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Royal Life!



L'ORMARINS
QUEEN'S PLATE
- 2019 -
RACING FESTIVAL

JANUARY
FRI 4TH
SAT 5TH

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digest

Thursday 3 January 2019

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RACING

THIS WEEKEND

KENILWORTH Friday
Best Roving Banker:
R3-(3)Destin(5/2)

SCOTTSVILLE Saturday
Best Roving Banker:
R7-(1) Sir Bernadini (3/1)

KENILWORTH Saturday
Best Roving Banker:
R3-(3)River Thames(5/2)

TURFFONTEIN Sunday
Best Roving Banker:
R6-(1) Hawwaam (7/10)

*You may have
missed...*

Friday 28 December
Fairview— race 9

Sporting Post
Best Handicapped
Romantic Crusade
WON 18/1 😊

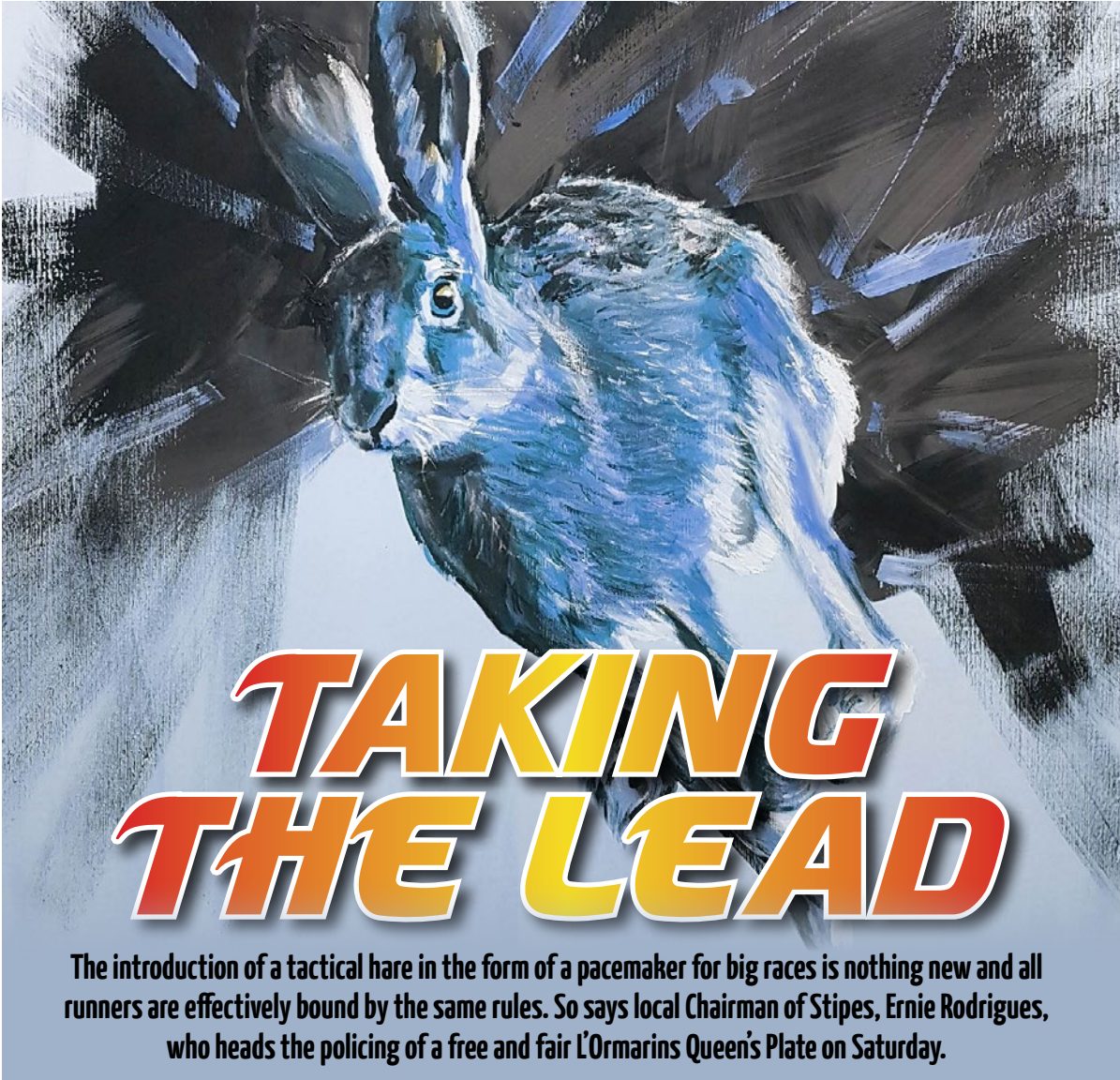
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TAKING THE LEAD

The introduction of a tactical hare in the form of a pacemaker for big races is nothing new and all runners are effectively bound by the same rules. So says local Chairman of Stipes, Ernie Rodrigues, who heads the policing of a free and fair L'Ormarins Queen's Plate on Saturday.

The entry by trainer Eric Sands of an obvious pace-setter in the shape of Amazing Strike in the field of ten for South Africa's prestigious weight-for-age mile has led to the odds on another Cape Crawl blowing out to double figures on the eve of the popular two day festival.

Ernie Rodrigues reminded us that Terrance Millard was the original tactical architect of the pacemaker in top races.

"Interestingly, the obvious didn't always happen- and sometimes the Millard pacemaker even held on

to win. Also, a trainer would need to have a plan B in place if the intended pacemaker is slow out and can't get to the lead. Things don't always go according to plan in races as we well know," said the veteran Stipe, who will be backed up by his local team as well as KZN Chief Shaun Parker who flies in to lend an extra set of seasoned eyes on a busy two days at the office.

The use of pacemakers in horseracing have ensured true run trouble-free racing the world over and the tactic has become an integral part of the planning for big races.

RIDGEMONT

HIGHLANDS

TAKING THE LEAD

Interestingly, pacemaking in England differs from the French model. Trainers enter horses for races and indicate on their nomination form that a certain horse is an intended pacemaker so that there is no mistaking why the horse is running in a particular race.

"The pacemaker is a genuine competitor in the race and is expected to be ridden that way," former British Horse Racing board chief executive Greg Nichols said. "You are not allowed to come off the fence to let a stablemate through in the closing stages, for example though."

Rodrigues says that there is nothing in the rules of the NHA that oblige a trainer to declare that a horse has been designated to fulfil the role of a hare.

"We are entitled to ask for riding instructions both before and after the race. We tend to do this more when a young apprentice is riding as we like to monitor his ability to adhere to and conform to instructions. On Saturday it's a big day and everybody is under pressure. I note that the horse you refer to, Amazing Strike, has had his breathing issues. They have taken the tongue tie off and he will compete in a cornell collar. He is being ridden by an experienced jockey and we will naturally monitor every horse. And if the pace-maker moves out suddenly off the false rail, tires badly and falls back or shifts out and hinders other horses, then we will be talking to him," he added.

A trainer with one of the greatest strike rates in the L'Ormarins Queen's Plate over the past 14 years is former Cape champion Joey Ramsden, who saddles Hat Puntano in the big race.

"He wasn't thriving in Gauteng, but is loving life down here – he has put on more weight over Christmas than me! He ran a nice race in the Green Point Stakes. I have put the blinkers on for Saturday – now you are probably wondering what master plan Ramsden has up his sleeve!" he laughed.

"Is Hat Puntano good enough to win it against the big guns? He is well and has really decent ability. We are not running just to make up numbers!"

On the use of a pacemaker, Joey says that he would do it often in years past with the Mayfair Speculators runners.

"It works well for the same owner. I can understand what the plan is after the Green Point stroll. I wish them luck. I really do."

On the subject of his superbly talented Cape Classic winner Twist Of Fate's no show in the initial Cape Derby entry list published on Wednesday, and his appearance on Saturday's card in the Gr3 Politician Stakes – itself a supposed Derby 'trial' - Joey reckons he had 'no choice'.

"The decision to run Twist Of Fate in the Politician Stakes is not part of a strategic plan, believe me! He is just so blooming well and is as hard as nails. We are not going for the Derby – rather for one of the two R5 million CTS races on Sun Met day. He is jumping out of his skin. Rather than work him harder, I thought, let's race him in the Politician Stakes – it thus serves a few purposes, including possibly telling us where we stand with him over the 1800m."

Joey said that it didn't hurt either that his charge was well in on his official rating in the Politician Stakes – although he felt that the pure paper form studiers needed to take cognisance of the unexposed runners, whose ratings didn't correctly reflect their true ability.

"Our boy has been busy running in the features and showing his colours. Have a close look at a few of those down the scale in the Politician Stakes. Some nice well-bred but mostly unexposed horses. One of them could step up to the plate and signal his Derby claims," he cautioned.

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WEEKEND RACING

Into The Deep Blue Yonder

Gr1 L'Ormarins Queen's Plate, Kenilworth on Saturday

Reigning champion Legal Eagle faces what looks to be the ultimate challenge of his illustrious career on Saturday. Unbeaten at ten starts over a mile and bidding for his fourth consecutive L'Ormarins Queen's Plate victory, the head and the heart tells us he can do it again – but it won't be a walk in the park, in what is a premier quality field.



Rainbow Bridge | Chase Liebenberg

Based on the raw mathematics of the ratings and the weight-for-age terms of the race, Legal Eagle must be our top choice to win it. Throw in his steely fighting spirit and one of the best jockeys around, who knows his mount like the back of his hand, and it's difficult backing against him.

The dramatic Gr2 Green Point Stakes thriller is still fresh in the mind. Legal Eagle took them on at the 250m after

Undercover Agent had led off a pedestrian pace, and he won the sprint to the line – getting the edge by a nose as Undercover Agent rallied, with Do It Again and Rainbow Bridge on top of them.

Trainer Sean Tarry said after that sensation win that Legal Eagle wasn't improving – but he was a stronger horse this year than he was last. So the only angles to beat him could be an unexposed runner improving in a true-run race.

Vodacom Durban July winner Do It Again was having his first start in five months when he stormed through in the Green Point to be beaten a neck. He will definitely strip fitter and is one of those likely to enjoy a harder run race.

The Gr1 Gold Challenge winner Undercover Agent showed his wellbeing with a class 1200m win at end October – his first run as a 4yo. He dictated the pace in the Green Point and rallied with heart and gusto to be beaten a nose into second. This still improving 4yo looks set for a big run.

The last filly to win this race was Mother Russia in 2011 and Justin Snaith throws an interesting curved ball into the mix with the dual Gr1 winner Snowdance. The Captain Al 4yo was never extended to win her return run on 8 December – that after a frustrating SA Champions Season where she ran three consecutive feature seconds – two at Gr1 level. On her Gold Challenge run to Undercover Agent, she won't be out of her depth here. It is interesting that Lyle Hewitson – who was aboard the winner at both of her SA Champion Season Gr1 defeats – takes the reins on Saturday.

Hat Puntano had his first run for Joey Ramsden when failing to

feature in the Green Point Stakes and beaten 4,40 lengths by Legal Eagle. The 2017 Charity Mile winner does not appear to have

START 4:35PM KENILWORTH	7	PA5/PICK SIX4/JACKPOT3 Gr1 L'ORMARINS QUEENS PLATE - 1600M SAME TRAINER:(2-9)(5-6)(8-10)	
		Greys Inn	1 LEGAL EAGLE(SG Tarry) A Marcus.....7 60.0
		Twice Over	2 DO IT AGAIN(J Snaith) R Fourie.....6 60.0
		Captain Al	3 UNDERCOVER AGENT(BJ Crawford) C Orler...5 60.0
		Hat Trick	4 HAT PUNTANO(J Ramsden) D Dillon.....9 60.0
		Ideal World	5 RAINBOW BRIDGE(AE Sands) B Fayd'herbe...4 60.0
		Ideal World	6 AMAZING STRIKE(AE Sands) G Cheyne.....2 60.0
		Foxwedge	7 INFAMOUS FOX(C Dawson) R Danielson.....1 60.0
		Redoute's Choice	8 BUFFALO BILL CODY(MF de Kock) G Lerena...10 59.5
		Captain Al	9 SNOWDANCE(J Snaith) L Hewitson.....8 57.5
		Epaulette	10 SOQRAT(MF de Kock) R Simons.....3 55.0

WEEKEND RACING

the ammunition to take this field on based on current form.

Rainbow Bridge was storming home wide out in the Green Point Stakes and may have been unlucky when unsettled in a false-run race. That was the son of Ideal World's first defeat in six starts and he will undoubtedly be looking for revenge and gets the chance to set the record straight. Trainer Eric Sands has included the pacy 7yo Amazing Strike who has never won at the mile and looks the obvious hare.

The Mike de Kock pair of recent Cape Guineas winner Soqrat and the mostly unexposed Buffalo Bill Cody present an interesting poser.

Soqrat is the only 3yo in the field and he bids to emulate another Australian-bred talent in 2012 winner Gimme-thegreenlight, who was only the second 3yo to capture the prized trophy in forty years when he beat champion Variety Club in that dramatic finish. While Soqrat is an emphatic and impressive dual Gr1 winner, he will have to up his game again to challenge for top honours.

The Irish—bred 4yo Buffalo Bill Cody has won 5 of his 6 starts and takes his plunge into the Olympic sized pool on Saturday. He has had a near perfect preparation and still looks to be well ahead of the handicapper off his current 108. He has show an ability to run from up on the pace and to be dropped out – which will be a handy asset in what is expected to be a very tactical affair.

Asked how he thought his pair would shape, Mike de Kock commented: "The Queen's Plate really is the race it's hyped up to be, all the very best milers are going be in there. The race will show us where we stand. It will be a contest of truly top horses and it certainly is something to look forward to.

