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digest

RACING

THIS WEEKEND

FAIRVIEW TURF Friday
Best Roving Banker:
R4-(1) Harrington Port (15/10)

GREYVILLE POLY Friday
Best Roving Banker:
R2-(10) Magical Java (2/1)

KENILWORTH Saturday
Best Roving Banker:
R5-(1) One World (18/10)

TURFFONTEIN Saturday
Best Roving Banker:
R2-(1) Seneca Falls (3/1)

SCOTTSVILLE Sunday
Best Roving Banker:
R3-(3) Clouds Of Witness (3/1)

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Monday 21 January
Flamingo Park – race 3
Sporting Post
Best Handicapped
Secret Delight
WON 28/1 😊

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IT'S WIDE OPEN



The weight-for-age conditions of the Sun Met have taken some of the gloss off the old-fashioned long-term strategy adopted by trainers of bringing a horse slowly through the ranks and perfectly weighted to win it.

Three-time Met winning jockey Garth Puller says that despite the weight-for-age conditions and the smart performances of the top trio in the build-up, it remains a relatively wide open race – and a prize every one of the thirteen jockeys, trainers and their owners are desperate to win.

Trainer Brett Crawford received plenty of credit for planning the Kieswetter family's 2017 Met winner Whisky Baron's path to success.

Named in honour of Ridgemont Highlands supremo Wayne Kieswetter, Whisky Baron enjoyed a relatively low profile coming in to the big race – having only made his debut as a 3yo and winning a maiden at the third time of asking. Whisky Baron made

progress through early 2016, finishing second behind this evening's Dubai first starter Marinaresco in the G3 Winter Guineas and Winter Classic, and came into the Met off a fourth consecutive victory achieved in the Gr2 Glorious Goodwood Peninsula Handicap – his first win of consequence.

"I recall Jackie Bell telling me I had to win a B Division race carrying 59kgs to get Snow Fun into the Met in 1970. I duly won on him. He was an astute trainer and had chartered the path into the big race. They backed him – carrying 49kgs if I remember correctly – and as I was still an apprentice they commissioned Duncan Alexander to ride him. He duly won – I ran fourth on the stablemate," recalled Garth Puller, who was to go

RIDGEMONT

HIGHLANDS

IT'S WIDE OPEN

on and ride Gatecrasher, Pas De Quoi and Alastor to Met victories. We asked if there was a chance of the Cape Crawl on Saturday? “Look, I can’t see them crawling along – but it’s not impossible for the pace to be quite sedentary in the Met. The rule of thumb says that in the bigger features, in view of the competitive quality of the majority of the field, that they will scramble and go out to dispute the lead. A good pace will find the genuine milers out and I think the fact that the Snaiths have four nice runners in the race, that they will ensure that there is no dawdle. That said, I doubt that a horse like Milton that has led early over 1800m, won’t be leading from the jump.”

His pick is the 16-1 shot Made To Conquer, one of the Snaith quartet. “Like all the Snaith horses, he has had a perfect prep. I believe that if Grant van Niekerk hadn’t circled the July field on African Night Sky last season, that Made To Conquer would have just about won that race. He is a versatile relatively lightly exposed 5yo – he can run up there and from off them. He stays well. He is fit. Sure, on his official rating, he has some ground to make up at the weights – but in the heat of the battle field, it is not necessarily the best dressed soldier that survives,” he quips.

He suggests that Rainbow Bridge and Do It Again, and even Legal Eagle, are the others worth including. “I spoke to Eric (Sands) and he has managed to get some nice condition back on to Rainbow Bridge. Personally I feel that he didn’t enjoy the best of rides at his last two starts and with Anton Marcus up on Saturday, riding a supremely fit and very talented horse, things could get interesting. I’d love for Eric to win it, frankly!”

He says that any horse that wins the July and the Queen’s Plate is a worthy favourite. “Do It Again has lots in his favour. Fit, prepped to perfection, and at the top of his game, he also enjoys the services of Richard Fourie – a guy riding at the top of his game and brimming with confidence. I’m sure Richard will ride him like he did in the Queen’s Plate – and he should enjoy the extra. A big runner – but that’s not difficult to work out.”

Garth suggested that there could be some irony in the fact that Legal Eagle will probably be ridden the way he should be for the first time in ages. “He won the SA Derby over 2450m as a 3yo coming from off them and running uphill at Turffontein! How does he not stay? He has just been so superior to everything he has met, he has gotten away with running up there. If they drop him in from the wide draw and ride him cold, it could be interesting! I am not saying he will win it – but he won’t be far off in my opinion.”

With a headwind forecast for Saturday, the veteran former champion says that the good jockeys will know what to do. “Any cover is valuable with a headwind. It’s a long straight and spinning for home out front is going to test the character, legs and heart. Watch those tracking the leader into the straight. I say again that Made To Conquer is good value at the price!”

Where To Bet

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MET DAY

Here Comes The Sun

Gr1 Sun Met Kenilworth

The Cape Summer Season has showcased vintage racing of the highest quality in recent months and the R5 million Gr1 Sun Met looks all set to provide a fitting climax to a world-class show. As a weight-for-age contest, the calculations and assessments suggest a fairly simple outcome. But the ultimate prize in any sport never comes easy.



Do It Again | Candiese Marnewick

The weight terms of this prestigious contest, together with some raw logic and historical facts narrow the likely winners down to a probable celebration and sensational double for our reigning SA champion trainer, Justin Snaith. But if racing was that simple, it would be boring – and that it’s definitely not.

With a good pace almost a certainty, given the big stakes and proliferation of competitive forward racing gallopers, a true run race looks set to play into the hands of Snaith’s sensational Vodacom Durban July and L’Ormarins Queen’s Plate winner Do It Again, who will be primed at his third run this season. In a relatively small field, the smashingly handsome son of Twice Over is unlikely to be far off the gallop and will be cutting them down late.

His superstar stablemate, SA Horse Of The Year Oh Susanna defends her 2018 Sun Met title after her stunning recent victory in the Gr1 Paddock Stakes and is reputed to be getting stronger with every passing week. She carries 6,5kgs more than she did last year, but is still nicely in on her official rating and is another perfectly primed for a major run at her third start this term.

The Drakenstein bred and owned Oh Susanna won the historic first Met run under weight-for-age terms and crowned a glorious day for the victorious Snaith racing team, who also won the Gr1 Majorca with Snowdance and the Gr1 Cape Flying Championship with Sergeant Hardy on the same afternoon – the latter pair coincidentally defend their titles on Saturday. It remarkably took the Snaith family all of four decades and seven second cheques – and young Justin fifteen years on his own – to win the Cape’s flagship race. Oh Susanna’s victory was the early highpoint of a season where the team were to go on six months later and fill the top three places in the R4,25 million Gr1 Vodacom Durban July with Do It Again beating Made To Conquer and Elusive Silva. He subsequently picked up his second SA champion trainer title.

Brett Crawford’s Undercover Agent needs to prove he will stay the 2000m and the 2018 Gr1 Gold Challenge winner came under late pressure and was run out of the money late when 4 lengths off Do It

Again in the L’Ormarins Queen’s Plate. It is no secret that he is likely to be ridden slightly differently and from off the pace – and his wide

START 5:10PM	9	PAT/PICK SIX
KENILWORTH		Gr1 SUN MET - 2000M
		SAME TRAINER: (2-6) (4-7-12-13)
Greys Inn	1 LEGAL EAGLE (SG Tarry) L Hewitson	11 60.0
Querari	2 HEAD HONCHO (A Nel) K De Melo	10 60.0
Hat Trick	3 HAT PUNTANO (J Ramsden) D Dillon	8 60.0
Dynasty	4 MADE TO CONQUER (J Snaith) S Khumalo	4 60.0
Lateral	5 MILTON (WG Prestage) R Simons	6 60.0
Querari	6 KAMPALA CAMPARI (A Nel) A Domeyer	1 60.0
Twice Over	7 DO IT AGAIN (J Snaith) R Fourie	7 59.5
Captain Al	8 UNDERCOVER AGENT (BJ Crawford) C Orffer	12 59.5
Ideal World	9 RAINBOW BRIDGE (AE Sands) A Marcus	2 59.5
Captain Al	10 TAP O' NOTH (VH Marshall) M Byleveld	13 59.5
Dynasty	11 EYES WIDE OPEN (GS Kotzen) G Lerena	9 59.5
Twice Over	12 DOUBLEMINT (J Snaith) P Strydom	3 59.5
Street Cry	13 OH SUSANNA (J Snaith) B Fayd'herbe	5 57.0

MET DAY

**Gr1 Sun Met
past winners**

2016		
1 Smart Call	57.0 (8) 8/1	
2 Legal Eagle	59.5 (3) 16/10	
3 Captain America	60.0 (5) 8/1	
2017		
1 Whisky Baron	57.5 (8) 6/1	
2 Legal Eagle	60.0 (9) 2/1	
3 Captain America	58.0 (10) 22/1	
2018		
1 Oh Susanna	51.5 (4) 6/1	
2 Last Winter	59.5 (18) 31/4	
3 Marinaresco	60.0 (11) 5/1	

draw will give Corne Orffer the opportunity to try the energy saving experiment.

Dual past SA Horse Of The Year Legal Eagle enjoys a change of jockey with Anton Marcus jumping ship to the exciting 4yo Rainbow Bridge. The gallant 7yo has his fourth bid on the Met silverware and is another who could enjoy a change in riding

tactics. He will be piloted by SA champion jockey, Lyle Hewiston. There was some concern after the Sean Tarry star stopped late in his bid to win the Queen's Plate for the fourth consecutive year three weeks back, and many have consequently written him off as past his best. That could prove an error with the known fighting character of this eight time Gr1 winner!

Unbeaten in his first five starts, Eric Sands' exciting Ideal World gelding Rainbow Bridge was staying on in both the Green Point Stakes and the L'Ormarins Queen's Plate. In the latter race he finished 3 lengths off Do It Again. The jury is out as to whether Rainbow Bridge had a rare off day, or was simply not ridden with due diligence in the big mile. Whatever the case, that's all history now and Anton Marcus will get the very best out of him - and a good pace and the long Kenilworth summer straight could see this gelding setting the record straight on Saturday.

Joey Ramsden's Argentinian bred dual Gr1 winner Hat Puntano has not been in prime form at his recent starts and there is little to explain his poor close on 16 lengths defeat in the Queen's Plate - beyond the fact that he was slow away and may not have enjoyed the blinkers - which are removed on Saturday. The Charity Mile winner needs to find his best form.

The Andre Nel pair of Head Honcho and Kampala Campari bid to give owner Sabine Plattner a second winner after Martial Eagle stunned the nation back in 2013 when trained by Yogas Govender. The July Consolation winner Head Honcho looks the pick of the Rondeberg pair and, a winner of 6 of his last 7 starts, has continued to improve with every run. He was given a ten pound penalty for his 3,50 length defeat of Made To Conquer in the Premiers at his last start and may be a horse with more upward potential. His form is faultless and he strips fit.

Kampala Campari - bred on the same Querari x Captain Al cross as his stablemate - was narrowly beaten in the Peninsula Handicap last time and prior to that beat the perennial bridesmaid Ollivander in an MR 96 Handicap at Durbanville. He looks a genuine longshot at best.

The 2018 Cape Derby winner Eyes Wide Open - he beat Do It Again that memorable Met day in 2018 - has failed to deliver the goods and has been a frustrating talent to follow. He won't have fitness excuses after three prep runs but will need to lift his game to give Woodhill Racing an overdue first Met winner.

Vaughan Marshall's Tap O'Noth is a classy son of Captain Al who has sailed under the radar into the Met. While winless since his career peak success in the Cape Guineas of 2017, he has consistently finished on the feature fringes and has enjoyed a

workmanlike, more than spectacular, prep. He could be a possible quartet kicker if luck goes his way.

We have covered the prospects of the 7yo Milton later in these pages. The Lateral gelding is a genuine galloper who is bound to be up or near the pace - although in this league there are no guarantees that he will be leading from the jump. He looks to have it all to do and would be a crushing hometown success for the small trainer were he to pull it off.

Another of the Snaith quartet, the recent Peninsula Handicap winner Doublemint is primed to fire at his third start this term and gets the value added services of top jockey Piere Strydom. A horse that will probably eventually be aimed in the direction of the 2019 Durban July, the son of Twice Over will enjoy a hard gallop and will be running at them late. Whether he is good enough to run in the top four remains to be seen.

The 2018 Vodacom Durban July runner-up Made To Conquer looks to have a big task at the weights and would ordinarily have been a more likely candidate for the 2800m stayers contest later in the day. That said, his smart recent second behind Head Honcho in the Premiers and outstanding work at home has prompted his connections to take their chances here. He is likely to run in blinkers to sharpen him up.

All told, it looks a straight three cornered match between stablemates Do It Again and Oh Susanna, with Rainbow Bridge sure to be in the action late. Enjoy it!

Bolt's Back!

Olympic sprinting legend Usain Bolt will again be hosting the Sun Met, celebrated with GH Mumm Champagne.

Maison Mumm's Chief Entertainment Officer, the Jamaican Usain Bolt is set to make his return alongside Minnie Dlamini-Jones and Somizi Mhlomo on Saturday.

Last year the fastest man on earth arrived by helicopter and made a brief appearance at the winning presentation.

From winning gold medals and beating the odds, the 32 year old Usain St Leo Bolt is a world record holder in the 100 metres, 200 metres and 4 x 100 metres relay. His reign as Olympic champion in all of these events spans three Olympics. He is widely considered to be the greatest sprinter of all time.

A nine-time Olympic gold medalist, Bolt won the 100 m, 200 m and 4 x 100 m relay at three consecutive Olympic Games. He gained worldwide fame for his double sprint victory in world record times at the 2008 Beijing Olympics, which made him the first person to hold both records since fully automatic time became mandatory.

He improved upon his second 100 m world record of 9.69 with 9.58 seconds in 2009 - the biggest improvement since the start of electronic timing. He twice broke the 200 metres world record, setting 19.30 in 2008 and 19.19 in 2009.

In August last year Bolt began training with Australian football A-League club, the Central Coast Mariners, as a left-winger.

MET DAY

It Could Pay To Go Dutch

Gr1 Cape Flying Championship Kenilworth

One of the Cape’s favourite sons of years gone by, veteran Mark Khan makes a welcome return to his favourite racecourse on Saturday and partners the gallant Sergeant Hardy in a bid to achieve the double in the speed pinnacle of the local summer season.



Dutch Philip| Wayne Marks

One of a trio of runners from the powerful Snaith yard, the 5yo Sergeant Hardy has oddly not tasted success since his big win in the R1 million Gr1 Cape Flying Championship on Met day in 2018.

Known as a very capable horse with breathing and behavioural quirks, the son of Captain Al has a mountain to climb to pick himself up off the canvass and bounce back to retain the prestigious title on Saturday. Justin Snaith said early this week that Mark Khan had proven something of a lucky charm and there will be many hoping that the Cape champion will inject some life back into the Sergeant.

Another of the Cape’s much younger favourite sons, Aldo Domeyer appears to have been jocked off his regular ride, Dutch Philip, in favour of the new-look lean and mean Bernard Fayd’Herbe who flies in from Dubai and takes the reins on the smart 4yo on Saturday. Not at his best so far this term, Dutch Philip ran on late in the South Easter Sprint when beaten 2,65 lengths by Speedpoint. He meets the Ramsden runner on 2kg worse terms on Saturday. But one just gets the feeling that he is much better than his form and he gets the vote to improve again in the blinkers.

Bold Respect was unplaced in this race last year but is slowly edging back to his best with two good placed runs at his most recent starts – including a meritorious 3rd under top weight in the Merchants. His stablemate, the lightning fast Pacific Trader is the most improved sprinter in the Cape and continues to up his game with his raw speed style of racing. He is a course and distance specialist who has the unique ability to kick on late- even when blazing away up front. He will not be winning this out of turn.

Yvette Bremner returns to Cape Town with Southern Cross Stakes winner, Princess Rebel. The speedball ran her opposition off their feet in early December at this track and gets the services of Piere Strydom on Saturday – that engagement is in lieu of regular pilot Lyle Hewitson, who does duty for the Sean Tarry yard. There are few quicker horses around and Strydom could be a trump card in the daughter of Rebel King’s bid to register her biggest success to date.

The third of the powerful Brett Crawford attack is the

6yo Search Party who looks held by the younger Pacific Trader on current form and has not been at his top-class best for some time.

Johannesburg visitor Rebel’s Champ has won five of his last seven starts and is a 4yo on the upgrade. A gelding with the unique ability to drop out and run at them late over the minimum trip, he carried top weight when arriving late to beat Prince Of Kahal in the Lebello last time. The Cape is uncharted territory for trainer Paul Peter and jockey Carlos Herrera Gomez, and Rebel’s Champ’s performance in the national big league will make for an interesting sub-plot. He certainly has clocked the times to be competitive.

Joey Ramsden’s Computaform Sprint winner Attenborough has failed to show at his two starts this term, but is a classy – albeit moody- sort with the ability to surprise.

Merchants winner Kasimir hit the front looking a winner, but failed to withstand the challenge of Pacific Trader and was run out of it two lengths last time. He meets the Crawford speed merchant on 1,5kg better terms on Saturday, with this race his declared target for the season. He looks the value.

South Easter Sprint winner Speedpoint could find himself racing into the teeth of the South Easter from his 1 draw and while having produced some top performances over the past year, looks held by Pacific Trader on his last run.

The now 7yo Trip To Heaven has found his perennial slow-starting antics to have cost him dearly and he remains the one of the top horses never to have won a Gr1. He ran second in this race last year and did not run the worst of races at his sole start this term, when stumbling and still getting within three lengths of Pacific Trader. He is probably past his prime but has the ability to run a massive race.

Candice Dawson broke the ice with a winner in the Cape last Saturday and she saddles the pacy Rocky Valley. It is difficult to select the 5yo on current form.

The same applies to KZN mare Vision To Kill, who has not set the world alight in her two starts in Cape Town this term. She is currently a reserve runner.

The enigmatic Sand And Sea has never fulfilled the Gr1 promise of his 2yo term and looks held by Pacific Trader and a few others.

The lightly tried Pleasedtomeetyou takes a big jump in class after failing to assert himself around the turn in the Cape Classic. He won his last start well enough, but now needs to prove he can take the step up.

Former Cape-based Quinlan looks to be more of a travelling companion for his super quick stablemate and could find himself outgunned in this company on these weight terms.

The Australian-bred Sir Frenchie should find this tough and has proven quite inconsistent throughout most of his career.

Cape racing’s old man river, Tevez, is now a 9yo and has not been finishing his races off recently. He is a reserve runner.

It’s a tricky race and worth going wide in the exotics. Dutch Philip could come back to his best and he is the selection to beat Kasimir and Pacific Trader – but there are plenty hovering on the fringes.

Gr1 Cape Flying Ch’ship past winners		
2016		
1 Gulf Storm	60.0 (6)	12/1
2 Brutal Force	60.0 (13)	4/1
3 Carry On Alice	57.5 (10)	7/2
2017		
1 Carry On Alice	57.5 (7)	3/1
2 Trip To Heaven	60.0 (2)	28/10
3 Red Ray	60.0 (1)	6/1
2018		
1 Sergeant Hardy	60.0 (6)	10/3
2 Trip To Heaven	60.0 (7)	9/2
3 Live Life	57.5 (1)	13/1

START 3:00PM KENILWORTH	6	PA4/PICK SIX3/JACKPOT2 Gr1 CAPE FLYING CHAMPIOSNHP - 1000M SAME TRAINER:(1-7-10)(2-5-14)(4-8)(9-17)(12-15)
Bold Silvano	1	BOLD RESPECT(BJ Crawford) C Orffier.....11 60.0
Captain Al	2	SERGEANT HARDY(J Snaith) M Khan14 60.0
Rebel King	3	REBEL'S CHAMP(PA Peter) C Herrera Gomez.....4 60.0
Western Winter	4	ATTENBOROUGH(J Ramsden) S Khumalo8 60.0
Captain Al	5	KASIMIR(J Snaith) R Fourie.....7 60.0
Trippi	6	TRIP TO HEAVEN(SG Tarry) L Hewitson.....3 60.0
Sail From Seattle	7	PACIFIC TRADER(BJ Crawford) G Cheyne.....10 60.0
Var	8	SPEEDPOINT(J Ramsden) C Zackey.....1 60.0
What A Winter	9	DUTCH PHILIP(C Bass-Robinson) B Fayd'herbe.....9 60.0
Captain Al	10	SEARCH PARTY(BJ Crawford) D Dillon.....2 60.0
Twice Over	11	SAND AND SEA(DR Drier) A Marcus.....16 60.0
Sail From Seattle	12	QUINLAN(Y Bremner) R Munger.....15 60.0
Seventh Rock	13	ROCKY VALLEY(C Dawson) W Kennedy18 60.0
Cholsir	14	SIR FRENCHIE(J Snaith) K De Melo12 60.0
Rebel King	15	PRINCESS REBEL(Y Bremner) P Strydom13 57.5
Querari	16	PLEASEDTOMEETYOU(A Nel) G Lerena17 56.5
Caesour	17	TEVEZ(C Bass-Robinson) - reserve 16 60.0
Kildonan	18	VISION TO KILL(PM Gadsby) - reserve 25 57.5

MET DAY

Fast And Flying

The Cape Flying Championship was launched in 1969 over the Milnerton 1000m course and run for a stake of R4000. On Saturday, R1 million is up for grabs.

