sweepstakes**

This customized promotion challenges fans to pick the winners of six designated races over a period of two days to win a potential \$1 million prize. Fifteen NTRA member tracks signed up for the promotion in the first quarter of 2000 alone.

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\$200,000 NTRA/ Daily Racing Form **National Handicapping** Championship

With 45,000 participants from 40 member tracks and OTBs, the inaugural event was an instant hit, honoring racing's "core" fans-the serious bettors. This year's winner also earned a trip to the Eclipse Awards



ceremony where he was recognized with a special award presented by DRF Editor and Publisher Steven Crist.

NTRA All-Star Jockey Championship at Lone Star Park

ESPN2, the Championship

Scheduled for June 23. 2000, this event raises money for the non-profit Jockeys' Guild and Disabled Jockeys Fund. Televised on



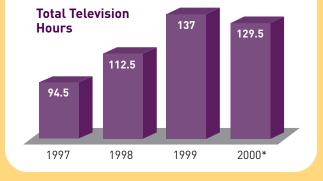


\$100,000.00

television

hrough the combined efforts of the NTRA, its members and its strategic ally, Breeders' Cup, Thoroughbred racing has made significant progress in expanding its network and cable television coverage.

From 1997 to 2000, total broadcast and cable hours of racing on television have increased by 37%.



*Prior to announcement of complete Fall 2000 schedules.

NTRA Champions on FOX

In 2000, the NTRA Champions on FOX entered its second season with an improved bonus structure (two opportunities to win at least \$1 million), additional races and a highlight show for Champions races televised on FOX Sports Net.

NTRA Racing to the Breeders' Cup

NTRA Racing to the Breeders' Cup 2000 will feature 16 hours of programming from at least seven different racetracks over a three-month period, on ESPN and ESPN2, including five new races from Saratoga, Arlington and Louisiana Downs.

NBC's Road to the Breeders' Cup

NBC's Road to the Breeders' Cup debuted in fall 1999 with four new one-hour shows, capped by a 90-minute Breeders' Cup Preview. The Road to the Breeders' Cup telecasts will appear on NBC again in 2000, topped by the 4 1/2-hour Breeders' Cup telecast on NBC, seen in more than 60 countries.

NTRA Productions In the summer of 1999,

NTRA purchased the

horseracing business of

Winner Communications

The NTRA now has the

industry's most compre-

hensive video archive of

Thoroughbred racing and

is positioned to structure

the content of horseracing

programming on multiple

networks. This acquisition

includes rights for annual

ESPN family of networks

for five years and allows

NTRA to include TV benefits in its national sponsorship

programming on the

packages.

to create NTRA Productions.







ABC SPORT















Thoroughbred Classics on ESPN Classic

In 1999, ESPN Classic aired 8 shows highlighting some of our sport's marquee events. That figure expands to 17 for 2000. The shows air at least four times on ESPN Classic prior to the contemporary running of the featured race.



sponsorship

he NTRA has obtained sponsorships and media support for Thoroughbred racing from prominent national companies, including National Car Rental, AT&T, RCA, John Deere and Korbel.









NTRA Productions Media Partners

Anheuser-Busch Las Vegas Convention & Visitor's Bureau Long John Silver's VISA Williams Communications



participation, corporate sponsors receive a combination of benefits including TV, radio, print and Internet media, recognition in NTRApaid advertising, title or presenting sponsorships of NTRA special events and promotions and on-site presence, including signage, program page inserts and "NTRA Moment" sponsorships.

NTRA Marketing Partners



National Car Rental.





EQUIBASE

NTRA Official Suppliers

Boise Cascade Office Products

Equibase Company

Hallway Feeds

IKON Office Solutions

International Game Technology

The Jockey Club Information Systems

John Deere

KBC International

Korbel Champagne Cellars

RCA

Thoroughbred Times Weinstein Jones & Associates













National Media Partners

Arm & Hammer Combe Inc. GetSmart.com

Nortel Networks

Sempra Energy



industry programs

n the last year, the NTRA has embarked on several important programs to enhance business conditions in the Thoroughbred industry, raise public awareness of the sport of racing and better serve its members.

Racing Integrity and Drug Testing Task Force

The NTRA Racing Integrity and Drug Testing Task Force seeks to ensure the integrity of our sport and public confidence through improving drug testing processes in part by evaluating current testing methodologies and standards. Having established protocols for "super



tests" to be performed at leading universities this summer, the Task Force in 2000 will promote "best practices" in equine drug testing, build a database of results and coordinate additional research. These efforts are funded via separate contributions.