The Joburg raider, 2018 Thukela Handicap winner Infamous Fox looks a rather brave and optimistic entry at best. The son of Foxwedge has not run for 9 weeks since he ran unplaced in the Charity Mile.

It's the head and heart choice again. Legal Eagle must get the vote on both counts.

But there are many pretend-ers to the royal crown – and he needs to reproduce the performance of his life come Saturday. It should be a hel-luva race – no prizes for that deduction though!

Gr1 L'Ormarins Queen's Plate past winners

2016

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| 1 Legal Eagle | 60.0 (8) 7/1 |
| 2 Legislate | 60.0 (6) 4/1 |
| 3 Noah From Goa | 55.0 (9) 6/1 |

2017

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| 1 Legal Eagle | 60.0 (3) 13/20 |
| 2 Captain America | 60.0 (8) 28/1 |
| 3 Sail South | 60.0 (5) 66/1 |

2018

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| 1 Legal Eagle | 60.0 (2) 7/10 |
| 2 Copper Force | 60.0 (12) 50/1 |
| 3 Captain America | 60.0 (9) 8/1 |

Snaith's True Blue Princess

Gr1 Paddock Stakes, Kenilworth on Saturday

SA champion trainer Justin Snaith has a smart record in the R1 million Cartier Gr1 Paddock Stakes. He goes for his third consecutive success in the prestigious fillies and mares weight-for-age contest and a double for the ruling SA Horse Of The Year Oh Susanna.



Oh Susanna | Candiese Marnewick

Snaith has a three-pronged attack in the 2019 renewal of the Paddock Stakes but it is very difficult looking beyond the high-class Oh Susanna registering the double.

The daughter of Street Cry was an easy winner last year beating Lady In Black before going on to become the first 3yo filly in over a century to win the Met. Her sole KZN SA Champions Season outing produced a Gr1 win and she was found wanting on fitness when making her 4yo debut in mid-November.

Ironically it was the 2018 Paddock Stakes runner-up Lady In Black who prove her superior fitness when beating Oh Susanna in their joint seasonal debut over the Kenilworth mile. The top-class daughter of Dynasty could be coming into her own and will be primed to repeat the feat when she jumps from a 3 draw here.

Mike de Kock's Cascapedia makes her Cape debut and presents herself boasting a rich vein of form. She won the Joburg Spring Challenge off a six month break at her first start this season and was well fancied to go close in the Summer Cup. She moved up menacingly in the Joburg flagship but was beaten under a length into third. She comes in fit and can make an impact here.

Local hope Brave Move won six on the trot last term but has not shown her best form as a 5yo. She was coughing and made a respiratory noise when beaten 6 lengths by Fresnaye in the Victress at her last start. It is interesting that regular pilot Aldo Domeyer opts to ride Elusive Heart!

Another Snaith charge, Gold Bracelet winner Miyabi Gold gets the services of Anton Marcus and jumps from pole position. She caught the eye when running on late from midfield for second in the Victress Stakes and could be a lot better than presently rated.

Fresnaye won the Victress Stakes with a late flourish and must have a chance if repeating her run in this race last year when a 2,75 length third to Oh Susanna.

Dean Kannemeyer's Hashtagyolo has taken some time to get over an illness but is expected to improve dramatically after two recent prep runs. This stakes winning 4yo moved up menacingly in the Victress Stakes before losing interest late to run fifth and under 4 lengths off the winner. She should not be disregarded from quartet calculations.

Glen Kotzen's Elusive Heart has pulled a decent draw and is a very decent daughter of Elusive Fort. She has not shown too much in two starts this term but must have a chance of earning if she has some luck in running. It is interesting that Aldo Domeyer has chosen to ride her ahead of Brave Move!

The Yellowwood Handicap winner Sylvan On Fire has her first Cape start and comes off a fair third behind Nafaayes in the Ipi Tombe Challenge.

Safe Harbour ran fifth in this race last year and while winless in



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WEEKEND RACING

some time is a solid competitor with the ability to run a big race if near best. She was not disgraced when a 3,45 length fourth in the Victress Stakes at her first Cape start this season.

Miss Katalin has maintained a solidly consistent run of form through her feature programme and caught the eye when staying on for third and 1,70 lengths off Fresnaye in the Victress Stakes.

The second of the Sean Tarry runners is Second Request, who ran on steadily in the Cape Fillies Guineas when fourth and 3,75 lengths off Front And Centre. Drawn wide here she should relish the extra being out of a mare who won up to 2450m.

Oh Susanna looks the right horse in a race charged with class. Cascapedia and Hastagyolo look the likely party spoilers, while it is difficult to ignore the chances of Lady In Back and Snaith back-up runner, Miyabi Gold.

Gr1 Paddock Stakes past winners		
2016		
1 Smart Call	59.5 (4) 33/10	
2 Inara	59.5 (13) 8/1	
3 Bela-Bela	54.0 (1) 5/1	
2017		
1 Bela-Bela	60.0 (6) 9/10	
2 Safe Harbour	54.5 (2) 9/2	
3 Silver Mountain	60.0 (3) 6/1	
2018		
1 Oh Susanna	54.0 (5) 71/20	
2 Lady In Black	54.0 (6) 15/1	
3 Fresnaye	54.5 (4) 10/1	

START 3:55PM KENILWORTH	6	PA4/PICK SIX3/JACKPOT2 Gr1 PADDOCK STAKES (F&M) - 1800M SAME TRAINER:(4-12)(5-7-11)	
		High Chaparral	1 CASCAPEDIA(MF de Kock) G Lerena..... 8 60.0
Horse Chestnut	2 BRAVE MOVE(AN Marcus) C Zackey..... 9 60.0	Silvano	3 SYLVAN ON FIRE(C Dawson) R Danielson..... 10 60.0
Elusive Fort	4 SAFE HARBOUR(SG Tarry) R Munger..... 6 60.0	Street Cry	5 OH SUSANNA(J Snaith) R Fourie..... 7 59.5
Dynasty	6 LADY IN BLACK(DR Drier) S Veale..... 3 59.5	Silvano	7 MIYABI GOLD(J Snaith) A Marcus..... 1 59.5
Western Winter	8 FRESNAYE(J Ramsden) B Fayd'herbe..... 12 59.5	Dynasty	9 HASHTAGYOLO(D Kannemeyer) K De Melo..... 5 59.5
Elusive Fort	10 ELUSIVE HEART(GS Kotzen) A Domeyer..... 2 59.5	Trippi	11 MISS KATALIN(J Snaith) S Khumalo..... 4 59.5
Twice Over	12 SECOND REQUEST(SG Tarry) L Hewitson..... 11 54.0		

Super Susanna

Saturday's Paddock Stakes favourite Oh Susanna was the only three-time Gr1 winner during last season in South Africa and was unsurprisingly named SA Horse Of The Year at Equus in August.

Oh Susanna also won the Champion Three-year-old filly award and the Champion Middle Distance horse award as her Gr1 wins in the Cartier Paddock Stakes, Met and Woolavington 2000 were all over middle distances

The Australian-bred by Street Cry was also the first three-year-old filly to win the Sun Met for over 100 years and her owners and breeders Drakenstein Stud have a valuable broodmare prospect to look forward to.

Out Of Blue Skies

Gr2 Sceptre Stakes, Kenilworth on Friday
Candice Bass-Robinson bids for a third successive win in the R400 000 Cartier Gr2 Sceptre Stakes on Friday and sends out a powerful four-pronged attack, headed by two very talented 3yo's.



Clouds Unfold| Chase Liebenberg

The Sceptre Stakes is the headline feature on Day 1 of the L'Ormarins Queen's Plate Festival and the fillies and mares 1200m sprint runs at weight-for-age plus a penalty of 2kgs for a Gr1 win and a kilo for a Gr2 score.

Dual stakes winner Clouds Unfold may have found the mile of the Cape Fillies Guineas just out of range last time when finding nothing extra to be beaten 2,25 lengths by the rampant Front And Centre. She won the Cape Nursery over Friday's course and distance with ease and looks set to revert to winning ways.

Nous Voila chased Princess Rebel home in the Southern Cross Stakes and is another who has shown her best form down the sprint straight track.

The year older Freedom Charter was 0,3 lengths behind Nous Voila when outpaced in the Southern Cross Stakes and is a half kilo better off with her stablemate over a distance she will prefer.

The beautifully-bred Varsity Lover is the third of the Bass-Robinson 3yo's and the least exposed of the stable quartet. She bounced back from a below par run in the WC Fillies Championship with a good win down the 1000m straight two weeks ago. That is not good enough to make her a winning selection here, but she has plenty of scope.

Rose In Bloom was runner-up in this race last year and has proven a soldier, seldom putting in a poor showing. She travelled to Joburg for three months after the KZN season where she won two out of her 4 starts – including a victory in the Gardenia Stakes and was then running on powerfully when beaten just out of the money in the Merchants on Summer Cup day. If the travelling has not caught up with her, she must be in for another stout effort.

Goodtime Gal can never be left out of any calculations. This big-hearted 6yo ran on steadily behind Snowdance last time and has had a solid prep into these bigger features. She seems to run for Sandile Mbhele and must be a quartet prospect on best form.

Former PE based Carlita is now with Brett Crawford and the daughter of Oratorio returns to the track of her

2018 Sun Met day feature runner-up finish behind the talented Traces. In the interim she has shown herself to be a very talented sort and can challenge for quartets.

Too Phat To Fly, Canu-keepitsecret and Anime are all capable gallopers sprinters and the last mentioned won a cracker in early November when beating Freedom Charter to win the Laisserfaire

Gr2 Sceptre Stakes past winners		
2016		
1 Princess Royal	54.5 (2) 8/1	
2 Cosmic Light	55.5 (9) 12/1	
3 Cuvee Brut	58.0 (3) 7/1	
2017		
1 Live Life	54.5 (1) 22/1	
2 Carry On Alice	60.0 (11) 1/1	
3 Beach Goddess	58.0 (5) 7/1	
2018		
1 Magical Wonderland	54.5 (4) 7/2	
2 Rose In Bloom	54.5 (13) 36/1	
3 Princess Peach	54.5 (11) 36/1	

START 4:55PM KENILWORTH	7	PA6/PICK SIX5/JACKPOT4 Gr2 SCEPTRE STAKES (F&M) - 1200M SAME TRAINER: (2-10-12-19)(5-6-8-9-18)(14-15)(16-17)	
		11T15 1T10 5T12	1 ROSE IN BLOOM(J Ramsden) D Dillon..... 17 60.0
6L14 2K11 3K10	2 FREEDOM CHARTER(C Bass-Robinson) B Fayd'herbe..... 3 60.0	3L14 6K16 2K14	3 GOODTIME GAL(M Robinson) S Mbhele..... 11 60.0
4S12 7K11 7K12	4 TOO PHAT TO FLY(GS Kotzen) C Zackey..... 6 60.0	1D16 11L14 5K12	5 DYNAMIC DIANA(J Snaith) G Lerena..... 14 60.0
4L14 10K11 9K10	6 ANGEL'S TRUMPET(J Snaith) K De Melo..... 8 60.0	2D12 1K11 7K10	7 ANIME(DR Drier) S Veale..... 16 60.0
3L13 5K11 1K12	8 CASUAL DIAMOND(J Snaith) A Andrews..... 1 60.0	1K12 1K14 3K16	9 TOWNSHIP MELODY(J Snaith) S Khumalo..... 18 60.0
1F12 4F12 3F14	10 CLOUDS UNFOLD(C Bass-Robinson) A Domeyer..... 20 57.5	9K14 1K12 2K10	11 CARLITA(BJ Crawford) C Orffer..... 12 56.5
1L13 10K14 4K10	12 NOUS VOILA(C Bass-Robinson) A Marcus..... 13 56.5	5T14 2F10 1F12	13 CANUKEEPITSECRET(VH Marshall) G Cheyne..... 7 56.5
2F16 2F14 1F14	14 MARY O' REILLY(Y Bremner) R Munger..... 10 56.5	6D16 7K14 9K16	15 MARCH MUSIC(Y Bremner) JP vd Merwe..... 9 56.5
12K14 5K14 13K16	16 SWEET MARY LOU(SG Tarry) A Mgodlwa..... 15 56.5	1L10 4K14 1K14	17 ANNEKA(SG Tarry) L Hewitson..... 4 56.5
1K10 11K14 1K10	18 JUNIPER SPRING(J Snaith) R Fourie..... 2 56.5	10D12 8T12 2V12	19 VARSITY LOVER(C Bass-Robinson) R Simons..... 5 56.5
	20 BOSS BABE(C Dawson) R Danielson..... 19 56.5		

WEEKEND RACING

Stakes. She showed good pace in the Southern Cross Stakes last time before dropping out late.

Fairview based Yvette Bremner has enjoyed a terrific away record in recent times and she looks to build on the smart win recently by Princess Rebel in the Southern Cross Stakes with the duo of Mary O'Reilly and March Music. Both are capable and there is little to choose between them but the preference would be for Mary O'Reilly who was not disgraced in her only away run – a 5,90 lengths fifth to Ronnie's Candy in the Starling Stakes on Charity Mile day.

The Snaith quintet of Dynamic Diana, Angel's Trumpet, Casual Diamond, Juniper Spring and Township Melody are all very capable sprinters – the best of which may be the 3yo Juniper Spring who, although well beaten by Clouds Unfold in the Western Cape Fillies Championship, is improving and could up her game again. Her confidence boosting last win in a low grade MR 72 handicap could provide the tonic.

Joburg raiders Sweet Mary Lou, Boss Babe and Anneke look to have some ground to make up to challenge.

Clouds Unfold looks a classy progressive filly and she is the selection to beat Rose In Bloom and Goodtime Gal.

Eye On Royalty

Gr2 Peninsula Handicap Kenilworth on Saturday

With half the field in contention for a Sun Met berth on 26 January, there will be plenty to play for in the Gr2 Peninsula Handicap at Kenilworth on Saturday. While he has some ground to make up on his recent form, last year's winner Eyes Wide Open may be a good starting point.