In a fifty year history, the greatest ‘Cape Flyer’ is surely the ‘Iron Horse’ Sentinel, who won the race for three years in succession from 1973.

Other multiple winners were Free Enterprise, Signor Amigo, Flobayou, Cordocelli, Laisserfaire, Nhlavini and present day Drakenstein stallion, What A Winter.

The race was switched to Kenilworth from 1996 and the brilliant Eric Sands trained Flobayou thus holds a rare distinction of being the only horse to win the Gr1 sprint at both Milnerton and Kenilworth.

The late Theo De Klerk, a true gentleman of Cape trainers, saddled the very first winner Benzol for his wife Lavinia.

For those who may fancy Princess Rebel, it is pleasing to see that the girls have a good record in the race. Sean Tarry’s champion Carry On Alice beat stablemate Trip To Heaven in 2017, while the imported Alboran Sea won it for Mike de Kock two years earlier.

Var’s champion daughter Via Africa won the race in 2014, while yet another Var star in Val De Ra won it two years before that.

The Australian-bred Laisserfaire won the race in consecutive years in 2001 and 2002. In earlier years, Alec Soteriadis trained the Scott Brothers bred Leta under John Garcia to win in 1970. Mike Bass, who really had an outstanding win and place record in this Gr1 showpiece saddled the brilliant Sweet Chestnut to win the race in 1981. Paarl based Glen Kotzen sent out Nobely Born in 1997.

The unbeaten Dynasty galloper, Front And Centre, was a super impressive winner of the Cape Fillies Guineas when she carried too many guns to beat Silvano’s Pride a length and a half. Anton Marcus has been aboard at of her four starts where she has progressed from 1200m to 1600m seamlessly and with ease. She could well make it five straight victories on Saturday.

Clouds Unfold had to be switched late and finished third and 2,25 lengths behind Front And Centre in the that Gr1 fillies classic. She subsequently came out and blew her opposition away to win the Sceptre Stakes earlier this month. While there may be a school of thought to suggest that Clouds Unfold doesn’t quite get the mile, she is worth another chance as she now races at peak fitness and will have no excuses.

The highest rated filly in the race, and yet another outstanding daughter of Dynasty, Lady In Black, has been a model of consistency and comes in with the advantage of a pole position draw on Saturday. She ran her heart out when pushing Oh Susanna all the way to the wire to be beaten only half a length in the Paddock Stakes. Dropping down to the mile she makes an interesting opponent for the local stars.

It looks quite tough beyond those top four.

Adam Marcus’s Brave Move appears to have gone off the boil at her last three starts and could do no better than midfield in the Paddock Stakes. While a really game and tough mare, she is probably a few lengths off the top-rated quartet, but could earn back end of the quartet credit.

The tough as teak Rose In Bloom ran a gutsy third in this race behind Snowdance last year and has since travelled to KZN and Gauteng with some distinction. She was not disgraced at her first start back at home when running on nicely for a 3 length fourth to Clouds Unfold in the Sceptre. She does, however, meet the Bass-Robinson star on 2,5kg worse terms, so could have her work cut out.

The evergreen Goodtime Gal is always thereabouts but is a few lengths off the top ladies. She was scratched last time with an abscess and her prep has not probably been ideal to make a winning bid in this illustrious company.

Second of the Ramsden duo, the very consistent Fresnaye just tired late in the Paddock Stakes when beaten 4 lengths by Oh Susanna. A very smart daughter of Western Winter, she must have place prospects.

Diana Stakes winner Love To Boogie has drawn wide and is a few lengths inferior to the better fillies. That said, she is seldom far off the action and could run into the money.

Freedom Charter is an interesting runner. Campaigned recently over the sprints, she has been finishing with a flourish and caught

the eye when chasing Clouds Unfold in the Sceptre Stakes last time. She will surely enjoy the extra, but will need to up her game.

Fairer Sex Stars Clash

Gr1 Majorca Stakes Kenilworth

Justin Snaith makes no secret of the fact that Met day is about showcasing the champion yard’s stars and winning as many races as possible. He looks to have a strong hand in the R1 million Gr1 Majorca Stakes where high-class 4yo Snowdance bids to register a rare double.



Clouds Unfold | Chase Liebenberg

While things didn’t go her way in the L’Ormarins Queen’s Plate where she was beaten out of the money by stablemate Do It Again, the daughter of Captain Al is lethal against her own sex and could find her winning thread again. She was a supremely easy winner of this race last year and while the KZN season did not go her way entirely, she was a facile winner at her penultimate start, which was nothing more than a training gallop.

But it won’t be all plain sailing on Saturday with the likes of fast ascending 3yo’s Clouds Unfold and Front And Centre, as well as the high quality 4yo Lady In Black to contend with.

START 4:10PM KENILWORTH			8	PA6/PICK SIX5/JACKPOT4 Gr1 MAJORCA STAKES (F&M)(WFA) - 1600M SAME TRAINER: (2-7)(3-5)(9-13)		
3D20	1K16	2K18	1	LADY IN BLACK(DR Drier) S Veale	1	60.0
2D16	1K14	6K16	2	SNOWDANCE(J Snaith) R Fourie	12	60.0
3F20	1K18	4K18	3	FRESNAYE(J Ramsden) B Fayd'herbe	6	60.0
4K16	7K18	6K18	4	BRAVE MOVE(AN Marcus) C Zackey	9	60.0
1T10	5T12	4K12	5	ROSE IN BLOOM(J Ramsden) D Dillon	3	60.0
5S12	2D14	4T16	6	FIGURELLA(DC Howells) M Khan	11	60.0
1D20	2K18	9K18	7	MIYABI GOLD(J Snaith) P Strydom	8	60.0
1L14	3K16	4K14	8	LOVE TO BOOGIE(A Nel) S Khumalo	13	60.0
2K11	3K10	3K12	9	FREEDOM CHARTER(C Bass-Robinson) L Hewitson	2	60.0
3L14	6K16	2K14	10	GOODTIME GAL(M Robinson) S Mbhele	10	60.0
1T18	3T16	7K18	11	SYLVAN ON FIRE(C Dawson) G Lerena	5	60.0
1L14	1K14	1K16	12	FRONT AND CENTRE(BJ Crawford) A Marcus	4	55.0
1K14	3K16	1K12	13	CLOUDS UNFOLD(C Bass-Robinson) A Domeyer	7	55.0

MET DAY

The Ashburton-based Fiorella comes off a well-beaten fourth in the Ipi Tombe Stakes on Summer Cup day. The daughter of Captain Al has her first run in the Cape and could find it tough from her 11 draw in this company.

Second of the Snaith pair, Gold Bracelet winner Miyabi Gold gets the services of Piere Strydom and putting a line through her ordinary effort in the Paddock Stakes last time, she could be a nice quartet kicker in this field. She is relatively lightly raced and has definite scope to still improve.

Joburg visitor Sylvan On Fire was outgunned in the Paddock Stakes which was slightly off her decent home form. Assuming that she improves with the benefit of having settled in the Cape, she could be another that could boost the quartets if things go her way.

There should be little between the younger pair of Clouds Unfold and Front And Centre – while the seasoned Snowdance and Lady In Black will be right in the mix. It could come down to luck in running.

Gr1 Majorca Stakes past winners

2016		
1 Inara	60.0 (6)	13/2
2 Same Jurisdiction	60.0 (2)	11/20
3 Lanner Falcon	60.0 (5)	14/1
2017		
1 Nightingale	60.0 (12)	8/1
2 Star Express	60.0 (11)	5/1
3 Goodtime Gal	60.0 (3)	15/1
2018		
1 Snowdance	55.0 (9)	1/4
2 Star Express	60.0 (2)	28/1
3 Rose In Bloom	55.0 (5)	30/1

Girls Just Wanna Have Fun

Gr1 Cape Derby Kenilworth

Only three fillies have won the Cape Derby in close on sixty years. So it could be argued that history is not on the side of the trio of fairer sex equine athletes who step into the male dominated domain on Saturday.



Thanksgiving | Gold Circle

Topping the SP ratings for the 2019 renewal of this prestigious classic, Santa Clara is, with respect, taking on a slightly depleted group of males, thanks to the attraction of the richly endowed sales races on the same day.

This is a slightly unfortunate state of affairs and there is plenty of argument to run this classic later in February –

besides the fact that it also gives the trainers another month to work on the more immature sorts.

The well-related Santa Clara – her dam is a full sister to champion sire Silvano – could realistically have run in the Majorca, the CTS 1600 or the Derby on the day. Her connections have opted for the softer target for her and there appears to be no doubt that she will get the trip. She won her last start rather easily over the Kenilworth mile and prior to that was hampered when finishing 5th behind Front And Centre in the Cape Fillies Guineas. Her wide draw, while not a major factor over the trip, won't be in her favour.

Sean Tarry's Second Request has drawn the pole position gate and was 1,25 lengths in front of Santa Clara in the Cape Fillies Guineas. She then ran in the Gr1 Paddock Stakes, finishing a fair 5th and just under 5 lengths behind Oh Susanna. There looks to be little question that she will get the 2000m and it will be comforting for her connections that her dam won up the 2450m.

Third of the fairer sex trio is the Paul Reeves trained Helen's Ideal, another who should get the trip on blood. She was a 0,25 lengths behind Santa Clara in the Cape Fillies Guineas and probably has most to do of the three.

Duncan Howells travels from Ashburton with the Dynasty colt Thanksgiving, who has won two of six and was runner-up behind the exciting Hawwaam in the Dingaans in his penultimate start. Prior to that he looked a winner in the KZN Guineas Trial before being nabbed late by Street Ahead. A promising sort and one of four Dynasty progeny in the race, he looks a big runner.

Brett Crawford won the Derby in 2017 when Frankie Dettori piloted the now exported Edict Of Nantes to victory. The Philippini trainer has three runners in the race on Saturday and the best could be the R6 million Cape Premier graduate Charles. After failing to produce in the Concorde Cup, he came out and impressed as a 3yo carrying weight in a handicap to beat the talented Vardy. While drawn wide, Charles gets the service of Anton Marcus on Saturday.

Hudoo Magic and Senatla are the other two Crawford runners and both have shown enough to challenge for the top cheque in this race. Senatla particularly caught the eye when failing to settle

Majorca - Magic Memories

The Gr1 Majorca Stakes is one of the most important weight-for-age races for fillies and mares on the racing calendar and is named in honour of the champion filly Majorca who was bred at Klawervlei by Ralph Koster.

With Dougie Whyte's retirement from the saddle announced this week, racing memories wind back to the 1997 Majorca, when the Cheveley Stud-bred Roman Fantasy scrambled home a narrow winner. That was just one week after the Koster Bros-bred London News captured the J&B Met. London News was the horse that launched Whyte's illustrious career in Hong Kong, winning the Gr1 QE II Cup the same year.

Justin Snaith, who bids to achieve the big Majorca double with Snowdance on Saturday, has a smart record in the race having won it in 2008 with subsequent July dead-heater Dancer's Daughter and then in 2012 with the Jet Master star Ebony Flyer.

Legendary trainer Terrance Millard won the Majorca seven times, and also celebrated a double. That was with the Peaceable Kingdom filly Fast Piece who won the race in 1976 and 1977. Millard's first winner was Kentucky Belle in 1972 and he rounded off a golden era with Olympic Duel in 1990.

The last filly to achieve a Majorca double was the Bass-trained and Drakenstein bred Trippi flyer Inara, who won it in 2015 and 2016. Prior that it was the D Cohen & Sons bred Fine Edge filly Donatella, who won the race in 1999 and 2000, for trainer Clodagh Shaw.

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

MET DAY

and still running on for second in the Politician Stakes.

Justin Snaith last won the Derby in 2016 with Its My Turn and has a trio of runners in the race. Top rated is Bunker Hunt, who is probably now best known for dislodging jockey Richard Fourie at the start of the Politician Stakes on Queen’s Plate day. This classy son of Dynasty will be ridden by Richard Fourie and looks sure to get the 2000m.

His stablemate Belgarion won his first two starts and then ran on nicely for third behind Twist Of Fate in the Politician Stakes. He looks another with a very bright future- if this race has not come too early.

Third of the Snaith trio is Knights Templar, who looks held by Bunker Hunt and his stable companion, but is another Dynasty colt who is bound to go on and win his races.

Glen Kotzen is bidding for a Derby double, having won the race last year with Eyes Wide Open, and he saddles Herodotus and Seattle Force.

The grey Herodotus caught the eye when staying on for fifth in the Politician Stakes and looks likely to enjoy the 2000m.

The Hollywood Syndicate’s Seattle Force failed to quicken in the Politician Stakes and ran eight lengths off Twist Of Fate. He is yet another runner who could prove more effective over the 2000m and can challenge for the back end of quartets.

Gareth van Zyl is the second of the KZN raiders with the Stagelight colt, Ovation Award. This fellow stays well and is an interesting dark horse in the line-up, having won 3 of his 7 starts with some authority.

Joey Soma saddles Roll Of Drums who will have to improve on the form shown to date.

Mike de Kock won the Derby in 2015 with Ertijaal and he saddles

shape of Perpetual Flame. The son of Irish Flame has run two ordinary races in the Cape – although with excuses at both. It remains to be seen whether he has the class to take on the top runners here.

Besides Bunker Hunt, the Sabine Plattner silks will be worn by the La Plasaince stud home-bred Sailing Lizard, who played his way into contention with a fair fourth in the Politician Stakes at his last start. He has drawn on the wide outside and has a big task in this field.

Line Editor was a surprise winner of his last start when running on strongly to beat the older campaigner Streetfighting Man in a low rated handicap at Kenilworth. He won his maiden over 2400m, so definitely stays- but will need to improve further.

P E visitor Lloyd George has won two of his three starts at home and now steps up inTO the big league at his first away game. Piere Strydom will add plenty of value from the saddle and the son of Fort Wood could be just about anything.

A wide open Derby. If your policy is to follow stats and history, then scratch the girls . Bt it’s suddenly wide open then with the likes of Bunker Hunt, Thanksgiving and Ovation Award, just three of a solid handful of males staking claims.

Gr1 Cape Derby past winners			
2016			
1	It's My Turn	60.0 (13)	16/1
2	Brazuca	60.0 (1)	3/1
3	Marinaresco	60.0 (14)	9/1
2017			
1	Edict Of Nantes	60.0 (3)	11/2
2	Zodiac Ruler	60.0 (5)	15/1
3	Captain Gambler	57.5 (8)	100/1
2018			
1	Eyes Wide Open	60.0 (5)	9/2
2	Do It Again	60.0 (8)	167/20
3	Pack Leader	60.0 (2)	12/1

START 3:35PM KENILWORTH	7	PA5/PICK SIX4/JACKPOT3 Gr1 CAPE DERBY - 2000M SAME TRAINER:(2-7-8)(3-9-13)(10-14)	
Dynasty	1	THANKSGIVING(DC Howells) M Khan.....	2 60.0
Trippi	2	CHARLES(BJ Crawford) A Marcus.....	18 60.0
Dynasty	3	BUNKER HUNT(J Snaith) R Fourie.....	11 60.0
Stagelight	4	OVATION AWARD(Gareth Van Zyl) W Kennedy....	3 60.0
Seventh Rock	5	ROLL OF DRUMS(JA Soma) Scratched.....	10 60.0
Dundeel	6	ATYAAB(MF de Kock) D De Gouveia.....	15 60.0
Choirsir	7	HUDOO MAGIC(BJ Crawford) C Orfter.....	6 60.0
Potala Palace	8	SENATLA(BJ Crawford) G Cheyne.....	17 60.0
Dynasty	9	BELGARION(J Snaith) B Fayd'herbe.....	12 60.0
Trippi	10	HERODOTUS(GS Kotzen) K De Melo.....	13 60.0
Irish Flame	11	PERPETUAL FLAME(H Kotzen) G Lerena.....	7 60.0
Sail From Seattle	12	SAILING LIZARD(A Nel) R Simons.....	20 60.0
Dynasty	13	KNIGHTS TEMPLAR(J Snaith) S Veale.....	9 60.0
Mambo In Seattle	14	SEATTLE FORCE(GS Kotzen) C Zackey.....	5 60.0
Jay Peg	15	LINE EDITOR(GW Ennion) M Byleveld.....	19 60.0
Fort Wood	16	LLOYD GEORGE(AC Greeff) P Strydom.....	16 60.0
Marchfield	17	GUN HILL(Y Bremner) R Munger.....	8 60.0
Twice Over	18	SECOND REQUEST(SG Tarry) L Hewitson.....	1 57.5
Duke Of Marmalade	19	SANTA CLARA(C Bass-Robinson) A Domeyer....	14 57.5
Ideal World	20	HELEN'S IDEAL(PD Reeves) D Dillon.....	4 57.5

the lightly tried Atyaab. This son of Dundeel has improved nicely over ground and now steps into Gr1 company for the first time.

Nathan Kotzen saddles his first Cape Derby runner in the

Show Your Precious Mettle!

If fashion is your focus, the theme of Precious Metals sets the scene for the day as Kenilworth will transform into the city's most glittering runway, adorned with gold, copper and platinum. Inspired by the riches of the earth, the theme is a celebration of Africa's most luxurious gems with racing enthusiasts and fashionistas expected to don their most opulent outfits.

In contrast to last year's theme, which brought Kenilworth to life in shweshwe textures and African-inspired prints, the 2019 renewal promises to be just as glamorous on a day when top class horseracing meets high-end fashion. Whether you go bold in gold, rock the red carpet in copper or parade in platinum, get ready for a dazzling day at the races.



MET DAY

Stay The Day

Gr2 Stayers Kenilworth

The R400 000 Gr2 Cape Stayers is a race that captures the imagination of the on-course crowd as they jump in front of the stands. It's also a race renowned for throwing up the odd surprise.

The 2800m contest is a conditions race and therein lies the key to resolving the puzzle.



Strathdon | Chase Liebenberg

Justin Snaith's very capable Silvano gelding Strathdon hasn't won in over a year but has been thereabouts and now finds himself with a perfect opportunity to get back into the winner's box. He was beaten just over a length in the Charmain's Cup by Gimme One Night where he was conceding 7.5kgs and now meets the same Brett

Crawford runner at level weights.

Gimme One Night is one of the most improved stayers around and has reeled off three good wins with his characteristic late runs from off the pace. Lyle Hewitson gets on well with the 5yo and he is aboard again as the gelding faces his acid test.

Beyond Strathdon, Justin Snaith has three very capable sorts in the race. These include the now 8yo past winner Ovidio, who returns to action after a year off. Fitness would be the major question mark against the son of Danehill Dancer.

Snaith also saddles Elusive Silva and Magnificent Seven. The former is a classy sort on his day as evidenced by his gutsy third to his stablemate Do It Again in the July. His last run in the Premier Trophy was below his best but he did make respiratory noises in the running and he could be worth a chance if he comes out enthusiastically.

Magnificent Seven reeled off four on the trot including victory in the Algoa Cup before possibly finding the 1800m of the Trophy too short. This talented stayer cannot be disregarded.

Stuart Pettigrew saddles Walter Smoothie who showed lots of pace in the Chairman's before fading to be beaten 1.5 lengths by Gimme One Night. With a 5.5kg turnaround in the weights in their favour the Gauteng raiding team may fancy their chances of turning the tables.

Dan Katz saddles last year's winner Let It Rain who hasn't quite been at his best in recent times. The Dynasty gelding stays all day though and cannot be disregarded for the quartets.

Candice Bass-Robinson has a quartet of runners in the race and the best of hers may be the Australian-bred 4yo Ballad Of The Sea, who looks a lot better than a one-time winner at this stage of his career and has been aimed at this race.

knockers on their day, with a preference for the former. He will find this a lot tougher than when chasing Gimme One Night home last time but looks to have definite place prospects.

Dynasty's Blossom is the only filly in the race and tries the trip for the first time. She certainly has the blood to go all the way and Joey Ramsden is a master conditioner of stamina horses.

It looks tough for the rest and we are siding with Strathdon to come back to winning ways at the expense of Magnificent Seven and Walter Smoothie.

Gr2 Stayers past winners		
2017		
1	Krambambuli	59.0 (7) 8/1
2	Helderberg Blue	59.0 (10) 11/2
3	Ovidio	60.0 (2) 1/1
2018		
1	Let It Rain	60.0 (2) 11/1
2	Master's Eye	60.0 (10) 57/20
3	Ollivander	58.5 (1) 5/1

General Justin's Curved Ball

Summer Juvenile Stakes (L) Kenilworth

In typically swashbuckling Snaith style, the SA champion team have thrown a curved ball into the mix for the Listed Summer Juvenile Stakes in the form of the unraced R4 million Frankel colt, General Franco.

The dogs have been barking for some time about the merits of this exciting Cape Premier Yearling Sale graduate and he gets thrown into the deep end first time out. He gets a run in view of the withdrawal of the Spies runner, Law And Order. Best idea would be to watch the betting closer to race time.



Emerald Band | Chase Liebenberg

The fact is that the sketchy form in this 2yo feature makes it a difficult race to put one's head down.

