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TUESDAY
13 FEBRUARY
Shongweni Polo Grounds, KZN



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Thursday 8 February 2018
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digest

RACING THIS WEEKEND

FAIRVIEW poly Friday
Best Roving Banker:
R2-(7)Free Agent(7/1)

VAAL CLASSIC Saturday
Best Roving Banker:
R1-(2) Mighty Valdie (5/2)

KENILWORTH Saturday
Best Roving Banker:
R8-(1)Red Mars (5/2)

SCOTTSVILLE Sunday
Best Roving Banker:
R6-(10) Lilibet (3/1)

You may have missed...

Friday 02 February
Fairview— race 4
Sporting Post
Best Handicapped
Rokatenda
WON 11/1 ☺

Where's The Merit?

Handicappers.

Horseracing's great unwashed.

Those calculating handcuffed men in suits who are damned if they do and damned if they don't...

A wise man once suggested that printing money isn't solving the problem caused by printing money.

So is the National Horseracing Authority's recent decision to implement an across the board increase of 6 merit rating points for all horses really going to prove the elixir to right the perceived imbalances of an inherently effective, yet sometimes flawed and often reconditioned system?

The meddling in the supposed educated and subjective science of handicapping goes back many years and often gives the layman observer a sense of

panic paralysis by analysis at play- over elaboration and an obsessive dissection of factors seemingly the key.

But things appeared to be reaching some sanity in 2010 when an NHA Sub-Committee comprising Robert Bloomberg, Tony Rivalland and Vee Moodley drafted amendments to the Handicapping Guidelines.

This had the effect of limiting the discretion of our handicappers and kept them on the straight and narrow. Some argued that it was a show of professional no confidence and a removal of any carte blanche pretensions for the much maligned men in grey suits.

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Part of Ridgemont

WHERE'S THE MERIT?

At that time the ratings of horses in Gauteng, Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal were upped by 3 points in order to bring them in line with international ratings. In order to account for the 'creep' factor in ratings, it was further decided to decrease the ratings of horses in the Eastern Cape by 3 points and to maintain relativity to leave the ratings in Kimberley, on the Vaal Sand and Zimbabwe unchanged.

In 2013 a similar wave of the magic increased ratings wand was summararily reversed after industry resistance. In simple terms, it was found that there was an over-reliance on correcting the slippage factor in merit based handicapping by simply increasing the population by 6 points. The change of heart came about after it was felt that underlying issues may have been better solved by determining a systemic review of the Merit Rating system rather than a quick fix increase.

In April 2016, following more unhappiness and frustration with the way the handicappers were doing their jobs, further handicapping guideline amendments were introduced - so the handcuffs were added ankle shackles, to further limit any creativity. [Read the press release here](#)

Now in 2018, the meddling starts all over again with the NHA suggesting that over the last few racing seasons, a general decline in the Merit Ratings was observed, especially in relation to the large group of horses rated 70 and less.

They did an analysis of average ratings of the racing population from August 2010 to present and decided on the current domestic rating increase to stretch the population thereby reducing the crowding in the lower divisions. But isn't this as a direct result of the legislative handcuffs that prevent our handicappers from dishing and withdrawing merit, where it's rightly due?

For those concerned about the impact on our top-rated horses of this latest increase, there will be no international embarrassment like that suffered years ago as the higher rated gallopers now have shadow international ratings. These days an international panel of handicappers provide input when meeting in July and December of every year.

"Our bigger races are rated by a host of international handicappers - these are published on the Longines World's Best Racehorse rankings. Every country has unique circumstances and the exchange, discussion and different viewpoints ensure there is a realistic balance maintained," says NHA Handicapping Chief Roger Smith.

So while we seem unable to find a workable balance with a 75 year old system, should we bring back race figures?

SP Reader John Bryant suggests that those who would like to see the old Race Figure system back must remember that this system has nothing to do with ability, but only the number of wins. Maiden colts had a RF of 18 (fillies 15) and 6 points were added to the RF for each win. So before the Met, On Susanna would have had a RF of 33 and Last Winter 42. Neither would have come close to getting in to the Met! With a RF system, many winners of the Epsom Derby and Oaks would not have qualified! In the 'old days' with the RF system, the 3YO's had to have at least 6 wins to get into the July - horses like Sea Cottage, Naval Escort, In Full Flight etc. Many trainers were very disappointed when their champion 3YO did not get into the July because their RF was too low.

Respected international handicapper Mike Wanklin writes that race figure handicapping had two great flaws. Firstly, every horse was assumed useless and started at the bottom of the pile - colts 18 and fillies 13. Win you get plus 6 to 24/19 etc. It didn't matter if you were a 2yo - 3yo or older maiden? Then up by 6 points for each win thereafter (in the main - some exceptions for feature wins etc.) Secondly and alluded to above, there was no account for the immaturity of the younger horse in the rating system. Now the MR system is not perfect. There is no way any system for handicapping can be perfect. Ask any golfer! But what system is fair? That is the question.

SATURDAY RACING

Class To Count

Pinnacle Stakes Vaal

A quality R130 000 Pinnacle Stakes takes pride of place on the classic track on Saturday and even though the conditions favour the class, it's a race that looks fairly wide open.



New Predator | JC Photos

The Azzie father-and-son racing team struck form at Turffontein last Saturday with a splendid hat-trick of winners and they may have found the right race for their Imperial Stride gelding, Will Pays. The Gr3 Spring Spree Stakes winner was slow away and found the pace too hot to handle when running 8 lengths behind The Thinker in the Merchants at his last start. A ten week freshen up may be the tonic required to get him in line for a tenth career victory, and his draw should not prove an impediment with his racing style.

Sean Tarry's coupling of Heaps Of Fun and Matador Man are both in with a shout at best.

The Visionaire mare Heaps Of Fun has been a trifle in and out but came out firing over 1160m at Turffontein last time. She now takes on mixed company, but has a big money chance.

Matador Man is a slow starter and he stayed on well for under 3 lengths behind Arctica in a true-run Wolf Power Handicap last Saturday. This is the son of Toreador's first start at the Vaal and he is likely to be staying on strongly again.

The Trippi mare Kilauea ran a cracking third behind Amazing Strike and Captain Aldo last time, where she had New Predator and Classify well beaten. She has her first run at the Vaal on Saturday.

The consistent Captain Aldo is an honest and talented 7yo and has maintained a model form profile over an extended period of time. He was beaten 3,25 lengths by Kangaroo Jack at his penultimate jump but should get closer with a 1,5kg swing of the weights in his favour.

Joint top-weighted New Predator is a class act and a past winner of the Gr2 Drill Hall Stakes and Gr2 Charity Mile. The New Approach entire has his first run at the Vaal but must go very close at best.

Former PE-based Classify is drawn widest of all but ran a cracking second behind Forest Fox in the Grand Heritage back in September. His three runs since have produced little. He was carded to race at the Vaal on Tuesday as we went to print.

The multiple Gr2 winner Kangaroo Jack shoulders joint top weight before the concession of 1,5kg for the services of very competent apprentice Denis Schwarz. The son of Querari won his penultimate start over shorter and then stayed on

START
3:20PM
VAAL

6

PA4/PICK SIX3/JACKPOT2
PINNACLE STAKES - 1400M
SAME TRAINER:(2-8)(3-9)(5-7)

Querari	1 KANGAROO JACK (GM Alexander) D Schwarz . 3	61.5
New Approach	2 NEW PREDATOR (JAJ v Vuuren) Wei Marwing . 6	61.5
Imperial Stride	3 WILL PAYS (MG & AA Azzie) C Zackey	60.0
Captain Al	4 CAPTAIN ALDO (SD Gray) K Zechner	58.5
Toreador	5 MATADOR MAN (SG Tarry) L Hewitson	58.5
Sail From Seattle	6 CLASSIFY (DA Sham) D David	55.5
Visionaire	7 HEAPS OF FUN (SG Tarry) R Danielson	54.0
Trippi	8 KILAUEA (JAJ v Vuuren) R Simons	54.0
Toreador	9 TRADING PROFIT (MG & AA Azzie) JP vd Merwe ...	52.5
Jay Peg	10 SHE'S A DRAGON (C J Mayhew) M Thackeray ...	51.0
Albert Hall	11 REBUKED (S Moffatt) M Mjoka	50.0

strongly at this over 400m shorter last time. He gave the impression that he will be effective over the extra.

The class mare Heaps Of Fun together with Will Pays and Captain Aldo are the hard-knockers who look capable of fighting this out. New Predator has top-class earlier form, while Matador Man needs to get away on terms for a big effort.

Emmanuel - Open For Business

A new trainer's name appears on the Fairview index for this Friday's polytrack meeting.

An excited Emmanuel Kaknis sends out his first five runners on Friday after a long training and stable management apprenticeship, where he learnt the ropes from master veterans of the ilk of Hekkie Strydom and Barry Steenkamp.

"It is all systems go and the team is ready to roll," said the 31 year old East London-born Greek national of a business he says will be founded on family values.

The family aspect shines through, with his Mom Anne-Marie his major owner, while sister Chrysanthy – better known as Christine- is his assistant. He points out for clarity that their surnames are spelt Kacnis – while his is Kaknis.

Emmanuel starts out with 'a nice mix' of 28 horses of which some are unraced. He has been assisted by jockey Bryan Claassen, who has been riding a lot of work.

"This is the culmination of a lifelong ambition. It is not an easy game but I have learnt from the best and I have the support of my wonderful family and a good team in the yard. Now it's up to the horses – and we have boxes available to grow as we get more broader based support."

Don't Miss Big Boy's Return!

Boom Mike de Kock colt Mustaaqem returns to racing in a Progress Plate over 1200m at the Vaal this afternoon. He runs at 14h10.

Last season's Equus champion two-year-old colt comes off a break of nine months since winning his only two starts by a combined 11,50 lengths.

The son of Redoute's Choice had knee surgery during his break and Mike de Kock commented from Dubai:

"Mustaaqem had a knee chip removed, it was a small chip and he has fully recovered, he is striding as well as ever."

Mike elaborated: "We've given Mustaaqem some good work, he has galloped on sand and on grass, but we haven't squeezed him hard. He is looking exceptionally well and has been enjoying his work. He'll have a chance of making a winning comeback, but of course we can't predict with utmost confidence how he will go.

"I think Mustaaqem will see out 1400m like his brother Rafeef. The Vaal race will show us if he still prefers sprinting and if he does we will probably aim him at a race like the Merchants in March and keep him down the straight. We're looking forward to his return!" [Read more here](#)

Patience – A Virtue!

It was 29th time lucky for trainer Wendy Whitehead and her patient owners when the 6yo Overlord gelding Secret Service finally cracked his maiden over 1800m in the first at Greyville on Wednesday.

Gelded way back in 2014, Secret Service has also run 10 places in his long career for gross earnings of over R133 000.

A thrilled Wendy Whitehead said that Secret Service had lost form but had benefitted tremendously from a break at Robbie and Kerry Dawson's new spelling facility. Jockey Warren Kennedy had Secret Service in front all the way and said that he knew that his mount would give him a kick late in the race. The tactic worked a charm and the gelding had too much in reserve for the favourite What A Moon.

But where to from here?

What's Up?



Keagan de Melo | Gold Circle

Life was simple in the days before mobile devices.

Jockey Keagan de Melo signed an admission of guilt and was fined R2 500 for a contravention of Rule 56.2.4 in that he took a communication device into the jockeys' quarters at Greyville on 7 February, during the race meeting.

In terms of rule 56.2.2 a jockey with carded riding engagements at a race meeting, except when riding in a race, shall remain in the jockeys' quarters or weighing room from the time he reports on-course, until he is given permission to leave the course.

Rule 56.2.4 says that save with the consent of a Stipe, no rider, during the period stated in rule 56.2.2, shall have contact with anybody outside the jockey's quarters or weighing room other than the owner or authorised agent of the owner or the groom of the horse he is riding, the RMR on duty and licensed official for the race meeting concerned, nor shall he take into the jockey's quarters or weighing room nor make use of any type of telephone, transmitter or similar device for communication purposes.

July Betting Is Open!

South Africa's leading bookmakers Hollywood have led the field again and published the maiden ante-post market for the 2018 Gr1 Vodacom Durban July last week. The R4,25 million 2200m contest will be run at Greyville on Saturday 7 July.

We are months away from first entry date but the debate will be hot with the astute punter looking for some serious value.

Hollywood have requested that should any punter want to back a horse that is not included in the current chart, to please contact them directly.

Cape Winter Series champion African Night Sky, who ran on steadily but out of the money in January's Sun Met, is the early favourite.

Visit www.hollywoodbets.net for more information

GROUP 3 DOUBLE CANFORD CLIFFS

STANDING AT HIGHLANDS 2018



FISH RIVER

THREE TROIKAS STAKES (GRADE 3)

JOCKEY: A. DELPECH

TRAINER: MIKE DE KOCK

OWNER: MAURITZFONTEIN (PTY) LTD (NOM: MISS J.B SLACK)



CLIFF'S EDGE

LADBROKES MANFRED STAKES (GRADE 3)

JOCKEY: J ALLEN

TRAINER: DARREN WEIR

OWNERS: WILAWL GO RACING, MR R A HOLBURT, BALROWAN, MR B R HOLBURT, MR D A ROACHE,
MRS R A ROUCHE, THE GOLDEN TABLE, MR F BERENS, MR D J ASHWOOD, MS E M WILSON, MR J W DARGAN,
MR D LEWIS, MR C T J VAN VELZEN, MRS R J HOWKONGFAH, MR S M BERENS



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Met Heroes On Move

Durban July hero Marinaresco is to leave his history-making trainer to join Mike de Kock for an international campaign.