Technology

IBM Global Services has studied the Thoroughbred industry since April 1999. and projects that racing has the potential for dramatic growth through an industrywide technology upgrade and additional attention to Internet marketing. IBM has expressed interest in financing these initiatives with investment that could exceed \$100 million. More complete recommendations based on IBM's research will be presented to NTRA members in the summer of 2000.

Legislative

After more than doubling

its lobbying and legislative budgets, the NTRA has worked closely with the American Horse Council on behalf of the Thoroughbred racing and pari-mutuel industries. In 1999 and the spring of 2000, the NTRA, AHC and many other industry representatives worked for passage of the Kyl/Goodlatte Bill (the Internet Gambling Prohibition Act). As passed in the Senate and the House Judiciary Committee (awaiting action by the full House in June of 2000), the bill would allow racing to extend current telephone-based account wagering to computer-based subscription services where legal under state law.



Continued work on the passage of this legislation by the House is a priority for this year along with state legislation enabling account wagering and ensuring the continuation of current simulcasting policies under the Interstate Horseracing Act.

In the summer of 2000, the NTRA will launch a Task Force on Regulation to increase awareness and assist member organizations with common regulatory issues.

Group Purchasing

NTRA members can access group purchasing benefits through EquiSource to save on widely used products and services. EquiSource has developed contracts with major suppliers including **Boise Cascade Office** Products, IKON Office Solutions, RCA and John Deere—with Deere tractor sales topping \$6 million in nine months. Since the program began, EquiSource has saved NTRA members over \$3 million.

Eclipse Awards

For a second year, the NTRA hosted the Eclipse Awards, racing's year-end honors for outstanding achievement by horses and their human connections. With Daily Racing Form and the National Turf Writers Association, the NTRA-with ESPN Sports Center's Kenny Mayne as host-presented a gala evening for the 1999 honorees at the Beverly Hilton in Beverly Hills, California. Award-winning composer Burt Bacharach bestowed a Special Eclipse Award on his friend Laffit Pincay Jr., the world's winningest jockey.

Responsible Wagering Initiative

After laying the groundwork for the initiative in 1999. NTRA launched the AWARE program in 2000, in conjunction with TVG. AWARE-Always Wager Responsiblywas created to assist TVG and NTRA member racing associations in addressing problem gambling among employees and patrons. AWARE training programs are underway and a special toll-free number will be established for individuals seeking confidential help

organizational structure

he NTRA is a tax-exempt membership organization including racetracks, owners, breeders, trainers, jockeys, pari-mutuel operators, sales companies, horsemen's groups, racing fans, veterinarians, individuals, and other industry-related groups.

NTRA Subsidiaries

NTRA Investments. LLC

Created for strategic acquisitions to benefit NTRA members, using funds borrowed from the NTRA Founding Members.

NTRA Productions, LLC

A subsidiary of NTRA Investments formed in July 1999 through the purchase of the horseracing business of Winnercomm (formerly Winner Communications), including the industry's most comprehensive video archives, programming contracts and production services

NTRA Services, LLC

A subsidiary of NTRA Investments. created to facilitate account wagering in cooperation with TVG, which currently offers account wagering and 24hour televised racing. By the end of 2000, TVG's distribution is expected to approach 10 million households. TVG is poised to benefit from the merger between its parent company, TV Guide, and Gemstar, which together have broad access to interactive cable and satellite portals and e-commerce services.

NTRA Properties, Inc. Formed to license and merchandise racing industrybranded images and logos, with licensing agreements from prominent jockeys, owners, farms and racing venues. Merchandise is distributed at racing venues and via the Internet at ntra.com and its e-commerce partner in this area, whatshotnow.com.

NTRA Charities, Inc.

Industry-related charities that affiliate with NTRA Charities, a nonprofit 501 (c) (3) organization, benefit from NTRA-produced public service announcements that run during NTRA television time and from an NTRA-branded VISA card.



Founding Members

The NTRA's Founding Members are Breeders' Cup Ltd., The Jockey Club, Keeneland Association, the National Thoroughbred Association (now part of the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association) and Oak Tree Racing Association, each of which contributed \$1 million to the NTRA's planning and startup.