Eyes Wide Open | Candiese Marnewick

The son of Dynasty carries top weight of 62 kgs and has not won since his peak afternoon on Met day last year when he beat subsequent July winner Do It Again to win the Cape Derby. Since then he has run four times – which included a Gr1 place behind Captain America – and a fair third last start when beaten almost 4 lengths by Head Honcho in the Premier Trophy. Gavin Lerena now gets tasked with sparking some enthusiasm from the 4yo who made respiratory noises at his last start. Fitness will be no excuse.

Met entry Kampala Campari found his best form after being outpaced in the Matchem Stakes when galloping on strongly to beat Ollivander in an MR 96 Handicap at Durbanville last time out. That was his second outing after a break and he could be ready to show further improvement.

Another Sun Met entry, Platinum Prince was third and 3 lengths behind rising star Rainbow Bridge in the Cape Mile at his first start this season. He showed promising form during the SA Champions Season competition on the East Coast last season

and will be looking to improve on his 2,75 lengths third behind Eyes Wide Open in this race last year – and enjoys a weight swing of 7kgs to assist him!

The very progressive staying type Magnificent Seven comes off four straight wins including a hard fought Algoa Cup win at Fairview at the end of October. The Settlers Trophy winner should enjoy the long Kenilworth summer home straight but may find the 1800m on the sharp in this company.

Last season's East Cape Derby winner American Landing has been uninspiring of late and comes off three runs in the different provinces. The well-related 4yo ran a modest fourth in the Cape Summer Stayers last time and is probably best watched for some improvement.

Justin Snaith's Met entry Doublemint, the winner of last term's Gr3 Winter Derby, has his second run as a 4yo after a quiet start in early December in a 1400m pipe-opener. Richard Fourie abandons Eyes Wide Open in favour of the Snaith runner and he could be ready for a big showing from his 3 draw.

The Slade has not won a race for over a year and has his third outing this season since well beaten by Head Honcho in the Consolation July. He showed pace in the Premier Trophy and then dropped away to little. It is worth noting that he would have a shout at best and ran on steadily for second behind Eyes Wide Open in this race last year and enjoys a nice swing at the weights.

Ballad Of The Sea looks a fair stayer in the making and has maintained consistent, if not winning form, since his third behind Doublemint in the Gr3 Winter Derby. He is likely to need more ground to show his best.

Met entry Elusive Silva has had two quiet runs this season after flashing through late for third in the July behind stablemate Do It Again. The Greyville 1900 winner is as much as 6kg better off with Eyes Wide Open on last year's running when beaten 6,35 lengths.

Piet Steyn's Man About Town takes a step up in class but his form has been thereabouts and he could be a quartet possibility at best. The son of Gitano Hernando was well beaten in the Winter Derby behind Doublemint.

A decent contest in prospect with Platinum Prince and Eyes Wide Open the possible main protagonists. Doublemint and

Magnificent Seven should be thereabouts.

Gr2 Peninsula Handicap past winners			
2016			
1	Light The Lights	55.0 (9)	10/1
2	Milton	52.5 (6)	14/1
3	Deo Juvente	58.5 (15)	7/1
2017			
1	Whisky Baron	59.0 (4)	16/10
2	Milton	57.5 (14)	35/1
3	It's My Turn	60.0 (5)	5/1
2018			
1	Eyes Wide Open	52.0 (10)	18/1
2	The Slade	54.0 (12)	13/2
3	Platinum Prince	53.0 (5)	28/1

START

3:20PM

KENILWORTH

5

PA3/PICK SIX2/JACKPOT1

Gr2 PENINSULA HANDICAP - 1800M

SAME TRAINER:(2-4-5-7)

Dynasty

Silvano

Querari

Silvano

Twice Over

Philanthropist

Horse Chestnut

Dynasty

Gitano Hernando

Teofilo

1 EYES WIDE OPEN(GS Kotzen) G Lerena 5 62.0

2 ELUSIVE SILVA(J Snaith) B Fayd'herbe 9 61.0

3 KAMPALA CAMPARI(A Nel) A Domeyer 2 58.0

4 PLATINUM PRINCE(J Snaith) L Hewitson 7 56.0

5 DOUBLEMINT(J Snaith) R Fourie 3 55.5

6 THE SLADE(D Kannemeyer) K De Melo 4 55.5

7 MAGNIFICENT SEVEN(J Snaith) S Khumalo 8 53.0

8 AMERICAN LANDING(BJ Crawford) S Veale 10 52.0

9 MAN ABOUT TOWN(ELP Steyn) M Winnaar ... 1 52.0

10 BALLAD OF THE SEA(C Bass-Robinson) R Munger ... 6 52.0

WEEKEND RACING

Strathdon The Class

Gr3 Chairman's Cup Kenilworth

The R250 000 Gr3 Chairman's Cup brings the curtain down on the feature programme on Day 2 of the L'Ormarins Queen's Plate Festival.

The 3200m handicap provides some diversity with an entertaining round-the-course contest and is a great opportunity for Justin Snaith's classy Strathdon to find the winner's enclosure again.

The son of Silvano last won over a year ago but produced some decent performances in the SA Champions Season last term. His two runs this season have not been his true ability and he could bounce back with a big run and improved fitness levels.

He was beaten 3.3 lengths by Gimme One Night in the Cape Summer Stayers and meets the Crawford runner on a half kilo better terms here. Gimme One Night has won his last two and

looks to be improving nicely.

Stuart Pettigrew makes a rare visit to the Cape with recent Racing Association Stakes winner Walter Smoothie who is having his first run at Kenilworth. The son of Biarritz won a cracker over 3200m on Summer Cup day and must be involved in the finish.

Tara Laing makes the trip from Fairview with her pair of Plano

and Sheet Weaver. Both stay well and would have prospects of earning in this small field.



Strathdon | Chase Liebenberg

progressive, Bunker Hunt.

The R20 00 bargain buy Cape Classic winner Twist Of Fate has been a busy fellow, following up his Gr3 score in October with highly meritorious places in the Concorde Cup and a hard chasing second in the Cape Guineas behind Soqrar.

But will he stay the 1800m?

His lightly raced sire won twice at 1800m at Gr2 level and his dam won up to a mile. The issue is that the one time that Twist Of Fate was ridden from off them, he produced a slightly one paced effort for third in the Concorde Cup.

While he has a wide draw to overcome, and was not in the first entries for the Cape Derby on Wednesday, he must go close to winning this if he stays.

The Snaith's Bunker Hunt, unexposed at feature level, has won 3 of his 4 starts and looks very promising.

He and Concorde Cup well beaten fourth placer Herodotus look next best.

Gr3 Politician Stakes past winners

2016

1 Black Arthur	57.0 (9) 3/1
2 Marinaresco	55.5 (6) 7/1
3 Liege	57.0 (3) 20/1

2017

1 Horizon	60.0 (4) 3/4
2 Newlands	60.0 (1) 3/1
3 Ollivander	57.0 (5) 15/1

2018

1 Doublemint	55.5 (7) 13/2
2 The Sun Also Rises	55.5 (10) 13/2
3 Steel Rose	57.0 (1) 11/1

START 2:45PM KENILWORTH

4

PA2/PICK SIX1 Gr3 POLITICIAN STAKES (3YO'S) - 1800M SAME TRAINER: (2-9-13)(3-4-11)(7-8)

Master Of My Fate
Dynasty
Choir
Twice Over
Irish Flames
The Apache
Trippi
Mambo In Seattle
Dynasty
Sail From Seattle
Potata Palace
Go Deputy
Dynasty

1 TWIST OF FATE (J Ramsden)	B Fayd'herbe	12	61.0
2 BUNKER HUNT (J Snaith)	R Fourie	3	57.0
3 HUDOO MAGIC (BJ Crawford)	C Orffer	4	57.0
4 MAGIC MIKE (BJ Crawford)	S Veale	11	55.5
5 PERPETUAL FLAME (N Kotzen)	D Dillon	13	55.5
6 POTAWATOMI (VH Marshall)	S Mbhele	2	55.5
7 HERODOTUS (GS Kotzen)	K De Melo	5	55.5
8 SEATTLE FORCE (GS Kotzen)	C Zackey	7	55.5
9 BELGARION (J Snaith)	R Munger	9	54.0
10 SAILING LIZARD (A Nel)	R Simons	6	54.0
11 SENATLA (BJ Crawford)	G Cheyne	1	54.0
12 IDITAROD TRAIL (GV Woodruff)	S Khumalo	10	54.0
13 KNIGHTS TEMPLAR (J Snaith)	L Hewitson	8	54.0

Gr3 Chairman's Cup past winners

2016

1 King Of Pain	60.0 (5) 8/1
2 Three Balloons	52.0 (3) 11/2
3 Coltrane	59.5 (4) 11/20

2017

1 Banner Hill	52.0 (8) 5/1
2 Ovidio	62.5 (9) 11/2
3 My World	52.5 (7) 11/2

2018

1 Our Emperor	52.0 (2) 71/20
2 Master's Eye	56.0 (6) 9/4
3 Captain Splendid	57.0 (4) 4/1

START 5:15PM KENILWORTH

8

PA6/PICK SIX5/JACKPOT4 Gr3 CHAIRMAN'S CUP - 3200M SAME TRAINER: (4-5)

Silvano
Biarritz
Gimmetheregreenlight
Silvano
Ideal World
Elusive Fort
Horse Chestnut
Silvano
Ideal World

1 STRATHDON (J Snaith)	R Fourie	4	61.0
2 WALTER SMOOTHIE (ST Pettigrew)	D De Gouveia	8	57.5
3 GIMME ONE NIGHT (BJ Crawford)	L Hewitson	5	53.5
4 PLANO (T Laing)	R Munger	1	52.5
5 SHEET WEAVER (T Laing)	S Veale	3	52.0
6 WOODLAND'S FOREST (Burger/van Reenen)	L Tarentaal	9	52.0
7 PACIFIC CHESTNUT (C Bass-Robinson)	K De Melo	2	52.0
8 SISTER SOOZIE (A Nel)	A Andrews	6	52.0
9 ZANADU (JMT Stewart)	B May	7	52.0

Twists And Turns

Gr3 Politician Stakes Kenilworth

Saturday's L'Ormarins Queen's Plate day Pick 6 pool at Kenilworth is estimated to reach a healthy R3,5 million.

The exotic kicks off in the fourth race, the R250 000 Gr3 Politician Stakes, at 14h45.

On a tricky card, the traditional Derby trial offers no ready-made banker option, but there are many who may choose to go narrow with the SP top-rated Twist Of Fate and the Snaith's very



Twist Of Fate | Chase Liebenberg

Girls Again?

Gr3 London News Stakes Turffontein

The Gr3 London News Stakes at Turffontein on Sunday is run at weight-for-age plus penalties. All indications point to the prospects of the SP top-rated Al Danza making it a double in the race for the fairer sex after Cascapedia's big win in 2018.

A daughter of Captain Al, Al Danza has flourished into her 5yo season with two high quality 2nd place cheques to her credit. She was narrowly beaten in the Joburg Spring Challenge by Cascapedia and then found Nafaayes a touch too strong in the Ipi Tombe in the beginning of December.

Fit, well and distance suited, she looks set for a big run off the 55.5kg mark on Sunday.

Sean Tarry's duo is headed by promising 4yo Captain And Master who has continued to maintain decent form this term. While



Dawn Assault | JC Photos

WEEKEND RACING

comprehensively outpointed by Queen's Plate candidate Buffalo Cody, last time, he could handle the step up in trip under Piere Strydom and looks a threat.

There are a few Summer Cup also-rans in the line-up, including the consistent Dawn Assault who was beaten under a length by Tilbury Fort in the big one. He seldom runs a bad race.

Another who could improve is Noble Secret who disappointed in the Summer Cup but looks a lot better than that run.

Gr3 London News Stakes past winners

2016	
1 French Navy	60.0 (1) 1/3
2 Killua Castle	58.5 (2) 12/1
3 Flying The Flag	57.5 (7) 16/1
2017	
1 Romany Prince	56.5 (3) 16/10
2 Deo Juvente	59.0 (1) 18/10
3 Samurai Blade	56.5 (2) 5/1
2018	
1 Cascapedia	55.0 (4) 9/2
2 Abashiri	58.0 (2) 41/10
3 Coral Fever	59.0 (8) 9/1

START 4:15PM TURFFONTEIN

7

PA5/PICK SIX4/JACKPOT3 Gr3 LONDON NEWS STAKES - 1800M SAME TRAINER:(1-6)(5-11-12)(7-8-10)

Dynasty	1 LIEGE(SG Tarry) L Hewitson	7	60.0
Captain Al	2 CROWD PLEASER(JAJ v Vuuren) Wei Marwing	1	58.0
Kahal	3 ROMANY PRINCE(OA Ferraris) L J Ferraris	6	57.0
Calli To Combat	4 DAWN ASSAULT(SD Gray) K Zechner	8	57.0
Trippi	5 DEO JUVENTE(GV Woodruff) C Maujean	9	57.0
Captain Al	6 CAPTAIN AND MASTER(SG Tarry) P Strydom	10	56.5
Captain Al	7 LIKE A PANTHER(MF de Kock) M Yeni	2	56.5
Dynasty	8 NOBLE SECRET(MF de Kock) R Simons	4	56.5
Gimmethgreenlight	9 CASH TIME(Ashley Fortune) R Munger	11	56.5
Silvano	10 PIETRO MASCAGNI(MF de Kock) W Kennedy	3	56.5
Elusive Fort	11 SECRET POTION(GV Woodruff) M v Rensburg	12	56.0
Captain Al	12 AL DANZA(GV Woodruff) G Lerena	5	55.5

Hawwaam For 3 From 3

Gr3 Tony Ruffel Stakes Turffontein

With all the attention focussed on the L'Ormarins Queen's Plate, some may have forgotten about a four feature Turffontein programme on the stands track on Sunday!