Candice Bass-Robinson has decided that the option of continuing as the trainer when the five-year-old moves overseas is not practical for her. She has her own yard adjoining Summerveld as well as one of the biggest stables in Cape Town, writes Michael Clower on www.goldcircle.co.za



Marinaresco | Gold Circle

She said: "He goes into quarantine in the middle of the month and will go via Mauritius to Mike de Kock's yard in Newmarket. After that nothing has been finalised but maybe Hong Kong, Singapore, Dubai. He remains in the same ownership (Marsh Shirtliff, Bryn Ressel, Mike Bass and Fred Green) and I will be sorry to see him go."

Marinaresco set a weight-carrying record when becoming the first Durban July winner to be trained by a woman and also one of the first (if not the first) to win the race for a trainer in their initial season. His other triumphs included the Champions Cup, Winter Guineas and Winter Classic.

Last Winter, who finished one place in front of him when runner-up in the Sun Met, could be on the same plane to Mauritius following a meeting between owner Lady Laidlaw, Dean Kannemeyer and Jehan Malherbe on Friday.

Kannemeyer said: "We are all on the same track with this and we are now busy negotiating to get him out of the country. I will remain the trainer and we will go via Mauritius but we still have to decide whether we go now or wait until July but, personally, I think the sooner the better.

"There is Hong Kong in December but, if it proves the horse is not ready for that, a race I have long wanted to win is the Queen Elizabeth II Cup (won by the Alec Laird-trained London News in 1997) there in April."

Kannemeyer fears that the horse would end up with top weight if the decision is made to wait for the Vodacom Durban July. Last Winter is a 10-1 chance for the Greyville spectacular with Hollywoodbets which has African Night Sky favourite at just over 7-1 and Marinaresco on 25-2.

Met Day 2019 - A Rethink

With the dust having settled on Sun Met Day, the race programmers are already looking at a different approach for 2019. Having three local racemeetings on one afternoon simply did not work.

And the centre which took the major knock was KZN.

"It worked last year but we will revisit our programming for 2019," Gold Circle Racing Executive Raf Sheik told the Sporting Post. The Greyville Saturday meeting bore the brunt of the Sun Met shadow, with 'embarrassing pools' – trying as it was, in terms of its later scheduling, to compete into the teeth of the quartet of Gr1's at Kenilworth.

"Tough economic conditions, with junk status the newest buzzword and the devastating drought that is crippling the Western Cape formed an ominous backdrop to the 2018 Sun Met. We expected it to be tough and it was thus a tremendous boost and privilege to have the Hong Kong involvement," Phumelela Sports Betting Executive, Vee Moodley, told the Sporting Post.

The Hong Kong Jockey Club simulcast only the major meetings from around the world and the announcement that the betting-crazy racing jurisdiction were to take six races from Kenilworth was a coup for Saftote – even though local punters don't benefit directly.

Betting turnovers were down about 10% year-on-year and the Hong Kong simulcast was to become an unlikely game saver.

Unlike commingling, where the overseas players gamble into our local pools, simulcasting entails the sale of the television picture and the payment of royalties. While no sums have been published, we are aware that the Mauritius agreement with SA racing involves a 3% royalty. There is talk that we could get commingling from Hong Kong on the 2019 Met. Their Met win pool was R4 million on Saturday. So that is an exciting proposition!

The Hong Kong players ploughed R176 million into their menu of six races, while our punters could only find R64 odd million for 30 local races.

There is no question that the Mayfair Speculators implosion in early December was an albatross around the neck of the Met build-up. Two of the fancied runners in the race carried the silks of South Africa's champion owners and the uncertainty around their participation, coupled with the mass political outcry, only abated 24 hours before the off. And even then, there was no certainty as to what Saturday would bring.

While attendance figures have still not been published, the general consensus is that Oh Susanna's great victory was witnessed by one of the smallest crowds in living memory. And that is taking cognisance of the fact that most of the spectators these days are housed under cover.

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Eightfold Path (USA)

Giant's Causeway - Divine Proportions by Kingmambo

Recent eye catching performances:

MBALI (75) - makes all when stepping up in trip to record 2nd win

**THE RISING LEGEND (72) - "Look at him, no chance with 200m to go!"
- Quote Alistair Cohen after he wins maiden in spectacular fashion over 1600m.**

"Best days ahead of him, third crop selling in 2018!"





TONY RUFFEL STAKES (GRADE 3)

SURCHARGE



TONY RUFFEL STAKES (Grade 3) -
1400m Turffontein - **SURCHARGE** (CTS
Johannesburg Ready to Run Sale 2016)
wins by 0,6 lengths from SIR DAVID
BAIRD and **WONDERWALL** (CTS Cape
Town Ready to Run Sale 2016).

Purchased by Ian Van Schalkwyk at
the CTS JHB Ready To Run Sale for
R550,000, **SURCHARGE** has won 5 races
from 7 starts incl Tony Ruffel S G3 and
Secretariat S L. **SURCHARGE** was bred
by Varsfontein Stud, trained by Stuart
Pettigrew and ridden by Piere Strydom.



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE CONNECTIONS

NEXT SALE



APRIL YEARLING SALE
13 - 15 APRIL 2018,
CAPE TOWN

PERSONALITY

On The Mend

One of the keys to a long and successful career is knowing that sometimes you need to push and sometimes you need to back off. The skill lies in knowing when to do what. Dual SA champion jockey S'manga Khumalo has been taking time out to do just that.

S'manga, who was last seen on our tracks at the Vaal meeting on 29 November 2017, has been on something of an enforced break to complete the second half of a medical procedure he had several years ago.

What happened

A broken leg suffered in a fall back in 2011 required surgery and a screw in his knee. "When I fell, I broke my tibia. I don't think the doctor that did op knew I was a jockey and he put the screw straight in, just to get me by," he explains.

Although the pin did its job, S'manga's career hit its upward trajectory shortly afterwards and he never got round to making the time to take it out. "It should have been removed a year after it was put in, but I rode with it for another few years. Things were going well and I was chasing the championship, so I didn't want to take a break right then."

However, in the longer term, with general riding wear and tear as well as riding short, compensating for the knee screw resulted in compensatory issues, including severe back pain, which eventually became debilitating enough to force S'manga to seek help.

Team decision

In early December, he sat down with his boss. "Mr Tarry is my main trainer, so I had to sit down with him and tell him what was going on. We had a meeting with Erich van Niekerk and then had a full medical assessment done. That's when they found out I wasn't aligned properly because of the knee and that was causing my back problems."

"Because I'd been struggling with my back, we did some x-rays and tried to work out which side I was favouring more, which was the right side – the left side is where the problem was. Chiropractor Dr Mike Pritchard did try to align me, but said I would never be 100% unless we took the screw out."

In addition, the screw was also found to be damaging the knee cartilage and it became clear that it was time for the screw to be removed. "I said, 'You know what? I've been riding with these aches and pains for three

seasons. It's been hard and I just want to get it sorted out. If we can find the problem, at least we can try and work on it and fix it."

"Because of Christmas and all the holidays and so on, I could only get the surgery in January, so I carried on working with the chiropractor and biokineticist through December to help make my leg stronger before the operation."

Surgery was scheduled for 11 January 2018. S'manga was discharged two days later and has been working hard on getting back to the saddle.

Rehab

S'manga reports that thanks to the efforts of his support team, plus Erich van Niekerk, his rehab is going 'pretty great'. "I'd been seeing the chiropractor and biokineticist since early December and started working with them before I had the operation and that's helped me recover a lot more quickly."

In order to maintain his racing weight, he is on a calorie restricted diet and is logging his progress on the 'My Fitness Pal' app. "Erich has the password and checks up on me every now and then," he laughs. "It is quite strict, but I've dropped a kilo, which was my goal. Being off, you think you're going to pick up weight, but this time round, I decided to stick with the diet and everything the biokineticist and chiropractor said, so that I won't end up having to waste at the end and the only thing I'll need to work on is fitness."

Holistic approach

All being well, S'manga will start work riding again on 13 February and he is looking forward to putting his knee to the test and seeing whether all the hard work has paid off. "I haven't done this before, so I'm excited for the 13th to see what we'll do and also whether the exercises have worked and whether I'm still favouring one side."

S'manga's biokineticist, Jessica Weston, will be going to the track with him on his first day back to gain a better understanding of the rigours of a professional jockey and assess – and if necessary – tailor his rehab accordingly.

Comfort

Any surgery carries risk and with a jockey's body the tools of their trade, their very profession hangs on a successful outcome. Although it's still early



S'MANGA KHUMALO

days, S'manga is happy with the results. "I feel great. I do feel different – if only I'd had this help a couple of years back, I might have done a lot better, but it's one of those things," he shrugs. "At the time I was chasing the championship and doing well and I couldn't think of taking time off to nurse myself."

The racing industry has a notoriously short-term memory and with out of sight, frequently meaning out of mind, taking significant time off is nerve-wracking for any rider, but it's been a team effort all the way.

"I didn't want to do anything by myself and do the comeback by myself, but luckily I have the support of Mr Tarry and Chris and Erich van Niekerk. They know I'm doing well and they speak to the doctors all the time and after all my sessions they call to find out how I'm doing and so far it's all been great. I couldn't have done it without Erich and Mr Tarry's help. I feel a lot better and they know I am getting better. I'm also grateful to my sponsors, Mauritzfontein and Wilgerbosdrift for their support while I've been off."

Good break

S'manga is very competitive – how did he cope having to sit on the sidelines? "Mentally, I did enjoy the break. A lot of people say I did need a break. I've been trying for a couple of seasons to get to the top and haven't had a break, so it actually helped." In addition to the physical rehab, S'manga has also enlisted the help of sports psychologist Martin Scheepers to help keep him mentally focussed.

However, as always, it's the team at home that have kept him going. "I'm not from a racing background and always say it becomes a lot harder if you don't have your family behind you. I've had great support from friends like Muzi Yeni who spent a lot of hours with me, and my family who have been very supportive. You don't pull through if you don't get support."

Confidence boost

During his enforced break, S'manga has kept his eye in by following racing. "A lot of the big horses have been put away. Mr Tarry hasn't run as many horses as he has over the last 3 seasons and even ran less over the Cape season, so the horses are rested and will be coming back fit and well. When we sat down and spoke about the operation, to help make me comfortable with the decision, Mr Tarry gave me the opportunity of having my pick of the rides when I get back. That really helped, because I want to come back and still have a bit of confidence and to have that support helps a lot."

Back on Track

When does he hope to be back in the saddle? "Obviously training track fitness and race fitness are two different things. To start with, I'll come to track and do my work riding and within a week I should know if I'm ready. If it all goes according to plan, I would say by the first week of March I should be riding in races."

There are still a few weeks to go, but S'manga has had his stitches out, he is out of his knee brace and is off all medication. "I've got to try and feel where the problems are and you can't tell when you're on medication. I've been off everything for about a week now, so we'll see how we go. I've got a lot of appointments

with the biokineticist and the chiropractor before I get back to training and riding."

S'manga was gratified to hear how many emails and enquiries have come in asking where he's been and has promised his fans that it will have been worth the wait. "I'm feeling better, I've learnt a lot of new things and I promise I'll be back different and better than ever."

Greyville Poly Under Fire

"We have lost more meetings at Greyville since the polytrack was installed and the statistics suggest that it must rank near the top of the list of the world's least effective all-weather tracks."

KZN jockeys and trainers were up in arms after the abandonment of last Friday evening's Greyville racemeeting, labelling the situation a bad one for horseracing and yet another dent in owner and public confidence.

The official Stipes Report confirmed that shortly before the commencement of the race meeting, an electrical storm struck Greyville. Frequent lightning and a heavy downpour resulted in a delay to proceedings. With the lightning persisting and rain continuing to fall, and after a track inspection of the bend, the Panel formulated in terms of the Rules, abandoned the race meeting.

"Horses cost money to feed and train. We arrive here and racing is abandoned after a forty minute downpour. We understand that lightning is a threat. But then we get told that it's actually a maintenance issue and that they should have done major maintenance after three years. And now we are four years down the line and they are standing with their hands in their pockets. That's just not good enough," said a trainer.

"We are battling with small fields and losing money – and now they compound issues with a casual approach. There are puddles on the track. Those should be absorbed down through the layers and drain off. But they put the machinery on the track and the puddles then become indentations and the surface is uneven. If the Vets say the track is not good for horses, then it is a track with problems," added the trainer.

Peter Morrison of Martin Collins SA told the Sporting Post that he was not aware of why Friday's meeting had been abandoned but confirmed that the track was due for a 're-grade and level'.

"We undertake quarterly inspections of the track and we were there in January. We also met with a few jockeys who had recently raised concerns regarding the 'kick-back' and suggestions that the Polytrack was too 'soft'. Numerous samples from the track have been taken for analysis overseas and as it is now in the 3-5 year period the track could be due for a 'top-up'," he added.

The Greyville meeting scheduled for 14 February has been moved to Scottsville.

