

HOW MANY STALLIONS DO YOU KNOW WITH

427 victories
R53-million stakes . . . and more

sportingpost digest

Thursday 7 September 2017
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RACING THIS WEEKEND

FAIRVIEW turf Friday
Best Roving Banker:
R2-(6) Fritz Nobis (4/1)

TURFFONTEIN Saturday
Best Roving Banker:
R3-(10) Vacquero (2/1)

KENILWORTH Saturday
Best Roving Banker:
R4-(2) Rommel (2/1)

SCOTTSVILLE Sunday
Best Roving Banker:
R1-(13) Zen Arcade (2/1)

You may have
missed...

Monday 04 September
Flamingo Park – race 6

Sporting Post
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Oratio
WON 36/1 😊

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The fastest horse wins the Guineas, the luckiest the Derby – and the best horse the St Leger.

With a colourful history dating back to 1776, the oldest Classic of the British season, the £700,000 Gr1 William Hill St Leger Stakes will be run at Doncaster on Saturday 16 September over a trip of one mile, six furlongs and 132 yards.

With our own racing programme traditionally in something of a lull at this time of the year, the opportunity of enjoying some of the best of British is a real bonus for SA racing fans. And the last of the classics heralds the end of a great summer of action-packed horseracing.

The Irish Derby winner Capri is one of 12 William Hill St Leger entries for trainer Aidan O'Brien, who is on the cusp of a fifth victory in the race. The classy grey son of Galileo stays

well and looks likely to start favourite. The O'Brien-trained Camelot came close in 2012 to Triple Crown glory after winning the 2,000 Guineas and Epsom Derby, before going down under a length to Godolphin's Encke

The Triple Crown is an arduous test of brilliance and was last won by Nijinsky in 1970, while the great mare Oh So Sharp won the female version – the 1000 Guineas, the Oaks and the St Leger, in 1985.

As in most major races, the power players dominate the St Leger- Godolphin-owned entries have won it six times and John Gosden-trained horses have lifted the trophy three times in the last ten years – but the romance of the occasion was underlined last year.

The 2016 renewal provided a dramatic and fairytale success for 22 to 1 outsider Harbour Law, whose trainer Laura Mongan became the first woman to win the St Leger. The favourite Idaho fell halfway through the race. Mongan had only 20 horses in her string and her home base Epsom had not provided the St Leger winner for over a century.



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BET ON A CLASSIC

Amazingly, Harbour Law was Mongan's first Gr1 runner and Baker's first ride in the St Leger.

Favourites have won the race six times in the last fifteen years.

The four day feast of quality action starts next Wednesday, with the William Hill St Leger Stakes run on Saturday, the festival's flagship day and brings the event to a dramatic climax.

Wednesday 13th September

The William Hill St Leger Festival kicks off with a bang when retired celebrities of the saddle dust off their breeches and return to action in the feature event competing in the charity race, a contest run on the straight mile. The Leger Legends race helps raise money for the Northern Racing College and Jack Berry House, a rehabilitation facility for injured jockeys.

Thursday 14th September

DFS Ladies day is the ultimate in glitz and glamour and one of South Yorkshire's biggest social occasions. Fashionable Ladies from across the region will be upping their efforts to stand out in the style stakes, in a bid to claim the coveted Best Dressed Lady title so make sure you get your best dress and heels at the ready!

Friday 15th September

The penultimate day of the iconic Festival, now known as Gentlemen's day, attracts some of the most prestigious racing of the week, with the Doncaster Cup, the oldest race currently run under the Rules of Horse Racing, taking centre-stage.

Saturday 16th September

The biggest day of the week and home to the World's oldest Classic, the St Leger Stakes.

Baron Is Back

Sun Met winner Whisky Baron, owned by former England cricketer Craig Kieswetter and his brother Ross, is set to make his European debut in the Gr2 Shadwell Joel Stakes at Newmarket's Rowley Mile Racecourse on Friday 29th September.

This £100,000 one mile contest has attracted a superb initial entry of 34 horses, featuring no less than 19 Pattern Race winners.

Irish Champion Trainer Aidan O'Brien is responsible for over a third of the entry, his dozen-strong contingent including last year's winner, Cougar Mountain, and the dual Classic runner-up, Rhododendron, while further international flavour is added by Whisky Baron and the French raider, Diction, placed in the 2016 renewals of both the French Derby and 2000 Guineas.

[Read more](#)

TURFFONTEIN SATURDAY

Tarry To Strike

Pinnacle Stakes (F&M) Turffontein

South African champion trainer Sean Tarry has made a typically quiet start to the new season but he can be expected to start upping the ante in the next few weeks.

He saddles the Captain AI filly Myfunnyvalentine in a fillies and mares Pinnacle Stakes at Turffontein on Saturday.

There are no features on the national weekend programme and the R130 000 Pinnacle Stakes on the Turffontein inside track is the highest valued event amongst some competitive racing programmes.

Tarry saddles a duo in the race and it is good to see his old ally Piere Strydom back in the irons on the Klawervlei bred Myfunnyvalentine.

The 4yo ran second in the SA Fillies Nursery of her year behind the smart Fursa and has always looked above average. She won the non black-type For The Ladies last season and, while winless in a year, she can go in and register her third success here. She ran a good second to Spring Wonder in August, but bolted and was withdrawn from her last start. She goes beyond 1200m for the first time but there is every indication that she will go the extra 250m with ease.



Myfunnyvalentine | JC Photos

Star Quality

Coenie de Beer's Lady Starlett is a full sister to champion sprinter Talk-to-the-stars and a very talented mare on her day. She is another who takes a step up in trip but is holding her form well and has a nice turn of foot. She strips a very fit horse and will be running at them late.

The Elusive Fort filly Smokey Affair relocates from the Mike Robinson Phillipi yard and has her first start for Mike de Kock. The Favour Stud bred 4yo was stakes placed in the Cape summer and looked to have the makings of a decent racer. She has not run for 26 weeks and is likely to need it. It is worth noting the strike rate of the De Kock yard with ex-Cape horses and she can be monitored for good improvement as her fitness improves.

Very Sweet

The second of the Sean Tarry duo, the Klawervlei Stud-bred Sweet Lady Jade returns from a 26 week break and is likely to need the run on that score. She won twice early and was considered good enough to contest feature company as a 3yo. She may be more competitive with a run or two under the belt.

The Mike and Adam Azzie partnership struck gold in the Gr3 Spring Spree Stakes at Turffontein last Saturday. They saddled the top two in that feature and will be looking to maintain their rich vein of form with the classy Trippi mare, Shatoosh. This classy sort has been lightly campaigned and has only her thirteenth start here. She has won 4 races and will enjoy the 1 draw as she has plenty of gate speed and pace. On a line through her defeat of Knysna Rose at her penultimate start, she may hold Sylvan On Fire.

On Fire

Durban-based owner Vanessa Harrison bred the Silvano filly Sylvan On Fire, who comes in here

START
3:15PM
TURFFONTEIN

6

PA4/PICK SIX3/JACKPOT2
PINNACLE STAKES (F&M) - 1450M
SAME TRAINER: (1-5)

Captain AI	1 MYFUNNYVALENTINE(SG Tarry) P Strydom .. 6	60.0
Trippi	2 SHATOOSH(MG & AA Azzie) G Lerena	1 58.5
Overlord	3 LADY STARLETT(FC de Beer) M v Rensburg ... 4	58.5
Elusive Fort	4 SMOKEY AFFAIR(MF de Kock) C Murray	3 57.0
Querari	5 SWEET LADY JADE(SG Tarry) L Hewitson	2 55.5
Silvano	6 SYLVAN ON FIRE(C Dawson) C Zackey	5 55.5

having won 2 of her 4 starts – including a gutsy post maiden win over a mile last time out. The 4yo shed her maiden in fine style over the course and distance in April and her last win was made all the more impressive as she was slow off, probably needed it after a four month break and still won impressively. On these weight terms she looks to have lots to do, but is streets ahead of the handicapper on the face of it and is improving fast.

With Smokey Affair likely to need it, we are going with Myfunnyvalentine to hold the edge over Lady Starlett, with Shatoosh and the improving Sylvan On Fire in the shake-up.

Snaith's Fake News

Bernard Fayd'herbe takes the mount on the Klawervlei bred Fake News in the first race at Kenilworth on Saturday.

The gelded son of Philanthropist makes his debut having already made the news for the fuss over his name. After trainer Justin Snaith found the youngster to be vocal, unruly, unmanageable and a nightmare to work with, he was appropriately baptised President Trump and duly registered with the NHA. The racing regulator had second thoughts about the smart Snaith call after discovering a leader of the western world went by the same name. He was then renamed Fake News.

Snaith has a trio in the race, with Grant van Niekerk partnering the Patricia Devine-bred first timer Love Happen.

This son of Silvano is probably bred to go further than the 1200m but is the third foal to race of the high-class Jet Master mare, Love Is In The Air. Trained by Mike Bass and racing in the Devine Jet Master silks, Love Is In The Air won 8 races from 1500m to 2200m. Her successes included wins in the 2010 Gr1 Majorca Stakes in the hands of Karl Neisius and the Listed Stormsvlei Fillies Mile and the Winter Oaks.

With two potential top jobs at the Bass-Robinson and Andre Nel yards already behind him, 2017 is not yet turning into a golden year in the career of 26 year old Cape-based lightweight, Grant van Niekerk.

But things change overnight in horseracing, and a hat-trick of winners at Kenilworth on Saturday will hopefully go some way towards rebuilding the young man's confidence. He won for Joey Ramsden, Vaughan Marshall and Justin Snaith last Saturday, and all three top trainers have thrown him another bone this Saturday.

While Marshall awaits the return of the globetrotting MJ Byleveld, the Snaith and Ramsden jockey posts don't appear exactly cut-and-dried. Often a second stringer for one of them is better than some of the lesser opportunities at the smaller yards.

EC RACING AWARDS

The Racing Association Eastern Cape Chapter in conjunction with Phumelela hosted the Racing Awards on 2 September.

CHAMPIONS

HORSE OF THE YEAR Clear Sailing
 CHAMPION 2YO FILLY Queen Forever
 CHAMPION 2YO COLT/GELDING Kimberley Star
 CHAMPION 3YO FILLY Beataboutthebush
 CHAMPION 3YO COLT/GELDING Gimme The Stars
 CHAMPION OLDER FILLY/MARE Clear Sailing
 CHAMPION OLDER COLT/GELDING Normanz
 CHAMPION SPRINTER Clear Sailing
 CHAMPION STAYER Kingston Mines
 CHAMPION POLY TRACK FILLY/MARE Conquering Queen
 CHAMPION POLY TRACK COLT/GELDING Inviting Lily
 CHAMPION TRAINER Mr AC Greeff
 CHAMPION JOCKEY Mr G Cheyne
 CHAMPION APPRENTICE Mr L Hewitson
 CHAMPION OWNER Mayfair Speculators
 CHAMPION LOCAL RIDER Mr L Mxothwa
 CHAMPION WORK RIDER Mr TD Baase
 CHAMPION GROOM EASTERN CAPE Mr TD Baase
 SERVICE TO THE RA JUDGING PANEL Mr M Jones
 SERVICE TO THE RACING INDUSTRY Mr H Badenhorst
 SPECIAL AWARD – SA 1000M RECORD Corne Spies (Scandal)
 SPECIAL AWARD – RODE THE JACKPOT Teaque Gould

Met-SAVE THE DATE

The second Sun Met celebrated with G.H. Mumm will be run at Kenilworth Racecourse on Saturday, 27 January 2018.

Last year's smart winner Whisky Baron has left South Africa to take on the world and is unlikely to return to defend his title. Trained to victory by Brett Crawford and ridden by Greg Cheyne, the son of Manhattan Rain was crowned Equus Champion Middle Distance Horse last month.

Building on the success of the 2017 event, the Sun Met sponsors and organisers are ready to take the racing and social extravaganza to an all-time high, providing world class entertainment and premium hospitality to those attending.

Following their stellar debut as the headline sponsor for this prestigious social event, Rob Collins Group Strategy and Operations Officer at Sun International commented: "We're looking forward to taking the reins on this prestigious event once again as we, together with our partners, plan to deliver another remarkable day out for all our attendees that will top our 2017 success."

