

Starting Over

Seeing his young sons having to grow up in a maximum security residential estate in Gauteng has led to jockey Donovan Mansour and his wife Roxanne taking the plunge and emigrating last week to New Zealand. The 33 year old Mansour spent a year in NZ as an apprentice. He will be riding for Graeme Rogerson, who is based in Hamilton on the North Island.

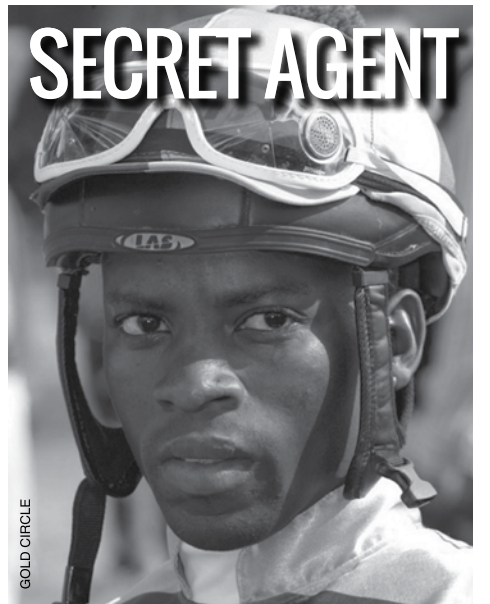


Racing Academy

Racing NSW has purchased Princes Farm, formerly owned by legendary trainer Bart Cummings. The property is located 1 hour from the Sydney CBD at Castlereagh on the banks of the Nepean River. The land comprises 137 acres and has 67 day yards, 1000m sand track, stables, water license and kilometres of fencing, plus a number of residences. A Racing Academy will be established for the training of jockeys, trackwork riders, stablehands – and for all of racing’s workforce, including Stipes. The property will also be used as the showpiece for the Horse Rehabilitation Program and for a Quarantine Station.

Dubai Bound

SA 2016/17 Equus Champion Stayer Hermoso Mundo (Ideal World), who recently chased It’s My Turn home in the Gold Cup on Super Saturday, is in quarantine and has the Gr2 Dubai Gold Cup to be run over 3200m on turf at the Dubai World Cup meeting on 30 March 2019 at Meydan racecourse, as his chief target. The stake for this race has been raised to US\$ 1.5 million. That beats anything available for stayers on our programme.



Jockey S’manga Khumalo was fined R2500 in terms of rule Rule 26.1 - for permitting an unlicensed person to arrange rides on his behalf. The fine was initiated on Super Saturday. So why did the NRB accept the unauthorised agent’s instructions in the first place then?

Trading Up

James Goodman heads the SA division of Equine Hub, a trading platform for thoroughbreds developed in Singapore and due for launch here in October. This is the first equine platform that leverages blockchain to make fractional racehorse ownership possible for online traders. This will be in a marketplace where members of the equine community can share their expertise and services. These will be validated by a social proofing system and administered by the community. Equine Hub shares will be electronically traded. “It follows supply and demand in racehorses,” said Goodman. There is a registration facility on their website: www.equinehub.co.za

EXPLOSIVE

An Invincible Spirit half-brother to Maine Chance Farms’ new stallion prospect Erupt will be offered at the 2018 Goffs Orby Yearling Sale, on October 2-3 this year. The colt (catalogued as # 393) is the 13th foal of Gr3 Prix Vanteaux winner, and Gr1 Prix Saint-Alary runner up, Mare Nostrum. Erupt, who shares his Prix du Jockey Club winning broodmare sire Caerleon with current Cape sire Twice Over, was a superb athlete, whose five wins included the 2015 Gr1 Juddmonte Grand Prix de Paris (beating G1 winner Silverwave) and the 2016 Pattison Canadian International over Breeders’ Cup winner World Approval and Melbourne Cup hero Protectionist. Erupt stands at Maine Chance for a fee of R50 000.

Rafeef’s Girl

The 2017 Highveld Horse Of The Season Rafeef (Redoute’s Choice), who stood his first season at Highlands-Ridgemont last term, has had a beautiful first filly foal delivered late last week at Hemel ‘N Aarde. A real looker, Rafeef won the Gr1 Computaform Sprint beating accomplished speed merchants Talktothestars, Carry On Alice, Brutal Force and Wrecking Ball. Rafeef stands for an unchanged fee of R50 000 this season.



Shergar Cup

There is no place for a South African jockey in a strong Rest Of The World Team for the Dubai Duty Free Ascot Shergar Cup on Saturday. Anthony Delpech rode last year, while Gavin Lerena made a big impression in 2016. S’manga Khumalo rode there in 2014. The 2018 team features Yutaka Take, Corey Brown and Japan-based 'Magic Man' Joao Moreira, while the girls team comprises Josephine Gordon, Hayley Turner and Hollie Doyle. Domestic commitments have delayed announcement of the teams.