Of major interest to racing fans will be the return to action of the undefeated half-brother to LQP prospect Rainbow Bridge, Hawwaam, who makes his comeback in the R250 000 Gr3 Tony Ruffel Stakes over 1400m.

The Dingaans winner was originally scheduled to travel to Cape Town for the Cape Guineas and the Queen's Plate but after the time it took to Soqrat and Ghaalla to make the journey De Kock decided he would keep Hawwaam in Joburg.

There was talk of the Listed Sea Cottage Stakes being an option and that is over 1800m, but De Kock has elected to go for a race where he is extremely well weighted.

As a two-time winner he carries just 60kg with all the one-time winners allotted 58kg.

The second-best handicapped runner is Sean Tarry's charge Celtic Sea. The filly gets a 2.5kg allowance and is the runner with the next highest merit rating.



Hawwaam | JC Photos

Gr3 Tony Ruffel Stakes past winners

2017	
1 Ektifaa	58.5 (4) 7/2
2 Matador Man	57 (8) 8/1
3 Doosra	60 (3) 4/1
2018	
1 Surcharge	60 (3) 5/2
2 Sir David Baird	56 (5) 4/1
3 Wonderwall	58 (2) 7/2

On debut Hawwaam beat Reach For The Line by one length in the 'no-crops' race but as he is 2kg better off, trainers Mike and Adam Azzie might fancy their chances to give De Kock's charge a run for his money.

START 3:35PM TURFFONTEIN

6

PA4/PICK SIX3/JACKPOT2 Gr3 TONY RUFFEL STAKES (3YO'S) - 1400M SAME TRAINER:(4-6)(7-8)

Silvano	1 HAWWAAM(MF de Kock) G Lerena	7	60.0
Potala Palace	2 REACH FOR THE LINE(MG & AA Azzie) R Munger	4	58.0
Gimmethgreenlight	3 STREAM AHEAD(Chesney van Zyl) W Kennedy	8	58.0
Querari	4 INEXHAUSTIBLE(PA Peter) L J Ferraris	3	58.0
Seventh Rock	5 ROCKY NIGHT(Ashley Fortune) P Strydom	6	58.0
Elusive Fort	6 MONOPOLIZE(PA Peter) D Schwarz	1	58.0
Mambo In Seattle	7 VONTREO(SG Tarry) M Yeni	2	58.0
Captain Al	8 CELTIC SEA(SG Tarry) L Hewitson	5	57.5

Destiny Driven

Gr3 Three Troikas Stakes Turffontein

The R250 000 Gr3 Three Troikas Stakes for 3yo fillies opens the Turffontein jackpot on Sunday. The contest has a slightly mixed history of producing the odd curved ball result and the 2019 renewal looks capable of throwing punters yet another.

Sean Tarry has a strong trio of runners in the race headed by the Thekwini Stakes winner Return Flight. The daughter of Pomodoro has only had one run this season when she showed good pace to finish 2.25 lengths off Ghaalla in the Fillies Mile. She will come on with that run.

Dual stakes winner Ronnie's Candy finished over a length off Return Flight there and is 2kgs better off with the Tarry galloper. This daughter of King Of Kings has a wide draw to overcome but should be running at them late.

SP top-rated, Mike De Kock's Storm Destiny finished just out of the money in the Starling Stakes but drops 2kgs here and must come into the reckoning on her best form. As a daughter of Dynasty she is bound

to improve into her 3yo season.

The rest look to have scope of improving into the money.

Gr3 Three Troikas Stakes past winners

2017	
1 Anna Pavlova	59 (5) 9/1
2 Visually	57 (4) 8/1
3 Last Chirp	60 (1) 13/1
2018	
1 Fish River	58 (2) 33/10
2 San Fermin	58 (1) 5/1
3 Dame Kelly	58 (8) 9/1

START 2:55PM TURFFONTEIN

5

PA3/PICK SIX2/JACKPOT1 Gr3 THREE TROIKA S. (3YO F) - 1400M SAME TRAINER:(1-7-10)(3-6-12)

Pomodoro	1 RETURN FLIGHT(SG Tarry) L Hewitson	7	60.0
King Of Kings	2 RONNIE'S CANDY(SD Gray) K Zechner	13	57.0
Dynasty	3 STORM DESTINY(MF de Kock) G Lerena	9	55.0
Captain Al	4 CAPTAIN'S PRINCESS(C Dawson) C Zackey	8	55.0
Brave Tin Soldier	5 RUNNING BRAVE(PF Matchett) D L Habib	11	55.0
Querari	6 DAGMAR(MF de Kock) R Simons	2	55.0
Elusive Fort	7 SAINTS ALIVE(SG Tarry) L J Ferraris	1	55.0
Where's That Tiger	8 PERFECT TIGRESS(MG & AA Azzie) R Munger	6	55.0
Twice Over	9 ON THE DOUBLE(JAJ v Vuuren) W Kennedy	3	55.0
Visionaire	10 VI VA PI PA(SG Tarry) C Habib	5	55.0
Ideal World	11 VISTULA(PA Peter) D Schwarz	4	55.0
Silvano	12 MRS SIMPSON(MF de Kock) M Yeni	12	55.0
Gimmethgreenlight	13 COMANECI(JA Soma) S Khumalo	10	55.0

ANALYSIS

Pace Makes The Race

Eric Sands takes the Bull by the horns

Some decades ago, after a good thing had been run over in a big race, the then-budding champion trainer De Kock got some advice from a past master.

“Your owners need to understand that sacrifices have to be made some time. One horse doing things so that another may win. And in the long run, everyone gets a turn.”

Easy to say, of course, for Terence Millard, who housed a stable full of big race contenders belonging to understanding owners. Happy to play the waiting game, they liked nothing better than a proper punt when the time was right.

Millard knew with certainty that pace makes the race, and that without it even the best laid plans of mice and men could go awry.

You could say that again!

There has hardly been any one of the bigger races in the current season that was true run, throwing up results that can be relied on.

As preps for the Queen's Plate and the Met, the information they provide could at best relate to the well-being of horses, nothing more. Race ratings based on weight and age and beaten lengths can only be figments of fertile imaginations.

To refresh the memories, here's a short selection of big races, with their post-race summaries as published in the Sporting Post Digest.

Gr1 Summer Cup 2000m

Winner Tilbury Fort raced 11th entering the home straight; shifted in away from the crop final 200m; ran on well to lead 50m out. Runner-up Dawn Assault raced 2nd; led 700m; pipped late; jockey Zechner fined R2500 for excessive use of the crop. Third Cascapedia lost one length at the start; raced midfield early; 5th entering the home straight; led very briefly 300m; kept on well.

Time: After a fair early pace when jostling for position in the Summer Cup, Fort Ember was visibly hard held at the front and the pace slowed from the first call, until developing into a sprint over the final 500m. Other than the very false paced (and slowly run) Racing Association Handicap over 3200m, the Summer Cup field recorded the slowest time in the segment from the first call to the 400m. The Cup clearly wasn't a true run affair. Rating conservatively, we gave the 4th 113 which makes the winner (prev 93/94/95/86/96) 98, the runner-up (prev 97/89/81/92/97) 98 and the third (prev 94/96/85/96/98) 102.

Gr2 Green Point Stakes 1600m

Winner Legal Eagle (best handicapped) raced 2nd; led 250m; kept on strongly. Runner-up Undercover Agent set the pace; rallied gamely after being headed 250m out. Third Do It Again raced 3rd; challenged strongly.

Time: There was no initial pace in the Gr2 Green Point Stakes and even after Undercover Agent took up the running entering the bend, it remained a doddle – the 1600m Maiden Race run earlier was almost a second faster to the end of the bend! As a result this Gr2 event was decided in a sprint for home, making it false run and not a good predictor for future encounters of the same runners. Ratings are unlikely to be reliable. With much trepidation and little conviction we gave the runner-up (prev 104/103/104/102/113) 113 which makes the winner (prev 107/109/93/103 – has done 116) 113 and the third (prev 85/89/100/98/103) a seemingly unlikely 113. Fourth finisher Rainbow Bridge, who'd refused to settle with the slow pace and fought an energy-sapping battle with his rider, remarkably flew up late to within a head in fourth, for a 109 rating.

The 1400m Pinnacle Plate earlier on the day was slow-run early on, making the task for Snowdance (who led all the way) a lot easier in the sprint for home. This, too, wasn't a true run race and the filly's ease of victory must be seen in that light.

Gr2 Concorde Cup (3yo's) 1600m

Winner One World (best handicapped) set the pace; battled on well when challenged. Runner-up Chimichuri Run (2nd best handicapped) raced 4th; challenged strongly; held by winner below the distance. Third Twist Of Fate (3rd best handicapped) raced in fifth, less than a length behind the eventual runner-up; ran on, but no chance with first two.

Time: There was a good pace throughout and this comparatively was comfortably the fastest of the seven races around the turn. We gave the third (prev 84/93/70/92/97) 97 which makes the winner (prev 82/84/95/107) 101 and the runner-up (prev 89/94/98/102/94) 100. This might be conservative.

Gr1 Cape Guineas (3yo) 1600m

Winner Soqrat raced 3rd; led 100m; won going away. Runner-up Twist Of Fate set the pace; outrun latter stages. Third One World (best handicapped) raced second; every chance.

Time: After getting to the front early Twist Of Fate slowed up the gallop on the bend, with jockey Fayd'Herbe continually looking around to check on his rivals. The race developed into a sprint in the straight, making for the fastest final segment time on the day. This was a false run race, and goes some way to explain the final result, with Twist Of Fate running way above his previous best to finish second, and the well fancied One World and Chimichuri Run missing the boat. Future encounters between these top 3yo's could well have different outcomes. We gave the runner-up (prev 93/70/92/97/97) 99 which makes the winner (prev 82/87/92/95/95) 101 and the third (prev 82/84/95/107/101) 98.

The 2019 Queen's Plate, it seems, will be different.

It'll be a true run race, at a good pace. No bull.

No, Milton isn't here. But Rainbow Bridge' trainer Eric Sands has entered Amazing Strike, who in 43 career starts raced only 3 times over a mile, and seems to be regarded as best up to 1400m. Can there be any doubt that he's here to ensure a good early pace for his stable companion, rather than to entertain any hopes of winning?

Now here's the thing.

In a Weight-for-age race the horse with the highest truly established rating will win.

The only way to be beaten might be by unexposed improvers, whose true rating has not yet been established.

The horse with the highest true earned career-rating is Legal Eagle, who in ten career-starts over a mile is unbeaten over the distance, and goes for a hat-trick of Queen's Plates.

The still unexposed runners in terms of ratings include Rainbow Bridge, who may have been unlucky when unsettled in the false run Green Point, losing his unbeaten record, and Mike de Kock's Buffalo Bill Cody and Soqrat, technically both 3yo's, who will have to make considerable improvement – which is, of course, not impossible.

For now, though, the Eagle still soars.

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L'ORMARINS QUEEN'S PLATE

De Kock's Royal Tee Off

If South African racing had four Major tournaments, like golf, the Gr1 L'Ormarins Queen's Plate would be one of them, writes Mike de Kock, a keen participant in both sports.

If I were to equate the Queen's Plate with a golfing major, I'd say it's the Masters of Racing, a race everyone wants to have on their CV.

In this equation, of course, the winning horse is draped in a blue-and-white sheet and (here's an idea for the sponsor), the winning trainer and jockey will receive blue jackets from the previous year's winners, instead of the green jacket awarded to golfers.

Aside from racing, there's nothing I enjoy more than watching and playing golf and after the final field was announced I had some fun trying to match the Queen's Plate runners to some of the leading golfers.

Right on top we start with Legal Eagle and nobody better to match Sean Tarry's runner than Ernie Els, a legend of many majors, like Legal Eagle, also perhaps looking forward to the Senior's Tour. But Ernie, like Legal Eagle, has all the ability in the world and is always a man for the big moment.

Then we have Justin Snaith's Do It Again, he's a young and versatile horse with a major prize to his name and threatening to win another big one quick, much like Justin Thomas, the 2017 US PGA Champion and consistently in contention for another big one.

Undercover Agent has already won a Gr1 and he's up there to add to that after a super second in the Green Point Stakes.

His match is Louis Oosthuizen, who like a man under cover may be hiding something in his beard, but who also comes into the race in good form after his win in the SA Open and, like the horse, is a major winner approaching his peak.

The easiest to match, I'd say, would be Joey Ramsden's Hat Puntano. He was bred in Argentina and the best man to compare him with is Angel Cabrera, the Argentine Champion and major winner known affectionately as "El Pato" in Spanish for his waddling gait.

The 'waddling gait' may also point to Hat Puntano's trainer.

Now to the rising star Rainbow Bridge, and perhaps the most suited to him would be Ricky Fowler, a huge talent who likes to dress colourfully and is on the brink of his first major win, having proven that he's right up there with the best of them.

Amazing Strike was a late and perhaps unexpected entry and, being more of an older handicapper with Gr2 places at his best, is hard to match to today's top golfers.

Perhaps Colin Montgomerie is the match here. 'Monty' was often in the lead until late (many experts expect Amazing Strike to set the pace in the Queen's Plate) and Monty never won a major on the PGA tour and never will. Very good, but not good enough.

Infamous Fox from Candice Dawson's stable is one of the outsiders in the field. The golfer I'm thinking of here is Ian Poulter, who is often talked about and in contention for the first two rounds, but then fades away. But if he brings his sneaky Ryder Cup form to the majors, he can win a big tournament.