Visit www.sunmet.co.za for more information.

HOW MANY STALLIONS DO YOU KNOW...



- With **427** victories to his name, in Europe, the United Kingdom and South America?
- With more than **R53million** in Stakes to his credit?
- With **8 Stakes** wins already, and **5 Group One** performers?
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GOODMAN JUDGEMENT

Goodman Judgement

David Rattles Goliath

The Durban High Court delivered a damning judgement last Thursday against the National Horseracing Authority based on unfair and haphazard handling of procedures and a conflicted office bearer.

The case arose following an Inquiry finalised in Durban on 13 November 2015, where trainer James Goodman was found guilty of a contravention of Rule 73.2.4 in that he was the conditioner of the horse Aldric from which a urine specimen was taken after it had run on 10 October 2014.

The Board imposed a fine of R80 000 and in addition, acting in terms of Rules 84.6 and 75.12, ordered Goodman to pay costs incurred by the National Horseracing Authority (NHA) of R45 500.

On 13 November 2016 the veteran trainer applied for a high court review.

On Thursday last week, Justice J Vahed set aside the findings of the NHA Inquiry and the R80 000 fine. The NHA have been ordered to pay the costs of the application. In his judgement, Justice Vahed found that attorney Jonathan Witts-Hewinson, representing the National Horseracing Authority, should have recused himself from an Inquiry involving the prohibited substance case initially brought against trainer James Goodman in December 2014.

The Judge highlighted an argument presented by attorney Bruce Armstrong of Shepstone & Wylie, acting for Mr Goodman, stating in effect, "... if a judge is in fact party to the litigation or in fact has a proprietary interest in its outcome then he is indeed sitting as a judge in his own cause..."

The judge also made reference to a letter written by Attorney Robert Bloomberg, who had initially assisted Goodman, which was addressed to NHA Chairman Andy O'Connor in June 2015 citing a number of reasons as to why he believed Witts-Hewinson should recuse himself from the case.

The National Horseracing Authority of South Africa respects and has accepted the judgment of the court and is currently reviewing its position and the effect of the Judgment on the existing disciplinary structures.

'Attitudes Must Change' – Mike de Kock

I haven't written a blog in a while, but the outcome on Thursday of the James Goodman prohibited substance case saw me pen in hand.

NHA attorney Jonathan Witts-Hewinson was all but officially reprimanded by a High Court Judge for his conduct and behaviour calls for comment, writes Mike de Kock on www.mikedekockracing.com In my almost 30 years as a licensed trainer I have experienced the high-handed attitude of people like Witts-Hewinson and other NHA lawyers and stewards several



JAMES GOODMAN
sweet victory

times in my own medication charges.

Of late, we've even had to deal with Racing Control Executives who attempt to influence the results and the penalties imposed by Inquiry Boards even before they've actually taken place, or before the process of inquiry has taken its due course. In essence, you are as good as guilty before you walk into the inquiry room!

My own horses have been tested for substances around the world, in perhaps ten countries, and wherever I have gone I have experienced the perception that trainers are dishonest individuals or "dope artists" who couldn't care less for the animal or the sport.

This is public perception stoked over many years by bad media reports that emanate from respective racing authorities who are all too eager to make themselves look good and to justify their existence at the expense of the reputation of trainers and jockeys and, ultimately, at the expense of the industry.

Down Under

Just recently, for example, Australia's chief stipe Terry Bailey, his country's self-proclaimed one-man mission into "cleaning up racing", was castigated in the press for dishonest, self-serving conduct.

In my view, 99% of trainers are honest horsemen with no drug agendas. But to err is human. We, they, all make mistakes. I presently have 170 horses in my own yard, among them are sick horses and sore horses who need treatment and medication. There is always a chance of slipping, and invariably charges result from veterinary errors.

However, by NHA rules, which the majority of trainers don't agree with as they are, all the NHA has to do is to prove that the accused party is the trainer of the horse in which a positive sample was found. By virtue of the fact that he or she is a licensed trainer, such trainer is guilty. Period. Until now, we have been unable to do anything about it. We've signed under duress to accept archaic, draconian rules.

We've had no choice but to give Witts-Hewinson and company the right to treat us in an arbitrary manner!

Unfair

In the case of James Goodman, it is commonly known that the prohibited substance, caffeine, is found in certain feeds and therefore contamination is a real issue with this particular substance. I am not fully aware of the facts, but if James' expert witness, Dr Tobin, had been allowed to testify and interview Dr Schalk de Kock, who knows what would have emerged. Goodman may just have won his case on pure factual merits alone. But this is something Mr Witts-Hewinson refused to allow in a way that was unconstitutional and as the judge pointed out, "manifestly procedurally unfair".

There are major costs involved for the NHA and its opposing parties in every case brought before them – a number of cases are driven to their limits of time by greedy lawyers and on both sides. How about a plea-bargain system when guilt is accepted, the mitigating factors considered and agreed fines paid on the spot to prevent cases from dragging on for years?

I can only hope that the NHA, under the refreshing leader-



MIKE DE KOCK
tired of interference

GOODMAN JUDGEMENT

ship of Lyndon Barends, will not only take appropriate action against their lawmen involved, but will institute significant, constitutionally aligned changes in the interest of fairness. Fairness is all we want!



'Watershed' Robert Bloomberg

The chickens have finally come home to roost! So says Attorney Robert Bloomberg, who responded to the Goodman High Court finding on the www.mikedekockracing.com blog.

For decades, and whilst serving as a Director on the Board of the National Horseracing Authority ("NHA") and previously as Chairman, Jonathan Witts-Hewinson has been in the forefront of legal matters being a practising attorney. During his tenure, he happily supported the debatable expertise and dubious advices of NHA attorney, Nic Roodt. They have previously run roughshod over many in dictatorial fashion whilst on occasion hiding behind numerous manifestly unfair Rules that ordinarily would not pass muster at the Constitutional Court.

In my opinion, he has always viewed the NHA as tantamount to a private boy's club and pretty much believed that they, the NHA, were untouchable as the supreme authority in horseracing. This was particularly prevalent in the Rob de Kock and Denzil Pillay era. There have been many instances in the past and in recent times where the "reasonable man" test in respect of perceived bias and subsequent recusal in relevant instances has been flagrantly ignored by him and the NHA. Thanks to the tenacity of James Goodman and despite the financial consequences, their conduct was finally challenged.

In addition, we can also no longer tolerate undue influence and pressure being brought to bear by the Racing Control Executive on NHA legal representatives and personally hand-picked Inquiry Boards in advance of hearings particularly in regard to recommended penalties. There cannot be seen to be interference in the judicial process as this amounts to exactly what has transpired herein.

Independence

This is a watershed moment in the industry as this cannot happen again and must lead to independent Inquiry and Review Boards in the future. This judgment is an acute embarrassment and a serious indictment on both Witts-Hewinson and the NHA. For a judge to say that the "potentially conflicting" positions occupied by Witts-Hewinson was "unassailable" and that "proceedings conducted by him were manifestly procedurally unfair" and that "there was no structure whatsoever to the proceedings" and further that when Goodman's expert witness, Professor Tobin, "testified he was denied the opportunity of questioning the specialist chemist (Schalk De Kock) employed by the NHA" is about as bad as it gets.

We don't care if he falls on his own sword, or the NHA ceases to utilize his services, but certainly as legal representative for the National Trainers Representative Body, we will no longer recognize or accept Witts-Hewinson in any capacity should he continue to serve on the panel of the NHA Inquiry Board, Appeal Board and Inquiry Review Boards.

Class Debut By Dynasty Colt

Sean Tarry's bold move to try the Dynasty colt Yamoto first time out over 1160m paid dividends at Turffontein on Tuesday when the classy looker came home easily on a well-supported debut.

The R2,2 million 2016 National Yearling Sale graduate, who races for Mary Slack and Michael Javett, showed plenty of pace before winning convincingly under S'manga Khumalo.

Form Bloodstock's Jehan Malherbe signed the chit for the Varsfontein Stud (that sale's leading vendors) bred galloper, who looks to have a bright future.

Yamoto is out of the Gr2 Fillies Championship winner Townsend, a half sister to former G1 Champions Challenge winner Regal Ransom.

Townsend will be remembered as being the winner of the 2010 Gr3 Diana Stakes at Durbanville, a race in which her champion sire produced the winning quartet.

Bernard Fayd'herbe steered the Justin Snaith-trained Townsend home to beat Play Nice, with Possible Dream and Tick Tock rounding off the historic quartet.

Moore Family Icebreaker

The Dupont mare Art Attack scraped home under an inspired ride by Warren Kennedy at Scottsville on Wednesday to register a first winner for the Moore family training partnership.

Bred by James Armitage, the relatively lightly tried Art Attack shaded the more fancied Magic Memory in a thriller to register her third win from 20 starts.

Octagenarian Ivan Moore recently joined forces with his 28 year old grandson, Darryl, in what makes for a unique training partnership.

Both Ivan and his son Robert (Darryl's Dad) were successful race riders. Ivan had a long and illustrious riding career, being crowned Zimbabwean champion jockey on multiple occasions. He rode until his 50's, and took out his trainer's licence in 1988, the year Darryl was born.

Robert also spent most of his career in Zimbabwe, before joining the SA Jockey Academy as a Riding Master in Johannesburg.

After finishing his schooling, Darryl worked at Gary and Jacqui Jolliffe's pre-training operation in Randjesfontein and was then assistant to Charles Laird.

2018 SALES

LOOKING AHEAD

Entry Forms are now available on www.tba.co.za

Please note all entries should be emailed to bsa@equine.co.za

Cape Yearling Sale

25th February 2018

Mistico Equestrian Centre

National Yearling Sale

24th, 25th & 26th April 2018

TBA Complex, Germiston

Maiden Gold For Enaad

The Mike de Kock trained 2016 Gr2 Gold Cup winner Enaad outstayed his field in fine style at the Champ de Mars on Sunday to win the Gr1 Air Mauritius Maiden Cup.



Enaad - wins 2016 Gr2 Gold Cup | Gold Circle

The premier race on the Indian Ocean Island attracted a bumper crowd to the Port Louis track and produced an easy win for the Australian-bred gelding from the Gujadhur stable.

Ridden by

Steven Arnold, Enaad, narrowly beaten in his latest start, managed to go one better to give his rider a second classic win on the trot, and the third straight classic success for the Gujadhur stable.

Enaad was relaxed in eighth position but quickly turned on the jets turning for home. He won going away to beat the former Vaughan Marshall runner M L Jet with Yashin Emamdee in the irons.

The winner was bred in Australia by Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Maktoum and is a son of ill-fated Coolmore shuttle stallion High Chaparral, a champion son of Sadler's Wells. He is out of the twice winning Danehill Dancer mare, Al Anood.

As its name suggests, the feature was originally reserved for horses that had never won a race in Mauritius. The records date back to 1843, when the Maiden Plate, as it was known, was won by M A Gonard's Creeper.

Since 1983, when won by the great Noble Salute, the race has been run over the classic distance of 2400m. The Maiden Trophy has been in use since 1935.

Bumpy Landing

Last season's Mauritius Horse Of The Year Parachute Man showed plenty of pace in Saturday's Gr1 Maiden Cup but faded out of it late to run fifth.

Like the winner, a son of High Chaparral, Parachute Man was an entry in the 2017 R5 million Sun Met but trainer Ricky Maingard and connections saw their dreams of competing in the Cape flagship dashed through red tape.

The South African Directorate of Animal Health refused to consider the use of the Kenilworth quarantine facility (officially approved as an outgoing quarantine station) for their use on arrival in the RSA. The Mauritian raiders had intended that Parachute Man and his travelling companion would have been trained at Kenilworth each day preceding the big race.

Cartier Racing Standings Duke's Orange Top Of The Tree

Drakenstein stallion Duke Of Marmalade's outstanding son Big Orange holds sway atop the Stayer category for the internationally recognised Cartier Racing Awards.



Big Orange – gutsy performer

The latest points earned in Pattern races up to and including Sunday, September 3, 2017, have been published. The Cartier Racing Awards were established in 1991 to reward excellence in European horseracing.

The awards function will be held at the Dorchester Hotel, London, England, on the evening of Tuesday, November 14, 2017.

