



RACING THIS WEEKEND

- FAIRVIEW** turf Friday
Best Roving Banker:
R8-(2)Plano(5/1)
- GREYVILLE** poly Friday
Best Roving Banker:
R4-(1)Midnight Messenger
(16/10)
- VAAL** classic Saturday
Best Roving Banker:
R1-(1)Amajory (16/10)
- KENILWORTH** Saturday
Best Roving Banker:
R4-(10)Doyles(12/10)
- GREYVILLE** Sunday
Best Roving Banker:
R7-(1) Muscatt (7/1)

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Saturday 2 December
Turffontein – race 9
Sporting Post
Best Handicapped
Subtle Force
WON 6/1 ☺

Sporting Post

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Holding Court

It's that time of the year again.

The South African horseracing community is abuzz with a rather plain bay son of Durban July winner Greys Inn. Sean Tarry's Legal Eagle took on and beat some serious opposition at Kenilworth on Saturday and edged a step closer to a historic third L'Ormarins Queen's Plate victory next month.

The previous horse to achieve this feat was Pocket Power back in 2010.

A major plus for Legal Eagle supporters and backers looking to recoup some Met losses in 2018 will be the fact that the physical specimen that greeted racegoers at Kenilworth on Saturday looked to be in his prime.

"He's shouldered and filled out. He is bigger in front and more powerful behind than he was last season. He's a living argument for the theory that we should start racing horses later and let them stay in training longer. We are too anxious to get them

on to the track and then start looking at retirement when they are just 5 or 6. The way he looks right now, Legal Eagle could well be back for more in 2019 and beyond," said the informed observer.

Legal Eagle started racing as a 3yo and finished ten lengths back on his October debut. Six months later, he won the Gr1 SA Derby and he has never looked back since.

Avontuur GM Pippa Mickleburgh, who bred the champion, and a good few others in her 30 years, calls the gelding a 'once-in-a-lifetime horse' and said he was the epitome on four legs of the dream mer-

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HOLDING COURT

chant branding that sales companies ride on.

“Nobody is saying that R425 000 is small money – but that’s what we got for him and he has earned close on R10 million. A bloody dream horse to own in any man’s language!” said the veteran breeder.

She reflected back on how the Eagle dream had started.

“Kevin Sommerville was still working for Robin Bruss and he let me know that Young Sensation was on the market. She was a four-time winner. Not too big but she was sound, tough and courageous according to Sean Tarry. So she ticked the boxes and was already stakes placed- and she had a nice dam line and then even won a further two for us before she came to stud,” she added.

Legal Eagle’s granddam Fair Model raced in the Keith Young silks and won four times from 1200m to 1400m, including impressive scores in the Gr1 Allan Robertson Championship and the Gr1 Bloodline Fillies Championship. She ran thirteen places and was runner-up in the Cape Fillies Guineas, the colt’s Guineas and the Paddock Stakes.

But that’s all theory and statistics and it wasn’t easy going – that is, until Young Sensation’s third foal arrived.

And why send her to Greys Inn in the first place?

“I usually work out the mating based on my own vision in terms of physical suitability and other elements and then go to the Goldmine and Tesio programme for a second opinion. But this time I knew that the Zabeel cross with plenty of Northern Dancer in the dam-line is a nick that has worked all over the world. So when I tried Greys Inn with Young Sensation, the computer went crazy! The rest is history, isn’t it?” she laughed.

Pippa recalls what a standout Legal Eagle was in her batch of youngsters that year.

“Oh hell, he was a real looker! But the market can be fickle and while Greys Inn is a beautifully bred horse with a great track record, he was not yet necessarily the market’s flavour of the month then. But Sean Tarry has proven that he has a great eye and he was determined to get him – very cheaply, in hindsight!” she says.

There is plenty of emotion in the Legal Eagle story for Pippa. Her late Dad, David, a top racing journalist of his time, named Legal Eagle. Quite cleverly, too! The Honourable Society of Gray’s Inn is one of the four Inns of Court in London. To be called to the Bar and practise as a barrister in England and Wales, an individual must belong to one of these Inns.

Young Sensation made the rest a no-brainer!

What A Winner!

After Saturday, Legal Eagle is now unbeaten in seven outings over a mile, and his earnings stand at R9 650 875. He made it win number 11 from 20 outings.

A six time Equus Award winner, Legal Eagle was a R425 000 purchase from the 2013 National Yearling Sale.

A former Equus Champion and Vodacom Durban July winner, his sire Greys Inn is also sire of recently retired Gr1 Rising Sun Gold Challenge and R1.83 million plus earner King Of Pain, as well as Gr1 Cape Guineas entrant Full Of Attitude,

SATURDAY RACING

Var Flyer Again?

Gr2 Southern Cross Stakes Kenilworth

The rampant Justin Snaith outfit will be keen to repeat their five win feat of last weekend at the same venue, and their powerful quartet of runners is headed by last year’s gutsy winner Jo’s Bond.



Just Sensual | Gold Circle

Basic weight-for-age applies, with winners of Gr1 races picking up a 2kg premium and Gr2 winners just 1kg.

Topping the weights, and getting the blinkers fitted to sharpen her over the quicker trip, is Joey Ramsden’s Gr1 Cape Fillies Guineas winner Just Sensual, who jumps fresh after a 23 week break. The daughter of Dynasty is probably best at 1400m but showed her sprinting class when getting to within a length of champion Carry On Alice in the SA Fillies Sprint last term. Anton Marcus, who piloted Legal Eagle to win in the same silks last Saturday, gets the ride.

Dennis Drier’s smashing Listed Laisserfaire Stakes winner Sommerlied is bang in-form and this high-class course-and-distance winning daughter of Var has won 5 of her 6 starts- and could be a late maturing successor to the mantle of champion Carry On Alice. She looks to hold Casual Diamond, who chased her home in the Laisserfaire Stakes, and meets the Snaith 3yo on 4kgs better terms. Natural fitness and improvement makes her a serious top contender.

Last year’s winner Jo’s Bond has not run in 28 weeks since running on for fourth in the SA Fillies Sprint. She must have a chance of repeating the win, but her programme does not mirror that of 2016.

The top-class Live Life was in desperate need of the run when beaten 6 lengths by Sommerlied in the Laisserfaire Stakes. On her best form she rates a major threat.

A 3yo who stands out is Sean Tarry’s Protea Stakes winner Green Plains. The daughter of Gimmethegreenlight was just beaten by local star Power Grid in her first run since going second to Brave Mary in the Allan Robertson Championship. A fitter Green Plains cannot be ignored.

Grant Maroun is a rare but welcome visitor to the Cape and he saddles the super-quick Wrecking Ball, who comes off an unplaced

effort behind My Friend Lee in the Magnolia Handicap on Summer Cup day. The testing 1000m may not be up her street. Justin Snaith 3yo Casual Dia-

Gr2 Southern Cross S. past winners

2014	1 Fly By Night	60.0 (1) 3/1
	2 Alboran Sea	56.0 (2) 11/10
	3 Savannah Song	60.0 (3) 25/1
2015	1 Carry On Alice	60.0 (1) 2/1
	2 Cuvee Brut	58.0 (8) 14/1
	3 Real Princess	58.0 (12) 20/1
2016	1 Jo’s Bond	58.0 (7) 22/1
	2 Carry On Alice	60.0 (9) 15/10
	3 Scandal	58.0 (10) 8/1

START
4:45PM
KENILWORTH

7

PA5/PICK SIX4/JACKPOT3
Gr2 SOUTHERN CROSS S. (F&M) - 1000M
SAME TRAINER: (2-7-13-14)(3-10)(5-8)
(9-15)

Dynasty	1 JUST SENSUAL(J Ramsden) A Marcus.....	13	60.0
Captain Al	2 JO’S BOND(J Snaith) B Fayd’herbe	15	59.0
Trippi	3 LIVE LIFE(C Bass-Robinson) G Cheyne	2	59.0
Var	4 SOMMERLIED(DR Drier) S Veale	10	58.0
Great Britain	5 WRECKING BALL(G Maroun) J Penny	9	58.0
Elusive Fort	6 ELUSIVENCHANTMENT(Y Bremner) L Hewitson ..	4	58.0
Windrush	7 NORDIC BREEZE(J Snaith) R Khathi	7	58.0
Great Britain	8 QUEEN LAURIE(G Maroun) R Munger	8	58.0
Black Minnalouche	9 ANNELINE(GS Kotzen) R Fourie	6	58.0
Fort Wood	10 SCANDOLA(C Bass-Robinson) A Domeyer	11	58.0
Querari	11 HOIST THE MAST(A Nel) D Dillon	1	58.0
Gimmethegreenlight	12 GREEN PLAINS(SG Tarry) M Byleveld	5	58.0
Var	13 CASUAL DIAMOND(J Snaith) C Orfter	12	54.0
Querari	14 ANGEL’S TRUMPET(J Snaith) G v Niekerk	14	54.0
Horse Chestnut	15 GOLD IMAGE(GS Kotzen) L Mxothwa	16	54.0
Star Witness	16 SHUFOOG(MF de Kock) C Murray	3	54.0

SATURDAY RACING

mond has a tough ask beating Sommerlied after going down to the Drier filly in the Laisserfaire Stakes. That said she will strip fitter and her course and distance form speaks for itself.

Mike de Kock has not quite clicked into top gear in the Cape this summer and he throws the Australian-bred debut winner Shufoog into the deep end. She won well at Turffontein and could be anything.

Sommerlied has done little wrong and her match with Just Sensual will make for a highlight in a race packed with speed. Casual Diamond and Live Life are both very smart, while Green Plains ran a cracker at her opening start here three weeks ago.

Carrying On The Tradition

The quality of past performers in the Gr2 Southern Cross Stakes to be run at Kenilworth on Saturday is highlighted by Equus Champion Sprinter Carry On Alice, who retired to stud in Australia after winning the 2017 Gr1 SA Fillies Sprint.

The daughter of Captain Al won the Southern Cross Stake in 2015 and was narrowly beaten by Jo's Bond last year.

Her 11 career wins, with 13 places from 29 runs, included Gr1 successes in her 2,3,4 and 5-year-old seasons for owners Klawervlei Stud, Chris van Niekerk and Dr John and Mrs Jill Warner.

Sean Tarry, who trained Carry On Alice and saddles Green Plains in Saturday's feature, said that he had been privileged to work with a mare of Carry On Alice's talent.

He is on record with an interesting philosophy about his approach to training:

"There are trainers who prefer to race their fillies lightly for black type and early retirement, I like them workmanlike and battle-hardened. For example the mare Grecian Gale raced just about every second week until she was seven, for the late Buddy Maroun. She produced a top filly for us in Wendywood. Our champion sprinter National Colour didn't race as often as that, but she was active and racing all over the world nearing six years of age and she's been an absolute star at stud in Australia."

Carry On Alice's top-level wins included the 2014 Gr1 SA Nursery, the 2015 and 2017 renewals of the prestigious Gr1 SA Fillies Sprint, the 2016 Gr1 Computaform Sprint and the 2017 Gr1 Cape Flying Championship.

Out of the Western Winter mare, Carry On Katie, she was a R475 000 buy from the CTS Premier Yearling Sale and went to stud with a bankroll of R4,6 million.

Cape Guineas Field Today

The final field for the R1 million Gr1 Cape Guineas to be run at Kenilworth on 16 December will be announced this afternoon.

If the betting is a guide, the 2017 renewal of one of South Africa's great classics, and the alternate first leg of the SA Triple Crown, is one of the most wide open in many a year.

Hollywood have Cape Classic winner Tap O'Noth priced at 6-1 to give Vaughan Marshall a second consecutive success in the race after William Longsword – also a son of Captain Al – swept to such an emphatic victory last year.

Brett Crawford's Undercover Agent and Selangor Cup low-flying third placer Do It Again are also near the top of the boards, together with boom Twice Over colt Sand And Sea, who disappointed in his opening start as a 3yo.

Betting Jockey Faces Hearing

Jockey Hayley Turner, who rode in the Air Mauritius International Jockey Challenge in South Africa in 2016 and also at this past weekend's International at the Champ de Mars in Mauritius, has expressed her regret after a 'mistake' saw her opening an internet betting account.



Hayley Turner

This has left her facing a British Horseracing Authority disciplinary panel hearing on December 14.

Britain's most successful woman jockey officially retired from the saddle at the end of the 2015 turf season and, after initially establishing a media career with At The Races and ITV Racing, Turner recently opted to return to race riding in France.

However, Turner's decision to open an online account following her initial retirement prompted a BHA inquiry as she technically still held a licence, leaving the rider in breach of the rules and "deeply embarrassed" by the situation.

Paul Struthers, chief executive of the Professional Jockeys Association, said in a statement: "Following her retirement from the saddle in November 2015, Hayley opened an online betting account in her name registered to her home address, the first ever betting account she had opened.

"Even though she was officially retired, Hayley subsequently took part in a number of one-off, invitational events and had some warm-up rides to prepare for them, and held a licence from the BHA enabling her to take part in those events.

"It was only this summer that Hayley decided to return to race riding more fully in France.

"Even though Hayley no longer saw herself as a jockey, and placed no bets whilst actively riding, she did place bets whilst holding a licence which technically placed her in breach of the Rules of Racing, something Hayley entirely accepts.

"There were a total of 164 such bets over a period of approximately 18 months, with a median average stake of £10 and a mean average stake of £18.62, which generated a total profit of £160.

"Hayley has co-operated fully with the BHA and has been transparent and honest throughout. The BHA has confirmed to Hayley's representatives that beyond the rule breaches themselves, it has no further integrity concerns over the bets or Hayley herself.

"Hayley is absolutely devastated at her mistake and deeply embarrassed and sorry for it. Her hearing is scheduled for next Thursday, December 14."

Joint champion apprentice in 2005, Turner was the first woman to ride 100 winners in a year and is a three-time winner at the top level.

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A Sun Met Bet?

South Africa's leading bookmakers Hollywood led the field and opened the ante-post market for the 2018 Sun Met within hours of the first entries being published last Wednesday.



Horizon - well supported | Wayne Marks

The race, on 27 January 2018, will be run for the first time in its long history at pure weight-for-age terms and attracted a bigger first entry than last year, with 31 racers stepping up to the prized podium.

The inaugural Sun Met was won by Whisky Baron and the 2018 renewal has attracted a high quality entry, including dual SA Horse Of The Year, Legal Eagle, who beat fellow Met contenders Edict Of Nantes and Captain America in an impressive Cape Summer opener in Saturday's Gr2 Green Point Stakes.

The traditional stepping stone has had an impact on the opening betting, but Hollywood spokesman Dermot O'Connell said that the shrewd punters had climbed in on the opening call of 7/1 about Investec Derby and Daily News 2000 winner Edict Of Nantest last week already.

"That was some good early value and it was immediately snapped up- as was the 11/2 and Edict Of Nantes shortened to 4/1 before the running of the Green Point, where he was strongly supported to beat Legal Eagle. His cracking second in that race has seen him shorten to 33/10."

O'Connell added that dual SA Horse Of The Year Legal Eagle proved his well-being in the Green Point and remains the best weighted horse in the Sun Met – he has been trimmed from 5/2 to 22/10.

"I have noted that African Night Sky has found support from 14/1 into 12/1, while Gold Standard has eased from 10/1 out to 12/1 following his prep run in the Green Point. Marinaresco failed to shine in the Merchants and has eased from an opening call of 11/2 to 8/1 as stable companion Horizon, who opened at 25/1, has attracted strong support and is currently trading at 14/1."

Sun Met – Key Dates

First Supplementary Entries Close 11h00
Tuesday 12 December

Final Supplementary Entries Close 11h00
Monday 8 January

Weights published Monday 8 January

Final Declarations due by 11h00, Monday 15 January

Sun Sets On Summer Challenge

The KZN Summer Challenge Finals were run at Scottsville on Sunday.

This series, which commenced on 5 August 2017, is designed to give the average handicapper a chance to compete for a large stake of R200 000 per final.

All races (excluding Features, Maiden Plates & Maiden Juvenile Plates) run in KwaZulu-Natal between 5 August 2017 and 19 November 2017 have counted as qualifying races to earn points provided that the nett Merit Rating of a horse (after WFA Allowance) may not exceed 94 in the race in which it participates.

A trainers incentive bonus of R50 000 is paid to those whose pre-entered horses finished in the top 3 positions in the final log on 20 November 2017.

Alyson Wright earned R28 500 for Mumsy's Jet, Master Of Mischief earned Wendy Whitehead R14 000 and Panza earned new man, Ivan Wyk, R7 500. The cheques were handed over on Sunday.

Louis Goosen's Haddington finished second on the log, but he failed to qualify through not having been pre-nominated.

On Sunday the individual finals produced competitive racing.

The R200 000 1200 Final was won by the Kjell Foundation bred chestnut son of Kahal, the aptly named Wynkelder for trainer and part owner Tony Rivalland and owners Messrs G N Cumming, Clint Larsson, Arthur Potts and Mrs Mary Liley.

Wynkelder, out of Al Vino by Al Mufti ran away to a strong one and half length victory, on the same weekend his deceased sire Kahal was crowned KZN Breeders Stallion Of The Year once again.

