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Champion sire Captain Al is well represented in all three of this Saturday's high-class Kenilworth features and in fact won the Gr2 Cape Merchants in 2000. The son of Al Mufti was ridden by the now retired Karl Neisius to beat Ethno Centric, with another future stallion in The Sheik third. Captain Al could enjoy another great weekend after he sired five winners of both sexes this past weekend in three different racing centres on turf and all - weather. Captain Al has headed SA's champion 2yo sires listings for the past 8 seasons.

International Stars

The first black Swazi born jockey to ride in the Epsom Derby and Irish star Jamie Spencer, together with our own Bernard Fayd'herbe and Donavan Mansour, are amongst the 13 riders in action at the Champ de Mars for this coming weekend's Jockeys International. Sean Levey left Swaziland at the age of 13 when his Dad got a job with Aidan O'Brien. The full list is: Rye Joorawon & Swapneel Rama (Mauritius); Bernard Fayd'herbe & Donavan Mansour (South Africa); Maxime Guyon (France); Mark Zahra (Australia); James Winks (Australia); Brad Rawiller (Australia); Ioritz Mendizabal (Spain); Pradeep Singh Chouhan (India); Sean Levey (Swaziland); Martin Harley & Jamie Spencer (Ireland).



Green Light

Melbourne Cup winning jockey Michelle Payne created another slice of history on Sunday as she became the first dual licence holder to win a race at Swan Hill. She rode Duke Of Nottingham, who she also trains, to victory.

But while she is recognised as a dual licence holder by Racing Victoria, the same rule does not apply in New South Wales where she is only considered a trainer.

She was finally given the green light on Tuesday to ride for her brother Patrick this weekend.

Her brother's Husson Eagle is set to run in the Starlight Stakes at Rosehill, before attempting to defend his Magic Millions Sprint crown at Gold Coast.

Wolf Man

Trainer Ricky Maingard is best associated with champion Wolf Power in South Africa and was granted his licence here in 1975. He has been plying his trade with much success in Mauritius since 2007. The former Peugeot engineer has won all four classic races, whilst his best season came in 2012, finishing 3rd in the Mauritius championship, which included a highlight when Ice Axe won the Maiden Cup. Variousy described as 'a total professional' and 'a temperamental bloody Frenchman', we note that he has been granted a temporary trainer's licence by the National Horseracing Authority until 31 July 2017.



Top Secret

Vaughan Marshall's high-class Gr1 Allan Robertson Championship winner The Secret Is Out has been suspended to rule 93.1 until 14 January 2017 after suffering an epistaxis at her last run, when chasing Sail home. The daughter of Captain Al was seen as a major contender for honours after winning her first three starts in flying fashion last term.

Shaw Thing

Top Tellytrack presenter Shaheen Shaw bowed out quietly with his last shift on Monday.

Shaw has been a leading light and a standout amongst the studio presenters over many years and his entertainment value as a dyed in the wool punter will be desperately missed. He is relocating to the Cape for family reasons.

We wish him well.

Thin Ice

Chief Hong Kong Jockey Club steward Kim Kelly issued a warning to apprentice Dylan Mo Hin-tung on Sunday that he needs to lift his performance to avoid causing interference in races. The chief steward pointed out to Mo that his two-day ban for causing trouble as he took Flying Moochi to the lead in the final race was already his third careless riding suspension in only 45 rides and that simply wasn't good enough. "Apprentice Mo was advised he needs to take remedial action before his careless riding record becomes a serious matter," he said.

NHA AGM

Meeting are to please reach the NHA by 8 December 2016. Should you

Notice is hereby given that the One Hundred and Thirty Fifth Annual General Meeting of Members will be held at the offices of The National Horseracing Authority, Turffontein Racecourse, Turf Club Street, Turffontein, on 18 January 2017, at 14h00.

Proposals by Members for inclusion in the Agenda for the Annual General Meeting are to please reach the NHA by 8 December 2016. Should you have any queries, please feel free to e-mail them at cindy@nhra.co.za

TRIP SWITCH

The false start to the Gr3 Fillies Mile on Summer Cup day was a freak occurrence. During the loading process, the gates opened after a handler tripped over one of the connecting wires which released the front panels.