[See the rankings here](#)

Trainer Reined In

An outraged trainer Mick Easterby has been told he can no longer use a special rein he devised for safety purposes after the British Horseracing Authority branded it potentially unsafe.

The equipment has been outlawed on raceday by BHA director of equine health and welfare David Sykes because it is felt it poses a risk to horses and riders. The BHA said that the raceday environment significantly increases the possibility of an incident occurring in association with the equipment.

The veteran trainer has previously successfully deployed a rein with a velcro strap to stop horses trying to duck under the gate when in the starting stalls.

Easterby told the Racing Post: "I think it's disgraceful the BHA has prevented me from using my safety rein. I devised it years ago for a sprinter called Blessingindisguise, who always tried to go under the front of the stalls. It worked with him and he won 11 races.

"It is a rein with some velcro in it. One end is attached to the bit, it goes under the saddle and round the horse's tail, so when the horse is in the stalls it's impossible for it to put its head down to go under the front.

"The velcro is in front of the saddle so when the stall opens the jockeys pulls on that, the rein slackens and the horse has full extension when it starts to gallop. It's no worse than keeping a hood on when a horse is standing in the stalls and the jockey removes it when they open. In fact, it's safer because sometimes the hood doesn't come off properly."

www.racingpost.com

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Cruise On Friday... Then A Monday Hat-Trick!

“That was heart attack stuff by my jockey! I’d really like to take the tactical credit, but in the end it was a helluva good ride by Jarryd – and the yard really needed the boost after a tough six months.”



Duncan McKenzie

Trainer Duncan McKenzie was chatting to the Sporting Post after Jarryd Penny had steered the 7yo Stratocruiser to a sensational end-to-end win in Friday’s Founders Trophy at Fairview. Commentator Alistair Cohen blurted ‘he’s hijacked them!’ after an extraordinary race.

We asked if it was one good ride by Penny or six ordinary rides by his colleagues. “Look, I’m not sure that Jarryd knew how far ahead he was. But he assured me afterwards that he was always well in control and, let’s face it, he judged it beautifully,”

says the charismatic 58 year old, who only recently moved from the barns at Fairview to the outer stables. A virus for the past six months almost stuck him out, he says openly.

“I consulted with some of the country’s top trainers for advice. Contrary to popular opinion, there is a lot of camaraderie in this game and the guys were only too happy to help. But I just couldn’t shake the virus and eventually I didn’t know what to tell my owners. I have been in the open boxes for a week now and I can already feel that the horses have turned. A happy and well horse always does his best, believe me!”

Duncan has 36 boxes in his new yard and he says he has place for more horses. He acknowledged his core of loyal owners and gave particular mention to Hugo Hattingh, the original owner of Stratocruiser.

“Hugo has bigger fish to fry. He has some exciting young horses in his string. He was kind enough to allow us to race Stratocruiser. I’m very thankful to him and all of my supporters. We can’t do this without good people.”

Duncan says the lifestyle in PE has won him over. “Look at the beauty of the coastline! This is God’s country. And I live in the most beautiful environment amongst animals and nature. We don’t know how lucky we really are,” he adds enthusiastically.

When it comes to knowledge, Duncan has written the horseracing book of life and is one of the country’s most widely and diversely experienced conditioners – with winners from Scottsville to Saudi Arabia to his credit.

Duncan’s biggest influence to become involved in the Sport Of Kings came via his Mom, who was a Rugg. She worked for one of SA’s first lady trainers, Hilda Knaup. All of her seven brothers were jockeys and the family success story dates all the way back to 1934, when his uncle Albert (Allie) Rugg won the July Handicap at the age of 14 on a horse for Jackie Angles called Sun Tor. Sadly Uncle Allie was injured while riding and died a few years later.

After riding work as a youngster, Duncan was set on a career in racing. Illustrious names like Frank Agliotti, Jean Heming, Johnny Nicholson, Nic Claasen, Terry Lowe, Willie Pieters and Clodagh Shaw number amongst his mentors and employers along the way.

He concedes it’s a tough game but he wouldn’t want to be doing anything else. “Times are tough and everybody’s under pressure. But where can one get so much excitement, disappointment, thrills, frustration and pleasure in one job? We need good horses and good people. I’m lucky to have been associated with a good number of both,” he quips sincerely.

On Monday the McKenzie-Penny combination booted home a hat-trick of winners at Flamingo Park. When it turns, it turns!

Natie Saddles First Winner

Former Mike de Kock assistant Nathan Kotzen finally broke the ice in his new role as trainer for his own account when the Toreador colt Cumulus won the third race at Scottsville on Sunday.



Cumulus (Anthony Delpech) wins well
| Gold Circle

A relieved looking ‘Natie’ said that the 3yo colt had shown some good work at home, but was surprised to see him win first up, as he said it was difficult to know what they will do at races. He was easy to back,

despite the services of Anthony Delpech, and ran on well to win the 1200m Maiden Plate.

Owner Alderman Rob Haswell, former Municipal Manager of Msundizi Municipality, was away in the USA visiting family, but breeder Anton Procter was on hand to lead the colt in.

Nathan Kotzen was assistant trainer to Mike de Kock at Summerveld for 16 years, but went on his own earlier this year after the champion trainer made a business move to close his satellite yard down.

At the time De Kock commented: “Nathan has worked with some of the best horses in the world, let alone the country. He’s a top horseman in his own right, he has the credentials and is well placed to make his mark. He won’t start off without support, I have left a few of my own horses with him and so has the Slack family. We wish him all the best in his new career.”

Kotzen has been closely involved with the likes of champions Ipi Tombe, Grey’s Inn, Irish Flame, Bold Silvano, Victory Moon, Kildonan and Flight Alert.

Kotzen hails from a family steeped in racing. His Dad, also Natie, was a jockey, his late brother Grant was a jockey, his brother Glen is a top trainer and another brother Darren is a farrier.

Nathan has also worked for David Payne, Pat Shaw and Pat Lunn.

Kotzen is on record as saying his most memorable day was when Greys Inn won the 2004 Vodacom Durban July.

PERSONALITY

LEG UP

Ernst Oertel

Riding the crest of the wave of the UAE trainer's log in 2014, Ernst Oertel lost his leg and shortly afterwards, his job as trainer to the president, but in a rare display of courage, resilience and determination, he has hauled himself literally and figuratively back into the saddle. If you think that sounds like a movie script, you're not alone as Amanda Roxborough is currently completing a film about his life.

It is a foible of the racing industry that out of sight is frequently out of mind. The joy of the internet and modern technology means it is relatively easy to track down and chat to just about anybody anywhere in the world, something we can take for granted. Having made contact with Ernst via Facebook and arranged a time to chat, I offered a choice of Whatsapp, Facetime, Skype, etc. "Let me call you. Emirates has blocked Whatsapp," he messaged. When we finally got through by old fashioned phone, I exclaimed about the difficulty in communications. "Pain in the arse," he agreed equitably and I decided I liked him enormously.

About Ernst

Ernst started his horse career at Barbara Sanne's Oldlands Stud. "She suggested I go to England and do a stud management course. I ended up working for Lester Piggott," he adds, as though it's the most natural thing in the world. Asked what it was like to work for one of the legends of our time, Ernst answers, "Annoying actually. I'd only been there a couple of months when he was arrested." Deciding to stay in the UK, alongside his then girlfriend, Sarah Kelleway, Ernst started up Arabian racing in England. "We were the champion trainers ten times in a span of 15 years. When Sarah and I broke up, I started training Thoroughbreds and purchased a yard in Newmarket."

Returning to South Africa to look after his father, Ernst started training in Summerveld, but finding it a little insular, he later transferred to the Vaal. "Things were progressing when I got a call to ask whether I'd train for the president of Abu Dhabi. Obviously I took the job." Ernst set up in Al Asayl, winning the trainer's title in his second season and becoming the first Abu Dhabi-based trainer to win the championship. He collected his second successive title in March 2014, but unbeknown to him was already several months into what would turn into a life changing event.

Initial accident

Ernst likes to ride work and in August 2013, broke his left tibia and fibula aboard Skoop, his 2013 Arabian Triple Crown Round 3 winner. They operated

and pinned the leg. "The doctor said it was a pretty bad fracture and he didn't think I would be able to walk properly again, but I started working and it seemed to heal OK. There was a bit of pain, but the doctor said that was to be expected, so I thought things were fine. When they took the plate out in May 2014, they never did a swab or they would have picked up that there was an infection and might have saved the leg," he says matter-of-factly. "I flew to the UK two days later to attend the World Arabian Horseracing Conference. The leg was getting painful and hot and one evening it burst open."

Game changer

Admitted to St Thomas' in London a series of operations followed, but the infection would not go away. I had some kind of superbug and the infection wasn't responding to the antibiotics." The infection had taken its toll and Ernst's weight dropped to 50kgs. "I didn't even realise it with all the morphine and so on. People who came to visit thought I was going to die. I didn't feel it, I just felt tired," he says, sounding bemused.

"One day they came in and said we have to amputate. I got a second opinion of course, but everyone said there was no chance. Normally they amputate below the knee, but in my case they had to amputate much higher up to make sure there was no infection and that the flesh was clean."

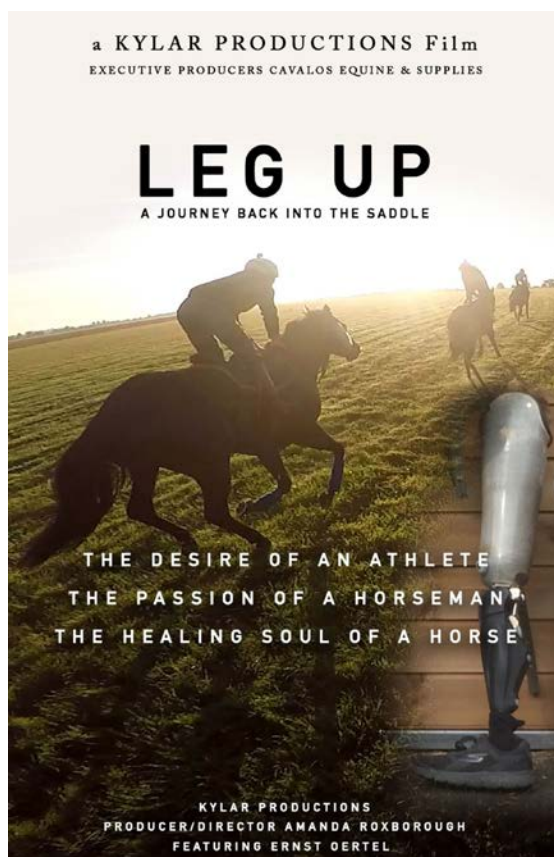
Ernst took it on the chin. "I just felt it's happened and you've got to move on. I've got a great prosthetic, probably one of the best for walking on, but it is a pain in the *** to put on in the morning and in the middle of the night you've got to hop around, but you get used to it. The great thing is that I feel as though my leg is still there. It's nice, you can still feel your toes!"

Remarkable comeback

Incredibly, Ernst recovered quickly and was back in Dubai by August. "I love being around the horses, so my main goal was getting back to see them and get on with training."

However, there was more to come. In the new season, he suddenly received a spate of positives for ibuprofen in his horses and was handed a 4 month ban. Ernst protested the charges strongly, going so far as to undergo a lie detector test to prove that he had not doped his horses. "The ERA accepted the fact that I hadn't administered the medication, but as the person responsible for the horses, I was still guilty of running horses with a banned substance. Unfortunately that's the rule and there's not a lot you can do."

As it would not do for the President's horses to be trained by someone with a medication positive, he was relieved of his duties, but undeterred, Ernst set up a new stable with Khalid Khalifa Al Nabooda. "In my first year, we had 13 winners and last year he was champion owner. It's the first time a local owner has been champion owner in the UAE, so that was an achievement," he says in his matter-



ERNST OERTEL

of-fact manner. "I've now got 96 horses in training, so it's going well."

Back In The Saddle

Ernst is also back in the saddle and back to riding out. "It's really a matter that I enjoy it and I do what I enjoy in my life. For me, it's boring training horses if you just stand and watch horses cantering by. It's nicer to ride them and when you ride a good horse, you can feel it and it gives you such a rush. You can also feel what's wrong and I think it gives you a bit of an edge. I love training horses and I love racing them, so that's what I do."