Our own Buffalo Bill Cody makes me think of the Spaniard Jon Rahm, only 24 years old, a powerful and talented stormer with a bit of an attitude, a rookie in the majors but looks to have the ability to win a big one. He's a former world amateur champ, has been as high as No 2 in the world and a breakthrough is imminent.

Snowdance is the only filly in the race, from the stable of a champion trainer and to be ridden by a champion jockey, she is perhaps a good match for Michelle Sung Wie, a top class American professional golfer who won the US Women's Open in 2014 and has also successfully teed it up alongside her male compatriots.

On to our other runner Soqratt, a three-year-old who really hasn't put a foot wrong and is perhaps even better than given credit for.

He has two Gr1's to his name, has all the attributes in his armoury, great focus for a youngster and he likes to win.

He seems well matched to Jordan Spieth, the second youngest golfer in history to win a major.

So who knows!

Here are my Ten Matches for SA's Masters, the Gr1 L'Ormarins Queen's Plate:

LEGAL EAGLE (Ernie Els)

DO IT AGAIN (Justin Thomas)

UNDERCOVER AGENT (Louis Oosthuizen)

HAT PUNTANO (Angel Cabrera)

RAINBOW BRIDGE (Ricky Fowler)

AMAZING STRIKE (Colin Montgomerie)

INFAMOUS FOX (Ian Poulter)

BUFFALO BILL CODY (Jon Rahm)

SNOWDANCE (Michelle Sung Wie)

SOQRAT (Jordan Spieth)

Once In A Lifetime Stuff

Chris Swart won the 2018 L'Ormarins Queen's Plate Racing Festival Writers Award and undertook a once-in-a-lifetime dream trip for two to Glorious Goodwood in August last year.

On the eve of the prestigious mile at Kenilworth this Saturday, he recalls his wonderful journey of discovery.

[Here is his winning story](#)

He reports back:

There is a juxtaposition between Glorious Goodwood and the L'Ormarins Queen's Plate.

They're both *recherché* jubilees in terms of the magnificence of horses and resplendence of racegoers in attendance.

If you've never been to Goodwood, one needs to conceptualise the L'Ormarins Queen's Plate held over five days at Kenilworth with extraordinarily strong group races each day.

Welcome to the esteemed Glorious Goodwood Festival.

Goodwood was as bedazzling as the 1984 Queen's Plate in terms of the occasion passing by so transiently.

Two days seemed like minutes on retrospection but there are memories that will be captured forever.

I left Lusaka and waited for my companion Andrea Puggia in the British Airways departure area. The Panama hat indicated his presence and after eight years there was much excitement and a lot of catching up to do on the flight.

[The story unfolds – read more](#)



Stablemates – Chris Swart and Andrea Puggia

Short Heads

L'ORMARINS QUEEN'S PLATE

Love Is Blue... And White!

The L'Ormarins Queen's Plate is South Africa's most prestigious weight-for-age mile. On Saturday all the interest will centre around Legal Eagle's bid to become only the second horse in history after Pocket Power to win the race four times in a row.

Evergreen

Legal Eagle bids to win it for the fourth consecutive time as a 7yo this year. Pocket Power (2010) and Free My Heart (2002) are previous 7 year olds who have won this race. The last 7 year old prior to 2002 was Time To Shine in 1963.

A STARMAKER

It is a launching pad to stardom. Recent winners, including Futura, Legislate, Variety Club, Pocket Power, Jet Master, Yard Arm, Winter Solstice, Trademark, London News and Legal Eagle were all subsequently voted SA Horse of the Year.



The running of the 158th renewal of the Queen's Plate and third year of the two day L'Ormarins Queen's Plate Racing Festival will be held on Friday and Saturday. L'Ormarins have been involved as sponsors for the past 14 years.

The Royal Roses

Only three fillies have won this race since 1948! The great Mother Russia was the last member of the fairer sex to win the L'Ormarins Queen's Plate when ridden to victory by Anton Marcus for Mike de Kock in 2011. Justin Snaith's Snowdance is the sole female in this year's line-up.

Same Place Same Race

It has been run at weight-for-age at Kenilworth over 1600m since since 1948 when Convalesce won. It was called the King's Plate until 1952.

World Beaters

The last overseas bred horse to win the Queen's Plate was also the first 3yo in 40 years to win it. His name is Gimmethegreenlight, an Australian-bred son of More Than Ready, who stands at Varsfontein Stud today. Prior to his scintillating win, the previous victorious import was the David Payne trained New Zealand bred Take A Walk, who won under Piere Strydom in 1994. Aussies, Soqrat and Infamous Fox, Buffalo Bill Cody (Ireland) and Hat Puntano (Argentina), are the overseas flagbearers on Saturday.

Power In The Pocket

A gelded son of Jet Master, the champion Pocket Power is the current royal record-holder with four consecutive wins between 2006 and 2010. Pocket Power was ridden to his first win by Jeff Lloyd and Bernard Fayd'herbe won the following three years for trainer Mike Bass.



1861 The Queen's Plate was first run in honour of Queen Victoria after she gifted a silver plate and 500 sovereigns to the South African Turf Club. The inaugural contest was staged as a heats event in April 1861, with the honours going to Cape Town based owner Mr Chiappini's horse, Dispatch.

ROYAL SUPERMAN

Jockey Anton Marcus, who recently rode his 102nd Gr1 winner, is bidding for his eighth win in the Queen's Plate when he pilots Legal Eagle on Saturday. He won his first Queen's Plate over a quarter of a century ago. He will also become the first jockey to win the race four consecutive times.

Top 5

In 2015, the L'Ormarins Queen's Plate was voted one of the top 5 races in the world by the Telegraph.



The prestigious feature has maintained its royal ties meticulously. After the death of Queen Victoria, it was run as the King's Plate during the reigns of Edward VII and George VI and then reverted to being named the Queen's Plate when Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II was crowned in 1952.

2008

It's a missing year on the LQP calendar. But nothing sinister! The race was run on 29 December 2007 and next on 10 January 2009 in line with a reshaping of the programme. Interestingly, in the early 1950's it was run in October, eventually moving to November and then December.

L'ORMARINS QUEEN'S PLATE

Another Royal Racing Family

The passing of Jean Cawcutt at the age of 84 on Christmas eve brought back some wonderful memories of a legend of the game and a man who enjoyed plenty of success in the Queen's Plate.

Jean's husband, the great Johnny Cawcutt, whom she married in 1953, passed away at the age of 55 in 1989.

A seventeen times Cape Champion jockey, Horace John Cranston Cawcutt, was presented with an engraved whip on the occasion of his 1961 Queen's Plate winning ride on Appeal Court, in the centenary year of the Queen's Plate.

The beautiful keepsake still enjoyed pride of place amongst the silverware and trophies in Jean's home up to recent times.

Johnny Cawcutt rode three Queen's Plate winners. The first in 1959 on a horse he described as 'the fastest I have ever ridden'.

Royal Affair was owned by a gentleman name Doodie Silberwitz who gave Jean and Johnny an 'extremely generous gift', which apparently came in very handy.

Johnny then won the 100th running of the Queen's Plate in 1961 on the six year old Appeal Court, whom he labelled 'the toughest and gamest horse I have ridden.' Appeal Court beat Time To Shine who went on to run fourth in the race in 1962.

Johnny Cawcutt had to wait patiently for his third Queen's Plate win. Run on 27 February 1971 for a stake of just over R20 000, he steered Chichester to victory to beat a youthful Garth Puller on the Peter Kannemeyer-trained Prairie Prince.

By this time Cawcutt had been Cape Champion Jockey for an unprecedented 14 years and his young family had grown by five beautiful daughters by then – Cheryl, Roslyn, the Terry, Diane and Mechele. Terry sadly passed away many years ago and Diane is the only daughter directly involved in the sport today. She is well known to racegoers as the wife of master trainer Mike de Kock and a capable horsewoman in her own right.

Mike coincidentally has two runners in the big one on Saturday, including the 3yo Soqrat, who bids to emulate Gimmethegreenlight, who scored in 2011 as the first 3yo in 40 years to capture the prized silverware.

There is no question that the Cawcutt family name is indelibly entrenched in Cape horseracing.

Johnny's Dad Chris rode the winner of the 1922 Metropolitan Handicap. His brother Leslie – the other six siblings were all girls in true Cawcutt tradition – was a top trainer for decades in the Western Cape. His uncle Wilfred, better known as Wolfie, was a top jockey and very successful trainer. He is credited with the famous phrase, 'Cawcutt will walk-it!' which echoed the hopes and dreams of the die-hard and long – vanished on course generation of Johnny's halcyon days in the sixties and seventies. Apprenticed to Wolfie in 1951, Johnny rode his first Met winner that same year on a horse called DDT, when the stake of the big race was just R7500.

Legend has it that Wolfie wanted to take the young Johnny off in favour of the great Charlie Barends, but Johnny refused – telling his uncle, rather cockily, that the horse had put up 'winning work.' He won the Met again in 1960 on Appeal Court. He won the July twice – on Excise and Java Head – as well as most of the other top feature races countrywide.

Public Vote – 'Cute But Flawed'

SA Hall Of Fame - voting is open

There has been some animated public reaction to the recent announcement that the voting to determine the first four equine inductees into the SA Hall of Fame opened on Friday 28 December 2018 and closes on Monday 7 January at midnight.

In typically vocal and informed straightshooting fashion, SP readers have given the organisers something to think about with a range of ideas expressed on our comments platform on www.sportingpost.co.za.

First up is that amongst the admittedly illustrious list of equine nominees, no place was found for either a genuine sprinter or stayer.

"Now the horse category, this is something for either genius or idiots. Which is the best gemstone, not the biggest or most valuable. Which is the best painting, not the oldest, most expensive or rarest. Which is the best horse, not the fastest or the stoutest, not the winningest or the best rated. Not the most prize money or the most popular. Not current, nor modern or from when things were always better. It's the how long is a piece of string category. It can only end up unfair and unexplained because it's apples and oranges. Whatever is decided, most people will rightly ask: "What about XYZ?" asks Tony Mincione.

Sir Steve suggested that this really is an impossible task and one that ultimately comes down to individual opinions.

"The idea to involve the public in voting is cute but flawed – the overwhelming majority of the target market would not have seen the older horses run and a natural bias will develop towards those that are in recent memory banks. A second point, and no mention is made of the qualifying criteria for horses," he adds.

The four superstars selected for induction into the South African Hall of Fame, will be announced on 16 January 2019 at the barrier draw for the Sun Met at the Grand West Casino in Cape Town.

[Read more here](#)

The nominees are (in alphabetical order):

HORSE

Elevation
Horse Chestnut
Sea Cottage
Sentinel
Wolf Power

TRAINER

Mike de Kock
Ormond Ferraris
Jean Heming
Syd Laird
Terrance Millard

JOCKEY

Jeff Lloyd
Anton Marcus
Basil Marcus
Garth Puller
Michael Roberts
Piere Strydom

OWNER

Graham Beck
Cyril Hurvitz
Laurie Jaffee
Mr & Mrs H F Oppenheimer
Des Scott

To vote, go to tabonline.co.za



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INTERNATIONAL

De Kock At Meydan This Evening

The 2019 Dubai World Cup Carnival kicks off at Meydan this evening and four of Mike de Kock's stalwarts will be in action.

His first runner comes up in Race 5, the Singspiel Stakes over 1800m with prize money of US\$200,000 (R2.85 million), where he saddles seven-year-old Light The Lights.

It is 289 days since his last run and that was in a feature race in Abu Dhabi over 2200m on 17 March which he won by 0.75 lengths.

The Western Winter gelding has performed well since moving to the Emirates in 2016. He has raced nine times for three wins and has certainly paid his way. French jockey Olivier Doleuze takes the ride.

In Race 6, the Longines Master Collection Moon Phase Handicap over 1400m, De Kock saddles 2017 Gauteng Guineas winner Janoobi and Suyoo.

Both are owned by Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum but with Jim Crowley, the Sheikh's first-choice jockey, riding Janoobi, he appears to be the first choice from the stable.

He was one De Kock's leading lights last season and won the Group 2 Zabeel Mile where he beat Championship and Noah From Goa. He finished third in his next start over 1800m so De Kock decided to run him in the US\$5-million Dubai Turf on World up night but he finished unplaced.

This 1400m should be right up his street if he is not in need of the run although he is the highest rated runner and has to give weight to the balance of the field.

Suyoo had a great start to his Dubai campaign two years back where he raced twice for a win and a second but last year he did not feature in two outings. Dane O'Neill takes the ride.

[Pick up a racecard here](#)

Sixteen In A Row!

The UK's new jumps racing superstar Altior sauntered to a 16th successive victory in the Unibet Desert Orchid Chase at Kempton Park last Thursday, cementing his position as hot favourite for the Queen Mother Champion Chase at the Cheltenham Festival.

The brilliant eight-year-old was settled in third under Nico de Boinville behind the front-running Special Tiara and loomed upsides the 2017 Champion Chase hero before striding away up the home straight for a 19-length success.

A relieved Nicky Henderson said: "It gets scarier every time. "That was flawless and if he was on Strictly Come Dancing he would have got a 10, surely."

"Nico said you will not go quicker on lovely ground – and yet he was having to take pulls all the way round; he has so many gears."

Owner Patricia Pugh's superstar looks set to head to the Clarence House Chase at Ascot later this month before bidding for a second win in the Champion Chase.

Diego Du Charmil, a novice Grade 1 winner at Aintree in April, finished in second ahead of Special Tiara.

Altior was cut to 4-9 from 1-2 with bookmaker Betfair for the Champion Chase in March.

www.racingpost.com

UAE Racing Season Fixtures Approved

The fixture list for the 2019-20 UAE racing season has been approved by His Highness Sheikh Mansour Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister of the UAE, Minister of Presidential Affairs and Chairman of Emirates Racing Authority (ERA).

