

READY TO RUN SALE
Presented by Lanzerac Hotel & Spa
16 - 17 November 2017
Durbanville Racecourse

KERRY JACK - e: kerry@cthbs.com
KIRSTY COERTZE - e: kirsty@cthbs.com
w: capethoroughbredsales.com

Cape Thoroughbred Sales

sportingpost digest

Thursday 16 November 2017
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RACING THIS WEEKEND

FAIRVIEW Turf Friday
Best Roving Banker:
R1-(1)Fort Viva(5/2)

GREYVILLE Turf Saturday
Best Roving Banker:
R8-(2) Neptune's Rain (12/10)

KENILWORTH Saturday
Best Roving Banker:
R1-(5)Above Eleven(5/1)

TURFFONTEIN inner Sunday
Best Roving Banker:
R1-(9) Ouro (3/1)

You may have missed...

Sunday 12 November
Greyville- race 4
Sporting Post
Best Handicapped
Show Me Your Rosie
WON 17/1 ☺



HOOKED ON CLASSICS

Saturday's Gr2 Selangor Cup is a golden highway to the Cape Guineas and the classic beyond. The winners and placed horses over the years have inevitably gone on to greater things and it could once again prove to be a curtain-raiser to hail a new generation equine hero.

The maxim that 'the best milers make the best sires' is underscored by the Cape Guineas honour roll. The race has been the proving battleground for future sire power for decades and the Selangor Cup, and alternatively the Dingaans run in Johannesburg, is where we initially separate the wheat from the chaff.

A glance at the Selangor Cup honour roll over the past 13 years shows that ten of the top three placers were considered good enough to go on and take

up careers as stallions. Some worked, some didn't.

Trainer Dean Kannemeyer achieved his 'classic' mantra in the golden years earlier this century after he had taken over the reins from his legendary Dad Peter, in 1999.

"If I look back at some of my better 3yo's over the years, the Selangor Cup was an important stepping stone into the Guineas. It is a race that is timed right in terms of a prep – but it will also give an indication of whether your horse is ready to box in the top

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HOOKED ON CLASSICS

league, or whether he may just be a decent handicapper in time,” he said.

He won the Selangor in 2004 with the London News colt Mercury Chief, who upstaged his more fancied stablemate Rabiya. The latter would go on and win the Guineas.

The very next year he scored the Selangor double when the Brazillian-bred Royal Academy colt Express Way beat the Stan Elley longshot Mighty Atom. Express Way went on to win the Guineas – which was run in the current L’Ormarins Queen’s Plate time-slot of early January still.

He had to wait until 2008 when his then stable jockey MJ Byleveld steered the Australian-bred Le Drakkar, in the famous Jaffee white, red and black to beat the Fenix owned Bush Pirate and pick up the Selangor trophy. Le Drakkar is another who would go on to win the Guineas!

The very next year, the Khaya Stables Pivotal star sprinter-miler Noordhoek Flyer was beaten into second by subsequent Met winner Past Master – but Kannemeyer would make good when Noordhoek Flyer would go and secure generation topper status with a Guineas win.

“There are four or five really top-class looking youngsters in the race on Saturday. Depending on the weather and wind, it’s bound to be a tactical race – and an element of speed is essential. It just gives the jockey more options. It will be a cracking race to watch – and no doubt we will see a possible Guineas winner!” added Kannemeyer.

Everybody Wants To Win It!

One of South Africa’s great classic races, the Gr1 Cape Guineas will be run on 16 December for a stake of R1 million – and is sadly still sponsorless at this point in time.



CAPTAIN AL winning in 2000

The Milnerton domiciled race that evolved into the Guineas actually dates back as far as 1927, when it was originally called the Western Province Derby. It changed its name to the Western Province Guineas in 1945

and in 1955 became the Cape of Good Hope Guineas when raced for a stake of £4200.

The first Guineas winner Marion Island was bred by George Kramer at his Broadlands Stud and was raced by Mr & Mrs R Engestrom and Mr J Carney, who was also his trainer. The horse changed stables to Syd Garrett sometime after his Guineas win and went on to win the first of the £10 000 Mets in 1957.

In 1963 Cape Mellow-wood came on board as sponsors until 1970. The race was sponsorless from 1971 to 1974. In line with the Cape Town Festival of 1975 the race was branded the Argus Festival Guineas and won by the brilliant son of Kirch Flambee, Gatecrasher.

The classic became the Richelieu Guineas in 1978 and in the next two decades had various sponsors from Topsport Bloodline, to Bloodstock South Africa, the Cape Premier Yearling Sale and Grand Parade Investments.

SATURDAY RACING

Class Of 2017

Gr2 Selangor Cup Kenilworth

The SP top-rated Alec Laird-trained Broadway Trip beat subsequent Gr3 Graham Beck Stakes winner Zen Arcade in the richly endowed BSA August Million at Scottsville in mid August.

He maintained his three-from- three record with a no nonsense victory giving weight at Turffontein on 14 October. None of those that he beat at his last start went on to sparkle in the Graham Beck Stakes, and he faces his first serious test of mettle on Saturday. But the son of Trippi jumps from a 2 gate and adds a major dimension of interest to the contest.



Eyes Wide Open | Gold Circle

Last term’s Gr1 Premiers Champion Stakes winner Eyes Wide Open should be primed to deliver a big run at his third start as a 3yo. Glen Kotzen’s son of Dynasty looked in need of it when failing to show any enthusiasm at his last start over the course and distance but has everything in his favour on Saturday.

Brett Crawford’s Captain Al colt Undercover Agent emerged as a classic contender when he chased Tap O’Noth home in the Gr3 Cape Classic at his last start. Prior to that he won two of his three starts and he tries the mile for the first time here. His dam won twice up to 2000m and he looks capable of going further. We will find out how good he is on Saturday.

The exciting Oratorio colt Ancestry was a fast-finishing Gr1 and Gr2 runner-up as a 2yo and finally gets his big chance to confirm his Guineas – and even Derby- prospects. There is little between him and Eyes Wide Open on their Gr1 clash at the end of last season and he will have come on with the benefit of a pipe-opener sprint at end October. He gets the blinkers fitted and Anton Marcus, who was aboard at his maiden win, rides him on Saturday.

Paul Lafferty’s Sniper Shot has drawn wide and has made respiratory noises at his two mostly uninspiring Cape starts. The son of Judpot is held on his Cape Classic fifth by Undercover Agent and has back-end of quartet prospects at best.

The Sean Tarry-trained Captain And Master comes to the Mother City with a big reputation and the son of Captain Al caught the eye with a scintillating win beating boom KZN 2yo Red Chesnut Road at Greyville at his only start this

term. He was well beaten at his only start over a mile – in the Gr1 Premiers Champion Stakes – but could be the dark horse here.

Gr2 Selangor Cup past winners			
2014			
1	Act Of War	58.0	(6) 6/10
2	Kingvoldt	58.0	(2) 22/1
3	MLjet	56.5	(5) 33/10
2014			
1	Hard Day’s Night	60.0	(10) 6/1
2	Victorious Jay	60.0	(3) 12/1
3	Nassa	60.0	(7) 12/1
2014			
1	Gold Standard	60.0	(8) 28/1
2	Edict Of Nantes	60.0	(9) 9/1
3	Table Bay	60.0	(2) 7/10

START

4:35PM

KENILWORTH

7

PA5/PICK SIX4/JACKPOT3

Gr2 SELANGOR CUP (3YO'S) - 1600M

SAME TRAINER:(5-12)(7-9)

Dynasty

Oratorio

Captain Al

Trippi

Jay Peg

Judpot

Captain Al

Twice Over

Trippi

Alado

Gitano Hernando

Oratorio

1

EYES WIDE OPEN(GS Kotzen) R Fourie

1

60.0

2

ANCESTRY(J Ramsden) A Marcus

3

58.0

3

CAPTAIN AND MASTER(SG Tarry) S Khumalo

10

58.0

4

BROADWAY TRIP(AG Laird) R Simons

2

58.0

5

WOLJAYRINE(VH Marshall) M Byleveld

8

58.0

6

SNIPER SHOT(PV Lafferty) C Zackey

12

58.0

7

UNDERCOVER AGENT(BJ Crawford) C Ortier

4

58.0

8

DO IT AGAIN(J Snaith) B Fayd'herbe

11

58.0

9

WHITE RIVER(BJ Crawford) G Cheyne

9

58.0

10

ROCKET COUNTDOWN(C Bass-Robinson) A Domeyer

6

58.0

11

STEEL ROSE(GR Puller) P Botha

7

58.0

12

NORDIC CHANT(VH Marshall) G v Niekerk

5

58.0

SATURDAY RACING

The Gr3 Godolphin Barb winner Woljayrine is the pick of Vaughan Marshall stable rider MJ Byleveld and looks a decent 3yo in the making. The son of Jay Peg travelled to Fairview to poach a second career success last time out and while unplaced in the Gr2 Golden Horseshoe as a 2yo, looks to be improving. It is difficult looking past the top four, with Broadway Trip looking to edge out Ancestry and Undercover Agent. The master Sean Tarry has always rated Captain And Master – we would be tempting fate to disregard him.

Two Decades On

Saturday heralds the 20th anniversary of the twinning agreement established in 1997 between the then Gold Circle, as custodian of Cape racing, and the Selangor Turf Club.

A reciprocal race called the Kenilworth Cup is run every year in Kuala Lumpur and June 2018 will see that race coming of age at its 21st running.

The Selangor Turf Club was founded in 1896 under the patronage of British resident Sir Frank Swettenham. The first race meeting took place in March 1896 and for over a century, horseracing was primarily a lavish pastime of the rich and famous in Kuala Lumpur and the Selangor Turf Club was the place to meet and to be seen.

On Saturday Selangor CEO Mike Fong will be hosted as a guest of honour by Kenilworth Racing and he will present the Gr2 Selangor Cup winner’s trophy .

Money, Money, Money

Lanzerac Ready To Run Cup Kenilworth

The Chris van Niekerk red and blue flag and trainer Sean Tarry have been a dominant factor in the Lanzerac Ready To Run Stakes and the combination looks set for another big day on Saturday.



Barrack Street |JC Photos

The R2,5 million 1400m race restricted to qualifying graduates of the CTS 2016 sales has attracted a quality line-up with a host of stakes performers in the play.

While local powerhouses Glen Kotzen and Brett Crawford offer some resistance, Tarry holds the aces and makes it his business to win these big money contests.

Tarry’s top trio are all feature winners.

The Dynasty colt Barrack Street, a half-brother to top international star Jay Peg, gets the services of Anton Marcus

as he goes the 1400m for the first time. He has his issues – not striding out and respiratory noises being cautionary notices at his last two starts – but should strip fit and ready after two sharpening sprints.

Gr2 winner Wonderwall will be fit – he ran just a fortnight ago in the Emperors Place Ready To Run Cup when fourth to stablemate Big Bear after showing pace and could enjoy the winter track.

Var’s Gr2 winning son Purple Diamond was 7 lengths behind Wonderwall there and would have a say on his best 2yo form.

Brett Crawford saddles inaugural Kuda Sprint winner Bold Respect, who gave Wonderwall – then still a maiden – 2kgs and a short head beating on Met day. Bold Respect ran a cracking prep behind Sergeant Hardy at the end of last month and but for his awful draw, would be a first choice at home.

Justin Snaith’s Sir Frenchie improved after a disappointing patch when staying on for fourth in the Cape Classic recently. He may enjoy the course and distance again but is drawn out wide.

Another with an awful draw is Glen Kotzen’s Pack Leader, recent runaway winner of the Listed Racing Association Stakes on the Fairview poly. This handsome Philanthropist colt could be the dark horse amongst the top-rated echelon.

It looks tough for the balance, but surprises are possible.

Second of the Snaith duo, Trippi filly Miss Katalin never quite got into things when beaten 8 lengths by her stablemate Snowdance in the Western Cape Fillies Championship. She is stakes placed and must have a shout with her 2,5kg sex allowance.

The same applies to Joey Ramsden’s Stagelight filly Wine Festival, a course and distance maiden winner who has pulled a good draw. But it is difficult making a case for her.

Strategic Power should enjoy the step up in trip but is another who steps up a good few rungs in class at unfavourable weight terms on what he has shown so far.

Sean Tarry’s recent maiden winner Visigoth has pulled a pole position draw but will need to up his game straight out of the maidens into this company.

The Sean Tarry pair of Barrack Street and Wonderwall take on the local hotshots Bold Respect and Pack Leader. It would be nice to see a Cape trainer getting a slice of the big money action for a change. It should be a terrifically hotly contested affair. Beyond the top five, there are not too many others who look capable of winning it.

RTR Cup past winners		
2014		
1	Zambezi River	58.0 (1) 9/2
2	Brutal Force	58.0 (11) 5/1
3	Sunset Tripp	55.5 (5) 25/1
2014		
1	Budapest	60.0 (5) 33/1
2	Anglet	57.5 (6) 25/1
3	Captain Chaos	60.0 (2) 9/2
2014		
1	Safe Harbour	57.5 (1) 9/1
2	Sergeant Hardy	60.0 (10) 15/1
3	Elusive Path	60.0 (13) 50/1

START 4:00PM KENILWORTH	6	PA4/PICK SIX3/JACKPOT2 LANZERAC RTR S. (3YO'S)(NBT) - 1400M SAME TRAINER:(1-3-4-13-18)(2-8)(6-15) (7-10-11-17-19)(9-16)(12-14-20)	
		1	WONDERWALL(SG Tarry) S Khumalo.....11 60.0
Querari		2	BOLD RESPECT(BJ Crawford) C Orffer.....18 60.0
Bold Silvano		3	PURPLE DIAMOND(SG Tarry) L Hewitson.....10 60.0
Var		4	BARRACK STREET(SG Tarry) A Marcus.....5 60.0
Dynasty		5	PACK LEADER(GS Kotzen) R Fourie.....15 60.0
Philanthropist		6	SIR FRENCHIE(J Snaith) B Fayd'herbe.....14 60.0
Choirsir		7	VIRTUE(C Bass-Robinson) A Domeyer.....20 60.0
Var		8	PHELAN LUCKY(BJ Crawford) S Cele.....13 60.0
Excelebration		9	APOLLO STAR(J Ramsden) D Dillon.....19 60.0
Alado		10	BIG MISTAKE(C Bass-Robinson) G Cheyne.....16 60.0
Querari		11	ENDOFMARCH(C Bass-Robinson) C Murray...8 60.0
Marchfield		12	STRATEGIC POWER(VH Marshall) S Veale.....3 60.0
Var		13	VISIGOTH(SG Tarry) R Simons.....1 60.0
Visionaire		14	SUNDAY FALLS(VH Marshall) M Byleveld.....12 60.0
Kahal		15	MISS KATALIN(J Snaith) G v Niekerk.....9 57.5
Trippi		16	WINE FESTIVAL(J Ramsden) C Zackey.....2 57.5
Stagelight		17	BEN-HUR(C Bass-Robinson) - reserve 1.....4 60.0
Judpot		18	VOLCANIC SUNSET(SG Tarry) - scratched.....6 60.0
Visionaire		19	BERNIE(C Bass-Robinson) - reserve 3.....7 60.0
Horse Chestnut		20	RIKERS ISLAND(VH Marshall) - reserve 4.....17 60.0
Delago Deluxe			

SATURDAY RACING

Stay All Day

Listed Kenilworth Cup Kenilworth

There aren’t enough marathon races on the racing programme and the ones that we do get, we enjoy as they usually produce a dour struggle for supremacy.

Mike de Kock won the Listed Kenilworth Cup last year with Smart Mart and he is in town again with recent Java Handicap runner-up Kinaan. The son of Galileo ran on powerfully to get within a length of end-to-end winner Let It Rain. On best form, he can win this

Justin Snaith’s topweighted Master’s Eye ran a cracking fourth behind Nebula in last month’s Gr3 Algoa Cup at Fairview. The son of Jet Master has a touch of class about him and will strip fit.

The Ideal World gelding Mangrove is another who stays well. A winner at this track up to 2700m, he stayed on without really threatening for fourth behind Strathdon in the Woolav- ington last time out.

Three Balloons was runner-up in this race last year behind lightly weighted Smart Mart but is racing off form and seems to have lost his enthusiasm. The son of Judpot has shown nothing in three starts this term and cannot be fancied.

The shock Listed Settlers Trophy winner Red Peril failed to follow up in the Woolavington when he dropped out early in the straight to run a quiet fifth and 4,65 lengths off Strathdon. The son of Western Winter is the kind of horse who needs to dictate from the front and his chances often hinge on the tactical outcome of the race. He has a place chance at best.

The one-time winner Woodland’s Forest looks held by Silver De Lange on their last meeting as well as by Blue Door on a previous clash. The son of Elusive Fort will need to improve to challenge.

The lightly raced Silver De Lange beat Juddering Angel over the Durbanville 2400m last time and looks a gelding with plenty of upward potential. He could be much better than rated and is certainly a threat off the 52kg mark.

Blue Door will strip fit after two prep runs and this 6yo finished strongly to finish within a length of Silver De Lange last time. He stays all day – he won his previous outing over 3000m- and is always worthy of quartet inclusion over ground.

With form over ground sketchy, it is difficult to be bold and

make an outright selection. Kinaan ran a cracker in the Java Handicap a fortnight ago and if he has travelled well presents a winning possibility. Master’s Eye ran well in the Algoa Cup and he could be the biggest danger. If they fall asleep and

allow Red Peril to get away out front, it becomes interesting.

