

The following is an excerpt from the live radio broadcast

**Jon White HRTV Host/Handicapper
Tuesday, April 29, 2008**

A host for HRTV since its inception and a simulcast television commentator from the paddock at Santa Anita and Oak Tree beginning in 1993, Jon White has been involved in racing since he joined the Daily Racing Form in 1974 at Playfair Race Course in his hometown of Spokane, Wash. He also spent three years as a licensed Thoroughbred owner in the 1970s.

A 25-year career with the Daily Racing Form took White to tracks from coast to coast in various capacities (reporter, columnist, handicapper and chart-caller). He covered the inaugural Breeders' Cup in 1984 at Hollywood Park as a reporter/columnist and called the official charts for the 1986 Breeders' Cup at Oak Tree and 1987 Breeders' Cup at Hollywood Park.

White has the distinction of being the youngest steward in the history of racing, having worked in that capacity in Washington state at age 24. He also spent two years as a steward at Les Bois Park in Idaho in the 1990s. Additionally, he was the media relations manager at Lone Star Park in 2000.

As a writer, White's work has appeared in numerous publications, including *The Blood-Horse*, *Louisville Courier-Journal*, *New Orleans Times-Picayune*, *California Thoroughbred*, *Washington Thoroughbred*, *Canadian Horse* and *Paddock* magazine. He received the 2004 Mark Kaufman Media Award from the Washington Thoroughbred Breeders' Association "for his excellence in reporting on the Washington Thoroughbred industry and Emerald Downs."

In 1993, White was co-simulcast host from the Santa Anita paddock for the Breeders' Cup at Oak Tree. From 2001-2003, he was co-host of the Fox Sports Northwest one-hour Longacres Mile telecast at Emerald Downs. At Fairplex Park from 1997-2000, he was a television commentator from the paddock and made the track's morning line. From 1983-91, he made the odds in the Los Angeles Times for the races at Santa Anita, Hollywood Park and Del Mar.

White currently writes a weekly column that is accessible at xpressbet.com and equidaily.com. From the start of the year through the Kentucky Derby, his column focuses on the Run for the Roses.

Louisville, KY:

What's one piece of advice you would give to a young person who wants to get into the racing industry?

White:

Probably the best approach is to go through the Race Track Industry Program at the University of Arizona. They offer two paths into the industry. The "business path" prepares a student for employment in the areas of racetrack management, regulation and racing organizations. The "equine management path" prepares a student for employment in areas dealing with racing and breeding horses. I have crossed paths with numerous graduates from that program, from Linda Pangle, who worked as a racing official at Playfair in the late 1970s, to my current HRTV colleague Aaron Verduyck, who is the simulcast director for Santa Anita and Oak Tree in addition to his television work. Bob Baffert and Luke Krutbosh (the track announcer at Churchill Downs) are two of the more famous graduates of that University of Arizona program.

Pete Selin is a prime example of what you can do through that program. While in his 40s, Pete happened to visit Lone Star Park one day and fell in love with the game. That day, he made the decision that he wanted to get into the racing industry. So he enrolled in the University of Arizona program. And Pete's dream of working in the racing industry did come true. When I was the media relations manager at Lone Star Park, Pete also worked there as an intern. Pete would go on to write for the Texas Thoroughbred breeding magazine. He also did publicity work for Tampa Bay Downs. Sadly, Pete passed away in January 2006 from leukemia. An indication of Pete's impact on those whose lives he touched, Rillito, the track in Tucson, Ariz., where the University of Arizona is located, has a race called the Pete Selin Memorial Happy Minute.

I would recommend that you check out the University of Arizona Race Track Industry Program website (<http://www.ua-rtip.org/>).