The season will offer 67 race dates—equalling its record offer of 2018-19—and opens at Meydan Racecourse on Thursday, October 24, 2019. Abu Dhabi Racecourse and Jebel Ali Racecourse will commence their seasons on the following two Fridays, October 25 and November 1, respectively. Sharjah Racecourse gets underway eight days later on November 9, while Al Ain Racecourse does the same the following Thursday, November 14.

As during 2018-19, Meydan's season will have 23 meets, Abu Dhabi 15, Al Ain 12, Jebel Ali 11 and Sharjah six.

HH Sheikh Mansour Bin Zayed said: "We are pleased to announce the ERA Race Fixture for the racing season 2019-2020, which will provide the trainers and horse lovers an integrated season on the UAE 5 racecourses. Through this fixture, we offer Local and International races for the thoroughbred and Arabian horses."

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NEWS

Sun Met Countdown



The 2019 Sun Met day programme is taking shape with entries for the support features having closed yesterday at 11h00.

The features on the day include the R1 million TAB Betting World Gr1 Cape Flying Championship which is run at weight-for-age over 1000m.

Recent winners to put their hands up for the final sprint feature of the Cape summer include impressive Lebelo Sprint winner Rebel's Champ and Brett Crawford's speed merchant Pacific Trader, who beat a strong field at Kenilworth last Saturday, but is yet to win a feature race.

Other features on the day include the R1 million Bidvest Gr1 Majorca Stakes, the R1 million Gr1 Cape Derby, the R400 000 Gr2 Western Cape Stayers and the R150 000 Tattersalls Listed Summer Juvenile Stakes.

Two sales races round off the programmes. At R5 million apiece, the CTS 1200 and the CTS 1600 are our richest non black-type sales restricted races.

According to the latest programme, the R350 000 Kuda Sprint is no longer on the Met Day programme and will be run at a date still to be confirmed.

[Check the Hollywood Sun Met ante-post market here](#)

The final supplementary entries for the Sun Met close at 11h00 on Monday 7 January. The weights will be published the same day.

The fashion theme this year is an interesting one. Precious Metals set the scene for the day as Kenilworth Racecourse 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 Racecourse to life in shweshwe textures and African-inspired prints, the 2019 Sun Met promises to be just as glamorous on a day when elite horse-racing 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.

General access tickets and hospitality packages for the Sun Met 2019 are now available at www.ticketpros.co.za.

[See all the feature entries here](#)

NHA AGM - Reminder

Notice was recently given that the 137th Annual General Meeting of Members will be held at the offices of The National Horseracing Authority, Turf Club Street, Turffontein, on Wednesday, 16 January 2019 at 14h00 to transact the following business:

1. To consider and confirm the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Members held on Wednesday, 17 January 2018.
2. To consider the Report of the Chairman of the National Board of Directors for the year ended 31 July 2018.
3. To receive and consider the audited Financial Statements of The National Horseracing Authority of Southern Africa and the Funds held in Trust for the period ended 31 July 2018.
4. To appoint the Authority's Auditors.
5. To transact any business which may be transacted at an Annual General Meeting.

Download proxy forms at www.nhra.co.za

JR – A Royal Veteran

Joey Ramsden has won the L'Ormarins Queen's Plate three times and has run second three times more than he prefers to remember. That was from limited numbers and he is a man well versed to pass educated comment on the big mile contest.

"To be fair – one of my second placed runners was Invincible who was runner-up to my own top horse Winter Solstice in 2005. And that gallant grey Silver Mist came within a heartbeat of rewriting the Pocket Power fairytale before it began in 2006! But that's all history now, isn't it" he mused as he suggested that Snaith's Do It Again was the horse to beat on Saturday.

"He caught my eye as a way above average Voda-com Durban July winner last year. He finished with a terrific burst after a rest to run third in the Green Point. That really impressed. I wouldn't be surprised to see him win the L'Ormarins Queen's Plate on Saturday," added the veteran trainer, who saddles Argentinian-bred Hat Puntano – a horse he says has blossomed in the Cape.

If Joey were correct, Do It Again would be only the third horse to complete the Queen's Plate-Durban July double this century – Mike Bass runners Trade-mark and the awesome Pocket Power being the other two.

Justin Is Excited

Justin Snaith has admitted he was surprised to see Do It Again, whose main aim is the Sun Met, finish so close in the Green Point – "He had only had one companion gallop, it was a prep race for him and, although he takes very little work, the slow gallop suited the others," he told Michael Clower.

The Gold Circle journalist observes that the dual champion trainer, shrewdly, is the first person he has spoken to who casts doubt on the worth of that famously close result – "It was a perfect example of a slow run race. It's easy to say that the first four are all great horses but they shouldn't have all finished on top of each other like that. If there is a better pace on Saturday and we get a bit of climate, e.g. a head wind or a tail wind, it will alter the whole race."

And he has warned that dual Gr1 winner Snowdance is being discounted by many.

"I think she can give them all a run for their money. She is not just any filly but, in my view, by far the best miler of her sex in the country. She showed that when she ran Undercover Agent to half a length in the Gold Challenge when she wasn't right. I think I have her right now. She will need a bit of luck – she has a wide draw at eight – but, if she gets it, she will be in the firing line."

CAPE PREMIER YEARLING SALE 2019

CAPE TOWN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTRE, 23RD JANUARY 2019

DYNASTY TOP PRODUCER OF BLACK TYPE,

22	CRAGSMAN	COLT	DYNASTY	CAREFUL HIKER	SPECTRUM (IRE)	RIDGEMONT HIGHLANDS	E6
Out of a sibling to Wonderful Climber (2014 c. by Dynasty-Our Table Mountain, by Fusaichi Pegasus-Hidden Light) - 1st Vial TC Family Fun Day in December H.							
34	CRIMSON KING	COLT	DYNASTY	CUP OF RUBIES	MOGOK (USA)	RIDGEMONT HIGHLANDS	E5
49	CHESTNUT BAY	COLT	CAPTAIN AL	EXOTIC (IRE)	GALILEO (IRE)	RIDGEMONT HIGHLANDS	E4
67	STEEPLECHASE	COLT	DYNASTY	GRAND NATIONAL	NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (CAN)	RIDGEMONT HIGHLANDS	E3
77	PASSING STORM	COLT	SOFT FALLING RAIN	HONOUR ROLL (AUS)	HIGH CHAPARRAL (IRE)	RIDGEMONT HIGHLANDS	E2
123	WARRIOR	COLT	FUTURA	NONA IN COMMAND (AUS)	COMMANDS (AUS)	RIDGEMONT HIGHLANDS	E1

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INTERNATIONAL

600 Up For Millard

South African trainer Tony Millard notched up his 600th Hong Kong winner at Sha Tin racecourse at the weekend.

After waiting for more than a month between winners, Millard was not on course for his milestone, having taken a Christmas holiday.

Millard's four-year-old charge Pearl Champion started as the favourite and defied being forced to race wide for most the trip in the Class 4 Chun Shek Handicap over 1400m.

In-form Silvestre de Sousa – recently crowned Britain's champion jockey and currently riding on a short-term licence in Hong Kong – remained calm throughout and eased the son of Rip Van Winkle to the front to eventually win by two lengths.

Owner Slams Team Concept

Proposals for a summer series of team races to be run in Britain this year have been blasted as ridiculous by leading owner and sponsor Sheikh Fahad Al Thani.

Early last month, eight courses in Britain and Ireland were revealed as the hosts for The Series, a competition featuring 12 teams in a F1-style event to be run on summer evenings in 2019.

Ayr, Epsom, Goodwood, Haydock, Leopardstown, Newbury, Newmarket and Sandown are the proposed venues for the 48-race competition, in which teams comprising 30 horses, four jockeys and a racing manager contest races worth £100,000 each.

However, the latest announcement was given short shrift by Sheikh Fahad, a prominent backer, along with his brothers, of British and Irish racing through Qatar Racing and Qipco.

He wrote on Twitter: "Surely before the BHA sanction a ridiculous idea like 'the team competition' they'd take the advice of owners and trainers in racing?"

His view was endorsed by John Dance, owner of multiple Group 1-winner Laurens, whose firm Vertem Asset Management recently took over sponsorship of the final Group 1 of the British Flat season at Doncaster.

"For an owner it feels a bit like being a football club that buys players, pays their wages but then watches them play for another club," he wrote on Twitter.

The proposed races, which will require sanctioning from the BHA as they fall outside the current fixture list, are slated to take place on Thursday evenings between July 25 and September 12.

Championship Horse Racing, the group behind The Series, announced plans in February for the competition in which branded teams would compete over a set period. As yet, no sponsors or competitors have been revealed.

The Series will comprise 12 teams each having a squad of 30 horses which may be in the care of a single trainer or multiple trainers. They will compete in eight fixtures of six races each staged on Thursday evenings during consecutive weeks (July to September). Each of the 48 races will have 12 runners, one from each team. Points will be awarded in a similar format to F1 with 25 points to the winner down to one point to tenth place.

SALES

Save The Date - 23 January

The 2019 Cape Premier Sale is scheduled for January 23 and a quick glance at the catalogue is sufficient to realise why CTS CEO Wehann Smith is upbeat.



Wehann Smith

"We expect an intense, competitive day jam-packed with bidding action, which makes for happy clients," he said.

The overseas visitors — sure to include the Hong Kong Jockey Club once again as the ties with SA have strengthened — will be impressed that the 226-lot catalogue includes four yearlings by Epsom Derby winner Camelot, two by superstar Frankel and two by Uncle Mo and Zoffany.

And what better way to kick off proceedings at the Cape Town International Convention Centre than a full-sister to Sean Tarry's multiple Gr1 winner Legal Eagle — favourite for Saturday's L'Ormarin Queen's Plate.

David Mollett, writing in Business Day, suggests that given the troubles of the economy, the thoroughbred industry has emerged pretty much unscathed over the past 12 months. After the 2018 Cape Premier Sale, the prophets of doom were sounding the death knell for SA's long-standing auction, the National Yearling Sales held in Germiston in April.

However, the 2018 National Sale bettered estimates with an average of R362,000 and top price of R5.2m. The only unhappiness for Bloodstock SA will have been that 139 of the 526 lots catalogued were either withdrawn or not sold.

Silvano's 85

Maine Chance Farms' multiple champion sire Silvano was represented by his 85th stakes winner when his four-year-old daughter Platinum Class won the Listed Lady's Bracelet at Fairview yesterday.

Third in both the Listed Stormsvlei Fillies Mile and Sweet Chestnut Stakes last season, Platinum Class has now won five of 15 outings overall.

Winner of the first South African feature race of 2019, the Justin Snaith trained and Drakenstein owned Platinum Class was a R210 000 buy from the 2016 National Yearling Sale.

A daughter of the Gr3 winning Jet Master mare Express Queen, Platinum Class is bred on the same Silvano/Jet Master cross as high class performers Hawwaam, Silvano's Jet, Silvano's Pride, Omaticaya and Sylvan On Fire.

The sire of 20 Gr1 winners and counting, Silvano is also the producer of Equus Champion Vercingetorix — who is the Leading First Crop Sire at the time of writing for 2018-2019.

Silvano, who has been champion sire in both South Africa and Slovakia, has eight lots on offer at the 2019 Cape Premier Yearling Sale.

Watch this space for our detailed Cape Premier Yearling Sale preview!

PERSONALITY

The Best Present Ever!

Xola Jacobs

South African horseracing left the winning feelgood story of what was a long year to the final strides of 2018 - until Christmas eve, to be exact. The moment came in the form of an emotional joint celebration for the Jacobs and Smith families on the milestone of an icebreaking first winner for a promising 18 year old apprentice.

The interwoven history of the of two families from very different walks of life, but with a common passion and love for the horse, is the stuff of movie scripts in any man's language.

For eight-times East Cape champion veteran trainer Gavin Smith the victory by Wily Lass in the Fairview first race on 24 December in the hands of greenhorn apprentice Xola Jacobs was lump in the throat stuff – and that's not because Gavin owns and trained the first winner by top racehorse, Wylie Hall!

Xola had travelled to the Eastern Cape from the SA Jockey Academy outside Durban for the December holiday break to spend some time with his family, who reside at Kuyga in Greenbushes.

"That may have just been a minor

maiden plate. But it brought a tear to my eye to watch a family so close to our hearts celebrating what must rank as one of the happiest and proudest moments of their lives," said Gavin who was chatting to the Sporting Post after 18 year old Xola Jacobs had overshadowed his rivals when going pillar to post and making full use of his 4kg claim to upstage the red hot odds-on favourite Pierino amid cheers from a small group of the assembled audience.

Xola's proud Dad Griffiths and his equally elated Uncle William were on hand to welcome their new star to the winner's enclosure.

"They are all part of our family. Griffiths still works for us. He and I used to ride work together for my late Dad. Xola wasn't even born yet. William has also worked for us for many years. Another of Xola's Uncles – Alfred – worked at our farm. He has since moved on. They have been around ever since I can remember," added Gavin as he recounted how the years had flown by.

Gavin took the reins over from his

multiple champion trainer Dad in 1995. Andy Smith passed away in 2014 at the age of 76 .

It was Gavin who had been largely instrumental in getting Xola to pursue his dream and go out into the big wide world beyond Port Elizabeth and try and make a name for himself as a jockey.

The slightly built Xola, who goes to scale at 48,5 kgs, says that the first thing that hit him on his arrival at the SA Jockey Academy in the same intake as Luke Ferraris, Kabelo Matsunyane, Nathan Klink, Thabiso Gumede and Jabu Jacobs (no relation) was the 'hard work'.

"My Dad has always run a strict home so we knew what had to be done. And I used to love going to Mr Smith's yard from a young age, so I could ride and I had a feel for the stable and horses. But the academy was quite different – it was tough at first. But there is great friendship and we started enjoying it – me personally after about 4 months!"

Xola says that he feels that his love and inclination towards sport also helped him along. As did encouragement from his best mate, Khanya Sakayi.