Kenilworth Cup (Listed) past winners		
2015		
1 Gothic	60.0 (8) 5/1	
2 Parachute Man	53.5 (4) 8/1	
3 Ovidio	58.5 (1) 33/10	
2016		
1 Smart Mart	52.0 (1) 3/1	
2 Three Balloons	52.0 (5) 4/1	
3 My World	53.0 (4) 11/2	

START 3:25PM KENILWORTH	5	PA3/PICK SIX2/JACKPOT1 KENILWORTH CUP (LISTED) - 3200M SAME TRAINER:(-)		
		1 MASTER’S EYE(J Snaith) B Fayd’herbe.....	6	60.0
Jet Master		2 KINAAN(MF de Kock) C Murray	5	56.0
Galileo		3 RED PERIL(WG Prestage) Wes Marwing	7	56.0
Western Winter		4 MANGROVE(GW Ennion) G v Niekerk.....	3	52.0
Ideal World		5 THREE BALLOONS(C Bass-Robinson) L Hewitson..	8	52.0
Judpot		6 SILVER DE LANGE(A Nel) A Andrews.....	4	52.0
Silvano		7 BLUE DOOR(AE Sands) S Veale.....	1	52.0
Fort Wood		8 WOODLAND’S FOREST(Burger/van Reenen) S Cele..	2	52.0
Elusive Fort				

WOODRUFF EYES SUMMER PLACE IN HISTORY

Summer Cup king and five-times SA champion Geoff Woodruff has a quality three pronged attack for the R2 million Gr1 Sansui Summer Cup to be run at Turffontein on Saturday 25 November as he bids to write his name into the South African racing history books and saddle five consecutive winners.

Woodruff is a master at prepping horses to win the rich Gauteng handicap and his attack includes the fast finishing Victory Moon third-placer Master Switch – a son of Jet Master like his winner of the past two years Master Sabina – as well the course and distance suited 4yo Pagoda. Rounding off the trio is the former Glen Kotzen trained Banner Hill.

Fred Murray was the first to achieve four-in-a-row in a major when he trained the winner of the Durban July every year from 1910 to 1913. [Read More](#)

1	9	New Predator (AUS)	60	113	A	B Lerena	J Janse v Vuuren
2	19	Abashiri	58	109	A	K Zechner	M Azzie/A Azzie
3	8	Master Sabina	58	109	T A	B Fayd'Herbe	J Soma
4	17	French Navy	57.5	108	T A	S Khumalo	Sean Tarry
5	14	Brazuca (AUS)	57	107	A	G Lerena	J Janse v Vuuren
6	3	Fort Ember	56	105	A	C Maujean	P Peter
7	7	Mac De Lago (AUS)	54.5	102	A	M V'Rensburg	W Marwing
8	16	Master Switch	54	101	T A	P Strydom	G Woodruff
9	10	Orchid Island	53.5	101	A	A Delpech	M de Kock
10	1	Wind Chill	53.5	101	T A	C Murray	J Soma
11	18	Hermoso Mundo	53.5	100	A	W Marwing	W Marwing
12	6	Crowd Pleaser	53	100	A	K de Melo	J Janse v Vuuren
13	13	Banner Hill	53	99	A	G van Niekerk	G Woodruff
14	2	Liege	53	99	T A	R Danielson	S Tarry
15	11	Pagoda	52.5	99	BA	J P v'd Merwe	G Woodruff
16	5	Girl On The Run	52.5	98	A	D Mansour	J Janse v Vuuren
17	20	Coral Fever	52	97	A	M Yeni	R Sage
18	4	Tilbury Fort	52	97	T A	C Zackey	S Tarry
19	12	Social Order	52	96	A	L Hewitson	S Tarry
20	15	Let It Rain	52	95	A	R Munger	W Marwing

Barrier Trials Under Way

History was made at Greyville on Sunday when the inaugural official barrier trial was run over the polytrack 1000m prior to the race meeting.

Barrier Trials have been introduced by Gold Circle for all unraced horses and those that have not raced for 120 days or more.

The heat has to be completed in 70 secs, to qualify for a certificate.

On Sunday the previously raced Alldressedup led most of the way under Athandiwe Mgudlwa to hold off the unraced Twice Over gelding Sequel. The winner clocked 62,05 secs.

The unraced Trippi filly Sheik’s Storm caught the eye when she ran on smartly and finished well for third.

The fifth and last runner to finish clocked under 64 secs.

All runners carried 58kgs, with Craig Bantam claiming 2,5kgs on Sequel.

Barrier Trials are not held anywhere else in South Africa but have been introduced by Gold Circle to raise the transparency levels for punters. Gold Circle are also the only racing operator to provide first-timer comments for national racing.



READY TO RUN SALE

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ALWAYS IN CHARGE	G1	CHAMPION
CAPTAIN AMERICA	G1	CHAMPION
FRENCH NAVY	G1	CHAMPION
RED RAY	G1	CHAMPION
SEVENTH PLAIN	G1	CHAMPION
ALEXIS	G2	
ARION	G2	
BRUTAL FORCE	G2	
FORT EMBER	G2	
TEN GUN SALUTE	G2	CHAMPION
WONDERWALL	G2	
ZODIAC RULER	G2	
ANTONIUS DU BOIS	G3	
BARRACK STREET	G3	
BELONG TO ME	G3	
CAPTAIN CHAOS	G3	CHAMPION
CAT AND THE MOON	G3	
CROWD PLEASER	G3	
LIEGE	G3	
NORDIC BREEZE	G3	
REIM	G3	
SERGEANT HARDY	G3	
ANGLET	L	
EVERSOLUCKY	L	
FLANDERS	L	
HA LUCY	L	
HARVARD CRIMSON	L	
LADY OF KILDARE	L	
LORD BALMORAL	L	
MILADY	L	
MY EMBLEM	L	
PACK LEADER	L	
SUNSET TRIPP	L	

GALLOPS: THURSDAY - 16 NOVEMBER 2017 - 09:30

SALE: FRIDAY - 17 NOVEMBER 2017 - 18:00

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KERRY JACK (Bloodstock Manager) - m: +27 (0) 82 782 7297 | e: kerry@cthbs.com
KIRSTY COERTZE (Sales Manager) - t: +27 (0) 21 873 0734 | e: kirsty@cthbs.com
w: capethoroughbredsales.com

DE KOCK MR APPEAL

They Must Be Joking!

Whilst every Appeal Board is entitled to their own opinion, it is quite frankly beyond me how they could overrule the Mike de Kock merit rating appeal and which I will amplify on, writes **Robert Bloomberg**.

[Read the official NHA Pietro Mascagni press release for the background](#)



Robert Bloomberg

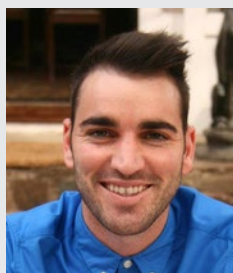
The guidelines 'cap' a 3yo Maiden winner in a major centre at an MR78, but that is a nett not a gross rating. The winner and subject of the appeal, Pietro Mascagni, won on 31 October 2017 over 1160m which afforded him a WFA allowance of 11lbs. Accordingly, he had a maximum allowable "cap" of MR89 gross (78 + 11).

The 4th horse, King of the Delta, which I believe should have been used as the line horse, had a rating of MR77.

He was beaten by 9L (18lbs). If you use him solely as the criteria, then you have the winner running to a 95. Even if you use him off his subsequently reduced rating of 71, he runs to an 89. Whichever way you look at the race, he should have been rated either an 89 in my opinion, or an 88 as internationally renowned handicapper Mike Wanklin and handicapping expert, Tony Mincione, both believe. [Read more of what Robert Bloomberg said](#)

Defending The Decision

I generally find public spats quite juvenile and leave them to waste away in the recycle bin of life, but I feel in this case that the public should be afforded a more rounded view of the Pietro Mascagni merit rating appeal – I was one of three members sitting on the Appeal Board – as covered on the Sporting Post website and not the one sided barrage afforded to them currently, writes Justin Vermaak.



Justin Vermaak

The recent article claims the proposed line horse KING OF THE DELTA was beaten 9 lengths or 18lbs. This would be true if the race in question was run over 1600m, which it was not, it was run over 1160m which means KING OF THE DELTA was beaten 21lbs, this in turn affects the levels achieved more severely. Mr Bloomberg is one of the most versed experts in this field so

this could be nothing more than an oversight but one would hope fact checking would be done to avoid misleading the public in any way. In fact every mathematical measurement for the rest of his article is a false representation as the wrong margins are used as examples.

[Read more of what Justin Vermaak said](#)

The Voice Of Reason

Pietro Mascagni, named by some cultured purveyor of the operatic arts, has boomed his way into testing racing's jurisprudence, writes Tony Mincione.

Rather than go into the calculations of ratings, Pietro Mascagni raises more interesting questions about our processes of errors and corrections, and how we think about things.

Are we a slave to ratings now, or should they be a guide to an end goal, and what would that be? Mike De Kock clearly has a view and somehow is always at the coal face of these things. He called for another look at the rating of his charge because it's better than it looks in his opinion.

Yes, they had to bring a ratings argument for the appeal, but that misses the point. Let's agree there is always another line horse which suits another point of view, and get to the point.

The handicappers did their work, arrived at a number and that's good enough. There is nothing fundamentally wrong with what they did and that is what the appeal panel said.

Yet, what they also said is exactly what Mike De Kock was putting to them. This doesn't feel like an ordinary 70-something to him. It didn't when they paid R2 Million, it didn't when it won on debut, and it doesn't in the light of his cracking bunch of 3 year olds that have emerged. Or so I assume.

One of the panel, Justin Vermaak, broke ranks to publish a defence of what they did. He says, "it is very obvious to see that PIETRO MASCAGNI and the placed runners are above there ratings in true ability". Sadly this is exactly the point, and it was in front of them the whole time.

The handicappers did their job. The Appeal Panel's job though is not there to frank the arithmetic of the handicapper. Their function must be broader, to consider appellants when they bring the difficult issues forward that confound the rules. To fix conundrums that conflict with the regular stuff that racing can process on a daily basis, as it should.

Some would argue that we can only measure horses by what runs behind them. That is true enough but now and again a good horse can only win and those behind him might not do him justice, especially not at first. We don't need to look at the list of runners up behind good horses to make the point.

In a way, the handicappers do have an "agenda". When ratings are unclear or ambiguous they tend to err on the conservative path so as not to "punish" horses. If they choose wrong, then they can fix it on the next turn.

Mr De Kock also has a "not-so-hidden" agenda. We can guess that he wants to get some of his more promising sorts to the high stakes table a.s.a.p. But he faces a biased system, bent towards pessimism when it comes to ratings of young horses.

It's their stated policy as admitted by Mr Vermaak, "the handicappers have been strongly encouraged to "err on the side of caution" by the handicapping committee when rating young horses and afford them opportunity to "win through the divisions".

[Read more of what Tony Mincione said](#)



belief: noun
trust, faith or confidence in someone
or something.

“Belief in Highlands Stud will
reward you with the greatest
horse you have ever seen.”



HIGHLANDS STUD
Part of Ridgemont

L'ORMARINS QUEEN'S PLATE

Road to the L'ORMARINS QUEEN'S PLATE

We Are The Champions

Champions come in all shapes and sizes, because as the old adage goes, it's what's on the inside that counts. However, one thing that remains constant is that true champions are rare. They run through your hands like quicksilver and there is no telling how long they'll be around before they slip through the hour glass along with the sands of time., writes Robyn Louw.

Racing careers are short and real, top shelf contests are few and far between, so the biggest challenge is recognising and appreciating a special talent for the rare gem that it is. The second challenge is to have the clarity of mind – when others might be losing theirs – to see a champion for what it is and not get carried away trying to make it what it isn't. Spread it too thinly to be all things to all men and you risk losing the essence of what makes the magic. The key lies in finding the right recipe – and resisting the urge to meddle.

Jump too soon and you risk overhyping, wait too long and you miss the boat. There has to be a measure of balance. However, in 19 starts, Legal Eagle has only finished out of the money once and that was his debut effort over 1160m. When a horse has an SA Derby, two Horse Chestnut Stakes victories, a Champions Challenge, two of South Africa's Premier WFA Mile Queen's Plate trophies and back to back Horse Of The Year titles, one can comfortably say we've got a champion on our hands.

Charles Faull's 'heronomics' of the Queen's Plate, which focussed on the period of 1945- 2011 reflects that only one in 4311 foals bred in SA have been good enough to win a Queen's Plate. To translate that into rands and cents (and not allowing for current inflation), the average cost of breeding and racing a foal to the end of its four-year-old season is estimated at R400,000. If the average lifetime earnings per foal is R80,000, less 20% jockey and trainer commissions, you end up with a sum of R64,000. Round that up to R70k for ease of calculation, subtract your R70k average earnings from your R400k average cost and you're left with a figure of R330,000. If it takes 4300 foals to produce a Queen's Plate winner at an average cost of R330,000 per foal, that means it costs a shade over R1,4 billion to produce a single Queen's Plate winner.

Remarkable Level Of Rarity

Charles' heronomics board reads, "For a racehorse to win the L'Ormarins Queen's Plate is indeed a heroic achievement. For the same horse to win two plates, takes heroism to remarkable levels of rarity." Legal Eagle is one such horse.

His back to back victories put him in the rarified company of the likes of Winter Solstice, Jet Master, Wolf Power, Politician, Sledgehammer, Chichester, Sea Cottage and Black Cap. Pocket Power retains the title as the king of the Queen's Plate, topping the pile in splendid isolation with a gut-busting four wins and there is no-one in between. In 2018, Legal Eagle will attempt to fill that gap. If successful, we'll need to custom design a description just for him.

On Monday, 13 November, Legal Eagle arrived in Cape Town and we caught up with trainer Sean Tarry, another multiple champion, to see how things are going.

Firstly, it's always a pleasure speaking to Sean Tarry. His straight-talking, factual style makes him a journalist's dream – as long as you can type fast enough to process all the information. However, in the case of Legal Eagle it's more than just business. The facts are still there, but he takes his time and savours the details. While the pride and affection is not effusive, it pools in the small, thoughtful pauses and coalesces in the unexpected, almost intimate details with which he paints the portrait of his champion. It is a privilege to listen to.

"Last year we kept him on ice till the Champion's Cup and waited right till the last minute before deciding not to run.

This year, after the Premier's Challenge, we decided to give

him a proper rest. He had a good break on the farm and didn't do anything at all for a few months. It looks like it has borne fruit and he has physically benefited from the break. He seems to be a lot stronger in front for some reason and he looks like more of a solid horse to me now. It just confirms that in this country we don't really give our horses a chance. At five, they're past their best in our minds and I'm



The full cards for Weekend Racing with ratings & tips can be purchased [here](#)

L'ORMARINS QUEEN'S PLATE

not too sure that's the case at all," he muses.

In terms of his prep for this season, Sean expresses his satisfaction with how Legal Eagle is doing. "You saw his run last week- he did exactly what he did this time last year. He didn't have a tough time going into that race – it was a relatively easy sort of prep. He just came along at his own pace and I think it's been a good starting point."

Legal Eagle has just made his way to Cape Town and arrived at his Milnerton base on Monday, 13 November. "It all went very smoothly, we're happy with the travel time, but we'll see how he's taken the trip over the next few days."

Sean nominated for the Green Point Stakes and was very happy when Legal Eagle drew 3. "There's everybody there that you'd expect. It's basically that recent Pinnacle Plate plus Last Winter, so it's a proper field. It will be a nice starting point, but it's not a soft start, that's for sure."

Anton Marcus was on board for both of Legal Eagle's Queen's Plate wins. However, it's a new year and a new season and with a strong crop of Mayfair Speculators' horses coming to the fore he will have his pick. Will Anton be sticking with Legal Eagle this year? "I've not spoken to Derek, but am making the assumption – foolhardy as it might be – that he will stick with Legal Eagle."

History repeating

I was lucky enough to have a pretty similar conversation with Sean ahead of the 2017 L'Ormarins Queen's Plate, marvelling at the prospects of a second trophy. A year down the line it seems incredible to be contemplating a third. Is it a realistic expectation from a horse that really has nothing left to prove? "If we can get him to the Queen's Plate on his best form and everything goes well, it's very realistic," he states firmly. "I'm always guarded – not in terms of his ability – I know he can do it and we know more or less what the opposition is, but these are not machines and that's what everyone seems to miss, particularly if you go by what you read on social media. It's a matter that you need things to go right, you need to travel well, you need to stay away from bacterial infections and, and and.... As I said, if we can get him there in the best possible condition on race day, he will be a massive runner."

How is Sean feeling ahead of the task ahead? "I'm pretty relaxed. At the start of the season there's always a lot of expectation on the yard, especially this year because we had such a massive season last year. We're not performing where I'd like," he admits. "We've had a lot of mucus and dirty lung washes, but some years are better than others. It's nothing new and nothing we haven't dealt with in the past, but we're being proactive and hoping to get on top of it."

When I comment that Legal Eagle seems to be a model student and has been an absolute soldier through each and every season, Sean concurs. "That's exactly it. He is a soldier. I'll tell you a little story – twice at the end of last season we weren't happy with him. Ahead of the Horse Chestnut Stakes we thought of scratching him and he had a similar blood picture in the Premier's Challenge, but he was so impressive in the Horse Chestnut, you sort of wondered why you doubted him in the first place? His

blood picture, lung washes etc weren't right" he emphasises, "and yet he did what he did on Classic Day and Champions Day. Even though he got beat, he still ran a heck of a race."