Strategic Alliance

NTRA formed a strategic alliance with Founding Member Breeders' Cup Ltd. in December 1999 and the two organizations worked toward an operational merger in the spring of 2000. The proposed merger would combine all business, marketing and administrative functions and transfer certain Breeders' Cup property rights and other assets to the NTRA, Inc. for joint pursuit and management. Progress on this proposal will be communicated to NTRA members throughout 2000.

Special Affiliate

The American Quarter Horse Association, the world's largest breed registry with more than 318.000 members and 4 million registered Quarter Horses in the U.S. and 25 foreign countries, is in its second year as an NTRA Special Affiliate.

Thoroughbred **Industry Council**

To ensure a broad range of input on policy issues, the NTRA's Commissioner and senior management meet periodically with the Thoroughbred Industry Council, which includes representatives of: American Association of Equine Practitioners American Horse Council American Quarter Horse Association Association of Racing **Commissioners International** Breeders' Cup Ltd.

California Thoroughbred

and Owners' Association

Keeneland Association

and Protective Association

North American Pari-mutuel

Oak Tree Racing Association

Regulators Association

Society of International

Thoroughbred Auctioneers

Florida Thoroughbred Breeders'

Breeders Association

The Jockey Club

Jockeys' Guild

and Breeders

Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association Thoroughbred Owners and **Breeders Association** Thoroughbred Owners of California

Industry Fan Committee

Thoroughbred Racing Associations of North America **Triple Crown Productions**

United Thoroughbred Trainers of America

University of Arizona Race Track Industry Program University of Louisville Equine Industry Program

Founding Members

Kentucky Thoroughbred Association /Kentucky Thoroughbred Owners

National Horsemen's Benevolent



Southern California Horse Racing







KEENELAND 🖟





A final word: your organization

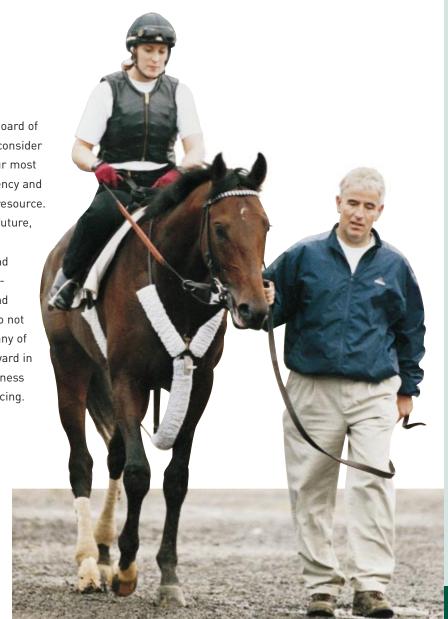
he NTRA is a membership organization formed for the purposes of increasing awareness of Thoroughbred racing and improving the economic conditions of all industry stakeholders. Simply stated, the NTRA's main job is to help our members' businesses, both currently and in the future.

The NTRA is a flow-through organization. Money received from members in the form of annual dues, fees and contributions, and from sponsorship and marketing partnerships, is reinvested to benefit the membership in one of two ways:

• First, in growing the awareness and popularity of horseracing through advertising, marketing, promotions, television and publicity.

• Second, in improving the business conditions for industry participants through strategic investments, legislative advocacy and shared economies such as improving the industry's technological capabilities.

The NTRA and its Board of Directors properly consider our members as our most important constituency and our most valuable resource. As we plan for the future, we will continue to solicit your input and welcome your questions, comments and concerns. Please do not hesitate to call on any of us as we move forward in developing the business of Thoroughbred racing.



financials

National Thoroughbred Racing Association, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Consolidated Financial Statements

Nine month period ended December 31, 1999 and Year ended March 31, 1999

Contents

Report of Indep Consolidated B Consolidated S and Accumulat Consolidated S Notes to Conso

endent Auditors	.24
alance Sheets With Consolidating Details	.25
tatements of Operations	
ed Deficit With Consolidating Details	.26
tatements of Cash Flows	.27
lidated Financial Statements	28

National Thoroughbred Racing Association, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Report of Independent Auditors

The Board of Directors

National Thoroughbred Racing Association, Inc. and Subsidiaries

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of National Thoroughbred Racing Association, Inc. as of December 31, 1999 and March 31, 1999, and the related consolidated statements of operations and accumulated deficit and cash flows for the nine month period ended December 31, 1999 and the year ended March 31, 1999. These financial statements are the responsibility of management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of National Thoroughbred Racing Association, Inc. at December 31, 1999 and March 31, 1999, and the consolidated results of its operations and its cash flows for the nine month period ended December 31, 1999 and the year ended March 31, 1999, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the consolidated financial statements taken as a whole. The consolidating details appearing in the consolidated financial statements are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the consolidated financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the basic consolidated financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the consolidated financial statements taken as a whole.

