

CAPE YEARLING SALE

SUNDAY
25 FEBRUARY
Mistico Centre • Paarl



sportingpost digest

Thursday 15 February 2018
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RACING THIS WEEKEND

FAIRVIEW poly Friday
Best Roving Banker:
R3-(1)Tyrandeus(16/10)

TURFFONTEIN Saturday
Best Roving Banker:
R2-(2) Written (7/10)

KENILWORTH Saturday
Best Roving Banker:
R4-(1)Tally-Ho(5/1)

SCOTTSVILLE Sunday
Best Roving Banker:
R7-(6) Red Chesnut Road (1/1)

*You may have
missed...*

Sunday 11 February
Scottsville— race 4
Sporting Post
Best Handicapped
**River Ayre
WON 15/1**☺

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Jackie Novak

1, 2, 3... And Glory!

Three steps to turf immortality.

That's the reward of dominance and supremacy in the three designated races from March to May,
that could see us crown a 2018 SA Triple Crown or SA Triple Tiara star.

The SA Triple Crown, with the SA Triple Tiara, gets underway on 3 March, and is undoubtedly a remarkable test of ability, character and endurance. To win three tough races from a mile to 2450m over eight weeks takes a helluva horse and a feat of conditioning. That's why we have names like Mike de Kock, Geoff Woodruff and Mike Azzie on the honour roll.

The great Horse Chestnut won the inaugural Triple

Crown in 1999, Louis The King did it in 2014 and Abashiri was the star of the show in 2016. But is it really the 'ultimate test of brilliance', as often tagged?

Logistical factors, such as travelling and the altitude, often prevent the emerging stars from the Cape from taking their chances. "Master trainers have been trying to raid Johannesburg from Cape Town for more than a century. It has been done successfully on occasions but,



HIGHLANDS STUD

Part of Ridgemont

1, 2, 3, ... AND GLORY!

basically, we can't reinvent the wheel." Jono Snaith told Michael Clower recently.

Bringing in the alternate first leg of the Gr1 Cape Guineas hasn't really worked either. So the prestigious SA Triple Crown kicks off with a Gr2 in the Gauteng Guineas.

Race gradings are fairly scientific. Assessments are done on the basis of the top four finishers' top rating achieved at the end of the season being averaged out. This is done over a three year period to achieve a levelling out. For Gr1's, the average required is a 115. If this is not achieved, the IFHA will issue a warning and a likely downgrade follows.

Let's think about reinventing the SA Triple Crown. What about the Cape Guineas (December), reschedule the Daily News to April, and culminate with the SA Derby in May?

Is parochialism, coupled with control and vested interests across provincial and operator boundaries, preventing us from putting our heads together and creating the genuine 'ultimate test of brilliance'?

The R11 Million Calendar

The R7 million SA Triple Crown for 3 year olds is the richest series of races in Africa.

THE TRIPLE CROWN comprises:

Leg 1: R1-million Gr1 Cape Guineas 1600m- already run
OR

Leg 1: R1-million Gr2 Gauteng Guineas 1600m
Turffontein Saturday 3 March

Leg 2: R2-million Gr1 SA Classic 1800m
Turffontein Saturday 7 April

Leg 3: R2-million Gr1 SA Derby 2450m
Turffontein Standside Saturday 5 May

A bonus of R2 million will be paid to owner/s of the horse that wins all three legs

The R3.5-million / R4-million Wilgerbosdrift SA Triple Tiara for 3-year-old fillies is the richest series of races for fillies in Africa.

THE TRIPLE TIARA comprises:

Leg 1: R1-million Gr1 Cape Fillies Guineas 1600m- already run
OR

Leg 1: R500 000 Gr2 Gauteng Fillies Guineas 1600m
Turffontein Saturday 3 March

Leg 2: The R1-million Gr1 SA Fillies Classic 1800m
Turffontein Saturday 7 April

Leg 3: R1-million Gr2 SA Oaks 2450m
Turffontein Saturday 5 May

A bonus of R1 million will be paid to owner/s of the filly that wins all three legs

Betting Is Open!

Hollywood have opened ante-post betting on the Gauteng Guineas and Gauteng Fillies Guineas

[Please see entries and link to betting here](#)

SATURDAY AT TURFFONTEIN

Spirit Of Speed

Gr3 Tommy Hotspur Handicap Turffontein

The Gr1 Computaform Sprint to be run on Champions Day is a natural target for any sprinter worth his salt and Mike de Kock's 3yo Mujallad looks a progressive sort capable of going on to better things. That could commence with a big run in Saturday's R250 000 Gr3 Tommy Hotspur Handicap.



Mujallad | JC Photos

The 1000m handicap hosts a capacity field of speed merchants and with Gary Alexander, who trained the legendary Tommy Hotspur, saddling topweight Champagne Haze, the scene is set for a possible romantic twist to proceedings.

But the dash will be over in under a minute with no quarter expected or given, and the happy romantic stories will take a backseat to the quest for dominance and the power of pace.

One of a quartet of 3yo's who will be keen to assert his prospects for the season, Mike de Kock's grey Redoute's Choice colt Mujallad found a timeous return to best last time when showing good speed to beat the capable Prince Of Kahal in an MR 87 Handicap over 160m further. His 3,75 length unplaced run in the Lebelo Sprint at his penultimate jump can best be ignored as he was in need of that.

The Azzie yard has been in a rich vein of form and the smart Var 4yo Rivarine ran on well from off the gallop in the Lebelo Sprint, when going down 1,50 lengths to Alfolk. The 7yo Greasepaint ran a cracker there and held him by a short head. There should be little between the two again although Rivarine has the greater scope to go on and improve on his 5 wins from 19 starts.

Argonaut 4yo Clever Guy looks quite nicely in at best but has only run once in eight months, when dropping out after showing pace at the Vaal last time. He should improve on that.

Former SA top-rated speedster Talktothestars returns from an unsuccessful raid on the Diadem and Cape Flying Championship down South.

The ten-time winner has not won in ages but runs off a 103 – some way down from his lifetime peak of 121. If he arrives in a good space, he could mow this lot down with a late effort.

Splendid Garden was beaten 1,25 lengths by Mujallad at his penultimate start and meets the De Kock youngster on 2kg better terms. The speedy 6yo is

edging back to his better form and strips a fit galloper with a weight that could see him fighting for a cheque.

The top-weighted Gr2 Senor Santa Stakes winner Champagne Haze has not won in

Gr3 Tommy Hotspur Hcp past winners

2015

| | | | | |
|---|-----------------|------|-----|------|
| 1 | Moofeed | 52.0 | (4) | 20/1 |
| 2 | One Man's Dream | 58.5 | (6) | 12/1 |
| 3 | Willow Magic | 60.0 | (7) | 7/10 |

2016

| | | | | |
|---|-----------------|------|-----|------|
| 1 | Viking Hero | 52.5 | (9) | 20/1 |
| 2 | Splendid Garden | 57.5 | (5) | 5/1 |
| 3 | Moofeed | 58.5 | (8) | 3/1 |

2017

| | | | | |
|---|----------------|------|------|------|
| 1 | Wrecking Ball | 53.0 | (4) | 13/1 |
| 2 | Dollar Dazzler | 58.5 | (12) | 9/1 |
| 3 | Queen Laurie | 52.0 | (3) | 18/1 |

START
3:35PM
TURFFONTEIN

7

PA5/PICK SIX4/JACKPOT3
Gr3 TOMMY HOTSPUR HANDICAP - 1000M
SAME TRAINER:(3-7-17)(4-6-12)(11-16)

| | | | |
|--------------------|----|--|------|
| Kahal | 1 | CHAMPAGNE HAZE(GM Alexander) L Hewitson...17 | 61.0 |
| Overlord | 2 | TALKTOTHESTARS(FC de Beer) Wei Marwing...2 | 60.5 |
| Great Britain | 3 | WRECKING BALL(G Maroun) J Penny.....7 | 59.5 |
| Var | 4 | RIVARINE(MG & AA Azzie) G Wrogemann.....1 | 58.0 |
| Kahal | 5 | PURE BLONDE(AG Laird) R Simons.....14 | 57.5 |
| Miesque's Approval | 6 | ANGEL'S POWER(MG & AA Azzie) P Strydom...4 | 57.0 |
| Great Britain | 7 | QUEEN LAURIE(G Maroun) C Zackey.....11 | 56.0 |
| Century Stand | 8 | TANDAVA(GG Terzi) K Zechner.....8 | 54.0 |
| Redoute's Choice | 9 | MUJALLAD(MF de Kock) C Murray.....3 | 53.5 |
| Argonaut | 10 | CLEVER GUY(S Moffatt) R Danielson.....6 | 53.5 |
| Kahal | 11 | GREASEPAINT(RR Magner) F Herholdt.....16 | 53.5 |
| Black Minnaloushe | 12 | SPLENDID GARDEN(MG & AA Azzie) JP vd Merwe...5 | 53.5 |
| Rebel King | 13 | SPORTING MONARCH(B Warren) M Yeni....15 | 52.5 |
| Great Britain | 14 | WHORLY WHORLY(C Binda) D Schwarz.....10 | 52.0 |
| Rebel King | 15 | REBEL'S CHAMP(PA Peter) D David.....9 | 52.0 |
| Eightfold Path | 16 | BRIGHTNUMBERTEN(RR Magner) R Munger...12 | 52.0 |
| Lateral | 17 | GOLDEN MAN(G Maroun) - reserve 1.....13 | 52.0 |

SATURDAY AT TURFFONTEIN

close on a year and looks to have it all to do on his current form.

Clint Binda's 3yo Whorly Whorly carries a handy 52kgs and ran a decent fourth in the Lebelo Sprint – but meets Splendid Garden on a kilo worse terms.

The 5yo Pure Blonde ran 6th in this race last year but has maintained a consistent line of form and will strip fit on Saturday.

Gokhan Terzi's Tandava ran on strongly to win a Vaal 100m handicap last time where he beat the 3yo Rebel's Champ. His earlier form suggests that he may battle with the step up in class.

The 4yo Sporting Monarch has proven consistent with some decent showings to class sprinters. He meets Tandava on 2kgs better terms for a length beating last time and should strip fitter as he ran there after a four month break.

Angel's Power made a respiratory noise when unplaced in the Lebelo Sprint. An in and out sort at best, he does run well for Piere Strydom and has a quartet chance.

Eightfold Path 3yo Brigtnumberten is a youngster on the improve and this three-time winner has faced weaker with a good recent run of form. He now goes into deeper waters with 52kgs on his back.

Last year's winner Wrecking Ball beat Pure Blonde 1,25 lengths last time out but has to cope with a 3kg turnaround in the weights, which could be a stopper. She is a speedball though and always dangerous if things go her way over this trip.

Her stablemate Queen Laurie has lost form recently and doesn't look likely to threaten.

A tough handicap with the proven brigade taking on a few decent youngsters with scope. Mujallad and Rivarine could be the two to fight things out, with Pure Blonde and Talktothe-stars in the firing line. There are a good few in between that could pop up. Go wide in the exotics!

Prawns On The Lawns

The Cape Town Prawn Festival will bring the curtain down on an eventful Cape Summer Of Champions Season at Kenilworth on Saturday 24 February, where the R250 000 Gr3 Prix Du Cap will headline the programme.

While recovering from major shoulder surgery, one man with a penchant for winning this feature, and for good quality seafood, is Milnerton conditioner Joey Ramsden.

Popularly known as 'JR', he is the most successful trainer in the Vasco Prix du Cap in recent years with five winners in 13 seasons, and has the two highest-rated fillies entered in the 2018 renewal.

Tabnews reports that Just Sensual, who now races under new ownership, has to give weight to all for her success in the Cape Fillies Guineas, but that penalty didn't stop her winning this race last season. And she beat all except Carry On Alice in the South African Fillies Sprint at Scottsville last May before winning the Tibouchina at Greyville and the Southern Cross at Kenilworth in December.

She looks like being opposed by younger stable companion Rose In Bloom, who ran a cracker in the Gr1 Klawervlei Majorca last month after beating all except Magical Wonderland in the Sceptre. The Ramsden pair are drawn three and seven and the draw is always a significant factor in races over this distance. [Read more and see entries here](#)

Tellytrack Court Blow

A long running dispute between Tellytrack and Marshalls World Of Sport and associated bookmakers reached a conclusion in the Durban High Court when Mrs Justice Radebe dismissed Tellytrack's claim with costs of two counsel.

The ongoing complaints from various bookmakers that Phumelela is charging excessive fees for its Tellytrack service reached a new twist in the long and winding road of years of legal wrangles. The judgement is a major blow to Tellytrack, with a hefty legal bill to pay. [Read the full judgement here](#)

Top SA Racemare For Export To UK

Team Valor International and Drakenstein Stud's 11-year-old Ebony Flyer, which famously beat Igugu to claim the Gr1 Cape Fillies Guineas in 2010, has been covered by Duke of Marmalade and will enter quarantine shortly to begin a trip to England.



Ebony Flyer

Barry Irwin, CEO of TVI, said "Gaynor and I very nearly did this a couple of a years ago, but decided to see what kind of foals the mare would produce before undertaking such a costly and time consuming venture.

"We like very much what we have seen from the mare so far. Her first foal, the current 3-year-old Cot Campbell, is well above average. Her 2-year-old Captain Al colt Captain of Tortuga is a well-made, substantially built youngster that I consider to be as good looking a horse as I've ever bred.

"She will leave behind two fillies, a yearling by Duke of Marmalade and a foal by Silvano, so with those two females in tow and two fine colts in training, we feel well justified in sending the mare to England."

It was decided to skip the Southern Hemisphere breeding season in favour of one cover on Northern Hemisphere time. Irwin said "If she does manage to get in foal, it will be easier for her to begin cycling in England after she has delivered a foal. That's why we opted to breed her this month."

Ebony Flyer will be boarded at Gaynor Rupert's private farm in England. No mate has yet been selected for the triple Gr1-winning broodmare, but both partners agree that Ebony Flyer deserves a chance at being covered by a top English or Irish stallion. Ebony Flyer, bought privately as a foal alongside her now illustrious dam Sunshine Lover, was a very tall filly, standing more than 17 hands 1 inch. Yet she came good right out of the pens, winning over 1000 meters on debut at 2. Her Gr1 wins aside from the Guineas came in the Majorca over 1600 meters and the SA Fillies Sprint over 1200 meters.

Sunshine Lover is the only mare in South African history to have produced a pair of Guineas winners, as her daughter Captain's Lover, which was bought by Irwin as a yearling at the National Sale, previously turned the trick. - Press Release issued by Team Valor International

It Is Time!