"I play on the wing in soccer and love to run marathons. So I have always been fit and have never been a couch potato like some of today's youngsters," laughed the



XOLA JACOBS

Young Ideas and Real Madrid supporter as he reminisced on a whirlwind three years.

About his first winner, he says he will never forget the experience.

"I had the winning edge from the moment Mr Smith gave me those unpressured instructions.

He said 'ride her as you find her. If you are in front and she tires, well then so be it'. He stressed there was no pressure. At the 200m I thought, where are they? Then as we neared the post I kept telling myself to stay calm. It wasn't easy – I wanted to scream for joy! And I made sure I stayed balanced and focussed and only saluted after the post. The rules have been drummed into us!" laughed Xola.

It was his first winning ride after 42 starts.

Xola vividly recalls his first ever race under rules on the Gary Rich-trained Hiva-Oa-Koi at Scottsville. The date was 23 June 2018. His mount was 100-1 and there was no pressure. It was all a blur and he ran second last.

"It was a great step to ride in my first race. But then I had another 40 rides and the winner just didn't happen. Every week that passes one feels less confident. Your mates are all riding their winners. I started wondering if I would set some sort of a record. Any sport has a psychological angle. Self-belief and confidence are a great tonic. So now you understand what a very lovely Christmas Wily Lass presented me as well as all the people from my own Dad to Mr Gavin Smith who have encouraged and supported me. That win really didn't come a day too soon," he laughed.

The former Rocklands High School pupil, who says he was pretty average academically at school, indicates that he has another two years left at the academy and intends to focus on his riding and is naturally keen to bang home a few quick winners now.

"The riding masters have been great and they guide us and show us where we go wrong. I can't rest on my laurels now that I have my first winner on the board. What do they say- you are only as good as your next winner? But, seriously, I need to up my game now again and keep the positive pressure."

When asked on who he'd like to model himself on, he unhesitatingly says former SA champion S'manga Khumalo.

"I think he is the perfect benchmark of a whole new generation. If I could be half as good one day as S'manga, I would make my family proud."

And the most unlikeable aspect about race-riding that isn't quite covered in the textbooks?

"Probably the senior jockeys shouting and giving us juniors a hard time in a race. I have gotten used to it and they are only trying to guide us and highlight our errors so that we can learn from them. Fact is, race riding is not a game for cry babies! But I'm so very fortunate to be here. And I wouldn't change my career for anything on earth."

On Track For Saturday!

Phumelela Track Manager Dean Diedericks said recently that they had not enjoyed a traditional Summer in Cape Town.

"It's quite cold with 53mm of rain measured in December so we've had to adapt, but visitors to the Queen's Plate can look forward to a good racing surface at Kenilworth, and we expect it to be good throughout the January feature season, going through the Sun Met and thereafter. We have pencilled in seven meetings at Durbanville for March and April. We've had positive feedback from trainers, jockeys and the public on the changes instituted there and we look forward to more good racing this year."

Vee Takes Office

The National Horseracing Authority of Southern Africa (NHA) confirms that former Executive Director : Sports Betting at Phumelela Gaming & Leisure, Vee Moodley, is raring to go in his new role as Chief Executive of the NHA, the body entrusted with controlling the sport of horseracing in South Africa.



Moodley resigned from his position at Phumelela last month to take up his new post and is returning to familiar territory. He took office yesterday.

He was Racing Control Executive and Chief Executive designate of the NHA back in 2010, when he resigned to lead the Groups Betting Division at PGL.

"That was an opportunity I could not afford to miss at that stage of my career and my time at Phumelela has been absolutely invaluable in broadening my knowledge of horseracing. But I am pleased to be back at the NHA. Having a singular focus, high on attention to detail and a vision to accomplish, I am raring to go. The organisation is facing many challenges that I fully comprehend and shall relish dealing with", Moodley said.

One of Moodley's immediate goals in his new role is to introduce a high-performance culture and ensure the NHA lives up to its mission statement of maintaining the integrity of the sport of horseracing.

"I will be ably supported by the NHA National Board under the chairmanship of Ken Truter and the existing executive and management teams. Strengthening those teams is high on my agenda, as is ensuring that the transformation goals of the organisation are accomplished within a reasonable timeframe," he said.

There are numerous other issues that Moodley is keen to tackle. "We need to give maximum attention to the proposed Amendment Gambling Bill. The recommendations contained therein have positive implications for the NHA and we need to fast track putting in place the independence that is critical for this organisation to properly carry out its role."

A clear and effective communications strategy is also on the priority list, as is resolving any outstanding issues.

"There's much to be done, but I am looking forward to every aspect of the job, including working together with the different role players/stakeholders to ensure that the sport of horseracing is the winner at the end of the day. Everybody in the industry will be treated equally and fairly and there will be no discrimination. Horseracing's integrity is paramount to its future", he said.

"I am also very aware, that my energies need to be directed at the critical important items whilst NOT neglecting the important issues, many that are on the table as we speak".

With a spirit of co-operation, consistency and transparency as the key factors, Moodley is confident of a positive outlook for the NHA.

For any queries/suggestions/comments, please e-mail info@nhra.co.za

HERE & ELSEWHERE - SARAH WHITELAW

Breeding — The 2018 Highlights

The year 2018 highlighted the impact of the loss to breeding of Scat Daddy and Street Cry.

Scat Daddy (Johannesburg), who died at the age of 11 in 2015, made history in 2018 when his unbeaten son Justify won the US Triple Crown, with another son, No Nay Never, stamping himself as a potentially top class sire in his own right.

Street Cry, one of two sons of Machiavellian to have won the Gr1 Dubai World Cup, achieved the rare feat of having two daughters named Horse Of The Year in a single season — with Winx named Australia's Horse Of The Year for 2017-2018 and Oh Susanna, taking top honours in South Africa for the same season.

Scat Daddy and Street Cry (who died in 2014) both feature in the pedigree of 2018 Cartier Champion 2yo filly Skitter Scatter — who is a daughter of Scat Daddy and the Street Cry mare Dane Street. Skitter Scatter won four of seven in 2018, with her major victory being a two length win in the Gr1 Moyglare Stud Stakes.

A Pivotal Broodmare Sire

Outstanding stallion Pivotal confirmed his status as one of the finest broodmare sires in the world in 2018. The evergreen son of Polar Falcon was responsible for no fewer than 10 Gr1 winners as a broodmare sire, with his daughters responsible in 2018 for the winners of all of the Gr1 Lockinge Stakes, Gr1 Coronation Cup, Gr1 Champion Stakes, Gr1 Prix Ganay, Gr1 French 2000 Guineas, Gr1 Prix de l'Abbaye, Gr1 Prix de la Foret, Gr1 British Champions Fillies' & Mares' Stakes, Gr1 Cheveley Park Stakes, and Gr1 Phoenix Stakes.

Sire of well over 100 stakes winners, Pivotal is also the sire of top class French sire Siyouni — whose remarkable daughter Laurens won four Gr1 races in 2018 including the French Oaks.

Locals Shine in South Africa

South African bred stallions continue to make their presence felt here in 2018, with deceased Captain Al continuing to make his mark through Gr1 winners Captain



America, Snowdance, Sergeant Hardy and Undercover Agent, and former Horse Of The Year Dynasty enjoying Gr1 success in 2018 with the likes of Eyes Wide Open and Front And Centre.

Two other South African bred sires, Pomodoro and Master Of My Fate— both sons of the South African bred Jet Master— were South Africa's Leading First Crop Sire by stakes and individual winners respectively for 2017-2018, while Equus Champions Capetown Noir and Vercingetorix have both quickly got off the mark with impressive 2yo first crop winners. Both Jet Master and Captain Al are enjoying success as a broodmare sires, with Jet Master damsire of top class 3yo's Silvano's Jet, Ronnie's Candy, and Hawwaam, as well as leading Sun Met hope Rainbow Bridge, while Captain Al features as the broodmare sire in 2018 of impressive Gr2 Premier Trophy winner Head Honcho, Gr3 Champagne Stakes winner Freedom Charter, Gr3 Fillies Mile winner Ghallaa and Gr2 SA Nursery winner William The Silent.

Champion Farewell

The world lost two stalwart champion sires in 2018, with the passing of Giant's Causeway and Encosta De Lago, both of whom not only became champion sires but also went on to enjoy success as sires of sires and broodmare sires.

A former Horse Of The Year— and the best son of Storm Cat— Giant's Causeway was Champion Sire in the USA on three occasions — 2009, 2010, and 2012 respectively, and his 180 plus stakes winners were headed by more than 30 Gr1 winners.

A top-class broodmare sire— his daughters' progeny include US Horse Of The Year Gun Runner and short-lived South African champion Soft Falling Rain— Giant's Causeway also left his mark as a sire of sires, with his son Shamardal enjoying top class success at stud. His progeny include fellow top class sire Lope de Vega. Other successful sire sons of Giant's Causeway include Footstepsinthesand and First Samurai— his triple group winning son Await The Dawn showed promise in South Africa in an all too brief innings at stud.

Encosta De Lago, the best sire son of Fairy King, was both a Champion Sire and Champion Broodmare Sire, and he left behind more than 20 Gr1 winners. Unfortunately, his potentially outstanding sire son Northern Meteor died young — but not before producing the very exciting young stallion Zoustar — whose progeny ran 1-2-3 in the 2018 Gr1 Coolmore Stud Stakes.

Another son of Encosta De Lago, Manhattan Rain, is the sire of Golden Slipper winner She Will Reign as well as 2017 Gr1 Sun Met victor Whisky Baron, while current Hong Kong star Beauty Generation was sired by Encosta De Lago's dual Gr1 winning son Road To Rock.

Both Giant's Causeway and Encosta De Lago's progeny enjoyed success in South Africa, with Giant's Causeway responsible for SA Gr1 winners Our Giant and Blueridge Mountain, and Encosta De Lago is sire of champion and dual G1 winner Delago Deluxe, and Gr1 Rising Sun Gold Challenge victor Mac De Lago.

BREEDING

New sire off the mark - Wylie Hall

Hall Of Fame!

A Gr1 winning son of triple Australian champion sire, Redoute's Choice, Cheveley Stud stallion Wylie Hall equalled the feat of contemporary Vercingetorix of a few weeks ago when he got off the mark with his first runner a winner.

His 2yo daughter Wily Lass, the longshot in the small field, made a winning debut for trainer Gavin Smith, who also owns her, in the first race at Fairview on Christmas eve. The pacy galloper took full advantage of apprentice Xola Jacobs' 4kg claim when she maintained a solid pace in the 800m scurry to hold off the attentions of odds-on favourite Pierina.

Young Jacobs, whose Dad has worked for Gavin Smith for many years, was on holiday in his hometown and was registering his first winner. Smith said that the winner had shown plenty of pace in her work but that the money for the favourite Pierina had knocked their confidence.

Bred by John and Liz Slade, Wily Lass is out of the Silvano mare Perceptive – an unraced half-sister to Gr2 winners Royal IQ and Mentor.

Wylie Hall, one of 34 G1 winners sired by triple Australian champion sire Redoute's Choice, was an outstanding performer who banked more than R3.6 million. First past the post in the 2014 Gr1 Vodacom Durban July and won or placed in 15 of 21 outings, with his victories including the Gr1 SA Derby and the Gr1 President's Champions Challenge. He made an instant impression with his first crop, with daughter Wylie Wench making R600 000 at the 2018 National Two Year Old Sale.

A half-brother to Gr1 Hong Kong Sprint winner Absolute Champion, Wylie Hall has five lots on offer at the 2019 Cape Premier Yearling Sale including a filly out of Gr3 Flamboyant Stakes winner Queen's Command and a filly out of Gr2 SA Fillies Nursery star Virgo's Babe.

Vercingetorix' 2/2

Vercingetorix has made a flying start to his stud career and his seven yearlings on offer at the Cape Premier Yearling Sale on 23 January are bound to attract interest.

With his multiple champion Dad Silvano not getting any younger, Vercingetorix looks an exciting prospect to take over the royal mantle and he made it 100% first crop runners to winners when his son Astrix won the opener at Greyville on Sunday. Ridden by Lyle Hewitson for Paul Peter, Astrix showed the benefit of the experience of one run under the belt when he led all the way to hold off the Hollywood Syndicate's highly regarded first-timer Agent Murphy by 3,25 lengths. The third placed horse was over 8 lengths away! [Watch the race here](#)

Astrix had run third at Turffontein on 15 December – the same afternoon that Vercingetorix son Fearless Warrior won on debut in a Maiden Juvenile Plate over 1000m at Kenilworth. The two are Vercingetorix' only runners so far and both have now won. The Riverton Stud bred Astrix was a R60 000 Cape Ready To Run Sale graduate. He is out of the Victory Moon mare, Victory Dance, who did not race.

Vercingetorix was Equus Champion of 2012-2013 and was unbeaten in South Africa where he won both the Gr1 Daily News 2000 and Gr2 KZN Guineas. Exported to Dubai, Vercingetorix won the Gr1 Jebel Hatta and Gr2 Al Rashidiya and also finished second in the Gr1 Dubai Duty Free where he accounted for the international Gr1 winners Dank, Mshawish, Hunter's Light and The Fugue. He stood for a 2018 fee of R30 000.

Vercingetorix has seven lots catalogued at January's Cape Premier Yearling Sale – including a filly (Lot 21) out of a stakes winning daughter of Captain Al (the broodmare sire of Fearless Warrior) and a colt (Lot 164) out of a Winter Oaks winning half-sister to the stakes winning dam of exported Gr1 winner Lobo's Legend.

