

Melcom Copeland:

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Face to Face

Melcom Copeland is the managing director of BetXTech, the technology company which exploits the advantages of the betting exchange model. His firm will be appearing on the Betfair stand at this month's Betting Show.



betting operations having gone full cycle in both areas servicing the needs of different kinds of punters. As an internet entrepreneur, he has made it onto Fortune's List, so I'd ask him what he thinks it would take for LBOs to embrace and successfully deploy revenue generating internet betting terminals in their shops. >>

HISTORIC FIGURE

WILLIAM SHOEMAKER, HALL OF FAME JOCKEY

« I grew up going to the regional track circuit with my father in the 70s and 80s in the SF Bay Area, and Bill Shoemaker was one of the finest riders on the West Coast and one of the finest American riders in the sport ever. I would use a couple of words to describe him as a figure; endurance and passion, as with so many bad injuries during his career, he was still able to win the Kentucky Derby at age 54. I would ask him what was the most memorable race he has ever had, and if he ate Wheaties to keep in such good health! >>

POLITICIAN

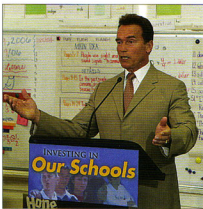
ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA

« Being a Californian myself, it just bewilders me how The Terminator and Mr. Olympia has become the State's head honcho a.k.a. The Governor. I respect the guy for being multi-talented and for multi-tasking which says a lot for his work ethic as a professional who has accomplished so much in sport, film, the entrepreneurial and now the political domain. I'd ask if it absolutely necessary for him to implement tax initiatives on American Indian gambling revenues in the state? >>

CELEBRITY

RUSSELL SIMMONS, HIP HOP MUGUL

« Hip Hop is a global and now widely accepted, yet non-traditional business industry generating billions in sales revenues worldwide. Its influence as a street or ghetto 'thing' is no more. Russell has been able to take this music genre and leverage his success into the areas of non-profit, and he's taken hands on approach to lobby the younger underserved communities in the USA to go out there and vote. For someone coming from his background, and having direct connections into the White House as a close friend to the Clinton family, I would ask him about his thoughts concerning how Hurricane Katrina was dealt with. >> »



SPORTS PERSONALITY

CHARLES BARKLEY, FORMER NBA BASKETBALL STAR

« Charles is one of the most upfront, outspoken and highly visible athletes I have experienced. You either love him or hate him. He has also publicly and repeatedly admitted to being an avid gambler, and says he'll never quit. This is interesting because I have heard he apparently has ambitions to run for political office. Imagine Charles as Governor or playing a role in the US Senate. I'd ask him if he would campaign for industrial internet betting in the USA. >>

INDUSTRY FIGURE

MARK BLANDFORD, SPORTINGBET FOUNDER

« From what I know about Mark is that he has been there and done it before when it comes to the betting business. He knows what it takes to be successful in both the land based and online