Joey Ramsden struck with his first 2yo runner of the season when Double Alliance came home ahead of his lesser fancied stablemate two weeks ago. The son of Twice Over impressed with a solid turn of foot and can only improve on that showing. His stablemate Ibra ran in the same race and finished 1.3 lengths off. She was reported to be making a respiratory noise in running but was not disgraced and she meets her conqueror on 3kg better terms.

Dean Kannemeyer's Emerald Band improved lengths at his second outing when a facile winner over the course and distance. He disposed of the highly regarded Shinnecock with ease, but the jury is out on the strength of the form behind him.

Candice Bass-Robinson's Trippi filly Vandah's Spirit was a very impressive winner of her debut start three weeks ago, when turning it on late to beat Cyber Blossom with ease. She is highly regarded but meets the Snaith runner-up on 3kg worse terms, which will test her class.

It is worth noting that the fillies have a very good record in this race and we have already seen on the local juvenile scene that a capable filly can beat a capable colt on her day.

START 5:50PM KENILWORTH	10	Gr2 CAPE STAYERS - 2800M SAME TRAINER: (1-3-4-10)(6-7-11-12)	
Silvano	1	ELUSIVE SILVA(J Snaith) S Khumalo	1 60.0
Dynasty	2	LET IT RAIN(D Katz) G Cheyne	14 60.0
Danehill Dancer	3	OVIDIO(J Snaith) K De Melo	7 59.0
Silvano	4	STRATHDON(J Snaith) R Fourie	13 59.0
Gimmethereenlight	5	GIMME ONE NIGHT(BJ Crawford) L Hewitson	5 59.0
Silvano	6	OLLIVANDER(C Bass-Robinson) R Munger	9 59.0
Fort Wood	7	BENJAN(C Bass-Robinson) A Domeyer	12 59.0
Elusive Fort	8	WOODLAND'S FOREST(Burger/van Reenen) B May	4 59.0
Biarritz	9	WALTER SMOOTHIE(ST Pettigrew) D De Gouveia	11 57.5
Horse Chestnut	10	MAGNIFICENT SEVEN(J Snaith) B Fayd'herbe	2 57.5
Horse Chestnut	11	PACIFIC CHESTNUT(C Bass-Robinson) C Zackey	10 57.5
Teofilo	12	BALLAD OF THE SEA(C Bass-Robinson) R Simons	3 57.5
Dynasty	13	DYNASTY'S BLOSSOM(J Ramsden) D Dillon	6 55.0
Pomodoro	14	CEDAR MAN(GW Ennion) W Kennedy	8 51.0

His stablemate Pacific Chestnut almost upset matters in the Chairman's and has been edging back to his best form over ground.

Benjan and Ollivander are both hard

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It is good to welcome the PE visitor’s Wild Move and Brandina from the Alan Greeff and Gavin Smith yards respectively.

Wild Move won very well at the second time of asking and now faces his first serious test.

Brandina will be of particular interest to locals as she was the first winner for former local star, Capetown Noir. She actually beat Wild Move on debut in receipt of 2,5kg and meets the colt on the same weight differential again.

Miss Honey is stablemate to Vandah’s Spirit and conceded 3kgs when beaten 2 lengths into 3rd at her second run. She has run on nicely from off the pace in both her starts and looks like a filly worth following.

Paul Reeves’ speedy What A Winter filly, Chilly Winter beat Shinnecock on her 900m debut but then failed to impress behind Vandah’s Spirit next time out.

Sean Tarry’s Talladega ran very green when falling behind Vandah’s Spirit first time out and will have to improve on that performance.

It looks tough for the rest but Vaughan Marshall’s Var first timer Tutorial may be worth a mention. He is bound to be speedy and it is best that the betting is watched.

Warrior Tiger was not disgraced on debut when just under 3 lengths fourth to Double Alliance. But he is apparently a gelding with many problems.

Glen Kotzen’s Commanding Queen never showed on debut and the better of the Woodhill duo may be Duchess Of Cornwall who has had two fair runs.

Tobie Spies’ Linden Rock has two fairly ordinary places to his credit

Summer Juvenile S. (L) past winners			
2016			
1	Sergeant Hardy	60.0	(6) 13/2
2	Pacific Spirit	57.0	(2) 11/1
3	Bishop’s Bounty	57.0	(5) 1/1
2017			
1	Call To Account	54.5	(1) 18/1
2	Kasimir	57.0	(5) 4/1
3	Dutch Philip	60.0	(7) 11/10
2018			
1	Traces	57.0	(5) 16/1
2	Carlita	57.5	(1) 31/10
3	Royal Italian	57.0	(4) 16/1

in Port Elizabeth and takes a big jump in class.

It’s a big ask for an unraced 2yo to come out and take on winners on a busy big raceday like the Met. Justin Snaith has made no secrets of the fact that he has big plans for General Franco and he will certainly know where he is going with the well-bred colt after Saturday. Of the raced runners, Double

START 1:05PM KENILWORTH	3	PA1 SUMMER JUVENILE STAKES (L) - 1000M SAME TRAINER: (1-14)(6-7)(8-15)(11-13) (12-17)(16-18)		
Twice Over	1	DOUBLE ALLIANCE (J Ramsden)	D Dillon	14 60.0
Gimmethethegreentight	2	EMERALD BAND (D Kannemeyer)	K De Melo	10 60.0
Crusade	3	WILD MOVE (GD Smith)	S Khumalo	12 60.0
Capetown Noir	4	BRANDINA (AC Greeff)	G Cheyne	4 57.5
What A Winter	5	CHILLY WINTER (PD Reeves)	R Simons	9 57.5
Pathfork	6	MISS HONEY (C Bass-Robinson)	B Fayd'herbe	5 57.5
Trippi	7	VANDAH'S SPIRIT (C Bass-Robinson)	A Domeyer	16 57.5
Seventh Rock	8	LINDEN ROCK (T Spies)	C Orffer	2 57.0
Var	9	TUTORIAL (VH Marshall)	M Byleveld	15 57.0
Where's That Tiger	10	WARRIOR TIGER (Piet Botha)	D Ashby	18 57.0
Pathfork	11	COMMANDING QUEEN (GS Kotzen)	A Andrews	13 54.5
What A Winter	12	CYBER BLOSSOM (J Snaith)	M Khan	3 54.5
Duke Of Marmalade	13	DUCHESOFFCORNWALL (GS Kotzen)	W Kennedy	11 54.5
Var	14	IBRA (J Ramsden)	C Zackey	7 54.5
Greys Inn	15	LAW AND ORDER (T Spies)	Scratched	6 54.5
Var	16	TALLADEGA (SG Tarry)	L Hewitson	1 54.5
Frankel	17	GENERAL FRANCO (J Snaith) - reserve 1		17 57.0
What A Winter	18	WINTERWIND (SG Tarry) - reserve 2		8 54.5

Alliance, Emerald Band and Vandah’s Spirit look the obvious trio.

It’s a tricky race and it is probably best to go with at least three to ensure a safe passage.

Fate & The 5 Million

The CTS 1600 Kenilworth

It’s very rare that we find a restricted sales race that isn’t fully subscribed to maximum field capacity. The R5 million CTS 1600 fell short of the 16 runner mark. The fact is that it isn’t far off Gr1 standard with six really smart sorts topping the ratings and no doubt having sent the lesser lights running for cover.



Twist Of Fate | Chase Liebenberg

As in the case of its 1200m equivalent, the CTS 1600 is restricted to eligible graduates of the Cape Premier Yearling Sale held on 21 and 22 January 2017, the CTS March Yearling Sale held on 18 and 19 March 2017, and the Emperors Palace Select Yearling Sale held on 21 April 2017.

Top of the leading lights is Vaughan Marshall’s multiple stakes winner One

World, who started favourite for the Cape Guineas. The son of Captain Al ran handily but was flat to the boards late and was relegated to third behind Gauteng raider Soqrat and local star, and subsequent Politician Stakes winner, Twist Of Fate. Anton Marcus rides One World again and he faces the additional hurdle of a wide draw to overcome.

In an interesting jockey move S’manga Khumalo is replaced on Concorde Cup runner-up Chimichuri Run in favour of Lyle Hewitson, with Khumalo taking over the reins from Bernard Fayd’herbe on Twist Of Fate.

Chimichuri Run had One World at full stretch to go down a half length in the Corncorde Cup but then produced a flat effort when beaten 4,50 lengths by the same horse in the Cape Guineas.

Local star Twist Of Fate has maintained an amazingly consistent record for an extended period of time and disposed of his opposition in the 1800m Politician Stakes with ease at his last start. The son of Master Of My Fate will be thereabouts and the biggest challenge must be keeping him on the boil at peak output for such a lengthy period of time.

The Snaith Silvano’s Pride – one of only two fairer sex contestants in the mile – won two on the trot before chasing the unbeaten rising star Front And Centre home in the Cape Fillies Guineas. The daughter of Silvano has Richard Fourie aboard and enjoys a favourable barrier gate.

Originally considered to be a Cape Derby prospect, Majestic Mozart looked promising with smart running on places in the Cape Classic and the Lanzerac Ready To Run Stakes. He failed to produce any fire in the Cape Guineas when beaten into fifth and 4,25 lengths off Soqrat. He also was reported to have made a respiratory noise there. He would need to lift his game to win this – and will surely be at his best over a bit further.

The exciting but unexposed Vardy won his first two starts before being outrun by the big ticket year older Charles when trying the mile for the first time at his third jump. On paper

MET DAY

he can't beat the top few, but looks to be lengths ahead of the handicapper yet, and could be the surprise package.

Duncan Howells' Ashburton raider Mr Greenlight has won two of his four starts impressively but has to contend with a wide draw. It will be great to have the revitalised Mark Khan back at his old home track after a long absence. It looks tough for the balance of them.

Skye Lane is the second of the fillies. The daughter of Pathfork has won two from six outings but is yet to show she can take on the Gr1 boys.

The very well related Provocateur has something of a propensity to run second and find something to beat him. He and stable-mate Sherwood Forest look held.

Recent maiden winner Nao Faz Mal would be a surprise winner, as will Vikram who shares much the same profile. Sean Tarry's Russian Beat won a Turffontein maiden three runs back but besides the 1 draw, looks to have more to do.

The top class Twist Of Fate is the pick to hold the improver Vardy and Chimichuri Run – with One World bound to be right on top of them.

START 2:25PM KENILWORTH	5	PA3/PICK SIX2/JACKPOT1 THE CTS 1600 (3YO'S)(NBT) - 1600M SAME TRAINER:(1-4-11)(2-8)(5-9)
Captain Al	1	ONE WORLD(VH Marshall) A Marcus 11 60.0
Trippi	2	CHIMICHURI RUN(SG Tarry) L Hewitson 2 60.0
Master Of My Fate	3	TWIST OF FATE(J Ramsden) S Khumalo 9 60.0
Var	4	PROVOCATEUR(VH Marshall) M Byleveld 8 60.0
Dynasty	5	MAJESTIC MOZART(C Bass-Robinson) A Domeyer 10 60.0
Gimmethegreenlight	6	MR GREENLIGHT(DC Howells) M Khan 13 60.0
Var	7	VARDY(AN Marcus) C Zackey 4 60.0
Elusive Fort	8	RUSSIAN BEAT(SG Tarry) C Orffer 1 60.0
Silvano	9	NAO FAZ MAL(C Bass-Robinson) R Simons 3 60.0
Gimmethegreenlight	10	VIKRAM(A Nel) G Lerena 7 60.0
Philanthropist	11	SHERWOOD FOREST(VH Marshall) D Dillon 12 60.0
Silvano	12	SILVANO'S PRIDE(J Snaith) R Fourie 6 57.5
Pathfork	13	SKYE LANE(D Katz) G Cheyne 5 57.5

Pick 6 Banker?

The CTS 1200 Kenilworth

A capacity field of twenty goes to post for the R5 million The CTS 1200. Unlike the mile equivalent, this sprint looks very tricky with patchy form as well as seven fillies and seven visitors clouding the picture.

With Anton Marcus taking the ride again on Cirillo after winning the CTS Ready To Run Cup in November last year, there is plenty to like about the son of Pomodoro who has course and distance and overall good sprint form to his credit. A runner-up behind the never seen again Agent Of Fortune in the Kuda Sprint on Met day 2018, Cirillo has run well in the Cape and was not disgraced with a 3,50 length fourth in the Cape Guineas at his last start.

The one-time 2yo Gr1 winner Van Halen has not been at his brilliant best in his three starts in the Cape this summer. The son of Oratorio improved marginally last time when staying on 4,65 lengths behind Pleasedtomeetyou in the Need For Speed Sprint.



Cirilo | Chase Liebenberg

Piere Strydom is an interesting jockey booking for the Duke Of Marmalade Gr2 winner Temple Grafín who ran a modest race from a wide draw when 7 lengths behind Front And Centre in the Cape Fillies Guineas.

Paul Peter visitor Palace Chapel has won 3 of his 4 starts and looks a really progressive sort. This is his

first run in the Cape.

Brett Crawford's filly Shamrock Wind has won two races and was injured in the pens when missing her Cape Fillies Guineas engagement. She could be one for those looking for a Pick 6 knockout in the first leg.

Joey Ramsden's Arabian Air had decent form over the sprints before running stone last in the Concorde Cup (over the mile) behind One World. That was not his run and the son of Silvano could well be a lurker in this field.

The well-bred Varsity Lover has won 2 of her 4 starts but both times she has tried feature company she has been found wanting.

Snaith's Seventh Sea has been targeted at this race and on his better earlier form would have an outside chance..

Elusive Trader looked dangerous late in the CTS Ready To Run Cup when fading to fourth and 4,55 lengths behind Cirillo. He may prefer this trip and could be a danger if he gets some luck.

Frank Lloyd Wight followed up his somewhat overdue maiden win with an unplaced run at Fairview. That is not an ideal prep into this race but Mark Khan has proven a lucky omen for the Snaith team in years past.

The Dennis Drier yard were in good form at Scottsville on Sunday and their duo of Priceless Ruler and the lightly raced Mastagambit could run into the money.

In a keenly contested race, Cirillo looks one of the better bets of the day and is the banker choice to beat Temple Grafín, Palace Chapel and Arabian Air.

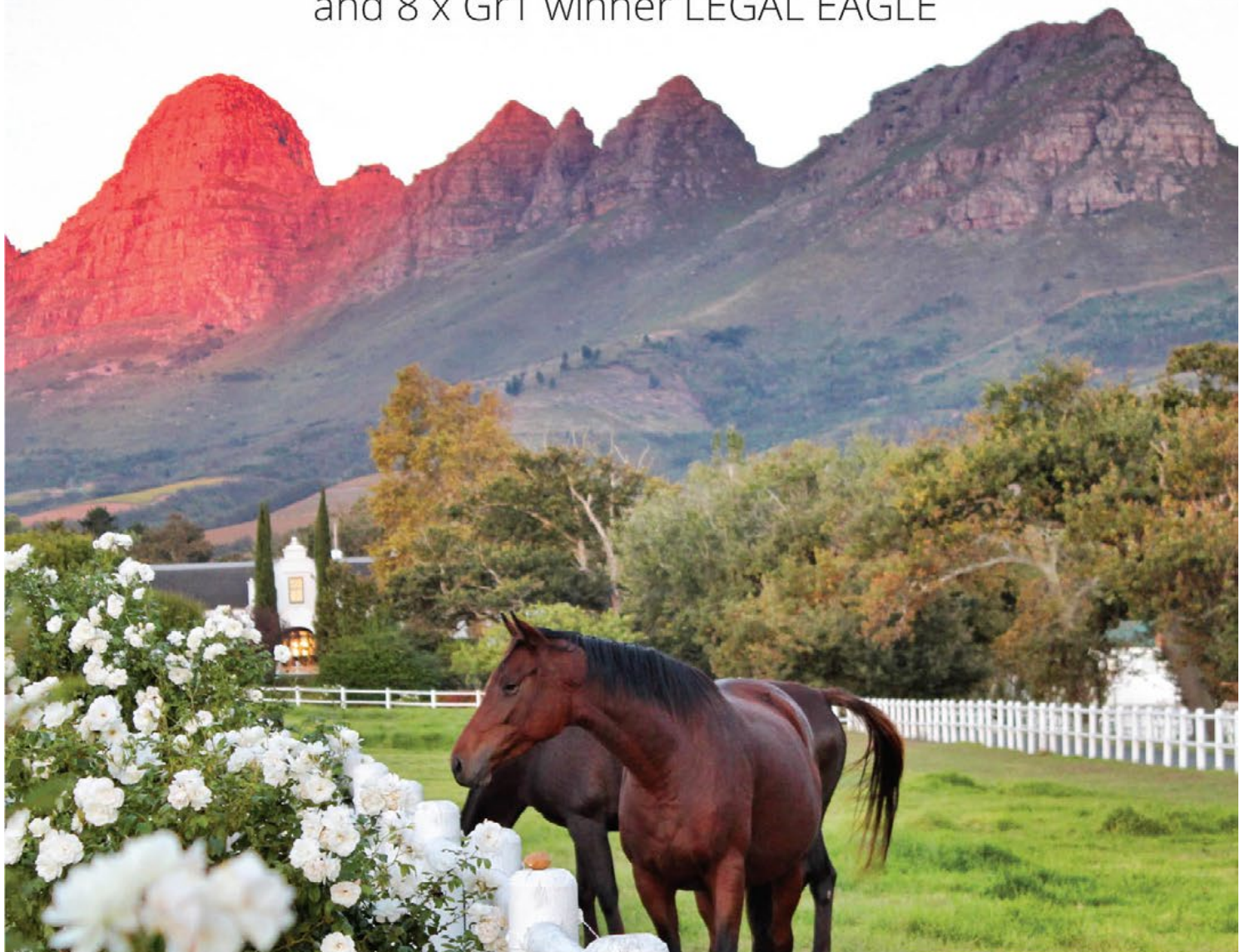
START 1:50PM KENILWORTH	4	PA2/PICK SIX1 THE CTS 1200 (3YO'S)(NBT) - 1200M SAME TRAINER:(3-11-19)(4-20)(7-8-12-13)(9-10)
Pomodoro	1	CIRILLO(SG Tarry) A Marcus 13 60.0
Oratorio	2	VAN HALEN(T Spies) W Kennedy 5 60.0
Silvano	3	ARABIAN AIR(J Ramsden) D Dillon 6 60.0
What A Winter	4	SACRED ARROW(C Bass-Robinson) A Domeyer 18 60.0
Potala Palace	5	PALACE CHAPEL(PA Peter) G Lerena 15 60.0
Elusive Fort	6	ELUSIVE TRADER(GW Ennion) B Fayd'herbe 2 60.0
Seventh Rock	7	SEVENTH SEA(J Snaith) R Fourie 4 60.0
Captain Al	8	FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT(J Snaith) M Khan 12 60.0
Master Of My Fate	9	MASTAGAMBIT(DR Drier) S Veale 3 60.0
Pathfork	10	PRICELESS RULER(DR Drier) K De Melo 7 60.0
Var	11	MONTEGO BAY(J Ramsden) not declared 17 60.0
Captain Al	12	CAPTAINOF THESEA(J Snaith) C Zackey 11 60.0
Captain Al	13	CLIPPER CAPTAIN(J Snaith) G Cheyne 10 60.0
Duke Of Marmalade	14	TEMPLE GRAFIN(GS Kotzen) P Strydom 8 57.5
Captain Al	15	SHAMROCK WIND(BJ Crawford) C Orffer 20 57.5
Gimmethegreenlight	16	COMANECI(JA Soria) S Khumalo 9 57.5
What A Winter	17	CELESTIAL STORM(Burger/Ivan Reenen) R Munger 1 57.5
Potala Palace	18	DALAI'S PROMISE(Ashley Fortune) L Hewitson 16 57.5
Silvano	19	SUGERPOVA(J Ramsden) not declared 19 57.5
Var	20	VARSITY LOVER(C Bass-Robinson) R Simons 14 57.5

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MET DAY

SUN MET SUN MET SUN MET SUN MET

A PROUD TRADITION

The sport of kings has a long and proud history in the Cape dating back to 1863 when it was held at Green Point Common and Kenilworth. By 1893 racing at Green Point Common had ceased altogether. A new venue had been chosen some 20 years before – Kenilworth Racecourse as we know it today – but this site was only acquired in 1881.

The end of the Anglo-Boer War and the formation of the Union of South Africa saw an upsurge in the popularity of horse racing. The Second World War saw all races move to Milnerton Racecourse as the military took charge of Kenilworth. In 1955 all races again took place at Milnerton during the building of the main stands at Kenilworth.



Green Point Common, 19th Century

But back to the Met – or the Metropolitan Mile as it was known in days of yore – which was first held at Kenilworth in 1883 after the track was laid out and a grandstand erected.

The first recorded winner was Sir Hercules and, while the race had a chequered existence for many years in the early 1900's, by the 1960's it was firmly established as one of the 'big three' along with the Vodacom Durban July and the Summer Cup in Gauteng.

Originally, the race was run over a mile (1 600m). By 1915, the race had been extended to 1 800m and finally set in as a ten furlongs race (2 000m) in 1948, which remains the running distance today.

For a decade The Metropolitan Handicap was run more than once a year – between 1895 and 1909.