Heart

"We know he's got a massive heart. Even though we know he's got the ability, there are plenty of horses with ability that will have little things go wrong and fall in a heap. He's got heart and he always tries his best. It's been a privilege to train him." There is a world of feeling in those seven words.

Sensing a gap, I seize my chance. A top level trainer will have a number of good horses pass through their hands in their career, but even by Sean's rarefied standards Legal Eagle is in a league of his own. What does Legal Eagle mean to him? "You've got to understand, I picked the mother and trained her. The fact that first of all you've sent the mother to the paddock in good enough shape to produce a horse like Legal Eagle is very special to me. The same with Golden Apple and Pomodoro – it's not something that happens a lot. Obviously the fact that he was offered for sale and to have picked him out was very rewarding, but the rest is him. He's such a special guy and an easy customer to work with. The only trouble I have is getting a saddle onto him on race day, but other than that, everything is simple and straightforward. Like I said earlier, it's been a privilege. Watching him step up and overcome obstacles and see him race consistently for 4 seasons at the highest level – it's incredibly rewarding. He is special," he says again.

Programme

Given the controversially high rating the horse was assigned so early in his career, has it been a challenge trying to map a campaign for him? "Not at all. The fact that we're all on the same page in terms of how sparingly we're going to race him during the year makes things really easy for me. The programme is all mapped out and we stick to what we did the previous season. The main priority is just to ensure his well being before going for the races we've targeted, but other than that, it's simple. His rating is very high," he acknowledges, "but fortunately we've got two lovely weight-for-age Gr1 miles and two WFA Gr1 races over 2000m – so it's very simple. He's the easiest horse in the yard in terms of the programming."

Earlier this year, there was talk of sending Legal Eagle abroad. Fortunately – or unfortunately depending on your point of view – things didn't work out and he got to stay home. Are there any regrets? "There are mixed feelings because we'd like to see him compete on the world stage and I do believe he's good enough if we had to target the right races in the right countries. However, he's a very particular horse. Other people haven't got the history I've got with him and obviously that would always be a concern."

But it's not all bad. "Champions are scarce and we need a champion to market racing and keep it going. I think that's where we miss the point. We market events, where it's really the good horses that pull the crowds, so I think especially in this day and age, we have to be thankful that he is here and hopefully he is still good enough to produce the goods in January."



L'ORMARINS
QUEEN'S PLATE
— 2018 —
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Content must relate to the L'Ormarins Queen's Plate Racing festival, to be held in January 2018 at Kenilworth Racecourse.

Entries submitted to writerscontest@sportingpost.co.za no later than 12 January 2018.

All entries will be acknowledged. The judges' decision is final.

The winner will win a trip for two, including flights and accommodation to attend the Qatar Goodwood Festival in England in early August 2018, or a trip for two to attend the L'Ormarins Queen's Plate Racing Festival in Cape Town in January 2019.



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Short Heads

Own The World

Jockeys are usually far too money savvy to branch into owning racehorses. We have seen the likes of Eric Fordred, Greg Cheyne, Andrew Fortune and Johnny Geroudis give it a bash. And now we note a certain A Domeyer having registered his gold and white silks in the latest NHA calendar. We wonder who he is going to pick to train for him?

Baby boom – Not!

The first two 800m 'scurries' for 2yo's scheduled for Saturday at Kenilworth have been dropped due to a lack of entries. Are the programmers not talking to the trainers? Where are the juveniles? Remember the good old days of Alec Soteriadis and Cookie Amos? They hardly missed first time up.



Missing Out

After her below-par run at Kenilworth last Thursday, the Avontuur bred and raced Miss Frankel underwent scans and x-rays on Monday and she has been found to have strained the right high suspensory ligament behind her knee. This means that the Dennis Drier trained galloper will return to her beautiful birthplace for a four month rest.

Life Goes On

The dust has settled and life goes on after last Thursday evening's Gardenia Stakes late scratching debacle. The odds on Exquisite Touch was injured and withdrawn at the gates and punters were given no time to restructure bets. Murphy ensured that the new tote favourite Darling Diva ran unplaced. The tote lost turnover and most punters were seriously cheated. But what now? Wait till the next time, and then just moan again?

Hearts Aflutter

Highlands Stud, part of Ridgemont, splashed out \$650 000 to acquire Gr3 Red Carpet Handicap winner Three Hearts, a half-sister to Gr2 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf hero and Australian sire Pluck, at the 2017 Keeneland November Breeding Stock Sale last week. Three Hearts (by Hat Trick), who was consigned by Denali Stud, sold in foal to Candy Ride, whose son Gun Runner won the recent Gr1 Breeders' Cup Classic. Her dam Secret Heart won five times including the now Gr3 Prix Du Cap and was placed in the Gr1 Cape Fillies Guineas, Gr1 Paddock Stakes and Gr1 South African Fillies Guineas.

R9,6

Million Buy

Medaglia D'Oro, who equalled Mr. Prospector, Danzig, and Storm Cat's US record with seven Gr1 wins in a season this year, is the sire of debut winner Dhabyaan (AUS), who was the first of four winners for the Mike de Kock stable at the Vaal on Saturday. Dhabyaan is out of the Anabaa mare Kiss The Sun and was purchased by Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Maktoum for A\$875 000 (R9,6 million) at the 2016 Australian Easter Yearling Sale.

SPECULATING

It was good to see our champion owners Mayfair Speculators ranked 12 on the latest TRC Rankings recently. That said, there are only two runners in the familiar 'Bok' silks in the Lanzerac Ready To Run Stakes field – and none in the Selangor Cup. They have bought into the exciting Ancestry though, who runs in the latter race.



Twice Over

Mayfair Speculators also have one of the most exciting 3yo's around in the Twice Over colt Sand And Sea, who lines up in a Progress Plate at Kenilworth on Saturday. Unbeaten in 2 starts, he has not run since 27 May when winning the Gr1 Gold Medallion. He will go straight into the seemingly still sponsorless- Cape Guineas on 16 December. His sire registered his 17th first crop winner when La Plaisance bred Run Red won at second time of asking on Saturday at Kenilworth. Twice Over has 9 2yo's on Friday's CTS Lanzerac Ready To Run sale.

WINX EYES ASCOT

Superstar Winx could kick off her European tour at Newbury next year after the Al Shaqab Lockinge Stakes was identified as the best route to her Royal Ascot target. Leading racecourses in Britain, Ireland and France presented her trainer Chris Waller with all the options that are available in 2018 leading up to and after the royal meeting.

High Stakes

UK trainer David Evans was lucky to escape with a fine of £3000 after he admitted he had delayed news of a non-runner in the hope of backing another horse in the same race at better odds. Evans staked £6000 at 4-1 on Black Dave but lost his money when the horse, from his stable near Pandy in Monmouthshire, could finish only fourth.

Ready to Run that makes the **Grades**

Our Ready to Run horses have an enviable record in graded stakes races. 2016 graduate Wonderwall is a recent winner of the Grade II Joburg Spring Challenge. In 2015, we consigned seven horses, of which three are graded stakes-winners: Crowd Pleaser, Sergeant Hardy and Nordic Breeze. They continue a tradition started by the Grade I Germiston November Hcp winner Quick Wit, as well as top-class sprinters Knife Edge and Cap Alright. Stakes-winning three-year-old Barrack Street was also consigned in 2016.



LOT 9 CAPTAIN AL COLT

This smashing Captain Al colt is out of a full-sister to Nordic Breeze and Rushing Wind, from a prolific family.



LOT 10 SILVANO (GER) COLT

This robust colt is by champion sire Silvano, out of one of the top families in the stud book.



LOT 24 MAMBO IN SEATTLE (USA) COLT

We bought the dam because she's inbred 2x3 to Blushing Groom. Subsequently, her first two foals won nine races between them, and the third is also a winner.



LOT 27 MARCHFIELD (CAN) COLT

This scopey colt is a half-brother to the very smart Kurundu. Successful US family.



LOT 31 ASHAAWES (USA) FILLY

Eligible for the CTS Million Dollar races. By the sire of Priceless Jewel from a prolific family of winners.



LOT 33 TWICE OVER (GB) FILLY

Eligible for the CTS Million Dollar races. By exciting young stallion Twice Over, out of the graded stakes-winning full-sister to Biarritz.



LOT 36 CAPTAIN AL COLT

The grandam of this good looking Captain Al was a dual Grade One winner. Black type winners abound in this family.



LOT 43 VAR (USA) FILLY

By the sire of Via Africa and Val de Ra, out of a daughter of internationally stakes performed Gathering Storm.



LOT 48 CAPTAIN AL COLT

Eligible for the CTS Million Dollar races. This powerful Captain Al colt is out of a half-sister to the sire of Black Caviar.



LOT 57 DYNASTY COLT

This really well put-together Dynasty colt is out of a winning half-sister to Fabiani and Star Empire.



LOT 61 GIMMETHETHEGREENLIGHT (AUS) FILLY

By boom sire Gimmethethegreenlight, out of a stakes-placed dam of winners.



LOT 62 DYNASTY FILLY

By the sire of Bela Bela and Beach Beauty, this November foaled half-sister to Sergeant Hardy will blossom as she matures.

Get involved on 17 November at Durbanville racecourse (gallops on 16 November, and posted online if you can't get to the track)



**LOT 35 DUPONT (GB)
COLT**

Eligible for the CTS Million Dollar races.
This racy colt is from our In Camera family, with Just Sensual and Attenborough close up.



**LOT 80 WHAT A WINTER
FILLY**

This speedball of a filly by hot young sire What A Winter could be running in the first juvenile race on 18 November (i.e. the day after the RTR sale).



LOT 85 TRIPPI (USA) COLT

Specially kept back for this sale because of being a November foal. By leading sire Trippi, out of a half-sister to Bravura.



**LOT 92 SEVENTH ROCK
(AUS) FILLY**

Eligible for the CTS Million Dollar races.
By the sire of Grade One winning two-year-olds.



**LOT 99 IDEAL WORLD
(USA) FILLY**

By the sire of Smart Call, out of a winning daughter of Silvano, this filly is bred for the classics.



**LOT 101 ORATORIO (IRE)
FILLY**

Eligible for the CTS Million Dollar races.
Oratorio has some crackers in his first South African crop of three-year-olds. This robust filly is out of a half-sister to Bravura.



**LOT 103 DUKE OF
MARMALADE (IRE) COLT**

By internationally successful sire and champion racehorse, Duke of Marmalade. He's a November foal with plenty of scope.



LOT 106 DYNASTY FILLY

By the sire of Bela Bela and Beach Beauty, this athletic filly is a half-sister to a graded stakes-winner and a graded stakes placed.



**LOT 78 TWICE OVER (GB)
COLT**

By exciting young sire Twice Over, from a family of champions. Classic pedigree.



**LOT 109
GIMMETHEGREENLIGHT
(AUS) FILLY**

Half-sister to a six-time winner, by boom sire Gimmethegreenlight. Dam is a half-sister to the dam of Captain America.



**LOT 120 ORATORIO (IRE)
FILLY**

Oratorio has made a promising start with his first South African crop. Plenty of winners close up in this filly's pedigree, including the smart Head Honcho.



**LOT 126 SAIL FROM
SEATTLE (CAN) FILLY**

From the family of Champion Olympic Duel, by a stallion that just keeps churning out the winners.



**LOT 130 IDEAL WORLD
(USA) FILLY**

By the sire of Smart Call, this half-sister to the smart filly Souk has a 2000m+ pedigree.



**LOT 138 PHILANTHROPIST
(USA) COLT**

Eligible for the CTS Million Dollar races. This half-brother to a stakes-winner is out of a half-sister to the millionaire Cap Alright. Family of Winter Solstice, Mother Russa, Bravura, Nother Russia and more.



LOT 145 JACKSON FILLY

This scopey, athletic filly is a half-sister to Chilli Con Carne, the winner of the Joburg RTR race and earner of nearly R2 million.



NORMANDY

Contact: Email veronica@normandystud.co.za • Mobile: +27 82 772 1165

Gotta Love Her!

The Silvano filly Love Supreme rounded off a good day's racing at Kenilworth on Wednesday when she waltzed in to win the MR 68 Handicap over the mile under Greg Cheyne, and in so doing follow up on her maiden score in September.

Klawervlei Stud, who bred Love Supreme, race her in partnership with Ridgemont Racing, and this youngster has classic contender written all over her.

The Kisters and Kieswelters are two of South Africa's leading racing and breeding families and their powerful partnership in Love Supreme promises exciting things for the Silvano filly on the track – and in the paddock, when that second phase of her career comes round.

She is beautifully bred too!

By a champion sire, Love Supreme is out of the dual Gr1 winner, Thunder Dance (Jet Master), who was also trained by Brett Crawford.

In terms of some side interest, Thunder Dance was the first Gr1 winner for Jet Master after the multiple champion sire's untimely death in November 2011.

She was the third foal and second winner of Fort Wood mare Shadow Dancing, who won four races from 1200m to 1600m during a relatively brief career in the Ian Longmore silks when in the care of Joey Ramsden. Her wins included the Gr1 Cape Fillies Guineas and the Gr1 Majorca Stakes. Shadow Dancing is a half sister to our late leading sire Captain Al.

Met Gallops Abandoned

This season's Sun Met gallops have been scrapped - much to the relief of several of the trainers, writes Michael Clower.

The R5 million race closes on 10 January and the published conditions contain the usual stipulation that "all runners participate in public gallops scheduled for Thursday, 18 January, failing which the horse may be declared ineligible to run."

But Kenilworth duty manager Teresa Esplin said yesterday: "The trainers don't want these gallops which are a bit close to the race but also we are doing this in the best interests of the horses. Every time you travel them to the racecourse you are putting them at risk and some of them can get stirred up."

More and more trainers have been working horses on their own so that they do not over-exert themselves. And, although these gallops have become increasingly popular with the public, the performances have been more and more difficult to assess with no second horse with which to make comparisons.

Justin Snaith, one of the biggest critics of the gallops, said: "This is the best news I've heard all year. Apart from anything else nine days beforehand was too close to the race. Indeed if people want to see the horses gallop they can see them in the L'Ormarins Queen's Plate as many of them also take part in that."

"Making the gallops mandatory was a bit like saying to everyone in the Comrades Marathon 'we also want to see you run nine days beforehand.'"

The draws, normally done straight after the gallops, will now be done at a function later on 18 January during the Kenilworth racemeeting which has been transferred from the previous day. - www.goldcircle.co.za

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PERSONALITY

A Racing Success Story

Louis Mxothwa

Luyolo or Louis Mxothwa cuts an interesting figure on the South African racing landscape. Despite numerous nods to BBBEE, upliftment and efforts to be more inclusive and demographically representative, racing is still lagging behind on this particular front. However, from that perspective, Louis might be one of local racing's most sincere success stories, although he prefers just to think of himself as a jockey.

Louis qualified as a fully-fledged rider two seasons ago and after focussing on establishing himself in Port Elizabeth for the early part of his career, the 24 year old has just moved to the Cape to join Glen Kotzen's Woodhill Racing team as the understudy to Richard Fourie.

About Louis

Louis was born in Johannesburg, but thanks to his family moving around, has also lived in Cape Town and Durban and has spent the last few years based in Port Elizabeth. Louis found his way into the racing industry via his father, who worked as a racing groom. It was thanks to meeting Fred Crabbia that his father took the family to Cape Town to help care for the Crabbia string at Mike Stewart's Noordhoek base and it was at The Dunes that Louis first started riding.

Why horses and why racing? "With my dad being a groom, I was born around horses and have been around them since I was a kid. Going to races and watching what my dad did was a big influence on me. You see something like that and you get excited. Then I fell in love with horses and wanted to be a jockey and I was very lucky to have Mr Crabbia to help support me."

Starting out

Louis's first attempt to join the SA Jockey Academy was unsuccessful as he was deemed too heavy. However, when he tried again a few years later, with assistance from Bennett Bulana as well as financial support from Fred Crabbia, he was accepted and joined the Academy in 2011. Louis' first win came aboard the Snaith trained African Alliance on 24 August 2012.

Despite joining as an older recruit, Louis admits that the Academy wasn't easy, but is philosophical that it's behind him now and is focussing on building his career and what a career it's been.

Carving his niche

Although he is only in his second season as a fully qualified rider, Louis has a very respectable strike rate and having ridden for some of the top yards in the country, already has rides in the Cape Guineas, Met and 'Consolation July' under his belt. The 2014/15 season was a particular highlight as he was riding a lot of the Crabbia string. "I was involved with a lot of good trainers and good jockeys and got to ride a lot of nice horses, such as Legislate and Futura, Astro News, Cap Alright and It Is Written. I got to travel to Durban, PE and Cape Town. It was a good season," he reflects.

As a July day ride is on the bucket list of any South African jockey, how was the experience? "I went blank," he admits. "Richard (Fourie) kept telling me, 'just ride it like a normal race'. I said, 'But it's not a normal race!' he laughs. "Obviously you get nervous, but it isn't that bad. You've just got to make sure you ride a good race and follow instructions and nobody can moan at you."