"The first time I was back on a horse was probably six months after the operation. It had been a really **** time. I'd lost my leg and when I went back in August, I got the ban and then I lost my job. I'd been to another conference and when I got back, a friend invited me to ride. We fitted a make-shift saddle and I rode out and just progressed from there. I adapted and made a better contraption and now it's pretty good. I feel pretty safe. If you'd asked me when I had two legs, I'd have thought losing one would be the end of the world, but it's nothing. It hasn't stopped me living and doing what I love and it's all going well. I've got a running leg now as well and am just trying to live a normal life."

Leg Up

It is Ernst's relentless never-say-die attitude that inspired Amanda Roxborough to make a film about his life. Amanda merits a film herself, having been a jockey and a trainer in her own right, before a starting stall accident made her trade her boots for production work. Amanda launched Kylar Productions in 2006 and recently won an award for her first documentary.

The pair met at the Darley Awards in California in 2014 and kept in touch via social media. Amanda was looking for a new project and Ernst's story popped into her head. "I'd seen a pic of him on Facebook riding out in an exercise saddle and thought 'unbelievable'. We connected via Facebook and I said I wanted to do a documentary. He said yes and once I got his blessing in true me fashion, I was out of the gates and running. That's how life is for me!" They got funding for the project primarily thanks to Cavalas Equine Supplies in Abu Dhabi, have shot all the footage and Amanda is currently in the process of final edits. The film, titled 'Leg Up' will be entered for the Equus Festival in November as well as the Sundance Festival next year.

Amanda has a blonde ponytail, a broad smile and an irrepressible energy. Why this particular project? "When you are a professional athlete, your job is your life, it's who you are. When that gets taken away, there isn't a great percentage that kick on, so I was really passionate about the message this can stamp for the greater good. The bond between horse and human has a powerful and healing energy and it's a journey that we're blessed to have. My vision is to empower others that have had a major life shift and help move them to their greatest life potential."

You can follow developments or get involved via the Kylar Productions website or the Leg Up Facebook page. And Ernst is on Facebook too.

Countdown To World Championships

The Breeders' Cup Challenge is an international series of stakes races whose winners receive automatic starting positions and fees paid into a corresponding race of the Breeders' Cup World Championships, which will be held for the first time this year at the Del Mar racetrack near San Diego, California, on November 3 and 4.

The latest qualifier is 5yo Guignol (GER), who led all the way in Sunday's 1800m \$163,000 Gr1 Longines Grosser Preis von Baden at Baden-Baden Racecourse. The son of Cape Cross earned an automatic berth into the Gr1 Longines Breeders' Cup Turf through the international Breeders' Cup Challenge.

This means that the Breeders' Cup will now pay the pre-entry and entry fees for Guignol to start in the 1800M \$4 million Longines Turf Breeders' Cup will also provide a \$40,000 travel allowance for all starters based outside of North America to compete in the World Championships.

Guignol, a 5-year-old out of the Monsun (GER) mare Guadalupe (GER), trained by Jean-Pierre Carvalho and ridden by Filip Minarik, registered his second career Gr1, having won the Grosser Preis von Bayern at Munich last November.

The Grosser Preis von Baden was the ninth Breeders' Cup Challenge qualifier for the Gr1 Longines Turf.

The first eight to qualify are: the 4-year-old Sadler's Joy, winner of the Gr1 Sword Dancer at Saratoga on Aug. 26; the 4-year-old Ulysses (IRE), who won the Juddmonte International at York on Aug. 23; the 5-year-old Hunt (IRE), who won the Gr2 Del Mar Handicap on August 19; the 4-year-old Beach Patrol, winner of the Gr1 Arlington Million on August 12; the 3-year-old filly Enable (GB), winner of the Gr1 King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes at Ascot on July 29; Satono Crown (JPN), who captured the Gr1 Takarazuka Kinen at Hanshin Racecourse in Japan on June 25; the 8-year-old Ordak Dan (ARG), who won the Gr1 Gran Premio 25 de Mayo at San Isidro in Buenos Aires on May 25 and 3-year-old Voador Magee (BRZ), who earned a Turf bid by capturing the Gr1 Grande Premio Brasil at Hipodromo Gavea in Rio de Janeiro on June 11.



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HEVERSHAM PARK FARM

Short Heads



“Young horses are being persecuted by the handicappers and it really irks me,” chirped Mike Azzie about his MR 91 rated 3yo Varimax before the colt ran in a Novice Handicap at Turffontein on Saturday. “Must we trainers run them no good? It’s not what we do,” added Azzie. Varimax ran 18 lengths behind.

SHORT CHANGED

Almost 12% of the runners at Fairview on Friday were found to be not striding out post-race. While it is a secondary centre for sometimes problematic horses, we should not be surprised if the form book looks a bit dodgy at times.



We called it that Joey Ramsden and Morne Winnaar would be back to winning ways in no time and the A\$ 80 000 Melbourne buy Still I Rise (ex Costa Mesa by Encosta de Lago) was a good debut winner for the old combination at Kenilworth on Saturday. An accident in her box, that almost proved fatal, has not stopped the daughter of Street Cry from showing her ability. Interestingly her sire produced his 114th stakes winner on the same afternoon at Veliefendi in Turkey.

Big Hit



Geoff Woodruff’s Trippi filly Guns And Roses (ex Western Hour by Gone West) made it five wins on the bounce – from just six starts – when hacking up at Turffontein on Saturday. A winner from 1475m to 1800m, she was a R160 000 buy from the 2015 CTS Johannesburg

Ready To Run Sale. She races off a rating of 83.

What would the Azzman say about that?

China Flying

While racing was banned there in 1949, the sport in Mainland China is coming along in leaps and bounds. Their richest race, the A\$ 200 000 China Australia Cup was run on Saturday and won by the Purrealist 3yo Striking Eagle, who is trained by expat Aussie, Brian Lawrence. A former high school teacher and hobby trotting trainer in Western NSW, Lawrence trained in China from 2003 to 2005 and returned in March of this year. He has 16 horses in training.

No Half Penny

After their giant-killing act at Fairview on Friday Fairview trainer Duncan McKenzie and jockey Jarryd Penny reeled off a magic hat-trick at Flamingo Park on Monday. Duncan tells Short Heads that his assistant and nephew Jarrett Rugg will be taking over the Northern Cape yard in the next few months.

MAGIC

Joao ‘Magic’ Moreira started the new Hong Kong season at Sha Tin in style on Sunday by riding the first five winners on the card. Last season’s first meeting record turnover of HK\$1.208 billion was surpassed when they got to a new record of HK\$1.29 billion. Taking the Happy Valley cross-betting crowd attendance into account, there were 66 000 people at the races.

Billy's Genes

The presence of the undefeated Dennis Bosch-trained Billy Silver (Silvano – Evening Attire) at Scottsville on Sunday turned it into a Pick 5 for exotic backers. The very smart looking 3yo made it two from two when he beat three opponents to win the 1200m unextended in 68,72 secs – the fastest of the five 1200m’s on the afternoon.

Gimme The Cup

Varsfontein Stud’s young stallion Gimmethegreenlight, whose first crop produced six stakes winners, lifted three awards at Saturday night’s East Cape Racing Awards ceremony. Queen Forever was named the East Cape’s Champion 2yo Filly, Beataboutthebush was Champion 3yo Filly and Gimme The Stars galloped away with the Champion 3yo Colt/Gelding title.



NEW START

Five-time Melbourne Cup winning Hall Of Fame trainer Lee Freedman is set to start training in Singapore. He has been granted boxes at Kranji and sends out his first runners on Friday.

LOUW FLYER



DRIVE



WILGERBOSDRIFT STALLION PARADE

I love the N7. A road may sound like a strange thing to love, but my family are from the Cederberg, so to me the N7 still carries the expectation of endless summers, Christmas holidays and the nostalgia of childhood.

On Sunday, 3 September, Wilgerbosdrift chose one of the best days of one of the best times of the year to host a very special stallion day at their beautiful new facilities and I got to visit my favourite stretch of road.

Enjoying the journey

There are two magical aspects to an event – first is the build-up where there is any amount of expectation and wonder at what might be to come – the other is the aftermath in which you can look back and reflect on what happened. C.M. Russel said spending many hours in the saddle gives a man plenty of time to think, which is why so many cowboys fancy themselves philosophers. Driving is similar, particularly when you are following the hypnotic trail of telegraph poles and neat barbed-wire fencing, accompanying the faded tarmac into infinity. The emerald greens of Swartland wheat fade to shades of khaki and olive and in patches give up entirely allowing the red earth to show through. Finally, the turnoff with the welcome ‘Stallion Day’ sign to signal that you are close.

The gravel road to Wilgerbosdrift is not a gentle one – either on your vehicle or on your nerves – but it was a short trip this time as the event was staged at the new yearling barn complex. The beautiful entrance, elegantly created from local stone, is at once imposing as well as feeling like it has always been there and blends so comfortably in the landscape that one is in danger of driving straight past. I wound my way past the enviably full dam and spacious paddocks, to take my place at the end of a long line of cars, feeling smug that for once my car wasn’t the only one covered in dust.

Warm welcome

Wilgerbosdrift is built around the definition that horses make a landscape look beautiful. The facility which had been a construction site on my last visit was quite transformed, with two rows of

completed, occupied stables and a grassed courtyard / viewing area in the middle. Linking the two stable blocks is an entertainment area and the square is finished off with a low wall and the view stretching across the hills to the mountain overlooking the farm. All of Wilgerbos is painstakingly designed to sit gently in the landscape and the new additions manage to be grand as well as entirely functional and welcoming.

A Bedouin tent was attached to the back of the building for shade as well as to provide undercover seating for lunch. In the best South African hospitality style, there is no formal guest list or check at the door and in the comfortable manner that close friends wander into one another’s homes and families at will, one is invited to simply dive in and make yourself at home.

Illustrious Line-Up

The essential joy of being with horses is that it brings us in contact with the rare elements of grace, beauty, spirit and fire. If it is logical to conclude that in spending our lives around these creatures, some of these characteristics rub off, then little wonder the racing family is such an exceptional bunch. With some of South Africa’s most exciting young stallions on the afternoon’s bill, people came from far and wide. Gathered under the tent and spilling over onto the grass and stabling areas was a long list of favourites from across the country, all getting on with the serious business of catching up and exchanging news of the breeding season, new foals and the season ahead.

Flower Alley

With Jehan Malherbe manning the microphone, first on show was Wilgerbosdrift resident, Flower Alley. I haven’t seen the liver chestnut son of Distorted Humor since his arrival at Wilgerbosdrift in 2015, but he is perhaps best described by a particularly impressed new member of his fan club that his photos just do not do him justice. Not to cast aspersions on any of the photographers who have tried, it’s just that it is impossible to capture his quality and presence adequately on anything as pedestrian as screen pixels.

The exceptionally high quality chestnut, conditioned during his career by Todd Pletcher, was famously denied an honest run in the 2005 Kentucky Derby, when the front-running Spanish Chestnut tired of his pace-setting tactics, dropping back and causing Flower Alley to check and re-direct, leaving Giacomo to take the laurels in one of the most bruising and heart-stopping renewals in the history of the race. Some pundits still maintain that Flower Alley was robbed. However, he exacted his revenge in the Travers and karma was finally restored when his son, I’ll Have Another took home the Roses in 2012, following up with a win in the Preakness and looking a likely contender for Triple Crown glory before a training set-back forced his withdrawal from the Belmont Stakes. It makes Flower Alley the only sire of a Kentucky Derby winner to stand in South Africa.

His first local crop were born in 2016 and Wilgerbosdrift thoughtfully had a group of yearlings assembled for viewing, including a very sociable colt out of Berry Blaze that I was very taken with. As beautiful as he was in the confines of the viewing area, Flower Alley was best appreciated out in the open en route to meeting his transport home. The more space he has, the more breath-taking he seems to get. Manager Wynand Nel reports

DRIVE

that Flower Alley upgrades his mares and his correct conformation compensates for flaws in his mates.