LOUW FLYER

Durbanville's Twilight Meeting

Horses, Car Parks & Picnics

With the Sun Met fading into the distance of our rearview mirrors, racing shifted to Durbanville for Saturday, 3 February 2018 and to add a bit of fun and spice (as well as to give folks a chance to get some shopping and a few chores done in the morning), the day was scheduled as a twilight meeting.

No matter which approach road one takes, the drive to Durbanville is a particularly scenic one, and having either travelled through the Durbanville wine route, over the winding Vissershok road or alternatively along Adderley Road, the short car trip is just long enough for the gentle rolling countryside to work its magic and almost without fail, one seems to roll into the gates in a positive frame of mind.

The weather was bright and sunny, but luckily not too hot and by the 3pm start, the worst of the day's heat was more or less gone, so all in all, it promised to be a great day out.

Crowds

I get rather excited to have to park away from the main gates as a full car park means spectators on course and last Saturday I had to park down near the manager's cottage – what a thrill!

Approaching from that end of the course also meant that I got to see the jumping castle – and instead of the standard construct, this weekend's one was in the form of racing lanes with toy horses for the children to race down – which was a nice touch in keeping with the day. There were also glitter tattoos as well as sand art on offer to keep the little ones occupied, plus a table of toys for sale. However, there is seldom much to beat a good old fashioned ball and a group of boys put the lawn space to good use.

Luella Robinson had worked hard to round up support and there were so many lovely people that one seldom encounters at the races, but really should. Folks such as physio extraordinaire Shannon Petiteaud, representatives from the local tack shops, Western Shoppe and Tack Shack in particular – all of whom found it interesting, but wanted to know why the day hadn't been better advertised.

Fish where the fish are

As one of those things that make me go 'hmm', it led me to wondering why, if racing is a horse sport, we do not appeal first and foremost to other horse people? And if it follows that one should fish where the fish are, how is it possible we not advertise in local tack shops to let other horse folks know what we're up to?

I took one such horsey friend to the New Year's day

meeting at Durbanville this year. As she is better at social media than I am, she posted a photo of our outing, tagging her location. My friend happens to have grown up in the area, but now lives in Johannesburg. However, she obviously still has friends and contacts in the Cape and it was interesting to see the response to her Facebook post, with most of her horsey friends expressing surprise that she'd gone racing on their doorstep while they weren't even aware there was a meeting happening. Food for thought?

Entertainment

The South African Association of Professional Farriers had come along for the day and hosted a farriery competition, adding activity and chat while they honed their craft.

A large Bedouin tent stretched the shade over the concourse area, and with additional tables and chairs arranged blow, turned the usually rather drab and uninviting area into a lovely, user-friendly space. The day's live band, the all girl duo of Natalie Mostert and Belinda Prinsloo, who perform together as Twixx, not only worked their socks off all afternoon, they also actively helped promote the event via their social media platforms. Better yet, they were not only good behind the mics, but were obviously well briefed and incredibly courteous in ensuring they did not perform during the canter downs or racing.

Buzz

The upstairs members area as well as the deck was jam packed and downstairs was buzzing too. The kiosk kept the foot traffic fed and watered and for those who like something a little stronger with their water, the Drifter Brewing Company were there with ice cold beer on tap as well as Gin & Tonics. There was a good knot of people around the parade ring all day and even spectators to shout home our horses from the rail – what fun!

The other lovely attraction of Durbanville is that you almost always bump into old friends and Saturday was no exception. Jacqui and Victor Hodgkinson and Peter Bedford from the old Cape Hunt days were there, and even a celebrity in the form of Mark Sutherland and his family, who had come out for a day's racing.

There were family groups camped out on the lawns and even people sitting in the old grandstand.

Racing

The racing was good – with several longer distance events, it offered a spectacle for visitors as hors-



HORSES, CAR PARKS & PICNICS

es passed the stands twice and there were plenty of competitive finishes as well. With a lot of the season's feature runners enjoying a break before heading to Durban, it was a chance for some of our smaller yards to shine and congratulations to the Adam Marcus yard in particular for a nice double on the day. Apprentices Louis Burke and Sandile Mbhele got some mileage under their belts, while our senior jockeys ensured competitive racing.

Picnic

One of my favourite spots for the day was Fran and Walter Cowe's car park picnic. While a little more relaxed than the Ascot equivalent, it was marvellous nevertheless and a great, fun addition that should definitely be considered as an offering going forward. I think it could really catch on!

Better yet, part of their party was Margaret Louw from Maine Chance Farm, who had come along for the day's outing and relayed a rather fun story. During his international campaign, a young Silvano had been accompanied by a girl named Bianca Wächter, who ended up travelling the world by his side. As Bianca still stays in contact with Dr Jacobs and Silvano via Gestut Fahrhof, the realisation that Silvano was turning 22 prompted her to book a trip to South Africa to visit her old friend and she spent a few days on the farm with Silvano last week. Bianca had come racing on Saturday, so I got to meet her.

Horses and People

Silvano is famously kind and gentle now, but I was curious to know what he was like during his racing days and Bianca kindly shared the following story.

When Silvano travelled to Hong Kong for the 2000 Gr1 Hong Kong Gold Vase, they arrived in the very early hours of the morning. Protocol requirements dictated that the Hong Kong authorities needed to obtain a urine sample before Bianca was allowed to leave his side. On arrival, Bianca explained that Silvano had relieved himself on the transport vehicle on the way over and would therefore be unable to supply a sample immediately. She asked to be allowed to go to her hotel for a rest, a shower and a change of clothes and get the sample for them in the morning, but the Hong Kong authorities held fast. Rules were rules and she had to stay with the horse until their sample had been collected. With no alternative, she bedded down in Silvano's stable for the night to ensure that she'd be on hand at the appropriate moment. Bearing in mind that Silvano was a 4yo entire at the time, had endured a stressful journey and been landed in a strange environment, Bianca says that he took it all in his stride.

She spent the night sleeping in the stable with him and says even though he got up and down a few times during the night, he was always incredibly careful to make sure not to stand on her. "I would not have done it with any other horse, but I knew I could trust Silvano."

From Hong Kong, the pair set off to conquer the world, travelling to Singapore to win the Singapore Cup and then on to international feats in Dubai, his Arlington Million victory in the USA and even Australia. It is a mark of just how incredibly special this horse is that he still inspires such love and loyalty for his friend to travel half way across the world to see him all these years later. But Silvano seems to have that effect on people. When Monty Roberts came to visit South Africa in 2016, he also made sure to set aside an afternoon of his hectic schedule to pay Silvano a visit, commemorated by that beautiful photo by Jeremy Nelson.

Our little chat under the Durbanville sunshine served as a timely reminder how very lucky we are to have this special horse and that we should enjoy and celebrate him while we can.

As Les Carlyon so aptly wrote, "This is what makes racing interesting – horses and people. These are the only things in racing worth writing about. The rest is dross." How right he was.

Marwing Heads For Mauritius

Former SA champion jockey Weichong Marwing, who rode a smart double at Turffontein on Saturday before being stood down, will ride for the Gilbert Rousset yard in the forthcoming 2018 Mauritius racing season.



Weichong Marwing | HamishNIV-EN Photography

One of our most accomplished and experienced jockeys, Marwing rode on the island for the former Koon Stable in 1991 and also at the international meetings of 1997, 2006 and 2007.

The 47 year old was SA Champion Jockey in 1996/7 and rode 6 winners on the Turffontein card on 1 January 1992 – a feat he repeated at the Vaal on 8 April 2004.

He rode champion filly Irridescence to victory over the great Ouija Board in the 2006 Queen Elizabeth II Cup at Sha Tin Hong Kong. In 2007 he won his second United Arab Emirates Derby at Nad Al Sheba Racecourse aboard the Mike de Kock-trained Asiatic Boy, a horse he says is the best he has ever ridden.

The veteran Rousset has been training for 30 years and was champion in all of 1987, 2009-11, 2013, 2016, and was champion last year with 40 winners.



1-2
Gr3 Three Troikas S.
Turffontein, 3 February
Fish River
for trainer Mike de Kock
San Fermin
for trainers
MG & AA Azzie



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UPCOMING BSA SALES

SHONGWENI MIXED SALE

**13 February
Shongweni Polo Grounds
11:00**

CAPE YEARLING SALE

**25 February
Mistico Estate
13:00**

*Catalogues
available online*

Source Of Champions



SURCHARGE

***R200 000 National Yearling Sales Graduate
Gr3 TONY RUFFEL STAKES
WINNER***

***Stakes Earned: R429,625
+ BSA Value Added R87 500***

ARCTICA

***R225 000 National Yearling Sales
Graduate***

***Listed Wolf Power Handicap
WINNER***

Stakes Earned: R557,150

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 4 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
Bishop's Bounty	4	c	50	1
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
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
Brutal Force	6	c	28	1
Fort Ember	5	f	28	1
Attenborough	4	c	28	1
Will Pays	6	c	26	2
Pagoda	4	c	26	1
Coral Fever	5	c	26	1
Our Mate Art	4	c	25	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
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

12844 On The Board...

A New World Record Looms!

It took Brazilian jockey Jorge Ricardo 41 years to equal the world record of 12844 wins, a feat he achieved on a wet Monday this week at Rio de Janeiro's Hipodromo race track.

The world record is held by his career-long and now retired Canadian rival Russell Baze.

The achievement is unlikely to be matched, much less bettered any time soon as there is no other jockey in the world who has even reached 10 000 wins.

The 56-year-old, who has been racing since he was 15, cried and raised his fist aloft. Well-wishers, family and journalists mobbed the rider and the sweat- and rain-streaked winning horse Jubileia.

Although based in Argentina, Ricardo came to his native Rio on Sunday, needing only three wins to equal Baze's record. Riding seven races he won twice, and on Monday evening he rode six more before hitting the magic number.

Now he will return to seek that record-breaking 12845th win in front of his Argentinian fans.

He estimates having ridden 70 000 races and has never taken a long holiday. "I never had much time for vacations. I took a week, occasionally two," he said. "My life has always been about horse racing."

The duel between Ricardo and Baze for that top spot was a relentless, slow motion contest with few, if any equivalents in sport. For about 15 years they shadowed each other, one reaching the 10 000 mark first, then the other 11 000 and so on.

Asked what bones he has broken over his career, Ricardo needed to pause and think, before calling himself "half-bionic" and coming up with this list: collarbone, humerus, maxilla, shoulder blade, elbow, finger, rib.

"It's a very risky profession," he said. "You fight with your body. Sometimes you're lucky, sometimes not."

As well as the sheer battering, Ricardo has been sick with lymphoma, and even he admits that 56 "is not a normal age for a jockey."

Ricardo's wife Renata Teixeira, 42, said he was a loving but often "absent" father and that their children "although feeling proud, miss him."

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)
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)
Fri 16 March	(L) Sprint Cup 1200m Fairview (T)
Sat 17 March	(L) Drum Star Hcp 1800m Turffontein (I)
Fri 23 March	(L) Fillies Nursery (2yoF) 1200m Fairview (T)
Sun 25 March	Gr3 Kings Cup 1600m Greyville (T)

Phumelela Shareprice

date	close	high	low	volume
7Feb	1650	1650	1650	7,527
6Feb	1650	1700	1500	1,576
5Feb	1650	1650	1650	17,751
2Feb	1650	1650	1650	1,250
1Feb	1700	1700	1700	1,340
31Jan	1724	1725	1630	5,646
30Jan	1630	1720	1630	279
29Jan	1662	1690	1635	1,129
26Jan	1724	1724	1724	0
25Jan	1724	1725	1724	3,483
24Jan	1750	1750	1750	0
23Jan	1750	1750	1696	8,050
22Jan	1699	1730	1699	1,063,908
19Jan	1750	1750	1750	350
18Jan	1700	1720	1700	24,696

Short Heads

Title Odds

Reigning champion Anthony Delpuch reached his century mark of winners at Turffontein on Saturday and is now over 30 winners ahead of his nearest rival on the national jockey table. He is hot favourite on Hollywoodbets to lift the title for the second consecutive year.

S'manga Khumalo, who was champion in 2013/14 and 2015/16, is as much as 100-1 on the Hollywood betting boards, but some patriotic Capetonians may prefer the in-form Grant Van Niekerk at 75-1.



So Noble!

Rathmor Stud stallion Noble Tune got off the mark at Scottsville last Wednesday when the Kumaran Naidoo-trained Awesomely Tuned won at her third start. The good looking filly was bred by S Bunwarie and is out of the three-time winning Cataloochee mare, Awesome Beauty. The first son of Undbridled's Song to stand here, Noble Tune a half-brother to dual Gr1 winner Honor Code, and stood his first season in 2014. His first crop are now 2yo's. Bred on the cross of Fappiano x Storm Cat that produced 2015 Triple Crown winner, American Pharoah, Noble Tune's sire-line is unique to the South African studbook as Fappiano is now considered a new branch of the Mr Prospector sire-line. He stands at Rathmor for a fee of R25 000.

No Dole Yet Poor Frankie Dettori has become the latest casualty of the financial problems engulfing Al Shaqab Racing, with his six-figure contract with the Qatari conglomerate being halved in value. It was revealed last month that the operation — run by Sheikh Joaan al-Thani, the brother of the emir of Qatar — owed more than £1 million in unpaid fees to a number of Britain's leading Flat racing trainers. Peter Burrell, Dettori's agent, confirmed that the contract has been amended to reflect Al Shaqab's shift in emphasis to France.

