



In the front-page story “At The Track, Racing Economics Collide With Veterinarians Oath,” writers Walt Bogdanich, Joe Drape and Rebecca Ruiz lay out how racetrack vets participate in and benefit from an emphasis on drugs that can be seen as conflicting with their oath to protect “animal health and welfare.”

The full story is [here](#).

Bogdanich and Drape also were part of a *New York Times* team that received an automatic nomination in March for their first piece in the series, which cast light on high injury rates and lax drug testing in New Mexico racing.

Team Valor CEO Barry Irwin singled out the latest story on veterinarians as the best in the series.

"They really hit the mark with this one," said Irwin, who created the Stanley Bergstein Writing Award late last year to honor the late columnist and encourage his style of



substantive writing on issues in horse racing.

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

Esteemed writers Bill Christine, Frank Deford, Richard Eng and Bill Nack will be judges for the inaugural award, carrying a prize of \$25,000 from Team Valor.