Rafeef

Next on show was Highlands Farms Stud's new acquisition Rafeef, who had made the trip all the way from Robertson. He was something of a surprise for me. Taller and more elegant than his sprinting label might suggest, the son of Redoute's Choice, out of South African race mare National Colour (recently honoured as NSW Champion Broodmare at the Thoroughbred Breeders Australia industry awards in Sydney) is still relatively fresh off his scintillating Computaform Sprint win and has not had much time to let down as yet, but seems to be settling into his new role beautifully. He stands over a surprising amount of ground and is possessed of a wonderful topline and length of rein. I also must make special mention of the Highlands staff who stood him up so well on parade.

Soft Falling Rain

Soft Falling Rain has somehow filled out even more since I last saw him, just prior to starting his first covering season. The globe-trotting Equus champion is the physical epitome of a sprinting powerhouse and where Flower Alley is all focus and intent, Soft Falling Rain still has a more youthful, playful air about him. Again his photographs simply do not do him justice. There was a group of his first crop available for viewing to testify to the fact that he is stamping his progeny. Included in the high quality group was his colt out of Alboran Sea, who drew a lot of admiring comments.

The United States

Last, but not least, Moutonshoek's brand new purchase, the lovely The United States was walked out. By the mighty Galileo out of a Pivotal mare, this is the same cross that produced the KZN-based Flying The Flag. The United States was a Group 3 winner in Ireland for Aidan O'Brien at three and went on to win three group races for Australian trainer Robert Hickmott, including the 2016 G1 Ranvet Stakes.

Moutonshoek's Bennie van der Merwe reports that Admiral Kitten, the first son of Kitten's Joy to be imported to stud in South Africa, is settling in well. However, as he had only been released from quarantine the day before, they had chosen discretion over valour and left him at home to settle in. He has already made a start on his book of mares and is reportedly a consummate professional.

There was another chance to view all the stallions at close quarters in their stables as well as an opportunity to look over the Flower Alley and Soft Falling Rain yearlings before a sumptuous relaxed lunch. With rows of freshly made Pimms, the friendly bar staff were kept busy all afternoon and the band were given a helping hand by the musical stylings of our own Greg Ennion.

Too soon the sun was dipping on the horizon and guests reluctantly started making their way home. Without there being enough time to catch with everyone during the course of the afternoon, there were still hellos and goodbyes being exchanged in the car park on the way out. A huge thank you to Mary and Jessica Slack for being such wonderful hosts, to Moutonshoek and Highlands for travelling your horses and making it such a spectacular event and to all the stud and farm staff who worked so hard behind the scenes to ensure it was a day to remember.

A trip to Wilgerbos is fun because it offers a long drive to build up the expectation and an equally long road home in which to reflect on the experience. Perhaps the best compliment is that it always takes forever to get there, but somehow the drive home passes in a flash.

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Source Of Champions

Crimson Palace Retires

Happy Ending for SA Racemare

They say beginner's luck is often the best. So when your very first horse is good enough to campaign – and win – abroad, that's pretty outstanding. And an outstanding story deserves an outstanding ending and in Dr Alan Miller and Crimson Palace, we have just such a tale because the star race mare has recently retired to Dr Miller's home to live out her days at his farm in upstate New York.

Dr Miller explains, "I saw Secretariat run in 1973. I've always dreamed of being in racing, but was not from a wealthy family. I swore if I ever made it, I would buy horses. I got my medical degree and was raising a family and one day in about 2003, I was talking to my wife and said I wanted to get involved."

He researched syndicates and found Barry Irwin's Team Valor. "Barry was pretty well known and back then he'd had incredible success with Ipi Tombe," he continues. "So I wrote to him and he sent me some information on a couple of different horses – one was a New York bred and the other was from South Africa – Crimson Palace."

Breeding A Champion

By Elliodor out of the Northern Guest mare, Perfect Guest, Crimson Palace was bred by Adv Altus Joubert and born at Lionel Cohen's Odessa Stud in the Western Cape. The story goes that after foaling the mare, Lionel thought so highly of the foal that

he was moved to tell his wife he had just witnessed the birth of a champion. The only problem was that the 'champion' belonged to a client.

When the filly went on auction as a yearling, Lionel was determined to secure her, instructing the agent bidding on his behalf, 'just don't stop'. She was eventually knocked down for a sales-topping R300,000, earning her the honour of the second highest priced yearling filly to be sold at auction in South Africa that year.

The dark bay filly, eventually named Crimson Palace, went into training with Mike Bass and won four of her first six starts, culminating with a Gr1 win in the 2002 Paddock Stakes.

Beginner's Luck

It was at this point that Team Valor snapped her up and Dr Miller came on board. He remembers, "She looked gorgeous on the internet, so I thought 'why not?' and bought in."

"The idea was to send her to Dubai and try to replicate what Ipi Tombe did," explains Alan. "Unfortunately she got hurt, but she transferred to Dubai early in the winter. She didn't do anything until the following year's Carnival and then we suddenly started getting emails from Mike de Kock saying she was working as well as Ipi Tombe. You must remember this was my first horse, so it was pretty exciting."

Crimson Palace made her Dubai debut in the Team Valor emerald and crimson in the 2004 Alhaarth Stakes over 1800m, beating the colts and setting a track record. "My wife and I watched the race from home. I was going nuts!" enthuses Alan. "I was so excited, I was in tears."

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There can be no doubt that the late Horse Chestnut was one of the greatest thoroughbreds ever produced in South Africa.

South Africa's Horse Of The Year in 1998, Horse Chestnut (Fort Wood) made history when spreadeagling a top-class field in the 1999 J&B Met.

The Mauritzfontein champion also raced to a facile win in the Triple Crown, landing the Cape Guineas by 7.15 lengths, the SA Classic by 3.8 lengths and the SA Derby by nearly ten lengths.

Sent to North America, he won his only overseas outing when romping to a five and a half length win in the Gr3 Broward Handicap. He was retired to stud after getting injured, with a record of nine wins from ten outings, and a reputation as one of South Africa's finest.

Overseas

Horse Chestnut, who returned to South Africa after spending eight seasons in Kentucky at the famed Claiborne Farm, left his mark at stud overseas with such graded winners as Lucifer's Stone, Askbut I Won'ttell, Spanish Chestnut, and Duveen. He also enjoyed success in South Africa at the highest level where daughter Chestnuts N Pearls landed the Gr1 Golden Slipper in 2015.

However, it is as a broodmare sire that Horse Chestnut has truly left his mark as a sire- not surprisingly perhaps, as the champion is a son of multiple champion broodmare sire, Fort Wood, and did cover some top class mares during his stud career.

He was in the news again this past week, with a pair of daughters represented by stakes winners, in the form of Johnny Bear (Halton Stakes) and Orbolution. The latter, a first stakes winner for Kentucky Derby winner Orb (Malibu Moon), is a very exciting prospect, with 2yo Orbolution landing the P G Johnson Stakes by nearly five lengths. The filly, who has now won two of four outings, is out of Horse Chestnut's G3 placed daughter My Rachel.

Equus Champion, Smart Call (Ideal World), now competing at the highest level overseas, won or was placed in 13 of 16 local outings, with her three South African Gr1 wins including the 2016 J&B Met. The beautifully bred Smart Call, whose dam is a

The Tallest Trees



Horse Chestnut

half-sister to Greys Inn, is out of the Horse Chestnut mare Good Judgement.

With a plethora of above average daughters yet to be represented as broodmares in South Africa, it appears unlikely that Smart Call will be the only local Gr1 winner produced by a Horse Chestnut mare. Horse Chestnut's success as a broodmare sire, to date, however, has come largely overseas. This year alone, Horse Chestnut daughters have been represented by five international stakes winners, headed by such graded stakes winners as Fault (Gr3 Pucker Up Stakes) and Canadian star, Dragon Bay (by Parading). The latter, whose wins this year include the Gr2 Nijinsky II Stakes and Gr2 Eclipse Stakes, has won five times to date. Dragon Bay, the only graded winner by his sire to date, is out of the Horse Chestnut mare, Cologne, a dual winner who was second in the North Broad Stakes.

Multiple Winner

The Claiborne bred Fault (Blame) is out of the smart Horse Chestnut mare, Charming N Lovable, whose wins included the Flawlessly Stakes. Charming N Lovable is also dam of Gr3 Iowa Derby runner up, Betweenhereandcool (Unbridled's Song) and the stakes placed, Congenial (Pulpit). Another recent high-class US galloper out of a Horse Chestnut mare is the very useful Zipessa (City Zip), winner of nearly \$500 000 and runner up in last year's Gr1 Rodeo Drive Stakes. Horse Chestnut's stakes winning daughter, In Return, has also kept her sire's name in lights—she is the dam of top class Canadian 3yo, Channel Maker (English Channel), winner of the classic Breeders's Stakes in 2017 as well

as recent stakes winner, Johnny Bear (English Channel), who has banked over \$300 000 in stakes.

His daughter, Lynwood Chase (who is from the same family as current US star, Drefong (Gio Ponti)) has also made her mark. She has produced G1 Canadian International winner, Cannock Chase (now standing at Nunstainton Stud) and Gr2 Prix Eugene Adam hero, Pisco Sour, with both horses sired by Lemon Drop Kid.

International

Unraced Horse Chestnut mare, Suffrage, also produced a high-class performer in the

form of Suggestive Boy (Easing Along), a multiple G1 winner in Argentina and winner of the G1 Frank E. Kilroe Mile in North America and Gr2 Arcadia Stakes. Suggestive Boy's own sister, Subtlety, was a Gr3 winner in Argentina. Other graded winners out of mares by the former South African superstar include Ol' Fashion Gal, winner of the Gr3 Jimmy Durante Stakes at two and Gr3 Selene Stakes at three. The champion is also broodmare sire of a Bernardini colt, who fetched \$1.45 million at the 2017 Fasig-Tipton Gulfstream Sale. The colt is out of the regally bred Horse Chestnut mare, Winner, who herself made \$700 000 at the 2014 Keeneland November Breeding Stock Sale.

Horse Chestnut is not the first locally bred champion to make his mark as a broodmare sire internationally. Former champion, Hawaii (Utrillo), is broodmare sire of, among others, US G1 winner, Engine One (Vosburgh Stakes), and hugely successful sire, Hennessy (grandsire of Scat Daddy), while South African Horse Of The Year, Wolf Power (Flirting Around), is maternal grandsire of dual US Horse Of The Year and 11 time Gr1 winner, Wise Dan (Wiseman's Ferry (by Hennessy)).

Phumelela Shareprice

date	close	high	low	volume
5Sep	1949	1950	1850	1,201
4Sep	1950	1950	1775	670
1Sep	1970	1970	1970	222
31Aug	1950	1950	1935	267,321
30Aug	1935	1935	1896	5,452
29Aug	1950	1950	1950	677
28Aug	1950	1965	1905	2,150
25Aug	1904	1970	1895	26,712
24Aug	1899	1899	1895	1,053

BLACK TYPE RESULTS

TURFFONTEIN (inner)**Friday, 2 September****Course Variant: 1,07s slow**

With no rain and 27mm of irrigation during the previous seven days the penetrometer read 21 and the going was posted as good.. The false rail was out 4m on the back straight and a gigantic 11,5m on the bend. There was an 11,5m spur at the 500m mark, and the wind was a 21km/h south easterly.

Gr3 Spring Spree Stakes R250 000**Azzmen Ahead**

Father-and-son training partnership Mike and Adam Azzie have made a cracking start to their opening partnership season and saddled the exacta in the R250 000 Gr3 Spring Spree Stakes at Turffontein on Saturday.

In an open looking race, the pace was predictably on from the break with Azzie hare Spring Steel leading Sporting Monarch and Romi's Boy, with Angel's Power and Will Pays 5 lengths off the action.

Into the home run, Will Pays built up gradually as the gaps opened off the false rail and Craig Zackey only went for a left-handed whip in the final 150m as Piere Strydom ranged up with a dangerous looking challenge down the outside.

Under a beautifully balanced ride by the inform Zackey, who has also enjoyed a great start to his season, Will Pays ran on best to hold Angel's Power to a length in a time of 71,85 secs. The time was slower than the fairer sex equivalent a half hour earlier.

Will Pays was bred by Northfields Stud and was a second winner for Imperial Stride (Indian Ridge) on the day after first-timer Rock Pigeon won the fourth race on her debut. Will Pays is out of the top-class six time winner, Rattlebag (Jallad).