Dream Team

A big January has the partnership of Joao Moreira and John Size on target for their best return ever. The original Hong Kong Dream Team jockey trainer combo of Douglas Whyte and Size set the current record for most wins when they racked up 54 wins together in 2009-10.

Not Funny Anymore

They say 'it's about the rush!' And where to find all the latest news about horseracing. The Racing It's a Rush website — itsarush.co.za — must know something we don't. The Sun Met hasn't happened yet and Usain Bolt is still daring South Africans to celebrate their next victory. Roll on 1 April!



New Highlands stallion Canford Cliffs smart son Cliff's Edge is the new favourite for the Gr1 Australian Guineas after an emphatic win in the Gr3 Manfred Stakes over 1200m at Caulfield on Saturday. On a great stakes winning day for Highlands new stallion, Cliff's Edge's victory came hours ahead of the facile win by his daughter Fish River for Mike de Kock at Turffontein in the Gr3 Three Troikas Stakes. His trainer Darren Weir has the Sydney carnival in his sights with Cliff's Edge, who he believes is best at 2000m.

Bakkies Scrums Down

Aggressive riding in an effort to obtain a clear run in the fourth race at Durbanville on Saturday landed a caution from the Stipes for jockey MJ 'Bakkies' Byleveld. At about the 500m Byleveld's mount The Silva Fox shifted out to obtain a clear run on the outside of Black Pimpinel and in the process brushed So It Begins. The knock-on effects of that drew the Stipes attention.

Heads Up?

The Stipes don't miss anything. They fined SA's most senior trainer Ormond Ferraris R2000 on 24 January under rule 58.9.2- for failing to ensure that six individuals, whilst riding horses in his care, wore a serviceable skull cap of a type approved by the Chief Executive.



GIVE IN THE GROUND?

A New Zealand racetrack has been flooded by a super tide described by witnesses as a 'tsunami'. The Westport Trotting track, which is due to stage a meeting next month, was completely flooded by water from a nearby lagoon after a combination of a super moon king tide and a huge storm. And while 95% of the facility was submerged, there are no plans to cancel the upcoming meeting.

Sanshaawes Goes Again

This evening's fifth meeting of the 2018 Dubai World Cup Carnival at Meydan Racecourse is a quality one with three feature races on dirt, as well as the Meydan Classic Trial on the turf.



Mike de Kock | Hamish NIVEN
Photography

Mike de Kock has just one runner in the evergreen Sanshaawes, who lines up in the final event of the evening, the Reach By Gulf News Handicap over 2000m.

The master trainer was very pleased with the second place achieved by Silvano's son Janoobi in last Thursday night's Gr2 Al Fahidi Fort over 1400m at Meydan.

SA bred Janoobi was only outpaced late by Jungle Cat and Mike said: "He

didn't spit out the dummy, he kept trying. I was disappointed when he finished 15 lengths off on his Dubai debut but as we noted we've been racing them fit and he's come on a ton since his first start. We'll race him over 1600m on turf next."

Noah From Goa finished a further four lengths back in fifth and Mike said: "He ran within a pound of D'Bai, who beat him last time, so he ran more or less to form. He needs more ground now, a mile and possibly 1800m."

Light The Lights managed another stake cheque in the Al Rashidiya over 1800m on turf, but Al Sahem faded out to last, beaten 12 lengths. Mike assessed: "When my horses are out of a race and can't win I don't like them getting hard ridden to finish a length two closer.

"Al Sahem needed it, he was blowing so hard afterwards he almost blew me over. Like Janoobi, he should improve several lengths on this showing." [Find your Meydan racecard here](#)

Snaith Stars Aimed At KZN

After discussions with owners Jack Mitchell, Gaynor Rupert and the Drakenstein Stud team, there are no plans for the Snaith Met day Gr1 stars to embark on an international campaign at this stage.

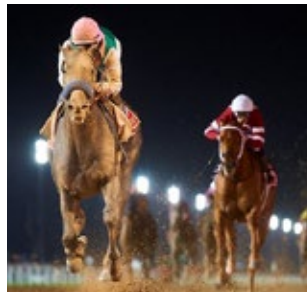
Jono Snaith confirmed that export plans were off the table until progress on South Africa's export protocol had been achieved. Both Oh Susanna and Snowdance are to be rested and will then begin preparation for the Durban season. Snowdance will not be entered for the July but she will be aimed at the Gr1 Garden Province Stakes.

The programme for Met winner Oh Susanna is still under discussion with Drakenstein Stud. While she will be entered for the July, a definite decision will only be taken after the Gr1 Woolavington Stakes.

For those with an interest in the Hollywood July ante post market, the Snaiths have suggested African Night Sky, who did not incur a penalty for his Met run and will come into the July on 53kgs, as well as Gr1 Investec Cape Derby runner up, Do It Again, as possibles.

D-Day: 31 March!

Nominations for the \$10,000,000 Gr1 Dubai World Cup sponsored by Emirates Airline closed on 11 January with 136 of the globe's premier Thoroughbreds.



Arrogate

Scheduled for 31 March, the 2000m dirt fixture has been won by such superstar champions as Cigar, Dubai Millennium, Invasor, Curlin, California Chrome and Arrogate.

In 2018, nominations for the Dubai World Cup include American champions West Coast and Forever Unbridled, as well as Breeders' Cup Turf (G1) winner Talismanic,

Japan's Champions Cup (G1) winner Gold Dream and the previous two winners of the Jockey Club Gold Cup (G1), Diversify and Hoppertunity. Other G1-winning nominees of note include Thunder Snow, Apollo Kentucky and Seeking the Soul, while top-class G2-winning athletes Gunnevera, Second Summer and Good Samaritan add significant depth.

International luminaries are abundant in the nominations for the nine-race, \$30-million card – the richest day on the global racing calendar. The \$6,000,000 Longines Dubai Sheema Classic (G1) over 2410m on turf is topped by champion Cracksman, the world's top-rated 3-year-old of 2017, as well as Japan Cup (G1) winner Cheval Grand and G1 winner Cloth of Stars, while the \$6,000,000 Dubai Turf sponsored by DP World (G1) over 1800m attracted the world's top-rated horse in training, Australian superstar Winx, a daughter of Dubai World Cup winner Street Cry, as well as champion World Approval and last year's winner Vivlos.

The card's two sprints showcase some of the fastest horses on the planet. The \$2,000,000 Dubai Golden Shaheen sponsored by Gulf News (G1) over 1200m on dirt is topped by defending champion Mind Your Biscuits, Breeders' Cup Sprint (G1) winner Roy H and Centenary Sprint Cup (G1) winner D B Pin, while the \$1,000,000 Al Quoz Sprint sponsored by Azizi Developments (G1) over 1200m on turf features defending champion The Right Man, British Champions Sprint (G1) winner Librisa Breeze and UAE's top-rated horse, Ertijaal.

A pair of Group 2 events, each worth \$1,000,000, respectively boast strong global intrigue. The Dubai Gold Cup sponsored by Al Tayer Motors, a 3200m turf marathon, attracted three-time G1 winner and two-time defending champion Vazirabad, as well as Big Orange and Torcedor, while the Godolphin Mile sponsored by Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum City – District One, over a 1600m on the dirt, includes Cigar Mile (G1) winner Sharp Azteca, as well as Kafuji Take and Accelerate.

The \$2,000,000 UAE Derby sponsored by The Saeed & Mohammed Al Naboodah Group (G2) sees such rising stars as Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf (G1) winner Mendelssohn, Japanese stakes winner Don Fortis and G2 winner Untamed Domain, a son of Dubai World Cup winner Animal Kingdom. At 1900m on dirt, the UAE Derby offers its winner 100 Road to the Kentucky Derby points, which can lead to a start in that American classic.

Dubai Racing Club received 1,412 nominations for 739 horses from 20 countries. [View the nominations here](#)

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

BREEDING

Classical Shadows

Both Arctica (Captain Al) and Surcharge (Gimmethegreenlight), winners of Saturday's Listed Wolf Power 1600 and Gr3 Tony Ruffel Stakes, hail from powerful European classic families.

Arctica is out of the mare Little Grey Wolf, whose sire, Indian Ridge is an excellent broodmare sire, with his daughters having produced at least 90 stakes winners.

Indian Ridge, who died in 2006, is broodmare sire of Gr1 winners Wilko (Breeders' Cup Juvenile), Dancing Rain (Epsom, German Oaks), Reel Buddy (Sussex Stakes), Charming Thought (Middle Park Stakes), Profitable (King's Stand Stakes), Dolniya (Dubai Sheema Classic), Excelebration (QE II Stakes and sire of Gr1 winner, Barney Roy), Nighttime (Irish 1000 Gns and dam of Gr1 winner, Zhukova), Desert Blanc (Manhattan Hcp), Halfway To Heaven (Irish 1000 Guineas and dam of Gr1 winner, Rhododendron), Nahoodh (Falmouth S), and Kingsgate Native (Nunthorpe Stakes).

Indian Ridge is also sire of the important broodmare, Kangra Valley, dam of Gr1 winning sprinters Airwave (Salse) and Jwala (Oasis Dream), and Kangra Valley is also the third dam of champion, Churchill, and his Gr1 Cheveley Park Stakes winning own sister, Clemmie. The latter made history when becoming the first daughter of Galileo to win a Gr1 feature over 1200m.

Power Pedigree

Little Grey Wolf was not among her sire's best daughters on the track, only making one appearance. However, what she lacked in racing record, she more than made up for in pedigree. Little Grey Wolf was half-sister to stakes winner Cold Cold Woman and the Gr1 performer, Robin Hood, and is granddam of Irish 1000 Guineas winner, Arctique Royale, the ancestress of numerous high class racehorses the world over.

Arctique Royale (Royal And Regal) was an excellent broodmare, producing four group winners to the cover of three different stallions, with her best runner perhaps being Irish Oaks second, Russian Snows (Sadler's Wells). Her Musidora Stakes winning dam, Arctic Melody (Arctic Slave), is also second dam of dual Gold Cup winner and Arc de Triomphe runner-up, Ardross (Run The Gauntlet). Not only was Ardross regarded as one of the century's great stayers, but the gallant bay was voted Europe's (and Britain's) Horse Of The Year in 1982, sadly an honour almost unheard of these days. His wins included 13 pattern races, with Ardross going down by a head in the 1982 Arc de Triomphe.

Other high class recent performers descended from Arctic Melody include Irish Oaks winner and increasingly successful broodmare, Moonstone (Dalakhani), whose Frankel colt, Nelson, won the Gr3 Juvenile Stakes in Ireland last year. Moonstone is also dam of disappointing Investec Derby runner up, US Army Ranger (Galileo), and three other stakes winners. Ill-fated Dubai World Cup winner, Electrocutonist (Red Ransom), French Gr1 winner, Cerulean Sky (Darshaan) and 2017 Prix Marcel Bousac winner, Wild Illusion (Dubawi) are other notable performers de-



Surcharge | JC Photos

scended from this important tap-root.

Members of this family have enjoyed success in many spheres, ranging from Royal Ascot to Mexico, and the likes of Nelson can well ensure that further success comes the way of Arctic Melody and her descendants.

Top Family

The very promising, Surcharge, is another from an outstanding family, associated with the late Baron Howard de Walden. A winner of five of his seven starts thus far, Surcharge is directly descended from one of the finest mares in the British stud book in the form of No Angel (Nasrullah). The latter, whose son, Young Lochnivar (Elopement), was a leading sire in India, has had a significant impact through her daughters, with No Angel's influence

continuing to be felt today.

De Walden purchased champion filly, Soft Angels (a granddaughter of Surcharge's fifth dam, No Angel) and Soft Angels went on to produce Doubly Sure, dam of champions and top class stallions, Kris and Diesis (both by Sharpen Up). Both Kris (Champion Sire in 1985 in Britain) and Diesis (sire of three Epsom Oaks winners) have had considerable influence on the stud book. Between them, Kris and Diesis have sired five Epsom Oaks winners (Kris is also damsire of Oaks winner Moonshell), and a total of more than 160 stakes winners. Both are outstanding broodmare sires (Kris is damsire of leading sires, Kodiak and Invincible Spirit, among others), while Diesis' five time Gr1 winning son, Halling, proved a decent sire in his own right, with Halling's offspring including 50 stakes winners, headed by Irish Derby hero, Jack Hobbs. Diesis sired Richmond/Champagne Stakes winner, Daggars Drawn (subsequently a Gr1 sire in New Zealand) from No Angel's descendant, Sun And Shade, making the chestnut inbred to No Angel.

River Keen

Keen, a less distinguished full brother to Diesis and Kris, also made his mark at stud, as the sire of multiple Gr1 winner, River Keen, and SA Australian Oaks winner, Gamine. The latter produced a daughter, Elfenjer, dam of South African champion and Gr1 Dubai Sheema Classic heroine, Sun Classique.

The No Angel family has also enjoyed much other success locally, thanks to the likes of Count Dubois, sire of champions Asylum Seeker, Edict Of Nantes, and French Navy, and the graded stakes winners, Captain's Wild and Coltrane. No Angel is the fifth dam of Gran Criterium winner, Count Dubois (Zafonic), and she rates as sixth dam of Coltrane (Giant's Causeway) and fourth dam of Gr2 Colorado King Stakes winner, Captain's Wild (Captain Al). Former Guineas runner up, Havasha (Kahal), is another smart local performer descended from No Angel.