Months of suspense and speculation has ended with the eagerly anticipated announcement of the theme for the 2018 Vodacom Durban July, and the 'It Is Time' concept has been warmly received in racing, fashion and social circles. The big race will be run at Greyville on Saturday 7 July. [Read more here](#)

CANFORD CLIFFS

STANDING AT HIGHLANDS 2018

BAY 2007 * HEIGHT 16.0HH
CHAMPION 3YO MILER IN UK & IRE (2010)
CHAMPION OLDER MALE MILER IN UK (2011)
RATED TIMEFORM 133



MAGNIFICENT

"Canford Cliffs progeny, from what I have seen and trained to date are outstanding and he himself is a magnificent specimen. His race record speaks for itself and he was one of the most accomplished race horses of our era. I'm a huge Canford Cliffs fan". - MIKE BASS - Trainer

BEST

"He's the best I've ever had"
- Richard Hamon - Trainer

OUTSTANDING

"I hadn't seen any of Canford Cliffs progeny until going to Melbourne 2016 where we bought Fish River. She was an outstanding specimen. If he can produce progeny that look like her, with the ability she has, then he will be an asset to South African breeding and racing". - MIKE DE KOCK - Trainer



ASSET

"Canford Cliffs, is a champion five-time International Gr1 winning sire at stud in South Africa. He is a lovely horse to work with and boasts a superb temperament. He is an asset to South African breeding and we are extremely excited to have him stand at Highlands Stud." - Mike Sharkey - Breeder



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LOUW FLYER

A Ferrari On The Racetrack

Remembering Tommy Hotspur

With so much of our racing provenance having fallen by the wayside, it's comforting to see one of our turf greats commemorated by having a race named after him. Better yet, at the grand age of 26, the great Tommy Hotspur is still alive and well and retired to a farm outside Johannesburg. He has only had one owner since leaving the track and with this year's Tommy Hotspur Handicap coming up, I thought it a good time to catch up with Ashleigh Hughes to recount his story.

Where it all began

The flashy chestnut colt, by Harry Hotspur out of the Brer Rabbit mare, Tabitha Twitchet, was born on 1 November 1991. "Pure speed on speed," comments Ashleigh. Unfortunately Tommy didn't have good front legs, and was rejected by the National Yearling and National 2yo Sale selection committee and relegated to the farm. The following year, Gary Alexander went to view yearlings at Mr Beck's farms and noticed a skinny 2yo in a paddock. He was immediately drawn to the colt, but Mr Beck tried to talk him out of the little chestnut due to those poorly conformed legs. However, Gary was determined. Eventually a deal was struck and Tommy headed up to Turffontein to race in the interests of Len Salzman, Greg Sadie and Brian Melnick.

It was one of those rare partnerships that simply worked. Despite requiring skilful management, Tommy had 12 starts for Gary, winning his first 8 races in a row. He followed up with 2 close seconds and then posted another 2 wins, including the 1997 Gr1 Computaform Stakes which saw him break the track record, covering the Gosforth Park 1000 metres in 56,37 seconds.

Tommy transferred to David Ferraris for his next 4 starts, but never matched his former form and retired in March 1998 with 10 wins and 4 places from his total of 16 lifetime starts.

Tommy came back to Gary Alexander and met Ashleigh when she joined the yard in 1998. "Obviously Tommy was the much-loved stable star," she remembers. "He stayed in the first box right outside Gary's office. I got to know him well, and became quite literally besotted with the unassuming and gentle milky-tea coloured chestnut."

Match Race

In February 1999, the owners of Golden Loom challenged Tommy Hotspur to a R500k match race. It was too tempting to turn down and Tommy went back into light work. Being a handful at the track, Tommy was only ridden by either the late Boyi Mbele or Albert Ngwenya, both Indunas in the yard. "Boyi worked at Alexander yard from 1997 until he passed away on 26 December

last year and always referred to Tommy as 'the fastest horse in my life'" recalls Ashleigh fondly.

A few months before the match race, Gary arranged a timed 800m gallop on Turffontein's front straight of the 'course proper'. Ashleigh explains that the inside course was not even in existence yet and this was the first time home stretch gallops had been allowed in many years, but "this was Tommy Hotspur!" Dean was stationed at the 800m, stopwatch in hand, while Gary and Ashleigh watched from the grandstand. "Boyi was in the irons and Tommy took off like a rocket. But then Gary took a sharp breath. At the 300m mark Boyi seemed to pull Tommy up, mid gallop. Any racing person will tell you the cold dread when you see that. Gary and I jumped the rails and ran down to Boyi who had already taken the saddle off and was walking towards us. Boyi shouted that Tommy was ok but, 'he doesn't want to run any more'. It turned out Tommy geared himself down during the gallop. He was not unsound, just tired of racing. He was retired immediately."

Precious cargo

A few weeks later, Gary received a top Zimbabwean horse named Blue Collar, that had unfortunately sustained a tendon injury in transit and would have to be retired. Ashleigh volunteered to take him as a riding horse. "Gary quizzed me on where I would be stabling, which farrier I would use, which vet – it was almost an interrogation!" she laughs. "In May 1999, Gary and Dean called while I was in Durban, asking me to check out a smallholding in De Deur as a suitable rehoming prospect. I was not very impressed," says Ashleigh. "When I asked which horse it was for, they said Tommy Hotspur. I burst into tears and said that I would rather have Tommy than Blue Collar, if I'd known there was an option. They spent two days teasing me, but in the end I found out that Blue Collar was never coming to me, and that Tommy was going to be mine from the start- it was just Gary's way of checking how much I really wanted Tommy!"

Second Career

The Alexanders were too fond of Tommy to part with him straightaway, so he stayed at the yard for several more months and Ashleigh actually went to her first few dressage shows straight out of the racing yard. "I used to school him and have dressage lessons on the staff soccer field, much to the chagrin of the grooms!"

After spending 18 months of his second career from the racing yard, it was finally decided to find Tommy new accommodation and he moved to Dr Greg and Mrs Nicky Shear's Shearwood Farm, across the road from James Maree's training centre. "Greg is a vet, and Nicky is a now-retired, but very accomplished dressage rider," explains Ashleigh.



TOMMY HOTSPUR

Most of the other liveries keen Eventers, Ashleigh and Tommy tried their hands at the discipline. "Tommy was over his soundness issues, but being extremely over at the knee he feared jumping downhill or doing drop fences, as his knees sometimes buckled on landing. We also used to get regular time penalties for going too fast in the country!" she laughs. "It was just too much in the end, and I decided it wasn't much fun anymore. We did some lower grade jumping, but our favourite pas-time was long solo outrides. There is a special 300m uphill track for the eventers to get their horses fit- to this day Tommy still "reefs" for a gallop up that track and he goes flat out. The thrill is indescribable!"

When he's not reliving his racing memories up the galloping track, Tommy spends his time with his best friend Gus, a rescued Welsh Section A pony. "They spend endless hours grazing together, in a 27 horse herd, in a 30 acre paddock. I ride Tommy every now and again for a short outride, but otherwise he is fully retired."

Parade of honour

In February 2007 Tommy was invited to parade before the Tommy Hotspur Sprint. "My intention was just to walk around the parade ring, which was still behind the grandstand back then," says Ashleigh. "I had two grooms holding him while I rode, but he was going crazy. It was the day Graham Hawkins did his last commentary in Joburg and he asked me via the vet's radio if I could please parade in front of the grandstand. I reluctantly said yes, but Tommy was completely unsettled. He was a dripping mess and fly jumping metres into the air. I will never forget his groom Andries looking up at me and saying, 'you must get off him now, because he will kill you!' I jumped off. That's the only time Tommy has ever been that upset- he clearly did not want to be on the track ever again and he never has," she says firmly.

Looking after the legend

Most of Tommy's conformation difficulties which caused him problems during his racing career settled once he'd retired and funnily enough, those front legs are still 100% sound. It is a credit to Ashleigh's dedicated and loving care that Tommy celebrated his 26th birthday last year. However, a grand age like that does not come without challenges. In October 2016, Tommy was diagnosed with Cushings Syndrome, but with a radical diet change and the correct veterinary support, he is fat and flourishing once again. Ashleigh adds, "I would just like to take this opportunity to thank Gary and Dean Alexander for sponsoring Tommy's concentrates- they have kept tabs on his wellbeing and progress throughout his retirement from racing. Tommy is in superb health and instead of riding him much anymore, our weekly bonding session is a personal grooming from me. He has been my best friend and mentor for 19 years now, and he will be with me until the end."

The Tommy Hotspur Sprint

Ashleigh says, "I cannot explain adequately what an honour it is to own a horse of Tommy's calibre. To have a Gr3 race named in his honour is the ultimate tip of the hat to his supreme talent, especially now that it has been moved to his home track, Turffontein. To this day he receives fan mail via his Facebook page, and people love the odd update on him. For his 25th birthday I uploaded all his wins to his page and Jeff Lloyd commented on his Computaform win that he had shown his family the footage of the race. He wrote, 'Thanks Ashleigh, that opened my boys' eyes. What speed he had.'"

The late, great Jimmy Lithgow described Tommy as "The nearest thing to a Ferrari on the racetrack" adding "No horse in my memory has come close to his blistering early speed and over 1000 metres he has no equal in the country."

Saturday's field will be following in very large footprints indeed.

Challenges Ahead

In the NHA's newsletter for January 2018, CEO Lyndon Barends reflects on progress to date as well as the challenges that still lie ahead.

[Read more here](#)

Another Identity Crisis

The National Horseracing Authority managed to ride out the spate of horse identity cases that hit us in 2017. Punters, and the racing media, are still none the wiser as to exactly what happened.

Now another 'mixup' has occurred, this time at the Vaal.

The National Horseracing Authority confirms that at an Inquiry held at its offices at Turffontein Racecourse on 14 February 2018, Trainer Clinton Binda was charged with a contravention of Rule 72.1.45.

This arose in that he presented and subsequently raced Night Shadow instead of the horse Trouble Maker, which was the horse carded to run in Race 3 at the Vaal Racecourse on 6 February.

Thereafter he presented Trouble Maker to race instead of the horse Night Shadow, which was the horse carded to run in Race 5 on the same day.

Due to some uncertainty from Mr Binda on what plea to enter, the Inquiry Board entered a plea of not guilty on his behalf. Mr Binda was found guilty of the charge.

The Board imposed a penalty of a fine of R20 000.00, of which R10 000.00 is wholly suspended for a period of 1 (one) year provided that during this period he is not convicted of a contravention of Rule 72.1.45.

Mr Binda has the right of appeal against both the finding and the penalty imposed.

Miss Tanya Pilgrim, the NHA horse identifier on duty at the Vaal Racecourse on 6 February 2018, has been suspended pending the outcome of a disciplinary hearing, which will be heard on 16 February.

A TOP JOB in a TOP TEAM

DO YOU FIT THE BRIEF?

A leading Cape-based racing stable seeks the services of a top-notch Assistant Trainer to commence immediately.

Applicants need to tick the following boxes:

- A minimum of 5 years experience in a similar position
- Be in good standing with the NHA
- Have 3 contactable references

Important attributes:

- Excellent people and stable management skills
- An ability to work unsupervised
- Ability to interact with customers, service providers & personnel at all levels
- A passion for horses and racing
- Honesty and integrity

An excellent remuneration package with incentives will be offered to the right person by this equal opportunity employer

Please email a one-page CV in full confidence to kiki@sportingpost.co.za by no later than 23 February 2018

Applicants who have not had a response by 5 March can assume that they have not been successful

Lerena Back To Best

Coming off a break of over a month, former SA champion jockey Gavin Lerena bounced back with a vengeance at the Vaal on Saturday, when he rode a hat-trick from his first three rides.

Lerena had not ridden in a race since 4 January because of the debilitating symptoms of Glandular Fever. The Epstein-Barr virus caused him extreme fatigue and the only cure was rest.

Back in work for a few weeks, he decided to take four rides on Saturday and proved stronger than ever.

He won on Twice A Lady for trainer Candice Dawson in the second, the Australian-bred Greenwood Drive for Robbie Sage in the third, and on Secret Potion for Geoff Woodruff in the fourth.

Secret Potion took a particularly hard ride and Gavin was blowing afterwards.

"I must thank my family for all the support, and particularly my loving wife Vicky and my Grandfather. Also to David Safi's wife for her help – I won't mention what she did, but it worked!"

Gavin has ridden 57 winners with a 21% win strike-rate this season so far. He is 12th on the national log – that's at close of the Vaal fourth on Saturday.

Another Lerena In The Fray

The Lerena family name is to South African horseracing what braaivleis, rugby and sunny skies are to our lifestyle. The newest member of the Lerena clan to step up to the plate is 28 year old Steven, who now trains out of Randjesfontein.

The 28 year old has quite a pedigree.

He is the son of the legendary trainer Spike, a cousin to jockeys Gavin and Brandon, and nephew to former top jockey Tex. Most of his work is being ridden by another cousin in young apprentice Dylan Lerena.

Steven's business partner is yet another Lerena, in South African Cruiserweight Boxing Champion, Kevin, aka 'The KO Kid', whose father Anton was a trainer in 1980's.

So why the decision to train?

"I have been exposed to horseracing since a young age. I rode work early on and then when I became too tall and heavy, I started working in the yard and became a stable employee. I have an excellent grounding and the best brains in the business to pick on, in need! So my cousin Kevin and I decided to make a go of it. His wife Gina is on board too and she is a great help all round."

Steven has already had a few places and is itching to saddle his first winner.

"We only have 9 horses but we have boxes and are keen to get new owners on board. We have got good support from Logan Pillay and have started a few syndicates for younger people to get started. It's an expensive game to get involved in and we'd like to encourage the syndicate option."

Steven was down in KZN for the Shongweni Sale on Tuesday.

He invites interested parties and prospective owners to contact him via info@lerenaracing.co.za.

Wheel Of Fortune

Ashley Fortune, wife of former champion jockey Andrew Fortune, took her written trainer's licence exam last Wednesday and plans to start operating a stable in Gauteng soon.

Tabnews reports that Fortune, formerly Ashley Panter, was assistant trainer to highly successful Noelene Peech in Zimbabwe before performing the same function with Joey Ramsden for 18 months after moving to this country in 2008.

"This is something I have always wanted to do and with Andrew not riding now, I have the time. I need to stay involved in racing, and a lot of people have said Andrew should become a trainer, so I will welcome his input," she commented.

The irrepressible Fortune insists with a laugh he "has had nothing to do with this decision".