Ernst + Young ILP

April 11, 2000

National Thoroughbred Racing Association, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Consolidated Balance Sheets with Consolidating Details

		NTRA	Intercompany	5	
_	NTRA, Inc.	Investments, LLC	Eliminations	Dec. 31, 1999	Mar. 31, 1999
Assets					
Current assets:					
Cash	\$ 1,667	\$ 1,033,538	\$ -	\$ 1,035,205	\$ 213,338
Marketable securities	456,801	-	-	456,801	470,718
Accounts receivable, net	3,533,959	784,309	(351,311)	3,966,957	2,794,648
Prepaid expenses &					
other current assets	478,448	124,636	-	603,084	1,286,149
Total current assets	4,470,875	1,942,483	(351,311)	6,062,047	4,764,853
Other assets	25,464	12,171,255	-	12,196,719	77,564
Property and equipment, net	301,898	-	_	301,898	94,456
Total assets	\$4,798,237	\$14,113,738	\$(351,311)	\$18,560,664	\$4,936,873
Liabilities and accumulated deficit					
Total current liabilities:					
Accounts payable	\$2,131,851	\$84,950	\$(351,311)	\$ 1,865,490	\$3,292,950
Accrued liabilities	3,467,212	206,568	_	3,673,780	1,743,231
Deferred revenue	803,685	_	_	803,685	187,500
Total current liabilities	6,402,748	291,518	(351,311)	6,342,955	5,223,681
Deferred purchase consideration	_	5,500,000	_	5,500,000	_
Long term debt	3,216,345	8,500,000	-	11,716,345	2,705,070
Total liabilities	9,619,093	14,291,518	(351,311)	23,559,300	7,928,751
Minority interest	-	25,000	(25,000)	_	_
Accumulated deficit	(4,820,856)	(202,780)	25,000	(4,998,636)	(2,991,878)
Total liabilities and accumulated deficit	\$4,798,237	\$14,113,738	\$(351,311)	\$18,560,664	\$4,936,873

See accompanying notes.

Consolidated Statements of Operations and Accumulated Deficit with Consolidating Details

		NTRA	Intercompany	Nine Month Period Ended	Year Ended
	NTRA, Inc.	Investments, LLC	Eliminations	Dec. 31, 1999	Mar. 31, 1999
Revenue					
Handle-based fees:					
Racetracks	\$ 5,360,044	\$ –	\$ –	\$ 5,360,044	\$ 5,116,394
Horsemen's organizations	4,645,381	-	_	4,645,381	4,417,997
OTBs	387,824	-	_	387,824	466,236
Total handle-based fees	10,393,249	-	-	10,393,249	10,000,627
Other:					
Program revenues	3,012,560	4,474,616	(1,522,750)	5,964,426	1,908,634
Breeders, sellers and buyers	4,332,555	_	_	4,332,555	5,518,179
Other	957,944	42,000	_	999,944	1,498,693
Total other:	8,303,059	4,516,616	(1,522,750)	11,296,925	8,925,506
Founding members	-	-	_	-	5,000,000
Total revenue	18,696,308	4,516,616	(1,522,750)	21,690,174	23,926,133
Operating expenses:					
Advertising and marketing	8,353,782	-	-	8,353,782	14,726,119
Program expenses	6,583,747	2,198,239	(1,442,750)	7,339,236	4,611,198
Management fee	-	982,500	-	982,500	-
Depreciation and amortization	46,525	730,249	-	776,774	11,569
General and administrative	5,376,184	431,099	(80,000)	5,727,283	5,112,439
Total operating expenses:	20,360,238	4,342,087	(1,522,750)	23,179,575	24,461,325
Operating income (loss)	(1,663,930)	174,529	-	(1,489,401)	(535,192)
Minority interest	-	_	25,000	25,000	_
Interest income	21,836	11,211	-	33,047	16,473
Interest expense	(186,884)	(388,520)	-	(575,404)	(127,933)
Net loss	(1,828,978)		25,000	(2,006,758)	(646,652)
Accumulated deficit at beginning					
of year	(2,991,878)	-	-	(2,991,878)	(2,345,226)
Accumulated deficit at end of year	\$(4,820,856)	\$ (202,780)	\$ 25,000	\$(4,998,636)	\$(2,991,878)

See accompanying notes.