The Highlands bred Saint Marco, a son of Antonius Pius, registered his 4th win from 17 starts when he stayed on best to win the R200 000 2000 Final – this was run over 1950m. Trained by Garth Puller and owned by the Rousset family, Saint Marco is out of the Saint Ballado mare, The Graceful Saint.

Dennis Drier and Sean Veale teamed up to win the R200 000 1600 Final with the Mambo In Seattle gelding, Seattle Skyline. The Klawervlei Stud-bred 4yo has threatened to score a second win since cracking his maiden in October 2016 and ran on well to win at 13-1 for owner Bruce Ferreira.

The favourite Zen Arcade found the older horses tough going on handicap terms and he ran a rather disappointing fourth.

MR Appeal Succeeds

The National Horseracing Authority of South Africa advises that an independent panel consisting of Messrs V Moodley, A Costa and R S Napier convened on 6 December 2017 by teleconference to hear a MR Appeal lodged by Trainer André Nel on behalf of the horse Hemmingway against the Merit Rating of 85 allocated after he competed and ran second in Race 5 at Kenilworth Racecourse on 22 November 2017.

The Panel were unanimous in their decision that Hemmingway, based on his two previous handicap performances and the net Merit Rating achieved in those races, would have been a more appropriate line horse.

The Panel upheld the Objection and Hemmingway will now be rated a MR 81. The winning horse Bernie will now have a MR 83. The deposit fee will be returned.

Find Sun Met betting on www.hollywoodbets.net

Gold Circle Adopt Weather Policy

Persistent lightning in and around a racecourse during a race meeting can result in lengthy delays and tremendous frustration for both horseracing's stakeholders and fans alike.

Clearly the safety of horse and rider is paramount and no risks will be taken with lightning in the vicinity. On the flip side of the coin, Gold Circle fully appreciates abandoning races must be a last resort and every effort must therefore be made to avoid such a situation.

An added concern with night meetings is the welfare of grooms and their charges. Racing too late results in horses getting back to their training yards at unacceptable times and Gold Circle therefore wishes to advise that it will henceforth adopt the following guidelines:-

Greyville night meetings will not continue past 22:30. The Company reserves the right to abandon all remaining races after this time but will make every effort to stage as many races as possible. From time to time it may be necessary to prioritise which races are run, i.e. in the case of a feature race etc.

Greyville day meetings will be extended into the evening in order to give any lightning-delayed meeting every chance of being completed.

Decisions regarding Scottsville race meetings will be made based on sunset times.

Implementing the above could mean that a lengthy delay will be accommodated in order for as many races as possible to be completed at lightning affected race meetings, or any other unforeseen circumstances.

Press Release published by Gold Circle on 6 December 2017

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 19 November 2017)

horse	age	sex	points	races
Snowdance	3	f	100	2
Liege	5	c	100	1
The Thinker	4	c	50	1
Legal Eagle	6	c	50	1
Silicone Valley	7	c	50	1
Hat Puntano	4	c	50	1
Wonderwall	3	c	50	1
Girl On The Run	5	f	45	2
Bella Sonata	5	f	32	2
Monks Hood	3	c	30	1
Rocket Countdown	3	c	30	1
Nother Russia	5	f	30	1
Fort Ember	5	f	28	1
Will Pays	6	c	26	2
Pagoda	4	c	26	1
Coral Fever	5	c	26	1
My Friend Lee	4	f	25	1
Our Mate Art	4	c	25	1
Edict Of Nantes	4	c	20	1
Dutch Philip	3	c	18	1
Social Order	4	c	18	1
Captain America	7	c	15	1
Seerite	3	c	14	1
Naafer	3	c	14	1
Bi Pot	4	f	13	1
Mrs O	3	f	10	1
White River	3	c	10	1
French Navy	6	c	9	1
Amazing Strike	6	c	8	1
New Predator	5	c	8	1
Always In Charge	4	c	8	1
She's A Giver	4	f	7	1
Do It Again	3	c	6	1
Sylvan On Fire	4	f	6	1
Broadway Trip	3	c	5	1
Tahini	5	f	4	1
Heartland	6	c	2	1
Vacquero	3	c	2	1
Fresnaye	3	f	2	1
Finchatton	6	c	2	1
Tevez	8	c	2	1
Oh Susanna	3	f	2	1
Flying Free	3	c	1	1

DIGEST DIARY

Features To Come

Sat 9 Dec	Gr2 Southern Cross S. (F&M) 1000m Kenilworth (S)
Fri 15 Dec	(L) Memorial Mile 1600m Fairview (T)
Sat 16 Dec	Gr1 Cape Guineas (3yo's) 1600m Kenilworth
	Gr2 Premier Trophy 1800m Kenilworth
	Gr3 Cape Summer Stayers 2500m Kenilworth
	Gr3 Victress Stakes (F&M) 1800m Kenilworth
Sat 23 Dec	(L) Southeaster Sprint 1100m Kenilworth
Tue 26 Dec	(L) Christmas Handicap 1600m Greyville
Sat 30 Dec	Gr3 Lebelo Sprint 1000m Turffontein (S)
Sun 31 Dec	Gr3 Flamboyant S. (F&M) 1600m Greyville (T)

Phumelela Shareprice

date	close	high	low	volume
6Dec	1770	1780	1601	220,079
5Dec	1780	1800	1750	85,789
04Dec	1799	1800	1780	327,402
01Dec	1780	1780	1715	54,016
30Nov	1780	1780	1780	0
29Nov	1780	1780	1775	6,100
28Nov	1749	1751	1720	19,833
27Nov	1800	1800	1800	31
24Nov	1800	1800	1751	35
23Nov	1840	1840	1840	0
22Nov	1840	1843	1760	55,872

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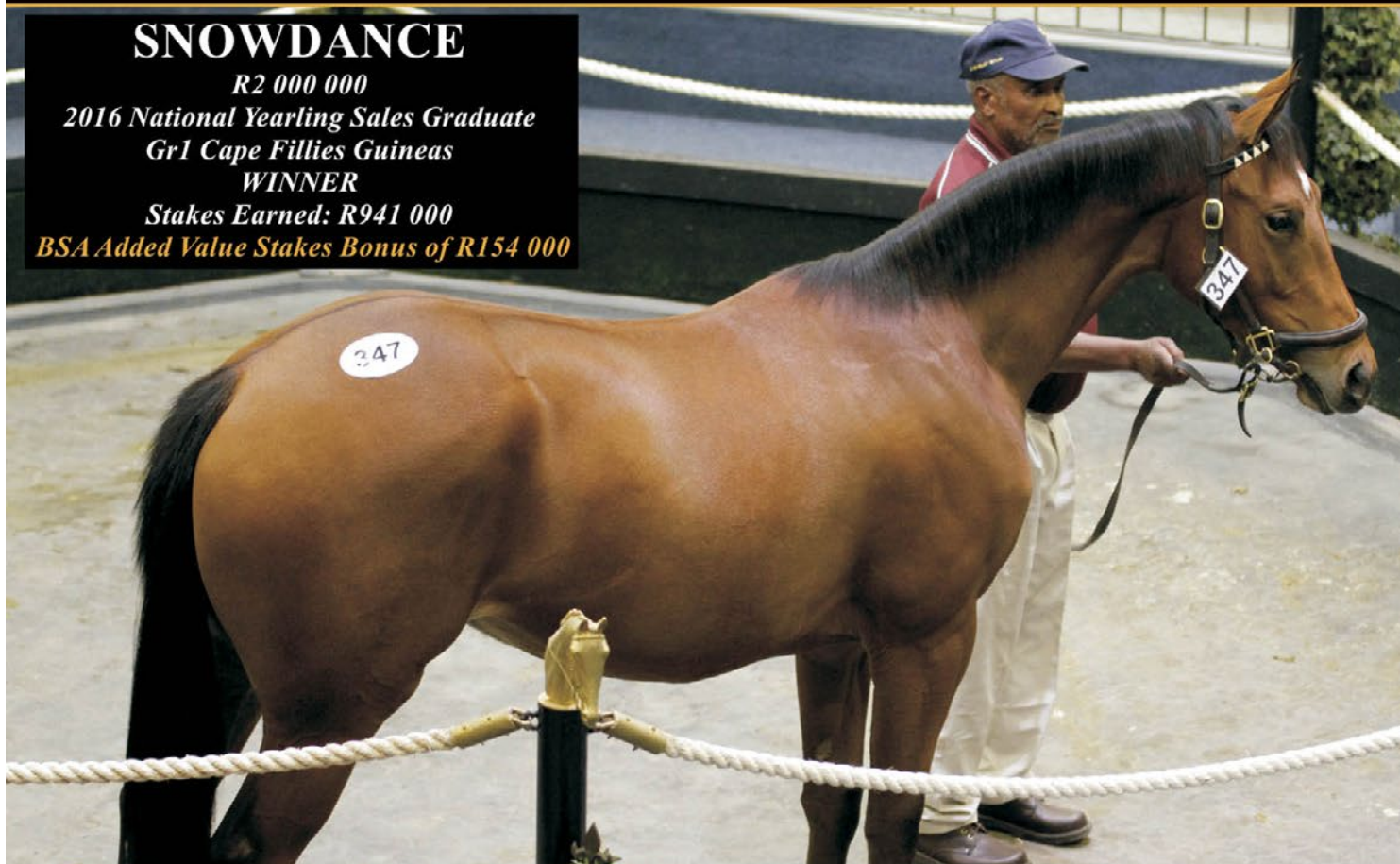
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Secretariat Stakes Listed

WINNER

Stakes Earned: R367 125



LEGAL EAGLE

R425000 National Yearling Sales Graduate

Gr2 Green Point Stakes

WINNER for second year

Stakes Earned: R9 710 875

TWICE Equus Horse Of The Year

INTERNATIONAL

Super Sunday At Sha Tin

Trainer Tony Millard's strenuous efforts to get Nassa successfully into the richly endowed Longines Hong Kong Cup at Sha Tin on Sunday have ended in disappointment, with the South African-bred son of Dynasty withdrawn from the race after suffering a tendon injury.

The scratching leaves Millard's international representation as only Horse Of Fortune and Sichuan Dar in the Hong Kong Mile. Horse Of Fortune raced here as Strongman and the son of Stronghold was a stakes winner in the Cape before pursuing his track career in the East.

South African racing fans will likely be focussing much of their attention on the much loved 2016 J&B Met winner Smart Call, who lines up in the 2400m Hong Kong Vase.

Sir Michael Stoute targetted the Hong Kong International meeting with Smart Call as a long-term goal after deciding not to make the trip to America for the Breeders' Cup meeting in 2016.

Owned by Jessica Slack Jell, Smart Call has had a tough journey through her long quarantine in Mauritius en route to the UK but has performed with credit in quality races like the Middleton Stakes at York, the Duke of Cambridge Stakes at Royal Ascot and the Prix Jean Romanet at Deauville.

She is the first Gr1 winner for Mauritzfontein stallion Ideal World and carries a complete Mauritzfontein pedigree, being out of a mare by champion Horse Chestnut (Fort Wood)- the latter stamping himself as a broodmare sire of note in the United States.

Smart Call's trainer in South Africa, Alec Laird, also took London News to victory in Hong Kong in the 1997 Gr1 QEII Cup.

A total stakes package of HK\$84.5 million is on offer for the LONGINES Hong Kong International Races.

The LONGINES HKIR comprises the HK\$25 million LONGINES Hong Kong Cup (2000m), the HK\$23 million LONGINES Hong Kong Mile (1600m), the HK\$18.5 million LONGINES Hong Kong Sprint (1200m) and the HK\$18 million LONGINES Hong Kong Vase (2400m).

Follow final fields and news on www.sportingpost.co.za

Zac On Track

Zac Purton, representing Hong Kong, claimed the HK\$800,000 LONGINES International Jockeys Championship title on Wednesday evening at Happy Valley for the first time and at the fifth time of asking, courtesy of two wins in the first and third legs of the series.

In doing so, he saw off the spirited challenge of UK representative Silvestre de Sousa, with French champion Pierre-Charles Boudot, who took the fourth leg, taking third spot on the podium.

This was a popular local victory – of sorts – for Purton, who has a large fan base among Hong Kong racing fans. He has been riding here since 2007, was champion jockey in the 2013/2014 season and has more than 750 victories in his Hong Kong career to date.

However, he was ranked among the outsiders in Jockey Challenge betting and was at one point rated a 25/1 chance for victory, well behind favourites Ryan Moore, Boudot and reigning champion Hugh Bowman.

A delighted Purton said: "I came into the challenge thinking that I had quite ordinary rides, but it turned out well, and I'm pleased to have won, as I've gone close a couple of times. I didn't want it to be another déjà vu. You need a lot of luck, and I got it in two races!"

Attendance at the meeting was 29 294 with record turnover for an IJC meeting of HK\$1.308 billion.

Time To Take Stock

France commingles with TAB and is a significant contributor to betting turnover in South Africa - so it is in the best interests of South African racing to accommodate their demands. That's the TAB philosophy.

This is achieved by dragging out racemeetings with boring gaps between races – increasing the numbers of races on the card - and even running meetings on days that suits the French.

It was WPOTA life Chairman Rodney Dunn who once urged racing authorities to stick to days for venues. If we are used to racing in the Cape on a Wednesday and Saturday, then let's leave it that way. Customers are creatures of habit – they tailor their lives around it and know what to expect and when.

But in comes France Galop waving a fat Euro denominated cheque book and turns our lives upside down. It may make business sense to some, but it doesn't necessarily work for the customer and the man on the ground – right down to the Grooms, most of whom use public transport and don't always live near their workplaces.

On Thursday last week the Kenilworth meeting started at 12h40 and the last race jumped at 18h41. There were tedious gaps between races.

The principle of solving one problem by creating another smacks of a lack of capacity on the part of Phumelela.

Getting local customers to the track may not be a priority as pressing as getting those Euro's out of the French punters. But by making the raceday experience even less appealing, they are only shooting themselves in the foot.

It's time to take stock – or take a fall.

European Public Auction Record Set

Acclamation daughter sold for equivalent of R114 million



Marsha | Tattersals

M V Magnier has been busy buying up quality broodmare prospects this fall, his shopping list also including the \$8-million Tepin and the \$6-million Stellar Wind.

He exceeded even those lofty sums on Tuesday when going to a European public auction record 6-million gns (£6,300,000), or the approximate equivalent of R114 million, for the dual Group 1-winning sprinter Marsha (GB) (Acclamation {GB}) (lot 1848).

Magnier's Tuesday haul included two other young, speedy mares for seven figures.

Drakenstein Stud's Duke Of Marmalade was also in the news on Tuesday. His four time stakes winning daughter Modernstone was knocked down to Ballylinch for 1 000 000 guineas.

The seven-year-old mare, who sold in foal to Galileo –sire of Duke Of Marmalade's Investec Derby winning half-brother Ruler Of The World, was consigned to the sale by Baroda & Colbinstown Studs.

Modernstone, produced by Nureyev's daughter Post Modern, scored her biggest win when landing the Listed Fasig Tipton Marathon Stakes and also finished third in the Gr3 Rood and Riddle Dowager Stakes.

Duke Of Marmalade's Madernia made 340 000 guineas on the first day of the sale. [Read more](#)

Road to the L'ORMARINS QUEEN'S PLATE

Marinaresco

A few years ago, when the mighty mare Zenyatta was retired, her connections arranged a farewell appearance at Keeneland on 6 December 2010. Over 1,000 fans turned up simply for a glimpse of their hero. They braved snow, freezing temperatures and a 2 hour delay for a 20 minute audience with 'The Queen'. In her usual style, Zenyatta did not disappoint, doing her trademark high-stepping dance for her fans one last time. Her groom, Mario Espinoza led her around the ring, stopping occasionally to allow a lucky few to reach out and touch that famous mahogany coat. The Daily Racing Form tells of one young woman marvelling "I actually touched her!" as her friends stopped to put their hands in hers, laughing, as if wanting to pick up whatever it is that made Zenyatta special.

"That adoration and childlike wonder made for such a beautiful mental image that it's always stuck with me".

A few weeks ago, I bumped into Candice Robinson ahead of the Durbanville Ready To Run sale. She was just back from a trip to the UK where she'd met the great dressage rider, Carl Hester and got to pat his wonderful horse Valegro. As we share a passion for dressage, I rushed up to say hi, demanded to know which hand she'd stroked Valegro with and held my hand up against hers, which made her laugh.

An amazing, amazing little horse

I recently dropped by to visit Candice and her 'little horse that could', Marinaresco, who swept us all up in 2016 with his Winter Series campaign, that amazing run in the 2016 Vodacom Durban July and that even more amazing Gr1 Mike & Carol Bass Champions Cup win to close the season as well as bring down the curtain on Mike's career on a high.

This year, the little horse went one better, serving up a racing fairy tale on a shiny silver platter in winning Candice the Vodacom July in her first year of training, at top weight, carrying Pocket Power's silks, and performing the feat with the same jockey that rode Pocket for so much of his career. When we spoke on 2 July, she said, "He's just an amazing, amazing little horse."

Marinaresco closed the 2016/17 season with another tilt at the Gr1 Champion

Cup, but the double was not to be and he finished towards the back of the field, although I don't think anyone minded too much.