A 6yo gelding, Will Pays is now a winner of 9 races with 9 places from his 28 starts for stakes of R832 900. He is an entry in the Grand Heritage to be run at the Vaal on 30 September.

Gr3 Spring Spree Stakes 1200m

Winner Will Pays raced 6th; ran on strongly to lead 130m out; won going away Runner up Angel's Power raced 4th; ran on and held every chance; rolled in marginally in the latter stages and bumped Sporting Monarch

Third Sporting Monarch raced 2nd; led 350m; shifted out away from the crop late and bumped Angel's Power

Time: The time was a good one and effectively the second fastest race on the card. We gave the runner up (prev

81/91/91//53/84) 91 which makes the winner (prev 92/46/102/104 – has done 108) 106 and the third (prev 67/75/81/83/80) 81

106	1	0.00	WILL PAYS	(1)	60.5	C Zackey	7/1
6 b g	<i>Imperial Stride - Rattlebag (Jallad)</i>						
91	2	1.00	ANGEL'S POWER	(7)	55.5	P Strydom	17/2
5 b g	<i>Misque's Approval - Angel Child (Mogok)</i>						
81	3	1.50	SPORTING MONARCH	(6)	52.0	M Yeni	16/1
4 ch g	<i>Rebel King - Sporteska (Sportsworld)</i>						
86	4	2.50	<i>Classify</i>	(3)	55.5	M v Rensburg	14/1
86	5	3.70	<i>Romi's Boy</i>	(4)	57.5	R Simons	37/10
84	6	3.75	<i>Finchilton</i>	(8)	57.0	C Murray	30/1
85	7	3.85	<i>Amazing Strike</i>	(9)	57.5	F Herholdt	14/1
81	8	3.95	<i>Pure Blonde</i>	(12)	56.0	L Hewitson	12/1
72	9	4.35	<i>Spring Steel</i>	(2)	52.5	JP vd Merwe	13/1
91	10	5.45	<i>Champagne Haze</i>	(11)	63.0	M Khan	7/1
76	11	5.75	<i>Maximizer</i>	(5)	56.5	K De Melo	21/2
56	12	13.25	<i>Captain Aldo</i>	(10)	59.5	S Khumalo	12/1
Time: 71.85s (59.88s avg/1000m, or 60km/h) SP Total %: 110%							
1st T:MG & AA Azzie O:Messrs B J D Pepper, S G du Toit, M A Green & Y Jackson B:Northfields Stud							

For The Ladies R135 000**Striker Genius**

The Piere Strydom genius in the saddle was seen to good effect again when the Pathfork filly Secret Star flew up late to gain a narrow verdict in the R135 000 For The Ladies at Turffontein on Saturday. Keagan de Melo looked to have burgled the non black-type feature one from the front as Spring Wonder galloped strongly from her good draw from the break.

Inside the final 100m the 5yo Querari mare Spring Wonder had it in the bag, but Strydom had timed it finely and he got Secret Star to surge powerfully.

The Stuart Pettigrew-trained 4yo (the highest rated galloper in the race) finished well in the 1200m feature to win by a nose in a time of 71,59 secs.

The Highlands bred Secret Star is a daughter of Pathfork (Distorted Humor) out of the two-time winner Flowing Stars (Western Winter).

A R150 000 March Yearling Sale buy, she has won 6 races with 4 places from 13 starts and stakes of R4399 625.

For the Ladies (F&M) (NBT) 1200m

Winner Secret Star raced 4th; ran on strongly; got up in the very last stride Runner up Spring Wonder set the pace; kept on strongly; beaten a short head Third Alileo raced third; kept on; beaten 1,45 lengths

Time: Comparatively this was the fastest race on the card.

We gave the winner (prev 87/86/94/100/81) 100 which makes the runner up (prev 49/67/84/86/55) 88 and the third (prev 80/83) 78

100	1	0.00	SECRET STAR	(3)	60.0	P Strydom	4/1
4 b f	<i>Pathfork - Flowing Stars (Western Winter)</i>						
88	2	0.05	SPRING WONDER	(1)	54.5	K De Melo	9/2
5 b m	<i>Querari - Spring Ahead (Joshua Dancer)</i>						
78	3	1.45	ALILEO	(2)	52.0	L Hewitson	26/10
4 b f	<i>Captain Al - Sidera(AUS) (Galileo)</i>						
76	4	1.95	<i>My Friend Lee</i>	(5)	52.0	M Yeni	14/1
74	5	3.45	<i>Lady Starlett</i>	(4)	53.5	M v Rensburg	72/10
73	6	3.85	<i>Shivering Sea</i>	(6)	54.0	C Zackey	9/2
66	7	6.55	<i>Swift Sarah</i>	(7)	55.0	C Murray	14/1
Time: 71.59s (59.66s avg/1000m, or 60km/h) SP Total %: 110%							
1st T:ST Pettigrew O:Mr I F M van Schalkwyk B:Highlands							

FAIRVIEW (poly)**Friday, 1 September****Course Variant: 1,16s slow**

At around 12km/h the wind was moderate in Port Elizabeth on Friday. The false rail was in its usual position on the poly track and the going was standard

Founders Trophy (NBT) R110 000**All The Way**

Jarryd Penny steered the 7yo Stratocruiser to a sensational end-to-end win in Friday's R110 000 Founders Trophy at Fairview.

"He knew he had to go up and make the pace. I wanted him against the steel and nicely restrained. He is not a horse that quickens, but he stays on really well, and he was fit," said trainer Duncan McKenzie. Stratocruiser was always in front and held on well to beat the fast-finishing Stormy Eclipse by 2,25 lengths in a time of 95,95 secs.

Stratocruiser was bred by Pat Devine and is a son of Jet Master (Rakeen) out of Gilded Star (Golden Thatch).

He wasn't a cheapie with his National Yearling Sale R1,7 million price tag. Originally trained by Glen Kotzen, Stratocruiser has won 6 races with 18 places from 44 starts for stakes of R471 475.

Founders Trophy (NBT) 1600m

Winner Stratocruiser broke fast and very quickly amassed a lead in excess of 12 lengths; raced clear for most of the journey and effectively stole the race Runner up Stormy Eclipse raced 6th; ran on very well and was gaining quickly late; beaten 2,25 lengths

Third Gimme The Stars raced 4th; running on at finish; beaten 2,25 lengths; reported as not striding out in front

Time: In a time that was nothing out of the ordinary Stratocruiser took full advantage of his early speed, and the remainder taking a walk in the park.

We gave the runner up (prev 87/77/93//91/87) 91 which makes the winner (prev 43/82/46//66/82) 82 and the third (prev 81/84/83/84/88) 81

82	1	0.00	STRATOCRUISER	(1)	52.5	J Penny	16/1
7 b g	<i>Jet Master - Gilded Star (Golden Thatch)</i>						
91	2	2.25	STORMY ECLIPSE	(5)	59.0	X Ndlovu	12/1
6 gr g	<i>Dynasty - Stormy Appeal (Kilconnel)</i>						
81	3	3.75	GIMME THE STARS	(2)	56.0	K Zechner	2/1
4 b g	<i>Gimmethgreenlight - Cosmic Jet (Jet Master)</i>						
87	4	5.00	<i>Razed In Black</i>	(3)	60.0	G Cheyne	7/1
71	5	5.75	<i>Story Of My Life</i>	(7)	53.5	JP vd Merwe	8/1
70	6	7.50	<i>Miracle Bureau</i>	(6)	54.5	C Zackey	32/10
75	7	9.75	<i>Jet Explorer</i>	(4)	59.0	L Mxothwa	72/10
Time: 95.95s (59.97s avg/1000m, or 60km/h) SP Total %: 107%							
1st T:DA McKenzie O:Mrs A Devachander & Mr D A McKenzie B:PJ Devine							

Check the race results on this pageSporting Post **ABILITY RATINGS (AR)** puts every horse in its place

LEADING TRAINERS by STAKES

SEASON 2017/2018 • 1 August - 3 September 2017

trainer	rides	wins	win %	fav	fav %	wfav %	2nd	2nd %	1st four	1st four%	stakes	stks/rides
J Snaith	112	17	15%	27	24%	33%	18	16%	57	51%	1,373,925	12,267
AG Laird	35	7	20%	7	20%	71%	2	6%	16	46%	1,081,900	30,911
DC Howells	62	8	13%	9	15%	44%	7	11%	29	47%	859,550	13,864
MG & AA Azzie	57	7	12%	16	28%	13%	12	21%	28	49%	856,200	15,021
AC Greeff	92	9	10%	14	15%	21%	11	12%	40	43%	714,850	7,770
DR Drier	56	10	18%	11	20%	55%	5	9%	26	46%	710,475	12,687
DA Sham	65	11	17%	5	8%	60%	8	12%	28	43%	691,625	10,640
GD Smith	114	6	5%	8	7%	25%	13	11%	36	32%	651,075	5,711
R Hill	12	1	8%	0	0%	0%	1	8%	4	33%	650,625	54,219
PA Peter	56	8	14%	10	18%	30%	3	5%	23	41%	604,100	10,788
J Ramsden	35	8	23%	4	11%	75%	5	14%	19	54%	572,125	16,346
Y Bremner	74	9	12%	11	15%	18%	4	5%	30	41%	564,950	7,634
GM Alexander	47	6	13%	3	6%	100%	8	17%	21	45%	534,675	11,376
MF de Kock	39	6	15%	14	36%	29%	4	10%	18	46%	514,900	13,203
KG Naidoo	57	6	11%	6	11%	33%	7	12%	21	37%	490,350	8,603
SD Gray	42	6	14%	5	12%	20%	3	7%	18	43%	486,350	11,580
C Lensley	64	7	11%	10	16%	20%	8	13%	33	52%	437,300	6,833
T Laing	48	5	10%	6	13%	17%	7	15%	24	50%	420,550	8,761
C Bass-Robinson	53	5	9%	11	21%	36%	6	11%	20	38%	413,800	7,808
GV Woodruff	25	5	20%	7	28%	43%	3	12%	12	48%	383,475	15,339
LJ Erasmus	79	3	4%	6	8%	17%	6	8%	24	30%	381,425	4,828
LW Goosen	19	2	11%	3	16%	0%	4	21%	8	42%	381,200	20,063
G v Zyl	19	6	32%	5	26%	40%	4	21%	11	58%	372,500	19,605
SG Tarry	50	3	6%	5	10%	20%	6	12%	18	36%	364,375	7,288
VH Marshall	48	6	13%	5	10%	40%	1	2%	15	31%	357,500	7,448
C Spies	77	4	5%	5	6%	20%	6	8%	22	29%	352,850	4,582

LEADING JOCKEYS by WINS

SEASON 2017/2018 • 1 August - 3 September 2017

jockey	rides	wins	win %	fav	fav %	wfav %	2nd	2nd %	1st four	1st four%	stakes	stks/rides
C Zackey	122	17	14%	19	16%	16%	10	8%	56	46%	1,265,425	10,372
C Murray	120	16	13%	24	20%	29%	16	13%	47	39%	1,192,350	9,936
A Domeyer	70	15	21%	25	36%	40%	9	13%	41	59%	978,550	13,979
L Hewitson	110	13	12%	23	21%	30%	12	11%	47	43%	1,016,100	9,237
K De Melo	106	12	11%	18	17%	33%	16	15%	51	48%	1,302,350	12,286
G v Niekerk	46	11	24%	12	26%	33%	10	22%	34	74%	813,800	17,691
M Yeni	73	10	14%	10	14%	30%	10	14%	37	51%	778,450	10,664
G Wrogemann	63	10	16%	4	6%	50%	6	10%	33	52%	902,075	14,319
G Lerena	31	9	29%	18	58%	44%	5	16%	19	61%	596,450	19,240
R Fourie	57	9	16%	13	23%	31%	9	16%	31	54%	741,175	13,003
L Mxothwa	37	9	24%	1	3%	100%	1	3%	20	54%	533,950	14,431
A Marcus	37	8	22%	17	46%	29%	6	16%	25	68%	646,525	17,474
M v Rensburg	88	8	9%	10	11%	30%	12	14%	40	45%	819,625	9,314
K Zechner	84	8	10%	9	11%	11%	9	11%	39	46%	742,225	8,836
A Delpech	42	7	17%	15	36%	40%	9	21%	24	57%	728,325	17,341
W Kennedy	59	7	12%	12	20%	17%	10	17%	28	47%	606,225	10,275
C Maujean	97	7	7%	2	2%	0%	7	7%	25	26%	584,625	6,027
A Arries	37	7	19%	3	8%	67%	1	3%	18	49%	446,850	12,077
S Khumalo	39	6	15%	7	18%	43%	7	18%	20	51%	506,525	12,988
R Simons	27	6	22%	7	26%	57%	3	11%	16	59%	1,045,050	38,706
S Veale	55	6	11%	5	9%	20%	3	5%	26	47%	1,080,600	19,647
R Munger	126	6	5%	1	1%	100%	8	6%	36	29%	568,475	4,512
S Moodley	42	6	14%	2	5%	50%	2	5%	16	38%	390,925	9,308
Wei Marwing	52	5	10%	7	13%	0%	7	13%	27	52%	578,200	11,119
M Thackeray	90	5	6%	3	3%	33%	6	7%	30	33%	388,875	4,321
G Cheyne	37	4	11%	6	16%	0%	10	27%	25	68%	408,250	11,034



Raymond Danielson is riding with renewed vigour

What A Smoothie

Raymond 'Stingray' Danielson's ride to get Biarritz' son Walter Smoothie home for Stuart Pettigrew and beat Anton Marcus on the odds-on Stay With Me at Turffontein on Tuesday, ranks as a ride of the month candidate. Danielson's noticeable new never-say-die approach has made him a rejuvenated jockey after his forgettable Mauritius experience got his new season off to a shaky start.