Count Dubois's half-brother, Indian Haven (Indian Ridge), provided the family with more classic success when he won the 2003 Irish 2000 Guineas, while multiple group winner, Imperial Stride (a ¾ brother to Indian Haven), like Count Dubois, was retired to stud in South Africa, where his runners include Gr3 Spring Spree Stakes winner, Will Pays.

A Great Cause

The Horses For Causes race-day will take place at Kenilworth on

Saturday. One of the highlights on the Cape racing calendar, the day is set to raise funds for all of The Chaeli Campaign, the JAG Foundation, the JP21 Project, Sporting Chance, the Lucky Lucy Foundation, the Cart Horse Protection Association, the SA Grooms School Trust, Kronendal Music Academy, Masicorp, the GCBDT, the SA Jockey Academy and Thrive!

The theme for the day is Bohemian Blue and will offer patrons a mixture of high class dining, fashion, music, various hospitality options –and some outstanding horse-racing.

Local breeders can also benefit from attending this wonderful event, with services to proven and promising stallions Coup De Grace, Duke Of Marmalade, Elusive Fort, Futura, Master Of My Fate, Querari, Pathfork, Philanthropist, Twice Over, Visionaire, What A Winter, and William Longsword set to be offered after the running of race six. Successful bidders will have until June 30th to pay for their purchases.

For information contact Tracy at info@horsesforcauses.org.za
Tickets: R700 (Kenilworth Room) / R850 (Peninsula Room), are available online at www.horsesforcauses.org.za



Jooste Colt Breaks Europe Record

The Markus Jooste and China Horse Club owned 2,000 Guineas and Derby prospect Willie John became the highest priced colt in training ever sold in Europe at public auction when knocked down to Roger Varian for 1,900,000 guineas on the second day of the Tattersalls February Sale last Friday.

The result pushed turnover for the sale into record territory for the fourth year in succession, with the 299 lots sold realising a total of 8,037,150 guineas, up 40% on last year. The average of 26,880 guineas was also a record whilst the median came in at 7,000 guineas.

Willie John had impressed many with his victory on debut at Yarmouth and with a pedigree to drool over and Classic dreams very alive, it was no surprise to see the Tattersalls ring swell with potential suitors. Oliver St Lawrence kicked off the bidding at 200,000 guineas and with trainer Ed Dunlop, the pair traded blows, taking the price towards seven figures. Newsells Park Stud's Julian Dollar soon joined the fray along with agents Anthony Stroud, Hugo Lascelles and Ed Sackville as the price raced past 1,000,000 guineas. Cheveley Park Stud's Chris Richardson soon joined in the battle to secure the colt as did trainer Roger Varian with the latter proving successful at 1,900,000 guineas.

"He is for Sheikh Mohammed Obaid," said Varian. "He already has a Dubawi from the family and he identified this colt as one that he would like – we were very happy to do the steering."

Willie John is by Dansili out of the dual Gr1 winner Izzi Top and from the Meon Valley family of Zee Zee Top, Kayf Tara, Opera House and Necklace. He was purchased at Book 1 of the 2016 October Yearling Sale for 325,000 guineas and raced for the China Horse Club and Markus Jooste. He was consigned to the February Sale by William Haggas' Somerville Lodge.

AGM - KZN BREEDERS CLUB

The KZN Breeders Club AGM will take place on Tuesday 6 March at 11h00 at the Nottingham Road Hotel. An Agenda and nominations / resignations of Directors and the finalised Annual Financial Statements will be advised in due course.

Contact Candiese Marnewick for copies of the draft Annual Financial Statements and Previous Minutes.

Please RSVP to candiesemarnewick@gmail.com

Inglis – State Of The Art

There was a touch of the old and a lot of new about the Inglis Riverside Stables which were opened by Stuart Ayers, the Minister for Western Sydney, at Warwick Farm on Monday.

The new \$140 million complex will become the centre for selling thoroughbreds in the country and will hold its first sale from Saturday. The Inglis sales company dates back to 1867.

[Read more here](#)

Reminder - Mixed Sale

A reminder that 129 lots will come under the hammer at the BSA Shongweni Mixed Sale to be held at the picturesque Shongweni polo grounds on Tuesday 13 February at 11h00.

This includes a 14 strong Mayfair Speculators draft with some nicely bred fillies and well-performed geldings of the likes of More Than Ready son Lloyd's Legacy, a three-time winner.

Call 031 303 1017 for enquiries or go to www.bsa.co.za –supplementary catalogue now available!

Ascot Stallion **Bold Silvano**

BSA Cape Yearling Sale, 25 February
2 Bold Silvano fillies

#8 Grandam own sister to Bold Saffron, dam of Bold Silvano
25 From the Senor Santa family



LEADING BREEDERS by STAKES

SEASON 2017/2018 • 1 August - 4 February 2018

Table with 14 columns: Stakes, Breeder, rnr, AEPR, runs, wnrs, wns, wn/rnr%, SW wnrs, SW wns, SW wn/rnr%, plcs, plc/rns%, SP, top earner with stakes & % of total stakes.

LEADING SIREs by STAKES

SEASON 2017/2018 • 1 August - 4 February 2018

Table with 14 columns: Stakes, Sire, rnr, AEPR, runs, wnrs, wns, wn/rnr%, SW wnrs, SW wns, SW wn/rnr%, plcs, plc/rns%, SP, top earner with stakes & % of total stakes.

LEADING SIREs of 3YO'S by STAKES

SEASON 2017/2018 • 1 August - 4 February 2018

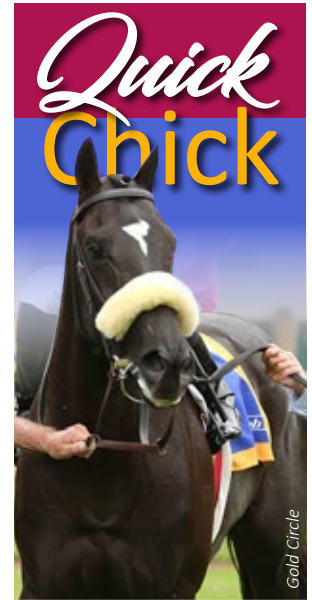
Table with 14 columns: Stakes, Sire, rnr, AEPR, runs, wnrs, wns, wn/rnr%, SW wnrs, SW wns, SW wn/rnr%, plcs, plc/rns%, SP, top earner with stakes & % of total stakes.

LEADING SIREs of 2YO'S by STAKES

SEASON 2017/2018 • 1 August - 4 February 2018

Table with 14 columns: Stakes, Sire, rnr, AEPR, runs, wnrs, wns, wn/rnr%, SW wnrs, SW wns, SW wn/rnr%, plcs, plc/rns%, SP, top earner with stakes & % of total stakes.

The FULL Statistics ONLINE http://www.sportingpost.co.za/horse-racing-statistics/ *Stallion dead or Retired **Stallion Not Standing in RSA **Breeding operations not based in RSA - Statistics for Breeders & Sires reflect ALL earnings, incl. restricted races & handicap races



A granddaughter of the 2000 Gr2 Gauteng Fillies Guineas winner Dog Rose (Fort Wood – Lady Shirley Bird) caught the eye at Scottsville on Sunday when she made it two-from-two with an aggregate of over 7 lengths, accounting for the colts in an impressive win.

Doug Campbell trains the speedy Var filly Val-La-Ree, who looks well bought at R150 000 off the 2017 KZN Yearling Sale.

The daughter of Irish-bred Colchium is a first foal that was bred in partnership between Hallmark Thoroughbreds and Hadlow Stud. Dog Rose daughter Colchium is by Elnadim (Danzig) and is the dam of Black-Type Smart Colleen who placed in the Listed Stormsvlei. Colchium has also produced 6-time Hong Kong winner, Flying Comfort (Travel Comfort), as well as two other winners.

The Murrizfontein-bred Dog Rose produced Gr3 winner Saluki (GB) by Dubai Destination. The third dam is Lady Shirley Bird – this female line has produced Kestrel, Banbury, Colonial Girl and Pure Platinum.



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LEADING TRAINERS by STAKES

SEASON 2017/2018 • 1 August - 4 February 2018

trainer	runs	wins	win %	fav	fav %	wfav %	2nd	2nd %	1st four	1st four%	stakes	stks/ runs
J Snaith	681	100	15%	119	17%	34%	76	11%	303	44%	18,071,675	26,537
C Bass-Robinson	536	63	12%	67	13%	31%	44	8%	225	42%	11,409,325	21,286
SG Tarry	623	49	8%	79	13%	22%	61	10%	226	36%	11,123,600	17,855
BJ Crawford	387	52	13%	66	17%	29%	48	12%	177	46%	9,367,075	24,204
MF de Kock	383	66	17%	123	32%	35%	47	12%	203	53%	7,101,925	18,543
PA Peter	323	52	16%	61	19%	33%	28	9%	139	43%	5,048,138	15,629
GS Kotzen	462	47	10%	50	11%	30%	39	8%	169	37%	4,972,825	10,764
AG Greeff	502	65	13%	98	20%	32%	70	14%	247	49%	4,638,175	9,239
MG & AA Azzie	268	34	13%	48	18%	23%	42	16%	121	45%	4,313,425	16,095
D Kannemeyer	241	34	14%	43	18%	44%	31	13%	105	44%	4,208,700	17,463
DR Drier	284	37	13%	58	20%	34%	35	12%	138	49%	4,038,313	14,219
DC Howells	306	36	12%	54	18%	31%	37	12%	134	44%	3,670,350	11,995
AG Laird	231	33	14%	52	23%	37%	28	12%	100	43%	3,639,925	15,757
J Ramsden	293	32	11%	45	15%	29%	36	12%	123	42%	3,593,250	12,264
GD Smith	599	38	6%	37	6%	30%	62	10%	211	35%	3,272,375	5,463
Y Bremner	391	45	12%	44	11%	23%	34	9%	169	43%	3,190,700	8,160

LEADING JOCKEYS by WINS

SEASON 2017/2018 • 1 August - 4 February 2018

jockey	rides	wins	win %	fav	fav %	wfav %	2nd	2nd %	1st four	1st four%	stakes	stks/ rides
A Delpech	402	105	26%	161	40%	39%	69	17%	259	64%	11,079,238	27,560
L Hewitson	716	77	11%	81	11%	26%	77	11%	301	42%	7,748,188	10,821
A Domeyer	354	69	19%	107	30%	35%	41	12%	208	59%	6,553,525	18,513
M Yeni	661	68	10%	106	16%	25%	66	10%	297	45%	6,220,626	9,411
K De Melo	573	67	12%	79	14%	33%	63	11%	264	46%	6,614,450	11,544
A Marcus	272	64	24%	128	47%	34%	44	16%	163	60%	7,204,288	26,486
C Murray	463	62	13%	89	19%	34%	56	12%	200	43%	5,307,050	11,462
G Wrogemann	518	61	12%	57	11%	37%	57	11%	226	44%	6,703,238	12,941
G v Niekerk	289	60	21%	55	19%	29%	41	14%	174	60%	15,046,725	52,065
G Cheyne	396	59	15%	88	22%	31%	59	15%	222	56%	5,366,600	13,552
R Fourie	357	59	17%	79	22%	29%	46	13%	184	52%	5,874,425	16,456
G Lerena	262	54	21%	99	38%	32%	49	19%	157	60%	5,395,513	20,593
C Zackey	574	49	9%	51	9%	22%	52	9%	217	38%	5,007,788	8,724
R Munger	646	44	7%	23	4%	39%	41	6%	203	31%	3,713,700	5,749
P Stridom	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
K Zechner	514	42	8%	40	8%	15%	53	10%	201	39%	3,979,613	7,742

LEADING TRAINERS/JOCKEYS by WINS %

SEASON 2017/2018 • 1 August - 4 February 2018

trainer/jockey	runs	wins	win %	fav	fav %	wfav %	2nd	2nd %	stakes	stks/ runs
MF de Kock/A Delpech	78	27	35%	39	50%	49%	11	14%	2,714,350	34,799
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 Delpech	68	19	28%	31	46%	45%	15	22%	1,874,725	27,569
J Snaith/G v Niekerk	103	28	27%	26	25%	35%	16	16%	8,209,850	79,707
LW Goosen/G Wrogemann	74	18	24%	17	23%	41%	14	19%	1,657,725	22,402
AC Greeff/A Domeyer	52	12	23%	24	46%	38%	7	13%	684,200	13,158
MF de Kock/C Murray	111	24	22%	48	43%	33%	14	13%	2,026,025	18,252
J Snaith/B Fayd'herbe	142	30	21%	38	27%	32%	16	11%	5,494,100	38,691
G v Zyl/W Kennedy	78	16	21%	14	18%	50%	12	15%	1,152,025	14,770
ML Roberts/A Arries	47	10	21%	7	15%	14%	3	6%	638,625	13,588
AC Greeff/G Cheyne	185	37	20%	64	35%	31%	41	22%	2,589,500	13,997
J Snaith/R Fourie	74	15	20%	24	32%	33%	10	14%	1,181,425	15,965
M Dixon/B Lerena	50	10	20%	6	12%	83%	4	8%	854,950	17,099
RR Sage/M Yeni	51	10	20%	6	12%	83%	2	4%	1,106,975	21,705

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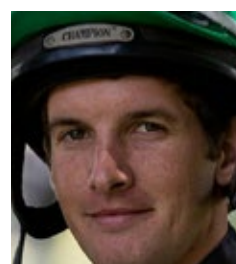
Adam Marcus saddled a holiday double on Saturday

| Gold Circle

Sun Break

Young Milnerton conditioner Adam Marcus saddled his 10th winner of the season when Greg Cheyne won the 7th at Durbanville on Saturday on Amazingly. While Adam was sunning it on a well-deserved break in Mauritius, his Dad Basil saddled his winning double – he also won the 1st on Jeovana- at the twilight meeting.