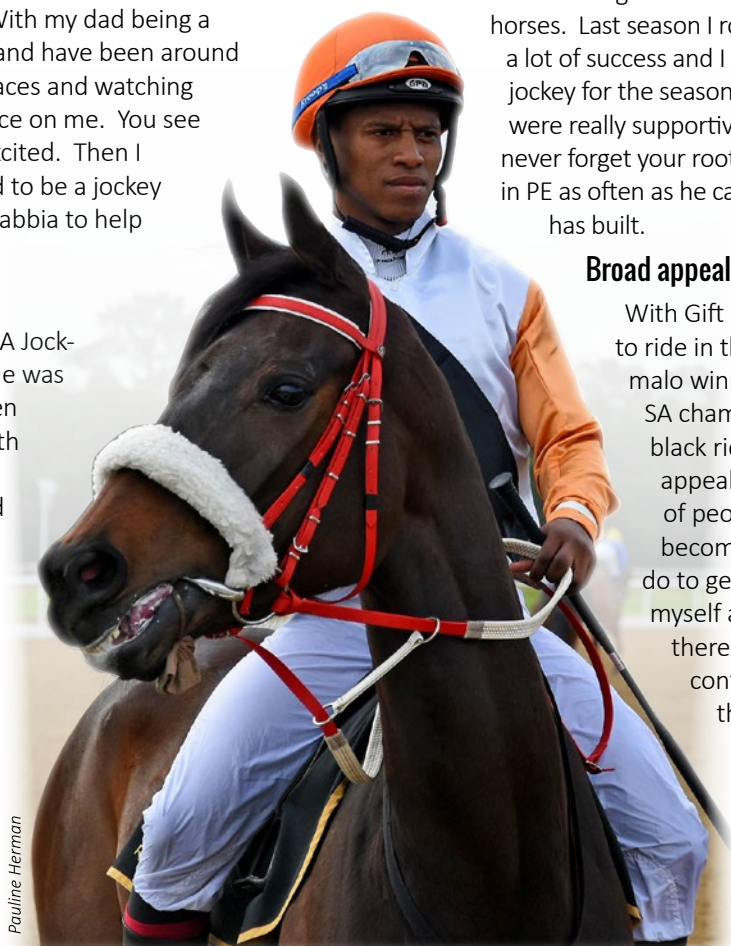
Louis spent the last few years based in the Eastern Cape and was lucky enough to be associated with some top yards. "I really enjoyed living in PE, particularly when I was riding for the Snaiths.

We were doing well and Justin was giving us some good horses. Last season I rode for Grant Paddock. We had a lot of success and I finished as the local champion jockey for the season." Louis says the PE community were really supportive and proving that one should never forget your roots, he will still be travelling to ride in PE as often as he can to maintain the relationships he has built.

Broad appeal

With Gift Funeka being the first black jockey to ride in the Durban July and S'manga Khumalo winning the July and being a multiple SA champion jockey, has having successful black riders helped broaden the sport's appeal? "I think so. I get quite a lot of people who are asking me how to become a jockey and what one has to do to get into the Academy. I think seeing myself and other black jockeys going out there and doing well, gives people the confidence to ask and allows them to think that if there are other guys out there like us, then maybe they can do it too."

Does the perception that racing is an elitist white sport affect him at all? "To be honest, no, it's not some-



Pauline Herman

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LOUIS MXOTHWA

thing that really affects me. I think no matter who you are, you just have to do what you feel is right for yourself, be positive and focus on the future and that's what I try and do."

Given racing's reputation, what kind of reaction does he get when people find out what he does for a living? "People are often quite interested. They usually want to know whether the money is good. Then they want to know whether one only has one horse to ride and look after. A lot of people are really interested and want to know more, but they don't have the confidence to actually come and get involved."

Highs and lows

Asked what he loves most about the job, he says, 'I enjoy winning. I love riding horses that give you a nice feel. It gives you a lot of confidence and makes the job so much easier.' He also says that it means a lot to get praise and positive affirmations from owners, trainers and his peers. "When people take the time to say things like 'good ride', it makes you feel good. Obviously I would love to get on the top horses and win the big races, but I love that through racing I get to meet a lot of interesting people." If he wasn't a jockey, what else could he see himself doing? "A Stipe," he answers.

Predictably, as the hardest aspect of the job, he selects the perennial problem of struggling for rides. "Not getting rides is tough. It can get you down and make you start questioning yourself. Fortunately for me, my father has been in the game for a long time. He used to sit me down and talk to me and explain that this is the way things are. This is the way it's always been and I've just got to work harder and the wheel will turn. It always does. And it's worked out for me, thanks to him," he says gratefully.

Family Support

Louis is lucky to have a strong family support base, with his parents and younger brother extremely proud of what he's achieved. "My mother puts her R10 on all my rides. Every time I ride, she puts her money down and she makes money, hey! Probably more than most punters!"

Moving to Cape Town

"Mr Kotzen spoke to my agent Rob Champion and said he was looking for a second jockey for the season, so I thought it was a nice opportunity to put myself out here," he explains. Louis arrived on Sunday, 5 November and has settled in well at his new base. Richard Fourie is a rider he admires and looks up to and he is very happy to be working alongside him at Woodhill.

He had a good book of rides last Wednesday, bringing home a very solid 3 places from 5 rides and joined the Kotzen string for their beach outing last Friday. How is he enjoying the Cape Town jockey room? "I'm loving it. The jockeys here are so professional. Everything works well and the racing is really competitive. It's nice to know there is strong competition. It means you're always in with a chance and makes you always ride your best."

Like so much else in life, he knows he just needs a little luck. "I've come down to be the second choice rider, but you never know what can happen. Mr Kotzen has a very nice string and you never know. If you happen to pick up a good ride, you can make a name for yourself."

ENABLE TAKES THE HONOURS



The outstanding three-year-old filly Enable was named the Cartier Horse of the Year at the 27th annual Cartier Racing Awards on Tuesday.

From the first crop of Nathaniel, Enable recorded five consecutive Gr1 victories in 2017. Owned by Khalid Abdullah, trained by John Gosden in Newmarket and ridden by Frankie Dettori, Enable was very impressive against her own sex in two Classics, the Investec Oaks at Epsom Downs and the Darley Irish Oaks at the Curragh, winning by five lengths each time, before easily defeating all-aged, all-sex opposition in Ascot's King George VI & Queen Elizabeth Stakes.

After capturing a third Oaks at York in August, the G1 Darley Yorkshire Oaks, Enable created history by becoming the first British-trained filly to win Europe's most valuable race, the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe at Chantilly.

Enable also took the honours in the Cartier Three-Year-Old Filly Award from Winter, Lady Aurelia and Roly Poly, while her stable companion Cracksman, owned by Anthony Oppenheimer, was named the Cartier Three-Year-Old Colt following his impressive seven-length success in the Gr1 QIPCO Champion Stakes at Ascot in October.

CARTIER HORSE OF THE YEAR

Enable

CARTIER OLDER HORSE

Ulysses

CARTIER THREE-YEAR-OLD COLT

Cracksman

CARTIER THREE-YEAR-OLD FILLY

Enable

CARTIER SPRINTER

Harry Angel

CARTIER STAYER

Order Of St George

CARTIER TWO-YEAR-OLD COLT

US Navy Flag

CARTIER TWO-YEAR-OLD FILLY

Happily

CARTIER/THE DAILY TELEGRAPH AWARD OF MERIT **Sir Michael Stoute**

Brown On The Town

It's hard to imagine a top strength South African jockey team without the genius of Piere Strydom and Anton Marcus and an international side sans the wizardry of Frankie Dettori. But the Air Mauritius International Jockeys' Challenge at Turffontein on Sunday may just have been given a shot in the arm by the recent Melbourne Cup success of 41 year old Corey Brown.



Corey Brown | betsfree.com.au

The first Tuesday in November saw 90 536 punters witness the moment that 24-year-old Irish trainer Joseph O'Brien saddled Rekindling with Corey Brown aboard to beat his illustrious father Aidan's Johannes Vermeer.

It was Corey Brown's second Melbourne Cup success in eight years, after Shocking scored in 2009.

Having spent a frustrating spell in Singapore, with rides drying up and his family back in Sydney,

Brown said the best part of the Melbourne Cup victory was celebrating with his wife and daughters.

He returned to Sydney racing in January and has quickly re-established himself among Australia's best jockeys, riding five Gr1 winners this calendar year culminating with his Melbourne Cup triumph.

The International team includes nine-times Irish champion Pat Smullen, Aidan O'Brien Gr1 winner Seamie Heffernan, another Irishman in Ayr flat jockey of the year PJ McDonald and 42 year old Englishman Martin Dwyer, who has ridden in Mauritius. The team is made up by Frenchman Thierry Thulliez.

The South African team will be captained by reigning SA champion rider Anthony Delpech, and includes East Cape champion Greg Cheyne, past national champions Gavin Lerena and S'manga Khumalo, as well as young guns Craig Zackey and Lyle Hewitson.

No SA Jocks In Prestige Challenge

There was no place for a South African rider when the teams were announced for the world's best jockeys who will compete for the LONGINES International Jockeys' Championship at Happy Valley Racecourse on Wednesday, 6 December.

A HK\$800 000 prize fund makes the annual four-race showcase at Hong Kong's iconic city track the richest jockey challenge in the world.

Four Hong Kong-based riders and eight of the very best of their overseas counterparts will form an outstanding line-up, with each rider competing for the HK\$500,000 winner's prize. HK\$200,000 will go to the runner-up and HK\$100,000 to the third-placed jockey.

[Read more here](#)

When Surfing The Web...

Bloodstock South Africa now has its own website address at www.bsa.co.za.

It is the old website - under a new address.

The www.tba.co.za have maintained their address but they have a brand new website.



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WHERE WOULD YOU RATHER
BE IN DECEMBER?

LOUW FLYER

Easy Does It

A Real Kimberley Diamond

On Monday, 6 November 2017, Jarett Rugg sent out three runners on the Kimberley card. While it may have been an ordinary Monday for most of us, for Jarett, it was the first time his string would go to post as J V Rugg Racing – and realise a life-long dream of following in his late father's footsteps.

He had with him a gift bottle of Johnny Walker Blue that Jarett had vowed to open the day he saddled the first winner in his own name. As it turned out, that winner would come on his very first day and it would also come courtesy of a very special horse named Easy To Please.

Jarett is the son of the late Vernon Rugg, who was a fixture on the South African racing scene. Despite trying to talk Jarett out of the horse business, the lad was determined and eventually joined his father's yard and commenced his apprenticeship as a stable employee in 2012. When Vernon passed away in July 2015, Jarett had not upgraded to an assistant trainer and still had insufficient experience to take out his own license. Fortunately, Vernon's cousin Duncan McKenzie stepped in to take over the string as a satellite, allowing Jarett to register as Duncan's assistant and complete his 2.5 year assistant trainer's indentures.

Easy To Please

Vernon bought Easy To Please, a chestnut son of Newton out of an Alnwick mare named Butterfly Kisses, along with another Newton colt named Crest Of Honour, as a job lot for R15,000.

"Therefore, you could say they each cost R7,500.00," says Jarett.

Shortly after getting Easy To Please going, Vernon contacted yard patron Peter Hosking and gave him a 50% share, predicting that Easy To Please was going to be a very good horse. "My dad believed in this horse right from the beginning," asserts Jarett, adding that they kept the other 50% for themselves.

Easy To Please had his first start for Vernon on 15 June 2015 with Wesley Marwing in the saddle. "We had high expectations for a win, some bets were taken but there is always that big question of how green a horse is going to be on his first start." Easy did prove just a touch too green first time out, but managed to finish a creditable 1.75 lengths second.

Mere weeks later, Vernon died of brain cancer on 17 July 2015. Having lost his mother in 2001 and not having

any other family living nearby, it was a particularly hard blow for Jarett, but if there's one thing to be said about horses, it's that they give you no excuses and don't allow you to dwell on things for too long. No matter what may be happening elsewhere in your life, there are always horses to feed, work and attend to, which means you have to get up, get going and keep putting one foot in front of the other and it is often the seemingly mundane, but necessary routine that can help get one through some pretty tough times.

Special bond

Two days after Vernon's memorial service, Jarett saddled Easy To Please for his second start on 20 July 2015, this time with Gavin Lerena on board. While some people might argue that horses are just dumb animals and cannot possibly know the thoughts and feelings of those around them, there are just as many who will furnish evidence of incredible behaviour and swear blind that they do. Regardless of which side of the argument one might prefer, the fact is that Easy To Please cruised home by 4.25 lengths. "As Gavin passed the finish line, he pointed up to the heavens in salute to my father," says Jarett quietly. "With so much hurt and sadness in my heart, watching Easy win that day was the first time I felt joy and happiness flow back in to my life. It's a moment I will never forget and I believe it forged a bond between Easy To Please and myself that will last a lifetime."

"He has a great temperament with me and we absolutely adore each other, if I had to let him out his stable he would follow me around like my dogs do, just behind me, no jokes we've tested this to a degree. However, he can be a little cheeky with the staff. Nothing serious, but I think that is just because he knows he is the boss of the stables," Jarett smiles fondly.

Ups & Downs

Of course, very rarely does life hand things over on a silver platter and Easy's journey was no exception. Easy To Please toes out quite badly, which affects his movement and occasionally results in onlookers assuming all is not as it should be. However, Jarett confirms that numerous tests, X-rays and vet bills later, plus an equal amount of convincing jockeys and NHA vets, everyone eventually agreed that the horse just simply had poor



JC Photos

EASY DOES IT

action due to his conformation. "It was never a question having to do the tests and I'm glad we did as the horse's safety must come first. Of course, and as the saying goes, 'it's always the good horses with the most problems', so yes, we've hit one or two bumps along the way like a joint here or an injury there, sensitive feet etc and he has been a horse that must be looked after, but touch wood nothing serious. He generally comes home a good deal better than he goes to post, although it's possible this might be because he usually comes home with a cheque," quips Jarett.

Soldier

From Vernon's modest initial R15k investment, 'Easy' has had a total of 20 career starts for 6 wins, 13 places and in excess of R300k in earnings. "The one and only time he never earned he finished 6th which means he has never finished further back than 6th in his career," says Jarett proudly.

But it is win no 6 that will be one of Jarett's most treasured. On Monday, 6 November 2017, the very first day of Jarett's career as a trainer in his own right, Easy, who is still part-owned by Jarett, somehow knew he had a job to do.

The 6yo chestnut cantered to post for the 8th race in his usual trademark fashion and then, to quote Jarett, "Easy To Please went and did the unexpected, something that dreams are made of. He stamped his name in that book of the best horse racing stories that we all carry around in our head, by winning his 6th career race under my stable jockey, Jarryd Penny on my first race meeting as a trainer and giving me my first winner as a trainer, making

what must be the most special moment in my life a reality. From the saddest moment in my life to the happiest, Easy To Please has been a part of them both. He gave my father his last career win as a trainer and gave me my first career win as a trainer two years later, so not only has he given me a great story, but he is also a very good race horse."

Tattoo

On Thursday afternoon, Jarett paid a visit to NC Ink's tattoo artist Girvon Johnson to complete his commemorative tattoo to his mother and decided to add a tribute to Easy To Please on his left arm. "I don't just get a tattoo for the sake of it. They all mean something to me." Jarett has an elephant tattooed onto his right arm for his mother and a racehorse with a message for his father on his back. And now Easy is there too.

"He may not have won a July or one of the big races, but he will always be my champion and has given me the most amazing story to tell with many great moments along the way. Hopefully he will remain by my side for the rest of his life- or mine if I go first. An amazing horse indeed."

While it is the headline grabbing graded races that normally catch the eye and the attention, never underestimate the potential for a little racing magic, even on an ordinary Monday afternoon at Flamingo Park.

And when it comes with a bottle of Johnny Walker Blue to celebrate, so much the better.

That'll do, Easy. That'll do.

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LOT 40 DUKE'S DOMAIN
COLT by PATHFORK (USA) ex DORIS DUKE

LOT 46 UNNAMED(AUS)
FILLY by TURFFONTEIN(AUS) ex ENCOSTA DI NERO (AUS)

LOT 60 QUICK STAR
COLT by ORATORIO (IRE) ex GRANNY LEAH (USA)

LOT 70 CROWN GUARDIAN
COLT by GIMMETHEGREENLIGHT (AUS) ex JEWEL IN HER CROWN

LOT 81 UNNAMED
FILLY by AWAIT THE DAWN (USA) ex MARY LOU

LOT 90 JACK SWIFT
COLT by JACKSON ex OCEAN'S SWIFT

LOT 104 VARTANIUM
COLT by VAR (USA) ex REFINED GOLD

LOT 107 KINGSTON ROCK
COLT by BOLD SILVANO ex ROCKIE BRIGHT (GB)

LOT 117 TOUGH CHOICE
COLT by QUERARI (GER) ex GENEROUS ANNA (AUS)

LOT 121 FLATTLEY
COLT by VISIONAIRE (USA) ex SHEIKS JEWELLE

LOT 122 WINTER STORM
COLT by WHAT A WINTER ex SIERRA LILY

LOT 132 UNNAMED
FILLY by QUERARI (GER) ex TEEMING

LOT 133 UNNAMED
COLT by POMODORO ex TERRA MARIANNA

LOT 136 SEVENTH LIGHT
FILLY by SEVENTH ROCK (AUS) ex TRISTRAM'S FANTASY (AUS)

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SCORE CARD

How horses performed in South Africa's black type races, expressed in points based on the kind of races and how far behind the winner they finished.

A [full explanation](#) of the point system and the complete list of point earners is on the [Sporting Post website](#).