Since his Durban campaign, he's had a good rest at Soetendal spelling farm outside Wellington and has recently re-joined the Bass yard for his Cape summer campaign.

A special visit

A visit to the Bass racing stable is always a treat. There are fabulous horses, all in fabulous condition, interesting conversation with any one of the number of interesting and fascinating people who gravitate towards the Bass ring in the morning and you are always welcomed and accepted as part of the bunch.

I arrive in the hiatus between strings and find Candice sitting behind her desk in the back office attending to some paperwork. Although my appointment seems to have gone missing somewhere along the line, Candice is entirely unphased. There's no racing today, so it's a good time for a visit, she smiles graciously.

The office has been repainted and rearranged since my last visit and it feels light and airy. The left hand corner of the back office has been turned into a trophy shelf and also boasts a gorgeous vase of white roses. Taking up most of the wall space behind the desk is a huge commemorative frame of Pocket Power's Queen's Plate wins and there are more, formal framed shots on the right hand wall, with some other favourite snaps printed out and tucked into some of the other available space.

While Candice attends to a phone call, work rider Belinda Haytread breezes in along with a group of young jockeys, all rosy cheeked from the gallops. As I introduce myself, Belinda also sticks out her hand and teases that it's been so long between

visits that she needs to do the handshake thing.

Then she grabs a seat and joins us with her energy drink.

As she rides Marinaresco most mornings, I jump in and ask how he's getting on. "Fresh!" she laughs. "But he's feeling good." What's he like to ride? "Cheeky!" she grins, "You do not canter up behind him, or he'll squeal and buck. He hates other horses too close. That's why we ride him in blinkers. But other than that, he's a lovely ride. He's a got a stride THIS long," she flings her arms apart for emphasis.



GOLD CIRCLE

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

L'ORMARINS QUEEN'S PLATE

Candice finishes her call and beams that after months of searching, she's just had an offer accepted on a new house and congratulations are offered all round. She shares a few details and then it's back to business.

Marinaresco

Candice confirms that Marinaresco has settled back into his routine well. "Asked if he's come back any different to last season, she says "no, not really." He hasn't grown at all? I tease. "No, still the same," she smiles. I recount the story Mike told me about finding Marinaresco at the sales, saying he'd been unable to find anything better. "Yes, my dad really liked him," remembers Candice. "I arrived in Joburg and he told me he'd found a really nice horse. Quality, but a bit on the small side."

The horse's diminutive size has proved to be an advantage, and Candice confirms he's been an exceptionally sound horse, progressing through his training with little trouble. We all automatically touch wood as soon as she says it.

In terms of his Cape summer season campaign, she confirms that they're taking a different route this year. "Last year, we ran him in a Pinnacle, the Green Point, Queen's Plate and then the Met. This year, we opted for the Merchants, simply because we didn't want to run him in two mile races back to back. He needs to be fresh for the Queen's Plate." She confirms that he's had two gallops – one at Durbanville and one at Kenilworth and that he's working well as his Merchants run bears out.

Who will be riding him this season? "Aldo," she confirms. When I comment that he must be looking forward to that, she shrugs, "With Marinaresco comes pressure. That's the flip side of the coin, but I think Aldo will suit him."

Carol's mum – not looking a day over 70 – pops her head in to see what's going on and to chat about her forthcoming 90th birthday.

Candice glances out of the window and notices Dutch Philip being taken for a treatment in their new hydrotherapy unit. "Why don't you go and take a look?" she offers. Mike, having a nap on the new couch, waves as I pass.

It's not only a great opportunity to see Dutch Philip at close quarters, but also to check out the new Equi-Aid spa equipment which uses chilled, oxygenated saline water therapy, for treating injuries as well as exercise recovery and general maintenance. Along with the hydrotherapy unit, there's also a solarium installed just outside the office. As I make my way to the next door block, I notice that the stable doors have all been freshly painted in a cheerful shade of red and everything feels neat and purposeful.

Super string

Having watched Dutch Philip enjoy his the spa treatment, I wander back to the office, only to find that the team have decamped to the track, so I make my way over to say my thank yous and goodbyes. I pass sprint star Tevez gleaming darkly in his stable and halfway down the row, Horizon's beautiful head with its broad forehead and delicate muzzle greets me over the stable door. Out on the track, the wind has picked up a little and the babies are fresh. The string includes a beautifully balanced Dy-

nasty colt, a half brother to Brutal Force and much to my delight, Unbelievable Chad, who has relocated to the Cape. We watch the horses ring and trot and a few are sent out down the track. Despite my best intentions to leave them in peace, it's impossible not to get engrossed in the horses and the snippets of conversation, particularly as Mike has come out to join the group and I stay a little longer. Eventually the strings finish and we follow the horses in.

Back in the main yard, we say hello to Our Mate Art, blinking gently and quietly accepting a bit of fuss. "Gentleman," pronounces Belinda. "Armchair ride." Our Mate Art was another Mike purchase and Mike's always had a soft spot for the good-looking bay. Candice relates that Mike selected the son of Artie Schiller on physical type at the 2015 Inglis Melbourne Yearling Sale. "He started out really well and then got galloped into before the Guineas and fractured a splint bone. He used to lighten up a lot as a 3yo, but he's a lot easier to train as a 4yo," she confides. She echoes Belinda's sentiments that he's a lovely ride with a beautiful temperament to match.

I say goodbye as Candice pops around the corner to keep an eye on a fractious horse going back to his box and it brings home that all the horses have been specially and painstakingly selected, each one's history is carefully documented and each one is special. And the horses reflect that.

On my way out (finally!), I find Marinaresco relaxing in his box and stop to admire Candice's amazing little charge. As Candice said, the break has done him the world of good and he looks fit, strong and glowing with good health. Like all the others, he puts his head over the door to say hello. I can't resist stretching out my hand to stroke him. Still cooling down from his morning exercise, his neck is slightly damp and pulsing with energy. Whether I've picked up any of what makes him special I don't know, but my hand seems to stay warm and carry his touch long after I go. An amazing, amazing little horse indeed.

Choice Carriers Say Thank You

Peter and Karen Choice of Choice Carriers would like to thank all the trainers, owners, directors & staff of Kenilworth Racing.

We thank you humbly, for the support, trust and belief you had in our company, in the last 6 years.

Through the wins and losses, compliments & constructive criticism, you have made our company a whole.

Things end, but memories last forever.

Memories of our racedays, were certainly a highlight.

Secondly, we are still very much in operation, in both Cape & KZN.

Camilla & Marius are just a call away in our Cape branch & Peter & Joelene in the Mooi River, KZN office.

We will continue to strive for new levels of excellence, with integrity. Our telephone number is :021-9873879.



L'ORMARINS
QUEEN'S PLATE
— 2018 —
RACING FESTIVAL

WRITERS AWARD: WIN A TRIP FOR TWO TO GLORIOUS GOODWOOD

Rules for the competition:

The competition is open to all members of the public.

Write a non-fiction, original piece of 1000 - 5000 words.

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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PERSONALITY

Joy Actually

Alistair Gordon

With their accelerated life cycle and even more accelerated careers, racehorses and the industry they serve provide a high density, intense flavoured, high speed slice of life and the events that play themselves out on a day at the turf, run the gamut of human emotion, endeavour, success and disappointment. As there can only be one winner in any given field of runners, there tends to be a lot of focus on the many disappointments and hard luck stories and one could be forgiven for thinking that the race course is a gloomy place.

Of course, there are the not so good bits, but there are also the most incredibly, heart-stoppingly good bits.

Provenance

Summer Cup Saturday-turned-Sunday was one such day when Alistair Gordon's lovely Monks Hood, in Mary Slack's scarlet and black silks, produced a scintillating run to win the Gr2 Dingaans.

One can find lots of different reasons to follow horses (or people) and Monks Hood was pretty hard to miss after his 7.5 length debut victory back in May this year. As I love the Buckpasser line, force of habit means I always give anything wearing Mary Slack's red and black silks a second glance. While Alistair has trained a number of good horses over the years, including the likes of Mauritzfontein, Extra Cover, Scarlet Lady and Disco Queen, it is the fact that he handled Brer Rabbit that earns him a special place in my heart, as I was lucky enough to ride a Brer Rabbit mare growing up. As you might guess, I'm not much good when it comes to racing tips, but if you like random stories and connections, I'm definitely your girl.

And on that note, the other rather wonderful thing about Alistair is that he occupies a very special yard in the old part of Summerveld.

"We're very spoiled to have the yard we have. I think I'm only the third trainer to be here. It was Syd Laird, David Payne and myself. It's an iconic yard. I think the trees were planted by Syd when he moved in. There have been some serious horses out of the yard. I guess I've let the side down a bit, but I think we've got some proper horses in this year," he says with the careful optimism that comes from a lifetime of working with horses.

Special story, special horse

Monks Hood comes with a rather special story attached. "Over the years, I've trained a couple for Mary with most obviously being homebred horses. We've had some real disasters with horses either getting injured or being no good. Mary went to Jehan at Nationals and said 'try and find something nice for Alistair'. Jehan

came to me and asked if I'd seen this colt. I said I hadn't. He told me what Mary had said and when I saw him, I thought he was an exceptional yearling. We managed to buy him and that's where it started."

Monks Hood made that eye-catching debut over 1200m at Scottsville on 20 May, following up with a two lengths 3rd to Trojan Harbour in the 1400m Listed Gatecrasher Stakes on 10 June and a fraction over half a length 4th to Eyes Wide Open in the 1600m Gr1 Premiers Champion Stakes to close out his juvenile campaign on 30 July. As a 3yo, he has had two starts on the poly, starting with a 1200m Graduation where he finished just over a length third to Di Mazzio on 1 October and then just under 1.5 lengths third to Cutting Edge over a 1200m Pinnacle Stakes on 12 November.

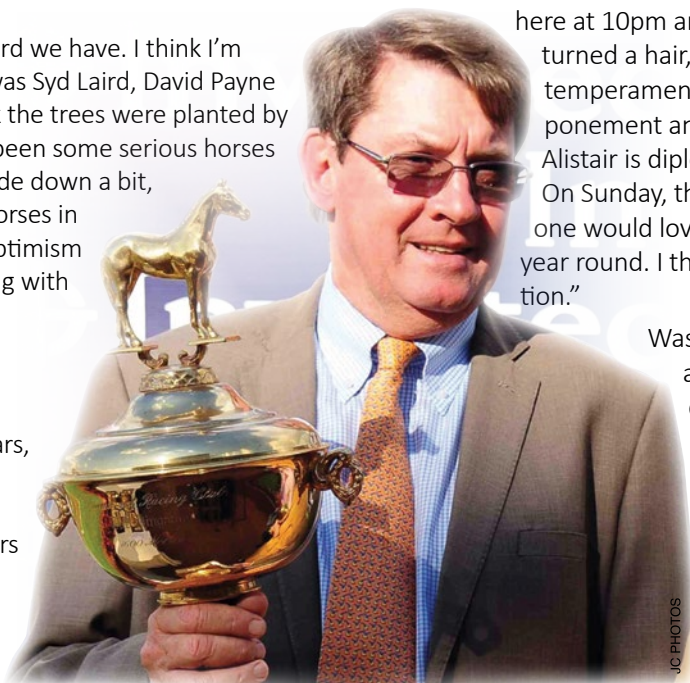
Alistair had been weighing the option of campaigning Monks Hood in the Cape Guineas, until fate waved its mischievous wand. "He has suffered from upper airway inflammation from bedding and so on, so on nice days he lives out in the paddock. One morning, when the guy went to fetch him, he freshed and fell over and when he got up he was lame. It was nothing major, but he was sore for a day or two and we had to ease back on him. But things happen for a reason. Maybe he wasn't meant to go to Cape Town," he muses. And so Cape Town's loss was Joburg's gain.

Temperament

While there were a few anxious moments about the Premier's Champions Stakes form after the recent Selangor and then the bad weather causing the meeting to be postponed by a day, the one thing Alistair didn't have to worry about was his horse.

"He travelled to Joburg on Friday night. "We loaded here at 10pm and got in in the morning. He never turned a hair, ate all his food – he's got a magic temperament." Asked about the forced postponement and the track conditions on Sunday, Alistair is diplomatic. "It was the right choice. On Sunday, the sting was out of the ground, but one would love to race on a surface like that all year round. I thought it was in excellent condition."

Was it a big day? "I had some friends and family who flew up on Saturday morning, but they were all booked back on Saturday night, so I didn't have anybody there. Obviously I was in Mary's box with Jess and everybody on Sunday and they had a huge day with Nother Russia and a lot of other winners, so the box had a great day, which was great."



ALISTAIR GORDON

Savouring the moment

Having produced some very special horses in his time, Alistair has been in the game long enough to know that while one should not get too far ahead of yourself, these little pockets of success and joy are capricious things and every opportunity should be savoured.

“I think this is a tough game we’re in and I’ve been in it a long time. I haven’t quite had the horses to go into the big races for a while – I think the last time I ran in the Merchants was with Disco Queen, so it’s tough, you know? When you’ve had the privilege of training that calibre of horse and winning races all over South Africa, when you don’t have those horses, you miss them.”

“For whatever reason, you go through stages where you just don’t have those types of horses, so it is emotional. I think there’s something wrong if you don’t get emotional. Like we discussed, the way he came to me and the fact that Mary tried to give me a good horse, I think it’s special and you’ve got to try to reward someone for what they gave you. To be honest, I’m an emotional person. When a plan comes together, that’s what it’s all about. I’ve never won the Dingaans before and to be honest, if we’d run second by a short head, we’d still have been happy. If you look at horses that have won the Dingaans, there are some pretty decent horses. Hopefully we can crack on from there.”

Big race debrief

They left Johannesburg at 7pm on Sunday evening and got back to Durban at 2am on Monday morning. “He ate all his food, he

doesn’t care. It makes it a lot easier. He’s a big, strong, nice looking horse and has this magnificent action on him. It’s very exciting what’s happened and hopefully for the future.”

“He’s a really nice horse. As a 2yo he had those two runs in those features and obviously the Gr1 on Gold Cup day where he was drawn 13 out of 13 and was only beaten under a length. He’s always shown that he’s a nice horse and since he was gelded he’s improved a lot. His two runs on the polytrack were indifferent and I think he’s not a great poly horse. He’s got a lovely temperament. The only reason we gelded him was from a timing point of view. It was the right time. Just after the season he was starting to get a little loaded in the shoulder and neck sort of thing, so I thought we’d better do it then. He’s always had a really nice action and it actually improved since the gelding. He’s lightened up a bit.”

Have there been any thoughts as to his future? “It’s mission accomplished at the moment. We did consider the Cape Guineas, but it’s a bit too close to the Dingaans which was a really hard race. There’s also been an African Horse Sickness outbreak, so the decision was made for us, but I think it’s the right decision for him and I’m very happy. The main goal will be the Gauteng Guineas on 3 March 2018. I don’t think he’ll go further than a mile. The dam line is sprinting, so 1400m would be fine, but there aren’t many 1400m feature races, so I think we’ll aim for 1600m in Joburg.”

Next time you get gloomy with the state of the world, why not take a trip to the races. You never know what you might find.



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WHERE WOULD YOU RATHER BE IN DECEMBER?

Short Heads

Flashdance



Chase Liebenberg

Snowdance will bid to become the first filly to complete the Fillies Guineas- Klawervlei Majorca double since Sun Classique 11 years ago after she demolished her opposition on Saturday. Justin Snaith told Michael Clower: "She definitely won't run in the Paddock Stakes- we are being careful in the way we pick our races this season - so she probably won't race again before the Majorca."

Owners Targetted

Wow- a concerted effort to attract owners! The Australian Turf Club will conduct its annual Introduction to Ownership Forum with a focus on educating new and existing owners about horse ownership and to encourage increased participation. This will be held at the second Chinese Festival of Racing on the day champion Winx could make her autumn return. This will be on the second day of the Lunar New Year on 17 February 2018 and will combine the Apollo Stakes race day with Chinese culture.

FOR US?

The final field for the alternate first leg of the SA Triple Crown, the R1 million Gr1 Cape Guineas, to be run on Saturday 16 December, will be published on Thursday. The prestigious classic has a new sponsor – Forum – which we stumbled upon perchance. Comments of concern from longstanding racegoers as to the ghost-town that was Kenilworth on Cape Fillies Guineas Saturday have been raised. On-course facility and hospitality management is non-existent

MUJAIFY WILL BE BACK

Many punters would have banked Mike de Kock's Mujaify to win the first leg of the Jackpot at Kenilworth on Saturday but the champion trainer has said the colt's followers should not be disappointed- he only ran third. "Mujaify had to travel and had his first outing at Kenilworth but more importantly he'll be better over 1200m and his conqueror Kasimir is a good horse in his own right. If you look at Kasimir's form he was beaten just a length by Dutch Philip, who ran second beaten under a length in Saturday's Gr2 Merchants." The stable is fast approaching the 50-winner mark for this season – a Saturday treble boosted their total to 47, representing a 21% winning strike rate and a win/place rate of 66%.

LOCAL LIGHTS

Daughters of Canford Cliffs, due to stand at Highlands Stud in 2018, and Drakenstein Stud's Duke Of Marmalade, fared well in Monday's first session of trading at the Tattersalls December Mare Sale.