The chances of the former champion making a comeback are less positive. After a partial knee replacement a while back he said: "It still shakes after a couple of rides. I'm 50 now, I've had five operations on my right knee, and I have arthritis so I don't know what the future holds in terms of riding competitively again."

Whatever his future may hold it is heartening to know the Fortune name will still have an active presence in South African racing.



Ashley Fortune

DRAKENSTEIN STUD VACANCY

Financial Manager

A Thoroughbred Stud Farm in the Franschoek area seeks to employ a **Financial Manager** for the farm. We are looking for an honest, hardworking, reliable candidate to be appointed in the above mentioned position.

Duties: Financial function

Navision system experience will be an advantage.

Knowledge of the thoroughbred horse racing industry or farming industry will be an advantage.

Financial degree (member of official accounting body).

Salary: Market related

Start date: March / April 2018

Please send Curriculum Vitae to lanese@rupertwines.com before 23 February 2018

(Should you not be contacted within 2 weeks of your application, please consider it unsuccessful)

PERSONALITY

Stuart Pettigrew

UNRUFFLED

Having retired from professional riding in 1981 and paid his dues in the assistant ranks, Stuart Pettigrew ventured out on his own in 1991 and has quietly and steadily carved a niche for himself from his Randjesfontein base. The words at the top of his webpage read 'Hard work. Dedication.' He has also found success by believing in horses that others might pass over and with three Gr1 successes already to his credit, looks to have found another 'good 'un' in Tony Ruffel Stakes winner, Surcharge.

About Stuart

Stuart was born in the UK, but immigrated to Africa with his family when he was 6. The racing bug bit early. "My Dad worked for Borrowdale Park. Kids were allowed, so my brother and I went racing at a young age. My brother wanted to be a jockey and went to the Academy and then I went too."

Stuart joined the Academy in 1977, alongside the likes of Kevin Shea and Grant Kotzen. He rode for 4 seasons, ending on a high as champion apprentice in Rhodesia and then hung up his boots. After working as stable employee to Keith Chant in Zimbabwe, Stuart joined Roy Magner for 9 years and finally went out on his own in 1991. He got a barn at Randjesfontein and has been there ever since.

The yard

Stuart has a yard of 50 stables, although he's not currently full. "It's hard to get owners and the smaller people are battling. At the moment I've got 36 horses, 19 are in training and the rest are unraced 2yo's. I've had 19 winners this season, I've got a win percentage of 19% and my place statistics are 58% and I just can't get horses. I won the Summer Cup with Tyson, the SA Fillies Classic with Spiced Gold and the Germiston November with Golden Globe. I've won Gr1's and I've been consistently good every season, but people want to be with big names," he says sadly. "There are some very good trainers out there, capable trainers that can get horses to where they need to go, but they don't get opportunities because they're having to train bad horses and then get branded bad trainers."

Gr1 CV

Stuart has earned a reputation for getting the best out of a horse and particularly with making the most out of some unlikely – and inexpensive- prospects. His first Gr1 win came with an R18k National Yearling Sale purchase named Golden Globe. "He was a lovely, big strong horse. I'd only been training for a few years and we won the Germiston November Handicap. It was run at Germiston in those days, before the race moved to Newmarket. He was my first Gr1 winner and won as a long-shot, beating National Emblem. He eventually won 10 races – you don't see that too often anymore," he remarks.

Next came Tyson, the wonderful son of Silvino out of a daughter of Sledgehammer, won the 2004

Gr1 Gomma Gomma Summer Cup. Tyson was another bargain purchase who was led through the sales ring and bought back by his breeder for R20k. "He was a wonderful horse," remembers Stuart. "He won 7 in a row at one stage, including the Summer Cup. He eventually won 10 and was then sold to Dubai."

His most recent Gr1 triumph was with Spiced Gold who won the 2010 Fillies Classic. The daughter of Kahal cost the princely sum of R50k. "So that's what I have to win Gr1's with," says Stuart proudly. "Not R1 million, R2 million, R3 million horses, imports or anything like that. I train very cheap horses."

Surcharge

The Varsfontein-bred Surcharge (Gimmethgreenlight – Congestion Charge) was led through the ring at the 2016 BSA Val de Vie Yearling Sale, but not attracting the attention he deserved, his breeders took him home again. Offered as lot 48 at the 2016 BSA National Yearling Sales, where he was knocked down to Ian van Schalkwyk for R200k.

"Ian (van Schalkwyk) goes to every sale," explains Stuart. "He looks through the catalogue and selects what he likes on pedigree. I go and try and pick out any faults and if I find any, Ian takes them off the list. If I'm happy, it's a combination of him on breeding and me on a combination of conformation and experience."

How does Stuart find his gems at such bargain prices? "First of all, budget automatically takes a lot out of my looking equation. I look at the lesser bred horses, so I'm looking with the smaller trainers and the guys with the smaller buying power. The big guys never look at my horses – they're not good enough for them," he says flatly. He values type above pedigree. "If a horse is well bred, but not a good specimen, I won't buy it, but I will take a chance on a nice specimen. That's how I pick."

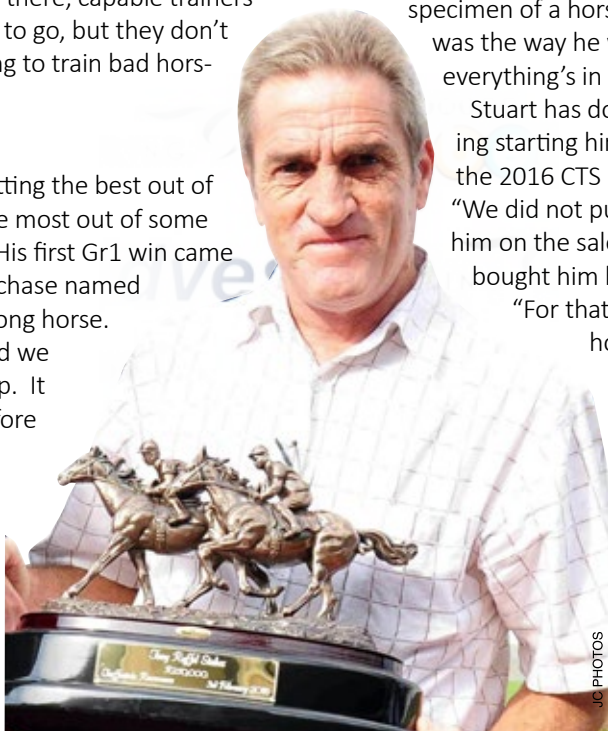
What made Surcharge catch his eye? "It was just the way he was brought to the sales. He was an imposing, beautiful specimen of a horse and what really caught my attention was the way he walked. He's a great, great walker and everything's in the right place."

Stuart has done all the work with Surcharge, including starting him under saddle and prepping him for the 2016 CTS Emperor's Palace Ready To Run sale. "We did not push him and just did enough to get him on the sale to qualify for the sales race and then bought him back." Why go the sales race route?

"For that sort of money, it's a good sale," he says honestly.

Early promise

Stuart says the colt showed ability from the day he started doing fast work. "I thought he would win first time out, but he ran a good second" (over 1200m at the Vaal on 6 June 2017). Surcharge then threaded together three wins in a row before taking his place in the Emperor's Palace Ready To Run Stakes on 4 November.



STUART PETTIGREW

Jumping from starting gate 15 under Piere Strydom, he finished 5th. "I believe he could have won if he'd drawn well," Stuart muses.

He bounced back to win the Listed Secretariat Stakes on 2 December and followed up with the Gr3 Tony Ruffel on 3 February to give him 5 wins and a place from his 7 career starts.

"Ian and I discuss everything together. After every race, we sit down and look at the programme and decide what we want to do and where we want to go next. His mission for this season was the Tony Ruffel, the Guineas and the Classic. That's all that's been discussed so far and after the Classic we'll speak again."

"All the owners in my yard are very important to me - whether they have one horse, 50% of a horse - they're all equally important, but my biggest supporter has been Ian van Schalkwyk. Without him I wouldn't be training a horse like Surcharge."

The two have a longstanding relationship that began many years ago. "We just get on very well. He's got a lot of respect for me and I've got a lot of respect for him, I listen to what he's got to say and he listens to what I've got to say. Everything we do, we do together."

Jockey

Surcharge has also registered most of his wins under Piere Strydom. "Piere's ridden a lot of winners for me," says Stuart. "Piere knows what I like and what I dislike. At the moment he's riding very well for me, and while he's riding well, he'll continue riding for me."

Good looking

Commenting that like many Gimmethegreenlight progeny, Surcharge is a particularly good looking horse. "Have you ever seen an ugly good horse? Good horses catch your eye. He's a special horse and catches everyone's eye. I don't know why he didn't catch anyone else's eye at the sale, but thank God he didn't!"

Stuart explains that the colt has an exceptionally good pedigree and confirms that they will try to keep him entire as long as possible. "I'm not quick on gelding, but if I feel a horse needs it, I will. He's not coltish, he just likes his racing, goes in and does his job."

The rest of his string are young horses and Stuart says emphatically that he is not a 2yo trainer. "I don't need to push 2yo's, so at this stage it's too early to tell if any of them will be anything." Of his older string, he picks out Walter Smoothie. "I think he could be a Derby contender." Soldier On is pronounced "a nice horse. He won one and ran 2 places from 4 starts and ran a very good 2nd last time," he says with satisfaction. There's a promising filly called Gottalottaluv who has placed second, second and first who Stuart has earmarked as an Oaks contender, although he is quick to emphasise that he means contender, rather than indicating that she might have designs on a cheque.

Support

Stuart is also sponsored by Hollywood Bets, who he says have been a valuable support. "They supply us with books on race day, overalls for the grooms- I think they're great. My assistant, Nicolas Titise, loves it. He goes to races with his Hollywood shirts and caps and always refers to them as 'my sponsor!'"

Outside of racing, Stuart is married to Lauren for 31 years and they have a son Ryan, who manages their website. "He loves his racing, but has never been involved in the yard. The two of them are the biggest supporters in my life."

Former Mayfair Trainer Soldiers On

There is not a lot in racing that can bring a tear to the eye of the Eastern Cape's tough-as-teak Scots born lady trainer. But after an upside down two months, who could really blame Tara Laing from feeling a flood of emotion as she unsaddled the 6yo Dynasty entire Trees Of Green at Fairview last Friday.

The former Mayfair Speculators private trainer is not yet through the storm that engulfed her business in early December. But like a true fighter, she hasn't curled up and cried herself to sleep.

Packaging horses and finding new owners, she has been on a mission to ensure that her business is not listed amongst the collateral damage also rans of one of the biggest shockwaves to hit South African horseracing this century - and maybe even last century.

That's all history now. Tara's not looking back and blaming anybody. Having set her sights on resurrecting her career, looking after her son and his education, and maybe even reinventing herself, Trees Of Green's gutsy win in the MR 80 Handicap, was a light at the end of the tunnel for the seasoned horsewoman.

Having his second run for her former top jockey fiance and key member of her team, Gavin Venter, the 6yo dug deep under a balanced ride from the underrated Ryan Munger to clock up his fifth career win. It was his second run in the Gavin Venter silks, after being narrowly beaten on 24 January. It was also Gavin's first winner for Tara.

"I believe in fairytales," an emotional Tara told the Sporting Post on Friday.

"My son Ewan was just 14 when he started riding work. They have a remarkable bond - this horse has looked after him. Before he jumps on the school bus in the morning, he is in Trees' stable. They love each other!"

Tara says that when the entire came on the market, Ewan came to her and asked that she not let him go.

"I was obviously not in a financial position to make an offer, and so Ewan and I both looked at Gavin (Venter), all the while bawling our eyes out! He got on the phone to Derek Brugman immediately and did the deal. I cannot thank Derek and Gavin enough for making Ewan a very happy young man. And for ensuring a lovely horse stays in my yard!"

Tara tells that it gets even better as the 16 year old Ewan watched Friday's race at school with his classmates cheering Trees Of Green home. In the style of a typical owner, she received a whatsapp after the race from her son :

'Tell Gavin I'm happy with Trees Of Green's run'

That was followed quickly by a more emotional:

'I'm soooooooooo happy!'

Bred by Gary Player Stud, Trees Of Green cost R3,6 million at the National Yearling Sale. He has won 5 races with 7 places from 24 starts and has earned a shade over R300 000.

The well-named son of Dynasty is out of the six-time winning Complete Warrior mare, Wonderful World.

Trees Of Green was the first leg of a Tara Laing double. Callan Murray rode Ratso Rizzo to his maiden win in the fourth - at his 17th attempt.