TOP EARNERS for 2017/2018 (to 12 November 2017)

horse	age	sex	points	races
Hat Puntano	4	c	50	1
Wonderwall	3	c	50	1
Bella Sonata	5	f	30	1
Snowdance	3	f	30	1
Will Pays	6	c	26	2
Our Mate Art	4	c	25	1
Girl On The Run	5	f	25	1
Social Order	4	c	18	1
Mrs O	3	f	10	1
French Navy	6	c	9	1
New Predator	5	c	8	1
Tahini	5	f	4	1
Finchatton	6	c	2	1

Phumelela Shareprice

date	close	high	low	volume
13Nov	1840	1850	1840	150
10Nov	1776	1850	1775	2,616
09Nov	1850	1850	1800	2,352
08Nov	1775	1800	1750	27,717
07Nov	1775	1800	1740	705,695
06Nov	1750	1750	1700	104,736
03Nov	1780	1825	1720	11,074
02Nov	1795	1795	1717	810

Fireworks On A Friday!

The public gallops for the CTS Lanzerac Ready To Run Sale were held in front of an enthusiastic crowd at Durbanville this morning – and the over-riding opinion from some seasoned observers was that there are going to be fireworks on Friday evening, when bidding commences at 18h00.

146 lots have been catalogued on what is a compact sale of true quality, and all two-year-olds sold will qualify for the R350 000 Kuda Sprint on Sun Met Day in January 2018, and the R2,5-million 2018 Lanzerac Ready To Run Stakes.

59 lots already also qualify for the CTS Millions races to be staged in 2019.

Wehann Smith, CEO of CTS said that more than 10% of horses sold at the Ready To Run Sale have a chance of making next year's cojoined features, purely based on numbers- which is not an opportunity that presents itself at every thoroughbred sale.

"Buyers across the spectrum have realistic chances of racing for big money next year," he added.

A complimentary Sporting Post will be available for visitors.

The sale commences tomorrow at 6pm.

[Read our in-depth preview here](#)

Money Back!

Tuesday's abandoned Vaal meeting left some punters out of pocket after they had purchased racecards in advance. But you don't lose out with Sporting Post! As a small gesture of goodwill, we shall be crediting purchaser's digital racecard wallets with R8 for the wasted racecard.

[Click here to see what we have on offer.](#)

DIGEST DIARY

Features To Come

Sat 18 Nov	Gr2 Selangor Cup (3yo's) 1600m Kenilworth (L) Kenilworth Cup 3200m Kenilworth Lanzerac RTR Stakes 1400m Kenilworth (L) KZN Guineas Trial 1600m Greyville (T)
Sat 25 Nov	Gr1 Sansui Summer Cup 2000m Turffontein (S) Gr2 Dingaans (3yo's) 1600m Turffontein (S) Gr2 Merchants 1200m Turffontein (S) Gr2 Ipi Tombe Ch. (F&M) 1600m Turffontein (S) Gr3 Fillies Mile (3yo's) 1600m Turffontein (S) (L) RA Handicap 3200m Turffontein (S) Gr3 Magnolia H. (F&M) 1200m Turffontein (S)
Sat 2 Dec	Gr1 Fillies Guineas (F&M) 1600m Kenilworth Gr2 Cape Merchants 1200m Kenilworth (S) Gr2 Green Point Stakes 1600m Kenilworth (S) (L) Secretariat S. (3yo's) 1400m Turffontein (S)
Sun 3 Dec	KZN Summer Ch. 1200 1200m Scottsville KZN Summer Ch.1600 1600m Scottsville KZN Summer Ch. 2000 2000m Scottsville
Sat 9 Dec	Gr2 Southern Cross S. (F&M) 1000m Kenilworth (S)
Fri 15 Dec	(L) Memorial Mile 1600m Fairview (T)



SAVE THE DATE

Ladies Day
SATURDAY 2nd DECEMBER
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Via Seattle

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Gr3 Starling Stakes

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Yvette Bremmer, Lyle Hewitson

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BREEDING

The Magic Milestones

Many leading international and local sires achieved memorable moments in 2017.

Big names of the past few years have continued to dominate racing throughout the world, and no doubt more landmarks will be achieved in 2018.

150 up for Redoute's Choice

Australia's triple champion sire, Redoute's Choice, whose runners have made such a notable impact on the South African race-track, was represented by his 150th individual stakes winner when his daughter, Perfect Jewel, won the Listed Belgravia Stakes in Perth in October.

Perfect Jewel is one of 14 black type winners this year for her sire, whose 30 plus Gr1 winners include champions Lankan Rupee, Samantha Miss, Miss Finland and Musir. Redoute's Choice's sons, Mustaaqeen and Rafeef, won the Gr1 SA Nursery and Gr1 Computaform Sprint respectively on the same day earlier this year.

The Irish bred son of Redoute's Choice, Buffalo Bill Cody, recently made a winning debut in South Africa and he is also sire of reigning Australian champion sire, Snitzel, whose son, Redzel, won the inaugural \$10 000 000 The Everest and Saturday's Gr1 Darley Classic.

Danehill's four time Gr1 winning son is well represented in South Africa, where his sire sons include Rafeef, Redoute's Promise, Time Thief and multiple Gr1 winner, Wylie Hall.

Galileo reaches 250

The world's premier sire, and increasingly successful sire of sires, Galileo, was represented by his 250th stakes winner this year.

The former Epsom Derby winner reached this landmark when his daughter, To Eternity, won the Listed EBF Chalice Stakes at Newmarket in August. It has been another outstanding year for Galileo, who has had no fewer than 12 Gr1 winners in 2017. Among the major races won by his progeny were both the English and the Irish 1000 and 2000 Guineas, the Juddmonte International, the Irish Champion Stakes, the Cheveley Park Stakes, the Coronation Stakes and the Coral-Eclipse.

His sons, Frankel, Nathaniel and Teofilo, were all represented by Gr1 winners, while Galileo's dual Derby winning son, Australia, set the sales rings alight, with his first yearlings fetching up to €610 000.

It surely is a matter of time before Galileo- who has 265 black type winners to his name- overtakes Danehill- the latter's tally of stakes winners being 347- and becomes the world's leading sire of individual stakes winners in history.

30 top flight winners for Dubawi

Darley's remarkable stallion, Dubawi, whose offspring included no fewer than 8 Gr1 winners in 2017, was repre-



Redoute's Choice

Dubawi

sented by his 30th individual Gr1 winner when his daughter, Nezwaah, won the Pretty Polly Stakes at the Curragh this year. Dubawi, whose other Gr1 winners in 2017 included Wild Illusion, Sobetsu and new sire, Zarak, also reached a milestone when his daughter, Wuheida, won the Gr1 Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Turf, to become her sire's very first Breeders' Cup winner.

Another landmark for Tapit

Gainesway Stud's outstanding sire, Tapit, whose fee will once again be \$300 000 in 2018, was another leading sire to achieve a notable landmark this year. The son of Pulpit was represented by his 100th individual stakes winner, when his son, Blind Ambition, won the Quick Call Stakes at Saratoga. Blind Ambition is one of 10 graded stakes winners for Tapit, champion sire in North America for the past 3 years, in 2017. Others include the Gr1 winners Cupid, Dream Dancing and Belmont Stakes

winner, Tapwrit.

30 Gr1 winners for Fastnet Rock

Coolmore's remarkably successful stallion, Fastnet Rock, was another world class sire to achieve his 30th Gr1 winner in 2017. The son of Danehill reached this milestone when his son, Merchant Navy, won the Coolmore Stud Stakes at Flemington and Shoals became her sire's 31st Gr1 winner on the very same day, when she won the Myer Classic. Fastnet Rock, whose notable offspring include Oaks winner Qualify, Champion Stakes winning sire, Fascinating Rock and champion Australian filly, Atlantic Jewel, has 124 stakes winners to his name. Notably, he has a remarkable record with daughters of Galileo, with the Fastnet Rock/Galileo cross having already produced five Gr1 winners.

100 up for Deep Impact

Japan's champion sire, and former Triple Crown winner, Deep Impact (Sunday Silence) also joined the 100 stakes winners club this year, when his 2yo son, Danon Premium, landed the Gr3 Saudi Arabia Royal Cup. Deep Impact has been champion sire in Japan for the past five years running, and champion sire of 2yos in that country on five occasions- and his progeny are also enjoyed increasing success outside of Japan. His son, Tosen Stardom, picked up his second Australian Gr1 contest this weekend, when victorious in the Emirates Stakes, Tosen Stardom having previously tasted Gr1 success when landing the Toorak Handicap. Deep Impact is also responsible for this season's top class 2yos, Saxon Warrior (Gr1 Racing Post Trophy), and September (Chesham Stakes, 2nd Gr1 Fillies Mile), both of whom look likely classic contenders for 2018.

Invincible Spirit gets 100th stakes winner

Invincible Spirit, by the hugely influential Green Desert, was yet another to join the sires of 100 black type winners this year. The former Gr1 Haydock Sprint Cup hero achieved this when his son, Inns Of Court, landed the Gr3 Prix du Palais-Royal. Inns Of Court was also a fiftieth group/graded winner for his sire, who stood for €120 000 in 2017. A half-brother to record breaking sire, Kodiak, Invincible Spirit has had 15 Gr1 winners, including successful sires, Lawman and I am Invincible, and champion, Kingman, whose first crop race in 2018.

BREEDING

'O' Is Back In Full Swing

Avontuur's international stakes winner producing sire Oratorio was given the green light this week to commence full coverings after a bout of laminitis saw him out of action in September.



Oratorio

Oratorio commenced covering mares for shareholders only late last month, after making a dramatic recovery from his illness.

Avontuur GM Pippa Mickleburgh said that she was very excited to have written to the Oratorio shareholders on Tuesday to inform them of the great news.

"It has been a trying time but the big boy showed that it will take more than a bit of laminitis to get him down. We are playing catch up now, but he is a true professional. I must again say a huge word of thanks to our Vet Martin Denkhaus, with the support

of Baker McVeigh, and farrier Robbie Miller, who have been wonderful. I have already gone on record saying that their care and attention made all the difference to get O back to health so quickly."

The very smart Joey Ramsden-trained Ancestry, probably more of a Derby horse ultimately, gets the blinkers and Anton Marcus, while Vaughan Marshall's Nordic Chant has won 2 of his 7 starts and is bred on staying lines.

They Run Like Hell!

When the trainer says in advance of the race that his charge 'can run like hell' and the filly jumps and wins at double figure odds, then it's really too late for punter's tears.

The Glen Kotzen-trained Royal Sensation came out like a professional on debut at Kenilworth on Wednesday and put in a sustained effort to dead-heat with the previously raced Shades Of Pink.

The Collingwood Stud bred Royal Sensation races in the Chrigor Stud silks and is out of the Among Men mare, Among Royalty.

Last season's Champion 2yo Sire, Var sired Saturday's Listed Laisserfaire Stakes 1st and 2nd in Sommerlied (his 39th stakes winner) and Casual Diamond.

He has three runners in Purple Diamond, Virtue and Strategic Power in coming Saturday's R2.5 million Lanzerac Ready To Run Stakes.

The sire of 20 Gr1 performers, Var has six lots on offer at the CTS Ready To Run Sale tomorrow.

BSA MIXED SALE

The Mike de Kock trained Mutawaary, an Australian-bred son of Fast-net Rock stallion Hinchinbrook, topped the BSA Johannesburg Mixed Sale held at Randjesfontein on Wednesday.

Consigned by Mike de Kock Racing, Mutawaary has been placed five times from his seven starts and was purchased by Manie Pillay for R220 000.

25 lots were sold at an aggregate of R1 253 500, with an average of R50 140 and a median of R35 000.

[See the price list here](#)

NEW FOALS 2017

Share Your Excitement

Send us your new foal pics for publication in the Digest

Send to kiki@sportingpost.co.za

Here's our latest submissions:

Futura ex Sprinting Queen

"Good sized first foal out of a small Australian mare – deep girth and plenty of quality"



Carl De Vos
(Varsfontein Stud)



Futura ex Royal Trip

"Very good first foal, clean with lots of quality"

Mike Sharkey
(Highlands Stud)



Futura ex News Filter

"Wow, I've heard exceptional reports about Futura's foals – I've just had 3 super foals myself – expecting more. I'm so impressed I bought a share."



Eugene Freeman
(Boland Stud)



Master Of My Fate ex Sabina Park



VARSFONTEIN STUD

Master Of My Fate ex Only Achiever

More on page 28

LEADING BREEDERS by STAKES

SEASON 2017/2018 • 1 August - 12 November 2017

Stakes	Breeder	rns	AEPR	runs	wnrs	wns	wnr/rnr%	SW wns	SW wns	SW wnr/rnr%	plcs	plc/rns%	SP	top earner with stakes & % of total stakes
6,315,625	Summerhill Stud	227	27,822	684	49	61	22%	0	0	0%	165	24%	0	Big Bear 1,312,500 21%
4,363,075	Klawervlei Stud	239	18,256	635	38	44	16%	1	2	3%	197	31%	2	Red Ginger 126,100 3%
3,964,325	Maine Chance	118	33,596	290	29	39	25%	3	3	10%	78	27%	1	Wonderwall 400,000 10%
3,398,450	Wilgerbosdrift & Mauritzfontein	131	25,942	273	31	36	24%	1	2	3%	87	32%	4	Zen Arcade 474,375 14%
2,689,350	Highlands	107	25,134	305	34	36	32%	1	1	3%	67	22%	1	Dynamic Diana 116,000 4%
2,281,625	Moutonshoek	82	27,825	233	16	22	20%	1	1	6%	63	27%	1	Broadway Trip 695,000 30%
2,134,550	Varsfontein Stud	78	27,366	193	20	23	26%	0	0	0%	63	33%	3	Surcharge 195,000 9%
2,064,400	Scott Bros	105	19,661	297	19	22	18%	0	0	0%	89	30%	2	Claret Cup 153,750 7%
1,988,250	Drakenstein Stud	76	26,161	177	25	27	33%	0	0	0%	57	32%	0	Fresnaye 120,600 6%
1,903,525	Hemel 'n Aarde Stud	86	22,134	243	18	22	21%	0	0	0%	73	30%	1	Dodgy Itie 139,600 7%
1,798,575	Ascot Stud	61	29,485	147	16	19	26%	1	2	6%	45	31%	3	Via Seattle 203,750 11%
1,243,700	Gary Player Stud	54	23,031	152	16	19	30%	0	0	0%	40	26%	1	Sleepinseattle 160,250 13%
1,243,225	La Plaisance Stud	53	23,457	110	14	18	26%	0	0	0%	41	37%	0	Know The Ropes 156,750 13%
1,215,725	Favour Stud	50	24,315	179	14	14	28%	0	0	0%	58	32%	0	Elevated 109,025 9%
1,168,725	The Alchemy	51	22,916	137	12	15	24%	0	0	0%	28	20%	0	Dan The Lad 252,650 22%

LEADING SIREs by STAKES

SEASON 2017/2018 • 1 August - 12 November 2017

Stakes	Sire	rns	AEPR	runs	wnrs	wns	wnr/rnr%	SW wns	SW wns	SW wnr/rnr%	plcs	plc/rns%	SP	top earner with stakes & % of total stakes
4,740,750	Silvano	153	30,985	345	42	51	27%	4	5	10%	108	31%	3	Girl On The Run 331,250 7%
3,420,613	Var	155	22,068	399	28	35	18%	1	1	4%	126	32%	1	Sommerlied 168,750 5%
3,292,150	Trippi	103	31,963	240	29	35	28%	1	2	3%	92	38%	1	Broadway Trip 695,000 21%
3,267,638	*Captain Al	110	29,706	260	29	32	26%	2	2	7%	97	37%	3	Snowdance 266,000 8%
2,923,025	Dynasty	97	30,134	223	35	39	36%	2	2	6%	56	25%	2	Sabina's Dynasty 129,375 4%
2,885,925	*Kahal	98	29,448	284	32	38	33%	0	0	0%	83	29%	1	Pure Blonde 146,250 5%
2,356,875	*Sail From Seattle	81	29,097	215	25	31	31%	1	2	4%	55	26%	0	Via Seattle 203,750 9%
2,193,925	Querari	80	27,424	184	17	19	21%	1	1	6%	55	30%	0	Wonderwall 400,000 18%
2,068,325	Await The Dawn	24	86,180	81	8	12	33%	0	0	0%	22	27%	0	Big Bear 1,312,500 63%
1,914,850	Gimmethgreenlight	97	19,741	234	19	21	20%	0	0	0%	58	25%	2	Surcharge 195,000 10%
1,834,675	Ideal World	63	29,122	165	13	17	21%	1	2	8%	55	33%	2	Zen Arcade 474,375 26%
1,709,350	Mambo In Seattle	91	18,784	266	13	19	14%	1	1	8%	80	30%	0	Mr O'Neill 165,625 10%
1,657,675	Jay Peg	76	21,812	194	16	20	21%	0	0	0%	63	32%	1	Serendipity 116,375 7%
1,535,750	Philanthropist	72	21,330	177	19	22	26%	0	0	0%	40	23%	0	Cool At Heart 117,625 8%
1,533,575	*Western Winter	59	25,993	166	14	16	24%	1	1	7%	53	32%	0	Starrett City 139,400 9%