In 1901, The 'Met' was run five times – in March, April, June, October and December.

The Metropolitan was not run in 1914 and 1918 due to WW1.

The Metropolitan Handicap of 1943 and 1944 was run at Milnerton, with Kenilworth being used during the war years as a military base.

The 'Met' was traditionally run in November before it moved to January in 1947, when Thorium beat Cape Heath by 3½ lengths.

Ant's Back!

Positive news from Summerveld on Wednesday was that multiple champion jockey Anthony Delpech took a few horses in work.

Tabnews report that the champ has been sidelined since last April, after a severe fall in the SA Classic left him with a disc herniation and damaged spinal cord which required surgery.

There was also serious nerve damage, and his recovery has unsurprisingly been slow due to the severe nature of these injuries. This is a tentative first step in a long process, but just the fact that he is able to sit on a horse again is a great piece of good news for his legion of fans.

No Politics - Just Great Memories!

While the Met roll of honour includes the names of many of the top horses to race in South Africa, including Foveros, Wolf Power, Model Man, Empress Club, London News, Horse Chestnut and Yard-Arm, it was probably the talented Politician's terrific double in 1978 and 1979 that most captures the excitement of the great race for many modern era punters.

It feels like only yesterday that we watched Politician win THE first of two Mets with the late 'Big Race' Bertie Hayden in the irons, when he cruised home for trainer Syd Laird.



Syd Laird

That was the year that our lives changed forever – we just didn't know it at the time – but the first ever Mobile Phone was introduced in Illinois. Given our eco awareness of today, we were amazingly backward then- Sweden became the first country in the world to recognize the effect of aerosol sprays on the Ozone Layer and banned their sale. But 1978 was a great year for movies, with Grease, Saturday Night Fever and Close Encounters of the Third Kind all showing in theatres around the world.

But we digress.

Syd Laird returned the following year with Politician and jockey Bertie Hayden and a South Africa fairly new still to television, watched in awe as possibly the greatest performance by a thoroughbred in our history was played out before an even greater crowd than the year before. Carrying top weight again – this time under 58,5kg – Politician was boxed as they swept into the home straight. There was nowhere for him to go, and with 200 metres of the race left the chances of him getting a run, let alone winning, looked impossible.

But the strapping chestnut was not to be denied and virtually finding his own way through the pack ahead of him, he produced an explosive burst of breathtaking acceleration to catch the champion filly Festive Season just short of the post and beat her by half a length.

It took thirty long years for Politician's feat of back-to-back Met wins to be emulated- and that came in 2007 in the form of the Jet Master gelding, Pocket Power.

The first horse in history to achieve the treble of the Cape Winter Guineas, Cape Winter Classic and the Cape Winter Derby, Pocket Power also registered the first of his four L'Ormarins Queen's Plate victories before going on to win the Met from 2007 through to 2009.

Jeff Lloyd, who recently tried valiantly in 2018 in a last bid to win the Vodacom Durban July for the first time, was aboard Pocket Power in his first Met success. Bernard Fayd'herbe, who returns from Dubai this weekend to partner the reigning champion Oh Susanna in her double bid, won the next two Mets on Pocket Power. So he knows what it takes!

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MET DAY

Experienced Team On Duty

Earlier this week, the NHA announced the composition of the Stipendiary Board that will officiate at the Sun Met Race Meeting.

The members are:

Ernie Rodrigues – Chief Stipendiary Steward, Western Cape with over thirty years' experience as a Stipendiary Steward, including lengthy service as a senior member of the Kwa-Zulu Natal Stipendiary Board.

Shaun Parker – Chief Stipendiary Steward, Kwa-Zulu Natal with over twenty years' experience as a senior member of the Eastern Cape, Central Provinces and British Stipendiary Boards.

Lyle Anderson – Chief Stipendiary Steward, Central Provinces, has extensive experience in the Horseracing Industry, including successful stints as a Trainer and Racing Administrator.

Nicholas Shearer – Deputy Chief Stipendiary Steward, Western Cape with extensive experience in the Horseracing Industry as a Jockey and having served as a Stipendiary Steward in Kwa-Zulu Natal and Central Provinces Stipendiary Boards.

Timothy Nhlapho – Stipendiary Steward, KwaZulu-Natal, who has been licenced for twelve years in the Western Cape and Kwa-Zulu Natal.

Cecil van As – Stipendiary Steward, Western Cape, who has been licenced for twelve years in the Western Cape.

The NHA further advises that the Racing Operator has multiple international and local commitments and has requested that we try, as far as possible, to ensure that the race times are adhered to.

The Hong Kong Territory will be participating from Races 4 to 10 and obviously there are other broadcasting obligations that need to be met. The Board, together with other race day Officials will try to ensure that all of the requests are adhered to, whilst not compromising the local public.

Certain strategic procedures will be implemented in order to achieve the above.

Met Goes East

The R5 Million Sun Met celebrated with G.H.MUMM, together with the other feature races that make up Africa's richest raceday, will this year once again be simulcast in Hong Kong.

South African racing is becoming increasingly popular with Hong Kong punters – so much so that Sun Met day will be televised live there for the second year running.

Dean Sawarjith, Executive, International Operations at Phumelela, says the interest in South Africa from the Hong Kong racing fraternity is definitely on the up.

"Last year Hong Kong took six races from South Africa on Met Day. This year they are taking an extra race," says Sawarjith.

According to Sawarjith there should be an even bigger interest in the Sun Met, with last year's winning jockey, Grant van Niekerk, now plying his trade in Hong Kong together with Callan Murray.

Van Niekerk in fact rode four winners on Sun Met Day 2018, winning the headline race on Oh Susanna, the CTS 1200 on Dutch Philip, the Klawervlei Majorca Sakes with Snowdance and the card opener on Platinum Class.

"On the back of the success last year, it is a vote of confidence in South African racing that Hong Kong has decided to increase the number of races broadcast this year."

Key to the South African feature races being broadcast abroad is the fact that races take place timeously.

Clyde Basel, racing executive at Phumelela, says all the local role players have stepped up to the plate to ensure there are no unnecessary delays in racing.

"South African racing does not happen in isolation. We are part of the global racing village and have to ensure races are run on time.

"In this regard I want to thank trainers, jockeys, grooms, owners and all other stakeholders for ensuring we maintain the high standard expected on the international arena," says Basel.

Saturday's features which will be broadcast in Hong Kong are races 4 through to 10.

Spin The Met Wheel

TAB will launch a new horseracing bet on the Sun Met race meeting at Kenilworth this Saturday that should appeal to new and existing horseracing fans alike.

TAB's Racing Roulette is a fun way of betting on the Sun Met meeting at Kenilworth this Saturday and a R20,000 add-in from TAB should ensure good-value payouts for those who hit the right colours.

TAB customers can play Racing Roulette on Races 6, 7, 9 (the Sun Met) and 11 at the Kenilworth meeting and to add to the excitement TAB will add R5,000 to each of the four pools.

Racing Roulette is easy to play. Horses in a race are assigned to one of three colour groups – red, black or green. Players choose a colour and bet using the following numbers: 1 = RED; 2 = BLACK; 3 = GREEN.

The winner of the race determines the winning colour. So if a horse in the RED group wins, all players who have bet on RED (Number 1) win.

The rules are the same as a TAB Win bet with a R1 betting unit and a minimum bet of R6. Bets on a colour are refunded only if all horses in that colour group are scratched.

To play Racing Roulette in a Phumelela TAB this Saturday, mark VENUE OVAL 10 on the betting form and then the RACE number and the number of the colour you are betting on. Do not use OVAL 10 for any other bets.

Colour groups for the Met: RED = Do It Again, Head Honcho, Undercover Agent, Kampala Campari; BLACK = Rainbow Bridge, Legal Eagle, Doublemint, Tap O'Noth, Hat Puntano; GREEN = Oh Susannah, Made To Conquer, Eyes Wide Open, Milton.

TAB customers must note that although the Sun Met is included on Saturday's Turffontein racecard, they must select WEST CAPE on the TAB betting form as the venue when taking certain bets on the big race.

Mark TURF (Turffontein) on the betting form for multi-race bets combining Turffontein races with the Sun Met. These bets are Double, Pick 3, BiPot, Place Accumulator, Pick 6 and Jackpot.

For example, the Met is Race 9 on the Turffontein racecard and TAB customers taking a Double on say Races 9 and 10 at Turffontein must select TURF on the betting form as the venue.

But TAB customers taking Win, Place, Swinger, Exacta, Trifecta and Quartet bets on the Sun Met must select WEST CAPE (Kenilworth) on the betting form and Race 9. They cannot select TURF (Turffontein) Race 9.



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NEWS

Sun Met Fever Is Rising!



The Hollywood team welcomed visitors at Cape Town International Airport this morning, handing out complimentary Sporting Post and Winning Form publications in advance of Saturday's big race.

Follow all the big race

news right here: www.sportingpost.co.za

Clock This!

Sectional times for all races at Turffontein, Vaal, Fairview and Flamingo Park are now available at www.tellytrack.com on a beta or test phase basis.

In order to view the data free of charge, it is necessary to register on tellytrack.com on a non-payment basis. Such users will have free access to the data for 48 hours after the sectional times for a race meeting are posted. Thereafter they will not be able to view them.

Race-meeting sectional times are usually posted according to the following schedule:

Monday: Friday, Saturday and Sunday race meetings.

Wednesday: Tuesday race meetings.

Friday: Wednesday and Thursday race meetings.

Paying subscribers to tellytrack.com will have permanent access to all sectional timing data. Sectional times for races in each region will also be emailed to all trainers in the region.

Racing Association (RA) members qualify for a free subscription to tellytrack.com and members can contact the RA to obtain log-in details.

A comprehensive explanation on how to analyse the sectional timing displays on tellytrack.com will be available from the beginning of next month.

Big Start!

Drakenstein Stud's Futura made a big impression with his first yearlings at the Cape Premier Yearling Sale.

The champion son of Dynasty had members of his first crop fetch up to R1 200 000 at the one day sale.

Futura's top priced lot at Wednesday's sale, a Ridgemont Highlands colt named Warrior (Lot 123), was knocked down to Peter Doyle and Diane Nagle.

Another colt (Lot 215) by Futura, the Avontuur consigned Avenir, was knocked down to Rathmor Stud for R500 000.

CPYS SALE

Captain Tops The Charts

In brisk bidding throughout the only session, the Cape Premier Yearling Sale held yesterday at the CTICC delivered to high expectations with a top price of R4 million achieved for a well-related Klawervlei Stud bred full sister to Gr1 winning sire, William Longsword.



Lot 129 / Chase Liebenberg

Bred on the cross responsible for multiple Gr1 winner Captain America, the beautiful own sister to Gr1 Cape Guineas winner William Longsword and a half-sister to Gr1 South African Fillies Sprint winner Real Princess, hails from the family of Gr1 winning females Imperious Sue (who won the Met in 1998) and Imperious Star.

She is from the final Cape Premier Yearling Sale crop to be offered of deceased champion sire Captain Al.

Catalogued as lot 129, she was signed for by leading Newmarket-based bloodstock agent Anthony Stroud.

Anthony said of his buy: "She's a lovely filly and I think she'll be trained by Justin Snaith. She was bought for an old client of mine who's down here on holiday and has a connection to South Africa, so he wanted to have a go."

The progeny of Pagan Princess have long proved popular, with her son William Longsword making R2.2 million, Real Princess R2 700 000, and Silver God R2 000 000.

Captain Al was also responsible for the top colt sold at Wednesday's sale, with his son Chestnut Bay (Lot 49) being knocked down to Amanda Skiffington for R2 200 000.

Consigned by Ridgemont Highlands, the striking colt is out of the winning Galileo mare Exotic –and his second dam is Irish Oaks runner up Ice Queen. This well bred colt, with a stallion's pedigree to boot, is from the same family as Breeders' Cup Mile and champion sire Last Tycoon as well as Moutonshoek's Gr1 winning young stallion The United States.

Captain Al ended up as the Leading Sire by aggregate, with his seven yearlings to sell grossing R11.2 million.

Klawervlei Stud topped the Vendors List, with South Africa's reigning champion breeders selling 48 yearlings for R30 875 000, while KZN breeders, Rathmor Stud topped the buyers list – purchasing 13 lots for a total of R6 725 000.

Rathmor's purchases included a Captain Al filly (Lot 199) out of Gr3 Strelitzia Stakes winner Thekkady who fetched R800 000, and they also purchased lots by the likes of Coup De Grace, Duke Of Marmalade, Dynasty, Flower Alley, Futura, Gimmetheregreenlight, and Trippi.

In total, 192 of the 217 yearlings offered were sold for R83 135 000, and the lots to sell averaged R432 994, with the median staying steady at R300 000.

[See all the prices here](#)



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OPINION

Transparency A Must Have For Punters

The possibility of instituting compulsory pre-race comments for first-timers and rested horses lies with the racing operators.

This was the word from newly appointed National Horseracing Authority CEO Vee Moodley, who confirmed that he would suggest that the racing operators – as Gold Circle had done with the Barrier Trials – give consideration to implementing a local condition with regard to comments from trainers

“The NHA will be responsible for the overall policing of any local condition implemented,” confirmed Mr Moodley on inquiry as to the status of the pre-race comments.

The Sporting Post has been publishing pre-race comments, kindly provided by Phumelela Publishing, for the past year and in most cases these appear to be valued by players as a punting tool that adds some transparency to calculations.

The introduction of Barrier Trials in KZN over a year ago has also proven a general success, with the further requirement announced in November 2018 that participants are subjected to testing for prohibited substances.

But some don't believe they serve a purpose.

In an interview late last year, Ashburton champion trainer Duncan Howells welcomed the introduction of testing for drugs for Barrier Trial participants, but was adamant it didn't change his general impression that the facility was a bit of a confusing waste of time in its present format.

“I feel that the trials have been introduced incorrectly and should have been structured properly to produce a clearer picture. If we want to assimilate race conditions, then the jockeys should also at the very least be obliged to ride their mounts out – even if only from the 400m marker. At the moment, the horse that jumps in front usually stays there with everything else behind him on a tight hold and watching him.”

The national picture with regard to pre-raceday information on first-timers and rested horses is currently fragmented with no uniform process in place – and nothing more than a moral obligation on the trainer to express an opinion.

Some trainers refuse to comment while KZN trainers, beyond a few isolated cases, do not provide any comments in advance of raceday.

Players are expected to watch the Barrier Trials and draw their own conclusions. This is not a user friendly option for all customers.

We are informed that first-timers / rested horses are flagged on acceptance and the trainer then chooses a suitable comment when accepting via the National Racing Bureau.

This could not be confirmed by anybody in authority and is not being disseminated to publications.

So the ball is in the court of the operators. Hopefully progress can be made in the interests of the game. Can it really be that complicated?

Stripes Are Awake

In a sequel to 100-1 shot Rabiya The Rebel's runaway win in the seventh race at Turffontein last Thursday evening, it is pleasing to note that the Stripes are keeping their eye on the ball.

Our often maligned National Horseracing Authority come in for plenty of flak but when credit's due, it's due.

We saw on Saturday that the experienced Turffontein Judge was pulled up by the Stripes who picked up an error in a placing decision made by him.

And now the days of simply accepting a trainer's comments about an apparently improved performance and issuing their standard warning about in-and-out running may have come to an end.

Take the case of Rabia The Rebel who arrived on Thursday evening paying R83.80 for a win and R20.80 a place.

An addendum to Saturday's Turffontein Stripes Report notes the following:

RABIA THE REBEL (C Storey), the winner (Turffontein 7th on 17 January 2019), was selected for the taking of specimens for analysis. Trainer B Webber advised. (MduP).

When questioned regarding the improved performance of Rabia The Rebel, trainer B Webber explained to the Board that this filly had dropped significantly in class after running in a high merit rated handicap and two assessment plates.

The NHA's Handicapping Panel have confirmed trainer Webber's comments in relation to the improved performance of Rabia The Rebel, as she had run way above her ratings in her last three runs.

Rabia The Rebel finished 7,50 lengths back in an MR 84 Handicap at Turffontein on 17 November last year – then ran in two Assessment Plates – finishing 8,40 lengths behind Cashel at the Vaal and then 11,90 lengths to Gottalottaluv over 2000m at Turffontein on 29 December.

At 100-1, she may have slipped in under the radar last Thursday – in hindsight. But it's good to see more rationale and detail in the reports explaining the performance.

Can there ever be enough transparency and information?



The National Horseracing Authority of South Africa has provided us with the official photo-finish of the sixth race at Turffontein last Saturday after requests from our readers.

We reported over the weekend that in an unusual deviation from normal process, the Turffontein Judge's 'final' decision was overturned by the Stipendiary Stewards after the running of the sixth race on Saturday. [Read the background here](#)

Doug Whyte To Train In HK

Dougie Whyte, the 'Durban Demon' to many, is just the second person given the opportunity to transfer straight from the saddle to the training yard, following in the footsteps of another Hong Kong hero, Tony Cruz.



Doug Whyte | HKJC

It is an opportunity too good to refuse, so Whyte will draw the curtain on his riding career on 10 February, before beginning preparations for his new job.

Whyte is a legend in Hong Kong, having ridden over 1800 winners and achieved 13 straight jockeys' championships.

"I'm as surprised as everybody that it's happened the way it has and I'm very fortunate to have been afforded this opportunity. I think it's the right time," the 47-year-old told the South China Morning Post.

"It's always been a goal of mine to train in Hong Kong and I was hopeful I would be afforded the opportunity but I didn't think it would happen so quickly."

The South African Jockey Academy graduate first came to Hong Kong in 1996-97 and it was London News who delivered him his first Group One in Hong Kong, winning the QE II Cup in 1997.

"It's something that has been on my mind for a while, but I've only put in an application recently. The thought process being that there are vacancies and there are going to be a few more vacancies in the next couple of years," he said.

Whyte will apparently head overseas for a couple of months to learn management and training skills from some of the best trainers around the world.

Murray To Singapore

The Singapore Turf Club has granted a visiting jockey's licence to South African jockey Callan Murray for the remaining 2019 Singapore season.

After honing his craft at the South African Jockey Academy, Murray has made a meteoric rise through the ranks since taking his first race ride in 2013. He went on to finish second on the apprentice jockey's log in the 2014/2015 season before clinching both the South African and Zimbabwean title the following season.

Currently licensed by the Hong Kong Jockey Club, the 22-year-old jockey boasts around 370 winners to-date with the highest accolade being his three individual Gr1 winners at the Champions Day race meeting at Turffontein on May 6, 2017, namely Deo Juvente in the Premier's Champions Challenge, Rafeef in the Computaform Sprint and Mustaaqem in the SA Nursery.

One month earlier, he claimed his first Gr1 victory in the SA Classic aboard Heavenly Blue for Mike de Kock.

Despite being so young, Murray has already ridden overseas in two tough arenas that are Australia and Hong Kong.

He rode four winners during a six-week stint with David Hayes in Melbourne in 2017 and rode two Gr3 winners in Hong Kong, Lucky Year in the Sha Tin Vase and Horse Of Fortune in the Premier Plate in the 2016/2017 season.

Murray recently went back to Hong Kong to ride at the current 2018/2019 season. He goes to scale at 53.5kgs.

Hawwaam vs National Park?

Overshadowed somewhat by the Sun Met, the R1 million Gr2 Gauteng Guineas will be run at Turffontein on Saturday 2 February and has attracted 17 entries, headed by Mike de Kock's exciting unbeaten Dingaans winner Hawwaam.

In a possible interprovincial clash, also amongst the entries is Yvette Bremner's very smart PE raider National Park, who won the Graham Beck Stakes at Turffontein late last year.

The son of Gimmethegreenlight confirmed his wellbeing with a smooth victory over older established handicappers at Fairview last Friday.

Mike de Kock holds five of the 17 entries, including a son of The Apache, owned by the champion trainer and his daughter Kirsten. Arlington's Revenge was bred by Rosedene Stud from the mare Cleome, who raced for Mike, Chris Haynes and Gary Grant several years ago. He was named in memory of his sire's losing the 2013 Arlington Million on an objection - not something most of us would choose to remember, but this story could still end happily!

The fillies equivalent, the R750 000 Gr2 Gauteng Fillies Guineas, has attracted 19 entries headed by Mike de Kock's pair of Ipi Tombe Stakes victress Nafaayes and impressive Three Troikas winner, Storm Destiny.

Feature winners Celtic Sea, Return Flight and Ronnie's Candy add class to a smart line-up.

Supplementary entries close at 11h00 on Friday 25 January with declarations due by 11h00 on Monday 28 January.

[See the entries here](#)

Miss Moneybags

Superstar Winx has earned just short of A\$23 million to put her within A\$1.6 million of the world's highest-ever earner, the retired US champion Arrogate.

If she continues her winning run of 29 victories right through to the A\$4-million Queen Elizabeth Stakes during The Championships in Sydney in April, she will earn another A\$3.4-million. In doing so, Winx will establish an international mark that will take some beating.

The daughter of Street Cry is due to resume in the 16 February Apollo Stakes, where a win will earn her A\$140 000. She will probably then run in the Chipping Norton Stakes on 2 March where the winner banks A\$344 000.