Cape Yearling Sale

SAVEA

Cape Yearling Sale graduate 2017

DEBUT Maiden Juvenile Plate Winner *plus*

BSA Maiden Juvenile Bonus Winner R40 000

Breeder: Wilgerbosdrift & Mauritzfontein

Owners: Messrs R J Bloomberg, M H Holland, D M Kannemeyer,
Sir William Pigott-Brown & Mrs G Thorogood



FIRST YEARLINGS ON OFFER BY:

**Captain Of All, Flower Alley, Soft Falling Rain,
Time Thief, Vercingetorix, Wylie Hall**

Source Of Champions

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 11 February 2018)

| horse | age | sex | points | races |
|--------------------|-----|-----|--------|-------|
| Legal Eagle | 6 | c | 184 | 3 |
| Oh Susanna | 3 | f | 172 | 3 |
| Snowdance | 3 | f | 170 | 3 |
| Eyes Wide Open | 3 | c | 120 | 2 |
| Liege | 5 | c | 100 | 1 |
| Sergeant Hardy | 4 | c | 100 | 1 |
| Captain America | 7 | c | 90 | 3 |
| Marinaresco | 5 | c | 78 | 2 |
| Tap O' Noth | 3 | c | 70 | 1 |
| Last Winter | 4 | c | 70 | 2 |
| Wonderwall | 3 | c | 62 | 2 |
| The Thinker | 4 | c | 50 | 1 |
| Silicone Valley | 7 | c | 50 | 1 |
| Milton | 6 | c | 50 | 1 |
| Let It Rain | 5 | c | 50 | 1 |
| Hat Puntano | 4 | c | 50 | 1 |
| Bishop's Bounty | 4 | c | 50 | 1 |
| Copper Force | 4 | c | 46 | 1 |
| Girl On The Run | 5 | f | 45 | 2 |
| Sail South | 7 | c | 43 | 1 |
| Live Life | 4 | f | 42 | 2 |
| White River | 3 | c | 40 | 2 |
| Trip To Heaven | 6 | c | 38 | 1 |
| Nother Russia | 5 | f | 37 | 2 |
| Bella Sonata | 5 | f | 32 | 2 |
| Monks Hood | 3 | c | 30 | 1 |
| Just Sensual | 4 | f | 30 | 1 |
| Magical Wonderland | 3 | f | 30 | 1 |
| Rocket Countdown | 3 | c | 30 | 1 |
| Fort Ember | 5 | f | 28 | 1 |
| Attenborough | 4 | c | 28 | 1 |
| Brutal Force | 6 | c | 28 | 1 |
| Will Pays | 6 | c | 26 | 2 |
| Pagoda | 4 | c | 26 | 1 |
| Coral Fever | 5 | c | 26 | 1 |
| Our Emperor | 4 | c | 25 | 1 |
| Strathdon | 4 | c | 25 | 1 |
| Cascapedia | 4 | f | 25 | 1 |
| My Friend Lee | 4 | f | 25 | 1 |
| Alfolk | 3 | c | 25 | 1 |
| Our Mate Art | 4 | c | 25 | 1 |
| Do It Again | 3 | c | 24 | 2 |
| Master's Eye | 6 | c | 24 | 1 |
| Lady In Black | 3 | f | 20 | 1 |
| Star Express | 5 | f | 20 | 1 |
| Edict Of Nantes | 4 | c | 20 | 1 |
| Dutch Philip | 3 | c | 18 | 1 |
| The Slade | 4 | c | 18 | 1 |
| Social Order | 4 | c | 18 | 1 |
| Like A Panther | 3 | c | 18 | 1 |
| Rose In Bloom | 3 | f | 17 | 1 |
| Cot Campbell | 3 | c | 16 | 1 |
| Silvan Star | 5 | f | 14 | 1 |

Last Winter Goes Global

While he is entered to run in the Listed Jet Master Stakes at Kenilworth on Saturday 24 February, Sun Met runner-up Last Winter is likely to enter quarantine at Kenilworth Racecourse in the course of this month en route to an international campaign.

Form Bloodstock's Jehan Malherbe, who is acting on behalf of the smart 4yo's owners Khaya Stables, told the Sporting Post on Monday that flight confirmations had been received and that Last Winter would depart for Mauritius some time in March.

"We are mindful that, given that the July ante-post betting has been published, the betting public want to know what the situation is. The fact is that the connections have decided that they want Last Winter to undertake an international campaign. The paperwork has been done and the flights have been confirmed," he added.

Malherbe said that ironically the handicapper had played his own part in making the decision to travel internationally.

"They gave him a 119 after the Met. He is a 2000m horse. So what is left here for him? The President's Champions Challenge at Turffontein in May and then maybe the Champions Cup at Greyville in July," he added.

And what about the Vodacom Durban July?

"While things can change, I would not have recommended to Khaya Stables that they even go the July route, frankly. We would have to give lumps of weight all round. On the balance of things, we believe he deserves a chance to go out there and take them on in Hong Kong and Dubai. It is an exciting time for an owner who has been a staunch supporter of South African horseracing for many years," he said.

The leading bloodstock consultant confirmed that Last Winter would do 28 days quarantine at Kenilworth, then 60 days in Mauritius before flying to England where he would join the horse population, and not be quarantined, but be confined to that country for 30 days.

Last Winter will be trained in his overseas campaign by Dean Kannemeyer, who has done a splendid job with the lightly raced colt so far.

"It is an honour and a privilege to take this horse onto the world stage. Naturally we will be relying on the experience and expertise of those who have done this often. It's an exciting time for Khaya Stables and Dean Kannemeyer Racing," said Kannemeyer.

DIGEST DIARY

Features To Come

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Sat 17 Feb | Gr3 Tommy Hotspur Hcp 1000m Turffontein (S) |
| Fri 23 Feb | (L) Lady's Pendant (F&M) 1200m Fairview (T) |
| Sat 24 Feb | Gr3 Vasco Prix Du Cap (F&M) 1400m Kenilworth (S) (L) Jet Master Stakes 1600m Kenilworth (S) |
| Fri 2 March | (L) Ibhayi Stakes (3yo's) 1400m Fairview (T) |
| Sat 3 March | Gr2 Gauteng Guineas 3yo's 1600m Turffontein (S) Gr2 Gauteng Fillies Guineas (3yoF) 1600m Turffontein (S) Gr2 Hawaii Stakes 1400m Turffontein (S) Gr3 Acacia Hcp (F&M) 1600m Turffontein (S) (L) Aquanaut Hcp 2450m Turffontein (S) |
| Fri 9 March | (L) Breeders Guineas (3yoF) 1600m Fairview (T) |
| Sat 10 March | (L) Bauhinia Hcp (F&M) 100m Turffontein (S) (L) Storm Bird S. (2yo's) 1000m Turffontein (S) (L) Ruffian S. (2yoF) 1000m Turffontein (S) |

ROYAL MOMENT

The 2018 L'Ormarins Queen's Plate Racing Festival saw some of South Africa's best photographers come together to capture the image that best encapsulates the true essence of the #LQPRacingFestival.

[THE WINNERS](#)
[have been announced](#)

Phumelela Shareprice

| date | close | high | low | volume |
|-------|-------|------|------|-----------|
| 14Feb | 1500 | 1549 | 1500 | 22,226 |
| 13Feb | 1550 | 1600 | 1500 | 82,359 |
| 12Feb | 1500 | 1525 | 1500 | 291,710 |
| 9Feb | 1600 | 1650 | 1600 | 1,151,981 |
| 8Feb | 1520 | 1520 | 1520 | 547,336 |
| 7Feb | 1650 | 1650 | 1650 | 7,527 |
| 6Feb | 1650 | 1700 | 1500 | 1,576 |
| 5Feb | 1650 | 1650 | 1650 | 17,751 |
| 2Feb | 1650 | 1650 | 1650 | 1,250 |

Short Heads

Lyle in Style

Gavin Lerena's record of 284 apprentice winners looks to be under serious threat from the talented Lyle Hewitson who was on 276 winners going into Tuesday's Vaal meeting. Hewitson is currently second on the national jockey log - 28 winners behind reigning champion Anthony Delpech, as we went to print.



Turf Is Tops

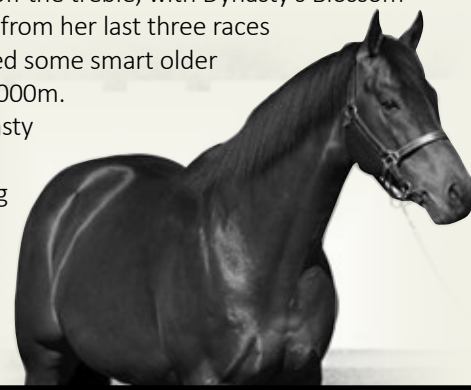
Nothing beats top-class turf. So says Mike de Kock, who added that he was not in favour of polytrack surfaces in major racing centres. "Gold Circle were warned in advance before installing their track. They deteriorate in the sun. They are for wet and cold climates. For basically cheap racing and the cheaper horses. They have been used to good effect in England for their bad horses in the wet season. Thank goodness sanity prevailed at Durbanville when they went the turf route. That was a good decision!" he added.

THREE FOR DYNASTY

Highlands four-times

Equus Outstanding Stallion Dynasty enjoyed three winners over the past weekend. The Tara Laing trained Trees Of Green kicked the weekend off when running out a courageous winner over 1400m at Fairview. Two eye catching three-year-old winners at Kenilworth and Turffontein on Saturday rounded off the treble, with Dynasty's Blossom making it two wins from her last three races when she outclassed some smart older rivals to win over 2000m.

At Turffontein Dynasty son Noble Secret booked his Gauteng Guineas berth with a smart win for Mike de Kock.



MOLLY LUNCH A WINNER

Have Your Say

Several racing personalities including Chris van Niekerk, Chris Gerber, Marsh Shirtliff, Michael Javett, Barry Irwin, Pat Shaw, Ian Longmore, Peter White, Colin Gordon, Lindsay Ralph, John Bescoby & Dave Scott backed Dave Mollett's 'Testimonial Lunch' at Turffontein last Sunday. Gary Player kindly donated a picture of his Major wins for auction which was bought by Chris Gerber. "I've been a journo for 45 years, but I'm almost lost for words with the affection and support I was shown at the party," said Molly.

The People's Choice Award finalists for 2017 have been announced by the Dubai Racing Club and will be presented at the HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Horseracing Excellence Awards ceremony, days before the World Cup on 31 March. The finalists are Christophe Soumillon's European winners record, Lady Eli's amazing comeback, Arrogate's Dubai World Cup win and Aidan O'Brien's record run. Voting will take place up to Super Saturday on 10 March at www.hhracingawards.com/vote

For Luck's Sake

New PE trainer Emmanuel Kaknis made a flying start when he saddled a winner from his first five runners at Fairview last Friday. The longshot For Luck's Sake flew home under Bryan Claassen. "He was working well and his earlier form suggested he had a shout," said an elated Emmanuel, who has just been granted another 28 boxes at Fairview. "We are open for business - any owner or breeder with a horse in a major centre looking for a change of scenery. We are happy to talk leases, shares and syndications," said Emmanuel. His contact details are: 072 644 4494 or email cargotorquesales@me.com

VAR Treble

Avontuur super sire Var enjoyed a trio of winners at Kenilworth on Saturday. Dean Kannemeyer Var first-timer Savea was the fourth 2yo winner for his sire this season. The consistent Star Evolution for Glen Kotzen, and Red Mars for Justin Snaith, were overdue maiden winners later in the day.

A Dare Show Us Your Tips!

A flash of genius? Sporting Post readers can now share their selections for every-day racing in a fun way. Go to the 'Show Us Your Tips' image on www.sportingpost.co.za and with a few clicks you can make yourself heard, then see what everyone else thinks. It's meant to be fun and who knows what nuggets you'll pick up. [See it here](#)

The Series

Plans are afoot to launch a multimillion-pound team

series staged at some of the UK's leading racecourses in 2019. It's a unique new racing competition in which 12 branded teams compete over eight consecutive Thursdays at different Gr1 racecourses around the country, in an early summer evening televised slot. Each team has a squad of 30 horses under the direction of leading trainers with four jockeys. Each raceday will have six handicaps, with all 48 races having prize money in excess of £100,000. The competition will operate on a points system, similar to F1 motor racing to determine the winners of the team and jockeys' championships. Can it work?

Martin's Ready To Take On The World

Visiting German rider Martin Seidl reflects back on his stint in the fairest Cape.



Martin Seidl | HamishNIVEN

He says the change of scenery has done him the world of good, leaving him refreshed, re-energised and with a new resolve on life in general.

"Everywhere in the world you have people talking about something that happens today for the next two weeks. The people I met in South Africa are more relaxed. If they have to do something, they do it straightaway

and get it done. When they finish work, they relax and enjoy their life. Since I moved to a big stable in Germany four years ago, it's always been pressure pressure pressure. Whether you're riding in a small race, or a big race, there's always pressure. Normal people can finish work and then go home. Jockeys don't have that. We're always traveling, working, riding, always watching our weight and when you do go home, the phone rings and it's the trainer or the owner wanting to talk. You never get a chance to relax. Here, I've had a chance to relax and I know who I am again." [Read more here](#)

Suyoof Can Improve Tonight

In an environment that is getting infinitely more competitive every year, Mike de Kock described the Meydan dirt track and its demands as a 'war of attrition' in an interview on the Winning Ways Show earlier this week.

De Kock has been racing with great success in this region over many years but alluded to some of the demands of the richly endowed, but crammed, ten weeks of racing.

He will be happy to saddle two turf runners at Meydan at the sixth meeting this evening, where he sends out Suyoof and Icy Trail in the final event on the programme. The duo ran in the \$125 000 Jaguar E – Pace Handicap over a mile.

Both horses are likely to come on from their first run this term and De Kock will be hoping that the Secretariat Stakes winner Suyoof can repeat his powerful finish for jockey Jim Crowley in the 2017 Al Naboodah Kaeser Compressor Trophy run over 1400m on turf, which he won by a neck from Bravo Zolo with stablemate Tahanee a short-head back in third.

The 2016 Premier Trophy winner Icy Trail will need to improve on what was a slightly disappointing effort at his first run here on 18 January, where he finished over 11 lengths behind Salsabeel.

Meydan Racecourse stages the sixth meeting of the 2018 Dubai World Cup Carnival, featuring the US\$250,000 UAE 2000 Guineas (G3) and Mazrat Al Ruwayah (G2) for Purebred Arabians. Both highlights are over 1600m on the dirt track with the UAE 2000 Guineas Sponsored by Al Tayer Motors, restricted to three-year-olds. [Read more and view the racecard here](#)

Wendy On The Move

Wendy Whitehead has moved – and got her new yard off to a flying start by posting their first winner at Scottsville on Sunday.

So where has she gone? "I'm still in Summerveld," she laughs. "I've just moved across the road into James Goodman's barn. It used to be David Payne's old yard and I've got quite a few of David's old staff and when it came available, they said come on, let's go. I've been wanting a change, I've been in my current yard for 17 years and with the grooms saying let's move, I thought 'let's go'. A change is as good as a holiday!"

"The yard I was in had 41 stables, but it was a big yard with lots of lawn. It was Uncle Joe Joseph's yard and it really was beautiful, but it was quite old. I think it was one of the first yards built in Summerveld and needed a bit of renovation, so when the new one came up, I thought why not?"

"This yard has 40 stables, but the layout is more compact and I think it will be a little easier to manage." [Read the full story](#)

Value? That's Putting It Mildly!

Bragging. It's not what we do.

But at the Vaal on Tuesday, Sporting Post's two best handicapped runners in the eighth race, Comme-Ci-Comme-Ca (36/1) and Mar Del Sur (11/1), dead heated The Exactas paid R232 and R165,50.

Don't miss out- our [racecards can be found here](#)

Baron Set To Make Dubai Impact

The 2017 Sun Met winner Whisky Baron looks likely to very possibly be the only South Africa representative on Dubai World Cup night on 31 March.

Speaking on the Winning Ways Show on Monday evening, trainer Mike De Kock said that things were not looking hopeful right now of him having a runner.

But he spoke highly of the Brett Crawford charge Whisky Baron.

"Whisky Baron is the most exciting prospect. I think Brett is aiming him at the Zabeel Mile on 22 February. He is a high quality magnificent beast. He is laid back and sound – a big strong bugger! He is definitely a horse that looks capable of holding his own against the Godolphin powerhouse and the top UK horses. You need a horse rated 115 plus to be competitive on the night," said De Kock.