Justin Snaith wants to keep the momentum up all season

Snaith On Top

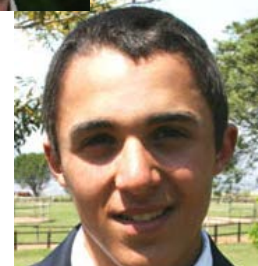
Justin Snaith saddled three good winners at Kenilworth on Saturday and the competitive Capetonian – a one time SA Champion- has been quoted in the media saying that he doesn't want his good start to fizzle out again. That after enduring his worst ever summer season on record in 2016. He has finished two consecutive seconds to Sean Tarry in the national title chase – but Tarry has extended the gap. With a month gone, Snaith is on top. Can he stay there?



On A Good Wicket

KZN Champion trainer Duncan Howells and his stable jockey Keagan De Melo registered a good double at Scottsville on Sunday. The Ashburton-based combination boast an 18% win strike-rate.

Winning Form-sponsored Duncan Howells and jockey Keagan De Melo have struck up a winning partnership



Duncan sends Secret Captain to the Vaal for the Grand Heritage at month end, but has not made a final decision on a Cape Summer campaign. "I have

some decent but late maturing horses. The Cape is strong. I don't want to set them back. And on our return, it can be difficult to place them with high MR's," he told SP Digest.

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SIGNPOSTS

2nd season sires - 3yo's

AWAIT THE DAWN (Giant's Causeway)

Piera 3f (Boreal Applause by Royal Applause)

Fairview 2 Maiden Plate (3yo's)(Polytrack) 1200m (08/09)

Await The Day 3f (Full Term by Lecture)

Fairview 8 MR 63 Handicap (F&M)(Polytrack) 1600m (08/09)

BYWORD (Peintre Celebre)

True Words 3c (Kalami by Daylami)

Kenilworth 1 Maiden Plate 1200m (09/09)

Pilansberg 3c (African Dawn by Jet Master)

Scottsville 1 Maiden Plate (3yo's) 1200m (10/09)

Flaming Desire 3f (Seraphim Falls by Kahal)

Scottsville 3 Maiden Plate (F&M) 1400m (10/09)

CRUSADE (Johannesburg)

Purdey 3f (Secret Babe by Labeeb)

Turffontein 2 Maiden Plate (F&M) 1450m (09/09)

Wings Of Honor 3f (Flyingwithoutwings by Jet Master)

Kenilworth 3 Maiden Plate (F&M) 1000m (09/09)

First Crusade 3c (Pacific Blue by Model Man)

Scottsville 1 Maiden Plate (3yo's) 1200m (10/09)

Slightly Scottish 3c (Lilly Pilly by Diesis)

Scottsville 1 Maiden Plate (3yo's) 1200m (10/09)

Wee Maggie 3f (Forbidden Woods by Fort Wood)

Scottsville 3 Maiden Plate (F&M) 1400m (10/09)

Indian Maid 3f (Betty's Bay by West Man)

Scottsville 3 Maiden Plate (F&M) 1400m (10/09)

Miss Millionaire 3f (Really Rich by Only a Pound)

Scottsville 8 MR 62 Handicap 1000m (10/09)

EIGHTFOLD PATH (Giant's Causeway)

Brigntumberten 3c (Summer Dew by Joshua Dancer)

Turffontein 1 Maiden Plate 1000m (09/09)

IRISH FLAME (Dynasty)

Irish Brave 3c (Case Stated by London News)

Fairview 1 Maiden Plate (Polytrack) 1600m (08/09)

MARCHFIELD (A P Indy)

March Affair 3f (Wild Liasion by Captain Al)

Kenilworth 6 Maiden Plate (F&M) 2000m (09/09)

ORATORIO (Danehill)

Sing And Dance 3f (Boogie With Cher by Singpiel)

Fairview 3 Maiden Plate (F&M)(Polytrack) 1000m (08/09)

Sacred Oration 3c (Scarlet Causeway by Giant's Causeway)

Fairview 6 MR 86 Handicap (Polytrack) 1400m (08/09)

Escamillo 3c (Sangria Girl by Wolfhound)

Turffontein 3 Maiden Plate (3yo's) 1800m (09/09)

Tubular Bell 3c (Goose Valley by Right Approach)

Kenilworth 4 Maiden Plate (3yo's) 1400m (09/09)

Seraphic 3f (Menorah by Var)

Scottsville 2 Maiden Plate (F&M) 1400m (10/09)

Arianos Bagofgold 3c (Heritage Wood by Var)

Scottsville 7 MR 84 Handicap 1200m (10/09)

TWICE OVER (Observatory)

Banstead Manor 3c (Silver Chord by Silvano)

Kenilworth 2 Maiden Plate 1200m (09/09)

Meliora 3c (Mirabile by Spectrum)

Kenilworth 2 Maiden Plate 1200m (09/09)

Twofold 3c (Ice Bouquet by Western Winter)

Kenilworth 2 Maiden Plate 1200m (09/09)

Lacerta 3f (Pulsator by Captain Al)

Kenilworth 8 MR 64 Handicap 1000m (09/09)

Do It Again 3c (Sweet Virginia by Casey Tibbs)

Kenilworth 9 MR 68 Handicap 1600m (09/09)

Lady Elliodor 3f (Val De Vie by Goldmark)

Scottsville 2 Maiden Plate (F&M) 1400m (10/09)

Draugluin 3c (Werewolf by Wolfhound)

Scottsville 4 Maiden Plate 1400m (10/09)

WHAT A WINTER (Western Winter)

What A Summer 3c (Limerick by Fort Wood)

Kenilworth 1 Maiden Plate 1200m (09/09)

Hello Manny 3c (Toffee Nose by Kahal)

Kenilworth 2 Maiden Plate 1200m (09/09)

Red Eight 3c (Colour Fast by Spectrum)

Kenilworth 4 Maiden Plate (3yo's) 1400m (09/09)

Cousin Ed 3c (Rhinestone by Elliodor)

Kenilworth 4 Maiden Plate (3yo's) 1400m (09/09)

Is Your Horse One To Follow?

Check the **Notable Maiden Winners & Horses for the Notebook** on this page

- see how promising the Sporting Post **ability ratings (AR)** say they are.

Notable Maiden Winners

DYNASTY

Rated AR 72 **Yamoto** (3c Townsend by Captain Al)

Maiden Plate Turffontein stand side (1160m) (5/9)

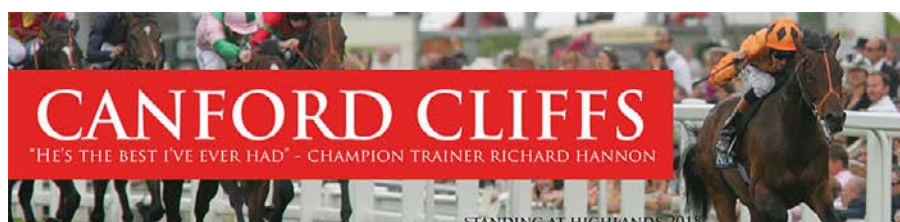
A R2.2m purchase at the National Sale, Sean Tarry's newcomer was sent off a strong favourite. Positioned in midfield early on, Yamoto made up the ground quickly when given rein and only asked to do the necessary in the latter stages of the race, to win going away. He is likely to improve when put over further (his dam, rated AR 93, won over 14/1600m), and trainer Sean Tarry did speak well of him after the race.

GREYS INN

Rated AR81 **Ninjara** (3f Triangular Series by Sportsworld)

Maiden Plate (F&M) Vaal (inside) (1200m) (31/8)

Not the quickest into stride when the gates opened, this daughter of Greys Inn raced in midfield during the early part of the race. She ran on strongly from halfway and after striking the front 300m from home, she cruised clear to score by eight and a quarter.



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Horses To Follow

SEPOY

Rated AR84 **Alwahsh** (3c Irish Blues by O'reilly)

MR84 Handicap Vaal (outside) (1200m) (29/8)

Stepping up considerably in class after winning his debut with authority, Mike De Kock's charge was sent off a strong favourite here. Soon positioned on the heels of the leader, Alwahsh took up the running 250m out and with some in hand won comfortably.

TRIPPI

Rated AR86 **Guns And Roses** (4f Western Hour by Gone West)

MR92 Handicap (F&M) Turffontein (inner) (1800m) (2/9)

Since finishing third on debut when squeezed at the start, Guns And Roses has now won five in a row. She quickened by far the best when the race developed into a 400m sprint here, and won going away by three and a half.

AWAIT THE DAWN

Rated AR87 **Big Bear** (3c Gamalakhe by Northern Guest)

Novice Handicap Turffontein (inner) (1450m) (2/9)

With most of the runners having won from just a few starts, Big Bear contested a pretty hot novice event here. Now a winner of two from three, Sean Tarry's charge got away well when the gates opened, and was soon positioned close to the speed. He took up the running 450m out and went on to score with authority by three and a quarter.

SILVANO

Rated AR90 **Billy Silver** (3c Evening Attire by Kahal)

Novice Plate Scottsville (1200m) (3/9)

Heavily supported when running out a very easy winner on debut, this 3yo son of Silvano followed up in similar style here. Soon positioned in second, in a race where just four went to post, Dennis Bosch's charge took up the running 400m out. He was only asked to do the necessary from there onwards and won with a ton in hand by two.

Winners Bred Abroad

another **AUSHORSE** winner

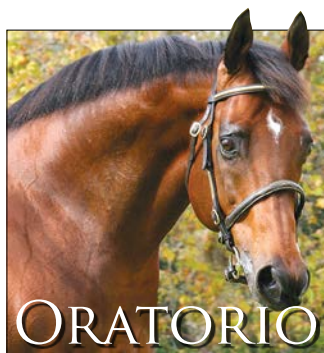
Alwahsh (AUS) 3c Sepoy- Irish Blues(NZ) (O'Reilly)

Vaal 1200m (29/08)

another **AUSHORSE** winner

Still I Rise (AUS) 3f Street Cry- Costa Mesa(AUS) (Encosta de Lago)

Kenilworth 1200m (02/09)



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SPORTS AND BETTING

English Premier League

Man City vs Liverpool | Saturday 9 September | Etihad Stadium | 13:30



Manchester City welcome Liverpool to the Etihad Stadium in the early kick-off on Saturday, with Pep Guardiola looking to beat the Reds for the first time since taking charge of the Citizens.

Jurgen Klopp's men are

unbeaten in their last five Premier League meetings against City, winning four times.

City haven't beaten Liverpool in the Premier League since 2014, when they recorded a 3-1 victory at the Etihad Stadium. However, they did get the better of the Reds in February last year to claim the League Cup with a 3-1 shoot-out victory following a 1-1 draw at Wembley. Both sides have started the season with two wins and a draw, but they will be looking to claim a big scalp by getting one over their rivals this weekend.