We'd have to go far to find a more capable assistant to leave in charge of the yard than the multiple international champion rider.



Anthony Andrews is working hard this season

| HamishNIVEN Photography

Ant Music

Anthony Andrews continues to grow in confidence since winning the Gr2 Peninsula Handicap last month on Eyes Wide Open. His winning ride on Desert Lark for Bill Prestage at Durbanville on Saturday was top drawer stuff from a man who doesn't get the best riding opportunities. Half-way through this season, he has almost doubled his winning tally of last term and has trainers sitting up and taking note of his new found commitment.



Mike Azzie and Weichong Marwing – always lethal together

The Masters

Mike and Adam Azzie celebrated a smart hat-trick at Turffontein on Saturday, which included Listed Wolf Power winner, Arctica. The latter was ridden by Craig Zackey, but it was the seasoned champion Weichong Marwing who rode their first two winners. The combination have a 24% win strike-rate, but Marwing will soon be winging his way to Mauritius for

their season. The Azzie team have maintained a top ten position on the SA log this term and will be a force to reckon with in the Highveld feature season.

EXTENDED LISTS OF ALL STATSare just a **click away** on the **Sporting Post website**

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

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BLACK TYPE RESULTS

TURFFONTEIN (stand side)**Saturday, 3 February**

Course Variant: 1.38s slow

Just 12.5mm of rain fell in the lead up to this meeting and with no irrigation added the going was posted as good off a penetrometer reading of 22. There was a light south westerly head/cross wind, and the false rail was out from 3.5m on the back straight to 7m on the bend with a 7m spur.

Gr3 Tony Ruffel Stakes at Turffontein on Saturday.

Piere Strydom had Surcharge well back in play as Wonderwall led Sir David Baird and Yakeen.

At the 300m the lesser fancied of the De Kock trio Sir David Baird grabbed the initiative and looked a winner at the 200m. But Piere Strydom had other ideas and he unleashed Surcharge with a storming late effort.

The handsome colt took off and sailed past Sir David Baird to register a good win by 0,60 lengths in a time of 84,80 secs.. Sir David Baird showed his Cape Guineas run to be wrong as he stayed on for second, a length ahead of the improved again

Wonderwall.

The Varsfontein bred Surcharge is a son of Gimmethgreenlight (More Than Ready) out of the UK bred Congestion Charge (Diktat), who was placed over 2300m. He has won 5 races with 1 place from 7 starts for stakes of R523 375. He also qualified for the BSA Added Value Stakes Bonus of R 87 500.

He was a vendor buy back on the 2016 BSA Val De Vie yearling sale and was then sold for R200 000 off the BSA National Yearling Sale of the same year. He was put through the ring and bought back for R550 000 by Dusty Trail Investments off the 2016 CTS Johannesburg Ready To Run Sale. He races in the Ian Van Schalkwyk silks.

Gr3 Tony Ruffel Stakes (3yo's) 1400m

Winner Surcharge dwelt start; raced 10th and was some seven lengths behind the leaders at 400m; ran on strongly in the closing stages to get up close home Runner-up Sir David Baird raced 2nd; led 300m; beaten half a length Third Wonderwall (2nd best handicapped) set the pace; no extra late

Time: The time was a good one and the pace honest. We gave the third (prev 96/93/77/91/69) 94 which makes the runner-up (prev 78/85/80/87/82) 93 and the winner (prev 73/89/91/88/98) 103

103	1	0.00	SURCHARGE	(4)	60.0	P Strydom	4/1
<i>3 b c Gimmethgreenlight - Congestion Charge(GB) (Diktat)</i>							
93	2	0.60	SIR DAVID BAIRD	(8)	56.0	R Simons	15/1
<i>3 b g Dynasty - Oceana (Elliodor)</i>							
94	3	1.60	WONDERWALL	(7)	58.0	G v Niekerk	13/1
<i>3 b c Querari - Westwardly (Silvano)</i>							
84	4	3.70	<i>Pietro Mascagni</i>	(2)	56.0	C Murray	9/1
83	5	4.00	<i>Ideal Secret</i>	(9)	56.0	C Zackey	27/4
75	6	6.40	<i>Yakeen</i>	(1)	56.0	A Delpech	16/10
74	7	6.80	<i>The Puma</i>	(10)	56.0	M Mjoka	50/1
73	8	7.30	<i>State Trooper</i>	(5)	56.0	M Yeni	22/1
72	9	7.55	<i>Seerite</i>	(3)	56.0	G Wrogemann	6/1
71	10	7.80	<i>Huyssteen</i>	(6)	56.0	K Zechner	50/1
59	11	12.00	<i>The Tin Man</i>	(11)	56.0	S Brown	50/1
32	12	22.50	<i>Purple Diamond</i>	(12)	58.0	R Danielson	44/1
Time: 84.8s (60.57s avg/1000m, or 59km/h) SP Total %: 121%							
1st T:ST Pettigrew O:Mr I F M van Schalkwyk B:Varsfontein Stud							

Gr3 Tony Ruffel Stakes R250,000**Classic Value!**

Defying top weight and given plenty to do in the straight, the Gimmethgreenlight colt Surcharge marked himself a Gauteng classic candidate of serious standing with a cracking late run to win the R250 000

Doing The Splits

Turffontein, 3 February

	1st call	2nd call	false rail	400m	finish	avg/1000m	2nd call- false rail	false rail finish
1400m								
Maiden P.	----	15.64	43.52	58.96	85.67	(61.2)	27.88	42.15
Tony Ruffel S.	----	15.68	43.15	58.37	84.69	(60.5)	27.47	41.54
Three Troikas S.	----	16.11	44.83	59.90	85.21	(60.9)	28.72	40.38
1600m								
Conditions P.	----	28.12	56.58	71.89	97.63	(61.0)	28.46	41.05
Maiden P.	----	28.04	57.24	73.51	100.34	(62.7)	29.20	43.10
Wolf Power H.	----	27.39	55.41	70.46	97.69	(61.1)	28.02	42.28
1800m								
Progress P.	----	39.35	68.27	83.72	110.29	(61.3)	28.92	42.02
Maiden P.	----	40.46	71.24	87.02	113.31	(63.0)	30.78	42.07
2400m								
Allez France S.	21.68	79.90	111.37	127.37	154.19	(64.2)	31.47	42.82
Pinnacle S.	23.05	79.87	109.34	-----153.55		(64.0)	29.47	44.21

Tony Ruffel Stakes (Surcharge), 1400m- the time was a good one and the pace was honest. The winner looks to have a bright future.

The Three Troikas Stakes (Fish River) 1400m was steady early and developed into somewhat of a sprint, making for a false run race.

The official time was wrong in the **Maiden Plate (Manhattan Cocktail) 1400m**, which was comparatively slowly run.

Wolf Power Handicap (Arctica), 1600m- they went a fair clip throughout, and the time a was good one.

The time of the **Conditions Plate (She's A Giver) 1600m** was very similar, but the pace had been sedate and it developed into a bit of a sprint, making it a false run race.

The slow run **Maiden Plate (The Rising Legend) 1600m** was (other than the winner) a rather moderate looking bunch.

Progress Plate (Greek Fire), 1800m – although this might have been run a tad faster, the time was still a good one and the pace honest.

There was no pace on in the **Maiden Plate (Tiger Lace) 1800m** which was false run.

Allez France Stakes (Bondiblu) – 2400m- the pace was decent early on, but slowed up before a sprint for home – a false run race.

In a time 0.6s faster, the **Pinnacle Stakes (Kilrain) 2400m** was much more honestly run.

Note: The 400m splits must be taken with caution, due to the camera angle and the position of the leader on-screen.

How Good Is Your Horse?

75% of all 2yo Gr1 winners have **ability ratings (AR)** of more than 95

97% of all Gr1 winners age 3yo & up have **ability ratings (AR)** of more than 95

Sporting Post **ability ratings (AR)** put every horse in its place

Check the race results on this page

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BLACK TYPE RESULTS

Gr3 Three Troikas Stakes R250,000

The River Runs

New Highlands stallion for 2018 Canford Cliffs produced yet another impressive local stakes winner when the Mike de Kock-trained Fish River stamped herself as a filly with classic aspirations as she cruised home to win the R250 000 Gr3 Three Troikas Stakes at Turffontein on Saturday. Anthony Delpech had Fish River relaxed in third as Fort Vodka and Dame Kelly showed the way, with San Fermin at the rear after jumping slowly, With Dame Kelly looking threatening at the 350m marker, Anthony Delpech's body language spelt confidence as the champion jockey punched the smart 3yo out with the hands. The athletic filly lengthened her stride as she took over and asserted her authority.

In the run for the line the Mauritzfontein-owned racer outgunned her fellow Aussie San Fermin, who was not disgraced as she came from well back to run a good second, beaten just over 2 lengths.

The winner's time was 85,37 secs and Fish River provided Anthony Delpech with his 100th winner of the season.

Fish River was pin-hooked as a foal by Sheamus Mills Bloodstock for A\$60 000 from Yarraman Park at the 2015 Magic Millions National Sale. She was subsequently purchased by Jehan Malherbe's Form Bloodstock for A\$130,000 at the 2016 Inglis Melbourne Premier Yearling Sale.

The winner was bred by Wodonga-based trainer Peter Maher and is by Canford Cliffs (Tagula) out of the twice raced Zabea (Exceed And Excel). Her second-dam Arrabeea (Zabeel) was a Gr3 winner at Doomben and Caulfield.

Gr3 Three Troikas Stakes (3yof) 1400m

Winner Fish River (clear best handicapped) raced 3rd; led 200m; won well
Runner-up San Fermin dwelt start; raced in the rear; ran on; held by winner
Third Dame Kelly raced 2nd; led 450m; no chance with first two

Time: Visibly steady early on, this developed into a sprint. False run race and possible not a result to rely on for future. We gave the third (prev 85/53/72/85/85) 85 which makes the winner (prev 91/86/71/76/87) 95 and the runner-up (prev 83/73/80) 89 – which might be too generous.

95	1	0.00	FISH RIVER	(3)	58.0	A Delpech	71/20
3 b f	Canford Cliffs - Zabea(AUS) (Exceed And Excel)						
89	2	2.10	SAN FERMIN	(9)	58.0	G v Niekerk	5/4
3 b f	Charge Forward - Choice Blend(AUS) (Redoute's Choice)						
85	3	3.20	DAME KELLY	(4)	58.0	P Strydom	167/20
3 b f	Dynasty - Kelly's Olympics(USA) (Kingmambo)						
90	4	3.30	Takingthepeace	(7)	60.0	R Danielson	27/4
85	5	3.40	Green Top	(5)	58.0	R Simons	22/1
80	6	5.10	London Secret	(6)	58.0	JP vd Merwe	16/1
75	7	6.70	Someone Exciting	(2)	58.0	M v Rensburg	14/1
56	8	13.00	No More Words	(8)	58.0	G Wrogemann	12/1
14	9	27.00	Fort Vodka	(1)	58.0	K Zechner	66/1
Time: 85.37s (60.98s avg/1000m, or 59km/h) SP Total %: 116%							
1st T:MF de Kock O:Mauritzfontein (Pty) Ltd (Nom: Miss J B Slack)							
B:bred in Australia							

Wolf Power Handicap (Listed) R150,000

Zack Back

Craig Zackey was another jockey at Turffontein to take advantage of a Weichong Marwing feature substitute riding opportunity, when he overcame a wide barrier gate on the Azzie's Arctica to win the Wolf Power Handicap (L) in straightforward fashion.

Jump quickly. Get a rail position. Track the leader. Go for home at the 350m marker. That's about how simple the plan was for the talented Zackey, who won his race at the jump by using his initiative to get across and ease his mount up.

After tracking Tandava all the way around, Arctica was sent for home halfway down the straight, but came under fire late from Fareeq and Kings Archer. But the Azzie charge was in a galloping mood – and it helps when the yard is in form.

Craig Zackey kept Arctica at his task and nicely balanced to resist the late challenge of Fareeq and Kings Archer. He won by a half length in a time of 97,86 secs.

A R225 000 National Yearling Sale buy, he has won 5 races with 13 places from 27 starts and stakes of R553 650. He was bred by Wicklow Stud and is by Captain Al (Al Mufti) out of the Irish-bred Little Grey Wolf (Indian Ridge).