The major prep for Dubai World Cup day is the Super Saturday meeting, held on 10 March 2018.

Whisky Baron could be aimed at the Sheema Classic or Dubai Duty Free, both \$5 million races, on Dubai World Cup day. The biggest sporting and social occasion on the Dubai calendar, the US\$30m race day is held at Meydan Racecourse on 31 March.

It is the conclusion of the UAE racing season, featuring nine high-class races including six Gr 1 and three Gr2 contests. Racing is brought to a close by the the US\$10m Dubai World Cup, won in 2017 by Arrogate.

BREEDING

Winter Reigns In Cape Summer



Champion sire - Western Winter



Leading new sire - What A Winter



Top class 4yo - Last Winter

With the Cape Summer Season of 2017-2018 all but a thing of the past, it is an appropriate time to look back at some of the stars of the hugely exciting summer season.

One name which regularly cropped up in race results, as a sire, sire of sires, and broodmare sire was former triple South African champion sire Western Winter.

The son of Gone West may well have been unlucky not to record a second Met win- Western Winter's son Yard-Arm won the Met back in 2004- when his son Last Winter, also an unlucky loser of the G2 Premier Trophy, filled the runner up berth in the Gr1 Sun Met of 2018. The classically bred Last Winter, destined for an overseas campaign, is from his sire's penultimate crop. This crop also includes top sprinter Bishop's Bounty.

The latter, whose full brother Brutal Force ran fourth in the Gr1 Betting World Cape Flying Championship earlier this year, added further glory to Western Winter's Cape season when victorious in the Gr2 Khaya Stables Diadem Stakes.

Bishop's Bounty may now be aimed at the Gr1 Tsogo Sun Sprint later in the year. Bishop's Bounty's Gr1 winning full brother Red Ray, now at stud, was second in the Tsogo Sun Sprint back in 2014.

Western Winter's very last crop could well yet be represented by another big race winner, with the smart filly Fresnaye among its members. One of an exceptional bunch of 3yo fillies, Fresnaye, who is from the same family as another champion South African sire in Fort Wood, was third in both the Gr1 WSB Cape Fillies Guineas and Gr1 Cartier Paddock Stakes this season, both times behind subsequent Met winner Oh Susanna (Street Cry) and she could well pick up a decent race before she retires to the paddocks.

Western Winter, who died in 2013 after complications following colic surgery, also enjoyed major success as a sire of sires and broodmare sire this Summer Season.

What A Splash

His triple Equus Champion son What A Winter made a considerable impression, with the former Leading First Crop sire making a splash with both his three-year-olds and juveniles. What A Winter's first crop, now three, include Dutch Philip and Magical Wonderland, who ran 1-3 in the CTS 1200, with Magical Wonderland having previously shown considerable class when sauntering home, against top class older rivals, in the Gr2 Cartier Sceptre Stakes. Her paternal half-brother Dutch Philip took his earnings to over R3.3 million when he won the CTS 1200 – in a field which included five graded stakes winners.

What A Winter, who is currently South Africa's Leading Sire of

2yos, is also sire of Agent Of Fortune, with that 2yo capturing the Kuda Sprint on debut.

Western Winter's influence as a broodmare sire was also well felt as his daughter Wintersweet made her mark, with her offspring lifting four features over the past few months. Wintersweet is dam of both Gr1 Forus Cape Guineas/Gr3 Cape Classic hero Tap O' Noth (Captain Al) and Gr3 Cape Summer Stayers/Listed Woolavington Handicap victor Strathdon (Silvano).

Hong Kong

Western Winter could well be represented by another major feature race winner as a broodmare sire, as he is damsire of leading Gr1HK Classic Cup contender Singapore Sling (Philanthropist). The Classic Cup is due to be run at Sha Tin, over 1800m, on Sunday 18 February.

The triple champion sire's final stats make Western Winter one of the better stallions to have stood in South Africa in recent years. Of his approximately 825 registered foals, 749 reached the racecourse and 614 have won at least once. Different sources state he had 86 or 87 stakes winners, which represent more than 10% of his foals. Modern day statistics suggest any sire capable of throwing more than 5 or 6% stakes winners to foals is above average – which again underlines Western Winter's considerable class as a stallion. His champions included a pair of sons named Horse Of The Year in Yard-Arm and Winter Solstice, as well as official Equus Champions Argonaut, Bad Girl Runs, Ice Cube and the above mentioned What A Winter. He was also an extremely versatile sire, with Western Winter responsible for Gr1 winners over 1000m (What A Winter) to 3200m (Reveille Boy).

Female Line

Naysayers may have knocked Western Winter's female line when he first retired to stud, but it should be remembered that he traced back to influential Canadian broodmare Nandi- dam of, among others, the first stakes winner (Windfields) ever bred by the legendary E P Taylor.

Interestingly, Western Winter's Gr3 King's Cup winning son Bulleting Home is closely inbred to his sire's female line, with Bulleting Home being produced by a half-sister to Western Winter. Bulleting Home is thus inbred to Chilly Hostess- dam of Western Winter.

Western Winter's dam was a daughter of perhaps one of history's more underappreciated stallions in Vice Regent. The latter, best known as sire of multiple champion US sire Deputy Minister, was champion sire in Canada 13 times and produced 60 stakes winners, amongst them a plethora of champions. Vice Regent is also damsire of US champions Boston Harbor (Capote) and Victory Gallop (Cryptoclearance), and Dubai World Cup hero Captain Steve (Fly So Free).

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

It's The Month Of Love



Frankel

The 2018 Northern Hemisphere covering season is underway and according to Weatherbys' recently released supplement to the Return of Mares for 2017, there were plenty of stallions who found no difficulty in attracting huge numbers of partners last year and two shared equal billing at the top of the table.

Their names should come as no surprise, suggests Emma Berry on www.thoroughbredailynews.com.

Dark Angel (Ire) (Acclamation {GB}) was Ireland's busiest flat stallion, with 223 mates, a number matched in Britain by Frankel (GB) (Galileo {Ire}).

Their own sires are still very much alive and kicking, and Acclamation was sent 149 mares, a number which puts him behind another of his sons, Mehmas (Ire), on 187. Meanwhile, Dark Angel's sons Gutaifan (Ire) and Estidhkaar (Ire), winner of the G2 Champagne S. and a half-brother to Toormore (Ire) (Arakan), were kept busy at Yeomanstown Stud and Tara Stud, covering 152 and 143 mares, respectively, prompting a significant boost to Try My Best's branch of the Northern Dancer line.

Zoffany (Ire) (Dansili {GB}) was the only other stallion in Europe to cover in excess of 200 mares and has some quality support among the quantity, including Rain Flower (Ire) (Indian Ridge {GB}), the dam of Dancing Rain (Ire) (Daneshill Dancer {Ire}), who has visited him in both of the last two years.

Incorporating figures from France's Repertoire des Etalons, 26 stallions standing in Europe covered 150 mares or more—a total of 4,562 mares between them.

Read more on www.thoroughbredailynews.com

Mayfair Horses Sell At Arqana

The second and final session of the Arqana February Mixed Sale returned a set of pleasing results, headed by the sale of three six-figure lots.

Over the two days of trade, 279 short yearlings, horses in training, fillies and broodmares changed hands for a cumulated €2,844,300 (including private sales), showing a 37% rise on the 2017 renewal which comprised a single session. The rise in volume didn't weigh on the clearance rate, which also progressed to just short 80%, while the average price only slipped marginally to €10,015.

The André Fabre trainee LEARNING TO FLY (lot 245) turned many heads last October when notching a 2 lengths victory at Lyon-La-Soie on his juvenile debut, in the colours of China Horse Club's Teo Ah Khing and Mayfair Speculators. The son of Oasis Dream is out of a half-sister to the Group winners PACIFIQUE and PRUDENZIA and with such a pedigree to complement his faultless race record, it was no surprise to see bidding climb to €300,000 in a matter of minutes. [Read more here](#)

Howells Gets Top Lot

An unraced Lateral colt, and graduate of the 2017 BSA National Yearling Sale, topped the charts at a buoyant and lively 2018 Shongweni Mixed Sale held at the picturesque polo grounds outside Durban on Tuesday.

Duncan Howells Racing, who originally purchased the good-looking Cosmic Cutter at the 2017 BSA National Yearling Sale for R300 000 off the Maine Chance draft, went to R340 000 for the chestnut son of Lateral.

The 2yo, sold to dissolve a partnership off the supplementary pages (#119), is out of the Silvano mare Cosmic Dream, and is a half brother to the Gr2

The Debutante winner Cosmic Light (Querari), who raced from the same yard.

Mayfair Speculators offered 14 lots with an aggregate of R792 000 attained.

Four of their 14 lots did not reach reserve, with top price of R190 000 paid by CK Horse Racing for the stakes-placed four-time winner Rocky Valley (#25), a son of Seventh Rock. The sale aggregate was R3 404 000, with 106 of the 121 lots sold at an average of R32 000.

The quality of the 2018 catalogue was reflected in the year-on-year comparisons, where 2017 produced an aggregate of R2 469 500, with an average of R23 500 from 105 lots sold. The top price was R240 000.

[See the full price list here](#)



Cosmic Cutter

Bid on a Bold Silvano

July winning champion, son of champion sire Silvano, has 2 lots on the BSA Cape Yearling Sale – 25 February

8 half-sister to a three time winner & is inbred to the mare Saffron - the second dam of **Bold Silvano**
 # 25 half-sister to 4 winners, from the same family as smart performer **Al Mariachi** & champion **Senor Santa**

Ascot Stud - Home of Global View, Bold Silvano • Dr Ashley Parker & Mrs Rose Parker • T:041 366 1181 • C: 082 446 5287 • ascotstud@agnnet.co.za

ASCOT STUD

LEADING BREEDERS by STAKES

SEASON 2017/2018 • 1 August - 11 February 2018

| Stakes | Breeder | rnr | AEPR | runs | wnr | wns | wnr/rnr% | SW wnr | SW wns | SW wnr% | plcs | plc/rns% | SP | top earner with stakes & % of total stakes | |
|------------|---------------------------------|-----|---------|------|-----|-----|----------|--------|--------|---------|------|----------|----|--|---------------|
| 10,812,550 | Summerhill Stud | 285 | 37,939 | 1292 | 77 | 104 | 27% | 1 | 1 | 1% | 322 | 25% | 1 | Big Bear | 1,312,500 12% |
| 10,528,925 | Klawervlei Stud | 304 | 34,635 | 1222 | 86 | 109 | 28% | 4 | 5 | 5% | 367 | 30% | 6 | Omega Onslaught | 298,775 3% |
| 9,771,600 | Drakenstein Stud | 94 | 103,953 | 358 | 37 | 50 | 39% | 2 | 3 | 5% | 119 | 33% | 8 | Oh Susanna | 3,687,375 38% |
| 8,886,100 | Maine Chance | 134 | 66,314 | 541 | 46 | 71 | 34% | 6 | 6 | 13% | 149 | 28% | 5 | Liege | 1,203,250 14% |
| 7,720,750 | Moutonshoek | 104 | 74,238 | 448 | 28 | 42 | 27% | 2 | 2 | 7% | 115 | 26% | 1 | Undercover Agent | 3,885,625 50% |
| 6,595,175 | Wilgerbosdrift & Mauritzfontein | 161 | 40,964 | 615 | 54 | 67 | 34% | 3 | 4 | 6% | 189 | 31% | 5 | Zen Arcade | 484,375 7% |
| 6,586,675 | Highlands | 127 | 51,864 | 554 | 54 | 69 | 43% | 3 | 5 | 6% | 139 | 25% | 5 | Eyes Wide Open | 878,000 13% |
| 4,549,413 | Varsfontein Stud | 91 | 49,994 | 376 | 28 | 41 | 31% | 2 | 3 | 7% | 116 | 31% | 8 | Surcharge | 445,000 10% |
| 4,366,350 | Scott Bros | 135 | 32,343 | 618 | 37 | 45 | 27% | 0 | 0 | 0% | 173 | 28% | 4 | Premier Show | 215,475 5% |

LEADING SIRES by STAKES

SEASON 2017/2018 • 1 August - 11 February 2018

| Stakes | Sire | rnr | AEPR | runs | wnr | wns | wnr/rnr% | SW wnr | SW wns | SW wnr% | plcs | plc/rns% | SP | top earner with stakes & % of total stakes | |
|------------|--------------------|-----|---------|------|-----|-----|----------|--------|--------|---------|------|----------|----|--|---------------|
| 15,238,488 | *Captain Al | 135 | 112,878 | 515 | 48 | 66 | 36% | 5 | 9 | 10% | 179 | 35% | 11 | Undercover Agent | 3,885,625 25% |
| 9,627,400 | Silvano | 201 | 47,898 | 724 | 69 | 92 | 34% | 5 | 7 | 7% | 221 | 31% | 11 | Marinresco | 537,500 6% |
| 8,586,625 | Trippi | 118 | 72,768 | 468 | 46 | 66 | 39% | 1 | 2 | 2% | 183 | 39% | 6 | Miss Katalin | 1,628,750 19% |
| 8,555,900 | Dynasty | 120 | 71,299 | 430 | 51 | 76 | 43% | 10 | 12 | 20% | 110 | 26% | 6 | Liege | 1,203,250 14% |
| 7,361,076 | What A Winter | 72 | 102,237 | 245 | 30 | 34 | 42% | 1 | 1 | 3% | 69 | 28% | 2 | Dutch Philip | 3,823,975 52% |
| 6,851,538 | Var | 187 | 36,639 | 743 | 55 | 73 | 29% | 1 | 1 | 2% | 225 | 30% | 3 | Speedpoint | 263,500 4% |
| 5,653,000 | Querari | 92 | 61,446 | 369 | 38 | 53 | 41% | 2 | 2 | 5% | 107 | 29% | 2 | Rings And Things | 618,700 11% |
| 4,904,700 | *Kahal | 109 | 44,997 | 521 | 43 | 57 | 39% | 0 | 0 | 0% | 155 | 30% | 3 | Pure Blonde | 248,350 5% |
| 4,700,325 | *Sail From Seattle | 120 | 39,169 | 460 | 46 | 63 | 38% | 1 | 2 | 2% | 122 | 27% | 0 | Via Seattle | 203,750 4% |