LEADING SIREs of 3YO's by STAKES

SEASON 2017/2018 • 1 August - 12 November 2017

Stakes	Sire	rns	AEPR	runs	wnrs	wns	wnr/rnr%	SW wns	SW wns	SW wnr/rnr%	plcs	plc/rns%	SP	top earner with stakes & % of total stakes
2,068,325	Await The Dawn	24	86,180	81	8	12	33%	0	0	0%	22	27%	0	Big Bear 1,312,500 63%
1,668,138	*Captain Al	41	40,686	95	14	16	34%	2	2	14%	39	41%	1	Snowdance 266,000 16%
1,548,750	*Sail From Seattle	48	32,266	120	17	21	35%	1	2	6%	33	28%	0	Via Seattle 203,750 13%
1,538,638	Var	60	25,644	136	15	16	25%	0	0	0%	54	40%	1	Woodstock Fairy 99,000 6%
1,483,125	Silvano	54	27,465	107	17	19	31%	0	0	0%	30	28%	1	Silva's Bullet 153,125 10%
1,385,875	Trippi	32	43,309	63	8	10	25%	0	0	0%	31	49%	1	Broadway Trip 695,000 50%
1,379,675	Querari	39	35,376	82	10	10	26%	1	1	10%	26	32%	0	Wonderwall 400,000 29%
1,203,450	Gimmethgreenlight	55	21,881	122	11	12	20%	0	0	0%	33	27%	1	Surcharge 195,000 16%
1,074,300	*Antonius Pius	53	20,270	138	14	14	26%	0	0	0%	37	27%	0	Piccadilly Square 85,500 8%
1,008,625	What A Winter	50	20,173	111	11	11	22%	0	0	0%	35	32%	1	Magical Wonderland 139,375 14%

LEADING SIREs by STAKES ON SAND

SEASON 2017/2018 • 1 August - 12 November 2017

Stakes	Sire	rns	AEPR	runs	wnrs	wns	wnr/rnr%	SW wns	SW wns	SW wnr/rnr%	plcs	plc/rns%	SP	top earner with stakes & % of total stakes
367,400	*Kahal	15	24,493	57	6	7	40%	0	0	0%	21	37%	0	Perfectus 81,425 22%
322,050	Mambo In Seattle	13	24,773	42	2	4	15%	0	0	0%	21	50%	0	Caramito 112,175 35%
184,800	A P Arrow	5	36,960	28	3	4	60%	0	0	0%	6	21%	0	Portman Square 81,575 44%
171,025	Trippi	6	28,504	18	4	4	67%	0	0	0%	5	28%	0	Weskus Klong 53,075 31%
166,575	*Tiger Ridge	6	27,763	23	2	3	33%	0	0	0%	10	43%	0	Devious Tiger 79,425 48%
164,575	Bold Silvano	5	32,915	25	2	3	40%	0	0	0%	13	52%	0	Beachmaster 68,750 42%
161,525	Philanthropist	9	17,947	19	3	4	33%	0	0	0%	3	16%	0	Phil's Power 63,125 39%
151,250	Jay Peg	5	30,250	14	2	3	40%	0	0	0%	2	14%	0	In Full Regalia 115,025 76%
142,000	*Latino Magic	2	71,000	9	1	1	50%	0	0	0%	2	22%	0	Dodgy Itie 139,600 98%

LEADING BREEDERS by AEPRSEASON 2017/2018 • 1 August - 12 November 2017 *with 10 or more rns*

Stakes	Breeder	rns	AEPR	runs	wnrs	wns	wnr/rnr%	SW wns	SW wns	SW wnr/rnr%	plcs	plc/rns%	SP	top earner with stakes & % of total stakes
761,625	R Piersch	17	44,801	38	3	3	18%	0	0	0%	11	29%	0	Brave Mary 552,000 72%
697,750	AN Foster	16	43,609	35	7	9	44%	2	2	29%	13	37%	0	Tap O' Noth 165,250 24%
1,052,100	PG de Beyer	25	42,084	65	8	9	32%	0	0	0%	21	32%	0	Forest Fox 409,050 39%
1,164,175	Oldlands Stud	28	41,578	77	7	8	25%	0	0	0%	14	18%	0	Fullfyllourdream 628,000 54%
459,975	Riethuiskraal Stud	13	35,383	39	5	6	38%	0	0	0%	11	28%	0	Ataturk 96,875 21%
940,775	Daytona Stud	27	34,844	72	13	13	48%	1	1	8%	24	33%	0	Red Peril 106,900 11%
934,200	Mauritzfontein Stud	27	34,600	95	8	9	30%	0	0	0%	38	40%	1	Haddington 108,400 12%
861,650	Wilgerbosdrift	25	34,466	67	6	6	24%	1	2	17%	21	31%	2	Nebula 218,750 25%
3,964,325	Maine Chance	118	33,596	290	29	39	25%	3	3	10%	78	27%	1	Wonderwall 400,000 10%

The FULL Statistics ONLINE <http://www.sportingpost.co.za/horse-racing-statistics/> *Stallion dead or Retired **Stallion Not Standing in RSA

**Breeding operations not based in RSA - Statistics for Breeders & Sires reflect ALL earnings, incl. restricted races & handicap races



A filly (#46) by Turffontein, a son of the unbeaten, World Champion Two Year Old Johannesburg should attract plenty of interest at the CTS Lanzerac Ready To Run Sale at Durbanville on Friday evening.

Turffontein was a multiple Gr1 winning sprinter who raced with the elite, season after season. Winner of the MVRC William Reid and the MRC Rupert Clarke Stakes in 2009-2010, he left the likes of Wanted, All American, Sniper's Bullet, Mentality and Nicconi trailing in his wake.

Retired to Blue Gum Farm in 2010, Turffontein was Victoria's leading First Season Sire in the 2013-14 season. He is the sire of 68 winners – including Gr2 VRC Edward Manifold Stakes and Gr3 MRC Caulfield Classic winner Fontein Ruby, Gr2 Blue Diamond Prelude and Gr3 Blue Diamond Preview winner Fontiton as well as smart Singapore winners Golden Tomahawk and Sunday Sun.

He stands for a fee of A\$8800.



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LEADING TRAINERS by STAKES

SEASON 2017/2018 • 1 August - 12 November 2017

trainer	rides	wins	win %	fav	fav %	wfav %	2nd	2nd %	1st four	1st four %	stakes	stks/rides
SG Tarry	273	21	8%	43	16%	26%	25	9%	92	34%	4,049,600	14,834
J Snaith	364	47	13%	65	18%	29%	37	10%	153	42%	4,001,950	10,994
MF de Kock	169	38	22%	62	37%	39%	23	14%	101	60%	3,484,600	20,619
PA Peter	172	32	19%	33	19%	33%	18	10%	87	51%	2,899,175	16,856
MG & AA Azzie	154	19	12%	28	18%	21%	25	16%	67	44%	2,640,975	17,149
C Bass-Robinson	259	25	10%	32	12%	25%	22	8%	109	42%	2,325,150	8,977
AC Greeff	267	32	12%	51	19%	27%	39	15%	124	46%	2,301,850	8,621
AG Laird	126	20	16%	25	20%	44%	11	9%	58	46%	2,250,550	17,862
DC Howells	171	19	11%	23	13%	35%	19	11%	72	42%	1,911,475	11,178
D Kannemeyer	128	22	17%	23	18%	43%	13	10%	56	44%	1,821,200	14,228
Y Bremner	217	26	12%	25	12%	20%	16	7%	89	41%	1,791,525	8,256
DR Drier	149	21	14%	30	20%	40%	18	12%	69	46%	1,764,838	11,845
BJ Crawford	159	17	11%	26	16%	23%	23	14%	70	44%	1,690,450	10,632
G v Zyl	104	18	17%	19	18%	42%	16	15%	51	49%	1,679,175	16,146
VH Marshall	158	21	13%	17	11%	35%	17	11%	67	42%	1,625,000	10,285
DA Sham	187	22	12%	14	7%	36%	22	12%	71	38%	1,605,425	8,585
JAJ v Vuuren	115	12	10%	19	17%	16%	22	19%	54	47%	1,586,175	13,793
GD Smith	319	17	5%	19	6%	32%	28	9%	98	31%	1,584,525	4,967
GS Kotzen	219	19	9%	21	10%	33%	18	8%	66	30%	1,480,725	6,761
GV Woodruff	108	15	14%	26	24%	38%	14	13%	50	46%	1,434,000	13,278
SD Gray	152	15	10%	9	6%	22%	13	9%	55	36%	1,400,613	9,215
J Ramsden	145	16	11%	23	16%	26%	18	12%	60	41%	1,397,950	9,641
C Lensley	212	24	11%	48	23%	21%	20	9%	94	44%	1,292,650	6,097
LW Goosen	70	13	19%	17	24%	29%	9	13%	36	51%	1,283,250	18,332
GM Alexander	133	12	9%	10	8%	30%	15	11%	51	38%	1,258,075	9,459
PF Matchett	80	6	8%	9	11%	11%	9	11%	33	41%	1,252,450	15,656

LEADING JOCKEYS by WINS

SEASON 2017/2018 • 1 August - 12 November 2017

jockey	rides	wins	win %	fav	fav %	wfav %	2nd	2nd %	1st four	1st four %	stakes	stks/rides
A Delpech	199	46	23%	80	40%	36%	33	17%	122	61%	4,051,888	20,361
L Hewitson	375	44	12%	48	13%	27%	39	10%	160	43%	4,162,600	11,100
C Murray	278	40	14%	62	22%	34%	34	12%	122	44%	3,169,375	11,401
A Domeyer	210	39	19%	70	33%	31%	27	13%	124	59%	2,881,250	13,720
K De Melo	318	39	12%	44	14%	34%	43	14%	153	48%	3,941,525	12,395
G Wrogemann	274	37	14%	29	11%	34%	24	9%	126	46%	3,865,138	14,106
G Larena	171	36	21%	62	36%	34%	38	22%	109	64%	3,507,788	20,513
M Yeni	303	36	12%	59	19%	24%	29	10%	142	47%	2,828,900	9,336
A Marcus	121	34	28%	58	48%	38%	20	17%	77	64%	2,601,338	21,499
G v Niekerk	158	31	20%	31	20%	26%	20	13%	97	61%	2,944,075	18,633
C Zackey	361	29	8%	34	9%	15%	33	9%	136	38%	2,782,438	7,708
R Fourie	187	28	15%	36	19%	31%	24	13%	88	47%	2,220,950	11,877
K Zechner	257	25	10%	19	7%	21%	30	12%	112	44%	2,274,900	8,852
B Fayd'herbe	113	24	21%	24	21%	29%	12	11%	55	49%	1,978,050	17,505
J Penny	281	23	8%	8	3%	13%	13	5%	74	26%	1,331,650	4,739
R Danielson	179	22	12%	16	9%	31%	15	8%	71	40%	1,705,400	9,527
JP vd Merwe	273	22	8%	22	8%	36%	16	6%	87	32%	1,859,188	6,810
W Kennedy	193	21	11%	23	12%	35%	26	13%	81	42%	1,868,600	9,682
R Munger	357	21	6%	7	2%	29%	16	4%	99	28%	1,750,175	4,902
S Khumalo	165	19	12%	39	24%	31%	18	11%	71	43%	2,966,125	17,977
C Maujean	300	19	6%	10	3%	10%	22	7%	87	29%	1,715,550	5,719
P Strydom	137	19	14%	28	20%	21%	22	16%	64	47%	1,888,950	13,788
G Cheyne	157	17	11%	30	19%	20%	33	21%	82	52%	1,558,850	9,929
A Arries	111	17	15%	9	8%	33%	11	10%	54	49%	1,261,675	11,366
R Simons	105	15	14%	19	18%	42%	9	9%	47	45%	1,839,975	17,524
M Thackeray	288	15	5%	7	2%	14%	15	5%	89	31%	1,104,025	3,833



Richard Fourie has a great chance of a Selangor Cup double

Jolly Good

Carletonville-born Richard 'Dutchy' Fourie looks too young to be celebrating his 32nd birthday in a week from now. The accomplished rider is at the top of his game and rode a confidence boosting pearler to win on the Snaith's Sassy Laddy from a hopeless position at Kenilworth on Wednesday. He partners

Eyes Wide Open for his sponsors Chrigor Stud in Saturday's Gr2 Selangor Cup double bid – they won it last year with Gold Standard.



Paul Lafferty saddles outsider Sniper Shot in the Selangor Cup

Laff's Shot

Summerveld trainer Paul Lafferty saddles the only KZN raider in the Gr2 Selangor Cup at Kenilworth on Saturday. Sniper Shot, a son of Judpot, has not yet suggested major classic potential and looks to have a stiff task. Laff's best classic bid of recent years was the ill-fated Australian-bred Gr1 winner Harry's Son,

who ran second in the Dingaans before chasing Act Of War home in the 2014 Cape Guineas.



Joey Ramsden and Anton Marcus can round off a Selangor Cup quartet of wins on Saturday

In The Genes

The well established combination of Joey Ramsden and Anton Marcus team up with the progressive Oratorio colt Ancestry in Saturday's Gr2 Selangor Cup. The

Milnerton based Ramsden has a top class record in this race – having saddled 4 of the past 6 winners. Three of those were ridden by Anton Marcus – Vari-

ety Club (2011), Act Of War (2014) and Hard Day's Night (2015). Bernard Fayd'herbe rode Ramsden's other winner, King Of Pain in 2012.

EXTENDED LISTS OF ALL STATS

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BLACK TYPE RESULTS

TURFFONTEIN (stand side)
Thursday, 9 November

Course Variant: 0.77s slow (straight) – 1.58s slow (bend)
Just 3mm of rain fell in the lead up to this meeting. However, with 36mm of irrigation added to this, the going was posted as good off a penetrometer reading of 22. The false rail was set at zero in the back straight and moved out to 8m on the bend. There was an 8m spur at the 700m mark and the wind was an 18km/h northerly cross wind.



Girl On The Run | JC Photos

Sweet Summer Girl

The Silvano mare Girl On The Run booked her Sansui Summer Cup berth with a thrilling hard-fought victory in the Gr3 Victory Moon Stakes at Turffontein on Thursday evening.

The traditional Summer Cup last chance saloon lived up to its billing and the outcome may have influenced some decisions – both for punters and trainers, with Girl On The Run and Coral Fever putting up their big-race hands with a forward showing.

The 1800m contest hosted twelve runners, with the likes of Abashiri and Orchid Island using the race to build fitness in advance of the Gauteng flagship on 25 November.

Gavin Lerena, who wasted down to a commendable 54,5kgs, had Fort Ember out front for most of the trip but the daughter of Elusive Fort was closely watched by Donavan Mansour on Girl On The Run all the way around.

With Muzi Yeni riding a fast gaining Coral Fever for all he was worth all the way up the home straight, Mansour brought Girl On The Run to lead at the 200m – and despite Jubilee Handicap winner Coral Fever appearing to have superior momentum, Girl On The Run came right back at the Robbie Sage galloper to get the nod on the photo-finish by a short head.

The winner’s time was 111.38 secs and ended a frustrating run of narrow defeats for the Johan Janse van Vuuren team.

Master Switch stayed on well for third, with Orchid Island (Delpech declared a half kilo over) obviously needing the outing after a 22 week break to run fourth. She should strip fit for the Summer Cup.

The Maine Chance Farms-bred 4yo Girl On The Run is a daughter of champion Silvano (Lomitas) and is out of the unraced Girl From Granada (Badger Land).

This was her second stakes success after winning the 2016 Gr3 Yellowwood Handicap.

She has won 6 races with 8 places from 15 starts and stakes of R860 625.

Gr3 Victory Moon Stakes 1800m
Winner Girl On The Run (best handicapped) raced 3rd; led 200m; kept on strongly
Runner-up Coral Fever was positioned 3rd last entering the straight; ran on strongly; shifted away from the crop late; lost on the nod
Third Master Switch raced without blinkers; was ridden by Pierre Strydom; stubborn loading; raced 7th; ran on
Time: The time was pretty ordinary. Run no faster comparatively on the day than most of the races around the turn. We gave the third (prev 99/99/82/87/78) 98 which makes the winner (prev 90/98/90/98/84) 91 and the runner up (prev 84/86/83/91/81) 93

91	1	0.00	GIRL ON THE RUN (5)	50.0	D Mansour	11/2
5 ch m Silvano - Girl From Grenada (Badger Land)						
93	2	0.05	CORAL FEVER (9)	51.0	M Yeni	11/1
5 ch g Judpot - Coral Tree (Rich Man's Gold)						
98	3	1.15	MASTER SWITCH (7)	54.0	P Strydom	28/1
6 b g Jet Master - Lady Windsor (Al Multi)						
93	4	2.85	Orchid Island	(4)	53.5	A Delpech 9/2
96	5	2.90	Fort Ember	(8)	54.5	G Lerena 11/2
110	6	4.00	Abashiri	(6)	62.0	K Zechner 9/1
105	7	4.25	Matador Man	(12)	60.0	A Marcus 15/2
86	8	4.50	Witchcraft	(10)	51.5	W Kennedy 28/1
84	9	4.80	Arctica	(1)	51.0	JP vd Merwe 22/1
90	10	5.30	Liege	(3)	54.0	S Khumalo 6/1
80	11	6.90	Samurai Blade	(2)	51.0	L Hewitson 15/1
64	12	14.90	Diamond Dancer	(11)	51.0	J Penny 28/1
Time: 111.38s (61.88s avg/1000m, or 58km/h) SP Total %: 114%						
1st T:JAJ v Vuuren O:Maine Chance Farms (Pty) Ltd (Nom: Dr W A & Mrs N Jacobs) B:Maine Chance						

Gardenia Stakes (F&M)(L) R150,000

What A Disaster

The late withdrawal at the start of hot favourite Exquisite Touch threw a dark cloud for many punters over the Listed Gardenia Stakes at Turffontein on Thursday evening.

