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# THE INSIDE POST

## SANTA ANITA: THE PROGRAM GETS WITH IT

Steve Andersen - [Road to the Derby, Santa Anita](#)  
02/03/2010 07:42:13 PM

The Program, a promising 3-year-old trained by Bob Baffert, beat winners for the first time in Wednesday's seventh race, and may have earned an appearance in the \$150,000 Sham Stakes over 1 1-8 miles on Feb. 27 with the win, Baffert said.

Ridden by Martin Garcia, The Program (\$5) ran 1 1-16 miles in 1:44.64, winning for the second time in seven starts. For the first half-mile, Garcia kept The Program close to a slow pace of 25.84 and 50.50 seconds set by stablemate Indian Firewater.

Indian Firewater led by a half-length at the eighth pole over The Program, who was two lengths clear of Distorted Dave at that point. Through the final furlong, the two Baffert-trained runners pulled away, with The Program winning by a nose.

Indian Firewater finished 3 1-2 lengths clear of third-place finish Jairzihno, a European import trained by Simon Callaghan. Get a Grip, who had a troubled start, finished fourth, followed by Distorted Dave.

Baffert has a strong team of 3-year-olds this winter, led by 2009 2-year-old champion Lookin at Lucky.

The Program needed three races to beat maidens, and followed with a second in an allowance race, and a fourth in the Grade 1 CashCall Futurity at Hollywood Park in December. Wednesday's race was his second at the meeting, preceded by a third as the 6-5 favorite in an allowance race over 1 1-16 miles on Jan. 6.

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