Harlequeen, by five time Gr1 winner Canford Cliffs, was sold to Katsumi Yoshida for 400,000 guineas, making the four-year-old the joint fourth top lot sold on Monday. Harlequeen, consigned by trainer Mick Channon, was a winner at two before training on well to finish third in both the Gr1 Investec Oaks and Gr1 Darley Irish Oaks in 2016. Duke Of Marmalade, damsire of this season's high class stakes winning 2yo Chilean, is the sire of Madernia who was knocked down to China Horse Club for 340 000 guineas on Monday. Madernia, who sold in foal to Dark Angel, was a stakes placed winner of three who was third in the Listed Prix Dahlia-Fonds Europeen de L'Eleveage.

Change Of Direction

Jockey Willy Twiston-Davies has decided to retire from horse racing at the age of 23, despite being cleared to return to the saddle after injury. Twiston-Davies, who is the son of trainer Nigel, broke two vertebrae and two ribs in a fall on the opening day of the Cheltenham Festival in March. He says he will now focus on breeding horses for racing.

Sin & Sun

Jockeys being allowed to pick and choose when they serve their suspensions seems the wrong message that is being sent by the NHA. A young rider recently got seven days for interference on 19 November. He gets to ride here, jets off to an exotic destination for a jockey international - and then his suspension kicks in during his holiday in the sun, the day after the international. So much for the deterrent factor.



LOUW FLYER

GENERATIONS X

A Chat With David Ferraris

Luke Ferraris had his first two rides under rules on Sunday, 3 December 2017 and with his parents, David and Pam travelling from Hong Kong and grandfather, Ormond Ferraris making the trip from Johannesburg, the day turned into a landmark event with three generations of Ferraris in the Scottsville parade ring on Sunday.

David says being with horses was all he ever wanted to do and being the son of Ormond Ferraris, he was taught the ropes by one of the very best.

Starting out

David went out on his own in 1995. "When Dad retired, I went to Cape Town and did OK. Then I came back to Joburg and things just took off. My dad left me some very nice horses which I managed to take and win some big races." Enough, as it happens, to be named Champion Trainer four times, with some his biggest highlights including horses such as Classic Flag, Super Quality and Celtic Grove.

"Super Quality was 15'3 and the most magnificent little horse. Lionel Cohen bred him and I think Dad bought him and I got him when my dad retired. He won three Derbies in one year – the Computaform, the SA Derby and the Cape Derby. Winning the July with Muis is one of those moments I'll never forget. It was so emotional, especially for Muis winning after trying for so long."

"Classic Flag was also incredible. He belonged to Prof Herbst. In those days they had Transvaal breeders premiums. Prof Herbst had R20k of premiums which he exchanged for Classic Flag, so he got him for free. He was also a small little guy – marginally bigger than Super Quality, by about an inch! Both of my best horses have been smaller ones, besides Vengeance Of Rain, who was a huge big horse. I went to visit Classic Flag not so long ago. He's retired now, but still doing well."

Hong Kong

David relocated to Hong Kong in the 2003/04 season and has been there 14 years now.

"It was a good move. It was tough in the beginning, very tough, but I was fortunate to get Vengeance Of Rain in my second year."

"He came to me as a young horse and he'd already won a feature in Australia. The owners bought him from Crown Casino mogul Lloyd Williams, who was apparently very upset when the horse ended up doing so well," he remembers. "He didn't show much early on, and then I think I ran him with Anthony Delpech in a mile with bottom weight and he just romped home. Then I

realised this is a good horse and I don't think he was beaten for the next 5 runs. He went from handicap to group class, won a Gr3 and then stepped up to the Derby."

"He had a heart condition, so one doesn't know how good he actually was. His heart used to fibrillate. It was a dreadful thing. You'd have to leave him alone and his heart would come right. When he'd won all those big races, he had a bad fibrillation. I sent him back to Cambridge Stud where he was born to have a rest. I think I was the first person to do that – send a horse out of Hong Kong and bring it back. But it was what he desperately needed. Sir Patrick Hogan sent photos of him romping in the paddocks. When he got back, he won the Dubai Sheema Classic, which was probably my greatest moment."

"But you never knew if his heart was going to be OK. I learnt to listen and by putting my hand by his girth, I would feel immediately if his heart was in a rhythm. I became an expert on hearts and potassium level excretions. Fortunately he only did it in work. It happened once in a race, and that was his last race and then he retired. He went back to Cambridge and one morning Sir Patrick phoned to say the big horse had passed away. There weren't any signs of distress, it seems he just lay down and died, which just shows you had a weak heart. If things had been different, who knows what he could have done," he reflects.

Stable challenge

Hong Kong built a brand new set of stables for the equestrian events for the 2008 Olympic games at Sha Tin. "Once the Olympics were over, they said four trainers can go and I put my hand up immediately."

Unfortunately it wasn't smooth sailing. "After doing very well, things started to go pear-shaped. The biggest problem was that there was no pool. Anywhere else in the world, you can train in the open and take horses for walks. In Hong Kong, horses get trained and put on the walker. They need something to take their minds

off the boredom and they absolutely love to swim."

Aside from the pool, there were additional logistical challenges such as needing extra grooms and work riders to get the horses to track and back. "It took a long time to convince them that I couldn't do the job being so far from the main training centre and that I needed help. Eventually they gave me some extra grooms and work riders and things got better, but we still didn't have the pool." Fortunately Hong Kong has just invested in a multi-million dollar swimming pool



Luke, David and Ormond Ferraris

GENERATIONS X

and David has seen immediate benefits. “My 16 wins jumped to 33. I’m currently on 9 wins and we’re only a few months into the season. It’s been a huge asset.”

Racing in Hong Kong

With Hong Kong being the envy of most of the rest of the racing world, David agrees that it’s world class. “It gets tremendous publicity in English and Chinese newspapers. Our courses are always packed to capacity and turnover reaches billions every meeting and it all goes back to charity at the end of the day, so it’s quite a unique organisation. They do tremendous service and wherever you go – clinics, schools, universities – you see ‘sponsored by the HKJC’. Our CEO Winfried Engelbrecht-Bresges has turned the club around. He’s realised that we need South African horses here. Once they get here, they do well and they’re very good value for money.”

What does he make of the prospect of Conghua? “I think what it will do is give trainers 10 extra spaces on the Sha Tin side. It’s a beautiful set-up. It’s based on Sha Tin, but improved tenfold. It will be interesting, but we’ll have to watch and see.”

One can’t avoid the obvious conversation about export and the potential opportunities for South Africa. David confirms that matters are at an advanced stage and is confident that we’ll see direct exports as early as next December. “Once that’s done, owners will realise the value they can get in South Africa and it will have a knock on effect to Australia, New Zealand and even England.

SA riders also have a good record in Hong Kong and David famously gave Karis Teetan his first Hong Kong win. “He’s fantastic. You might moan at him when he’s ridden what you perceive to be a bad race and the next morning, he’s there, smiling. South African riders have a great work ethic and no matter what, they’re there in the morning to gallop the horses.”

Luke

And now his son Luke is learning the ropes and put in a commendable first outing to finish in the money on his first day at the office. “We were a bit apprehensive at first, but he kept nagging and eventually I said to Pam, we have to make a decision, so we rang the Academy. He was over the moon.”

“He’s finished Std 8, so he’s got 9 and 10 left and will finish matric there. In the old days, kids used to leave school in Std 6 and 7 and if they got too heavy to ride, it was difficult for them to do anything else. But it’s such a good institution and Graham Bailey runs it so well, that the academic side is as important as the riding side.”

“Ever since he was a little boy, he was fearless on a horse. I remember him galloping up the beach at Zimbali. I think he must have been 3 or 4 years old and he was going flat out, waving his arms at us,” he chuckles proudly. “He just always wanted to be a jockey. It got so bad, he used to put a saddle on our leather couch.”

David is understandably proud that Luke has made it to his first ride so quickly. “He arrived in January and he’s riding in December – it’s unheard of, really. The instructors said it was obvious he’d had a good background and that’s helped a lot. I think he’d only been there two weeks and once he finished in the arena, he was riding work. He’s very well mannered, which he got from St Andrews and boarding school, so all the trainers seem to like him.”

In addition to having his parents and grandfather on course, Luke’s godfather, Paul (David’s brother) also flew down for the occasion and Luke did not disappoint. From two carded rides, he finished in the money on Louis Goosen’s Fast Looks in Scottsville’s Race 4.

We wish him all the very best for the future.

Brave Mary Stars At Awards

A Gr1 winning R40 000 purchase was crowned Horse Of The Year at the KZN Breeders Awards held at a black tie affair at Fordoun on Saturday evening.



Bruce Le Roux, Brian Warmback representing Rupert Pliersch, & Neil Butcher

The high quality Brave Tin Soldier filly Brave Mary, the Gr1 Allan Robertson Championship winner who now races for Team Valor International, was crowned Horse Of The Year and also Champion 2yo Filly on a festive evening in the

KZN Midlands. Another Team Valor filly in Anna Pavlova was crowned Champion 3 yo.

Summerhill were again Champion Breeders, while Anton and Judy Procter of Burwell Stud were given a special lifetime achievement award for their service to the industry.

HORSE OF THE YEAR

Brave Mary

CHAMPION 2YO FILLY

Brave Mary

CHAMPION 2YO COLT

Zodiac Jack

CHAMPION 3YO FILLY

Anna Pavlova

CHAMPION 3YO COLT

Matador Man

CHAMPION SPRINTER FEMALE

Anna Pavlova

CHAMPION SPRINTER MALE

Talktothestars

CHAMPION MIDDLE DISTANCE FEMALE

Intergalactic

CHAMPION MIDDLE DISTANCE MALE

Matador Man

CHAMPION STAYER MALE AND FEMALE

The Elmo Effect

CHAMPION OLDER FEMALE

Intergalactic

CHAMPION OLDER MALE

Talktothestars

BROODMARE OF THE YEAR

Mary Lou

STALLION PROSPECT OF THE YEAR

Crusade

STALLION OF THE YEAR

Kahal

BREEDERS ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Bruce Le Roux

LEADING BREEDER OF THE YEAR

Summerhill Stud

SPECIAL LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Mr Anton and Mrs Judy Procter

ANITA AKAL INDUSTRY AWARD

Greig Muir

BREEDING

A Pivotal Influence

One of Britain's leading sires for many years, Pivotal, whose relative, Always In Charge (Captain Al) ran third in Saturday's Gr2 World Sports Betting Merchants, has enjoyed a steady stream of success in 2017.

The son of Polar Falcon has not only enjoyed Gr1 success in 2017 as a sire, but also as a broodmare sire and sire of sires.

Like another top sire of recent years, Oasis Dream, Pivotal won the Gr1 Nunthorpe Stakes. He had, however, just a brief racing career winning four of only six starts. Oasis Dream and Pivotal not only won the Nunthorpe but both Northern Dancer line sires have also each sired a winner of the race, in Jwala and Kyllachy respectively, and Kyllachy in turn sired dual Nunthorpe Stakes winner, Sole Power.

SA Runners

Polar Charge (Polar Falcon) is dam of the above mentioned Equus Champion, Always In Charge, and Pivotal has also enjoyed plenty of success as a stallion, from a small number of runners in South Africa. The sire's top SA runners include dual Guineas winner, Noordhoek Flyer and the Gr1 Thekwini Stakes/Gr2 Fillies Guineas winner, Amanee.

Pivotal remains active at the Cheveley Park Stud, where his son, Kyllachy, now resides in retirement, and has consistently enjoyed success as a sire of Gr1 winners over the years. He currently has a total of 26 top flight winners, with his runners having captured races as diverse as the Dubai World Cup, Epsom Oaks, Irish 1000 Guineas and Champion Stakes.

Best known as a sire of sprinter-milers, Pivotal has been represented by classic winners in all of Britain (Sariska), Ireland (Halfway To Heaven, Sariska, Saoire), Germany (Buzzword, Silvester Lady) and France (Falco). His Gr1 winner in 2017 came in the form of Brando, who was victorious in the Gr1 Prix Maurice de Gheest.

Broodmare

It has, however, been as a broodmare sire that Pivotal has really excelled during 2017. His daughters have been represented by 22 stakes winners this year, headed by Gr1 winners Cracksman (Champion Stakes), Precieuse (French 1000 Guineas), Rhododendron (Prix de l'Opera), Polarisation (Sydney Cup) and Hydrangea (Matron Stakes, Qipco British Champion Fillies & Mares Stakes). Rhododendron and Hydrangea are both by Galileo, while Cracksman is by Galileo's outstanding son, Frankel. Both Rhododendron and Hydrangea are out of exceptional Pivotal mares. The former, a full-sister to KZN sire, Flying The Flag, is out of triple Gr1 winner and Irish classic heroine, Halfway To Heaven (a daughter of King's Stand Stakes winner, Cassandra Go), while Hydrangea, a full-sister to Gr1 Ranvet Stakes winning Cape sire, The United States, is out of Pivotal's French Gr3 winning daughter, Beauty Is Truth.



Pivotal

Halfway To Heaven is also the dam of exciting 2yo of 2017, and potential 2018 classic hope, Magical. The latter, a full-sister to Rhododendron and Flying The Flag, won the Gr2 Debutante Stakes and also finished second in this year's Gr1 Moyglare Stud Stakes- remarkably, Rhododendron, also second in both the 1000 Guineas and Oaks this year, ran third in the Moyglare in 2016.

Cracksman

Cracksman, produced by the Pivotal mare, Rhadegunda, ended 2017 as the third top rated racehorse, according to LONGINES World's Best Racehorse Rankings. A triple Group winner in 2017, and runner up in the Gr1 Irish Derby, Cracksman was given a rating of 130 by LONGINES which puts him just behind Arrogate (134) and Winx (132). Pivotal, who stands alongside grandsons, Mayson and Twilight Son, also enjoyed notable success as a sire of sires this year. Already sire of successful, but pensioned sire, Kyllachy (sire of Twilight Son), Pivotal looks to have two exciting sire sons to his name in the form of Siyouni and Farhh. Already an established sire in 2017, former star 2yo, Siyouni (one of a growing number of top sires produced by a daughter of Danehill), went from strength to strength this year. His 8 black type winners included Gr1 Fillies Mile winner, Laurens, and Gr3 Jersey Stakes winner, Le Brivido. The latter also finished a close second in the Gr1 French 2000 Guineas. Well established in France, Siyouni has a number of bright looking classic hopes for next season and he looks on track to have another good year in 2018.

Farhh, winner of both the Gr1 Lockinge and Gr1 Champion Stakes, made a bright start with his first 2yos in 2017, with his early runners including Gr3 Acomb Stakes winner, Wells Farhh Go, and he is a sire who could well build on this bright start in 2018. A colt by Farhh topped the first session of the Tattersalls December Foal Sale when fetching 160 000 guineas.

Pivotal's retired son, Kyllachy, also got into the act this year, with Kyllachy's notable representatives in 2017 including Gr2 Queen Mary Stakes/Gr2 Flying Childers winner, Heartache, and Gr3 Oh So Sharp Stakes heroine, Altyn Orda.

By The Book

Michael Roberts saddled the most impressive winner of the afternoon at Scottsville on Sunday when the 3yo Statute simply out-classed her rivals on debut, romping to a five length win over 1200m.

She is a full sister to the Drakenstein Stud sire Legislate and her win continued the great run of success enjoyed by breeders Cheveley Stud – they also produced Saturday's Gr1 World Sports Betting Cape Fillies Guineas winner Snowdance.

Statute, a R700 000 buy from the 2016 National Yearling Sale, is out of the speedy four-time winning mare Champers, who won up to 1200m.

Legislate, who earned over R5.7 million during his illustrious career, won seven times with four Gr1 victories. His first foals are due this year.

BREEDING

Vale Lateral

The latest National Horseracing Authority of South Africa calendar reports the death of stallion, Lateral.



Maine Chance Farms' stallion, who had been standing at the Southford Stud the past few seasons, suffered a broken leg and was put down. The son of Singspiel was 14 years old at the time of his passing.

Lateral was a top-class race-horse, who was named Champion 2YO Colt in Italy in 2005 and Champion 3YO Miler in Germany

a year later. He won six of just ten outings, with his career highlighted by a victory, over subsequent Italian Oaks winner Dionisia and successful sire Lord Of England in the 2005 Gr1 Gran Criterium.

Lateral also won the Gr2 Grosse Europa-Meile, Gr3 Oppenheim Pramerica Meile, and the Gr3 Hamburger Meile.

He made an instant impression with his first South African crop, leading the first crop sire standing (by prize money) of 2013-2014.

Lateral's very first runners included Gr1 Golden Slipper winner Bilateral and Gr2 Dingaans/Gr2 Colorado King Stakes winner Unparalleled. The latter earned just a tick under R1mil during his brief racing career, while Bilateral accounted for such notable Gr1 winners as Alboran Sea, Pine Princess, and Carry On Alice when victorious in the 2014 Golden Slipper.

Another smart performer hailing from Lateral's first crop was dual Gr2 Peninsula Handicap runner up Milton, who has won or placed in 26 races to date, while the sire is also responsible for the Gr1 filly Sapsan-who was third to Chestnuts N Pearls in the 2015 Gr1 Golden Slipper at Greyville.