LEADING SIRES of 3YO'S by STAKES

SEASON 2017/2018 • 1 August - 11 February 2018

| Stakes | Sire | rnr | AEPR | runs | wnr | wns | wnr/rnr% | SW wnr | SW wns | SW wnr% | plcs | plc/rns% | SP | top earner with stakes & % of total stakes | |
|------------|-------------------|-----|-----------|------|-----|-----|----------|--------|--------|---------|------|----------|----|--|---------------|
| 11,006,913 | *Captain Al | 48 | 229,311 | 197 | 24 | 34 | 50% | 3 | 6 | 13% | 71 | 36% | 3 | Undercover Agent | 3,885,625 35% |
| 7,016,026 | What A Winter | 60 | 116,934 | 230 | 27 | 31 | 45% | 1 | 1 | 4% | 67 | 29% | 2 | Dutch Philip | 3,823,975 55% |
| 4,676,275 | Trippi | 38 | 123,060 | 147 | 17 | 23 | 45% | 0 | 0 | 0% | 66 | 45% | 3 | Miss Katalin | 1,628,750 35% |
| 4,033,425 | **Street Cry | 4 | 1,008,356 | 19 | 4 | 7 | 100% | 1 | 2 | 25% | 5 | 26% | 2 | Oh Susanna | 3,687,375 91% |
| 3,517,075 | Querari | 42 | 83,740 | 166 | 19 | 26 | 45% | 2 | 2 | 11% | 48 | 29% | 1 | Rings And Things | 618,700 18% |
| 3,268,038 | Var | 69 | 47,363 | 276 | 27 | 33 | 39% | 0 | 0 | 0% | 97 | 35% | 1 | Speedpoint | 263,500 8% |
| 3,241,800 | Silvano | 80 | 40,523 | 250 | 30 | 38 | 38% | 0 | 0 | 0% | 77 | 31% | 3 | Vaquero | 175,000 5% |
| 3,186,575 | Dynasty | 49 | 65,032 | 162 | 20 | 27 | 41% | 3 | 4 | 15% | 33 | 20% | 3 | Eyes Wide Open | 878,000 28% |
| 3,104,500 | Gimmethgreenlight | 74 | 41,953 | 293 | 25 | 32 | 34% | 1 | 2 | 4% | 69 | 24% | 2 | Surcharge | 445,000 14% |

LEADING SIRES of 3YO'S by AEPRSEASON 2017/2018 • 1 August - 11 February 2018 *with 20 or more rnr*

| Stakes | Sire | rnr | AEPR | runs | wnr | wns | wnr/rnr% | SW wnr | SW wns | SW wnr% | plcs | plc/rns% | SP | top earner with stakes & % of total stakes | |
|------------|-------------------|-----|---------|------|-----|-----|----------|--------|--------|---------|------|----------|----|--|---------------|
| 11,006,913 | *Captain Al | 48 | 229,311 | 197 | 24 | 34 | 50% | 3 | 6 | 13% | 71 | 36% | 3 | Undercover Agent | 3,885,625 35% |
| 4,676,275 | Trippi | 38 | 123,060 | 147 | 17 | 23 | 45% | 0 | 0 | 0% | 66 | 45% | 3 | Miss Katalin | 1,628,750 35% |
| 7,016,026 | What A Winter | 60 | 116,934 | 230 | 27 | 31 | 45% | 1 | 1 | 4% | 67 | 29% | 2 | Dutch Philip | 3,823,975 55% |
| 3,517,075 | Querari | 42 | 83,740 | 166 | 19 | 26 | 45% | 2 | 2 | 11% | 48 | 29% | 1 | Rings And Things | 618,700 18% |
| 2,811,725 | Await The Dawn | 35 | 80,335 | 157 | 16 | 21 | 46% | 0 | 0 | 0% | 43 | 27% | 0 | Big Bear | 1,312,500 47% |
| 1,495,175 | Ideal World | 22 | 67,963 | 87 | 11 | 15 | 50% | 1 | 2 | 9% | 20 | 23% | 1 | Zen Arcade | 484,375 32% |
| 3,186,575 | Dynasty | 49 | 65,032 | 162 | 20 | 27 | 41% | 3 | 4 | 15% | 33 | 20% | 3 | Eyes Wide Open | 878,000 28% |
| 1,559,775 | Brave Tin Soldier | 25 | 62,391 | 123 | 11 | 11 | 44% | 0 | 0 | 0% | 38 | 31% | 0 | Brave Mary | 552,000 35% |
| 3,268,038 | Var | 69 | 47,363 | 276 | 27 | 33 | 39% | 0 | 0 | 0% | 97 | 35% | 1 | Speedpoint | 263,500 8% |

LEADING SIRES of 2YO'S by STAKES

SEASON 2017/2018 • 1 August - 11 February 2018

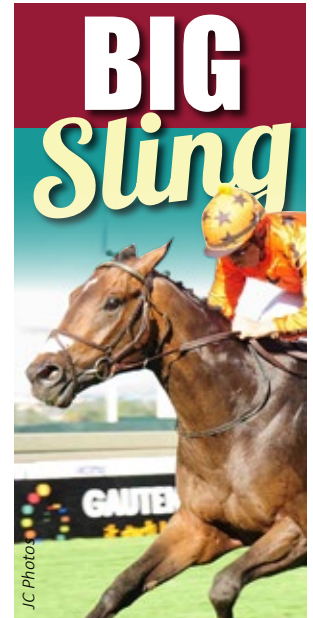
| Stakes | Sire | rnr | AEPR | runs | wnr | wns | wnr/rnr% | SW wnr | SW wns | SW wnr% | plcs | plc/rns% | SP | top earner with stakes & % of total stakes | |
|---------|--------------------|-----|--------|------|-----|-----|----------|--------|--------|---------|------|----------|----|--|-------------|
| 377,375 | *Sail From Seattle | 16 | 23,586 | 26 | 5 | 5 | 31% | 0 | 0 | 0% | 10 | 38% | 0 | Star Flyer | 74,000 20% |
| 345,050 | What A Winter | 12 | 28,754 | 15 | 3 | 3 | 25% | 0 | 0 | 0% | 2 | 13% | 0 | Agent Of Fortune | 218,750 63% |
| 295,350 | Var | 13 | 22,719 | 18 | 3 | 4 | 23% | 0 | 0 | 0% | 5 | 28% | 0 | Val-La-Ree | 128,125 43% |
| 276,800 | Bold Silvano | 7 | 39,543 | 13 | 3 | 4 | 43% | 0 | 0 | 0% | 2 | 15% | 0 | Miss Boomerang | 128,125 46% |
| 268,075 | Crusade | 7 | 38,296 | 16 | 3 | 3 | 43% | 0 | 0 | 0% | 8 | 50% | 0 | Lady Abigail | 87,500 33% |
| 219,400 | Pomodoro | 7 | 31,343 | 15 | 1 | 1 | 14% | 0 | 0 | 0% | 7 | 47% | 1 | Cirillo | 78,000 36% |
| 211,750 | Oratorio | 8 | 26,469 | 10 | 3 | 3 | 38% | 0 | 0 | 0% | 3 | 30% | 1 | Carita | 74,375 35% |
| 167,000 | Querari | 6 | 27,833 | 8 | 2 | 2 | 33% | 0 | 0 | 0% | 4 | 50% | 0 | River Rafting | 65,625 39% |

LEADING SIRES by STAKES on Polytrack

SEASON 2017/2018 • 1 August - 11 February 2018

| Stakes | Sire | rnr | AEPR | runs | wnr | wns | wnr/rnr% | SW wnr | SW wns | SW wnr% | plcs | plc/rns% | SP | top earner with stakes & % of total stakes | |
|-----------|--------------------|-----|--------|------|-----|-----|----------|--------|--------|---------|------|----------|----|--|-------------|
| 1,475,225 | *Sail From Seattle | 53 | 27,834 | 141 | 20 | 24 | 38% | 0 | 0 | 0% | 44 | 31% | 0 | For Luck Sake | 142,600 10% |
| 1,244,425 | Trippi | 39 | 31,908 | 99 | 10 | 15 | 26% | 0 | 0 | 0% | 51 | 52% | 0 | Olympic Power | 213,950 17% |
| 1,011,475 | Silvano | 43 | 23,523 | 85 | 15 | 17 | 35% | 0 | 0 | 0% | 21 | 25% | 1 | Viento | 101,875 10% |
| 928,600 | Querari | 30 | 30,953 | 80 | 10 | 13 | 33% | 0 | 0 | 0% | 25 | 31% | 0 | Kazaar | 107,500 12% |
| 898,175 | *Kahal | 35 | 25,662 | 82 | 9 | 11 | 26% | 0 | 0 | 0% | 21 | 26% | 0 | Kahula | 131,000 15% |
| 894,150 | Gimmethgreenlight | 46 | 19,438 | 102 | 8 | 12 | 17% | 0 | 0 | 0% | 27 | 26% | 0 | Accidental Tourist | 150,000 17% |
| 876,700 | Var | 70 | 12,524 | 168 | 8 | 8 | 11% | 0 | 0 | 0% | 44 | 26% | 0 | Stola | 81,675 9% |
| 865,200 | *Antonius Pius | 33 | 26,218 | 116 | 11 | 14 | 33% | 0 | 0 | 0% | 27 | 23% | 0 | Golden Shamrock | 113,625 13% |

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



SA export and 2016 Gr2 Dingaans winner Singapore Sling (Philanthropist), who is trained by Tony Millard, has been entered for the Gr1 Hong Kong Derby at Sha Tin on 18 March.

The Derby is one of Hong Kong's most important races, and is contested by 4yo's.

Singapore Sling, formerly trained by Geoff Woodruff, looks a major contender for the Hong Kong Classic Cup this Sunday. This race was formerly known as the Derby Trial and is an important indicator to the big one.

A winner two starts back, Singapore Sling has banked more than the equivalent of R6 million in prize money.

Bred by Drakenstein Stud, Singapore Sling, a R225 000 Cape Premier Yearling Sale Book 1 graduate, is out of the three-time winning Western Winter mare, Sing Dixie Sing.

He is one of eight stakes horses from Philanthropist's first South African crop. The son of Kris S has two lots (#10 & #11) on next Sunday's BSA Cape Yearling Sale.



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LEADING TRAINERS by STAKES

SEASON 2017/2018 • 1 August - 11 February 2018

| trainer | runs | wins | win % | fav | fav % | wfav % | 2nd | 2nd % | 1st four | 1st four% | stakes | stks/ runs |
|-----------------|------|------|-------|-----|-------|--------|-----|-------|----------|-----------|------------|------------|
| J Snaith | 692 | 101 | 15% | 123 | 18% | 33% | 77 | 11% | 308 | 45% | 18,160,075 | 26,243 |
| C Bass-Robinson | 547 | 63 | 12% | 68 | 12% | 31% | 45 | 8% | 228 | 42% | 11,443,325 | 20,920 |
| SG Tarry | 646 | 52 | 8% | 83 | 13% | 22% | 61 | 9% | 235 | 36% | 11,365,375 | 17,593 |
| BJ Crawford | 399 | 55 | 14% | 67 | 17% | 28% | 50 | 13% | 183 | 46% | 9,523,775 | 23,869 |
| MF de Kock | 390 | 68 | 17% | 126 | 32% | 36% | 48 | 12% | 208 | 53% | 7,283,725 | 18,676 |
| PA Peter | 335 | 53 | 16% | 64 | 19% | 33% | 31 | 9% | 145 | 43% | 5,192,213 | 15,499 |
| GS Kotzen | 476 | 49 | 10% | 52 | 11% | 31% | 39 | 8% | 173 | 36% | 5,089,825 | 10,693 |
| AG Greeff | 515 | 67 | 13% | 101 | 20% | 32% | 72 | 14% | 254 | 49% | 4,774,700 | 9,271 |
| MG & AA Azzie | 284 | 35 | 12% | 49 | 17% | 22% | 45 | 16% | 128 | 45% | 4,491,000 | 15,813 |
| D Kannemeyer | 249 | 36 | 14% | 45 | 18% | 44% | 32 | 13% | 109 | 44% | 4,332,700 | 17,400 |
| DR Drier | 294 | 38 | 13% | 60 | 20% | 35% | 37 | 13% | 142 | 48% | 4,150,813 | 14,118 |
| DC Howells | 314 | 36 | 11% | 55 | 18% | 31% | 40 | 13% | 138 | 44% | 3,743,275 | 11,921 |
| AG Laird | 244 | 34 | 14% | 53 | 22% | 36% | 28 | 11% | 105 | 43% | 3,735,100 | 15,308 |
| J Ramsden | 297 | 33 | 11% | 45 | 15% | 29% | 37 | 12% | 125 | 42% | 3,671,250 | 12,361 |
| GD Smith | 616 | 39 | 6% | 38 | 6% | 32% | 62 | 10% | 214 | 35% | 3,333,050 | 5,411 |
| Y Bremner | 397 | 45 | 11% | 45 | 11% | 22% | 37 | 9% | 173 | 44% | 3,235,300 | 8,149 |

LEADING JOCKEYS by WINS

SEASON 2017/2018 • 1 August - 11 February 2018

| jockey | rides | wins | win % | fav | fav % | wfav % | 2nd | 2nd % | 1st four | 1st four% | stakes | stks/ rides |
|--------------|-------|------|-------|-----|-------|--------|-----|-------|----------|-----------|------------|-------------|
| A Delpuch | 412 | 108 | 26% | 166 | 40% | 39% | 73 | 18% | 267 | 65% | 11,345,513 | 27,538 |
| L Hewitson | 742 | 79 | 11% | 84 | 11% | 25% | 82 | 11% | 316 | 43% | 7,997,638 | 10,778 |
| M Yeni | 670 | 69 | 10% | 110 | 16% | 24% | 67 | 10% | 301 | 45% | 6,271,626 | 9,361 |
| A Domeyer | 354 | 69 | 19% | 107 | 30% | 35% | 41 | 12% | 208 | 59% | 6,553,525 | 18,513 |
| K De Melo | 592 | 68 | 11% | 81 | 14% | 33% | 67 | 11% | 270 | 46% | 6,773,575 | 11,442 |
| A Marcus | 281 | 66 | 23% | 130 | 46% | 34% | 47 | 17% | 169 | 60% | 7,393,838 | 26,313 |
| C Murray | 487 | 66 | 14% | 94 | 19% | 32% | 58 | 12% | 210 | 43% | 5,612,800 | 11,525 |
| G Wrogemann | 532 | 63 | 12% | 60 | 11% | 37% | 60 | 11% | 232 | 44% | 6,898,288 | 12,967 |
| R Fourie | 365 | 62 | 17% | 82 | 22% | 30% | 46 | 13% | 187 | 51% | 6,037,225 | 16,540 |
| G Cheyne | 404 | 61 | 15% | 91 | 23% | 31% | 61 | 15% | 228 | 56% | 5,499,575 | 13,613 |
| G v Niekirk | 297 | 61 | 21% | 59 | 20% | 29% | 42 | 14% | 179 | 60% | 15,137,125 | 50,967 |
| G Lerena | 268 | 57 | 21% | 102 | 38% | 33% | 50 | 19% | 162 | 60% | 5,617,963 | 20,963 |
| C Zackey | 585 | 49 | 8% | 52 | 9% | 21% | 54 | 9% | 222 | 38% | 5,077,688 | 8,680 |
| R Munger | 677 | 46 | 7% | 25 | 4% | 36% | 43 | 6% | 208 | 31% | 3,853,873 | 5,693 |
| K Zechner | 541 | 45 | 8% | 41 | 8% | 15% | 55 | 10% | 213 | 39% | 4,272,363 | 7,897 |
| P Strydom | 285 | 43 | 15% | 52 | 18% | 21% | 38 | 13% | 125 | 44% | 5,301,525 | 18,602 |
| B Fayd'herbe | 239 | 42 | 18% | 55 | 23% | 31% | 31 | 13% | 124 | 52% | 6,720,225 | 28,118 |