Nobody’s detracting from a brave showing by Grant Maroun’s gutsy Great Britain filly Queen Laurie, but how does horseracing keep shooting itself in both feet with a structure and process that can only chase punters away?

With the odds-on Exquisite Touch injured at the gate, the button was pressed and Jackpot players were given no time to restructure their bets. Exotic players were left with the eventually unplaced Daring Diva as tote favourite.

An unmitigated disaster for all those punters who treat this like the brain game – and Saftote must have lost over fifty percent of their turnover on the race by means of refunds. And we are supposedly trying to create winners?

This is not the first time – it won’t be the last. But nobody seems to be listening. But let’s focus on the winners.

Full marks to Ryan Munger for a neatly judged ride. He hit the front on the pacy Queen Laurie at the 300m and kept the speedball going to withstand a bold late effort from Winter Watch under Piere Strydom, who denied Movie Show the second cheque.

The winner’s time was a fairly hasty 57,43 secs.

The Gr3 placed Queen Laurie has lived in the shadow of her more talented stable-mate Wrecking Ball but she finally put a deserved stakes success together.

A daughter of Great Britain (Green Desert), she was bred by Kevin Hunter’s Worldwise Breeding and is out of the five time winner Maggie Kay (Lecture).

She has won 3 races with 6 places from 15 starts for stakes of R355 450.

Gardenia Stakes (F&M) (L) 1000m
Winner Queen Laurie was bumped inwards at the start; raced in the rear early; was 2nd at 400m; led 300m; kept on strongly
Runner-up Winter Watch raced 6th; running on at finish
Third Movie Show was fractious in the stalls; taken out, inspected and passed fit to race; sat 2nd and held every chance
Time: Marginally the second fastest of the three sprints, the time was a good one. We gave the fourth horse Favour’s Pride 84 which makes the winner (has done 88) 90, the runner-up (prev 84/82/73/90/76) 86 and the third (prev 69/74/74/30/80) 79

90	1	0.00	QUEEN LAURIE (6)	58.5	R Munger	17/1
4 b f Great Britain - Maggie Kay (Lecture)						
86	2	1.10	WINTER WATCH (4)	55.5	P Strydom	15/1
3 b f Ashaawes - Inuit Woman (Western Winter)						
79	3	1.20	MOVIE SHOW (1)	55.5	M Yeni	11/1
5 b m Also - Picture Show (Sapieha)						
84	4	1.50	Favour's Pride	(3)	58.5	C Zackey 28/1
77	5	3.30	Daring Diva	(2)	55.5	L Hewitson 7/1
53	6	6.40	Moggie Brown	(7)	50.0	M Thackeray 15/1
63	7	6.80	Kissable	(8)	55.5	R Simons 7/1
36	8	10.30	Levi Lady	(5)	52.5	D Mansour 36/1
Time: 57.43s (57.43s avg/1000m, or 63km/h) SP Total %: 58%						
1st T:G Maroun O:Mr G J Maroun B:Worldwise Breeding						

BLACK TYPE RESULTS

KENILWORTH (old)
Saturday, 11 November
Course Variant: 0.08s slow (straight)
The drought continues in Cape Town and with just 15mm of irrigation, the penetrometer read 21 and the going was posted as good. They raced on the winter course where the false rail was out 2m from the 1700m mark with a 5m spur. There was a north westerly tail wind.

Laisserfaire Stakes (F&M)(L) R150,000

A Summer Song

The KZN raiding team of Dennis Drier and Sean Veale broke their 2017 Cape summer season ice with an impressive victory by the exciting Var flyer Sommerlied in Saturday's R150 000 Listed Laisserfaire Stakes (F&M) over the Kenilworth 1100m straight.

With good wins over the seasoned male speed merchants Brutal Force and Sergeant Hardy – as well as the Scottsville 1000m record to her credit – it was surprising to see Sommerlied so easy to back at 7's. But to be fair, some may have noted that the sole blot on her copybook was an inexplicably poor run at Kenilworth on 10 December 2016, where she was examined by the Vet post race. She was notably rested seven months after that below par effort. So something went wrong.

The Drier summer string have also looked to be in need of a feet-finding first run and with whispers about the Crawford star Quick Brown Fox working up a storm, the Var flyer was allowed to drift.

But the enthusiastic Sean Veale had other plans for Sommerlied fans and he produced the Durban Dash winner late in

proceedings to give the high-riding Maine Chance Farms team their second feature success in 72 hours, after Girl On The Run won the Gr3 Victory Moon Stakes at Turffontein on Thursday.

Under a confident ride by her regular pilot, Sommerlied swept through the middle to get the better of Casual Diamond by a long neck in a time of 64,98 secs.

Sommerlied has won 5 of her 6 starts for stakes of R369 375.

Bred and raced by Maine Chance Farms, she is by champion Var (Forest Wildcat) out of Sommermarchen (Pentire – Simply Red by Dashing Blade), who won at 1850m in Germany from two starts, and was retired injured. She is a half-sister to four stakes winners.

Laisserfaire Stakes (F&M) (L) 1100m
Winner Sommerlied raced 2nd; ran on strongly to lead 60m
Runner-up Casual Diamond raced fourth and held every chance; just beaten
Third Felicity Flyer raced in the rear 4 lengths off the pace early; ran on well; narrowly beaten
Time: One of just two races down the straight, the time was a good one. We gave the third (prev 71/72/67/74/84) 86 which makes the winner (prev 80/86/60/90/94) 101 and the runner-up (prev 73/79/81/87/91) 90

101	1	0.00	SOMMERLIED	(12)	60.0	S Veale	7/1
<i>4 b f Var - Sommermarchen(GER) (Pentire)</i>							
90	2	0.20	CASUAL DIAMOND	(7)	52.0	B May	6/1
<i>3 b f Var - Casual Jewel (Al Multi)</i>							
86	3	0.50	FELICITY FLYER	(4)	54.0	R Khathi	36/1
<i>4 ch f Noordhoek Flyer - The Zone (Restructure)</i>							
82	4	1.25	Anime	(2)	53.5	M Byleveld	13/1
94	5	1.30	Captain's Flame	(11)	59.0	D Dillon	14/1
78	6	1.70	Twinkle Toes	(9)	52.5	A Balloo	19/1
86	7	2.45	Nordic Breeze	(10)	57.0	P Strydom	9/1
74	8	2.65	Scandola	(3)	52.0	L Hewitson	7/1
74	9	3.05	Quick Brown Fox	(14)	53.0	G Cheyne	4/1
80	10	3.80	Princess Peach	(8)	53.5	R Fourie	8/1
76	11	3.90	Anneline	(6)	55.0	L Mxothwa	66/1
72	12	4.10	Extradite	(5)	53.5	S Cele	36/1
70	13	5.35	Gold Image	(13)	52.0	A Andrews	50/1
83	14	6.10	Live Life	(1)	62.0	C Orffer	10/1

Time: 64.98s (59.07s avg/1000m, or 61km/h)
1st T: DR Drier **O:** Maine Chance Farms (Pty) Ltd (Nom: Dr W A & Mrs N Jacobs) **B:** Maine Chance

SP Total %: 117%

Pinnacle Stakes R120,000

Edict Strikes

Dual Gr1 winner Edict Of Nantes gave notice of his L'Ormarins Queen's Plate and Sun Met intentions with a fluent return to action at Kenilworth on Saturday.

The R120 000 Pinnacle Stakes over the Kenilworth winter course 1400m was given unofficial national feature billing with three Gr1 winners and a Cape Winter Triple Crown star in the line-up and the race turned into a celebration for Philippi trainer Brett Crawford, who saddled the quartet.

With Anton Marcus busy serving a suspension and likely to side with dual SA Horse Of The Year Legal Eagle in the Cape Summer Season, the co-opted Piere Strydom – a very capable replacement – struck up an instant infinity with the Investec Cape Derby and Daily News 2000 winner.

Caught wide in no-man's land all the way around from his wide draw, Edict Of Nantes showed his class over a trip short of his best after a 19 week break to beat Gr1 Champions Cup winner Sail South by a half length in a time of 85,19 secs.

The evergreen Champions Cup runner-up Captain America, now a 7yo, stayed on nicely for third ahead of outgunned pace-maker Black Cat Back, who rounded off the Crawford quartet.

African Night Sky stayed on nicely four fifth, with former record-breaking yearling Horizon well beaten.

The Klawervlei Farm Sale graduate, a son of Zafonic stallion Count Dubois, has now won 6 races with 6 places from his 14 starts for stakes in the region of R2 650 000. He is out of the four-time winning Jet Master mare Pagan Dance.

Another son of Count Dubois in Sean Tarry's Social Order played himself into Summer Cup contention with an eye-catching second in the recent Charity Mile.

109	1	0.00	EDICT OF NANTES	(8)	61.5	P Strydom	7/1
<i>4 b c Count Dubois - Pagan Dance (Jet Master)</i>							
107	2	0.50	SAIL SOUTH	(1)	61.5	G Cheyne	6/1
<i>7 b g Sail From Seattle - Southern Pride (Northfields)</i>							
106	3	0.80	CAPTAIN AMERICA	(5)	61.5	C Orffer	2/1
<i>7 b g Captain Al - Requista (Fort Wood)</i>							
99	4	1.00	Black Cat Back	(7)	58.5	S Cele	22/1
100	5	1.75	African Night Sky	(4)	60.0	B Fayd'herbe	7/1
101	6	2.50	Table Bay	(3)	61.5	L Hewitson	4/1
88	7	5.75	Horizon	(6)	60.0	A Domeyer	10/1
87	8	6.25	Black Arthur	(2)	60.0	R Fourie	14/1

Time: 85.19s (60.85s avg/1000m, or 59km/h)
1st T: BJ Crawford **O:** Mayfair Speculators (Pty) Ltd (Nom: Mr D L Brugman) **B:** Klawervlei Stud

SP Total %: 113%

Doing The Splits

Splits for Kenilworth, Saturday 11 November

	bend	endbend	Finish	bend	endbend-finish
1400m					
Maiden	19.36	59.77	86.75	40.41	26.98
Maiden F&M	18.52	59.70	87.84	41.18	28.14
MR64	18.46	59.06	87.00	40.60	27.94
Pinnacle S.	18.80	57.97	85.09	39.17	27.12
1600m					
MR68	29.19	71.37	99.09	42.18	27.72

The difference in class clearly shows with the overall times.

The Pinnacle Stakes won by Edict Of Nantes wasn't particularly slow up to the start of the bend, it just seems that way because in some of the other 1400m races there seemed to be a rush for position early. The time round the bend shows the real difference.

SIGNPOSTS

1st & 2nd season sires - 2yo's

CRUSADE (Mr Greeley)

Lady Abigail 2f (Lady Gray by Badger Land)

[Greyville 12 Barrier Trials 1000m \(18/11\)](#)

2nd season sires - 3yo's

AWAIT THE DAWN (Giant's Causeway)

Gold Dawn 3f (Goldrun by Rich Man's Gold)

[Fairview 5 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1200m \(17/11\)](#)

BYWORD (Peintre Celebre)

Scrabble 3c (Cupid's Daughter by Ad Valorem)

[Greyville 6 KZN Guineas Trial \(3yo's\)\(Listed\) 1600m \(18/11\)](#)

Byline 3f (Red Armada by Mogok)

[Greyville 9 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1400m \(18/11\)](#)

Catchword 3f (Lincoln Echo by Fort Wood)

[Greyville 9 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1400m \(18/11\)](#)

Shifting Shadows 3f (Lineal Factor by Dynasty)

[Turffontein 1 Workriders Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1000m \(19/11\)](#)

Front Fifty 3f (Miracle Play by Singspiel)

[Turffontein 4 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1600m \(19/11\)](#)

CRUSADE (Mr Greeley)

First Crusade 3c (Pacific Blue by Model Man)

[Greyville 10 Maiden Plate 1400m \(18/11\)](#)

Prince Of Promise 3c (Royal Promise by Royal Academy)

[Greyville 10 Maiden Plate 1400m \(18/11\)](#)

Hoppertunity 3c (Revoltée by Indian Danehill)

[Greyville 10 Maiden Plate 1400m \(18/11\)](#)

Jaunita 3f (Perakeen by Rakeen)

[Turffontein 1 Workriders Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1000m \(19/11\)](#)

EIGHTFOLD PATH (Giant's Causeway)

War Demon 3c (Tacoma by Lunar Lumberjack)

[Greyville 3 Maiden Plate 1200m \(18/11\)](#)

MARCHFIELD (A P Indy)

Endofmarch 3c (Mon Dieu by Saumarez)

[Kenilworth 6 Lanzerac Ready To Run Stakes \(3yo's\)\(Non-Black-Type\) 1400m \(18/11\)](#)

Chinkapin 3f (Quickwood by Fort Wood)

[Kenilworth 8 MR 73 Handicap \(F&M\) 1800m \(18/11\)](#)

March Affair 3f (Wild Liasion by Captain Al)

[Kenilworth 9 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 2000m \(18/11\)](#)

Unicorn 3f (Tanover by Model Man)

[Kenilworth 9 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 2000m \(18/11\)](#)

Blue Streak 3c (Blingsta by Damascus Gate)

[Greyville 12 Barrier Trials 1000m \(18/11\)](#)

ORATORIO (Danehill)

Love Talk 3f (Lovey Dovey by Model Man)

[Fairview 3 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1200m \(17/11\)](#)

Daydream Believer 3f (Fine Feather by Best By Test)

[Greyville 2 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1200m \(18/11\)](#)

King's Music 3c (Outcome by Muhtafal)

[Greyville 3 Maiden Plate 1200m \(18/11\)](#)

Nordic Chant 3c (Nordic Spring by Fort Wood)

[Kenilworth 7 Gr2 Selangor Cup \(3yo's\) 1600m \(18/11\)](#)

Ancestry 3c (A Daughters Legacy by Windrush)

[Kenilworth 7 Gr2 Selangor Cup \(3yo's\) 1600m \(18/11\)](#)

First Warrior 3c (Lamorna by Var)

[Greyville 10 Maiden Plate 1400m \(18/11\)](#)

TWICE OVER (Observatory)

Doublemint 3c (Nepeta by Tale of the Cat)

[Fairview 2 Guineas Plate \(3 Year Olds\) 1600m \(17/11\)](#)

Three Times A Lady 3f (Monyela by Fort Wood)

[Fairview 3 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1200m \(17/11\)](#)

Sand And Sea 3c (Sea Point by Spectrum)

[Kenilworth 4 Progress Plate 1200m \(18/11\)](#)

Draugluin 3c (Werewolf by Wolfhound)

[Greyville 6 KZN Guineas Trial \(3yo's\)\(Listed\) 1600m \(18/11\)](#)

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

[Kenilworth 7 Gr2 Selangor Cup \(3yo's\) 1600m \(18/11\)](#)

Lady Sutton 3f (Monroe by Model Man)

[Kenilworth 9 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 2000m \(18/11\)](#)

WHAT A WINTER (Western Winter)

Estimet 3f (Estimada by Ride The Rails)

[Fairview 3 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1200m \(17/11\)](#)

Cause And Effect 3f (Karma by Dr Fong)

[Greyville 2 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1200m \(18/11\)](#)

What A Storm 3c (Storm Flo by Royal Flo)

[Turffontein 5 Maiden Plate 1800m \(19/11\)](#)

Notable Maiden Winners

CHARGE FORWARD

Rated AR 83 **San Fermin** (3f Choice Blend by Redoute's Choice)

Maiden Plate (F&M) Turffontein (stand side) (1400m) (9/11)

Positioned in the backend of midfield when the thirteen runners turned for home, San Fermin was ridden to lead 200m out and couldn't have been more impressive in drawing clear to score by seven. The dam of this filly was unraced, while her sire is a Gr1 winning sprinter whose dam Sydney's Dream won the Gr1 Allan Robertson Fillies Championship as a 2yo here. She's bound to be much better than rated, but it's hard to predict how far she will stay.

GREYS INN

Rated AR 81 Full **Of Attitude** (3c Cleome by Muhtafal)

Maiden Plate Turffontein (stand side) (1400m) (9/11)

Swiftly guided over from a wide draw by Anton Marcus, this son of Greys Inn was taken straight to the front. He was given a breather when headed at the 700m marker, before regaining the lead 400m out to win going away by six and a half. The dam, although by Muhtafal, stayed a mile (MR 99), suggesting that this colt will at least get that much. He should improve on his rating.

MEDAGLIA D'ORO

Rated AR 81 **Dhabyaan** (3c Kiss The Sun by Anabaa)

Maiden Plate Turffontein (stand side) (1400m) (9/11)

Backed throughout the morning into 11/20, Mike De Kock's newcomer was soon up handy. He took up the running 200m out, and with some in hand won going away by two. The dam of this A\$875k yearling never raced. A look at the family stamina suggest that this colt could either be best up to 14/1600m, or stay 2000m. His debut run suggests the latter. He should improve on his rating.

SIGNPOSTS

...continued

Horses To Follow

STREET CRY

Rated AR 82 **Alshibaa** (3g Asheerah by Redoute's Choice)

MR90 Handicap (3yo's) Vaal (classic) (2000m) (11/11)

Now unbeaten in two starts, this son of Street Cry sat in midfield for most of the journey. He put his head in front going through the 200m, and won going away by a length and three quarters. He's likely to be better than rated.