Wolf Power Handicap (L) 1600m

Winner Arctica was drawn wide; made the early running; led again 350m; ran on; hanging

Runner-up Fareeq raced fourth; ran on; beaten half a length

Third Kings Archer raced 8th; ran on; beaten less than a length

Time: Marginally the second fastest of the three 1600m races, the pace was an honest one. We gave the runner-up (prev 71/85/82/72/77) 85 which makes the winner (prev 79/80/84/87/92) 95 and the third (prev 89/89/88/90 – has done 94) 93

95	1	0.00	ARCTICA	(14)	56.0	C Zackey	13/1
5 b g	Captain Al - Little Grey Wolf(IRE) (Indian Ridge)						
85	2	0.50	FAREEQ	(4)	52.0	M Yeni	147/20
5 br g	Nadeem - Azwa(AUS) (Haafhd)						
93	3	0.80	KINGS ARCHER	(2)	56.0	P Strydom	113/20
6 b h A	P Arrow - Qusoor(IRE) (Fasliyev)						
83	4	1.20	Secret Captain	(1)	52.0	R Munger	147/20
83	5	1.30	Chepardo	(13)	52.0	M Mjoka	13/1
80	6	2.55	Count Tassilo	(8)	52.0	JP vd Merwe	9/1
97	7	2.65	Romany Prince	(9)	59.5	S Brown	18/1
99	8	2.85	Matador Man	(7)	61.0	G v Niekerk	6/1
79	9	3.25	Tandava	(6)	52.0	D David	44/1
81	10	4.05	Irish Pride	(12)	54.0	R Simons	18/1
79	11	6.65	Al Danza	(10)	55.5	M v Rensburg	15/1
78	12	8.90	Finchallon	(3)	57.5	C Murray	44/1
61	13	11.10	Starrett City	(5)	52.0	M Thackeray	28/1
39	14	30.00	Unagi	(11)	60.5	A Delpech	147/20
Time: 97.86s (61.16s avg/1000m, or 59km/h) SP Total %: 114%							
1st T:MG & AA Azzie O:Messrs B D van Laun, Andre Fouche & M Gullan & Missing U Syndicate (Nom: Mr R C Kruppe) B:Wicklow Stud							

Allez France Stakes (NBT) R135,000

True Blu

Replacement rider Marco van Rensburg took his opportunity with both hands when he rode a perfectly judged finish to get the Stan Ferreira-trained Bondiblu up in the dying strides.

In a nerve wracking jackpot opener, the more fancied Bondiblu showed ample reserves of stamina when it was needed to get a short head victory over the lesser liked Seeking Gold, who pressed all the way to the wire.

After a tardy start, Bondiblu was relaxed some way back as Seal My Fate And Cranberry Crush showed the way in the 2400m non black-type feature.

In the run for home it was the uber consistent Patchit Up Baby who slipped through down the rail looking dangerous as Seeking Gold and Bondiblu made ground through the tiring runners.

At the 150m it could go either way but Van Rensburg – working so hard this term – extricated a little more out of Bondiblu to shade Seeking Gold, with Patchit Up Baby a head away in third. The winner's time was 154,25 secs.

A R100 000 Cape Premier Yearling Sale graduate, Bondiblu was bred by Vanree Stud and is by Seul Amour (Zabeel) out of the five-time winner Blue Paradise (Jallad). Seul Amour stood his first season in Australia in 2007 and in SA from 2009.

The 5yo Bondiblu has now won 7 races with 13 places from 31 starts for stakes of R622 975.

Allez France Stakes (nbt) 2400m

Winner Bondiblu dwelt start; raced at the back; ran on well over the final 400m; got up in the very last stride

Runner-up Seeking Gold (3rd best handicapped) raced in the rear; led 300m; piped last stride

Third Patchit Up Baby (2nd best handicapped) raced fifth; led 400m; kept on strongly; narrowly beaten

Time: After setting off at a reasonable clip the pace was slowed and the raced developed into a sprint. This goes down as a false run race, with a possibly unreliable result. We gave the third (prev 84/64/90/93/74) 93 which makes the winner (prev 74/66/66/62/77) 85 and the runner-up (prev 70/68/0/75/67) 75

84	1	0.00	BONDIBLU	(9)	57.0	M v Rensburg	47/20
5 b m	Seul Amour - Blue Paradise (Jallad)						
72	2	0.10	SEEKING GOLD	(7)	51.5	D Schwarz	18/1
4 ch f	Golden Sword - Ransom (Rambo Dancer)						
90	3	0.20	PATCHIT UP BABY	(6)	60.0	A Delpech	26/10
6 b m	Ideal World - Qui Liz(USA) (Benny the Dip)						
86	4	2.80	Witchcraft	(4)	60.0	G v Niekerk	71/20
73	5	4.30	Parisiense Chic	(2)	55.5	K Zechner	18/1
63	6	5.20	Just A Jet	(8)	51.5	JP vd Merwe	15/1
62	7	5.95	Arte	(3)	51.5	M Yeni	9/1
59	8	7.35	Seal My Fate	(5)	51.5	R Munger	18/1
58	9	7.85	Cranberry Crush	(1)	51.5	M Thackeray	28/1
Time: 154.25s (64.27s avg/1000m, or 56km/h) SP Total %: 115%							
1st T:S Ferreira O:Mesdames C Marks, S Marks, J Peimer & L C A Bouwer B:Vanree Stud							

Check the race results on this page

Sporting Post
ABILITY RATINGS (AR)
puts every horse in its place

SIGNPOSTS

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

CRUSADE (Mr Greeley)

Crusade's Promise 2f (Royal Promise by Royal Academy)

[Kenilworth 1 Maiden Juvenile Plate \(Fillies\) 1000m \(10/02\)](#)

DUKE OF MARMALADE (Danehill)

European Roller 2f (Cape Sugarbird by Trippi)

[Kenilworth 1 Maiden Juvenile Plate \(Fillies\) 1000m \(10/02\)](#)

MASTER OF MY FATE (Jet Master)

Lucille 2f (Lizabella by Sinndar)

[Kenilworth 1 Maiden Juvenile Plate \(Fillies\) 1000m \(10/02\)](#)

NOBLE TUNE (Unbridled's Song)

Frozen Tune 2c (Winter Feast by Western Winter)

[Kenilworth 2 Maiden Juvenile Plate 1200m \(10/02\)](#)

2nd season sires - 3yo's

AWAIT THE DAWN (Giant's Causeway)

Cristian 3c (Picturesque by Al Mufti)

[Fairview 4 Maiden Plate \(Polytrack\) 1900m \(09/02\)](#)

Ekuseni 3c (Snooty Lady by Northern Guest)

[Vaal 7 MR 88 Handicap \(3yo's\) 1600m \(10/02\)](#)

Pilgrim's Progress 3f (Movingandgrooving by Jet Master)

[Vaal 8 MR 87 Handicap \(3yo Fillies\) 1600m \(10/02\)](#)

Come As You Are 3f (Beauty Queen by Jallad)

[Scottsville 7 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1600m \(11/02\)](#)

BYWORD (Peintre Celebre)

Steam On 3f (Chatanooga Chuchu by Cataloochee)

[Fairview 3 Maiden Plate \(F&M\)\(Polytrack\) 1600m \(09/02\)](#)

Words 3f (Lavishly by West Man)

[Vaal 2 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1500m \(10/02\)](#)

Taranaki 3c (Urabamba by Fort Wood)

[Scottsville 8 Maiden Plate 1600m \(11/02\)](#)

CRUSADE (Mr Greeley)

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

[Fairview 8 MR 68 Handicap \(F&M\)\(Polytrack\) 1200m \(09/02\)](#)

Tommy The Builder 3c (Linda Grandeza by Grand Lodge)

[Vaal 1 Workriders Maiden Plate 1500m \(10/02\)](#)

Pretty Ballerina 3f (Hollywood Strip by Tiger Hill)

[Vaal 8 MR 87 Handicap \(3yo Fillies\) 1600m \(10/02\)](#)

Exquisite Eight 3f (Bejewelled Beauty by Rambo Dancer)

[Scottsville 5 MR 76 Handicap \(F&M\) 1400m \(11/02\)](#)

Ascalon 3f (Pashley by Count Dubois)

[Scottsville 6 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1600m \(11/02\)](#)

The Grey Crusader 3c (Corre Solta by Ski Champ)

[Scottsville 8 Maiden Plate 1600m \(11/02\)](#)

EIGHTFOLD PATH (Giant's Causeway)

Pin Up Fold 3f (Pin Up Babe by Gold Press)

[Vaal 2 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1500m \(10/02\)](#)

Tricia 3f (Ficticia by Kitwood)

[Vaal 2 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1500m \(10/02\)](#)

Number Eight 3c (Out Of Time by Anytime)

[Scottsville 1 Maiden Plate 1000m \(11/02\)](#)

MARCHFIELD (A P Indy)

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

[Vaal 4 MR 76 Handicap \(F&M\) 2000m \(10/02\)](#)

ORATORIO (Danehill)

Our Fair Lady 3f (Bambina Stripes by Equal Stripes)

[Fairview 3 Maiden Plate \(F&M\)\(Polytrack\) 1600m \(09/02\)](#)

Sacred Touch 3c (Red Growler by Fort Wood)

[Fairview 4 Maiden Plate \(Polytrack\) 1900m \(09/02\)](#)

Tubular Bell 3c (Goose Valley by Right Approach)

[Fairview 5 Novice Plate \(Polytrack\) 1900m \(09/02\)](#)

Music Master 3c (Fine Wood by Fort Wood)

[Vaal 3 Maiden Plate 2000m \(10/02\)](#)

Supreme Orator 3c (Supreme Lecture by Lecture)

[Kenilworth 4 MR 72 Handicap 1200m \(10/02\)](#)

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

[Scottsville 3 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1000m \(11/02\)](#)

Emma's Oracle 3f (Destination Mars by Coronado's Quest)

[Scottsville 5 MR 76 Handicap \(F&M\) 1400m \(11/02\)](#)

L'orfeo 3f (Badger Game by Tiger Ridge)

[Scottsville 6 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1600m \(11/02\)](#)

Victor Victorio 3c (Victoria by Albert Hall)

[Scottsville 8 Maiden Plate 1600m \(11/02\)](#)

Aldo's Chase 3c (Sermonize by Strike Smartly)

[Scottsville 8 Maiden Plate 1600m \(11/02\)](#)

TWICE OVER (Observatory)

Twice A Lady 3f (Ladonna by Kabool)

[Vaal 2 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1500m \(10/02\)](#)

Blaze Of Silk 3c (Trinity House by Captain Al)

[Scottsville 1 Maiden Plate 1000m \(11/02\)](#)

Two Moon Junction 3f (Promise Me by Labeeb)

[Scottsville 6 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1600m \(11/02\)](#)

WHAT A WINTER (Western Winter)

Fort Winter 3c (Fort Fox by Fort Wood)

[Fairview 6 MR 80 Handicap \(Polytrack\) 1000m \(09/02\)](#)

Eskimo Nell 3f (Nella Fantasia by Giant's Causeway)

[Kenilworth 3 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1200m \(10/02\)](#)



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SIGNPOSTS

Notable Maiden Winners

CAPTAIN AL

Rated AR 77 **The Bungalow** (3f Captivating Party by National Assembly)
Maiden Plate Scottsville (1200m) (4/2)

Making just her second racecourse appearance, Dennis Drier's charge was soon positioned close to the speed. She put her head in front shortly after passing the 300m marker and drew clear easily in the closing stages of the race to score by six.

Horses To Follow

DYNASTY

Rated AR 101 **Greek Fire** (3c Garland by Capture Him)
Progress Plate Turffontein (stand side) (1800m) (3/2)

Now a winner of two from three, this lightly raced son of Dynasty was said to be in need of the run here. He was ridden to lead 350m from home after racing handy, and despite being reported as fatigued, he won with some in hand by half a length.

GIMMETHGREENLIGHT

Rated AR 103 **Surcharge** (3c Congestion Charge by Diktat)
Gr3 Tony Ruffel Stakes Turffontein (stand side) (1400m) (3/2)
Highly regarded by his trainer, Surcharge was impressive here. Positioned towards the rear early on, Stuart Pettigrew's charge was still some seven lengths adrift of the eventual runner-up Sir David Baird 400m out. He quickened well from there on, to get up late. Surcharge has now won five from seven and looks to have a bright future ahead of him.

CAPTAIN AL

Rated AR 89 **Redeemer** (4g Requista by Fort Wood)
MR81 Handicap Scottsville (inside) (1600m) (4/2)
A full brother to Gr1 winner Captain America, Redeemer has won three starts in good style since relocating to KZN. He took up the running early in the straight, and cruised clear over the final 400m to score by almost seven lengths.

Winners Bred Abroad

another **AUSHORSE** winner

Carmalita (AUS) 3f Commands- Chickitty Chick(AUS) (Tobougg)
Vaal 1000m (30/01)

another **AUSHORSE** winner

Coys (AUS) 3c Uncle Mo- Calvello(AUS) (Flying Spur)
Scottsville 1950m (31/01)

another **AUSHORSE** winner

Tigerlace (AUS) 3f Where's That Tiger- Titania(AUS) (Jade Hunter)
Turffontein 1800m (03/02)

another **AUSHORSE** winner

Manhattan Cocktail (AUS) 3c Manhattan Rain- Forward Thinking(AUS) (Charge Forward)
Turffontein 1400m (03/02)

another **AUSHORSE** winner

Fish River (AUS) 3f Canford Cliffs- Zabeea(AUS) (Exceed And Excel)
Turffontein 1400m (03/02)

SPORTS AND BETTING

English Premier League

Tottenham vs Arsenal | Sat 10 Feb | Wembley Stadium | 14:30



Gameweek 27 of the Premier League kicks off with a bang as Tottenham and Arsenal face each other at Wembley Stadium on Saturday in the North London Derby. It may be Spurs' home patch this season,

but Arsenal have a formidable record at the national stadium. It's eight wins on the bounce for Arsene Wenger's side. Both sides are fighting to get into the top four with Spurs fifth in the table on 49 points while the Gunners are in sixth place on 45. Arsenal claimed bragging rights when they came up against Mauricio Pochettino's side at the Emirates Stadium in November with first-half goals from Shkodran Mustafi and Alexis Sanchez giving Wenger's side a 2-0 victory.