One of 14 Gr1 winners sired by champion Singspiel, Lateral was one of six winners produced by the stakes winning Aragon mare Ligona and he hailed from the same family as German champion Literat-sire of the great stallion Surumu.

First Runners For New Sires

Two first time sires in Pomodoro and The Apache have runners in the opening 900m juvenile scurry of the Cape season at Kenilworth on Saturday.

The Klawervlei Stud based Pomodoro is represented by the well-named Royal Italian.

Bred by Highlands Stud, Royal Italian comes from the yard, as did his sire, of champion trainer Sean Tarry. The colt is out of the Royal Academy mare Royal Polly.

The versatile Pomodoro's victories included all of the Gr1 Vodacom Durban July, Gr1 SA Derby, and Gr3 Tony Ruffel Stakes.

One of 22 Gr1 winners by seven times champion sire Jet Master, Pomodoro is out of Northern Guest's Gr2 Fillies Guineas winner, and Broodmare Of The Year, Golden Apple.

Scott Bro's The Apache also marks his first runner in the same race in the form of the Vaughan Marshall-trained Potawatomi. Bred by Rosedene Stud, he is out of the Crimson Waves mare, Crimson Fantasy.

A local and international Gr1 winner, The Apache was an outstanding son of Mogok. He was the pride of South Africa when he crossed the line first in the Gr1 Arlington Million in the USA for trainer Mike De Kock, only to have the race result changed after interference.

Out of Apache Rose by Dolpour, he carries a strong Highdown Pedigree that began when Robin Scott purchased his fourth dam Lenore, one of the foundation mares of the great Scott Bros nursery.

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 submission:



Dynasty X Careful Hiker colt born 01.11.17 (Highlands Stud)

BREEDING

Farewell Toreador

The KZN breeding fraternity have lost a high-class stalwart with the sad news that Danehill stallion Toreador was euthanized at Bush Hill Stud on Sunday morning.



Toreador | Candiese Marnewick

In a brief statement, the stud said that it was with heavy hearts that they report that Toreador had to be euthanized for humane reasons on Sunday, after a brief but severe ailment.

“We thank the Vets and staff of Almiray Vet practice and Baker & McVeigh for their help and efforts in fighting for him. We would

take this opportunity to thank the shareholders of the syndicate who owned Toreador for affording us the privilege of having stood this most special “gentleman” of the industry. He commanded respect and support from breeders and trainers far and wide and we thank you all for the support.”

Toreador was a Houghton Sales 250 000 guineas yearling, who won 4 races and ran 17 places from 1200m to a mile in England, Ireland and South Africa.

Toreador, an Irish-bred sprinter-miler by Danehill, won three races in South Africa having been imported here after his two-year-old season in Ireland in which he won one race. He was trained by Mike de Kock and besides his wins, his best achievements were runner up finishes in all of the Gr1 Gold Challenge over 1 600m, the Gr2 Hawaii Stakes also over 1600m and the Gr2 Sentinel Stakes over 1 200m. He also ran third in South Africa’s premier mile, the L’Ormarins Queen’s Plate.

He started his stud career in 2005 in the Western Cape and produced our Champion 2yo Colt of 2010, Link Man- who was also trained by Mike de Kock- and a host of stakes winners.

Toreador is the sire of multiple KZN Breeders Award winner Matador Man and last season’s twice Gr1 winning 2016/17 KZN Sprint Champion, Bull Valley.

He produced multiple Graded Stakes winners including the fast Lazer Beat, Jackadore, She’s A Stunner, Prospect Strike, Rikitikitana, Las Ramblas, Deliver The Power, Roc ‘n Rose, Prince Paseo and Straight Forward.

Goodbye To A Good Man

The total no reserve dispersal sale of Kilimanjaro Racing (Pty) Ltd and partners will be held under the auspices of Bloodstock South Africa at Summerveld on Saturday 16 December 2017 at 10h30.

The event signals the end of a long career for charismatic KZN trainer James Goodman.

The sale includes 25 horses and various stable kit and equipment.

The catalogue is available online at www.bsa.co.za

New Sire Off The Mark

Potala Palace First Runner A Winner

Highlands Stud stallion Potala Palace got off the mark in the very first juvenile race of the new season at Fairview on Friday when his daughter and first runner Watsonia bounded through late to catch the lightning fast Supa Smart in the last stride of the 800m Maiden Juvenile Plate.

The Gr1 winning son of Singspiel’s first runner got up late for trainer Alan Greeff and Highlands-Ridgemont Racing jockey Greg Cheyne to nab her more fancied stablemate Supa Smart.

She won in a time of 46,41 secs and banked the BSA Added Value Bonus of R40 000 in a dream start for her owners.

Bred by Daytona Stud, Watsonia is out of the Fort Wood mare Cape Floral and was a R25 000 bargain buy from this year’s KZN Yearling Sale.

Potala Palace was a top-class racehorse, who won or placed in seven races. He earned over R600 000 in stakes. His victories included a win in the Gr1 Premier’s Champion Stakes, over Gr1 winners Gimmethegreenlight, Fighting Warrior and Master Plan.

He is one of more than 90 stakes winners sired by champion racehorse Singspiel, whose notable Gr1 winners include champion Solow, Breeders’ Cup winner Lahudood and Dubai World Cup winner Moon Ballad.

Potala Palace, who shares his broodmare sire Alzao with the great sire Deep Impact, is from the same family as legendary stallions Sadler’s Wells (grandsire of Singspiel), Fairy King and Nureyev.

Crusade’s Queen

Scott Bro’s Mr Greeley stallion Crusade launched his second crop in style at Greyville on Wednesday when the Backworth Stud-bred 2yo Crimean Queen (ex Victoria by Albert Hall) showed too much speed for her opposition to win the Greyville Polytrack 1000m heat in a time of 60,9 secs.

Crusade was a top-class racehorse, and among the leaders of his generation at two. His victories included the Gr1 Middle Park Stakes.

He is a son of top sprinter and world leading sire Mr Greeley (Gone West), who left behind more than 60 stakes winners, a tally which included the Gr1 winners Nownownow, Reel Buddy, Finsceal Beo, Western Aristocrat, Aruna, Saoirse Abu and leading sire El Corredor.

Crusade is out of the top-class racemare La Traviata – winner of the Gr3 Victory Ride Stakes. This is the family of Sun Teddy – the male line ancestor of outstanding US sire Damascus.

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LEADING BREEDERS by STAKES

SEASON 2017/2018 • 1 August - 3 December 2017

Stakes	Breeder	rnr	AEPR	runs	wnr	wns	wnr/rnr%	SW wnr	SW wns	SW wnr/rnr%	plcs	plc/rnr%	SP	top earner with stakes & % of total stakes
7,542,225	Summerhill Stud	243	31,038	815	56	73	23%	1	1	2%	194	24%	0	Big Bear 1,312,500 17%
6,229,825	Klawervlei Stud	251	24,820	764	51	61	20%	3	4	6%	236	31%	4	Silicone Valley 278,000 4%
5,971,525	Maine Chance	125	47,772	346	37	47	30%	4	4	11%	98	28%	3	Liege 1,203,250 20%
4,169,625	Wilgerbosdriif & Mauritzfontein	138	30,215	347	37	44	27%	2	3	5%	102	29%	5	Zen Arcade 484,375 12%
3,459,525	Highlands	112	30,889	358	39	44	35%	2	2	5%	80	22%	1	My Friend Lee 269,800 8%
2,860,725	Ascot Stud	65	44,011	181	19	23	29%	1	2	5%	59	33%	3	Bold Respect 528,750 18%
2,712,700	Scott Bros	117	23,185	362	24	29	21%	0	0	0%	111	31%	4	Movie Show 166,250 6%
2,648,213	Varsfontein Stud	80	33,103	233	21	26	26%	1	1	5%	76	33%	5	Surcharge 288,750 11%
2,579,025	Moutonshoek	92	28,033	276	18	25	20%	1	1	6%	72	26%	1	Broadway Trip 715,000 28%
2,572,400	Drakenstein Stud	81	31,758	219	28	32	35%	0	0	0%	72	33%	2	Fresnaye 220,600 9%
2,427,825	Hemel 'n Aarde Stud	89	27,279	292	23	30	26%	0	0	0%	82	28%	1	Tommy Waterdevil 150,100 6%
1,887,525	Cheveley Stud	48	39,323	136	10	12	21%	2	3	20%	42	31%	0	Snowdance 891,000 47%
1,609,000	Drakenstein Stud & Team Valor Int 2	804,500	5	1	1	50%	0	0	0%	3	60%	1	Miss Katalin 1,562,500 97%	
1,535,550	Gary Player Stud	62	24,767	185	17	23	27%	0	0	0%	49	26%	1	Sleepinseattle 215,250 14%
1,464,500	Oldlands Stud	30	48,817	93	7	9	23%	1	1	14%	18	19%	0	Fullfillyourdream 628,000 43%
1,438,525	La Plaisance Stud	61	23,582	136	17	21	28%	0	0	0%	49	36%	0	Know The Ropes 156,750 11%
1,419,875	GJ Armitage	60	23,665	187	13	14	22%	0	0	0%	50	27%	5	French Navy 115,000 8%
1,374,225	IR Heyns	39	35,237	118	13	17	33%	0	0	0%	35	30%	0	Cloud Atlas 163,850 12%

LEADING SIRES by STAKES

SEASON 2017/2018 • 1 August - 3 December 2017

Stakes	Sire	rnr	AEPR	runs	wnr	wns	wnr/rnr%	SW wnr	SW wns	SW wnr/rnr%	plcs	plc/rnr%	SP	top earner with stakes & % of total stakes
5,709,450	Silvano	177	32,257	433	49	60	28%	4	5	8%	134	31%	5	Girl On The Run 381,250 7%
5,665,675	Trippi	106	53,450	286	37	46	35%	1	2	3%	108	38%	2	Miss Katalin 1,562,500 28%
4,651,175	Dynasty	105	44,297	267	39	46	37%	4	4	10%	67	25%	2	Liege 1,203,250 26%
4,548,463	*Captain Al	123	36,979	325	34	39	28%	2	3	6%	115	35%	5	Snowdance 891,000 20%
3,976,163	Var	161	24,697	474	31	39	19%	1	1	3%	153	32%	1	Sommerlied 168,750 4%
3,381,050	*Kahal	102	33,148	337	35	43	34%	0	0	0%	100	30%	1	Wynkelder 202,375 6%
3,060,750	Querari	86	35,590	226	24	27	28%	2	2	8%	68	30%	0	Wonderwall 400,000 13%
2,893,975	*Sail From Seattle	86	33,651	262	30	40	35%	1	2	3%	67	26%	0	Via Seattle 203,750 7%
2,592,475	Gimmethgreennight	105	24,690	294	26	30	25%	1	1	4%	67	23%	2	Surcharge 288,750 11%
2,310,325	Elusive Fort	68	33,975	215	22	23	32%	0	0	0%	72	33%	2	Fort Ember 432,400 19%
2,243,425	Jay Peg	79	28,398	237	19	25	24%	1	1	5%	73	31%	1	Silicone Valley 278,000 12%
2,237,825	Await The Dawn	27	82,882	99	11	15	41%	0	0	0%	23	23%	0	Big Bear 1,312,500 59%
2,152,575	Ideal World	69	31,197	199	16	21	23%	1	2	6%	64	32%	3	Zen Arcade 484,375 23%
2,130,250	Mambo In Seattle	99	21,518	318	16	23	16%	1	1	6%	89	28%	0	Sleepinseattle 215,250 10%
2,034,350	Judpot	96	21,191	278	17	17	18%	0	0	0%	80	29%	3	Coral Fever 280,000 14%
2,023,200	Philanthropist	75	26,976	216	20	24	27%	0	0	0%	51	24%	1	Pack Leader 343,750 17%
1,926,175	Visionaire	80	24,077	227	15	18	19%	1	1	7%	53	23%	0	The Thinker 394,750 20%
1,915,925	Pathfork	63	30,412	187	16	20	25%	1	1	6%	64	34%	1	My Friend Lee 269,800 14%

LEADING SIRES of 3YO'S by STAKES

SEASON 2017/2018 • 1 August - 3 December 2017

Stakes	Sire	rnr	AEPR	runs	wnr	wns	wnr/rnr%	SW wnr	SW wns	SW wnr/rnr%	plcs	plc/rnr%	SP	top earner with stakes & % of total stakes
3,279,750	Trippi	34	96,463	83	12	14	35%	0	0	0%	40	48%	2	Miss Katalin 1,562,500 48%
2,618,188	*Captain Al	45	58,182	125	17	21	38%	2	3	12%	47	38%	1	Snowdance 891,000 34%
2,237,825	Await The Dawn	27	82,882	99	11	15	41%	0	0	0%	23	23%	0	Big Bear 1,312,500 59%
1,938,775	Querari	42	46,161	100	13	13	31%	2	2	15%	30	30%	0	Wonderwall 400,000 21%
1,887,975	Silvano	61	30,950	138	20	24	33%	0	0	0%	40	29%	2	Vacuero 175,000 9%
1,844,188	Var	64	28,815	175	17	18	27%	0	0	0%	66	38%	1	Woodstock Fairy 99,000 5%
1,829,800	*Sail From Seattle	50	36,596	147	20	26	40%	1	2	5%	41	28%	0	Via Seattle 203,750 11%
1,646,850	Gimmethgreennight	62	26,562	163	16	18	26%	1	1	6%	36	22%	1	Surcharge 288,750 18%
1,470,063	What A Winter	54	27,223	140	16	17	30%	0	0	0%	43	31%	2	Magical Wonderland 164,375 11%
1,324,125	*Antonius Pius	53	24,983	170	16	17	30%	0	0	0%	46	27%	0	Sassy Lady 117,350 9%
1,300,325	Dynasty	40	32,508	92	14	17	35%	1	1	7%	18	20%	0	Sir David Baird 181,325 14%
1,179,225	Philanthropist	44	26,801	126	10	12	23%	0	0	0%	25	20%	0	Pack Leader 343,750 29%
1,147,050	Oratorio	53	21,642	160	13	13	25%	0	0	0%	40	25%	1	Mrs O 121,250 11%
1,138,525	Judpot	61	18,664	155	12	12	20%	0	0	0%	42	27%	0	Ostinato 117,600 10%
1,130,200	Crusade	48	23,546	148	12	13	25%	0	0	0%	44	30%	0	Covered In Snow 127,625 11%
1,037,700	Brave Tin Soldier	22	47,168	68	5	5	23%	0	0	0%	22	32%	0	Brave Mary 552,000 53%

LEADING SIRES by AEPR

SEASON 2017/2018 • 1 August - 3 December 2017 with 10 or more rnr

Stakes	Sire	rnr	AEPR	runs	wnr	wns	wnr/rnr%	SW wnr	SW wns	SW wnr/rnr%	plcs	plc/rnr%	SP	top earner with stakes & % of total stakes
2,237,825	Await The Dawn	27	82,882	99	11	15	41%	0	0	0%	23	23%	0	Big Bear 1,312,500 59%
861,925	Indigo Magic	11	78,357	38	4	4	36%	0	0	0%	6	16%	0	Fullfillyourdream 628,000 73%
863,000	Alado	15	57,533	52	6	9	40%	1	1	17%	17	33%	0	Rocket Countdown 350,000 41%
706,188	Dupont	13	54,322	35	6	6	46%	0	0	0%	12	34%	0	Forest Fox 409,050 58%
5,665,675	Trippi	106	53,450	286	37	46	35%	1	2	3%	108	38%	2	Miss Katalin 1,562,500 28%
645,050	Imperial Stride	14	46,075	49	6	7	43%	1	1	17%	15	31%	1	Will Pays 208,450 32%
4,651,175	Dynasty	105	44,297	267	39	46	37%	4	4	10%	67	25%	2	Liege 1,203,250 26%
401,963	Call To Combat	10	40,196	43	4	5	40%	0	0	0%	8	19%	0	Dawn Assault 146,875 37%
860,150	*Jet Master	22	39,098	73	9	11	41%	0	0	0%	24	33%	2	Master's Spirit 129,350 15%
4,548,463	*Captain Al	123	36,979	325	34	39	28%	2	3	6%	115	35%	5	Snowdance 891,000 20%
3,060,750	Querari	86	35,590	226	24	27	28%	2	2	8%	68	30%	0	Wonderwall 400,000 13%
624,550	Dan De Lago	18	34,697	53	5	7	28%	0	0	0%	10	19%	0	Dan The Lad 252,650 40%
1,026,825	A P Arrow	30	34,228	132	10	13	33%	0	0	0%	33	25%	0	Monarch Air 146,150 14%
2,310,325	Elusive Fort	68	33,975	215	22	23	32%	0	0	0%	72	33%	2	Fort Ember 432,400 19%
2,893,975	*Sail From Seattle	86	33,651	262	30	40	35%	1	2	3%	67	26%	0	Via Seattle 203,750 7%
1,731,350	*Tiger Ridge	52	33,295	178	13	17	25%	2	2	15%	48	27%	1	Nother Russia 331,250 19%

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



king-equiano.com

Trainer Paul Lafferty saddled his first Cape Summer campaign winner when the Australian-bred Majestic Spirit (Equiano) won the Kenilworth opener on Tuesday.