National Thoroughbred Racing Association, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

Cash flows from operating activities Net loss Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash used in Depreciation and amortization Minority interest Changes in current assets and current liabilities Increase in accounts receivable Decrease (increase) in prepaid and other as (Decrease) increase in accounts payable Increase in accrued liabilities Increase (decrease) in deferred revenue

Net cash used in operating activities

Cash flows from investing activities

Investment in assets of Winner Communications Capital expenditures Other Net cash used in investing activities

Cash flows from financing activities

Issuance of notes payable Borrowings under credit facility Payments under credit facility Minority interest contribution Net cash provided by financing activities

Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year Cash and cash equivalents at end of year

Supplemental disclosures

Cash paid for interest

See accompanying notes.



	Nine Month Period Ended Dec. 31, 1999	Year Ended Mar. 31, 1999
	\$ (2,006,758)	\$ (646,652)
n operating activities:		
	776,774	11,569
	(25,000)	-
S:		
	(1,172,308)	(2,462,148)
ssets	799,380	(1,270,859)
	(1,427,460)	2,631,990
	1,930,549	1,701,999
	119,989	(2,812,500)
	(1,004,834)	(2,846,601)
S	(6,945,607)	_
	(253,967)	(96,504)
	(10,000)	(43,500)
	(7,209,574)	(140,004)
	8,500,000	_
	16,827,692	19,136,230
	(16,316,417)	(16,431,160)
	25,000	-
	9,036,275	2,705,070
S	821,867	(281,535)
	213,338	494,873
	\$ 1,035,205	\$ 213,338
	\$ 503,774	\$ 103,922

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

1. Nature of Business and Organization

The National Thoroughbred Racing Association, Inc. and its wholly owned subsidiary, NTRA Charities, Inc., (collectively, the "NTRA" or "NTRA Inc."), is a not-for-profit membership organization that was incorporated in December 1997. The purpose of the NTRA and its subsidiaries, as further described below, (collectively, the "Association") is to strengthen the Thoroughbred racing industry by increasing public awareness, creating a centralized national structure, implementing comprehensive marketing strategies and achieving significant revenue increases, consolidated purchasing of goods and services and cost reductions through various industry programs and targeted areas, including television production and growth of account wagering.

The Association continued to enhance its programs during 1999 to further improve the national brand for Thoroughbred racing, including a focus on national and cooperative advertising campaigns and increased hours of national television coverage of the sport. In addition, the Association proceeded with consumer promotions, customer research initiatives and a national group purchasing program for the industry. The Association is emphasizing strengthened legislative capabilities for the Thoroughbred industry on a federal and state level.

Effective July 1, 1999, NTRA formed three new entities, NTRA Investments, LLC ("NTRA Investments"), NTRA Productions, LLC ("NTRA Productions") and NTRA Services. LLC ("NTRA Services"). NTRA Investments was formed, pursuant to an operating agreement, whereby NTRA was granted a 75% ownership interest and the remaining 25% interest was owned collectively by The Jockey Club, Inc., Breeders' Cup Properties, Inc., Keeneland Association and Oak Tree Charitable Foundation (the "Minority Partners"). The Minority Partners initially contributed \$25,000 to NTRA Investments and loaned NTRA Investments \$8.5 million in order to finance NTRA Productions' purchase of certain assets of Winner Communications, Inc. ("Winner"), as described below. Both NTRA Productions and NTRA Services are wholly owned subsidiaries of NTRA Investments.

As of July 1, 1999, NTRA Productions purchased certain assets of Winner, including Winner's right, title and interest in: (a) long term contracts with ESPN to produce Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse racing and programming; (b) archival footage of Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse racing included in Winner's racing video library; and (c) all intellectual property rights relating to the programming (collectively, the "Acquired Assets"). The programs currently produced by NTRA Productions for ESPN include the "Racing to the Kentucky Derby" and "Racing to the Breeders' Cup" series, "Racehorse Digest," a weekly television magazine, "2Day at the Races," a highlights show, "Thoroughbred Classics" and "America's Horse," a television magazine for Quarter Horse racing.

