

Carlita Tops

The KZN Breeders Series Log for 2yo's is dominated by the combination of Piemonte Stud and Alan Greeff who lead – with top Oratorio filly, Carlita, and the Crusade colt Alfeo, respectively. 212 juveniles vie for just 28 places on the race day. There are two races – 1 each for colts and fillies respectively for stakes of R200 000 each over 1200m. The KZN Breeders Race Day takes place on 30 June at Greyville racecourse, and is exclusively for KZN-bred horses registered with the KZN Breeders Premium Scheme.

Over The Hill?

One of former champion SA owner Markus Jooste's business initiatives — the renaming of the famous Epsom Hill as Poundland Hill at the Investec Derby Festival — has been scuppered by Britain's The Jockey Club, which has stepped in to cancel the deal. In a statement, Epsom GM Simon Durrant said: "Due to the widely reported issues concerning Steinhoff International, we have mutually agreed that Poundland, one of its brands, will not be involved with The Hill at the Investec Derby Festival in June. In future the famous Hill will carry the name Horseplay On The Hill." Some irony there.

Big 4

Sun Met winning jockey Grant van Niekerk booted home 4 winners at Kenilworth on Saturday to take his season tally to 82 with a win strike-rate of 20%. He is tenth on the national log.



Will She, Won't She?

There has been some speculation as to whether Takingthepeace will stay the 2450m of the SA Oaks in her bid for SA Triple Tiara glory on 5 May. While her sire Visionaire has so far produced predominantly sprinter-milers, the filly's damline is where the key lies. Her dam won up to 1450m but was also Gr3-placed over 1800m. Damsire Rambo Dancer won a Gr1 over 2400m and his full-sister won the English Oaks. While he produced many top stayers, including Pick 6, Bianconi, Coastal Waltz and Major Hero, Rambo Dancer as a broodmare sire significantly produced the Gr1 Derby and Gr2 Gold Vase winner Seal, who stayed all day.



ISLAND IMPACT

Met winning rider JP van der Merwe made an immediate impact at the Champ de Mars on Saturday. He struck in just the third ride of his debut meeting for Rameshwar Gujadhur's yard in the 5th race, as he rode Independence to his first win in 16 months, JP produced the double when clinching the feature, the Noble Salute - Evaco 17th Anniversary Cup (Gr3), courtesy of Nottinghamshire. The five-year old ran a cracker to score his 4th win in Mauritius.

Family Fun

Richard Fourie gave a superbly judged front-running display to win the fourth at Kenilworth on Saturday on the Tiger Dance filly Kamaishi. Trained by Mike Robinson, the win was a special moment for his wife Luella as it was her first success in her own silks. To add to the sentimentality of the occasion, the silks design was created by their young daughter Caitlin.

WINTER ON FIRE

The leading sire by aggregate at last week's April Yearling Sale, What A Winter followed up on Saturday on the track with a smart winner in the Drakenstein Stud-bred Clouds Unfold, who registered a second win from three starts. What A Winter has a draft of 19 on offer at next week's Emperors Palace National Yearling Sale. See our sale preview supplement.

Sire Power!

Redoute's Choice stallion Time Thief, who recently celebrated his first Gr1 winner in Australia, has joined an illustrious line-up of sires as Highlands Stud part of Ridgemont hosts a stallion parade on 25 May 2018. From exciting newcomer Canford Cliffs, to Oratorio and Flower Alley, there is something for everybody. For more information, or to reserve a place at Highlands, interested parties can contact Amanda Carey: (082) 465 4020 / Amanda@ridgemont.co.za

Save The Date

Klawervlei Stud will host its Farm Sale on 15 June. The auction, which has quickly grown into one of the country's most popular events on the thoroughbred calendar, will, once again be preceded by the Betting World/Tab Golf Day. The latter will be hosted at the Silwerstrand Golf Resort in Robertson, and will take place one day before the Sale. Graduates of the Farm Sale continue to do well, and they include Saturday's impressive debut winner Three Stars, among many others.

NATIONALS - PAPERWORK

BSA have reminded buyers that a ruling in the Consumer Protection Act requires every person applying for a buyers card, whether a first time buyer or platinum card holder, to submit a copy of their ID, together with their proof of residence. In order to smooth the process and to avoid delays in issuing buyers cards for the Emperors Palace National Yearling Sale, they have requested that the requisite documentation be sent to them as soon as possible.