

Making His Mark

Former champion jockey Mark Khan is no longer an assistant to trainer Gary Alexander. He has registered with the NHA as racing manager to owner Lawrence Wernars. The Wernars' familiar black, red and white silks are seen nationally and are carried by such good horses as Brazuca, Negroamaro and New Predator - and the energetic Khan is bound to add plenty of value.

BAD PARKING

Jockey Glyn Schofield has been fined \$50,000 over his involvement in the sale of Equita to Hong Kong. Schofield pleaded guilty to a charge that he negotiated the sale of Equita, trained by Brent Stanley, to Hong Kong trainer Danny Shum. Equita was sold to Shum for \$300,000 with Schofield retaining \$20,000 as commission and paying Stanley \$20,000 in cash in the jockeys car park at Randwick racecourse last year.



Happy Ending

The Var filly Diamond In The Sky's win at Greyville last Sunday was the cherry on the top of a potentially forgettable incident at the 2015 NYS. Kevin Wright thought he had clinched her for R300 000. Breeder Mike McHardy of Rathmor had already presented Kevin with a gift bag, when a commotion broke out. Ray Koedyk had been sitting in front during the bidding and the horse had actually been knocked down to him. Now the Wrights train her for Koedyk and her first win looks like there is more to come!

Millard: Still Magic

The legendary Terrance Millard, now 86, has suffered a minor stroke, according to Michael Clower, but he received a welcome tonic when Paddy Kruyer-trained newcomer Mission Control in his silks made a most convincing winning debut in the Michael Baigel Maiden at Kenilworth on Saturday. Indeed his partner Nola Rathbone declared: "That's the best medicine Terrance could have."



Icebreaker For Gavin

SA champion jockey Gavin Lerena rode his first Hong Kong winner in his current stint when the Tony Millard-trained 4yo Sebring gelding Fast And Furious won the first race at Sha Tin on Sunday. It took Gavin 27 rides to break the ice and he will be hoping to up his game and get closer to his SA win strike rate of around 19%.

Confusion Reins

The start of the fifth race at the Vaal last Tuesday was delayed after it was established that trainer St John Gray's four runners had been incorrectly saddled and one of which had already proceeded to the start. This horse had to be recalled, all the riders reweighed and the horses resaddled. It turned into an unhappy race for the stable with Ray Danielson (Mai Thaiga) and Karl Zechner (Dusk To Dawn) reporting that they felt something amiss with their mounts in running. The latter horse was suspended for six months following an epistaxis.



Farewell

Cornerstone Stud has announced the passing of former Australian Champion Sire Hussonet (Mr Prospector-Sacahuista, by Raja Baba) to a stroke. He was 25. Foaled in 1991, Hussonet had an amazing life, racing in the USA and standing at stud in South America, then transferring to Arrowfield Stud in New South Wales in 2003, before spending the past five years at Cornerstone Stud in the Barossa Valley. Hussonet sired an amazing 30 individual Gr1 winners, headlined by champion galloper and 7-time Gr1 winner Weekend Hussler.

Sound Fair?

Jockey Sam Waley-Cohen says that he had the welfare of his mount at heart when he stopped riding late in the race at Carlisle on Sunday. Yet he will miss next month's Grand National at Aintree if a seven-day riding ban is upheld. The leading amateur jockey, 33, was suspended after he was adjudged to have prematurely stopped riding Long Run. The horse was retired after the race.

BLING SETS PACE

With Piere Strydom, Andrew Fortune and Gavin Lerena not in circulation at the moment, S'manga 'Bling' Khumalo has turned the National jockey championship into a potential one-horse race. We know it ain't over till it's over, but Khumalo holds a double digit lead with just over four months left. The 2013/14 champion's closest threat, Anthony Delpech, is away in Dubai this weekend, so Bling will do more of his thing.