Newsells Park stallion Equiano is one of only two sprinters in the last 75 years to have won the Gr1 King's Stand Stakes twice.

Bred in France, Equiano (Acclamation) began his racing career in Spain where he won two races as a 2yo. He won the Listed Prix des Sorbiers in France before being sent to England where he won the Gr1 King's Stand Stakes twice – as well as the Abernant Stakes and the Palace House Stakes.

Shuttling to Australia, the proven Gr1 producer has sired the likes of The Tin Man (British Champions Sprint Stakes) and Strath Burn (Hackwood Stakes).

Majestic Spirit was bred by Miss J Borg from the New Zealand bred Perfectly Ready mare, Perfect Spirit.



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LEADING TRAINERS by STAKES

SEASON 2017/2018 • 1 August - 3 December 2017

trainer	rides	wins	win %	fav	fav %	wfav %	2nd	2nd %	1st four	1st four%	stakes	stks/rides
J Snaith	440	57	13%	74	17%	31%	49	11%	190	43%	7,271,900	16,527
SG Tarry	330	25	8%	49	15%	24%	30	9%	107	32%	5,826,475	17,656
MF de Kock	219	47	21%	85	39%	38%	30	14%	127	58%	4,614,400	21,070
PA Peter	221	39	18%	39	18%	28%	22	10%	104	47%	3,990,463	18,056
C Bass-Robinson	326	34	10%	39	12%	26%	24	7%	138	42%	3,301,250	10,127
BJ Crawford	218	25	11%	36	17%	22%	32	15%	99	45%	2,970,950	13,628
AC Greeff	325	43	13%	67	21%	33%	46	14%	155	48%	2,953,675	9,088
MG & AA Azzie	177	21	12%	32	18%	22%	26	15%	72	41%	2,818,100	15,921
AG Laird	152	23	15%	31	20%	45%	17	11%	71	47%	2,665,475	17,536
GS Kotzen	284	27	10%	23	8%	35%	25	9%	95	33%	2,358,050	8,303
DC Howells	196	24	12%	31	16%	35%	21	11%	85	43%	2,347,100	11,975
DR Drier	180	24	13%	35	19%	40%	21	12%	83	46%	2,195,888	12,199
JAJ v Vuuren	145	15	10%	24	17%	17%	26	18%	66	46%	2,186,725	15,081
D Kannemeyer	149	25	17%	26	17%	50%	14	9%	64	43%	2,074,050	13,920
Y Bremner	255	29	11%	27	11%	19%	18	7%	106	42%	2,027,075	7,949
GV Woodruff	143	19	13%	33	23%	33%	19	13%	67	47%	1,994,600	13,948
VH Marshall	192	26	14%	22	11%	45%	19	10%	83	43%	1,957,975	10,198
GD Smith	388	20	5%	22	6%	32%	39	10%	125	32%	1,926,450	4,965
DA Sham	223	26	12%	15	7%	33%	24	11%	87	39%	1,926,150	8,637
G v Zyl	130	19	15%	19	15%	42%	18	14%	59	45%	1,862,125	14,324
M Houdalakis	172	18	10%	22	13%	32%	15	9%	72	42%	1,731,038	10,064
J Ramsden	179	17	9%	30	17%	20%	24	13%	74	41%	1,693,475	9,461
T Laing	146	24	16%	22	15%	36%	16	11%	74	51%	1,633,700	11,190
SD Gray	188	17	9%	10	5%	20%	15	8%	68	36%	1,613,376	8,582
GM Alexander	155	17	11%	11	7%	36%	16	10%	59	38%	1,581,150	10,201
C Lensley	248	30	12%	59	24%	22%	26	10%	111	45%	1,564,051	6,307

LEADING JOCKEYS by WINS

SEASON 2017/2018 • 1 August - 3 December 2017

jockey	rides	wins	win %	fav	fav %	wfav %	2nd	2nd %	1st four	1st four%	stakes	stks/rides
A Delpech	226	53	23%	92	41%	37%	36	16%	137	61%	5,075,413	22,458
L Hewitson	466	51	11%	54	12%	24%	50	11%	194	42%	4,893,125	10,500
C Murray	336	51	15%	76	23%	36%	41	12%	147	44%	3,964,375	11,799
M Yeni	374	46	12%	73	20%	25%	40	11%	182	49%	3,970,238	10,616
G Lerena	222	45	20%	83	37%	33%	43	19%	131	59%	4,473,413	20,151
A Domeyer	244	44	18%	78	32%	31%	30	12%	145	59%	3,500,475	14,346
K De Melo	374	42	11%	47	13%	32%	47	13%	179	48%	4,445,500	11,886
A Marcus	144	38	26%	62	43%	39%	22	15%	87	60%	3,141,338	21,815
G Wrogemann	308	38	12%	32	10%	31%	30	10%	137	44%	4,539,363	14,738
R Fourie	229	36	16%	43	19%	33%	29	13%	111	48%	3,052,100	13,328
G v Niekerk	189	36	19%	35	19%	23%	26	14%	112	59%	5,055,150	26,747
K Zechner	316	32	10%	24	8%	21%	36	11%	136	43%	2,854,488	9,033
C Zackey	399	32	8%	37	9%	19%	36	9%	146	37%	3,232,113	8,101
G Cheyne	220	31	14%	48	22%	31%	38	17%	122	55%	2,550,025	11,591
B Fayd'herbe	153	30	20%	35	23%	29%	17	11%	77	50%	3,209,775	20,979
R Danielson	233	28	12%	17	7%	29%	19	8%	92	39%	3,341,650	14,342
J Penny	352	26	7%	8	2%	13%	18	5%	95	27%	1,678,900	4,770
JP vd Merwe	331	25	8%	25	8%	36%	22	7%	108	33%	2,266,288	6,847
P Strydom	167	24	14%	30	18%	23%	25	15%	74	44%	2,336,675	13,992
R Munger	431	24	6%	9	2%	22%	21	5%	125	29%	2,160,575	5,013
W Kennedy	224	22	10%	25	11%	32%	30	13%	90	40%	2,074,450	9,261
A Arries	132	21	16%	10	8%	40%	13	10%	64	48%	1,602,925	12,143
M Byleveld	137	20	15%	18	13%	56%	19	14%	65	47%	1,623,850	11,853
M Thackeray	325	20	6%	7	2%	14%	19	6%	100	31%	1,357,276	4,176
S Khumalo	196	19	10%	43	22%	28%	22	11%	81	41%	3,133,425	15,987
C Maujean	301	19	6%	10	3%	10%	22	7%	87	29%	1,715,550	5,700

Mike Miller – master with 2yo's
| Gold Circle**Miller's Brewing**

Summerveld based trainer Michael Miller is a wizard with precocious 2yo's and he got the new season juvenile crop campaign off to a flyer at Scottsville on Sunday with the Waterford Stud bred Vertical Descent. The son of What A Winter was all the talk and he duly arrived under Gavin Lerena. Miller maintained his roll and also saddled the well-backed Crusade first-timer Crimean Queen to win at Greyville on Wednesday.

Anton Marcus plays them on the break
| Yolanda Saayman**Bluff And Stuff**

He may be enjoying a quieter time of it than some of his big plays of seasons gone by, but multiple past SA Champion jockey Anton Marcus remains the thinking man's rider. Marcus showed his prowess and guile in the saddle with a particularly clever ride on Legal Eagle to win Saturday's Gr2 Green Point Stakes. He rode a double on the afternoon – also getting Best Kept Secret home for Mike de Kock.

The power pair of Justin Snaith and Bernard Fayd'herbe are riding the crest of a wave
| Gold Circle**Just Havin' Fun!**

The established firm of Justin Snaith and Bernard Fayd'herbe have hit a red hot streak of form over the past two Kenilworth meetings. Fayd'herbe's decision to forego July winner Marinaresco in favour of the Snaith's African Night Sky for the Cape Summer Season looks to pay dividends. The pair have registered seven victories over the past two Kenilworth meetings – including a scintillating Gr1 success with Snowdance in the Cape Fillies Guineas.

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BLACK TYPE RESULTS

KENILWORTH (new)**Saturday, 2 December**

Course Variant: 0.01s fast (straight) – 0.13s fast (bend)

No rain fell in the lead up to this meeting and with just 20mm of irrigation in the previous seven days, the penetrometer read 21, and the going was good. The false rail was in its original position with a 2m spur coming off the bend. There was a north westerly tail wind.

Gr1 Cape Fillies Guineas R1 000,000**Dance Of Diamonds**

Justin Snaith saddled his fifth Gr1 Cape Fillies Guineas winner in the past decade when the Captain Al filly Snowdance stamped herself a leader of her generation. After her runaway Western Cape Fillies Championship victory at the end of October, Snowdance was a popular choice to register her first Gr1 score. But there were questions and some of the usual doubts that she may have benefitted from a shrewd ride last time.

But Saturday's great performance proved that Snowdance was definitely not flattered by any deception and luck last time, as Bernard Fayd'herbe set her alight at the 400m and she streaked clear to score an emphatic win by 3,25 lengths after the grey Lanark had made much of the running.

Her unpressured winning time was 98,40 secs.

On a thrilling day at the office, Snaith also saddled the runner-up, the Australian-bred Oh Suzanna, who came from the clouds to grab second.

Joey Ramsden, who won the race with Just Sensual last year, saddled the 75-1 third placed longshot Fresnaye under visiting German rider, Martin Seidl.

Dennis Drier's Equus champion Lady In Black, who races in the same silks as the winner, stayed on well to run an improved fourth. She looked outpaced in the straight when taking forever to get going.

Winning rider Bernard Fayd'herbe compared Snowdance to the high-class Sun Classique, who won this race under Jeff Lloyd in 2006.

"I have sat on a few good fillies – Snowdance is right up there with the likes of Sun Classique," he said.

Trainer Justin Snaith said that from the day Snowdance arrived at his yard, every jockey that rode her said she was a superstar. Snowdance has won 3 races with 1 place from 4 starts and stakes of R941 000. She also banked the BSA Added Value Stakes Bonus of R154 000. Bred by Cheveley Stud, Snowdance is yet

another top-class filly sired by the late champion sire Captain Al (Al Mufti). She is a full-sister to the Listed Laisserfaire Stakes and Lady's Pendant winner Victorian Secret.

Snowdance is out of G3 Kenilworth Fillies Nursery winner Spring Lilac (Joshua Dancer) – a half-sister to Equus Champions Bela-Bela and Rabiya.

Gr1 Fillies Guineas (3yo's) 1600m

Winner Snowdance (best handicapped) raced 4th; led 400m; quickly went clear; eased latter stages

Runner-up Oh Susanna raced in the back line on bend; had to switch right out 400m; ran on well final 300m

Third Fresnaye raced 6th; ran on

Time: This was the second fastest of the five races around the turn. We gave the runner-up (prev 78/84/85/72/83) 91 which makes the winner (prev 79/86/104) 98 and the third (prev 79/74/78/77/86) 91

98	1	0.00	SNOWDANCE	(2)	60.0	B Fayd'herbe	11/10	3 b f
<i>Captain Al - Spring Lilac (Joshua Dancer)</i>								
91	2	3.25	OH SUSANNA	(13)	60.0	G v Niekerk	14/13	b/br f
<i>Street Cry - Sharp Susan(USA) (Touch Gold)</i>								
91	3	3.30	FRESNAYE	(1)	60.0	M Seidl	75/1	3 b f
<i>Western Winter - Gulf Breeze(GB) (Dubai Destination)</i>								
88	4	4.55	<i>Lady In Black</i>	(5)	60.0	S Veale	11/1	
88	5	4.65	<i>Magical Wonderland</i>	(4)	60.0	A Domeyer	6/1	
85	6	5.90	<i>Rose In Bloom</i>	(14)	60.0	D Dillon	36/1	
82	7	7.40	<i>Elusive Heart</i>	(9)	60.0	R Fourie	28/1	
81	8	7.80	<i>Princess Peach</i>	(6)	60.0	C Orffer	75/1	
77	9	9.55	<i>Rings And Things</i>	(7)	60.0	A Marcus	22/1	
77	10	9.65	<i>Too Phat To Fly</i>	(3)	60.0	L Mxothwa	36/1	
76	11	10.40	<i>Via Seattle</i>	(10)	60.0	L Hewitson	18/1	
74	12	11.15	<i>Silver Thursday</i>	(11)	60.0	B Lerena	14/1	
73	13	11.35	<i>Midnight Moonlight</i>	(12)	60.0	M Byleveld	55/1	
71	14	12.60	<i>Love Supreme</i>	(8)	60.0	G Cheyne	18/1	
71	15	12.70	<i>Lanark</i>	(15)	60.0	R Khathi	66/1	
65	16	15.20	<i>Rockin Russian</i>	(16)	60.0	P Strydom	36/1	
Time: 98.4s (61.5s avg/1000m, or 59km/h) SP Total %: 116%								
1st T: J Snaith O: Drakenstein Stud (Nom: Mrs G A Rupert) & Mr W J C Mitchell B: Cheveley Stud								

Gr2 Cape Merchants R400,000**Puller Strikes**

Jay Peg's hardknocking 7yo son Silicone Valley scored a long overdue first feature success when he came from off the pace to win the R400 000 World Sports Betting Gr2 Cape Merchants.

A runner-up to Search Party in the same race last year, Silicone Valley built on his storming recent third behind Our Mate Art in the Matchem Stakes and took full advantage of a substantial swing in the weights to pick up the biggest cheque of his career in the first of the Cape Summer Season's trio of sprints – the Diadem Stakes is next on 13 January and then the Gr1 Cape Flying Championship is the big one on Met day.

Anthony Delpech being medically indisposed, the Silicone Valley ride fell to Donovan Dillon and the young rider rode the perfect race on the 8-1 shot.

With the race initially run in two groups after Bishop's Bounty lost many lengths at the jump, the outside bunch eventu-

ally joined forces with the inside stream at about the 700m marker. Dillon had Silicone Valley well back as Sergeant Hardy and Al Mariachi showed the way.

At the 350m Silicone Valley was switched out for his run with the 3yo Dutch Philip taking off at the same time – Lyle Hewitson opting to take the latter sneakily between runners.

Despite Dutch Philip taking the shorter route, it was the Glen Puller-trained Silicone Valley who finished best and the 7yo stormed clear to win by three quarters of a length in a time of 71,63 secs.

The Klawervlei Stud-bred Silicone Valley is a son of Jay Peg (Camden Park) out of the one-time winner Prize Collection (Model Man). Jay Peg interestingly campaigned in the same silks as runner-up, Dutch Philip.

A R150 000 Cape Premier Yearling Sale purchase, Silicone Valley has won 6 races with 9 places from 20 starts and took his stakes earnings to R787 925.

Gr2 Cape Merchants 1200m

Winner Silicone Valley ridden by replacement jockey Donovan Dillon; (3rd best handicapped) raced in midfield just behind the eventual 2nd & 3rd placed runners; ran on best; won going away

Runner-up Dutch Philip raced in midfield alongside the third placed runner; ran on; outpaced late by winner

Third Always In Charge carried 0.8kg overweight; (2nd best handicapped) raced in midfield; ran on; outpaced late by winner

Time: Although this was not a slow run race, it was comparatively only the 3rd fastest of the four sprints. We gave the 4th horse (prev 105/95/104/102/41)

101 which makes the winner (prev 104/103/103/92/103) 107, the runner-up (prev 94/94/90/92/96) 101 and the third (106/100/86/104/97) 101

107	1	0.00	SILICONE VALLEY	(5)	56.0	D Dillon	12/17 b g Jay Peg - Prize Collection (Model Man)	
101	2	0.75	DUTCH PHILIP	(6)	52.0	L Hewitson	11/2 3 b c What A Winter - Upty Ann (Dominion Royale)	
101	3	1.75	ALWAYS IN CHARGE	(7)	56.5	A Marcus	7/14 b c Captain Al - Polar Charge(GB) (Polar Falcon)	
101	4	2.25	<i>Tevez</i>	(1)	57.0	R Khathi	55/1	
91	5	2.30	<i>Heartland</i>	(3)	52.5	S Veale	16/1	
89	6	2.40	<i>Black Cat Back</i>	(11)	52.0	S Cele	12/1	
97	7	2.50	<i>Attenborough</i>	(14)	55.5	P Strydom	9/1	
97	8	3.25	<i>Sergeant Hardy</i>	(15)	57.0	R Fourie	9/1	
98	9	4.50	<i>Search Party</i>	(4)	59.5	C Orffer	6/1	
87	10	4.70	<i>Al Mariachi</i>	(12)	52.0	G Cheyne	8/1	
81	11	5.00	<i>Percival</i>	(2)	52.5	M Byleveld	28/1	
99	12	5.75	<i>Marinaresco</i>	(6)	62.0	A Domeyer	28/1	
64	13	9.25	<i>Cuban Emerald</i>	(9)	52.0	G v Niekerk	12/1	
48	14	15.50	<i>Bishop's Bounty</i>	(8)	54.5	M Seidl	55/1	
51	15	17.25	<i>Brutal Force</i>	(10)	59.0	B Fayd'herbe	22/1	
Time: 71.63s (59.69s avg/1000m, or 60km/h) SP Total %: 117%								
1st T: GR Puller O: Messrs C F Bester, F M Carruthers, P Fourie, G R Puller & Ian Robinson B: Klawervlei Stud								

Check the race results on this page

Sporting Post
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BLACK TYPE RESULTS

Gr2 Green Point Stakes R400,000**Tarry's Flyer Again**

Dual SA Horse Of The Year Legal Eagle registered a double in Saturday's R400 000 Gr2 Green Point Stakes at Kenilworth and set himself up for a possible record-equaling third successive L'Ormarins Queen's Plate victory on 6 January.

