



She's A Jumper

There was plenty of emotion at Southwell on Sunday as Sir Mark Prescott was delighted to have his filly Eve Harrington – who survived jumping out of an aeroplane in her youth – claim a first career victory at her second start. The three-year-old was bought for \$200,000 as a yearling at Keeneland in September 2017 and Prescott travelled her back to Britain with the intention of selling her to a prospective owner. Arriving at Stansted Airport, she managed to get loose on the plane and ended up on the tarmac. Thanks to the vets, she survived but is also officially the most expensive horse raced by Prescott after all the bills. But she looks promising.

WE'LL KLINK TO THAT

Apprentice Nathan Klink celebrated the biggest day of his short career to date when he brought home a nicely taken treble for trainer Bill Human at Flamingo Park on Monday. Klink, who much like colleague Diego De Gouveia came through the ranks as a mature student, also rode his first winner for the same yard at this venue. That was on 16 July 2018 aboard the 3yo Nico's Chick in the silks of owner-breeder Nico van Niekerk. He had his first ride under rules on 5 April last year. He claims 2,5kgs and has ridden 21 winners to date.



Winx Is Back

Aussie superstar Winx has opened favourite for her anticipated return in the Gr2 Apollo Stakes to be run over 1400m on February 16. The four-time Cox Plate winner made her first public appearance since her record-breaking win at Moonee Valley in October, finishing seventh of 10 in a Rosehill trial last Tuesday. She won the Apollo in 2016 and 2017 – but missed last year due to a schedule alteration.

He's A Jock

Reigning champion jockey Lyle Hewitson registered his first win since qualifying as a jockey when scoring on Malinda in the second at Fairview last Friday. The favourite in the race, she was trained by Yvette Bremner. Lyle's new agent Deez Dyanand will only be responsible for rides outside of Gauteng and the Eastern Cape.



Diego On The Up

Diego de Gouveia is another apprentice that has just qualified as a fully fledged jockey. He initially dropped out of the academy in 2012 and landed up back there in 2015 via the back door of James Maree's work-riding programme and the Zimbabwe Jockey Academy. He rode his first winner on Sunday 14 February 2016 at Scottsville on Mustang Sonny for Lezeanne Forbes. He has ridden 80 winners to date – 14 of which have been this season.



African Gold

Var's former Equus Champion daughter Via Africa made her presence felt on the second day of the 2019 Magic Millions Gold Coast Yearling Sale last week. Her first foal, a colt by Redoute's Choice, fetched A\$320 000 – or the equivalent of more than R3.1 million, at the Gold Coast Yearling Sale. Consigned by Newhaven Park (As Agent), the colt, who was catalogued as Lot 268, was sold to Summit Racing Australia. Via Africa won ten of 16 outings in South Africa and earned in excess of R2.4 million. Trained by Duncan Howells, the Andre Hauptfleisch bred and part-owned Via Africa won the Gr1 South African Fillies Sprint, in both 2013 and 2014, and also captured the 2014 Gr1 Cape Flying Championship.



Quality Or Quantity?

While the Sun Met field size has disappointed some, spare a thought for the organisers of Saturday's Gr1 Matchbook Clarence House Chase at Ascot. Altior and Fox Norton were joined by just Un De Sceaux and Diego Du Charmil as the only four to survive the forfeit stage on Monday for Saturday's Gr1. There were nine entries initially for this weekend's highlight at Ascot, but the race is guaranteed to have its smallest field since its status was upped to the top level in 2008, having been run as a Gr2 limited handicap before that.

KZN BC - AGM

The KZN Breeders Club AGM will take place on Tuesday 29 January 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. RSVP to candiesemarnevic@gmail.com for catering purposes.



Deadline

A reminder that entries for the BSA Mixed Sale at Shongweni on 26 February close on Monday 21 January. Enquiries Ashley de Klerk – equine@bsa.co.za, or get the forms on www.bsa.co.za