LEADING TRAINERS/JOCKEYS by WINS %

SEASON 2017/2018 • 1 August - 11 February 2018

| trainer/jockey | runs | wins | win % | fav | fav % | wfav % | 2nd | 2nd % | stakes | stks/ runs |
|---------------------------|------|------|-------|-----|-------|--------|-----|-------|-----------|------------|
| MF de Kock/A Delpuch | 78 | 27 | 35% | 39 | 50% | 49% | 11 | 14% | 2,714,350 | 34,799 |
| GV Woodruff/G Lerena | 31 | 10 | 32% | 16 | 52% | 50% | 6 | 19% | 757,400 | 24,432 |
| PA Peter/G Lerena | 35 | 11 | 31% | 17 | 49% | 35% | 7 | 20% | 1,281,875 | 36,625 |
| J Ramsden/A Marcus | 33 | 10 | 30% | 15 | 45% | 47% | 5 | 15% | 899,600 | 27,261 |
| D Kannemeyer/A Delpuch | 70 | 20 | 29% | 33 | 47% | 45% | 16 | 23% | 1,944,725 | 27,782 |
| J Snaith/G v Niekirk | 108 | 29 | 27% | 29 | 27% | 34% | 17 | 16% | 8,282,650 | 76,691 |
| LW Goosen/G Wrogemann | 76 | 18 | 24% | 18 | 24% | 39% | 15 | 20% | 1,676,125 | 22,054 |
| AC Greeff/A Domeyer | 52 | 12 | 23% | 24 | 46% | 38% | 7 | 13% | 684,200 | 13,158 |
| J Snaith/B Fayd'herbe | 142 | 30 | 21% | 38 | 27% | 32% | 16 | 11% | 5,494,100 | 38,691 |
| MF de Kock/C Murray | 114 | 24 | 21% | 49 | 43% | 33% | 15 | 13% | 2,054,825 | 18,025 |
| ML Roberts/A Arries | 53 | 11 | 21% | 7 | 13% | 14% | 3 | 6% | 708,225 | 13,363 |
| AC Greeff/G Cheyne | 192 | 39 | 20% | 67 | 35% | 31% | 43 | 22% | 2,722,475 | 14,180 |
| J Snaith/R Fourie | 75 | 15 | 20% | 24 | 32% | 33% | 10 | 13% | 1,181,425 | 15,752 |
| RR Sage/M Yeni | 51 | 10 | 20% | 6 | 12% | 83% | 2 | 4% | 1,106,975 | 21,705 |
| C Bass-Robinson/A Domeyer | 208 | 39 | 19% | 53 | 25% | 36% | 23 | 11% | 4,561,775 | 21,932 |

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Derreck David – powerful and balanced rider

The much travelled Derreck David was back in the winner's enclosure at the Vaal on Tuesday when the 29 year old steered Antonello home for trainer Paul Peter. The man who goes by the nickname DD, was inducted into the Mauritius Hall Of Fame in 2015 – after winning the last 5 races on the card – a feat last achieved 96 years ago. DD's biggest career win to date was the 2010 Gr1 SA Classic on Pierre Jourdan. He has only ridden 2 winners from 40 rides this season.



Tyrone Zackey – success with a small string

Turfontein trainer Tyrone Zackey celebrated his tenth winner of the season with the A P Arrow gelding Glider Pilot at the Vaal on Tuesday. The Summerhill Stud-bred half-brother to Gr1 star Rabada has promised plenty since purchased at the Van Vuuren dispersal in 2016 and Craig Zackey put the finishing touches to register an overdue second win from 10 starts. Tyrone is best remembered as the hard-luck trainer of the 2012 Vodacom Durban July, when Smanjemanje failed by a nose to get to Pomodoro.



Aldo Domeyer and Alan Greeff were in fine form at Fairview

While he was deputising for Greg Cheyne at Fairview on Monday, Cape – based Aldo Domeyer rode 3 of Alan Greeff's 5 winners on the afternoon, with Teaque Gould riding the balance. Domeyer's win-strike rate with the Eastern Cape champion outfit is a very healthy 25%. While the Bass-Robinson jockey didn't admit to it, the victory that must have given him the biggest thrill on the day was the score by the Philanthropist gelding Wish To Land, who has won 3 of 5 starts in the Eastern Cape. Aldo is part-owner of the former Sabine Plattner runner.

Chipping Away

The much travelled Derreck David was back in the winner's enclosure at the Vaal on Tuesday when the 29 year old steered Antonello home for trainer Paul Peter. The man who goes by the nickname DD, was inducted into the Mauritius Hall Of Fame in 2015 – after winning the last 5 races on the card – a feat last achieved 96 years ago. DD's biggest career win to date was the 2010 Gr1 SA Classic on Pierre Jourdan. He has only ridden 2 winners from 40 rides this season.

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Sporting Post statistics reflect all earnings, incl restricted races & handicaps

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SIGNPOSTS

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

ATO (Royal Academy)

Queen Of The Dance 2f (Personify by Personal Hope)

[Turffontein 3 Juvenile Plate \(Fillies\) 1000m \(17/02\)](#)

After The Order 2c (L'Orange by Rich Man's Gold)

[Scottsville 1 Juvenile Plate 1200m \(18/02\)](#)

BYWORD (Peintre Celebre)

Crown And Country 2c (Crown Office by Horse Chestnut)

[Scottsville 1 Juvenile Plate 1200m \(18/02\)](#)

CRUSADE (Mr Greeley)

Adi Speed 2c (Quest of Speed by Northern Afleet)

[Scottsville 1 Juvenile Plate 1200m \(18/02\)](#)

Special Force 2c (Hermana by Qui Danzig)

[Scottsville 1 Juvenile Plate 1200m \(18/02\)](#)

Be Happy 2f (Sauna's Rose by Tamburlaine)

[Scottsville 2 Maiden Juvenile Plate \(Fillies\) 1000m \(18/02\)](#)

EIGHTFOLD PATH (Giant's Causeway)

Eight Got Zip 2c (Flashy by Gold Press)

[Scottsville 1 Juvenile Plate 1200m \(18/02\)](#)

IRISH FLAME (Dynasty)

Drunken Sailor 2c (Lady Tatty by Solskjaer)

[Scottsville 1 Juvenile Plate 1200m \(18/02\)](#)

Tombola 2f (Fancy Flutter by Kahal)

[Scottsville 2 Maiden Juvenile Plate \(Fillies\) 1000m \(18/02\)](#)

NOBLE TUNE (Unbridled's Song)

Noble Class 2c (Hidden Beauty by Victory Moon)

[Kenilworth 1 Maiden Juvenile Plate 1000m \(17/02\)](#)

Tune Of Angels 2f (Dark Eyed Beauty by Kefaah)

[Scottsville 2 Maiden Juvenile Plate \(Fillies\) 1000m \(18/02\)](#)

ORATORIO (Danehill)

Famous orator 2c (Fast 'n Famous by Jet Master)

[Kenilworth 1 Maiden Juvenile Plate 1000m \(17/02\)](#)

Van Halen 2c (Rock Concert by Lecture)

[Turffontein 1 Juvenile Plate 1000m \(17/02\)](#)

POTALA PALACE (Singspiel)

Thay Thay 2c (Imperial Rule by Al Mufti)

[Scottsville 1 Juvenile Plate 1200m \(18/02\)](#)

Palace Rose 2f (Stargazer Pink by Jallad)

[Scottsville 2 Maiden Juvenile Plate \(Fillies\) 1000m \(18/02\)](#)

THE APACHE (Mogok)

Princess Moksiis 2f (Meg's Magic by Badger Land)

[Scottsville 2 Maiden Juvenile Plate \(Fillies\) 1000m \(18/02\)](#)

TWICE OVER (Observatory)

Over The Way 2f (Leeway by Captain Al)

[Kenilworth 2 Maiden Juvenile Plate \(Fillies\) 1200m \(17/02\)](#)

WHAT A WINTER (Western Winter)

Arriverdeci 2c (Lady Onassis by National Assembly)

[Kenilworth 1 Maiden Juvenile Plate 1000m \(17/02\)](#)

Fabian 2c (Furina by Parade Leader)

[Kenilworth 1 Maiden Juvenile Plate 1000m \(17/02\)](#)

Winter Five 2f (Ramla by Rock of Gibraltar)

[Kenilworth 2 Maiden Juvenile Plate \(Fillies\) 1200m \(17/02\)](#)

2nd season sires - 3yo's

AWAIT THE DAWN (Giant's Causeway)

Until Dawn 3f (Hot Reception by Muhtafal)

[Turffontein 2 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1600m \(17/02\)](#)

The Bee Eff Gee 3c (Divine Secret by Labeeb)

[Turffontein 4 Maiden Plate 1600m \(17/02\)](#)

Hero's Honour 3c (Grail Maiden by Galileo)

[Turffontein 9 MR 73 Handicap 1600m \(17/02\)](#)

Genesis 3c (Dignify by Rambo Dancer)

[Turffontein 9 MR 73 Handicap 1600m \(17/02\)](#)

BYWORD (Peintre Celebre)

True Words 3c (Kalami by Daylami)

[Kenilworth 7 MR 72 Handicap 1000m \(17/02\)](#)

Grus 3c (Queen Star by King of Kings)

[Scottsville 8 Maiden Plate 1950m \(18/02\)](#)

CRUSADE (Mr Greeley)

Joking Dice 3f (Slew per Jet by Jet Master)

[Fairview 6 Breeders Guineas Plate \(3yo Fillies\)\(Polytrack\) 1400m \(16/02\)](#)

Grey Halo 3c (Silver Halo by Mogok)

[Kenilworth 3 Maiden Plate 1200m \(17/02\)](#)

Romantic Crusade 3f (Romantic Drama by Model Man)

[Kenilworth 5 MR 76 Handicap \(F&M\) 1600m \(17/02\)](#)

Wings Of Honor 3f (Flyingwithoutwings by Jet Master)

[Kenilworth 6 MR 68 Handicap \(F&M\) 1200m \(17/02\)](#)

Onamission 3f (Tempted by Jallad)

[Turffontein 8 MR 76 Handicap \(F&M\) 1160m \(17/02\)](#)

Brave Crusader 3c (Jungle Princess by Mogok)

[Scottsville 8 Maiden Plate 1950m \(18/02\)](#)

EIGHTFOLD PATH (Giant's Causeway)

Brigntumberten 3c (Summer Dew by Joshua Dancer)

[Turffontein 7 Gr3 Tommy Hotspur Handicap 1000m \(17/02\)](#)

Esploratore 3f (Wonder Glow by Windrush)

[Turffontein 8 MR 76 Handicap \(F&M\) 1160m \(17/02\)](#)

IRISH FLAME (Dynasty)

Romano 3c (Ever Peron by Silvano)

[Fairview 3 Maiden Plate \(Polytrack\) 1600m \(16/02\)](#)

Irish Brave 3c (Case Stated by London News)

[Fairview 3 Maiden Plate \(Polytrack\) 1600m \(16/02\)](#)

Irish Priority 3c (Trendy Babe by Lion Heart)

[Fairview 8 MR 66 Handicap \(Polytrack\) 1000m \(16/02\)](#)

MARCHFIELD (A P Indy)

Hopeful 3f (All Hope by Al Mufti)

[Kenilworth 5 MR 76 Handicap \(F&M\) 1600m \(17/02\)](#)

Blue Streak 3c (Blingsta by Damascus Gate)

[Scottsville 8 Maiden Plate 1950m \(18/02\)](#)

ORATORIO (Danehill)

Tyrandeus 3c (Bella Nero by Caesour)

[Fairview 3 Maiden Plate \(Polytrack\) 1600m \(16/02\)](#)

Tubular Bell 3c (Goose Valley by Right Approach)

[Fairview 5 MR 72 Handicap \(Polytrack\) 2200m \(16/02\)](#)

Swift Dancer 3f (Bump 'n Grind by Qui Danzig)

[Fairview 6 Breeders Guineas Plate \(3yo Fillies\)\(Poly\) 1400m \(16/02\)](#)

Tally-Ho 3f (State Coach by Jet Master)

[Kenilworth 4 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1400m \(17/02\)](#)

Regal Graduation 3f (Royal Aspen by Fort Wood)

[Turffontein 8 MR 76 Handicap \(F&M\) 1160m \(17/02\)](#)

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

[Scottsville 4 MR 64 Handicap 1200m \(18/02\)](#)

SIGNPOSTS

TWICE OVER (Observatory)

Steffi's Graft 3f (Sublime Surge by Elliodor)

[Fairview 1 Maiden Plate \(F&M\)\(Polytrack\) 1200m \(16/02\)](#)

Pure Harmony 3f (Synchronize by Al Mufti)

[Turffontein 2 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1600m \(17/02\)](#)

Troop The Colour 3c (Colchium by Elnadim)

[Kenilworth 3 Maiden Plate 1200m \(17/02\)](#)

Shallcross 3c (Cupid by Jet Master)

[Turffontein 4 Maiden Plate 1600m \(17/02\)](#)

Rock My Soul 3c (Rockie Bright by Rock of Gibraltar)

[Kenilworth 8 MR 68 Handicap 1400m \(17/02\)](#)

Double Mink 3c (Mink Coat by London News)

[Turffontein 9 MR 73 Handicap 1600m \(17/02\)](#)

WHAT A WINTER (Western Winter)

Estimet 3f (Estimada by Ride The Rails)

[Fairview 1 Maiden Plate \(F&M\)\(Polytrack\) 1200m \(16/02\)](#)

What A Player 3f (Shaan Madary by Darshaan)

[Fairview 6 Breeders Guineas Plate \(3yo Fillies\)\(Polytrack\) 1400m \(16/02\)](#)

Love Dove 3f (Cape Badger by Badger Land)

[Kenilworth 5 MR 76 Handicap \(F&M\) 1600m \(17/02\)](#)

Horses To Follow

DYNASTY

Rated AR 91 **Noble Secret** (3g Arabian Secret by Al Mufti)

MR88 Handicap Vaal (classic) (1600m) (10/2)

Now a winner of two from three Mike De Kock's charge wasn't the quickest into stride when the gates opened. Soon up handy despite that, Noble Secret took up the running shortly after passing the 300m marker, and won going away with some in hand.