An A\$580,000 first prize cheque awaits the winner of the George Ryder Stakes at Rosehill on March 23 before finally Winx will race for the \$2.32-million first prize in the Queen Elizabeth Stakes on 13 April.

INTERNATIONAL

July Winner Steps Out At Meydan This Evening

This evening's fourth meeting of the 2019 Dubai World Cup Carnival is a quality one highlighted by a pair of Group 2, \$250,000 turf features, the Al Fahidi Fort (Race 5) and Al Rashidiya (Race 3), which each produced subsequent winners on Dubai World Cup night in 2018.

A new race, the \$100,000 Al Bastakiya Trial (Race 2) for 3-year-olds hoping to make it to the UAE Derby (G2) over the same course and distance, adds significant depth to the evening. The six-race card, which also features a trio of lucrative, competitive handicaps, is sponsored by Emirates Global Aluminium and will have a first race post time of 6:30 p.m.

Thirteen have been declared for the Al Fahidi Fort sponsored by Emirates Global Aluminium (Gr2) and it promises to be one of the most informative races thus far of the Carnival, with a strong Godolphin representation facing formidable opposition from a good locally trained team.

International runners from as far afield as Europe, Australia and South Africa make this arguably the most enthralling race of the night.

South African Mike de Kock, the most successful trainer in the history of the race, introduces new recruit Marinaresco, who will be having his first outing in a year.

Formerly trained by Candice Bass-Robinson, the 6-year-old Silvano gelding won the 2017 Durban July (Gr1) and looks an exciting addition to De Kock's string at Blue Stables.

He is joined in the field by stable companion Janoobi, owned by His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, who was second in this last year before winning the Zabeel Mile (Gr2).

"Marinaresco has settled in well and has been pleasing us," De Kock said. "We have brought him along steadily with this race in mind and he is ready for a run, but will improve for it. We are taking the same route as last year with Janoobi, who certainly needed his first run, as was the case last season. Hopefully he can run another big race."

Trainer Chris Waller, who conditions the darling of the racing world, Winx, will have his first UAE runner in Go Bloodstock's Comin' Through. A 5-year-old gelding by Fastnet Rock, he has won at the highest level, having landed the 2018 Doomben Cup (G1) last May over 2000m, but also has a Group 2 victory over 1400m.

The distance should be fine for him while he's fresh," Waller said. "He's had a number of good wins over it. While the (barrier nine of 13) draw isn't perfect, we'll see how the race is run on the night. He is a horse who keeps (trying) and is hard to pass."

Linngari (2006/07) and Safety Check (2015/16) both defended their Al Fahidi crowns and Championship, trained by Ahmad bin Harmash, bids to join them as a dual winner of the race, having landed the spoils in 2017.

[Here's the racecard](#)

The 8-year-old gelded son of Exceed and Excel followed that victory by landing the Zabeel Mile (G2), but has only raced three times since, including a close second in the 2018 Zabeel Mile. Last year, he was well beaten in this race on his comeback from an injury-enforced layoff. [Read more here](#)

Cracksman & Winx Share Honours

In a further boost to Epsom Downs Racecourse, the 2018 Investec Coronation Cup winner Cracksman has been announced as the world's joint-best racehorse globally last year in the LONGINES World's Best Racehorse Rankings.

With a rating of 130, the Anthony Oppenheimer-owned Cracksman shares the honour of being the world's best racehorse with superstar Australian mare Winx. Trained by John Gosden and ridden on all four of his 2018 starts by Frankie Dettori, Cracksman won three Gr1 races between April and October.

After a stunning success in the Gr1 Prix Ganay at Longchamp in April, Cracksman was made to work in the Gr1 Investec Coronation Cup at Epsom Downs on June 1, when he got up close home to deny Salouen by a head.

The Investec Coronation Cup was Cracksman's only G1 success at a mile and a half.

After winning at Epsom Downs, Cracksman won a second G1 QIPCO Champion Stakes with a stunning six-length victory at Ascot in October.

Retired to Dalham Hall Stud at the end of the year, the son of Frankel ended his career with eight wins from 11 starts, four of which came at Gr1 level.

In addition to his Investec Coronation Cup success, Cracksman also finished a close third in the 2017 Investec Derby and began his three-year-old career by winning the Investec Derby Trial at Epsom Downs. [See the rankings here](#)

WINNING FORM

SALUTES 'OUR' CHAMPION JOCKEY

100 WINS

Muzi Yeni

2018/19 RACING SEASON

MUZI YENI IS PROUDLY SPONSORED BY

WINNING FORM

Short Heads



3 Three horses by non SA-based sires have won the Met this century. In 2012 Galileo daughter Igugu beat Bravura. In 2017, Manhattan Rain's gelded son Whisky Baron held off Legal Eagle, while Street Cry daughter and reigning SA Horse Of The Year Oh Susanna staved off a flying Last Winter in 2018. The off-shore Dads have Hat Puntano (Hat Trick) and Oh Susanna carrying the international flag on Saturday.



7 Saturday's Met trainers have 7 Met titles between them. The only man to win it in both the 20th and 21st century, is Vaughan Marshall, who saddles Tap O'Noth. He won it in 1996 with La Fabulous and in 2014 with Hill Fifty Four. The winning-most current trainer is Brett Crawford, who has Undercover Agent carrying his flag. He won the race in 2003 with Angus, in 2015 with Futura and in 2017 with Whisky Baron. Sean Tarry, the man behind Legal Eagle's illustrious career, won the Met in 2005 with Alastor. Justin Snaith, who saddles 4 of the 13 runners on Saturday, won it last year with Oh Susanna.



The field size numbers 13 runners on Saturday – 20 could have run. In 2018 when the Met was run for the first time at weight-for-age it attracted a capacity field for the first time in 24 years. Strange how theories work sometimes!

129

The tote has been legalised in the Cape for 129 years. On Saturday the Pick 6 pool alone is expected to surpass R10 million!

50 000 A crowd of 50 000 people crammed into Kenilworth in 2002 and the house full signs went up. The race was won by the Freedom Land gelding Polo Classic for trainer Terry Lowe and jockey Barend Vorster.

4 Only 4 of the 13 jockeys riding on Saturday have won the Met previously. Bernard Fayd'herbe, who rides Oh Susanna, is the winningmost rider, having won it three times – Pocket Power in 2008 and 2009, and more recently with Futura in 2015. Anton Marcus partners Rainbow Bridge and is the only jockey in the 2019 renewal to have won the race in two centuries – in 1993 with Empress Club and again in 2014 on Hill Fifty Four. Pieter Strydom rides Doublemint and won it in 2003 on Angus for Sabine Plattner – who has Head Honcho and Kampala Campari running on Saturday. Aldo Domeyer rides Kampala Campari and is the fourth rider with a Met title – that was in 2013 on outsider Martial Eagle.

5 While the deceased champion Jet Master is the Met's winningmost sire of the 21st century - his offspring won it an extraordinary five years running from 2007 with Pocket Power's glorious hat-trick, through to River Jetez (2010) and Past Master (2011)- only four sires with past winners are represented on Saturday. Dynasty (Futura in 2015) has Eyes Wide Open and Magnificent Seven, Ideal World (Smart Call in 2016) has Rainbow Bridge, while Captain Al (Hill Fifty Four in 2014) has Tap O'Noth running for him.

Twenty Three



Fillies and mares have a 23% strike-rate in the Met over the past 30 years. Terrance Millard saddled Olympic Duel in 1991 and Empress Club in 1993. In 1998, the now Australia based David Payne won it with Imperious Sue. This century, River Jetez, whose daughter Delta Queen (#152) was selling at Wednesday's Cape Premier Yearling Sale, won in 2010 to give Mike Bass an unmatched four consecutive Met strikes

on the trot. Mike de Kock saddled champion Igugu to win in 2012, while Alec Laird sent out Smart Call in 2016 and Justin Snaith won his first ever Met with Oh Susanna in 2018.

4 967 900

When the Noble Chieftain 6yo Peter Beware was ridden by the late Bert Abercrombie to win the Met 50 years ago, the stake was R32 100. That's R4 967 900 less than they race for on Saturday.

PERSONALITY

Some Like It *Hot!*

Mark Currie

The winds of change are blowing through racing down South. The appointment of Co-Chairmen of Kenilworth Racing in December was seen as the first step towards healing fractured relationships and rebuilding the foundations of what really should be the destination of choice for anybody looking to enjoy the very best of all racing worlds on the African continent.

Lesser known in the province where the turf meets the surf, Mark Currie and well-known local industry captain Robert Bloomberg are the men in the hotseat, tasked with overcoming the challenges facing Cape racing.

The duo will preside over their first Met on Saturday and we grabbed the opportunity to meet and introduce the Investec Executive and longstanding racing office bearer, 55 year old Mark Currie, whose face may not be familiar in the local racing fraternity.

The recreational 'bad' cyclist and 'even worse' golfer was keen to explain the mechanics behind the unprecedented move to appoint Co-Chairmen, rather than blow his own trumpet.

"The North and the South have been at loggerheads for a while and this needs to end- and by and large seems to have over the last few months. Having Robert Bloomberg, who was an integral part of the demerger that led to the formation of Kenilworth Racing (KR), on the ground in Cape Town will help to dispel rumours and fake news which has unfortunately been part of the industry for a while. It's important that the Western Cape have someone they know and trust and who they can interact with and turn to when required," explained the Port Elizabeth born Chartered Accountant who holds an honours degree in Financial Management from UCT.

Educated at Parsons Hill Primary and Alexander Road High and played various sports representing EP schools at hockey, the 21st century Mark spends a large part of his life in airports and living out of a suitcase, but is also a family man and a resident of Bryanston. He is married to Louise and has two grown-up daughters, of whom he is noticeably very proud. "Claudia is 24 and has just started a medical internship at Baragwanath Hospital. Kimberley is 22 and just completed a Bus Science (Finance) degree at UCT. She is doing her GDA this year," he adds.

The Currie kids have obviously followed Dad academically.

"I served Articles with Coopers and Lybrand ("PWC"), worked for the Metro Group for 2 years then joined Investec some

25 years ago. The time has flown," he smiles.

Mark is an Executive with international specialist banking and asset management group Investec's Investment Banking Origination. He is responsible for maintaining high level client relationships and seeking out Investment Banking opportunities. One gets the feeling that he will need every bit of his business acumen and vast experience in his new role.

But he has a top-class track record and, besides his KR position, he is Chairman of the Thoroughbred Horseracing Trust, which has two investments- 100% of Kenilworth Racing (Pty) Ltd and just over 26% of Phumelela Gaming and Leisure Limited.

He explains: "The directorships of the operating companies are by virtue of the Trust's shareholdings in these entities and as such do not present a conflict of interest currently. I was previously a director of the Racing Association but resigned when accepting a trustee position."

We asked him about some of the challenges facing KR.

"Racing throughout the country is under pressure from other forms of gambling, a very weak economy as well as other forms of entertainment. The challenges at Kenilworth are vast but the working relationship with the current executive at Phumelela has never been better and this should solve the operational problems that have seen a decline in Kenilworth."

He went on to add that the Sustainability Agreement signed in 2011 ensures that Kenilworth Racing will endure into the future- but that the board and management clearly want Cape racing to flourish.

"We have a property portfolio that if properly dealt with will add significant annuity income to Kenilworth. To this end Robert has assembled a group of people to act as a property sub-committee to ensure the integrity of the properties is not lost in any transaction which is undertaken."

He says that together with property, there was a need to remarket KR both from a sponsorship as well as an entertainment perspective.

"Whilst we are grateful to those loyal sponsors who have stood by KR, we realize we need to lift our game when competing for ever dwindling marketing budgets. To this end, I am encouraged to see the involvement of significantly younger individuals at the WPRRA – people who really have the ability to attract a



MARK CURRIE

younger grouping of people to Kenilworth and racing in general. This will attract sponsors and people to the course. We have to understand that we must leverage off our facilities as people will not only come to the track to watch an ordinary horse race," he says with consideration.

Mark has walked a long road in the Sport Of Kings and believes in the future of the game.

"I am encouraged by the appointments at both Phumelela as well as the NHA. For horseracing to succeed we all need to work as a community. The various groupings need to put the past behind us and work towards an enduring solution-this is a work in progress, and I am encouraged to see progress already on many fronts."

He suggested it was important that we all need to understand that there is a whole industry that needs to survive as it employs so many people directly and indirectly.

"It is up to the industry to convince government of its efforts to uplift and include previously disadvantaged people associated with the industry so that government can be involved in ensuring that the industry endures and thrives for all participants."

During articles at Coopers and Lybrand (PWC) Mark was asked by a fellow commune member to do a shift for bookmaker Micky Nash. One shift led to at least a five year stint where he realized he was quite good at odds- in an era before computers did the math. "That probably ultimately led me to being involved in Investment Banking and Investec where I have worked for over 26 years," he reflected.

Apart from Horseracing he enjoys recreational cycling and golf. "I have undertaken some interesting rides with the most challenging being Transbaviaans, a 230km single stage off road ride that tests mental rather than physical constraints. I love links golf as it requires creativity of shot making rather than brute force."

Out of his three sporting passions, he seems to have almost earned his Springbok colours for horseracing – and celebrated a big win in the Gr1 Summer Cup last month with Tilbury Fort.

He plays down the skill element. There is no question, he has been a lucky owner!

"Having never picked or bought a horse myself I have been quite fortunate to have had 5 Gr1 winners in Malteme (Summer Cup), Potent Power (Gold Medallion), Chestnuts and Pearls (Golden Slipper) and Lobo's Legend (1800 Classic)- together with Tilbury Fort. But my favourite horse has always been Hail Caesar."

He also has two small shares in mares that he has raced. "I know very little about horses. As such, I have never bought or picked a horse. Others tend to rope me into partnerships. We currently have two groups that I am part of and it is a huge amount of fun."

We asked what advice he'd give a new owner.

"Start out doing this for fun and try and find a trainer that you relate to. The great thing about horses is they don't know what they were bought or sold for. Also, buy a share with partners first rather than an outright purchase. Pay your school fees before shooting for the moon!"

As to Sun Met day, he says that he is looking forward to a great racing occasion. "I was also privileged to have attended the L'Ormarins Queen's Plate. I like Strathdon in the Gr2 Stayers and would really like to see Lady In Black pick up a Gr1 for the owners and Dennis Drier," he adds.

Mark says he wants to reach out to all stakeholders, including the media. "Robert and I are in total agreement about being as transparent as possible - which would mean that we are accessible to discuss issues of importance with the public, including through the press- our only agenda is to see Kenilworth Racing go from strength to strength," he said in closing.

A Familiar Face

The man sharing the wheel with Mark Currie in steering the good ship Cape Racing out of stormy waters is Robert Bloomberg.

His late grandfather Abe Bloomberg was Chairman of the now defunct Cape Turf Club for some 30 years and was widely known as 'Mr Racing'.

It was Granddad who stirred Robert's first interest in the game- and the young man took the bit, starting early, and having his first bet on Jollify when he famously dead-heated with Sea Cottage in the 1967 Durban July. He was just 8 years old but it was the start of a passion that has grown into a science for the qualified Attorney. His highlight is the 2005 Durban July victory by Dunford – one of nine Gr1 wins for another lucky owner! Robert served on the board of Kenilworth Racing since inception, as well as many other industry platforms, before taking over as Co Chairman in December 2018.



Robert Bloomberg

Saluting 'Muis'

The only jockey inducted into the SA Hall Of Fame, Michael 'Muis' Roberts signed autographs for an admiring public at Scottsville on Sunday. The man who held the record for the most winners as an apprentice for many years, and won the first



Michael Roberts | Gold circle

of his eleven South African Jockeys Championships while still an apprentice, became only the sixth non-British or Irish jockey to win the British Jockeys Championship, which began in 1840 and is regarded as the hardest championship to win in world racing. In doing so he became only the third jockey in history after Sir Gordon Richards and Pat Eddery to ride over 200 winners in a British flat racing season.

HERE & ELSEWHERE - SARAH WHITELAW

Sadler's Wells - Derby Dominance

One of the most notable pedigree factors for the runners in this year's Gr1 Gbets Cape Derby is the dominance of Sadler's Wells. The legendary stallion can be found in the pedigree of 13 of the 20 original runners, in what is arguably South Africa's most important Derby.

Inevitably, Sadler's Wells' presence is well felt through his champion sire/champion broodmare sire son, Fort Wood, with the latter responsible for Derby entrant Lloyd George and broodmare sire of Derby runner, Helen's Ideal (Ideal World).

Fort Wood has played an important role in the Derby as he is also sire of former Derby winner, Dog Wood, and features as broodmare sire of 2013 winner, Capetown Noir (Western Winter).

Fort Wood's outstanding son, Dynasty, who won the Cape Derby in 2003, has had an influence second to no other local stallions on the Derby in recent times, with his sons, Eyes Wide Open, It's My Turn, Legislate and Jackson having won the Cape Derby, and other Dynasty sons, Act Of War, Arniston, Dynamic, and Paddy O'Reilly, being placed in their years.

Dynasty Forever

Dynasty, whose Horse Of The Year son, Irish Flame, is represented in the 2019 Derby by Perpetual Flame, looks to have another strong hand in this year's R1 000 000 classic.

He is the sire of Derby runners Thanksgiving, Bunker Hunt, Belgarion and Knights Templar, while his Gr2 winning daughter, Demanding Lady, is the dam of Cape Derby hopeful, Charles (Trippi) and it is quite possible that Dynasty and his progeny will again play a part in the finish.

The Sadler's Wells influence on this year's Derby is by no means restricted to Fort Wood and Dynasty.

Knights Templar is out of a mare by Jallad, who also features as the broodmare sire of past Dynasty sired Derby winners Eyes Wide Open and It's My Turn. Jallad is another sire who left his mark on this race with his progeny including past Cape Derby winners Grande Jete, Rabiya and Russian Sage.

Another son of Sadler's Wells, Casey Tibbs- whose progeny included 2009 Cape Derby winner and subsequent Equus Champion, Big City Life- has established himself as a successful broodmare sire, with Casey Tibbs mares having already produced the likes of Gr1 winners Do It Again and Do You Remember, high class Hong Kong performer, Horse Of Fortune (aka Strongman) and July runner up, Made To Conquer. Casey Tibbs is represented as a broodmare sire in this year's Cape Derby by Line Editor (Jay Peg).



Capetown Noir - Gr1 Cape Derby, 2013 | Wayne Marks

Galileo The Great

Sadler's Wells' very best sire son, and one of the greatest stallions of all time, Galileo, also features in the line-up for the 2019 Cape Derby. The dual Derby winner is damsire of Cape Derby runner, Roll Of Drums (Seventh Rock), with the latter produced by Galileo's Gr3 Fillies Mile winning daughter, Sidera. Galileo's

record in Derbies around the world is second to few, if any, sires currently at stud, and he currently has three Investec Derby winners and five Irish Derby winners to his name.

Another son of Sadler's Wells who had a massive influence on Derbies around the world was the outstanding racehorse and sire, Montjeu. The latter only had one son retire to stud in South Africa, the now deceased UAE 2000 Guineas winner, Stagelight, whose son, Ovation Award, runs in this year's Gbets sponsored Derby. Montjeu left behind four Epsom Derby winners, namely Motivator, Authorized, Pour Moi (sire of Epsom Derby hero Wings Of Eagles) and the very promising stallion, Camelot.

Like Galileo, the late High Chaparral was a dual Derby winning son of Sadler's Wells. A high class stallion in his own right, if not quite at the level of Galileo or Montjeu, High Chaparral left behind more than 120 stakes winners, headed by the Gr1 winners So You Think, Toronado, Rekindling, Wrote, Redwood, Ace High, Free Eagle, Monaco Consul, Lucky Lion, and six time Gr1 winner, Dundee. The latter is represented in the 2019 Cape Derby by Atyaab.

Wing Man

Singspiel, a son of the Sadler's Wells' sired triple G1 winner, In The Wings, is the sire of Gr1 Premier's Champion Stakes winning sire, Potlala Palace, whose first crop has yielded Derby runner, and Gr3 Politician Stakes runner-up, Senatla.

Sadler's Wells made a huge mark on Derbies run around the world, with his top performers including the multiple Derby winners, Galileo (Epsom and Irish), High Chaparral (Epsom and Irish), and Montjeu (French and Irish Derbies), as well as the Irish Derby winners, Old Vic, Salsabil, and Dream Well. He is also broodmare sire of former Investec Derby winner, Workforce (King's Best).

In 2018, Sadler's Wells' influence on Derbies continued to be felt, with descendants, Masar and Latrobe winning the Investec and Irish Derbies respectively, and Eyes Wide Open taking the Cape Derby and he promises to be a major force in pedigrees of Derby winners for years to come.

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

BREEDING

New Sire Off The Mark - The Assayer When In Rome...

Candice Dawson enjoyed the honour of saddling the first winner of KZN Galileo stallion The Assayer, whose son Lumber Jackaroo stormed to victory in the first race at Turffontein last Thursday evening.

Based at Yellow Star Stud, The Assayer stood his first season in 2014 and only produced 6 foals in his first crop. His 2018 fee was R10 000.

Improving smartly at his second start and stepping up to the mile, Lumber Jackaroo came home powerfully in the Turffontein opener under Denis Schwarz for trainer Candice Dawson.