To catch up with Chadley Nagel previews [CLICK HERE](#)

MANCHESTER CITY

Manchester City kicked off their Premier League season with a 2-0 win over Brighton at the Amex Stadium. The Citizens were then held to a 1-1 draw at home to Everton, before beating Bournemouth 2-1 at the Vitality Stadium. Guardiola would have been hoping to have Alexis Sanchez in his squad against a team they have traditionally struggled against, but the Chilean's move fell through on transfer deadline day with City now having to wait till he becomes a free agent at the end of the season.

LIVERPOOL

Liverpool have collected seven points from their opening three matches to sit second in the table and spark talk of a possible Premier League title challenge. The Reds were held to a 3-3 draw away to Watford in Klopp's 100th competitive game in charge, but they bounced back to beat Crystal Palace 1-0 at Anfield and trounced Arsenal 4-0 before the international break. Klopp rested Simon Mignolet against Arsene Wenger's side, but is still likely to start the Belgian goalkeeper ahead of Loris Karius against City. Philippe Coutinho is yet to feature for Liverpool this campaign due to a back injury. But the Brazilian playmaker could be in contention to feature after failing to secure a move to Barcelona in the transfer window. It would be a massive boost for Klopp to call upon Coutinho, but the German boss may well prefer to stick with the same players who overran the Gunners at Anfield.

PREDICTION: Liverpool Win & Both Teams to Score (9/2)

CHA CHA CHORIZO

WON 1600m Kenilworth, 30 August - 1 win, 4 runs

SEQUINED

WON 1400m Kenilworth, 2 September - 1 win, 5 places, 6 runs

ORATIO

WON 1200m by 5L at Flamingo Park, 4 September - 2 wins, 2 places, 9 runs

CLOCKWATCHING WITH STEVE FURNISH

In The Moment

A REVIEW OF THE WEEK'S BEST SPEED RATINGS

Weighted To Win

Scottsville 27 August

A pinnacle stakes topped the bill in Pietermaritzburg on Sunday and in what not surprisingly proved to be the fastest of the three 1200m races victory went to the best weighted runner in the field LONDON CALL. A winner of 8 from 15 coming into the race, the 7yo son of Kahal led throughout. He raced a length clear for most of the journey before extending his advantage to two and three quarters over the final 400m.

Quickest home in the two 1000m races was ISCA in the MR96 Handicap. Not the quickest into stride when the gates opened Gavin Van Zyl's charge raced in the backend of midfield early on. He quickened well going through the 400m and in what proved to be a real thriller he got up in the very last stride to deny the unfancied LIL RED ROOSTER.

By far the faster of the two 2400m races was the MR66 Handicap won by the 4yo IDEAL WINTER. Sent off a strong favourite at 2/1 the top weighted 4yo was always handy. He ran on strongly at the business end of the race and with the rest well beaten he got the better of the joint second favourite SILENT OBSESSION by a half.

Titbits Always handy, the 3yo son of Dynasty BRIGHTEYEBUSHYTAIL made it two from three when winning the MR63 Handicap over 1950m.

Shocking Stuff

Fairview 28 August

The only distance to stage more than one race on the poly track on Monday was 1900m where by far the faster of the two events was the MR59 Handicap won by the easy to back KATNISS. Freely available at 16/1 on the off, Grant Paddock's charge went straight to the front and attempted to lead throughout. She was headed by BANKS HIDEAL 300m out, but fought back gamely in the closing stages of the race to beat the running on NIGHT DANCER by a half.

A MR84 Handicap over 1200m topped the bill and here another upset was to be had when AUDRIE DO registered her fourth career victory. Positioned in midfield as the twelve runners swung for home, the daughter of Kahal

quickened nicely at the top of the short home straight and under a well-judged ride from Raymond Danielson, she got up late to beat the always handy OKLAHOMA SKY by a half. Fourth placed SWEETCHILD O MINE ran on well from the rear in this race.

The biggest upset on the card came in the novice 1400m where the 36/1 shot AWAIT THE DAY landed the spoils. Another to run on stoutly from midfield, Await The Day beat the two strongly fancied runners VALENTINIK and CAPTAIN MARMALADE (both prominent throughout) fair and square.

Titbits Detached at the rear after losing ground at the start, DIE KAT was fairly flying at the finish when a length and a half runner up in the MR76 Handicap over 2200m.

Unbeaten in Two

Vaal 29 August

Four of the eight races on the outside track on Tuesday were run over 1200m and by far the fastest of these was the MR84 Handicap won by the highly regarded 3yo ALWAHSH. Taking a big step up in class here after shedding his maiden tag at the first attempt, Mike De Kock's charge was soon positioned close to the speed. He was always doing it easily and won going away after putting his head in front 250m out.

The only other distance to stage more than one race was 1400m where the fastest of the three events was the MR66 Handicap won by the consistent SLEEPINSEATTLE. Deposed at the top of the boards before the off, this 6yo Mambo In Seattle gelding was soon up handy. He put his head in front shortly after passing halfway and comfortably accounted for the fancied VAR'S YOUR DADDY by a length and a quarter.

Race four on the card was a maiden plate over 1000m and here we saw a comfortable victory for the heavily supported WELL-SPRING. Third to Alwahsh last time out, Clinton Binda's charge raced in midfield for the first half of the race. He quickened well over the final 500m and won going away from the 30/1 shot STRIKERS BOY.

Titbits CLARET CUP completed a double in just seven days when winning the MR62 Handicap over 1200m.

Last Week's Top Rated SPEED RATINGS winners incl.

Await The Day won 36/1
Musette won 17/1
Celtic Charm won 8/1
Isca won 9/2
Cataluga won 37/10
Flying Rock won 37/10
Strathdon won 18/10
London Call won 1/1

Notebook

Horses worth following at their next few starts...

ALWAHSH (M De Kock, Gauteng)
DARKEST HOUR (B Botes, Gauteng)
DIE KAT (G Paddock, E-Cape)
NINJARA (M Houdalakis, Gauteng)

Top speed ratings for this weekend

(Ratings shown have already been adjusted to allocated weights)

FAIRVIEW (FRI)

Race 1: (1) Seattle Spell 10
 Race 2: (1) Run For Your Life 6
 Race 3: (9) Nimble 5
 Race 4: (6) Omega Onslaught 58
 Race 5: (7) Truly 50
 Race 6: (10) Grandissimo 71
 Race 7: (11) Red Hot Lady 58
 Race 8: (11) Night Dancer 47

TURFFONTEIN (SAT)

Race 1: (12) Hampton Court 19
 Race 2: (2) Ice Art 19
Race 3: (10) Vacquero 5 (NAP*)
 Race 4: (6) Silken 44
 Race 5: (7) Lee's Pick 72
 Race 6: (4) Smokey Affair 64
 Race 7: (1) Hatfield Square 29
 Race 8: (8) Beautiful Emmilee 29
 Race 9: (12) Spanish Tune 44

KENILWORTH (SAT)

Race 1: (3) Seventh Rule 20 (NAP*)
 Race 2: (7) Johnny Black 8
 Race 3: (1) Runaway Rebel 10
 Race 4: (2) Rommel 11
 Race 5: (9) Silver Streamer 22
 Race 6: (2) Scorpion Queen 6
Race 7: (1) Ahoy Me Matey 43 (EW)
 Race 8: (3) Shizam 30
 Race 9: (17) In The Jungle 44

SCOTTSVILLE (SUN)

Race 1: (13) Zen Arcade 27 (NAP)**
 Race 2: (6) Coral Queen 15
 Race 3: (1) Got Your Back 13
 Race 4: (11) Draugluin 22
 Race 5: (4) Peggy's Dream 39
 Race 6: (4) Putchini 38
 Race 7: (5) Panza 69
 Race 8: (15) National Agenda 33

Nap bets

* Fancied ** Strongly fancied
 *** Very strongly fancied



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CLOCKWATCHING CONT.

Progressing Nicely

Kenilworth 30 August

The going was good to soft on the old course on Wednesday where stopping the clock in the faster of the two 1200m maiden plates was FRESNAYE in the girl's affair. She got away well when the gates opened and soon up handy raced prominent throughout. She ran on strongly over the final 400m and with the rest well beaten she got the better of the well supported TOWNSHIP MELODY late on.

The faster of the two 1600m races was the MR80 Handicap in which we saw a smart performance from the lightly raced 4yo DEX DEXTER. Now a winner of two from three, the Dynasty gelding quickened nicely at the business end of the race and won going away by three quarters from the strongly fancied COMMANDER BOND.

They also ran two races over 1400m and quickest home here was CELTIC CHARM in the MR64 Handicap. Nibbled at on course into 8/1 from 10's, Mike Stewart's charge led throughout. She kept on determinedly over the final 400m and although her length and a half advantage was cut into in the closing stages of the race, she still had a half-length to spare at the wire.

Titbits Having only his second career outing here THE SUN ALSO RISES ran on strongly from the backend of midfield when third in the opening maiden plate over 1200m.

Two 3yo's To Follow

Vaal 31 August

They raced on the inside track on Thursday where victory in the fastest of the three 1700m races went to the unfancied POLAR SECRET in the MR76 Handicap. Freely available at 13/1 on the off, the bottom weight was always handy. She was ridden to lead going through the 400m and comfortably accounted for PERFECT ORDER by three and a quarter.

The faster of the two 2000m races was the MR66 Handicap and here it was nice to see the ultra-consistent 5yo GENTLEMAN ONLY gain his fourth career win. Sent off favourite at 17/10, Tyrone Zackey's charge was always in touch with the leaders. He took up the running 200m out and with a ton in hand won going away by three and three quarters.

A maiden plate for the girls over 1200m had opened up proceedings and here we saw an impressive performance from the 3yo NINJARA. Sent off fourth in the betting market at 5/1, the daughter of Greys Inn wasn't the quickest into stride and as a result she raced in midfield early on. She struck the front 300m out and cruised clear in the closing stages of the race to score by eight and a quarter.

Titbits After being baulked for a run 300m out, DARKEST HOUR went on to win the maiden plate over 1400m easing down by five and a quarter.

FASTEST TIMES

(Number of races run in each category shown in brackets)
* Times taken by Clockwatcher

SCOTTSVILLE (INSIDE) 27 AUGUST

Penetrometer 22 – Going Good

Course Variant: 0,66s fast

1000m (2) Isca	56,53
1200m (3) London Call	67,53
1950m (2) Warfarer	119,67
2400m (2) Ideal Winter	152,47

FAIRVIEW (POLY) 28 AUGUST

Going Standard

Course Variant: 0,08s slow

1000m (1) Flying Rock	57,20*
1200m (1) Audrie Do	69,30
1300m (1) Margylle	76,38
1400m (1) Await The Day	83,00
1600m (1) Placido	95,65
1900m (2) Katniss	116,11
2200m (1) Jeremy	135,68

VAAL (OUTSIDE) 29 AUGUST

Penetrometer 22 – Going Good

Course Variant: 2,25s slow

1000m (1) Wellspring	59,99
1200m (4) Alwahsh	71,38*
1400m (3) Sleepinseattle	85,74

KENILWORTH 30 AUGUST

Penetrometer 24 – Going G/Soft

Course Variant: 2,91s slow

1200m (2) Fresnoye	74,96
1400m (2) Celtic Charm	90,74
1600m (2) Dex Dexter	102,30
1800m (2) Our Emperor	113,68

VAAL (INSIDE) 31 AUGUST

Penetrometer 23 – Going Good

Course Variant: 3,15s slow

1000m (1) Cataluga	60,27
1200m (1) Ninjara	73,53*
1400m (1) Darkest Hour	87,21
1700m (3) Polar Secret	105,52
2000m (2) Gentleman Only	125,81
2400m (1) Seeking Gold	156,33

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FOR R4000 SATURDAY 5
Internet



R165 000
FOR R100 TUESDAY 1
Internet



R222 919
FOR R2160 WEDNESDAY 2
Internet



R134 093
FOR R4000 SUNDAY 13
Internet



R200 000
FOR R500 TUESDAY 22
Internet



R127 657
FOR R100 SATURDAY 12
Polokwane



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