The total contracted purchase price for the Acquired Assets is \$27.5 million, subject to adjustment as described below, payable over a five-year period without interest. The Association paid approximately \$6.8 million at the date of acquisition, representing the initial installment of \$8.5 million required under the Purchase Agreement, reduced by certain adjustments, as defined in the Purchase Agreement, of approximately \$1.3 million, and further adjusted for deferred revenue and prepaid expenses totaling approximately \$400,000 as of June 30, 1999. The remaining payments are \$5.5 million, paid on April 1, 2000, and three additional payments of \$4.5 million each. payable April 2001, April 2002 and April 2003.

In conjunction with the purchase, NTRA Productions and Winner entered into a Services Agreement (the "Services Agreement"), whereby Winner will continue to provide all of the production and programming services related to the television series previously mentioned. Winner will also be responsible for generating advertising and sponsorship revenue in connection with the programming. During the term of the Services Agreement, which extends through December 31, 2003, Winner guarantees minimum net income, as defined, of \$13 million in the aggregate (subject to adjustment of approximately \$1.3 million). The annual amounts payable to Winner in 2000 through 2003, as stated above, are contingent upon such guarantees. If the minimum annual net income is not met in a given year, the payment for that year is reduced on a dollar for dollar basis by the net income shortfall. If the minimum annual net income is exceeded in a given year, NTRA Productions will pay Winner 25% of the excess. For the period ended December 31, 1999, the minimum guarantee was met by Winner, and no significant additional payments by either NTRA Productions or Winner were required.

National Thoroughbred Racing Association, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Under the Services Agreement, NTRA Productions paid a management fee of \$982,500 to Winner for the period covering July 1, 1999 to December 31, 1999 for production and programming services and will continue to pay management fees as follows:

Year ended December 31, 2000	\$2,023,950
Year ended December 31, 2001	\$2,084,669
Year ended December 31, 2002	\$2,147,209
Year ended December 31, 2003	\$2,211,625

The NTRA's five Founding Members are the National The management fee covers all of Winner's selling, Thoroughbred Association, Inc., The Keeneland general, and administrative expenses related to the Association, Inc., Oak Tree Racing Association, Inc., Acquired Assets, as well as in-house production expenses The Jockey Club. Inc. and Breeders' Cup Ltd. Each paid for the related programming. \$1,000,000 in founding members dues, which was The purchase price for this acquisition has been recognized in the year ended March 31, 1999 based on when the Founding Members' agreements with the NTRA were finalized.

preliminarily allocated to the Acquired Assets and is subject to change. Operating results for the acquisition are included herein from its acquisition date.

The Founding Members funded the initial operations of the NTRA with payments of \$2,750,000 in the period Certain March 31, 1999 amounts have been reclassifrom inception (December 5, 1997) to March 31, 1998 fied to conform to the December 31, 1999 presentation. and \$1,850,000 in the year ended March 31, 1999. Funds collected by the NTRA during the nine month period Membership ended December 31, 1999 included \$400,000 that was NTRA's membership consists of several key groups within the Thoroughbred racing community: included in accounts receivable as of March 31, 1999.

Handle-based Fees

Racetrack Members

Management estimates that member tracks account for approximately 95% of pari-mutuel handle in the United States as of December 31, 1999. Each member racetrack pays its annual membership dues based on a proportionate share of the pari-mutuel handle and purses awarded at all member racetracks. Racetrack members are eligible to participate in the NTRA's programs.

Horsemen's Organizations

Management estimates that the NTRA's membership includes approximately 84% of the Thoroughbred horsemen's associations in the United States as of December 31, 1999. Each member pays its annual membership dues based on a proportionate share of the pari-mutuel handle and purses awarded at all member racetracks in its state. Thoroughbred horsemen's associations are eligible to participate in the NTRA's programs.

Off-Track Betting Companies

Off-track betting companies (OTBs) and casino race books pay annual membership dues based on a proportionate share of the pari-mutuel handle at their facilities or other methods as agreed upon. Annual memberships entitle them to participate in the NTRA's programs.

Members' Dues

Founding Members

Memberships for Founding Members are of indefinite length and Founding Members are entitled to the use of the Association's marks, periodic briefings from the Association's management, acknowledgment as a Founding Member, and participation in Association programs and functions.

Breeders

Breeders, breeding farms and syndicates may become members of the Association by paying annual membership fees equal to the value of a stallion season for each stallion they designate. During the nine month period ended December 31, 1999, individual stallion farms paid the membership dues on their own behalf. During the year ended March 31, 1999, Breeders' Cup, Ltd. funded \$3,500,000 to the Association in stallion membership fees on behalf of its constituents.