Winners Bred Abroad

another **AUSHORSE** winner

Pampierstad (AUS) 4g Pluck- It Had To Be You(AUS) (Belong to Me)
Flamingo Park 1600m (06/11)

another **AUSHORSE** winner

Silent Starship (AUS) 5g Starspangledbanner- Glad You're Mine(AUS) (Redoute's Choice)
Flamingo Park 1000m (06/11)

another **AUSHORSE** winner

Jazaalah (AUS) 3f More Than Ready- Trust Antonia
(National Assembly)
Vaal 1000m (07/11)

another **AUSHORSE** winner

Marmook (AUS) 3g Medaglia d'Oro- Emissary(AUS) (Dehere)
Vaal 1000m (07/11)

another **AUSHORSE** winner

San Fermin (AUS) 3f Charge Forward- Choice Blend(AUS)
(Redoute's Choice)
Turffontein 1400m (09/11)

another **AUSHORSE** winner

Naafer (AUS) 3c Lonhro- Very Discreet(AUS) (Exceed And Excel)
Turffontein 1160m (09/11)

another **AUSHORSE** winner

Dhabyaan (AUS) 3c Medaglia d'Oro- Kiss The Sun(AUS) (Anabaa)
Vaal 1200m (11/11)

another **AUSHORSE** winner

Alshibaa (AUS) 3g Street Cry- Asheerah(AUS) (Redoute's Choice)
Vaal 1600m (11/11)

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.

Top Class

Mike de Kock's pricy recent Turffontein debut winner Dhabyaan is one our notable maiden winners this week.



Medaglia d'Oro | Darly

He is a son of the perennial leading sire Medaglia d'Oro (El Prado {Ire})'s stud fee has been raised from \$150,000 to \$200,000, and he will be joined by his son Astern (\$15,000) on the 2018 stallion roster at Jonabell Farm, Darley announced Wednesday.

Medaglia d'Oro has had arguably his best year ever at stud in 2017, siring five Grade I winners in dual champion Songbird, turf specialists Dickinson and New Money Honey, distaffer Elate and expected Grl Breeders' Cup Juvenile favorite Bolt d'Oro.

The only American stallions with as many G1 winners in a single year are Mr. Prospector, Danzig, and Storm Cat.

"Medaglia d'Oro has enjoyed his best year ever, with five Grade I winners in 2017 and the potential for a big Breeders' Cup," said Darren Fox, Darley's American sales manager. "It's a very exciting time to be adding his top-rated son Astern to our roster."

Astern has been well received in his first southern hemisphere season as a Darley stallion at Kelvinside Farm in Australia. Winner of the Gr1 Golden Rose S., Australia's top seven-furlong race for 3-year-olds, Astern's 126 Timeform rating stamps him as Medaglia d'Oro's top-rated son in either hemisphere.

Medaglia d'Oro won several major stakes races including the 2002 Travers Stakes and the 2003 Whitney Handicap. He also finished second in the 2002 Belmont Stakes, the Breeders' Cup Classic in both 2002 and 2003 and the 2004 Dubai World Cup.

Very Forward

A breathtaking seven length 1400m debut win at Turffontein last Thursday evening by Mike Azzie trained debutante San Fermin caught the attention of onlookers.

The Charge Forward – Redoute's Choice cross is a classic one with 21 individual winners so far.

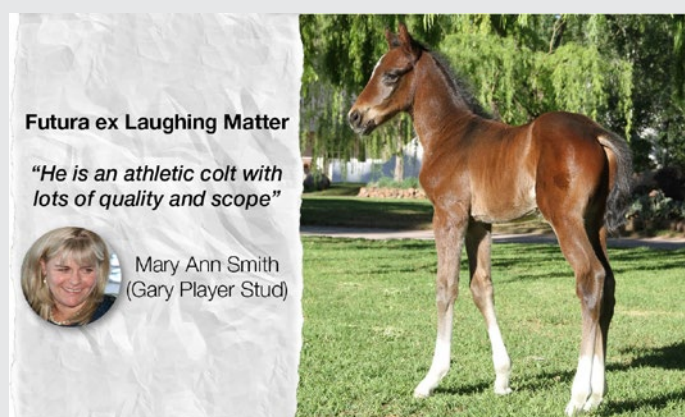
A Gr1 Galaxy winner at three, and now a quality source of precocity, speed and class, the son of Red Ransom sure gets them to run.

Two-thirds of Charge Forward's stakes performers have earned black type at two, including last season's juveniles, Saul's Special, a winner and twice Group-placed in Perth and Group-placed Melbourne winner Ariaz. This duo, debut winner Enterprise Mount and two-time Singapore 2YO winner Macarthur are all out of mares by Danehill sons.

His top price this year was paid at Inglis Melbourne where the Hong Kong Jockey Club's bid of A\$210,000 secured Glen-tree's colt out of Emanday (by Redoute's Choice).

NEW FOALS 2017

Here's our latest submissions:



SPORTS AND BETTING

Scores To Settle

Arsenal vs Tottenham | Sat 18 November | Emirates Stadium | 14:30



Arsenal and Tottenham will settle scores at the Emirates Stadium in Saturday's early kick-off in the first north London derby of the season.

Their last encounter saw Spurs claim a 2-0 victory

at White Hart Lane in April and prior to that game, the sides had cancelled each other out in their previous three meetings. Tottenham are third in the league on 23 points, eight behind runaway leaders Manchester City, while Arsenal are sixth with 19 points.

The derby used to be about Arsenal reasserting their dominance over Spurs, but many would say this one is about trying to prove the Gunners can match them.

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

TO WIN

Arsenal 14/10

Draw 26/10

Tottenham 17/10

ARSENAL

The applause Tottenham have been getting recently haven't sat too well with Arsenal fans. Once upon a time, Arsenal's attractive football made them the neutrals favourite, but Mauricio Pochettino's young side are now threatening to take that crown for themselves.

Arsene Wenger's side will be desperate to claim bragging rights over their arch rivals, but also claw back some ground in the battle for the top four. Victory over Spurs would take the Gunners to within a point of their neighbours, and reignite their bid to recover their seat at Europe's top table – the Champions League.

TOTTENHAM

Tottenham recorded a 1-0 victory over Crystal Palace at Wembley Stadium thanks to a strike from Son Heung-Min before the international break and prior to that, Spurs claimed a memorable 3-1 win there over Real Madrid in the UEFA Champions League.

Mauricio Pochettino's side beat Arsenal 2-0 at White Hart Lane in April thanks to goals from Dele Alli and Harry Kane. Their last three trips to the Emirates Stadium have seen them leave with a point on each occasion, but they've failed to win there since 2010 when Arsenal blew a two-goal lead for Spurs to come back and win 3-2.

Pochettino's side have impressed away from home this season. They've won four of their five matches, having beaten Newcastle, Everton, West Ham and Huddersfield. They lost 1-0 at Manchester United in their last outing, but they were unlucky to lose that game and were missing Kane.

PREDICTION: Tottenham (17/10)

Send yours to kiki@sportingpost.co.za

CLOCKWATCHING WITH STEVE FURNISH

With Natural Improvement

A REVIEW OF THE WEEK'S BEST SPEEDRATINGS

29 For 9

Greyville 5 November

A MR96 Handicap topped the bill on Sunday afternoon's poly track card and in what proved to be the faster of the two 1000m events, the 8yo MUSCATT registered his ninth career victory. Priced up as one of the rank outsiders of the seven horse party at 13/1, the Victory Moon gelding was soon prominent. He put his head in front as they approached the 200m marker and kept on strongly below the distance to hold off the running on WYNKELDER.

Four of the nine races were staged over 1200m and stopping the clock in the fastest time amongst these was LUPO in the MR66 affair. Another to race handy, Muscatt's stable companion took up the running 150m out and went on to score with authority by two and a quarter.

The faster of the two 1600m maiden plates on the card was the second division in which the only female in the twelve horse line up STELVIO opened her account. Always top of the boards, the 3yo was soon at the head of affairs. She found extra after being headed by OUTSIDE EDGE early in the straight, and won comfortably by a half from the running on BIOMETRIC.

Titbits After being baulked for a run between the 250m and 150m marks, FIRST CRUSADE was flying at the finish when only beaten a neck in the maiden plate for 3yo's over 1200m.

Cool As Ice

Vaal 7 November

The Silvano filly WIND CHILL looked to be a good thing in the progress plate over 2000m and after the scratching of ELEVATED, it was no surprise to see her leave the stalls at 1/5. Allowed to flirt with 1/7 at one point, Joey Soma's charge sat fourth of the five early on. She took up the running going through the 800m and with her jockey looking around for challenges from the 300m pole, she won with a ton in hand by five and a quarter.

Another to win with authority on this card was the 3yo MARMOOK when making it two wins from four outings in the MR72 Handicap over 1000m. In what proved to be the fastest

of the three events over the distance, Mike De Kock's charge was soon positioned close to the speed. He put his head in front as they approached the 400m marker and kept on strongly late to beat the running on KINGOFTHEWORLD by a length and a half.

Two 1500m handicaps wound up proceedings and quickest home in these was SLEEP-INSEATTLE in the MR72 affair. On leaving the stalls it was BARBADOS CRUISE who elected to make the running whilst Erico Verdonese's charge raced close up in second. He ran on best of all over the final 300m and had the runner up BLUE DIAMOND ROAD held by a half at the wire.

Titbits The well supported newcomer OURO had the rest well beaten when running on strongly from midfield to finish runner up in the opening maiden plate over 1000m.

As Good As A Wink

Turffontein 9 November

The old stand side track staged the action at the Big T on Thursday evening where the feature event was the Gr3 Victory Moon Stakes over 1800m. In a race in which five females took on six males, it was the girls in the form of GIRL ON THE RUN who landed first prize. Easy to back at 11/2 on the off, the Silvano mare was always handy. She put her head in front going through the 200m and just had enough in hand to get the verdict over CORAL FEVER by a short head. The runner up had raced in the rear and only lost on the nod.

Three of the eight races were run over 1400m and stopping the clock in the fastest of these was NOTHER RUSSIA in the pinnacle stakes. A winner of five from ten coming into the race, the Tiger Ridge mare was having her first start since May. Sent off a strong even money favourite despite that though, Mike De Kock's charge raced prominent throughout. She ran on strongly at the business end of the race and comfortably accounted for the front running REDBERRY LANE by a half.

The only other distance to stage more than one race was 1160m where NAAFER in the pinnacle stakes was quickest home. Taken

Last Week's Top Rated SPEED RATINGS winners incl.

Rainbowinthesky	won 6/1
Chit Chat	won 5/1
Lucky Veil	won 33/10
Stelvio	won 2/1
Meet The Logans	won 13/10
Jazaalah	won 6/10
Ossetra	won 6/10
Wind Chill	won 1/5

Top speed ratings for this weekend

(Ratings shown have already been adjusted to allocated weights)

FAIRVIEW (FRI)

- Race 1: (5) State Capture 8
- Race 2: (4) Desert Chief 48
- Race 3: (3) Junta 14
- Race 4: (10) I'll Tell Her 13
- Race 5: (3) Storyfields 16
- Race 6: (1) Captain Marooned 58
- Race 7: (1) Rock Of Africa 58
- Race 8: (9) Treize 70
- Race 9: (11) Miss Hyde 32

GREYVILLE (SAT)

- Race 1: (6) Ballymaine 22
- Race 2: (9) Flamenco Dancer 14
- Race 3: (1) Moon Shadow 22
- Race 4: (4) Wild Wicket 80
- Race 5: (10) She's A Dream 64
- Race 6: (2) Ryker 51
- Race 7: (4) Varallo 73
- Race 8: (5) If Only 73
- Race 9: (2) Dark Sienna 13
- Race 10: (4) First Crusade 22

KENILWORTH (SAT)

- Race 1: (3) Above Eleven 10
- Race 2: (1) Clifton Sunset 61
- Race 3: (6) Mambo Mime 89
- Race 4: (9) Pillar Of Hercules 77
- Race 5: (1) Master's Eye 74
- Race 6: (2) Bold Respect 66
- Race 7: (7) Undercover Agent 70
- Race 8: (3) Aviatrix 42
- Race 9: (13) Unicorn 15

TURFFONTEIN (SUN)

- Race 1: (9) Ouro 19 (NAP*)
- Race 2: (3) Parisienne Chic 59
- Race 3: (7) Duzi Moon 51
- Race 4: (6) Tigerlace 12
- Race 5: (5) Flexible Fugitive 28
- Race 6: (5) Dromedaris 37
- Race 7: (3) Smokey Affair 50
- Race 8: (14) Goldust Woman 23
- Race 9: (6) Just A Gigolo 38
- Race 10: (7) Zouaves 67

Nap bets

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



PAYOUT! R329 205 SUNDAY 12 NOVEMBER
PLACE ACCUMULATOR

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CLOCKWATCHING CONT.

straight to the front by Anthony Delpech, the 3yo kept on determinedly over the final 400m and although the running on BULL VALLEY (came from the rear) was closing in below the distance, he still had half a length to spare at the wire.

Titbits The newcomer SAN FERMIN couldn't have been more impressive when running on from the backend of midfield to win the opening maiden plate over 1400m. She struck the front 200m out and won going away by seven.

Plenty To Talk About

Fairview 10 November

There were a number of easy victories on the turf in Port Elizabeth on Friday and none more so than that of CHIT CHAT in the MR83 Handicap over 2000m. Sent off third in the betting market at 5/1, the 4yo Pathfork filly was soon up handy. She was ridden to lead shortly after passing the 200m pole and cruised clear in the closing stages of the race to score by four and a quarter.

In terms of prizemoney, a pinnacle stakes over 1600m topped the bill and here victory went to the 6yo RAZED IN BLACK. Always handy in what proved to be a very false paced affair, Razed In Black quickened well when the race developed into a sprint and in an event where less than a length covered the first five home, he got the verdict on the nod.

The afternoon's feature event was arguably the Guineas Plate for 3yo fillies over 1400m and here we saw a smart performance from CLOUD ATLAS. Taken straight to the front by JP Van Der Merwe, Cloud Atlas made virtually all. She quickened well when briefly headed by QUEEN FOREVER 200m out, and won going away by two.

Titbits At the head of affairs throughout, CAPE REBEL won the MR74 Handicap over 1400m without any anxious moments by three and a half.

Powerful Stock

Vaal 11 November

Racing returned to the Vaal's classic track on Saturday where a MR90 Handicap over 1600m for 3yo's topped the bill. In what proved to be the fastest of the afternoon's four 1600m events, victory went to the 15/10 favourite ALSHIBAA. Confidently ridden by Callan Murray, the unbeaten son of STREET CRY raced in midfield for most of the journey. He made his way through the field quickly when given rein and won going away by a length and three quarters after striking the front 200m from home.

Trainer Mike De Kock has already produced a herd of talented looking 3yo's this season and in the newcomer DHABYAAN, he has clearly found another. Heavily supported into 11/20 before the off, the son of Medaglio D'oro was soon up handy. He put his head in front 200m out and with the rest well beaten he won going away by two from KING OF THE DELTA.

Yet another Mike De Kock 3yo (four winning 3yo's on the afternoon) to come home smoking on this card was KREMLIN JUDGEMENT in the maiden plate over 1600m. Always handy, the son of the De Kock trained July winner Greys Inn took up the running shortly after passing the 300m marker and won going away by two and a half.

Titbits UNAGI won the MR96 Handicap over 1800m a lot more easily than the official winning margin of a length and three quarters would suggest.

Notebook Horses worth following at their next few starts...

ALSHIBAA (M De Kock, Gauteng)
BULL VALLEY (S Tarry, Gauteng)
DHABYAAN (M De Kock, Gauteng)
SAN FERMIN (MG & AA Azzie, Gauteng)

FASTEST TIMES

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

GREYVILLE (POLY) 5 NOVEMBER

Going Standard	
Course Variant: 1,13s slow	
1000m (2) Muscatt	57,96
1200m (4) Lupo	70,92
1600m (2) Stelvio	98,77
1900m (1) Iced Up	118,62

VAAL (CLASSIC) 7 NOVEMBER

Penetrometer 22 – Going Good	
Course Variant: 0,05s slow	
1000m (3) Marmook	56,74
1500m (2) Sleepinseattle	89,87
1700m (1) Gambado	104,13
2000m (2) Champions Cup	122,76
2400m (1) Let It Rain	149,49

TURFFONTEIN (STAND SIDE) 9 NOVEMBER

Penetrometer 22 – Going Good	
1000m (1) Queen Laurie	57,43
1160m (2) Nafer	66,90
1400m (3) Nother Russia	85,16
1600m (1) Starrett City	99,13
1800m (1) Girl On The Run	111,38

FAIRVIEW (TURF) 10 NOVEMBER

Penetrometer 23 – Going Good	
1200m (1) Lady Dideo	68,42
1400m (4) Cape Rebel	82,45
1600m (2) Exclusivity	97,25
2000m (2) Enlightenment	124,18

VAAL (CLASSIC) 11 NOVEMBER

Penetrometer 22 – Going Good	
Course Variant: 0,11s fast	
1200m (2) Dhabyaan	69,80
1450m (1) Bold Coast	86,58
1600m (4) Alshibaa	95,64
1800m (1) Unagi	110,32
2000m (1) Big Parade	123,62



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