The Spring Valley Syndicate bred grey gelding is out of the six-time winner Forest Lecture, a daughter of Lecture

The Assayer sold for R1-million at the National Yearling Sale and began his training career with Charles Laird for the Markus Jooste and Bernard Kantor racing partnership.

The handsome grey later relocated to Mike De Kock, racing 10 times to win once and placed twice in two Gr1's – the Golden Horseshoe and Premier's Championship. He placed nine times in total. An injury forced an early retirement.

His dam Crystal Charm made two appearances as a two year old in the UK, placing in both with Listed status. She was sent to Hong Kong, finishing second to Fairy King Prawn at Sha-Tin in the Hong Kong Sprint by a length.

A year later she finished with the same result in the same race, and sent back to Ireland for stud duties. Sold in foal to Cadeaux Genereux, she was then sent to Australia where she was covered by Galileo. The Cadeaux Genereux mating produced Les Alizes, in turn the dam of 4-time winning Arrived Ahead in Hong Kong; also placing in the Gr3 Sha-Tin Vase.

A dam-line bursting with Gr1 winners, it includes the likes of half-siblings four-time Gr1 winner Timely Writer and dual Gr1 winner

Timely Assertion – both found under the second dam Timely Tammy. Others include Wild Wolverine, champion filly Indian Skimmer, Dark Mirage, Missy's Mirage, sires Bluebird, Java Gold and Madeglia d'Oro, and local Gr1 Mercury Sprint winner All Will Be Well.

More Winners For Cape Sire

Ridgemont Highlands' multiple Gr1 winning sire Canford Cliffs enjoyed more success in Australia last Friday when the son of Tagula was responsible for a pair of winners.

His four-year-old daughter Ciceroni shed her maiden when scoring over 1600m at Cranbourne on Friday, while Canford Cliffs' lightly raced son Dorset Coast also got off the mark, when he was victorious at Ballina over 1000 metres.

Three-year-old gelding Dorset Coast has done little wrong in three starts to date, having won or placed in each of his first three starts to date.

His sire Canford Cliffs has been on a winning streak of note, and recently had a trio of winners in Australia over the weekend, with his other recent winners including the lightly raced British gelding Dutch Pursuits – a winner of two of his only three starts to date.

Canford Cliffs, whose 25 stakes horses include high class South African stakes winners Fish River and Dorset Noble, is also responsible for the durable galloper Falcao Negro who recently won for a 12th time.

He stood for a fee of R30 000 in 2018 during which time Canford Cliffs covered over 100 mares.

DIGEST DIARY

Features To Come

Sat 26 Jan	Gr1 Sun Met 2000m Kenilworth (S)
	Gr1 Betting World Flying Championship 1000m Kenilworth (S)
	Gr1 Klawervlei Majorca S.F&M) 1600m Kenilworth (S)
	Gr1 Investec Cape Derby (3yo's) 2000m Kenilworth (S)
	Gr2 Western Cape Stayers 2800m Kenilworth (S)
	(L) Summer Juvenile S.(2yo's) 1000m Kenilworth (S)
	The CTS 1200 (3yo's)(NBT) 1200m Kenilworth (S)
	The CTS 1600 (3yo's)(NBT) 1600m Kenilworth (S)
Sat 2 Feb	Gr2 Betting World Gauteng Guineas (3yo's) 1600m Turffontein (S)
	Gr2 Wilgerbosdrift Gauteng Fillies Guineas (3yo's) 1600 Turffontein (S)
	(L) Wolf Power 1600 1600m Turffontein (I)
Sat 16 Feb	Gr3 Tommy Hotspur Hcp 1000m Turffontein (S)

Phumelela Shareprice

date	close	high	low	volume
23Jan	1135	1135	1135	154
22Jan	1140	1140	1101	39,899
21Jan	1140	1168	1033	67,937
18Jan	153	1170	1140	1,818
17Jan	1168	1168	1140	892
16Jan	168	1168	1126	555
15Jan	1170	1180	1130	109,900
14Jan	1126	1150	1126	15,451
11Jan	1150	1189	1100	10,510

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ASCOT STUD



BREEDING

Regulator Commits To Breeders

The incorporation of the African Stud Book Committee into the European and Mediterranean Stud Book Committee (EMSBL) to form the European and African Stud Book Committee (EASBC) was approved by the ISBC at its meeting in October 2017 and enacted at the EASBC biennial conference in May 2018.

This was done to improve compliance within the African Stud Book Committee.

As part of a global compliance review process initiated by the Chairman of the ISBC to ensure consistent and high standards, and management of Approved Stud Books, the South African Stud Book had a compliance visit in April 2017.

The subsequent report raised several issues. Since then the Stud Book has made significant progress to address the issues identified and received positive feedback from EASBC on 05 November 2018, (Including the submission of the Stud Book returns (2012 – 2015, Volume 32) and 2016 Supplement that were due).

The mandate of the ISBC and its regional bodies, which includes the EASBC, is to develop and promote the highest standards of Stud Book operations to safeguard the integrity of the Thoroughbred breed.

To this end, the South African Stud Book is committed to maintaining its status of “Approved Thoroughbred Stud Book” and consequently the Chief Executive has committed to the below requirements mandated by the EASBC by 31 July 2019:

- Stud Book Rules and policies to be reviewed for alignment with ISBC and IFHA guidance and best practice. These procedures are to be clarified and explained to the breeding and racing industry by means of notices.
- The re-implementation of deadlines and penalties to better align the Stud Book registration timing with the international practice of “registration as early as possible” and “accurate and complete foaling records” well in time for the next scheduled Supplement document. This includes the ISBC rule of 1 year deadline for registration of foals.
- A more satisfactory service to the South African breeders on issues highlighted such as accuracy, new features, versatility and practicality of the online system, the database, online name reservations, statistics and accounting.
- Formalisation of industry procedures for horse import and export to international (ISBC) and national (governmental) guidance and compliance.
- Controls and procedures to be formalised with sales companies to ensure timeous compliance of horses presented at sales.
- Formal investigation into a more modern SA Horseracing database software interface which will be an improvement and may be used by both the Stud Book and the breeders.

Further details will be circulated in due course.

Press release issued by National Horseracing Authority of South Africa on 21 January 2019

Oratorio On Fire

Avontuur’s European champion Oratorio enjoyed a weekend to remember when the triple Gr1 winner was represented by no fewer than five winners in South Africa.

The son of Danehill had winners at three different courses over the past weekend, with the Oratorio five timer kicked off by Voices Of Light who scored at Fairview on Friday.

The 3yo gelded son of Oratorio, who is trained by Alan Greeff, picked up his second win, from just eight starts when accounting for fellow Oratorio son, Jephthah, in a graduation plate over 1200m.

Voices Of Light, bred and owned by the Fosters, has now won or placed in five of eight starts.

Oratorio enjoyed more success the very next day, when his talented daughter Regal Graduation romped home for trainer Johan Janse Van Vuuren and jockey Gavin Lerena at Turffontein. The consistent four-year-old filly, who has won or placed in ten of her 13 races, made it win number four when scoring a fluent 1.8 length win in a fillies and mares handicap over 1450m.

The best was yet to come for European champion Oratorio, with the latter enjoying a memorable treble at Scottsville on Sunday.

Oratorio’s KZN treble kicked off with his daughter Giglio (another trained by Johan Janse Van Vuuren) breaking her maiden by 4.2 lengths when romping home over 1600 metres. Steered to victory by Anton Marcus, the 3yo Rosedene Stud bred filly, who was making just her fourth career start, had finished third to the promising filly Blossom at her previous start.

Giglio’s paternal half-brother Mardi Gras, the joint sales topper at the 2016 Emperors Palace Select Yearling Sale, provided Oratorio with yet more success over the weekend when the Johan Janse Van Vuuren trained four-year-old landed a MR 88 handicap over 1200m by half a length. The Avontuur bred gelding, who cost R3.2 million as a yearling, has done little wrong in his career thus far –with Mardi Gras, who ran a close fifth to champion Do It Again in the 2018 Gr2 Daisy Guineas, having won or placed in nine of his 11 starts.

Oratorio’s fifth South African winner of the past weekend came when the Dennis Drier trained Daydream Believer ran on to post a short head win over 1000 metres in Sunday’s ninth and final race. Bred by part-owner Mrs Jane Trotter, Daydream Believer was winning for a second time when the filly scored on Sunday.

A dual champion sire in Italy, Oratorio’s 90 plus stakes horses are headed by the Gr1 winners Military Attack, Beethoven, Temida, Biz The Nurse, Van Halen, Banchee, Mourinho and Manawanui.

LEADING BREEDERS by STAKES

SEASON 2016/2017 • 1 August - 20 January 2019

Stakes	Breeder	rns	AEPR	runs	wns	wns	wnr/rnr%	SW wns	SW wns	SW wnr/rnr%	plcs	plc/rns%	SP	top earner with stakes & % of total stakes
18,259,701	Klawervlei Stud	321	56,884	1330	98	130	31%	8	8	8%	357	27%	8	William Longsword 4,065,000 22%
10,586,575	Summerhill Stud	308	34,372	1392	79	110	26%	2	2	3%	351	25%	0	Africa Rising 669,500 6%
7,414,813	Avontuur Farm	49	151,323	195	14	19	29%	4	5	29%	59	30%	2	Live Life 3,614,375 49%
7,296,950	Maine Chance	154	47,383	589	54	69	35%	3	3	6%	195	33%	7	Janoobi 741,250 10%
6,488,900	Varsfontein Stud	97	66,896	378	44	54	45%	3	4	7%	103	27%	7	Captain America 996,250 15%
5,789,275	Highlands	139	41,649	549	46	60	33%	2	3	4%	147	27%	6	Trip To Heaven 809,375 14%
5,029,275	Drakenstein Stud	85	59,168	333	33	42	39%	2	2	6%	123	37%	6	Singapore Sling 1,383,750 28%
4,577,800	Ascot Stud	79	57,947	342	32	43	41%	1	1	3%	108	32%	4	Bold Respect 690,000 15%
3,528,425	Scott Bros	136	25,944	610	31	36	23%	1	2	3%	145	24%	2	Front Rank 285,100 8%
3,199,000	Wilgerbosdrift	71	45,056	295	23	32	32%	2	2	9%	84	28%	2	Nightingale 725,000 23%
3,004,263	Lammerskraal Stud	72	41,726	286	26	32	36%	1	1	4%	69	24%	3	Icy Trail 400,325 13%
2,973,475	Moutonshoek	87	34,178	362	26	32	30%	1	1	4%	82	23%	1	Extradite 725,625 24%
2,931,988	GJ Armitage	69	42,493	328	27	39	39%	1	1	4%	91	28%	1	Tilbury Fort 218,500 7%
2,770,775	Hemel 'n Aarde Stud	103	26,901	406	28	37	27%	0	0	0%	104	26%	0	Magical Bet 191,350 7%
2,635,000	Mauritzfontein Stud	48	54,896	216	15	24	31%	0	0	0%	65	30%	2	Irish Pride 569,700 22%

LEADING SIRES by STAKES

SEASON 2016/2017 • 1 August - 20 January 2019

Stakes	Sire	rns	AEPR	runs	wns	wns	wnr/rnr%	SW wns	SW wns	SW wnr/rnr%	plcs	plc/rns%	SP	top earner with stakes & % of total stakes
15,630,038	Captain Al	151	103,510	603	69	92	46%	9	9	13%	180	30%	10	William Longsword 4,065,000 26%
11,187,125	Trippi	155	72,175	617	53	73	34%	4	6	8%	209	34%	8	Live Life 3,614,375 32%
10,431,050	Silvano	177	58,932	703	75	99	42%	6	7	8%	247	35%	11	Janoobi 741,250 7%
6,517,638	Dynasty	122	53,423	457	45	62	37%	6	6	13%	125	27%	8	Bela-Bela 728,750 11%
6,005,538	*Kahal	135	44,485	632	53	76	39%	2	3	4%	182	29%	0	Intergalactic 326,250 5%
5,078,988	Elusive Fort	73	69,575	349	29	36	40%	1	1	3%	108	31%	3	Safe Harbour 1,976,000 39%
4,645,938	*Western Winter	105	44,247	397	37	46	35%	0	0	0%	104	26%	2	Attenborough 1,068,275 23%
4,495,425	Gimmethgreenlight	70	64,220	302	34	44	49%	1	2	3%	92	30%	0	Hack Green 625,000 14%
4,328,263	Var	161	26,884	589	41	48	25%	1	1	2%	176	30%	2	Rivarine 243,750 6%
4,090,675	Greys Inn	54	75,753	240	21	26	39%	1	2	5%	70	29%	2	Legal Eagle 2,200,000 54%
3,657,300	Mambo In Seattle	106	34,503	458	29	35	27%	1	1	3%	105	23%	4	Extradite 725,625 20%
3,530,925	*Jet Master	55	64,199	258	17	21	31%	1	1	6%	88	34%	6	Master Sabina 1,225,000 35%
3,430,700	Visionaire	78	43,983	326	29	37	37%	0	0	0%	85	26%	1	Africa Rising 669,500 20%
3,318,088	*Sail From Seattle	87	38,139	338	33	40	38%	0	0	0%	92	27%	1	Sail South 248,750 7%
3,254,375	**Manhattan Rain	1	3,254,375	5	1	5	100%	1	2	100%	0	0%	0	Whisky Baron 3,254,375 100%

LEADING SIRES of 3YO'S by STAKES

SEASON 2016/2017 • 1 August - 20 January 2019

Stakes	Sire	rns	AEPR	runs	wns	wns	wnr/rnr%	SW wns	SW wns	SW wnr/rnr%	plcs	plc/rns%	SP	top earner with stakes & % of total stakes
9,080,463	Captain Al	48	189,176	204	30	40	63%	2	2	7%	54	26%	3	William Longsword 4,065,000 45%
6,446,550	Trippi	50	128,931	178	24	35	48%	2	3	8%	49	28%	2	Live Life 3,614,375 56%
4,360,550	Gimmethgreenlight	65	67,085	296	32	42	49%	1	2	3%	90	30%	0	Hack Green 625,000 14%
3,542,425	Silvano	63	56,229	214	28	33	44%	2	3	7%	87	41%	2	Janoobi 741,250 21%
3,214,050	Elusive Fort	42	76,525	185	15	15	36%	0	0	0%	44	24%	2	Safe Harbour 1,976,000 61%
2,850,875	Dynasty	47	60,657	162	20	29	43%	3	3	15%	46	28%	1	Just Sensual 720,000 25%
2,842,975	Philanthropist	53	53,641	193	13	18	25%	2	2	15%	50	26%	2	Singapore Sling 1,383,750 49%
2,670,975	*Western Winter	44	60,704	158	16	20	36%	0	0	0%	45	28%	1	Attenborough 1,068,275 40%
2,471,025	Visionaire	42	58,834	178	19	24	45%	0	0	0%	44	25%	1	Africa Rising 669,500 27%
2,079,175	Mambo In Seattle	57	36,477	200	16	20	28%	0	0	0%	35	18%	1	Extradite 725,625 35%

LEADING SIRES of 2YO'S by STAKES

SEASON 2016/2017 • 1 August - 20 January 2019

Stakes	Sire	rns	AEPR	runs	wns	wns	wnr/rnr%	SW wns	SW wns	SW wnr/rnr%	plcs	plc/rns%	SP	top earner with stakes & % of total stakes
741,550	Bold Silvano	4	185,388	7	2	3	50%	0	0	0%	3	43%	0	Bold Respect 690,000 93%
374,950	*Sail From Seattle	13	28,842	19	7	7	54%	0	0	0%	4	21%	0	Quinlan 68,375 18%
244,200	Querari	5	48,840	7	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	6	86%	0	Wonderwall 215,000 88%
209,250	Var	15	13,950	24	3	3	20%	0	0	0%	7	29%	0	Trini's Var Hyt 53,125 25%
201,625	Captain Al	7	28,804	12	2	2	29%	1	1	50%	4	33%	1	Call To Account 101,250 50%
171,925	What A Winter	8	21,491	14	2	2	25%	0	0	0%	6	43%	1	Dutch Philip 61,875 36%
167,000	Antonius Pius	10	16,700	19	1	2	10%	0	0	0%	5	26%	0	Kissable 121,875 73%
161,875	*Horse Chestnut	4	40,469	6	1	1	25%	0	0	0%	2	33%	0	Gold Image 146,875 91%
150,625	Crusade	11	13,693	20	1	1	9%	0	0	0%	8	40%	0	Miss Millionaire 53,125 35%

LEADING SIRES by STAKES on Polytrack

SEASON 2016/2017 • 1 August - 20 January 2019

Stakes	Sire	rns	AEPR	runs	wns	wns	wnr/rnr%	SW wns	SW wns	SW wnr/rnr%	plcs	plc/rns%	SP	top earner with stakes & % of total stakes
1,356,925	Captain Al	48	28,269	118	18	21	38%	1	1	6%	28	24%	0	Celtic Captain 115,550 9%
1,347,275	Silvano	52	25,909	126	17	20	33%	0	0	0%	38	30%	0	Scent 165,600 12%
1,192,800	*Western Winter	41	29,093	106	18	21	44%	0	0	0%	21	20%	0	Winter Is Coming 127,625 11%
1,079,600	Dynasty	34	31,753	94	13	17	38%	0	0	0%	28	30%	0	Inviting Lily 146,675 14%
913,788	*Kahal	53	17,241	149	9	12	17%	0	0	0%	40	27%	0	Aramouse 98,675 11%
895,475	Miesque's Approval	57	15,710	188	8	9	14%	0	0	0%	49	26%	0	Sounds Positive 116,600 13%
835,375	Visionaire	36	23,205	89	12	13	33%	0	0	0%	22	25%	0	Missibaba 122,825 15%
829,000	*Sail From Seattle	35	23,686	101	10	13	29%	0	0	0%	28	28%	0	Fire Horse 140,800 17%
827,425	Black Minnaloushe	38	21,774	106	7	8	18%	0	0	0%	39	37%	0	Lucky Luciano 121,550 15%

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



The Inglis Easter Yearling Sale catalogue is now available online and its depth and quality is again in evidence.

This is the sale that has produced the likes of The Autumn Sun, Merchant Navy, Estijaab, Russian Revolution, Mossfun, Pinot and Flying Artie in recent years.

Among this year's spectacular Easter catalogue of 450 yearlings are 39 siblings to Gr1-winners such as The Autumn Sun, Merchant Navy, Sunlight, Lankan Rupee, Brazen Beau, Shoals, Fawknor, Starspangledbanner, Catchy, Dundee, Ivictory, Lucky Bubbles, Shooting To Win, She Will Reign, Shamus Award, Aerolithe and Pinot.

Snitzel is the leading sire with 37 entries while Sebring (33), Fastnet Rock (31), I Am Invincible (31) Vancouver (25), Redoute's Choice (22), Zoustar (21), Medaglia d'Oro (19), Pride of Dubai (19) and So You Think (18) round out the top 10. There is, as always, a strong international flavour with yearlings by the likes of Deep Impact, Frankel, Lord Kanaloa, Tapit and Harbinger also catalogued.