(continued)

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Public Auction Sales Companies

Public auction sales companies are also members of the NTRA and pay annual membership dues based on onetenth of one percent (0.1%) of net sales proceeds generated from their public auction sales each year. Buyers and consignors/sellers at public auction sales also may become members by paying one-tenth of one percent (0.1%) of the net purchase price.

Other Members

The Association has multiple additional membership categories within the Thoroughbred racing industry, including individual racing fans, veterinarians, attorneys and professional associations. In addition, the Association has entered into a Special Affiliate Agreement with the American Quarter Horse Association ("AQHA") whereby the AQHA and its members contribute to and participate in the programs of the NTRA.

2. Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

The consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles, which requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. Actual results could vary from these estimates. All material intercompany items and transactions have been eliminated.

The Association has changed its year end to December 31 from March 31, resulting in a nine month fiscal period ended December 31, 1999.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Association considers all investments purchased with an original maturity date of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

Revenue Recognition

The Association's primary sources of revenue are contractual member dues and handle-based fees. Handle-based revenues are based upon specific calculations and recognized as invoiced, generally on a quarterly basis. Breeders dues, pledged at the beginning of the calendar year breeding season, are recognized ratably throughout the year. Revenues from public auction sales companies,

sellers and buyers are recognized at the conclusion of each sale. Other membership dues are recognized as revenue when earned according to contract terms. Program revenues are earned based upon the satisfaction of specific terms of contractual sponsorship and advertising agreements and are reported net of agency commission. When the Association receives contributions from other organizations and individuals with whom there is no set membership agreement, revenue is recognized when the amount is received.

Cooperative Advertising Program

Racetracks and OTBs are eligible to participate in the Association's cooperative advertising program. Under this program, members are entitled to be reimbursed a portion of dues paid to the NTRA for costs incurred by the member to run NTRA-produced television and print advertising in their local markets. Included in accrued liabilities at December 31, 1999 and March 31, 1999 are \$2,879,000 and \$975,000, respectively, relating to the program.

Amortization of Acquired Assets

Acquired Assets, relating to the Winner acquisition, are being amortized on a straight-line basis over a preliminary useful life of five years, resulting in amortization expense of \$730,249 during the nine month period ended December 31, 1999.

Property and Equipment

Property and equipment are recorded at cost and depreciated using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Computer equipment	3 years
Other equipment	5 years
Furniture and fixtures	7 years

Depreciation expense charged to operations relating to property and equipment was \$46,525 and \$11,569 during the nine month period ended December 31, 1999 and the year ended March 31, 1999, respectively.

National Thoroughbred Racing Association, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Advertising and Other Assets

pursuant to written membership agreements by and between the NTRA and its members. The outstanding The Association expenses print advertising costs as balance has been classified as non-current due to the fact incurred and media advertising costs the first time the that, effective May 1, 2000, the Association has committed advertising takes place. Advertising expense was approxito a new line of credit agreement with PNC Bank, N.A., mately \$6,980,167 for the nine month period ended expected to mature on April 30, 2001. Under the terms of December 31, 1999 and \$12,760,000 for the year ended this new agreement, the Association will be able to borrow March 31, 1999. As of March 31, 1999, the NTRA had up to \$7,450,000 for working capital purposes, incurring included in other assets approximately \$1,034,000 relating interest at a rate of Prime Rate minus 1%. to amounts paid for production costs in advance of adver-As discussed in Note 1, in order to fund the purchase tising being aired. As of December 31, 1999, there were no of the Acquired Assets and the establishment of NTRA prepaid production costs. Inventories are recorded at cost.

3. Property and Equipment

Property and equipment consists of the following:

	Dec. 31, 1999	Mar. 31, 1999
Furniture and fixtures	\$ 205,042	\$ 80,314
Other equipment	54,338	21,602
Computer equipment	102,516	6,013
	361,896	107,929
Less: accumulated		
depreciation	(59,998)	(13,473)
	\$ 301,898	\$ 94,456

4. Letters of Credit

NTRA acquired letters of credit from a financial institution, which are collateralized by marketable securities consisting of United States Treasury Notes, to secure leases. As of December 31, 1999, these treasury notes mature in May 2000, June 2000 and July 2000. The investments have been recorded at face value plus any unamortized premium as marketable securities in the consolidated balance sheet. Upon maturity, the funds will be reinvested for the remaining term of the related agreements.