QUERARI

Rated AR 100 **Monks Hood** (3g Amber Bouquet by Camden Park)

MR96 Handicap Scottsville (inside) (1400m) (11/2)

Winner of the Gr2 Dingaans last time out, Alistair Gordon's charge was always at odds-on in the betting. A little slow into stride, Monks Hood was content to amble along at the back of the seven for most of the trip. On entering the straight he quickened well and won with more authority than the official winning margin of three quarters of a length would suggest.

Winners Bred Abroad

another **AUSHORSE** winner

Mutawaary (AUS) 3g Hinchinbrook- Sefrah(NZ) (Zabeel)

Greyville 1800m (07/02)

another **AUSHORSE** winner

Nautic Spirit (AUS) 3f Your Song- Karalli(AUS) (Chateau Istana)

Vaal 1200m (08/02)

another **AUSHORSE** winner

Greenwood Drive (AUS) 3g Lope de Vega- Bootsey(USA) (Cat Thief)

Vaal 2000m (10/02)

SPORTS AND BETTING

FA Cup - Fifth Round

Friday 16 February - Monday 19 February



The FA Cup fifth round takes place this week with teams looking to book their ticket in the quarter-finals.

We've had an upset in the last two rounds with Arsenal losing 4-2 at Champi-

onship side Nottingham Forest in the third round and Liverpool exiting the fourth round after losing 3-2 at home to West Brom. Will there be another upset? Here are our writer's tips for the FA Cup fifth round.

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

FRIDAY 16 FEBRUARY

11/20 Leicester City | Draw 31/10 | Sheffield United 47/10 (21:45)

Back Puel's men to win at 11/20.

2/9 Chelsea | 5/1 | Hull City 11/1 (22:00)

Take the Premier League champions on the (-1) Handicap at 6/10.

SATURDAY 17 FEBRUARY

9/4 Sheffield Wednesday | 22/10 | Swansea 12/10 (14:30)

I'm backing the away win at 12/10.

4/10 Brighton | 33/10 | Coventry City 15/2 (17:00)

Brighton are tipped to oust their opponents.

17/10 West Brom | 21/10 | Southampton 16/10 (17:00)

I'm backing Both Teams to Score at 17/20.

13/2 Huddersfield | 7/2 | Manchester United 4/10 (19:30)

United should still progress to the quarter-finals, but I'm going for value here and backing Both Teams to Score at 11/10.

SUNDAY 18 FEBRUARY

17/1 Rochdale | 13/2 | Tottenham 1/7 (18:00)

Spurs are tipped to be leading at half-time at 5/10.

MONDAY 19 FEBRUARY

14/1 Wigan Athletic | 6/1 | Manchester City 1/6 (21:55)

City should outclass the Latics and book their place in the quarter-finals.

QUAD @ 7/1

Leicester Win 11/20

Chelsea (-1) Handicap 6/10

Swansea Win 12/10

Tottenham HT Win 5/10

Is Your Horse One To Follow?

Check the **Horses for the Notebook** on this page - see how promising the Sporting Post **ability ratings (AR)** say they are.

CLOCKWATCHING WITH STEVE FURNISH

Stepping Up In Trip

A REVIEW OF THE WEEK'S BEST SPEED RATINGS

Two From Two

Scottsville 4 February

A juvenile plate over 1000m got proceedings underway in Pietermaritzburg on Sunday and here we saw a smart performance from the second favourite VAL-LA-REE. An easy four length winner of her only previous racecourse appearance, the daughter of Var was taken straight to the front by apprentice Dennis Schwarz and led throughout. She was always in command and won going away by three and three quarters.

A MR88 Handicap topped the bill and in what was by far the faster of the two 1950m events we saw a comfortable victory for HEAD HONCHO. Adopting a change of tactics here, Andre Nel's charge set the pace. He raced two lengths clear for most of the journey and won without any anxious moments by a length and a quarter. Well weighted SONAR ACTIVE caught the eye running on strongly late to fill third position in this race.

The faster of the two maiden plates over 1200m was the boy's affair in which GOLDEN PHEASANT got off the mark. He got away well when the gates opened and soon up handy raced prominent throughout. He was ridden to lead as they approached the 200m marker and with the rest some five lengths adrift he comfortably accounted for the front running SOCRATES by a length and a quarter.

Titbits A very easy winner of all three starts since relocating to KZN, REDEEMER won the MR81 Handicap over 1600m going away by six and three quarters.

Sealed With A Kiss

Vaal 6 February

Four of the eight races on the classic track on Tuesday were run over 1000m and finding her form in the fastest of these was KISSABLE in the MR78 Handicap. Racing off a mark some 16 points below that of her earlier best, Paul Matchett's charge was soon at the head of affairs. She kept on determinedly at the business end of the race and beat the always handy ILLEGAL fair and square.

The only other distance to stage more than one race was 1600m where surprisingly the

faster of the two handicaps was the MR63 affair won by SILVER DUCHESS. Nibbled at throughout the day into 67/20 from 20/1, Terry Lowe's charge raced in midfield for most of the journey. She was ridden to lead shortly after passing the 300m marker and kept on strongly in the closing stages of the race to beat the running on WHITEOUT by a half.

In terms of distance the easiest victory on the card was registered by SAVITAR in the opening work rider's maiden event over 1000m. Having his first run after being gelded Weiho Marwing's charge was sporting blinkers for the first time and found good support in the betting market. Soon up handy, Savitar put his head in front 300m out and won well by two and a quarter.

Titbits TANDAVA fairly flew below the distance when coming from the rear to win the MR86 Handicap over 1000m.

Newcomer MADEMOISELLE won the maiden plate for the girls over 1000m going away by a length and a half.

Chances To Shine

Greyville 7 February

Wednesday's fare on the poly track was a moderate one as could be seen by the MR73 Handicap being the feature. Just eight went to post and a in time some 2,61 seconds faster than the barrier trial, the well handicapped JE SUIS SILVER registered her fourth career victory. A few lengths off the pace going through the 400m, Tony Rivalland's charge ran on stoutly in the closing stages of the race and in a classic finish she got up in the very last stride.

The three 1400m races were all qualified maiden plates and in the quickest of these (they were all comparatively slow) the 18/10 favourite PARALLELOGRAM got off the mark. Always handy, the 3yo daughter of Lateral put her head in front 300m out and won comfortably by two and three quarters.

The only other distance to stage more than one race was 1800m where in the slower of the two maiden events the well exposed MUTAWAARY scored a well overdue first suc-

**Last Week's Top Rated
SPEED RATINGS winners incl.**

Stopthinkingofme won 6/1
Head Honcho won 9/2
Golden Shamrock won 61/20
Destiny Duchess won 47/20
Val-La-Ree won 2/1
Mighty Valdie won 15/10
Nautic Spirit won 3/4
Golden Pheasant won 13/20

Top speed ratings for this weekend

(Ratings shown have already been adjusted to allocated weights)

FAIRVIEW (FRI)

Race 1: (1) Seattle Splendour 3

Race 2: (7) King Django 58

Race 3: (5) Counting Stars 7

Race 4: (8) Sao Paulo 55

Race 5: (5) Graf Spee 42

Race 6: (1) Cloud Atlas 34

Race 7: (10) Bruce's Beauty 45

Race 8: (3) Grazia 34

Race 9: (1) Candy Crush 38 (NAP*)

TURFFONTEIN (SAT)

Race 1: (2) Van Halen 24 (nb)

Race 2: (2) Written 5 (NAP*)

Race 3: (2) Free And Easy 20

Race 4: (4) Corrido 11

Race 5: (5) Pennington Sands 60

Race 6: (5) Inn A Million 51

Race 7: (2) Talktothestars 90

Race 8: (10) She's Foxy 49

KENILWORTH (SAT)

Race 1: No Qualifiers

Race 2: (2) Carioca 8

Race 3: (12) Selailai 16 (NAP*)

Race 4: (1) Tally-Ho 12

Race 5: (7) Bridal Party 46

Race 6: (7) Sunshine Lady 34

Race 7: (11) Wind River 48

Race 8: (13) Trojan Quest 45

SCOTTVILLE (SUN)

Race 1: (12) Special Force 11

Race 2: (8) To Woo 14

Race 3: (6) Constantine 55

Race 4: (4) Elusive Wolf 33

Race 5: (6) Free Step 75

Race 6: (17) Miss Brody 36

Race 7: (6) Red Chesnut Road 102 (NAP)**

Race 8: (2) O'reilly 21

Nap bets

* Fancied ** Strongly fancied

*** Very strongly fancied


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CLOCKWATCHING CONT.

cess. Another to race handy, Kom Naidoo's charge took command early in the straight and kept on strongly over the final 400m to keep the running on FIRE SONG at bay.

Titbits The 3yo LADY LI LAY gained her second win in eleven days over the course and distance when comfortably accounting for her ten rivals in the MR68 Handicap over 2000m.

Rising Fast

Vaal 8 February

The Gavin Van Zyl trained newcomer BOLD EAGLE was all the rage to win the opening maiden juvenile plate over 1000m on the outside track on Thursday and the son of Bold Silvano didn't let down his supporters. Soon up handy in what was always a wide open affair, Bold Eagle took up the running 400m out and went on to score comfortably from the only filly in the race RUNNING BRAVE.

In terms of prize money a Progress Plate topped the bill and in what proved to be the fastest of the six 1200m events on my clock, we saw an eye catching performance from the once very highly regarded AFRICA RISING. Positioned in midfield when the race began in earnest, Sean Tarry's charge fairly flew below the distance and got up very late to deny the front running PERA PALACE.

The best bet on the card for many was NAUTIC SPIRIT in the girl's division of the maiden 1200m and the daughter of Your Song didn't let down her supporters. Backed into the red at the track, Paul Peter's charge made all. She was always in command and drew clear easily over the final 300m to score by five and a quarter.

Titbits Backed into favouritism, the newcomer RIVER RAFTING had the rest well beaten when getting the better of the fancied DANCING QUEEN in the maiden juvenile plate for fillies over 1000m.

Gutsy Dream

Vaal 10 February

The Vaal staged its third meeting in the space of just five days on Thursday, with the action on this occasion taking place on the classic track. Three of the nine races were run over 1500m and stopping the clock in the fastest time amongst these was the well weighted WAITY KATIE in the MR68 Handicap. Racing off a mark some 22 points below that of her earlier best, despite winning last time out, the former Cape Town campaigner was always handy. She ran on strongly at the business end of the race and after a thrilling tussle with the more fancied REDBERRY WOOD she only got the verdict by the narrowest of margins.

The faster of the two 2000m races was the MR76 affair in which the favourite SECRET POTION did the business. Positioned in the rear early on, Geoff Woodruff's charge was ridden to lead 400m out by Gavin Lerena and just had enough in hand to beat the four timer seeking SUBTLE FORCE (finished best) by a neck.

A MR92 Handicap over 1000m topped the bill and here victory went to the grey FREDERICO'S DREAM. A model of consistency, the Gimmethegreenlight filly raced up with the speed throughout. She ran on strongly over the final 400m and held off a wall of horses by three quarters.

Titbits GREENWOOD DRIVE came from the back when winning the maiden plate over 2000m going away by three and three quarters.

FASTEST TIMES

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

SCOTTSVILLE (INSIDE) 4TH FEBRUARY

| | |
|------------------------------|--------|
| Penetrometer 29 – Going Soft | |
| Course Variant: 0,39s slow | |
| 1000m (2) London Knight | 57,41 |
| 1200m (2) Golden Pheasant | 69,86 |
| 1600m (1) Redeemer | 96,17 |
| 1950m (2) Head Honcho | 120,23 |
| 2400m (1) Malartic | 153,76 |

VAAL (CLASSIC) 6TH FEBRUARY

| | |
|------------------------------|--------|
| Penetrometer 21 – Going Good | |
| Course Variant: 0,48s fast | |
| 1000m (4) Kissable | 56,16 |
| 1200m (1) Zouaves | 67,90* |
| 1600m (2) Silver Duchess | 96,04 |
| 1800m (1) West Coast Warrior | 107,82 |

GREYVILLE (POLY) 7TH FEBRUARY

| | |
|----------------------------|--------|
| Going Standard | |
| Course Variant: 0,59s fast | |
| 1000m (2) Je Suis Silver | 57,40 |
| 1200m (1) Putchini | 69,20 |
| 1400m (3) Parallelogram | 83,30 |
| 1600m (1) Big Si | 95,10 |
| 1800m (2) Secret Service | 109,30 |
| 2000m (1) Lady Li Lay | 122,60 |

VAAL (OUTSIDE) 8TH FEBRUARY

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| Penetrometer 26 – Going G/Soft | |
| 1000m (2) Bold Eagle | 58,83 |
| 1200m (6) Shortstop | 69,81 |
| 1400m (1) Blazing Winter | 82,91 |

VAAL (CLASSIC) 10TH FEBRUARY

| | |
|------------------------------|--------|
| Penetrometer 22 – Going Good | |
| 1000m (1) Frederico's Dream | 56,07 |
| 1400m (1) Captain Aldo | 82,47 |
| 1500m (3) Waity Katie | 89,82 |
| 1600m (2) Noble Secret | 95,67 |
| 2000m (2) Secret Potion | 122,67 |

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

AFRICA RISING (S Tarry, Gauteng)
MADEMOISELLE (JAJ v Vuuren, Gauteng)
VAL-LA-REE (D Campbell, KZN)



CLIENT'S LUCKY DAY
AT THE VAAL

R104 158 for R560 R105 150 for R530 R104 370 for R982

R313 678

Wednesday 8 February, Pick-6, Internet



R497 610

WON for only R18

Saturday 10 February,
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