[Click here to access the online catalogue](#)



LEADING TRAINERS by STAKES

SEASON 2016/2017 • 1 August - 20 January 2019

trainer	runs	wins	win %	fav	fav %	wfav %	2nd %	2nd four	1st four	1st four %	stakes	stks/ runs
SG Tarry	709	111	16%	136	19%	38%	85	12%	327	46%	16,248,200	22,917
J Snaith	737	100	14%	157	21%	28%	90	12%	340	46%	11,903,400	16,151
BJ Crawford	420	64	15%	63	15%	49%	46	11%	194	46%	10,467,088	24,922
C Bass-Robinson	463	43	9%	62	13%	21%	53	11%	199	43%	9,639,063	20,819
VH Marshall	324	33	10%	43	13%	40%	21	6%	106	33%	7,892,063	24,358
MF de Kock	361	49	14%	93	26%	25%	43	12%	181	50%	5,965,600	16,525
GV Woodruff	217	35	16%	45	21%	33%	24	11%	104	48%	5,642,638	26,003
J Ramsden	249	30	12%	40	16%	30%	34	14%	126	51%	5,191,475	20,849
GS Kotzen	394	47	12%	50	13%	46%	40	10%	167	42%	4,446,650	11,286
AC Greeff	514	73	14%	95	18%	29%	49	10%	216	42%	4,371,375	8,505
JJ v Vuuren	189	34	18%	38	20%	47%	12	6%	81	43%	4,326,350	22,891
M Houdalakis	310	34	11%	25	8%	32%	28	9%	124	40%	4,176,950	13,474
DR Drier	283	43	15%	65	23%	40%	24	8%	117	41%	3,785,600	13,377
GM Alexander	270	36	13%	32	12%	28%	28	10%	109	40%	3,586,775	13,284
DC Howells	334	33	10%	58	17%	36%	29	9%	128	38%	3,548,113	10,623
D Kannemeyer	282	40	14%	50	18%	28%	40	14%	139	49%	3,365,000	11,933

LEADING JOCKEYS by WINS

SEASON 2016/2017 • 1 August - 20 January 2019

jockey	rides	wins	win %	fav	fav %	wfav %	2nd %	2nd four	1st four	1st four %	stakes	stks/ rides
G Lerena	380	92	24%	135	36%	36%	54	14%	241	63%	11,057,063	29,098
G Cheyne	528	90	17%	123	23%	31%	74	14%	308	58%	9,650,425	18,277
A Fortune	515	83	16%	127	25%	27%	64	12%	269	52%	6,392,426	12,412
C Zackey	725	80	11%	62	9%	26%	68	9%	280	39%	6,537,738	9,018
A Marcus	285	78	27%	157	55%	36%	41	14%	198	69%	14,141,600	49,620
R Fourie	348	75	22%	103	30%	39%	60	17%	210	60%	6,679,625	19,194
M Yeni	793	71	9%	80	10%	25%	95	12%	322	41%	6,092,425	7,683
A Delpech	346	70	20%	134	39%	32%	58	17%	210	61%	9,523,375	27,524
L Hewitson	637	68	11%	62	10%	23%	48	8%	223	35%	5,517,589	8,662
S Khumalo	421	62	15%	88	21%	34%	53	13%	188	45%	7,291,350	17,319
JP vd Merwe	571	55	10%	35	6%	31%	48	8%	220	39%	4,437,663	7,772
R Simons	494	50	10%	65	13%	29%	44	9%	184	37%	4,569,200	9,249
P Strydom	267	50	19%	72	27%	29%	46	17%	152	57%	7,108,325	26,623
G v Niekerk	378	49	13%	63	17%	22%	56	15%	185	49%	8,803,023	23,288
M v Rensburg	535	48	9%	34	6%	29%	50	9%	195	36%	4,149,665	7,756
A Domeyer	264	44	17%	47	18%	43%	38	14%	131	50%	4,209,838	15,946

LEADING TRAINERS/JOCKEYS by WINS %

SEASON 2016/2017 • 1 August - 20 January 2019

trainer/ jockey	runs	wins	win %	fav	fav %	wfav %	2nd %	2nd four	1st four	1st four %	stakes	stks/ runs
JJ v Vuuren/G Lerena	30	11	37%	13	43%	62%	2	7%	2,008,250	66,942		
BJ Crawford/G Cheyne	51	18	35%	18	35%	67%	5	10%	4,096,900	80,331		
PA Peter/G Lerena	34	12	35%	11	32%	27%	5	15%	947,775	27,876		
GS Kotzen/R Fourie	67	22	33%	25	37%	64%	13	19%	2,185,975	32,626		
A Nel/A Domeyer	60	18	30%	25	42%	56%	10	17%	1,198,625	19,977		
D Kannemeyer/A Delpech	80	23	29%	31	39%	39%	18	23%	1,721,450	21,518		
SG Tarry/P Strydom	40	11	28%	16	40%	38%	7	18%	959,125	23,978		
CS Laird/A Marcus	65	16	25%	25	38%	48%	4	6%	1,212,675	18,657		
J Snaith/R Fourie	147	34	23%	54	37%	33%	30	20%	2,543,775	17,305		
MF de Kock/C Murray	48	11	23%	15	31%	33%	8	17%	1,118,475	23,302		
AC Greeff/G Cheyne	207	46	22%	67	32%	30%	25	12%	2,616,675	12,641		
SG Tarry/S Khumalo	222	43	19%	63	28%	38%	29	13%	5,559,375	25,042		
C Lensley/M Yeni	108	20	19%	26	24%	23%	21	19%	972,300	9,003		
GM Alexander/A Fortune	85	16	19%	22	26%	32%	14	16%	1,700,075	20,001		
J Snaith/A Fortune	70	13	19%	30	43%	30%	7	10%	806,550	11,522		
GM Alexander/C Zackey	52	10	19%	4	8%	25%	5	10%	861,350	16,564		



Richard Fourie is the right man for the job

Hook, Line & Sinker

Passionate family man and hobby fisherman Richard Fourie partners Sun Met favourite Do It Again on Saturday. He won the L'Ormarins Queen's Pate on the Twice Over gelding earlier this month. The 33 year old is currently 6th on the national log with 75 winners at a 23% strike-rate. He has ridden in 4 of the last 7 Mets and boasts a

peak second finish. That was on Our Giant who was beaten by Pocket Power in 2008. He also finished fourth on Gold Standard behind Whisky Baron in 2017.



Alan Greeff is enjoying another big season

Good Greeff!

East Cape Champion Trainer Alan Greeff enjoyed a royal day at the office yesterday, saddling five winners on the Fairview all-weather track. He has sent out 61 winners at a strike-rate of 16% for stakes of over R5,4 million. He is currently at fifth position on the national log.

Not bad for a minor centre trainer! The Greeff winners were partnered

by Greg Cheyne (3), while Wayne Agrella and Teaque Gould picked up one each. Greeff has three runners on Met day – including Lloyd George in the Cape Derby and Brandina in the Listed Summer Juvenile Stakes.



Sean Tarry and Lyle Hewitson are hoping for a big day

Eagle Pair

No trainer-jockey combination in Saturday's Met field of 13 have won the race previously, but in-form Gauteng pair of SA champion jockey Lyle Hewitson and past multiple

champion trainer Sean Tarry, who have teamed up for 30 winners this term- including the Gr1 Summer Cup- at a strike-rate of 15%, would be popular victors with

the gallant 7yo and dual SA Horse Of The Year Legal Eagle. Tarry won the Met in 2005 with Alastor, while Hewitson is looking for his first – and would be one of the youngest riders in history to claim the honour.

EXTENDED LISTS OF ALL STATS

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BEST RATINGS

Mon 7 Jan 2019 - Wed 23 Jan 2019

Hat In The Ring!

National Park's win promises serious Triple Crown challenge

MALES (up to 1600m)										
AR	horse	age	sire	breeder	date	fin	class	distance	course	aptitude
105	National Park	3	Gimmethgreenlight	Missing U Syndicate	18Jan	1	Cnd	1400	Fairview	67/105/-/-/-
100	Infamous Fox	4	Foxwedge	bred in Australia	19Jan	1	MR102	1400	Kenilworth	55/100/-/70/-
97	Union Jack	6	Captain Al	Ridgemont	18Jan	2	Cnd	1400	Fairview	97/97/-/-/-
96	Bishop's Bounty	5	Western Winter	Lammerskraal Stud	19Jan	7	MR102	1400	Kenilworth	108/96/-/-/-
94	Aldo	3	Redoute's Promise	Piemonte Stud	11Jan	1	MR88	1200	Fairview	94/-/-/-/-
93	Our Mate Art	5	Artie Schiller	bred in Australia	19Jan	6	MR102	1400	Kenilworth	90/106/92/-/82/
92	Star Chestnut	6	Horse Chestnut	Drakenstein Stud	19Jan	9	MR102	1400	Kenilworth	91/98/90/75/-
91	Mardi Gras	4	Oratorio	Avontuur Farm	20Jan	1	MR88	1200	Scottsville	91/93/-/-/-
90	Ready Steady Go	4	Gimmethgreenlight	Nadeson Park Stud	19Jan	2	MR102	1400	Kenilworth	90/90/-/-/-
90	Fifty Cents	6	Trippi	Drakenstein Stud	18Jan	3	Cnd	1400	Fairview	100/100/-/-/-

FEMALES (up to 1600m)										
AR	horse	age	sire	breeder	date	fin	class	distance	course	aptitude
104	Mighty High	3	Pathfork	Maine Chance	12Jan	2	Cnd3f	1160	Turffontein	104/-/-/-/-
98	Top Salute	4	Main Aim	RG Pienaar	21Jan	1	Cnd	1400	Flamingo Park	84/98/-/-/-
91	Kiever Kathy	3	Bold Silvano	Riyo Stud	11Jan	1	MR89f	1300	Fairview	91/89/-/-/-
91	All At Once	3	Captain Al	Varsfontein Stud	12Jan	1	Cnd3f	1160	Turffontein	91/-/-/-/-
87	Cavivar	2	Var	Lammerskraal Stud	12Jan	1	Cnd-2	1000	Turffontein	87/-/-/-/-
87	Madame Speaker	3	Pathfork	SE Bennett	11Jan	2	MR89f	1300	Fairview	87/90/-/-/-
87	Straat-Kind	5	Var	La Plaisance Stud	17Jan	1	MR92f	1000	Kenilworth	87/-/-/-/-
87	Casual Diamond	4	Var	Eclipse Racing & Breeding	17Jan	2	MR92f	1000	Kenilworth	87/-/-/-/-
86	Regal Graduation	4	Oratorio	AC Dickerson & DJ Fraser	19Jan	1	MR84f	1450	Turffontein	80/86/-/-/-
86	San Fermín	4	Charge Forward	bred in Australia	8Jan	1	Cnd	1200	Vaal	95/89/-/-/-

MALES (1600m and more)										
AR	horse	age	sire	breeder	date	fin	class	distance	course	aptitude
96	Dark Moon Rising	5	Ideal World	IR Heyns	20Jan	2	MR103	1750	Scottsville	77/99/96/95/87/
96	Noble Secret	4	Dynasty	Moutonshoek	17Jan	1	Cnd	2400	Turffontein	81/92/96/80/96/
91	Laws Of Succession	7	Jay Peg	Klawervlei Stud	18Jan	1	MR90	2000	Fairview	59/91/91/91/-
91	Go Direct	6	Go Deputy	Lammerskraal Stud	18Jan	5	MR90	2000	Fairview	69/93/93/93/90/
90	Man About Town	4	Gitano Hernando	Eclipse Racing & Breeding	19Jan	1	MR88	2000	Kenilworth	44/79/84/90/75/
90	Wild Brier	6	Ideal World	Mauritzfontein Stud	18Jan	4	MR90	2000	Fairview	-/82/87/90/77/
86	Free Agent	6	Warm White Night	Klawervlei Stud	18Jan	3	MR90	2000	Fairview	59/78/82/87/-
85	Top Shot	7	A P Arrow	Summerhill Stud	19Jan	3	MR92	2000	Turffontein	-/89/88/88/85/
85	The Dazzler	4	Mogok	Scott Bros	19Jan	2	MR92	2000	Turffontein	83/85/75/85/-
85	Cash Time	4	Gimmethgreenlight	Hemel 'n Aarde Stud	17Jan	3	Cnd	2400	Turffontein	25/79/94/97/89/

FEMALES (1600m and more)										
AR	horse	age	sire	breeder	date	fin	class	distance	course	aptitude
97	Fort Ember	6	Elusive Fort	Arc-en-Ciel	10Jan	1	MR92f	1800	Vaal	-/100/101/101/-
95	Santa Clara	3	Duke Of Marmalade	Maine Chance	12Jan	1	MR92f	1600	Kenilworth	83/95/-/-/-
90	Jet Start	4	Pathfork	PT & P Dimakogiannis	19Jan	1	MR92	2000	Turffontein	77/81/89/90/-
88	Generous Lady	3	Philanthropist	Highlands	16Jan	2	MR86f	1600	Scottsville	69/90/-/-/-
87	Desert Rhythm	4	Mambo In Seattle	Nutfield Stud	12Jan	4	MR92f	1600	Turffontein	88/92/-/-/-
87	Being Fabulous	5	High Chaparral	bred in Australia	12Jan	2	MR92f	1600	Turffontein	69/87/87/83/-
85	Luna Child	4	Ideal World	Wigerbosdrift & Mauritzfontein	12Jan	4	MR92f	1600	Kenilworth	91/89/90/83/-
85	Tamarina	4	Judpot	Varsfontein Stud	12Jan	1	MR92f	1600	Turffontein	78/85/-/-/-
84	Ella's World	3	Ideal World	SR Rosseau	16Jan	1	MR86f	1600	Scottsville	-/84/80/-/-
84	Jet Start	4	Pathfork	PT & P Dimakogiannis	10Jan	3	MR92f	1800	Vaal	77/81/89/90/-

3yo MALES (any distance)										
AR	horse	age	sire	breeder	date	fin	class	distance	course	aptitude
105	National Park	3	Gimmethgreenlight	Missing U Syndicate	18Jan	1	Cnd	1400	Fairview	67/105/-/-/-
94	Aldo	3	Redoute's Promise	Piemonte Stud	11Jan	1	MR88	1200	Fairview	94/-/-/-/-
85	Against The Grain	3	Curved Ball	Bush Hill Stud	8Jan	2	Cnd	1200	Vaal	85/85/-/-/-
84	Mr Greenlight	3	Gimmethgreenlight	Nadeson Park Stud	13Jan	1	Cnd	1600	Greyville	-/84/72/-/-
84	Affranchi	3	Elusive Fort	Guillaume Stud	20Jan	3	MR103	1750	Scottsville	84/84/84/-/-
82	Approach Control	3	Potala Palace	Ralphs Syndicate	12Jan	2	Cnd	1600	Turffontein	-/82/-/-/-
81	Farland	3	Querari	Lammerskraal Stud	20Jan	2	MR71	1400	Scottsville	74/81/-/-/-
81	Master Magic	3	Mogok	Scott Bros	19Jan	3	MR74	1800	Turffontein	-/82/81/75/-
81	Buckleberry	3	Crusade	Somerset Stud	9Jan	1	MP	1000	Greyville	81/-/-/-/-
81	The Sultans Bazaar	3	Visionaire	Summerhill Stud	13Jan	3	Cnd	1600	Greyville	55/81/-/80/-

3yo FEMALES (any distance)										
AR	horse	age	sire	breeder	date	fin	class	distance	course	aptitude
104	Mighty High	3	Pathfork	Maine Chance	12Jan	2	Cnd3f	1160	Turffontein	104/-/-/-/-
95	Santa Clara	3	Duke Of Marmalade	Maine Chance	12Jan	1	MR92f	1600	Kenilworth	83/95/-/-/-
91	All At Once	3	Captain Al	Varsfontein Stud	12Jan	1	Cnd3f	1160	Turffontein	91/-/-/-/-
91	Kiever Kathy	3	Bold Silvano	Riyo Stud	11Jan	1	MR89f	1300	Fairview	91/89/-/-/-
88	Generous Lady	3	Philanthropist	Highlands	16Jan	2	MR86f	1600	Scottsville	69/90/-/-/-
87	Madame Speaker	3	Pathfork	SE Bennett	11Jan	2	MR89f	1300	Fairview	87/90/-/-/-
86	Golden Chance	3	Dynasty	GJ Armitage	17Jan	2	MR80f	1400	Kenilworth	84/86/-/-/-
85	Casual Wear	3	What A Winter	Cheveley Stud	17Jan	1	Cndfm	1000	Turffontein	85/-/-/-/-
84	Ella's World	3	Ideal World	SR Rosseau	16Jan	1	MR86f	1600	Scottsville	-/84/80/-/-
79	Dancing Queen	3	Mambo In Seattle	Boland Stud	17Jan	4	Cndfm	1000	Turffontein	87/-/-/-/-

BLACK TYPE RESULTS

SCOTTSTVILLE (inside)**Sunday, 20 January****Course Variant: 0.35s fast (straight) – 0.01s fast (bend)**

With 4mm of rain and no irrigation added in the seven days leading up to this meeting, the penetrometer read 22, and the going was posted as good. There was a light 7km/h south easterly wind, and the false rail was out 4.5m.

Michael Roberts Hcp (Listed) R150,000**Poor House**

Despite looking to have a bit to do at the weights, Dennis Drier's 6yo Wealthy charged home from miles off the gallop at any price to win the R150 000 Listed Michael Roberts Handicap at Scottville on Sunday.

After Hero Quest had led for much of the journey, Affranchi moved up looking dangerous. But the action was near the rear of the field and it was Wealthy who finished best to hold off the late run of Dark Moon Rising, who had been pacing it with him at the back of the field.

Wealthy kept going by 0,75 lengths to win in a time of 103,49 secs with Affranchi a further 0,75 lengths away in third.

Amor Ardiente rounded off a R13 200 quartet with Pietro Mascagni failing to fire and running a 3,15 length fifth.

A past KZN 2000 Winter Challenge winner, Wealthy was bred by KL Thomas and is a son of Silvano (Lomitas) out of the five time winner Wealth (Badger Land).

A R180 000 National 2yo Sale graduate, Wealthy has won 6 races with 8 places from 28 starts for stakes of R589 050.

Michael Roberts Handicap (L) 1750m

Winner Wealthy raced at the back entering the home straight; ran on well to lead 130m Runner-up Dark Moon Rising raced second to last entering the straight; ran on particularly strongly in the closing stages

Third Affranchi raced 2nd; led 250m; outrun latter stages

Time: Comparatively the fastest of the three races around the turn, the pace looked a fair one throughout. We gave the runner-up (prev 85/87/99/95/96) 96 which makes the winner (prev 57/73/78/74 – has done 83) 82 and the third (prev 84/84/71/61/77) 84

82 **1 0.00 WEALTHY** (10) 53.0 S Veale 22/1
 6 b g Silvano - Wealth (Badger Land)
 96 **2 0.75 DARK MOON RISING** (2) 60.0 C Zackey 10/1
 5 b g Ideal World - Full Moon Rising (Second Empire)
 84 **3 1.50 AFFRANCHI** (8) 52.0 L J Ferraris 22/1
 3 b g Elusive Fort - Tropical Dance (ARG) (Luhuk)
 75 **4 2.75 Amor Ardiente** (7) 52.5 M Yeni 25/4
 81 **5 3.15 Pietro Mascagni** (1) 55.5 A Marcus 5/8
 78 **6 3.30 Dawn Calling** (3) 54.5 M Khan 16/1
 74 **7 4.40 Sir Bernadini** (9) 53.5 G Wright 22/1
 79 **8 4.80 Hero Quest** (6) 56.0 K De Melo 25/1
 73 **9 5.30 Blackball** (11) 54.0 W Kennedy 18/1
 65 **10 7.10 Techno Captain** (4) 52.0 A Arries 66/1
 56 **11 15.00 Nicklaus** (5) 55.5 S Moodley 66/1
 Time: 103.49s (59.14s avg/1000m, or 61km/h) **SP Total %: 115%**
 1st T: DR Drier O: Messrs A N Dickinson, P B Gibson, D D Hayman, M A Nel, S Singleton & Mrs G M Drier B: KL Thomas

New Face In Town

Last Wednesday a brand new name to SA punters in Kevin Kalychurun cantered down for Scottville's 6th race aboard the Doug Campbell trained Vallanaut.

The affable young Mauritian is in South Africa with his wife Mershia on a temporary riding license. Currently settled in Durban, he is spending two days of the week at Ashburton and two at Summerveld and hopes to make the most of his 3-month stint.

"When I was young, I used to go to the racecourse with my uncle – that's where everything kicked in. I just fell in love with horses. I always wanted to do something with horses and be a jockey, because I was always small and light."

Kevin started working with the re-tired Mauritian racehorses, doing trail rides on the beach. "I started there, helping out and got my basic experience – grooming and how to ride."

After about 3 years in Mauritius, he moved to Ireland as a track rider and met Mershia. "Actually, that was the place I really learnt about horse racing. I was riding young horses, putting them through the gates, galloping them, all the basics."