5. Long Term Debt

On April 1, 1998, the NTRA entered into a line of credit agreement (the "Credit Facility") with Fifth Third Bank of by increasing the Loan. Kentucky, Inc. (the "Bank") that had an original maturity date of September 30, 1999, although the Bank extended 6. Income Taxes the Credit Facility until May 1, 2000 under substantially the The NTRA is exempt from federal income tax under same terms. Under the terms of the agreement, the NTRA section 501 (c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code. may borrow up to \$4,000,000 for working capital purposes, Certain activities of NTRA Investments are subject to incurring interest at a rate of Prime Rate minus 1%. As tax as unrelated business income. For the period ended of December 31, 1999 and March 31, 1999, the NTRA had December 31, 1999, these activities resulted in a net outstanding borrowings of \$3,216,345 and \$2,705,070, operating loss for tax purposes. respectively. The line is secured by all uncollected dues

Productions, NTRA Investments entered into a term loan agreement (the "Loan") on July 7, 1999 with the Minority Partners. The maximum loan amount to be extended is \$16,000,000, bearing interest at a rate of Prime Rate plus 999 1% and maturing on July 7, 2004. As of December 31, 314 1999, NTRA Investments had outstanding borrowings of 602 \$8.500,000. The Loan is secured by the assets of NTRA)13 Investments, including NTRA Productions and NTRA 29 Services.

Principal maturities of long-term debt over the next five years, as of December 31, 1999, are as follows:

2000	\$ –
2001	3,216,000
2002	-
2003	-
2004	8,500,000
Total	\$11,716,000

On April 1, 2000, the Association borrowed an additional \$5,500,000 from NTRA Investments' Minority Partners, under substantially the same terms as described above, in order to fund the second installment payment to Winner. As of December 31, 1999, this balance was recorded as deferred purchase consideration on the consolidated balance sheet. The amount is considered to be non-current as the subsequent payment was financed

(continued)

31

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

7. Commitments and Contingencies

Total rent expense amounted to approximately \$296,000 and \$418,000 for the nine month period ended December 31, 1999 and the year ended March 31, 1999, respectively.

Future minimum lease payments under existing lease agreements as of December 31, 1999 are as follows:

\$408,000
379,000
380,000
317,000
39,000
10,000
\$1,533,000

8. Related Parties

The Association continues to conduct numerous transactions with a variety of industry organizations beyond the scope of membership. The Association has formed alliances with leading industry news and information organizations, including *The Blood-Horse* and *Daily Racing Form* (Official Sponsors of the Association) and Equibase Company, The Jockey Club Information Systems and *Thoroughbred Times* (Official Suppliers of the Association). These partnerships provide the Association with promotional and advertising vehicles and enable the Association to provide timely information and statistics (via the Internet and other media) to both new and existing fans, as well as non-industry publications wishing to cover Thoroughbred racing.

The Association has established a group purchasing program through its affiliation with EquiSource of Louisville, Kentucky.

The National Thoroughbred Association ("NTA"), one of the NTRA Founding Members, no longer exists independently but has become a part of the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association.

Effective January 1, 1999, the operations and staff of Thoroughbred Racing Communications ("TRC"), an entity that provided communications services to the Thoroughbred racing industry, became part of the Association communications department. The Association recognized revenue of \$187,500 and \$62,500, respectively, during the nine month period ended December 31, 1999 and the year ended March 31, 1999 as funding for TRC from The Jockey Club.

9. Barter Transactions

The Association has agreements with three Thoroughbred racing industry publications which provide the NTRA various advertising and marketing benefits. The value of these benefits are recorded at fair market value when the benefits are received. The revenue for barter transactions is recorded at the fair market value of the advertising to be received when the related agreement becomes effective. Advertising expense is recorded each time an advertisement is run. For the nine month period ended December 31, 1999 and the year ended March 31, 1999, the Association recognized revenue and related expense from these members of approximately \$817,000 and \$340,000, respectively.

10. Benefit Plan

During 1999, the NTRA adopted a defined contribution 401(k) plan for all eligible employees. For 1999, the Association elected to match 50% of the first 6% contributed by each participating employee. The amount of the cost recognized as expense was approximately \$35,000 and \$17,000 in the nine month period ended December 31, 1999 and the year ended March 31, 1999, respectively.

11. Year 2000 (Unaudited)

During 1999, the Association upgraded its information technology systems and software to be ready for the Year 2000. Subsequent to December 31, 1999, the Association is not aware of any significant or adverse effects of Year 2000 problems on its information technology systems.

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