The last horse to achieve the notable feat in South Africa's premier weight-for-age mile was Pocket Power, back in 2010.

The Sean Tarry-trained superstar son of Greys Inn, Legal Eagle made it seven wins from seven starts over 1600m and, as if we doubted it, once again confirmed his ranking as our champion miler.

In typical Legal Eagle fashion, his win was workmanlike – but who needs flash when your horse has earned close on R10 million in 20 starts? And the Avontuur-bred 6yo has accumulated his cash the hard way – no sales races on this cv!

Jumping in a seven horse field, Anton Marcus allowed Legal Eagle to track Captain America all the way around, before making his move halfway down the straight.

With the gutsy Captain America refusing to throw in the towel, it was left to the Daily News 2000 winner Edict Of Nantes to sneak through down the rail and keep Legal Eagle honest.

A half length separated the 15-10 Legal Eagle and Edict Of Nantes at the line, with the winner clocking 97,45 secs.

Captain America was not disgraced a further half length back, with Gold Standard failing to fire and finishing 2 lengths further back to round off the quartet.

Legal Eagle, who has won 11 races with 7 places from 20 starts for stakes of an extraordinary bank of R9 710 875, was bought by Sean Tarry on behalf of top owner Markus Jooste for R425 000 at the 2013 BSA National Yearling Sale.

Bred by Avontuur, he is a son of Vodacom Durban July winner Greys Inn (Zabeel) and is out of the six-time winning Young Sensation (National Emblem)- who was also trained by Sean Tarry.

Gr2 Green Point Stakes 1600m

Winner Legal Eagle (best handicapped) raced 2nd; led 170m; ran on strongly
Runner-up Edict Of Nantes raced 4th; was 1.5 lengths behind the winner coming off the bend; ran on well

Third Captain America set the pace; was 2.5 lengths clear at the top of the straight; kept on strongly

Time: Run 0.95s faster than the Gr1 Fillies Guineas, this was by far the fastest of the five races around the turn. We gave the 3rd horse (prev 111/102/111/112/106) 112 which makes the winner (prev 116/116/112/113/96) 114 and the runner-up (prev 97/100/99/103/109) 113

114	1	0.00	LEGAL EAGLE	(2)	60.0	A Marcus	15/10	6 b g
<i>Greys Inn - Young Sensation (National Emblem)</i>								
113	2	0.50	EDICT OF NANTES	(4)	60.0	P Strydom	21/104 b	
<i>c Count Dubois - Pagan Dance (Jet Master)</i>								
112	3	1.00	CAPTAIN AMERICA	(5)	60.0	C Orffer	11/17 b	
<i>g Captain Al - Requista (Fort Wood)</i>								
107	4	2.50	Gold Standard	(7)	59.0	R Fourie	13/2	
107	5	3.50	Sail South	(1)	60.0	G Cheyne	15/1	
101	6	4.00	Our Mate Art	(3)	58.0	A Domeyer	15/1	
85	7	11.25	Copper Force	(6)	58.0	G v Niekerk	28/1	
Time: 97.45s (60.91s avg/1000m, or 59km/h) SP Total %: 110%								
1st T:SG Tarry O:Mayfair Speculators (Pty) Ltd (Nom: Mr D L Brugman) B:Avontuur Farm								

**TURFFONTEIN (stand side)
Saturday, 2 December**

Course Variant: 1.29s slow (straight) – 2.54s slow (bend)

With 75mm of rain in the previous seven days it was not a surprise to see the going posted as soft on Saturday. The penetrometer read 28. There was a 17km/h north westerly cross/headwind, and the false rail was out from 1,5m in the back straight to 4,5 on the bend. There was a 4,5m spur at the 700m mark.

Secretariat Stakes (3yo's)(L) R150,000**Premium!**

The Varsfontein Stud-bred Gimmethegreenlight colt Surcharge registered his first stakes success with a well taken victory in the R150 000 Listed Secretariat Stakes, run on the standside 1400m.

Going off at 15-10 under top weight in the thirteen horse field, Surcharge came forward strongly at the 350m marker, and even though Harlan County looked to give him cheek late in the race, Gavin Lerena kept his cool on the better horse.

Conceding 8kgs to his closest pursuers, Surcharge went on well to beat the recent maiden winner Harlan County by 0,60 lengths in a time of 86 secs flat.

Longshot King's County came out of the pack to run third a further 1,50 lengths back, with Flying Winger a well beaten fourth.

A winner of 4 of his 6 starts with 1 place and stakes of R367 125, Surcharge was purchased for R550 000 by Dusty Trail Investments off the 2016 CTS Johannesburg Ready To Run Sale.

Bred by Varsfontein Stud, he is by Gimmethegreenlight (More Than Ready) out of the UK-bred Congestion Charge (Diktat), who was placed over 2300m from just 4 starts.

Secretariat Stakes (3yo's) (L) 1400m

Winner Surcharge raced 6th; led 300m; won with some in hand

Runner-up Harlan County raced 7th just half a length behind the winner; chased hard
Third King's County raced 4th ; was tightened for galloping room going through the 300m; kept on strongly

Time: This was by far the fastest of the six races around the turn. We gave the 3rd horse (prev 64/62/66/74/71) 74 which makes the winner (prev 76/73/89/91/88) 98 and the runner-up (prev 69/69/75) 79

98	1	0.00	SURCHARGE	(4)	60.0	G Lerena	15/10	3 b c
<i>Gimmethegreenlight - Congestion Charge(GB) (Diktat)</i>								
79	2	0.60	HARLAN COUNTY	(2)	52.0	K De Melo	13/1	3 ch g
<i>Pathork - Al Nibari (Al Multi)</i>								
74	3	2.20	KING'S COUNTY	(1)	52.0	J Penny	28/1	3 ch g
<i>Count Dubois - Bay Cherry(ZIM) (Goldkeeper)</i>								
75	4	2.45	Flying Winger	(9)	52.5	M Yeni	13/1	
65	5	5.15	Varimax	(5)	52.0	K Zechner	50/1	
76	6	6.40	Prince Of Kahal	(10)	58.5	D Mansour	9/1	
77	7	6.45	Blackball	(8)	59.0	W Kennedy	18/1	
60	8	8.85	Polar Ice	(7)	52.0	M v Rensburg	13/2	
53	9	10.45	Kanan's Rock	(6)	53.5	R Danielson	22/1	
49	10	10.95	Dhabyaan	(13)	52.5	JP vd Merwe	13/2	
44	11	12.35	O Lucky Man	(3)	52.0	M Thackeray	44/1	
49	12	12.75	Full Of Attitude	(12)	55.0	C Murray	11/1	
0	13	99.99	Decision Time	(11)	52.0	R Munger	28/1	
Time: 86s (61.43s avg/1000m, or 59km/h) SP Total %: 120%								
1st T:ST Pettigrew O:Mr I F M van Schalkwyk B:Varsfontein Stud								

Doing The Splits

Kenilworth 2 December

	<i>to bend</i>	<i>false rail</i>	<i>finish</i>	<i>bend</i>	<i>f rail-finish</i>
1400m					
MR76	14.05	53.53	88.00	39.48	34.47
1600m					
Maiden	26.07	66.80	101.77	40.73	34.97
Maiden f&m	25.05	63.80	100.94	38.75	37.14
Fillies Guineas	24.63	62.52	98.09	37.89	35.57
Green Point S.	25.25	62.67	97.25	37.42	34.58

The Maiden 1600 and the MR76 over 1400m were both slow early and then developed into a sprint home, reflected in the times from false rail to finish – the MR 76 faster than the close battle in the Green Point Stakes.

They were very strung out entering the straight in the Maiden F&M 1600m, and the final 600m was noticeably slow.

The two main races are not dissimilar: the Fillies Guineas quicker in the first segment, the Green Point quicker on the bend, giving the same time coming off the false rail. Fillies Guineas winner SnowDance was eased in the latter stages, so the final segment of that race could have been quicker had she been ridden out.

SIGNPOSTS

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

MARCHFIELD (A P Indy)

Victory March 2c (Rakadu by Northern Guest)

[Kenilworth 1 Maiden Juvenile Plate 900m \(09/12\)](#)

ORATORIO (Danehill)

Jephthah 2c (Sacred Vow by Spectrum)

[Kenilworth 1 Maiden Juvenile Plate 900m \(09/12\)](#)

Young Scholar 2f (She's An Academic by Royal Academy)

[Kenilworth 3 Maiden Juvenile Plate \(Fillies\) 900m \(09/12\)](#)

POMODORO (Jet Master)

Royal Italian 2c (Royal Polly by Royal Academy)

[Kenilworth 1 Maiden Juvenile Plate 900m \(09/12\)](#)

POTALA PALACE (Singspiel)

Titan Of Tibet 2c (Spectre Lady by Spectrum)

[Kenilworth 1 Maiden Juvenile Plate 900m \(09/12\)](#)

THE APACHE (Mogok)

Potawatomi 2c (Crimson Fantasy by Crimson Waves)

[Kenilworth 1 Maiden Juvenile Plate 900m \(09/12\)](#)

Sunrise Ceremony 2f (Rocky Rituals by Rocky Marriage)

[Kenilworth 3 Maiden Juvenile Plate \(Fillies\) 900m \(09/12\)](#)

TWICE OVER (Observatory)

Doubled Over 2f (Countess Corlia by Count Dubois)

[Kenilworth 3 Maiden Juvenile Plate \(Fillies\) 900m \(09/12\)](#)

Over The Way 2f (Leeway by Captain Al)

[Kenilworth 3 Maiden Juvenile Plate \(Fillies\) 900m \(09/12\)](#)

WHAT A WINTER (Western Winter)

Skidoo 2c (Rustic Magic by Jallad)

[Kenilworth 1 Maiden Juvenile Plate 900m \(09/12\)](#)

Winter Five 2f (Ramla by Rock of Gibraltar)

[Kenilworth 3 Maiden Juvenile Plate \(Fillies\) 900m \(09/12\)](#)

2nd season sires - 3yo's

AWAIT THE DAWN (Giant's Causeway)

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

[Fairview 2 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1200m \(08/12\)](#)

Until Dawn 3f (Hot Reception by Muhtafal)

[Vaal 4 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1800m \(09/12\)](#)

One Dollar Massage 3f (Victory Tale by Jet Master)

[Vaal 4 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1800m \(09/12\)](#)

BYWORD (Peintre Celebre)

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

[Greyville 5 MR 66 Handicap 1400m \(08/12\)](#)

Missquoted 3f (Desert Fling by Kahal)

[Vaal 1 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1000m \(09/12\)](#)

Bellatrix 3f (World Of Stars by Sportsworld)

[Vaal 1 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1000m \(09/12\)](#)

Regal Lady 3f (Hargreaves by Allied Flag)

[Vaal 4 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1800m \(09/12\)](#)

CRUSADE (Mr Greeley)

Fast Looks 3f (Ramp Model by Rakeen)

[Greyville 2 Qualified Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1200m \(08/12\)](#)

Empress Adelaide 3f (Liste Secrete by Peintre Celebre)

[Greyville 2 Qualified Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1200m \(08/12\)](#)

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

[Greyville 3 Qualified Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1600m \(08/12\)](#)

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

[Greyville 9 MR 62 Handicap \(F&M\) 1000m \(08/12\)](#)

Jaunita 3f (Perakeen by Rakeen)

[Vaal 1 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1000m \(09/12\)](#)

Purdey 3f (Secret Babe by Labeeb)

[Vaal 4 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1800m \(09/12\)](#)

Cantata Mundi 3f (Onda Punk by Punk)

[Vaal 4 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1800m \(09/12\)](#)

Gonnafly 3c (Ruby Eaglechild by Manshood)

[Vaal 5 MR 86 Handicap \(3yo's\) 1800m \(09/12\)](#)

Weekend Warrior 3c (Love Leah by Restructure)

[Kenilworth 8 MR 88 Handicap 1000m \(09/12\)](#)

Ascalon 3f (Pashley by Count Dubois)

[Greyville 3 Maiden Plate \(3yo Fillies\) 2000m \(10/12\)](#)

The Byzantine 3c (Patchouli Moon by Al Mufti)

[Greyville 4 Maiden Plate 2000m \(10/12\)](#)

EIGHTFOLD PATH (Giant's Causeway)

War Demon 3c (Tacoma by Lunar Lumberjack)

[Greyville 4 Maiden Plate 1600m \(08/12\)](#)

Awesome Angel One 3c (Awesome Beauty by Cataloochee)

[Greyville 7 MR 66 Handicap 1400m \(08/12\)](#)

Noble Duke 3c (Reigning Queen by King of Kings)

[Greyville 8 MR 66 Handicap 1000m \(08/12\)](#)

Celtic Sunrise 3c (Cape Sunset by Fantastic Light)

[Greyville 1 Maiden Plate 1200m \(10/12\)](#)

Sand Path 3c (Pure Sands by Jabal Tarik)

[Greyville 1 Maiden Plate 1200m \(10/12\)](#)

IRISH FLAME (Dynasty)

Irish Brave 3c (Case Stated by London News)

[Fairview 4 Maiden Plate 1400m \(08/12\)](#)

Irish 3f (Truly Scrumptious by Northern Guest)

[Vaal 9 MR 76 Handicap \(F&M\) 1500m \(09/12\)](#)

MARCHFIELD (A P Indy)

Green Field 3c (Jade Empress by National Assembly)

[Fairview 4 Maiden Plate 1400m \(08/12\)](#)

March Preview 3c (Notimefortea by Windrush)

[Greyville 5 MR 66 Handicap 1400m \(08/12\)](#)

Menewa 3c (India Tiberina by Indy Dancer US)

[Vaal 2 Maiden Plate 1000m \(09/12\)](#)

Spring Poetry 3f (Lundy's Lass by Lundy's Liability)

[Vaal 6 MR 64 Handicap \(F&M\) 2000m \(09/12\)](#)

Dusty Magic 3f (Magic Aura by Al Mufti)

[Greyville 2 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1200m \(10/12\)](#)

ORATORIO (Danehill)

Love Talk 3f (Lovey Dovey by Model Man)

[Fairview 2 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1200m \(08/12\)](#)

Regal Graduation 3f (Royal Aspen by Fort Wood)

[Vaal 1 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1000m \(09/12\)](#)

Divine Odyssey 3c (Divine Right by Dynasty)

[Vaal 2 Maiden Plate 1000m \(09/12\)](#)

Some Song 3f (Something Of Value by Badger Land)

[Vaal 2 Maiden Plate 1000m \(09/12\)](#)

SIGNPOSTS

War Legend 3c (Bold Princess by Dolphin Street)

[Vaal 3 Maiden Plate 1800m \(09/12\)](#)

Hadarat 3c (Muhtaram by Al Mufti)

[Kenilworth 4 Maiden Plate 1600m \(09/12\)](#)

War-King 3c (Guest Among Men by Among Men)

[Greyville 1 Maiden Plate 1200m \(10/12\)](#)

Arianos Bagofgold 3c (Heritage Wood by Var)

[Greyville 8 MR 86 Handicap 1200m \(10/12\)](#)

Graduate 3c (Varsity Queen by Var)

[Greyville 9 MR 70 Handicap 1200m \(10/12\)](#)

TWICE OVER (Observatory)

Madam Al 3f (Traviata by Elliodor)

[Greyville 3 Qualified Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1600m \(08/12\)](#)

Bluestar Bridge 3f (Early Spring by Western Winter)

[Vaal 1 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1000m \(09/12\)](#)

Kanishiwa 3f (Spanish Gold by Rich Man's Gold)

[Kenilworth 5 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1600m \(09/12\)](#)

Second Chance 3f (Late Summer by Gone West)

[Kenilworth 5 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1600m \(09/12\)](#)

Two Colours 3f (Academy Colours by Val Royal)

[Kenilworth 5 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1600m \(09/12\)](#)

Double Mink 3c (Mink Coat by London News)

[Vaal 5 MR 86 Handicap \(3yo's\) 1800m \(09/12\)](#)

Suzi Woo 3f (Gibraltar's Secret by Rock of Gibraltar)

[Greyville 2 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1200m \(10/12\)](#)

Sweet Vittoria 3f (Sweet Allegra by National Assembly)

[Greyville 3 Maiden Plate \(3yo Fillies\) 2000m \(10/12\)](#)

WHAT A WINTER (Western Winter)

Sixtythree 3f (Pine Valley by Right Approach)

[Fairview 1 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1200m \(08/12\)](#)

Estimet 3f (Estimada by Ride The Rails)

[Fairview 1 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1200m \(08/12\)](#)

Winter Blues 3c (Dancing Penny by Danske)

[Greyville 8 MR 66 Handicap 1000m \(08/12\)](#)

Sir Spencer 3c (Mgede by National Emblem)

[Vaal 2 Maiden Plate 1000m \(09/12\)](#)

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

[Vaal 3 Maiden Plate 1800m \(09/12\)](#)

What A Summer 3c (Limerick by Fort Wood)

[Kenilworth 4 Maiden Plate 1600m \(09/12\)](#)

Whiteout 3f (Visionary by Best By Test)

[Vaal 6 MR 64 Handicap \(F&M\) 2000m \(09/12\)](#)

Regent Seven 3c (Pacific Princess by Sportsworld)

[Greyville 5 MR 82 Handicap 2200m \(10/12\)](#)

Notable Maiden Winners

TRIPPI

Rated AR 84 **Lobo's Legend** (3c Gone Wild by Western Winter)

Maiden Plate Turffontein (stand side) (1160m) (2/12)

Deep in the red here, after being narrowly beaten by a good sort last time out, Joey Soma's charge was taken straight to the front and led throughout. He was always clear and won easing down by eight and a half lengths. Should improve on his rating.