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

TO WIN

Tottenham 21/20
Draw 11/4
Arsenal 23/10

TOTTENHAM

Tottenham return to Wembley Stadium where they are unbeaten in 12 games. In that run, Pochettino's side won eight times, including an emphatic 4-1 win over Liverpool in October and 2-0 victory over Manchester United on January 31st. They even defeated Borussia Dortmund and Real Madrid at their temporary home in this season's UEFA Champions League campaign.

Spurs will look to dash Arsenal's hopes of a top-four finish with victory on Saturday and also avenge their 2-0 loss at the Emirates in November.

ARSENAL

Speaking of lethal, Arsenal's new-look attack featuring Henrikh Mkhitaryan and Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang ripped Everton to shreds last weekend. The former Dortmund pair wreaked havoc on the Toffees defence which would have excited Arsenal fans and given them hope of breaking into the top four. Mkhitaryan, in particular, looked superb as he set up three goals on his home debut having struggled to make an impact at Manchester United. The Armenian ace became the first Arsenal player to record three assists in a Premier League game since Santi Cazorla set up four against Wigan in May 2013. Mesut Ozil also impressed after signing a new deal at the club to end speculation over his future, but it was Aaron Ramsey who stole the show by netting a hat-trick in a confidence-boosting 5-1 victory at the Emirates Stadium.

PREDICTION: Draw & Both Teams to Score (5/2)

**Is Your Horse
One To Follow?**

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

CLOCKWATCHING WITH STEVE FURNISH

PLENTY To Think About

A REVIEW OF THE WEEK'S BEST SPEEDRATINGS

Course Specialist

Scottsville 28 January

Although the times would suggest otherwise the going was officially soft on Sunday. Three of the afternoon's nine races were maiden plates over 1600m and stopping the clock in the fastest time amongst these was TWISTER VORTEX in the boy's division. Easy to back at 6/1 on the off, Sean Tarry's charge wasn't the quickest into stride when the gates opened and as a result he raced in the backend of midfield. Once in the straight though he ran on best of all and showing good improvement he comfortably accounted for the 15/10 favourite BEAR HUG.

The non-black type Marula Sprint was not surprisingly the faster of the two 1000m events and here victory went to the course specialist LONDON CALL. Now a winner of 8 from 11 over the trip, Mark Dixon's charge set the pace. Just four went to post but despite that the pace was still a good one. He was headed by SHWANKY 600m out, but when given rein 300m later he quickly regained the lead. He ran on strongly in the closing stages of the race and won well by a length and a half.

A juvenile plate over 1200m opened up proceedings and in a race where there were no previous winners we saw a very easy victory for the favourite STREAM AHEAD. The son of Gimmethegreenlight 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 drew clear easily in the closing stages of the race to score by three and a quarter.

Titbits Easily seven lengths off the pace at the top of the home straight, WILD WICKET fairly flew from the back when getting up in the dying strides to win the listed Michael Roberts Handicap over 1750m.

Silver Lining

Vaal 30 January

The first five races at the classic track on Tuesday were all staged over 1000m and the quickest home in these was COPPER JAY when getting off the mark in the boy's maiden plate. Backed into

the red at the track, the lightly raced son of Jay Peg was soon at the head of affairs. He was always in command and drew clear in good style to score by six after being given rein 300m out.

Two of the three remaining races were run over 1700m and quickest home here was the steadily improving BRAXTON in the MR76 Handicap. Ridden to lead 300m out, Lucky Houdalakis' charge looked set for a place when AZKUR flew past 50m later. Finding extra once headed though, Braxton fought back gamely below the distance and got back up late to score by a half.

A MR80 Handicap over 1500m made up the afternoon's fare and here victory went to the well supported SILVER GOD. Confidently ridden by JP v'd Merwe, the 3yo son of Silvano raced sixth of the seven for most of the journey. He ran on best of all when the race began in earnest and comfortably accounted for the ultra-consistent TOMMY WATERDEVIL by a length.

Titbits The well-supported newcomer FREE AND EASY won the girls' division of the maiden juvenile plate going away by two and a half.

Now a winner of two from four, THRONG came from the back when getting up in the dying strides to win the MR72 Handicap over 1700m.

3 Day Runner Up Double

Scottsville 31 January

Racing returned to Pietermaritzburg on Wednesday where seven of the eight races were sprints. The odd race out was the MR72 Handicap over 1950m where the strongly fancied 3yo COYS did the business. Paul Lafferty's charge was squeezed at the start and in a strung out field raced in the rear. Once in the home straight though he ran on best of all and comfortably accounted for the hat-trick seeking HERO QUEST after striking the front 100m from home.

1200m took the lion's share of the afternoon's eight races and the fastest of the

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

Wild Wicket	won 31/4
Sacred Oration	won 6/1
Edge Of Glory	won 4/1
Greto	won 21/10
Val-La-Ree	won 2/1
Eleni	won 16/10
Sweaty Betty	won 1/1
London Call	won 8/10

Top speed ratings for this weekend

(Ratings shown have already been adjusted to allocated weights)

FAIRVIEW (FRI)

- Race 1: (8) Tin Tan 7
 Race 2: (7) Free Agent 56
 Race 3: (3) Limerick Ridge 7
 Race 4: (1) Cristian 8
 Race 5: (6) Golden Shamrock 12
 Race 6: (2) Varsity Cup 50
Race 7: (3) Quinelia 40 (EW)
Race 8: (2) Stopthinkingofme 44 (EW)

Vaal (SAT)

- Race 1: (7) National Aim 13
 Race 2: (1) Shakespeare Inlove 7
 Race 3: (7) Collegiate 11
 Race 4: (10) Iridium Silver 46
 Race 5: (7) Movie Show 68
 Race 6: (7) Heaps Of Fun 92
 Race 7: (6) Wonderous Climber 68
 Race 8: (9) Il Mondo 46
 Race 9: (11) Coriander Queen 39

KENILWORTH (SAT)

- Race 1: No Qualifiers
 Race 2: (5) Frozen Tune 2
 Race 3: (1) The Boston Rose 14
Race 4: (1) Hithimagainchuck 43 (EW)
 Race 5: (7) Shangri La 70
 Race 6: (7) Commander Bond 70
 Race 7: (3) Love Of My Life 12
 Race 8: (1) Red Mars 7

SCOTTVILLE (SUN)

- Race 1: (3) Great Dictator 30 (nb)**
 Race 2: (6) Amazon King 85
 Race 3: (3) Rosie Bubbles 18
 Race 4: (10) Gotoluvher 32
 Race 5: (10) Ashfahan 49
Race 6: (10) Lilibet 16 (NAP*)
 Race 7: (6) Destiny Duchess 6
 Race 8: (2) The Grey Crusader 13

Nap bets

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



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CLOCKWATCHING CONT.

four was the MR76 Handicap won by the 4/1 favourite ROYAL AGREE. Runner up to the talented London Call just two days earlier the second favourite SHWANKY was the first to make a move and struck the front going through the 400m. Running on stoutly from the backend of midfield though, Royal Agree flew past that one in good style 120m out and won going away by two.

The three remaining races were all staged over 1000m and quickest home here was MISS MILLIONAIRE when causing a major upset in the MR66 Handicap. Freely available at 66/1 on the off, Belinda Impey's charge raced in midfield during the early part of the race. She ran on strongly over the final 400m and comfortably accounted for the fancied DEEP DOWN REBEL by three quarters.

Titbits *Up with the speed throughout, FIRST MATE showed considerable improvement when cruising clear in the closing stages to win the maiden plate over 1000m by four.*

Work Rider's Day

Vaal 1 February

There were a number of very easy victories on work rider's day at the Vaal's inside track on Thursday and none more so than that of FORT AUGUSTUS in the maiden plate over 2000m. At the head of affairs throughout, the Fort Wood gelding was four lengths clear going through the 400m. He quickened well at that point and doubled his advantage on the run to the line.

Another to win by a steeplechase margin on this card was LITTLEWOOD in the maiden 1500m. Freely available at 14/1 on the off the lessor fancied of Lucky Houdalakis' two runners was a little slow into stride and as a result she raced in midfield early on. She was ridden to lead at the 200m pole and cruised clear in the closing stages of

the race to score by seven.

The only distance on the nine race program to stage more than one race was 1200m where the faster of the two maiden plates was the girl's affair won by GRETO. Sent off a strong favourite at 21/10, Scot Kenny's charge was always handy and with the rest some six lengths adrift she beat the running on BELLA CIAO by a length.

Titbits *Returning from a 95 week layoff here, the Sean Tarry trained TORCEDOR won the maiden plate over 1200m very easily by five.*

Easy Money

Fairview 2 February

Topping the bill on Friday's turf card was the non-black type Fairview Mile and in what proved to be the fastest of the three 1600m events we saw a comfortable victory for the visiting FIFTY CENTS. Sent off a strong favourite at 15/10, Justin Snaith's charge was content to sit sixth of the eight for most of the journey. He made his move early in the long home straight and went on to score with authority after striking the front 330m or so from home.

They also ran three races over 1000m and quickest against the clock here was the ultra-consistent STAR BURST GALAXY in the pinnacle stakes. Soon up handy, Tara Laing's charge put her head in front going through the 200m and won going away from the easy to back LAWS OF SUCCESSON.

The faster of the two 1200m races was the MR72 Handicap in which the 3yo COPPER TRAIL caused an upset. Easy to back at 13/1 on the off Yvette Bremner's charge was always handy. He ran on strongly at the business end of the race and with the rest well beaten he got the better of another easy to back runner in SOVIET COSMONAUT.

Titbits *The 13/1 shot QUEEN JUSTINE didn't find the clearest of passages when running on from the rear to fill third position in the MR68 Handicap over 1600m.*

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

WILD WICKET (D Howells, KZN)

FASTEST TIMES

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

SCOTTSVILLE (INSIDE) 28TH JANUARY

Penetrometer 27 – Going Soft	
Course Variant: 0,27s fast	
1000m (1) Winter Blues	56,55
1200m (2) London Call	67,92
1400m (1) Mr Roy	82,41
1600m (3) Twister Vortex	96,09
1750m (1) Wild Wicket	106,31
1950m (1) Obvious Child	121,68

VAAL (CLASSIC) 30TH JANUARY

Penetrometer 23 – Going Good	
Course Variant: 0,40s slow	
1000m (5) Copper Jay	57,33
1500m (1) Sildver God	91,38
1700m (2) Braxton	104,43

SCOTTSVILLE (INSIDE) 31ST JANUARY

Penetrometer 28 – Going Soft	
Course Variant: 0,03s fast	
1000m (3) Miss Millionaire	56,71
1200m (4) Royal Agree	68,82
1950m (1) Coys	119,82

VAAL (INSIDE) 1ST FEBRUARY

Penetrometer 23 – Going Good	
Course Variant: 1,47s slow	
1000m (1) Forever Joy	59,94
1200m (2) Greto	71,53
1300m (1) Jamra	78,06
1500m (1) Littlewood	91,13
1600m (1) Aranjuez	98,07
1700m (1) Sweaty Betty	106,81
2000m (1) Fort Augustus	125,25
2400m (1) Princess Tin Tin	155,19

FAIRVIEW (TURF) 2ND FEBRUARY

Penetrometer 23 – Going Good	
Course Variant: 0,81s slow	
1000m (3) Star Burst Galaxy	57,57
1200m (2) Copper Trail	70,71
1400m (1) Sacred Oration	87,36
1600m (3) Fifty Cents	97,83



HUGE HORSE RACING WIN!

R162 785

Monday 5 February, PA, Internet



R414 675 WON for only R15

**Sunday 4 February,
Hollywoodbets Giyani**



UNEMPLOYED CUSTOMER STRIKES IT RICH

A 55-year-old Tiyani resident won R414 675 after placing a Lucky Numbers bet at the Hollywoodbets Giyani branch. This is not his first big win, he took home R80 000 last year when his numbers came up. His strategy is to bet the same lucky numbers whenever he plays. He plans to use the money to pay off his son's car instalments because he is struggling to make payment each month.



WIT 28310
Hollywoodbets

Hollywoodbets Giyani
Shop no. 13
Giyani Shopping Centre
Tel: 087 362 7059

Fixed Odds: 2 Leg Multiple

1. X Balls
3 Balls (Main Set) 600.00
Selection: 2 3 33

Lucky Numbers
United Kingdom-UK 49'S EVENING DRAW MULTI
(1ST 6 NO'S)
2018-02-04 18:45:00
04 Feb

2. X Balls
1 Ball (Bonus) 45.00
Selection: 44

Lucky Numbers
United Kingdom-UK 49'S EVENING DRAW MULTI
(BONUS BALL)
2018-02-04 18:45:00
04 Feb

Payout:
R414 675 / 15

Masingita Maswanganyi
10.3.3.3
04 February 2018 17:44:07

Refer to Hollywood
Ts&Cs. All winning bets valid for 90 days.
Check your Tickets before leaving the counter.

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