[Read more here](#)

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

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 SCORERS for 2018/2019

(to 13 January 2019)

horse	age	sex	points	races
Soqrat	3	c	132	3
Do It Again	4	c	124	2
Tilbury Fort	5	c	124	2
Coral Fever	6	c	88	2
Cascapedia	5	f	72	2
Clouds Unfold	3	f	72	3
Front And Centre	3	f	70	1
Oh Susanna	4	f	70	1
Dawn Assault	5	c	69	2
Rainbow Bridge	4	c	68	3
Captain Aldo	8	c	62	2
Legal Eagle	7	c	60	2
Head Honcho	5	c	50	1
Doublemint	4	c	50	1
Gimme One Night	5	c	50	2
Kasimir	4	c	50	1
One World	3	c	48	2
Arctica	6	c	48	2
Chimichuri Run	3	c	35	2
Undercover Agent	4	c	34	2
Princess Rebel	4	f	30	1
Hawwaam	3	c	30	1
Lady In Black	4	f	30	1
Nafaayes	3	f	30	1
Rebel's Champ	4	c	25	1
Takingthepeace	4	f	25	1
Sylvan On Fire	5	f	25	1
Alyaasaat	3	c	24	1
Kampala Campari	5	c	23	1
Doosra	5	c	22	1
Twist Of Fate	3	c	22	1
Silvano's Pride	3	f	20	1
New Caledonia	6	c	12	1
Juniper Spring	3	f	12	1
Al Danza	5	f	12	1
Ghaalla	3	f	9	1
Full Mast	4	c	7	1
Temple Grafing	3	f	2	1

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SIGNPOSTS

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

CAPETOWN NOIR (Western Winter)

Brandina 2f (Bedouin by Var)

[Kenilworth 3 Summer Juvenile Stakes \(Listed\) 1000m \(26/01\)](#)

CAPTAIN OF ALL (Captain Al)

Lady Legend 2f (Maritzburg by Elusive Quality)

[Scottsville 1 Maiden Juvenile Plate \(Fillies\) 1000m \(27/01\)](#)

Royal Splurge 2f (Judbury by Judpot)

[Scottsville 1 Maiden Juvenile Plate \(Fillies\) 1000m \(27/01\)](#)

DUKE OF MARMALADE (Danehill)

Duchessofcornwall 2f (Tiger Strike by Tiger Ridge)

[Kenilworth 3 Summer Juvenile Stakes \(Listed\) 1000m \(26/01\)](#)

JACKSON (Dynasty)

Adalgiso 2c (Sermonize by Strike Smartly)

[Fairview 1 Maiden Juvenil Plate \(Turf\) 1000m \(25/01\)](#)

MASTER OF MY FATE (Jet Master)

Purple Persuasion 2f (Music Pass by Go Deputy)

[Scottsville 1 Maiden Juvenile Plate \(Fillies\) 1000m \(27/01\)](#)

TIME THIEF (Redoute's Choice)

Sir Caleb 2c (Servilia by Caesour)

[Fairview 1 Maiden Juvenil Plate \(Turf\) 1000m \(25/01\)](#)

VERCINGETORIX (Silvano)

Hooves Of Troy 2c (Secret Magok by Mogok)

[Fairview 1 Maiden Juvenil Plate \(Turf\) 1000m \(25/01\)](#)

WHERE'S THAT TIGER (Storm Cat)

Warrior Tiger 2g (Eternal Sunshine by National Emblem)

[Kenilworth 3 Summer Juvenile Stakes \(Listed\) 1000m \(26/01\)](#)

2nd season sires - 3yo's

DUKE OF MARMALADE (Danehill)

Galway 3g (Irish May by Dynasty)

[Greyville 1 Maiden Plate \(Polytrack\) 1400m \(25/01\)](#)

Viti Levu 3g (Valdovino by Al Mufti)

[Greyville 5 MR 60 Apprentice Handicap \(F&M\)\(Polytrack\) 1600m \(25/01\)](#)

Mornington Sheila 3g (Scarlet Sheila by Red Ransom)

[Turffontein 2 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1200m \(26/01\)](#)

Super Fine 3g (Jalinga by Jallad)

[Turffontein 2 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1200m \(26/01\)](#)

Temple Grafyn 3g (Inner Temple by Greys Inn)

[Kenilworth 4 The CTS 1200 \(3yo's\)\(Non-Blacktype\) 1200m \(26/01\)](#)

Santa Clara 3g (Shina by Lomitas)

[Kenilworth 7 Gr1 Cape Derby 2000m \(26/01\)](#)

Peter Paul Rubens 3g (Aquatint by Peintre Celebre)

[Kenilworth 11 Maiden Plate 1600m \(26/01\)](#)

Bon Maman 3g (White Wood Aster by Fort Wood)

[Scottsville 2 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1000m \(27/01\)](#)

JACKSON (Dynasty)

Redamancy 3g (Capulette by Captain Al)

[Fairview 4 Maiden Plate \(Turf\) 1800m \(25/01\)](#)

Captain's Legacy 3g (Victory Dance by Victory Moon)

[Kenilworth 1 Maiden Plate 1200m \(26/01\)](#)

Dynamite Jack 3g (Crystal Tiara by Beautiful Crown)

[Kenilworth 2 MR 74 Handicap 1400m \(26/01\)](#)

Jack Of Hearts 3g (West Wacker by Western Winter)

[Scottsville 3 Maiden Plate 1950m \(27/01\)](#)

MASTER OF MY FATE (Jet Master)

Destinys Game 3g (Bay Of Desire by Red Ransom)

[Turffontein 2 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1200m \(26/01\)](#)

Mastagambit 3g (Keyra by Western Winter)

[Kenilworth 4 The CTS 1200 \(3yo's\)\(Non-Blacktype\) 1200m \(26/01\)](#)

Twist Of Fate 3g (Crescent Lily by Counter Action)

[Kenilworth 5 The CTS 1600 \(3yo's\)\(Non-Blacktype\) 1600m \(26/01\)](#)

Master Of Spain 3g (Iberia by Cordoba)

[Kenilworth 11 Maiden Plate 1600m \(26/01\)](#)

Goliath Heron 3g (Water Bird by Silvano)

[Kenilworth 12 MR 87 Handicap 1000m \(26/01\)](#)

Tarocco 3g (Just Assembly by National Assembly)

[Scottsville 2 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1000m \(27/01\)](#)

Clouds Of Witness 3g (Cloud Ten by Jallad)

[Scottsville 3 Maiden Plate 1950m \(27/01\)](#)

NOBLE TUNE (Unbridled's Song)

Bud The Spud 3g (Triandra by Silvano)

[Scottsville 3 Maiden Plate 1950m \(27/01\)](#)

Paths Of Victory 3g (Victory Garden by Solskjaer)

[Scottsville 4 MR 77 Handicap 2400m \(27/01\)](#)

The Jazz Singer 3g (On The Wing by Kahal)

[Scottsville 8 Maiden Plate 1600m \(27/01\)](#)

POMODORO (Jet Master)

Countless Awards 3g (Countless by Count Dubois)

[Fairview 9 MR 69 Handicap \(Turf\) 1200m \(25/01\)](#)

Cirillo 3g (Miss Wordsworth by Lake Coniston)

[Kenilworth 4 The CTS 1200 \(3yo's\)\(Non-Blacktype\) 1200m \(26/01\)](#)

Fortuna Doro 3g (Fortunes Hand by Elliodor)

[Turffontein 4 Assessment Plate \(F&M\) 1800m \(26/01\)](#)

Cedar Man 3g (Dharmasala by Fantastic Light)

[Kenilworth 10 Gr2 Stayers 2800m \(26/01\)](#)

POTALA PALACE (Singspiel)

Watsonia 3g (Cape Floral by Fort Wood)

[Fairview 9 MR 69 Handicap \(Turf\) 1200m \(25/01\)](#)

Palace Chapel 3g (Gem Quality by Special Preview)

[Kenilworth 4 The CTS 1200 \(3yo's\)\(Non-Blacktype\) 1200m \(26/01\)](#)

Dalai's Promise 3g (Competitor by Tara's Halls)

[Kenilworth 4 The CTS 1200 \(3yo's\)\(Non-Blacktype\) 1200m \(26/01\)](#)

Senatla 3g (Impressee by Nayef)

[Kenilworth 7 Gr1 Cape Derby 2000m \(26/01\)](#)

THE APACHE (Mogok)

Adorable Analia 3g (Idilic Charm by In The Money)

[Scottsville 5 MR 82 Handicap \(F&M\) 1750m \(27/01\)](#)

THE ASSAYER (Galileo)

Whispering Hill 3g (Whispering Reeds by Lecture)

[Scottsville 2 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1000m \(27/01\)](#)

WHERE'S THAT TIGER (Storm Cat)

Temp The Tiger 3g (Figure Eight Knot by Captain Al)

[Kenilworth 2 MR 74 Handicap 1400m \(26/01\)](#)

SIGNPOSTS

Notable Maiden Winners

PATHFORK

Rated AR 69 Sacred Journey (3g Happy Heart by Dynasty)
Maiden Plate Scottsville (1200m) (20/1)

Easy to back at 9/1 on the off, Dennis Drier’s newcomer raced at the back of the eleven for most of the journey. He ran on stoutly over the final 400m and under a well-judged ride from Sean Veale he got up late to win going away.

FOXWEDGE

Rated AR 78 Run Fox Run (3f Victory Cry by General Nediym)
Maiden Plate Kenilworth (1000m) (19/1)

Sent off third in the betting market at 4/1, Brett Crawford’s newcomer couldn’t have been more impressive on debut here. Soon up handy, Run Fox Run only had to be pushed out in order to lead going through the 300m, and went on to score with a ton in hand by two.

QUERARI

Rated AR 74 Principessa (3f Pailita by Monsun)
Maiden Plate (F&M) Kenilworth (1800m) (19/1)

Brett Crawford’s charge has silently been progressing very nicely in the maiden ranks and has improved with each step up in distance. Running on stoutly from midfield here, Principessa was balked for a run at the business end of the race and showing a nice turn of foot did well to get up in the dying strides.

Horses To Follow

GITANO HERNANDO

Rated AR 90 Man About Town (4c Ethnic Beauty by Leopard Strike)
MR88 Handicap Kenilworth (2000m) (19/1)

Now a winner of three from fourteen, Piet Steyn’s charge has shown considerable improvement since returning from a layoff in November. He was a close up third in the Gr2 Peninsula Handicap last time out and followed that up with a very authoritative win under topweight of 61kg here.

Winners Bred Abroad

- another AUSHORSE winner
- Seventh Of June (AUS) 5g Starcraft- Fernande(AUS) (Galileo)
Turffontein 1800m (19/01)
- another AUSHORSE winner
- Infamous Fox (AUS) 4g Foxwedge- French(AUS) (Nadeem)
Kenilworth 1400m (19/01)
- another AUSHORSE winner
- Run Fox Run (AUS) 3f Foxwedge- Victory Cry(AUS) (General Nediym)
Kenilworth 1000m (19/01)

SPORTS AND BETTING

FA Cup’s Thrilling Encounter

English FA Cup | Friday 25 January | Emirates Stadium | 21:55



Two of the FA Cup’s most successful teams battle it out this Friday as Arsenal host Manchester United at the Emirates Stadium. The Gunners, who are record 13-time holders, will be wary of United catching them up, with the Red Devils holding the FA Cup 12 times in their history. Both Arsenal and Manchester United will be confident coming into this fixture, with the Gunners outclassing Chelsea in their last tie, while Ole Gunnar Solskjaer has won all seven of his games in charge of United. With both sides expected to field a strong line-up, this has all the makings to be a thrilling encounter.

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

TO WIN

- Arsenal 15/10
- Draw 51/20
- Manchester United 16/10

ARSENAL

A massive test lies in front of Arsenal, with the whole world watching this tie to see if they can keep up the consistency, which they’ve lacked in the past – resulting in a woeful end to their season, year after year. The Gunners are off the back of their most complete performance of the campaign, taking their chances against Chelsea, while they also managed to keep it tidy at the back in what was a dominant 2-0 victory over the Blues. Unai Emery got all his tactics spot on and has proved to be a master tactician, studying each and every one of his opponents. The Spanish boss will likely go with the same approach to shut down United’s midfield, with Lucas Torreira and Aaron Ramsey expected to do the dirty work, while the likes of Granit Xhaka and Matteo Guendouzi are freed up to bring the striking partnership of Alexandre Lacazette and Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang into play.

MANCHESTER UNITED

For Manchester United, departing ways with Jose Mourinho has fully been justified with Ole Gunnar Solskjaer bringing back the feel-good factor at United, winning all seven of his matches coached so far. Looking at it from the outside, it seems like the Norwegian isn’t doing much in terms of tactics, but getting each and every single one of his players expressing themselves and getting the best out of them deserves massive credit as well. Since Solskjaer has taken over the club, his side are yet to be trailing in a match, which shows great character to take the game to their opponents, although it hasn’t given us any indication as to how they will respond after going a goal down – which isn’t a major issue to worry about for United. In fact, Manchester United have had no problems thus far under Solskjaer. Personally, I don’t see why he shouldn’t be given the job permanently at the end of the season.

PREDICTION: Aubameyang & Rashford to Both Score (TBA)

CLOCKWATCHING WITH STEVE FURNISH

Plenty To Like About It

A REVIEW OF THE WEEK'S BEST SPEEDRATINGS

Green For Go

Greyville 13 January

The graduation plate was the faster of the two 1600m races on the poly track on Sunday afternoon and here we saw a smart performance from the rapidly improving MR GREENLIGHT. Freely available at 11/2 on the off, the 3yo son of Gimmethegreenlight wasn't the quickest into stride. He was soon up handy despite that though, and won going away by two and three quarters after striking the front 300m from home.

Three of the afternoon's eight races were staged over 1200m and quickest home amongst these was IN FULL BLOOM in the MR62 Handicap. Allowed to drift right out to 9/1 at the track, Sean Tarry's charge led throughout. She answered every call over the final 300m and won well by a length and a quarter from the more fancied MYELISHA.

The only other distance to stage more than one race was 1900m where by far the faster of the two was the MR72 Handicap won by DANCE OFF. Andre Nel's charge was a little slow into stride when the gates opened and as a result he raced at the back. Once in the home straight though he quickened best of all, and with the rest well beaten he got the better of HIGH GREEN (raced 6th- led 150) close home.

Titbits Content to race in midfield for most of the journey, lightly raced PAYBACKTHEMONEY ran on stoutly in the maiden plate over 1900m and cruised clear 230m out to score by four and a quarter.

100/1 Best Handicapped

Vaal 15 January

Both won in a time of 56,14 seconds, the assessment plate and the MR74 Handicap were jointly the fastest of the four 1000m races. However, the winner of the assessment plate STATE TROOPER carried 3,5kg more than the handicap winner SUGOI, and so got the higher rating. Content to idle along at the back of the

five for most of the journey, State Trooper quickened best of all at the business end of the race and with the rest some three lengths adrift, he got the better of BASILIUS by a half.

There were ten races on the afternoon in total and five of these were run over 1400m. The MR74 Handicap over 1400m was the fastest of these and here the Sporting Post's Best Handicapped runner in the field RAMBO caused a major upset. Freely available at 100/1 on the off the 10yo Victory Moon gelding raced closer to the pace than in recent starts. He quickened with all his old zest 400m out and after striking the front 250m later, he won well by a length and a half.

A maiden plate for the girls over 1200m made up the day's fare and here another of Sporting Post's best handicapped runners FLORIDA QUAYS landed the spoils. Sent off a well-supported favourite at 22/10, Stanley Ferreira's charge made all. She was always in command and won comfortably by three quarters from the always handy IT TAKES TWO.

Titbits Freely available at 31/4 on the off, Sporting Post's best handicapped runner SEE YOU TYGER won the MR83 Handicap over 1000m with authority by two.

A Walk In The Park

Fairview 18 January

All eyes were on the Gr3 Graham Beck Stakes winner NATIONAL PARK in the bill topping pinnacle stakes on Friday's turf meeting. Sent off a well-supported favourite at 11/10 Yvette Bremner's charge was soon up handy. He was ridden to lead 450m out and with the rest some five lengths adrift, he comfortably accounted for the chasing UNION JACK by a length and three quarters. Another to win very comfortably on this card was National Park's stable companion LAWS OF SUCCESSION in the faster of the two 2000m races, a MR92 Handicap. He too raced close to the speed and won with authority after striking the front 200m out.

Last Week's Top Rated
SPEED RATINGS winners incl.

Shwanky	won 11/1
See You Tyger	won 31/4
Roy's Magic	won 5/1
State Trooper	won 10/3
Special Force	won 71/20
Florida Quays	won 22/10
Marzipan Path	won 11/10
Basadi Faith	won 11/14

Top speed ratings for this weekend

(Ratings shown have already been adjusted to allocated weights)

FAIRVIEW (FRI)

- Race 1: (2) Andrea 5
- Race 2: (6) Captain Marooned 56
- Race 3: (1) Eternal Night 2
- Race 4: (7) Dettie 16
- Race 5: (7) Star Evolution 30
- Race 6: (6) Fire Horse 54
- Race 7: (5) Starflash 74
- Race 8: (1) Sassy Lady 60
- Race 9: (5) River Delta 38

GREYVILLE (FRI)

- Race 1: (6) Combat Captain 13
- Race 2: (10) Magical Java 51
- Race 3: (9) Supreme Orator 59
- Race 4: (6) Mythical Magic 27
- Race 5: (5) Miss Twist 28
- Race 6: (2) Calvary 65
- Race 7: (2) Rani 37
- Race 8: (12) Honest Prince 36

KENILWORTH (SAT)

- Race 1: (1) Silva's Fling 24
- Race 2: (2) Silver Master 44
- Race 3: (2) Emerald Band 40
- Race 4: (1) Cirillo 64
- Race 5: (3) Twist Of Fate 71
- Race 6: (8) Speedpoint 94
- Race 7: (1) Thanksgiving 55
- Race 8: (12) Front And Centre 85
- Race 9: (7) Do It Again 100
- Race 10: (1) Elusive Silva 77
- Race 11: (4) Cat Daddy 27
- Race 12: (2) What A Winner 59

TURFFONTEIN (SAT)

- Race 1: (2) Now You See Me 10
- Race 2: (4) Tidal Tussle 11
- Race 3: (9) Sea Air 22
- Race 4: (1) I Like It 52 (NAP**)**
- Race 5: (2) Pilgrim's Progress 55
- Race 6: (8) Big Bang Theory 68
- Race 7: (9) Varimax 59
- Race 8: (1) Kick Butt 31
- Race 9: (7) Do It Again 100
- Race 10: (2) Generous Notion 47

SCOTTSTOWN (SUN)

- Race 1: (4) Hey Delilah 6
- Race 2: (4) Stunning Seed 11
- Race 3: (3) Clouds Of Witness 25 (NAP*)**
- Race 4: (4) Cat's Legacy 47
- Race 5: (11) Elegant Royal 64
- Race 6: (4) Captain's Girl 87
- Race 7: (9) Rich Harvest 48
- Race 8: (5) Victorious Man 16

Nap bets

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



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CLOCKWATCHING CONT.

The girl's maiden plate was the faster of the two 1000m events on the card and here the ultra-consistent ZALIKA (also from the Yvette Bremner stable and ridden by Lyle Hewitson) got off the mark. Yet to finish out of the frame in ten starts now, the daughter of Bold Silvano raced in midfield for most of the journey. She quickened well from halfway and won going away from the second favourite SUN UP.

Titbits Without a win in ten starts coming into the race, the Western Cape raider ROCHESTER won the maiden plate over 1600m going away by eight and three quarters.

In The Family

Turffontein 19 January

A MR92 Handicap over 2000m topped the bill on Saturday afternoon's inner track card and here victory went to the top weight JET START. On leaving the stalls it was the rank outsider of the eight horse party TIRZAN who elected to make the running whilst Ormond Ferraris' charge, after being a little slow into stride, was content to sit sixth. She quickened well at the top of the short home straight and under a well-judged ride from grandson Luke Ferraris, Jet Start got up late to deny the uneasy favourite THE DAZZLER.

Four of the afternoon's ten races were staged over 1450m and stopping the clock in the fastest time amongst these was REGAL GRADUATION in the MR84 Handicap. Now a winner of 4 from 13, the daughter of Oratorio was a little slow into stride when the gates opened and raced seventh of the ten early on. She quickened well coming off the strip and after striking the front 150m from home, won going away.

The MR74 Handicap was the faster of the two 1800m races and here SEVENTH

OF JUNE registered his fourth career victory. Easy to back at 30/1 at the off Paul Peter's charge raced prominent throughout. He was ridden to lead approaching the 300m marker and in a thrilling three way finish he held on by less than a half from the running on duo of CORRIDO and MASTER MAGIC.

Titbits Racing off a mark some 16 points below that of his earlier best, poorly drawn PROFIT RATIO ran on strongly over the final 450m when a half-length runner up in the MR65 Handicap over 1450m.

Seeking Easier Pickings

Scottsville 20 January

In terms of distance the easiest victory in Pietermaritzburg on Sunday was registered by GIGLIO when opening her account in the maiden plate over 1600m. Always top of the boards, the Oratorio filly was soon up handy. She was ridden to lead early in the straight and after quickly going clear she won well by four and a quarter from the running on THRU' THE TREES.

Four of the afternoon's nine races were staged over 1200m and stopping the clock in the fastest of these was MARDI GRAS in the MR88 Handicap. A stable companion to Giglio, Johan Janse Van Vuuren's charge raced fifth of the nine for most of the journey. He put his head in front 120m out and kept on strongly late to beat the running on ISHNANA by 0,3 lengths.

The only other distance to stage more than one race was 1000m where the faster of the two was the MR70 Handicap won by DAYDREAM BELIEVER. Easy to back at 50/1 on the off, Dennis Drier's charge was always handy. She ran on stoutly over the final 300m and in what

FASTEST TIMES

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

GREYVILLE (POLY) 13 JANUARY

Going Standard	
Course Variant: 0,54s slow	
1000m (1) Marzipan Path	58,67
1200m (3) Mr Greenlight	94,75
1600m (2) In Full Bloom	69,79
1900m (2) Dance Off	114,95

VAAL 15 JANUARY

Penetrometer 21 – Going Good	
1000m (4) State Trooper	56,14
1200m (1) Florida Quays	70,00
1400m (5) Rambo	81,19

FAIRVIEW (TURF) 18 JANUARY

Penetrometer 21 – Going Good	
1000m (2) Zalika	58,95
1200m (1) Voices Of Light	70,80
1400m (3) National Park	85,90
1600m (1) Rochester	99,99
2000m (2) Laws Of Succession	125,80

TURFFONTEIN (INNER) 19 JANUARY

Penetrometer 24 – Going G/Soft	
1450m (4) Regal Graduation	89,13
1600m (1) Arlingtons Revenge	100,43
1800m (2) Seventh Of June	113,71
2000m (1) Jet Start	126,86
2600m (2) Hands Of Man	169,11

SCOTTSVILLE (INSIDE) 20 JANUARY

Penetrometer 22 – Going Good	
1000m (2) Daydream Believer	56,30
1200m (4) Mardi Gras	67,46
1400m (1) Play The Night	82,47
1600m (1) Giglio	96,27
1750m (1) Wealthy	103,49

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

MR GREENLIGHT (D Howells, KZN)

proved to be a real thriller she got up in the very last stride to deny SATARA (raced handy-led 300m).

Titbits The Dennis Drier trained newcomer SACRED JOURNEY came from the back when getting up late to win the maiden plate over 1200m.



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