DYNASTY

Rated AR 80 **Statute** (3f Changers by Restructure)

Maiden Plate (3yo fillies) Scottsville (1200m) (3/12)

Making her first racecourse appearance, this full sister to Legislate raced in midfield early on. She was ridden to lead as they approached the 200m marker and drew clear in good style in the latter stages of the race to score by five. There should be more to come.

Horses To Follow

GIMMETHGREENLIGHT

Rated AR 98 **Surcharge** (3c Congestion Charge by Diktat)

Secretariat Stakes (3yo's) (L) Turffontein (stand side) (1400m) (2/12)

Now a winner of four from six, Stuart Pettigrew's charge was always in touch with the leaders here. He put his head in front going through the 300m, and looking to have a bit in hand, won cosily by a half.

CRUSADE

Rated AR 85 **Covered In Snow** (3f Blue Nevada by Anytime)

MR74 Handicap (F&M) Turffontein (stand side) (1160m) (2/12)

In a race where the time was over a second faster than any of the other three events over the distance, Dianne Stenger's charge was always handy. She was ridden to lead 200m out and won going away. She has now won two from three.

KAHAL

Rated AR93 **Wynkelder** (4g Al Vino by Al Mufti)

KZN Summer Challenge Final Scottsville (1200m) (3/12)

Now a winner of three from eight, Tony Rivalland's charge was only narrowly beaten by the very useful sprinter Muscatt when running on from the rear over shorter last time out. He again ran on from the rear here, and in good style won going away by a length and a quarter.

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.

Winners Bred Abroad

another **AUSHORSE** winner

Silent Starship (AUS) 5g Starspangledbanner- Glad You're Mine(AUS)(Redoute's Choice)

Flamingo Park 1000m (27/11)

another **AUSHORSE** winner

The Rocketman (AUS) 3g Foxwedge- Sister Havana(NZ) (General Nediym)

Vaal 1500m (29/11)

another **AUSHORSE** winner

Kimberley Club (AUS) 4g Lonhro- Diamond Masque(NZ) (Align) *Fairview 1200m (01/12)*

Varsfontein Flying

Our Horses To Follow insert on page 25 reflects the name of Gimmethegreenlight's son, Surcharge.



Surcharge | JC Photos

Trainer Stuart Pettigrew has never made a secret of his high regard for the Varsfontein Stud-bred Listed Secretariat Stakes winner.

"You haven't seen the best of this horse, wait till he goes 1800m/2000m, you are going to see something really special!" says Pettigrew.

According to Pettigrew, future targets for Surcharge include the Gr2 Gauteng Guineas in February 2018 and the Gr1 SA Classic in March. "We'll nominate him for the Sea Cottage Stakes in January to keep him ticking over. At this stage the Derby is not an option, it depends on what he shows us," he said.

Surcharge is the fourth foal from our imported Diktat mare Congestion Charge, who hails from the sire-producing family of Milly Moss, ancestress of the stallions Count Dubois, Imperial Stride and Daggers Drawn.

Surcharge's win in the Secretariat Stakes and Varsfontein's homebred Bi Pot's cracking second in the Gr2 Ipi Tombe Stakes on Summer Cup day last month when running Gr1 winner Nother Russia to a diminishing long head, give credence to Varsfontein Stud's long-standing policy of importing well-bred fillies, which eventually enhance the gene pool of their broodmare band.

Darshaan mare Alexandra Bi, the dam of Bi Pot, has done sterling duty as a broodmare, her seven stakes performers also including international stakes winners Alexandra Rose and Alexandra Palace, whilst we have also bred Judpot's Gr1 winner Forest Indigo from her Fort Wood daughter Albizia.

Varsfontein co-owner Susan Rowett says: "It's hard work trying to make a family from afresh with just one mare, and while I suppose most of our imports have had limited success, we have had great success with a few. Currently, we have a number of young imported mares at Varsfontein and we are hopeful they will make the grade!"

Varsfontein founder Anthony Kalmanson started the exercise in the Seventies with fillies that he had bought and ridden himself, one of which being Lucky Libra. Twice a winner in Britain, she has left a lasting legacy as the dam of three black type horses which includes Gr1 winner and successful broodmare Enchanting, from whom descend superior runners Harry's Charm, National Currency, Enchantress, O Caesour and Laverna.

SPORTS AND BETTING

Closing The Gap

Man United vs Man City | Sun, 10 December | Old Trafford | 18:30



Manchester will be divided once more as Jose Mourinho's Red Devils welcome Pep Guardiola's high-flying Manchester City to Old Trafford this Sunday. For United, along with the rest of the Premier League, it's

been all about closing the gap this season, with City dominating the league, commanding an eight-point advantage over second-placed, United. A win for Mourinho's men would cut City's lead to five points, while a loss could see them as much as 11 points behind with more than half the season still to play. Both clubs have been at the top of the league, but just who are the true kings of Manchester?

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

TO WIN

Manchester United 23/10

Draw 5/2

Manchester City 11/10

MANCHESTER UNITED

The Red Devils head into the Manchester derby high in confidence, enjoying a run of four straight wins in the Premier League. United have been superb this campaign and come off the back of an impressive 3-1 win at the Emirates Stadium against Arsenal.

One negative thing about the Arsenal game is that star talisman, Paul Pogba, will miss the clash after a dangerous tackle on Hector Bellerin. The Frenchman recently faced a spell on the sidelines through injury and it negatively affected Jose Mourinho's men.

The term 'shift in power' has been thrown around a lot lately, but with a club of Manchester United's size and stature, it will take more than just a few good seasons and glamorous football to surpass them.

MANCHESTER CITY

In just his second season, Pep Guardiola has managed to transform Manchester City into one of Europe's most feared sides, while it's even safe to say that he is showing the dominance he once did in the Spanish La Liga and German Bundesliga.

The Citizens have won 14 of their 15 matches, drawing just once – to Everton – while they're yet to be on the losing side. Both Manchester clubs are known for scoring late goals this season, however, Man United have turned 1-0's into 4-0's, while Man City turned hard-fought draws into wins, showing signs of being true champions.

PREDICTION: Manchester City (11/10)

CLOCKWATCHING WITH STEVE FURNISH

The Old & The Young

A REVIEW OF THE WEEK'S BEST SPEED RATINGS

Quest For Success

Greyville 26 November

The first four races on Sunday's poly track card were all run over 2000m and by far the fastest of these was the second division of the MR60 Handicap won by the former Cape Town campaigner HERO QUEST. Taken straight to the front by replacement rider Sean Veale, the top weighted son of Ideal World led throughout. He was always in command and found extra when challenged late on to score by a length and a quarter.

Three of the remaining five races were staged over 1000m and marginally the quickest home amongst these was the 3yo FILIPPO. Easy to back at 16/1 on the off, Yogas Govender's charge was soon up handy. He put his head in front going through the 200m and comfortably accounted for the always handy GREAT VALUE by a length.

Two 1200m handicaps completed the afternoon's fare, the faster of which was the MR76 affair won by ACCIDENTAL TOURIST. Not the quickest into stride when the gates opened, this hat-trick seeking daughter of Gimmethgreenlight raced in the rear early on. She quickened best of all in the short home straight and under a well-judged ride from Sherman Brown she got up late to deny TWICE AS SMART.

Titbits Racing off a mark some 21 points below that of her earlier best, the 4yo SHIZAM ran on well from midfield when winning the MR70 Handicap over 1000m going away.

Lightning Strikes

Vaal 28 November

They raced on the outside track on Tuesday where the meeting was abandoned after five races due to the close proximity of an electrical storm.

The first three races on the card were all run over 1000m and marginally the quickest of these on my clock was the opening work rider's maiden plate in which the well exposed SEVEN SOVEREIGNS got off the mark. Soon at the head of affairs, despite being a little slow into stride, the 5yo kept up a healthy gallop throughout. He was joined by the heavily supported newcomer

HIGHLAND HERO (11/10 favourite) 200m from home and after a thrilling tussle he only got the verdict on the nod.

The two other races that were run both took place over 1200m and stopping the clock in the faster time here was the column's top rated runner MINNESOTA. Freely available at 22/1 on the off, the 5yo son of Miesque's Approval was always handy. He was ridden to lead shortly after passing the 200m marker and comfortably accounted for the running on LAST BATTLE by a length and three quarters.

Titbits At the head of affairs throughout, the deposed favourite OURO won the girl's division of the maiden 1000m very easily by four and three quarters.

In the rear some six and three quarter lengths adrift of the winner going through the 400m, MOHALLELA was finishing best of all when fourth in the MR68 Handicap over 1000m.

Deja Vu

Vaal 29 November

As with the previous day's meeting, a number of races had to be abandoned due to the close proximity of an electrical storm. Indeed, only four races were run here.

Two 1500m maiden plates got proceedings underway and opening their account in the faster time in these was THE ROCKETMAN in the boy's affair. Making only his second racecourse appearance here, the 9/1 shot raced in midfield for most of the journey. He quickened best of all over the final 400m and won going away by a length and a quarter after striking the front 70m or so from home.

The faster of the two maiden plates over 2000m was also the boy's affair and here the well exposed MISTER LISTER got off the mark. Another to leave the stalls at 9/1, Chris Jonker's charge sat third to last for the vast majority of the trip. With plenty of time to unwind down the long home straight though, he made headway quickly when the race began in earnest and comfortably accounted for the lightly raced SUCHA CHARMER by a length and three quarters.

Last Week's Top Rated
SPEED RATINGS winners incl.

Minnesota	won 22/1
It is What It Is	won 9/1
Mister Lister	won 9/1
Amazingly	won 15/2
Seven Sovereigns	won 6/1
Accidental Tourist	won 5/1
Magic Flame	won 7/2
Movie Show	won 7/2

Top speed ratings for this weekend

(Ratings shown have been adjusted to allocated weights)

FAIRVIEW (FRI)

Race 1: (1) Nicole 8

Race 2: (7) Junta 14

Race 3: (1) Imperial Guard 56

Race 4: (7) Green Field 5

Race 5: (7) Bollemakiesie 60

Race 6: (4) Our Destiny 87 (EW)

Race 7: (7) Inviting Lily 71

Race 8: (7) Captain's Vista 51

Race 9: (10) Madiba Dance 40

Race 10: (9) Killala 52

GREYVILLE (FRI)

Race 1: (8) Prince Ponti 18

Race 2: (3) Dusty Button 17

Race 3: (2) Alesnado 14

Race 4: (9) War Demon 10

Race 5: (9) Roy's Donkey 43

Race 6: (5) Captains Moll 28 (EW)

Race 7: (9) Master Sam 40

Race 8: (6) All True Man 36

Race 9: (2) Inyati 39

VAAL (SAT)

Race 1: (1) Amajory 13

Race 2: (15) White Winter 23

Race 3: (2) Dancing Rebel 4

Race 4: (2) Africa's Sky 18

Race 5: (9) So Long Spring 45

Race 6: (11) Vul Indlela 34

Race 7: (18) Woody Cape 45

Race 8: (5) Golden Man 56

Race 9: (11) Blue Sage 57

Race 10: (12) Russian Friend 35

KENILWORTH (SAT)

Race 1: No Qualifiers

Race 2: (5) Party Crasher 63

Race 3: No Qualifiers

Race 4: (10) Doyles 20 (NAP*)

Race 5: (2) Oloye 4

Race 6: (4) Dark Moon Rising 58

Race 7: (2) Jo's Bond 89

Race 8: (3) Pillar Of Hercules 71 (EW)

Race 9: (13) Streak Of Silver 82

GREYVILLE (SUN)

Race 1: (2) Cossack Guard 24

Race 2: (1) Flamenco Dancer 14

Race 3: (1) Green Fairy 4

Race 4: (11) Mutawaary 14

Race 5: (5) Ataturk 63

Race 6: (6) Head Honcho 77

Race 7: (1) Muscatt 86 (NAP*)**Race 8: (1) Varallo 63 (EW)**

Race 9: (12) Strummer 44

Nap bets

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



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29 NOVEMBER

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CLOCKWATCHING CONT.

Titbits *Soon up handy, the well supported ZARGUN quickly went clear after striking the front in the girl's division of the maiden 1500m. Her jockey was already looking around for challenges 250m out, and eased down in the latter stages won a lot more easily than the official winning margin of a length will reflect. Impressive.*

Nasty Shock

Kenilworth 30 November

Four of the ten races in Cape Town on Thursday were run over 1400m and the fastest of these was the girl's division of the MR68 Handicap won by AMAZINGLY. Easy to back at 15/2 on the off, Adam Marcus' charge was taken straight to the front and led throughout. She was two lengths clear turning for home and that proved to be just enough to beat the running on EVELINA.

Three of the six remaining races were staged over 1800m where OPERA ROYAL was the quickest home. Backed into 7/2 from 11/2 to win the MR72 Handicap, the 3yo son of Oratorio raced seventh of the ten early on. He ran on best of all in the short old course home straight and under a well-judged ride from Richard Fourie he got the better of the recent maiden winner ZANZIBARIAN by a length.

The faster of the two 1200m races on the card was the MR80 Handicap in which NASTY HARRY showed good improvement. Positioned at the back when the race began in earnest, Brett Crawford's charge ran on

best of all over the final 400m and won going away by three quarters from the pacemaker VIKING VOYAGE.

Titbits MILDEN SPELL showed good improvement when winning the maiden plate over 1400m going away.

Oh No Not Again

Greyville 1 December

As with the meetings at the Vaal on Tuesday and Wednesday this meeting had to be abandoned part of the way through due to the proximity of an electrical storm.

If you include the barrier trial, three of the five races that took place were run over 1000m and the comfortably the fastest of these was the boy's division of the maiden plate won by BEDAZZLED JOKER. Freely available at 18/1 on the off, the son of Pathfork was soon up handy. He put his head in front 70m out and kept on strongly late to beat the running on VISION OF TRUST by three quarters.

Race three on the card was a MR96 Handicap over 1200m and here the lightly weighted 4yo MARSHALL THAT registered his third career victory. Considerably up in class here, the 18/1 shot got away well when the gates opened and in a very tightly bunched field, set the pace. He kept on doggedly at the business end of the race and held off a wall of horses by a half.

Titbits SHREWDY was never really asked to race when a three and a half lengths runner up to his stable companion Q THE MUSIC in the barrier trial over 1000m.

FASTEST TIMES

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

GREYVILLE (POLY) 26 NOVEMBER

Going Standard	
Course Variant: 0,45s fast	
1000m (3) Filipo	57,70
1200m (2) Accidental Tourist	70,40
2000m (4) Hero Quest	124,30

VAAL (OUTSIDE) 28 NOVEMBER

Penetrometer 25 – Going G/Soft	
Course Variant: 0,97s slow	
1000m (3) Seven Sovereigns	57,93
1200m (2) Minnesota	70,79

VAAL (CLASSIC) 29 NOVEMBER

Penetrometer 23 – Going Good	
Course Variant: 2,14s slow	
1500m (2) The Rocketman	91,94
2000m (2) Mister Lister	125,84

KENILWORTH (OLD) 30 NOVEMBER

Penetrometer 21 – Going Good	
Course Variant: 1,28s slow	
1000m (1) Passion Peach	60,44
1200m (2) Nasty Harry	72,97
1400m (4) Amazingly	87,14
1800m (3) Opera Royal	109,64

GREYVILLE (POLY) 1 DECEMBER

Going Standard	
Course Variant: 0,24s slow	
1000m (3) Bedazzled Joker	58,15
1200m (1) Marshall That	69,30
1400m (1) Myelisha	83,40

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

ZARGUN (M De Kock, Gauteng)

R380 170

SOCCER PAYOUT

Wed 29 November
Internet





HALL OF FAME

TOP WINS FOR NOVEMBER 2017



R557 066

FRIDAY 17, Internet



R474 216
FOR R22 176 FRIDAY 10
Internet



R318 785
FOR R100 000 MONDAY 20
Internet



R380 170
FOR R50 000 WEDNESDAY 29
Internet



R276 450
FOR R10 FRIDAY 24
Mokopane



R356 250
FOR R238 WEDNESDAY 29
Phalaborwa



R274 119
FOR R10 000 MONDAY 20
Internet



R329 205
FOR R25 920 SUNDAY 12
Internet



R265 957
FOR R5 TUESDAY 7
Parliament Street



SOCCER



POWA NUMBAS



LUCKY NUMBERS



HORSE RACING

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