

Suspended

The trainer of Nadeson Park stallion Time Thief's Gr1 winner In Her Time has been suspended by Racing NSW stewards following a stable inspection on Tuesday. Ben Smith, who trains Everest-bound In Her Time, had his premises inspected after stewards received advice of two sample irregularities from horses in his care.

Smith's mobile and laptop were confiscated for the purposes of forensic imaging. He was also issued with two charges, pleading guilty to providing false evidence on two occasions during Tuesday's inspection. In Her Time is the TAB's runner for next month's A\$13 million The Everest.



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Avontuur's supersire Var has enjoyed his customary flying start to the new season, and the Gr1 winning son of Forest Wildcat was at it again over the weekend. Var enjoyed two feature race winners in two different countries, with his daughter Schippers lifting The Ladies Stakes at Turffontein on Saturday and son Life Is Good winning the AFZ Borrowdale Sprint at Borrowdale on the same day.



Drakenstein Stud's Philanthropist was represented by three winners in three different countries this weekend. In North America, Philanthropist's daughter First Hunter picked up her fifth career victory when justifying favouritism over 1670m at Canterbury Park on Saturday. On the same day in Zimbabwe, gelding Philanthropy made it win number five when scoring over 1700m, while Philanthropy's paternal half-brother Bono scored over 990m at the Champ de Mars.



Something of a puzzlingly forgotten talent in our own jockey ranks, the 45 year old Deon Sampson booted home five winners at Borrowdale Park on Saturday. The man who builds houses for a hobby, doesn't appear to enjoy support in his home province of Gauteng – especially since Louis Goosen left the Vaal for Ashburton.

thirty
seven

Bernard Fayd'herbe turns 37 on Friday and says his aim is to always keep his Gr1 winning tally ahead of his age. The heavyweight has ridden 38 Gr1 winners to date. He will be freelancing this summer and rides Pleasedtomeetyou in Saturday's Sophomore Sprint at Durbanville. Could the Andre Ne-trained Querari colt be his Cape Guineas ride? Watch this space.

Welcome Back

Former SA Champion jockey Gavin Lerena made a welcome return to race-riding at the Vaal last Thursday after a five month injury enforced break. He quickly broke the ice at just his third ride back at Turffontein on Saturday on Iditarod Trail for Geoff Woodruff.



GOLD CIRCLE

ARC ON HORIZON It is all systems go for Longchamp and the Arc double bid after Enable made light of her 342-day absence from the racetrack with a convincing win in the Gr3 188Bet September Stakes over 2400m at Kempton on Saturday where she defeated Crystal Ocean. The star filly and Frankie Dettori controlled matters on the front end and, though she was a little bit fresh, she settled perfectly well in her front-running role and ran away from the King George runner-up in the straight.



SPORTING LIFE

Under The Whip Smith On Song

A fascinating Australian study into public attitude towards whip use in races was recently conducted. Two questions arose – do we applaud the whipping of tired horses that have no more to offer and does racing depend on whipping? If the answer to these is no, then it was suggested that consideration be given to adopting the Norwegian model, where all whipping is prohibited. Read the full story on www.sportingpost.co.za.

Hollywood sponsored trainer Gavin Smith would have been entitled to down a few ice cold whiskeys and soda after saddling three good winners at Fairview on Monday. The 52 year old fishing and motorbike fanatic and eight-times PE Champion trainer has continued to churn out the winners as he follows in the golden footprints of his legendary Dad, Andy. Apprentice Julius Mphanya, who rode two of the Smith winners, celebrated a career first double.