[See the catalogue here](#)

DIGEST DIARY

Features To Come

Fri 4 Jan	Gr2 Cartier Sceptre S. (F&M) 1200m Kenilworth (S) (L) Jamaica Handicap (F&M) 2000m Kenilworth (S)
Sat 5 Jan	Gr1 L'Ormarins Queens Plate 1600m Kenilworth (S) Gr1 Cartier Paddock S. (F&M) 1800m Kenilworth (S) Gr2 Peninsula Hcp 1800m Kenilworth (S) Gr3 Chairmans Cup 3200m Kenilworth (S) Gr3 Politician S. (3yo's) 1800m Kenilworth (S)
Sun 6 Jan	Gr3 London News Stakes 1800m Turffontein (S) Gr3 Tony Ruffel S. (3yo's) 1450m Turffontein (S) Gr3 Three Troikas S. (3yoF) 1450m Turffontein (S) (L) Sea Cottage S. (3yo's) 1800m Turffontein (S)
Sat 12 Jan	(L) Swallow S. (3yoF) 1200m Greyville (T)
Sun 20 Jan	(L) Michael Roberts Hcp 1800m Scottsville (T)

Phumelela Shareprice

date	close	high	low	volume
02Jan	1110	1170	1110	24,532
31Dec	1140	1189	1140	421
28Dec	1189	1189	1189	0
27Dec	1189	1200	1120	18,093
24Dec	1115	1115	1115	15,020
21Dec	1150	1150	1145	36,880
20Dec	1111	1111	1111	0
19Dec	1111	1111	1111	16
18Dec	1105	1150	1105	59,990
14Dec	1140	1150	1140	3,952



AT THE CAPE PREMIER YEARLING SALE | 23 JAN

First progeny of Galileo sire

Global View (USA)

66 colt **Grand Escape** ex **Grand Mary (Pivotal)**

189 filly **Global Appeal** ex **Stormy Appeal (Kilconnel)**



ASCOT STUD

Contact: Mrs Rose Parker & Dr Ashley Parker • Tel: (041) 366 1181 • Fax: (041) 366 1185 • Cell: 082 446 5287

LEADING BREEDERS by STAKES														SEASON 2018/2019 • 1 August - 30 December 2018			
Stakes	Breeder	rnr	AEPR	runs	wnr	wns	wnr/rnr%	SW wnr	SW wns	SW wnr/rnr%	plcs	plc/rnr%	SP	top earner with stakes & % of total stakes			
9,433,636	Klawervlei Stud	318	29,666	1056	89	100	28%	1	1	1%	291	28%	4	One World	409,375	4%	
7,461,013	Summerhill Stud	229	32,581	903	59	77	26%	2	2	3%	232	26%	3	Africa Rising	443,750	6%	
6,983,799	Wilgerbosdrift & Mauritzfontein	181	38,585	568	63	81	35%	2	2	3%	173	30%	1	Hawwaam	371,875	5%	
5,925,237	Highlands	119	49,792	433	43	56	36%	2	2	5%	127	29%	1	Front And Centre	795,625	13%	
4,216,112	Drakenstein Stud	101	41,744	307	30	35	30%	6	6	20%	113	37%	4	Clouds Unfold	350,000	8%	
3,484,861	Varsfontein Stud	78	44,678	248	30	41	38%	1	1	3%	73	29%	2	Ghaalla	239,463	7%	
3,261,950	Ascot Stud	68	47,970	254	26	33	38%	1	1	4%	77	30%	4	Coral Fever	725,000	22%	
3,213,024	Maine Chance	111	28,946	331	32	37	29%	2	2	6%	71	21%	2	Silver Maple	168,350	5%	
3,191,950	La Plaisance Stud	72	44,333	195	25	34	35%	2	2	8%	72	37%	2	Head Honcho	313,750	10%	
3,167,800	Hemel 'n Aarde Stud	91	34,811	321	27	31	30%	0	0	0%	87	27%	1	Bye Bye Rocket	519,000	16%	
3,139,262	GJ Armitage	62	50,633	226	15	19	24%	2	3	13%	47	21%	2	Tilbury Fort	1,400,000	45%	
3,116,936	Scott Bros	113	27,584	389	26	30	23%	1	1	4%	110	28%	1	Matador Man	240,750	8%	
2,999,237	Favour Stud	72	41,656	278	23	31	32%	2	2	9%	85	31%	1	Twist Of Fate	396,250	13%	
2,383,763	Riverton Stud	27	88,288	104	8	12	30%	1	1	13%	33	32%	1	Cirillo	1,350,000	57%	
2,375,250	Lammerskraal Stud	60	39,588	188	20	23	33%	0	0	0%	64	34%	1	Pilou	213,125	9%	
2,225,949	Moutonshoek	105	21,200	349	18	19	17%	0	0	0%	93	27%	3	Undercover Agent	155,000	7%	
1,974,775	Gary Player Stud	63	31,346	269	18	22	29%	0	0	0%	71	26%	2	Thanksgiving	273,875	14%	

LEADING SIRES by STAKES														SEASON 2018/2019 • 1 August - 30 December 2018			
Stakes	Sire	rnr	AEPR	runs	wnr	wns	wnr/rnr%	SW wnr	SW wns	SW wnr/rnr%	plcs	plc/rnr%	SP	top earner with stakes & % of total stakes			
6,456,959	*Captain Al	123	52,496	391	46	52	37%	3	3	7%	144	37%	6	One World	409,375	6%	
6,148,262	Silvano	166	37,038	487	49	60	30%	3	3	6%	161	33%	5	Hawwaam	371,875	6%	
5,805,499	Var	152	38,194	512	55	63	36%	4	4	7%	162	32%	4	Schippers	339,975	6%	
5,494,549	Dynasty	118	46,564	381	38	49	32%	1	1	3%	108	28%	5	Front And Centre	795,625	14%	
4,876,574	Gimmethgreenlight	123	39,647	420	39	51	32%	4	4	10%	130	31%	3	National Park	229,150	5%	
4,309,700	Trippi	105	41,045	317	36	45	34%	3	3	8%	111	35%	2	Chimichuri Run	286,250	7%	
4,213,063	Querari	99	42,556	329	31	43	31%	3	3	10%	94	29%	3	Head Honcho	313,750	7%	
3,768,112	*Horse Chestnut	75	50,241	263	17	27	23%	2	3	12%	69	26%	2	Tilbury Fort	1,400,000	37%	
3,710,961	*Sail From Seattle	111	33,432	389	37	47	33%	0	0	0%	110	28%	1	Puget Sound	176,950	5%	
3,710,238	What A Winter	107	34,675	357	38	42	36%	1	1	3%	105	29%	2	Clouds Unfold	350,000	9%	
3,532,274	Judpot	81	43,608	291	27	35	33%	1	1	4%	81	28%	1	Coral Fever	725,000	21%	
3,528,737	Oratorio	101	34,938	348	34	40	34%	0	0	0%	113	32%	0	Chantyman	209,800	6%	
3,307,700	Mambo In Seattle	89	37,165	335	28	35	31%	0	0	0%	116	35%	1	Noceur	224,750	7%	
3,147,799	Pathfork	82	38,388	288	27	35	33%	0	0	0%	90	31%	2	Zeb	148,275	5%	
3,144,800	Ideal World	85	36,998	295	29	35	34%	1	1	3%	81	27%	2	Rainbow Bridge	270,000	9%	
2,627,675	Visionaire	95	27,660	340	16	18	17%	2	2	13%	79	23%	2	Africa Rising	443,750	17%	
2,601,213	Twice Over	96	27,096	319	25	27	26%	0	0	0%	96	30%	1	Second Request	270,750	10%	

LEADING SIRES of 3YO'S by STAKES														SEASON 2018/2019 • 1 August - 30 December 2018			
Stakes	Sire	rnr	AEPR	runs	wnr	wns	wnr/rnr%	SW wnr	SW wns	SW wnr/rnr%	plcs	plc/rnr%	SP	top earner with stakes & % of total stakes			
3,034,212	Dynasty	44	68,959	131	18	25	41%	1	1	6%	34	26%	1	Front And Centre	795,625	26%	
2,729,011	*Captain Al	53	51,491	154	21	25	40%	1	1	5%	61	40%	1	One World	409,375	15%	
2,493,350	Var	63	39,577	203	25	27	40%	1	1	4%	72	35%	2	Ghaalla	239,463	10%	
2,327,300	What A Winter	57	40,830	201	23	26	40%	1	1	4%	62	31%	1	Clouds Unfold	350,000	15%	
2,265,862	Pomodoro	34	66,643	101	11	13	32%	0	0	0%	22	22%	1	Cirillo	1,350,000	60%	
2,093,450	Gimmethgreenlight	49	42,723	154	18	21	37%	2	2	11%	51	33%	1	National Park	229,150	11%	
1,821,812	Master Of My Fate	59	30,878	188	11	14	19%	1	1	9%	56	30%	1	Twist Of Fate	396,250	22%	
1,814,324	*Sail From Seattle	54	33,599	169	18	22	33%	0	0	0%	51	30%	0	American Hustle	162,062	9%	
1,686,087	Silvano	44	38,320	97	12	15	27%	1	1	8%	28	29%	1	Hawwaam	371,875	22%	
1,657,950	Querari	37	44,809	134	13	19	35%	1	1	8%	43	32%	1	Pleasedtomeetyou	267,250	16%	
1,495,775	Oratorio	45	33,239	154	17	18	38%	0	0	0%	47	31%	0	Cantata	98,000	7%	
1,442,425	Twice Over	59	24,448	190	13	14	22%	0	0	0%	50	26%	0	Second Request	270,750	19%	
1,370,124	Pathfork	34	40,298	121	11	13	32%	0	0	0%	47	39%	2	Mr Flood	134,549	10%	
1,339,063	Duke Of Marmalade	53	25,265	146	11	14	21%	0	0	0%	41	28%	2	Princess Irene	137,875	10%	
1,314,025	Trippi	32	41,063	83	12	13	38%	1	1	8%	29	35%	1	Chimichuri Run	286,250	22%	

LEADING SIRES by AEPR														SEASON 2018/2019 • 1 August - 30 December 2018				with 20 or more rnr	
Stakes	Sire	rnr	AEPR	runs	wnr	wns	wnr/rnr%	SW wnr	SW wns	SW wnr/rnr%	plcs	plc/rnr%	SP	top earner with stakes & % of total stakes					
2,333,487	Pomodoro	36	64,819	103	12	14	33%	0	0	0%	22	21%	1	Cirillo	1,350,000	58%			
6,456,959	*Captain Al	123	52,496	391	46	52	37%	3	3	7%	144	37%	6	One World	409,375	6%			
3,768,112	*Horse Chestnut	75	50,241	263	17	27	23%	2	3	12%	69	26%	2	Tilbury Fort	1,400,000	37%			
1,802,001	*Await The Dawn	36	50,056	169	16	19	44%	0	0	0%	57	34%	0	Come The Day	250,725	14%			
1,481,562	*Fort Wood	30	49,385	107	12	15	40%	1	1	8%	44	41%	1	Benjan	190,450	13%			
1,214,524	Potala Palace	26	46,712	89	12	16	46%	0	0	0%	18	20%	0	Palace Chapel	209,449	17%			
5,494,549	Dynasty	118	46,564	381	38	49	32%	1	1	3%	108	28%	5	Front And Centre	795,625	14%			
3,532,274	Judpot	81	43,608	291	27	35	33%	1	1	4%	81	28%	1	Coral Fever	725,000	21%			
4,213,063	Querari	99	42,556	329	31	43	31%	3	3	10%	94	29%	3	Head Honcho	313,750	7%			
1,018,788	Traffic Guard	24	42,450	91	10	13	42%	0	0	0%	25	27%	0	Amber Furst	141,875	14%			
1,133,261	*Western Winter	27	41,973	106	9	11	33%	1	1	11%	26	25%	1	Pilou	213,125	19%			
1,550,237	Eightfold Path	37	41,898	167	12	13	32%	0	0	0%	59	35%	0	Good Rhythm	167,875	11%			
4,309,700	Trippi	105	41,045	317	36	45	34%	3	3	8%	111	35%	2	Chimichuri Run	286,250	7%			
4,876,574	Gimmethgreenlight	123	39,647	420	39	51	32%	4	4	10%	130	31%	3	National Park	229,150	5%			
1,161,000	*Curved Ball	30	38,700	105	10	12	33%	0	0	0%	23	22%	0	Against The Grain	238,125	21%			

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



She's A ROCKET!

The Mauritzfontein-owned 3yo Landela is a galloping advert for the 'move your horse to PE' lobby. Arriving in the Windy City winless after four runs up North, she hasn't stopped banking the first cheques since shedding her maiden on 16 October 2018. She made it four on the trot for Alan Greeff and Greg Cheyne when winning an MR 66 Handicap at Fairview on Wednesday.

An A\$180,000 Inglis Premier purchase by Form Bloodstock from the Gilgai Farm draft, Landela is the second winner from Follow That Cat, a half-sister by Tale of the Cat (USA) to Grl winner Driefontein.

Rated the best juvenile by Fastnet Rock, her sire Smart Missile was unbeaten at two, winning the Breeder's Plate and then the Gr2 Todman. He is now the sire of Gr1 winner Maid Of Heaven and G2 winners Smart Melody and I'll Have A Bit. Consistently in the Top 10 by winners and earnings, his yearlings averaged A\$80,000 for 73 sold in 2018. He stands at Twin Hills Stud near Cootamundra in New South Wales.

RIDGEMONT

HIGHLANDS

LEADING TRAINERS by STAKES

SEASON 2018/2019 • 1 August - 30 December 2018

trainer	rides	wins	win %	fav	fav %	wfav %	2nd %	2nd four	1st four	1st four %	stakes	stks/rides
SG Tarry	502	62	12%	83	17%	36%	53	11%	217	43%	9,964,183	19,849
J Snaith	475	71	15%	103	22%	37%	59	12%	240	51%	6,889,488	14,504
MF de Kock	284	40	14%	62	22%	26%	37	13%	135	48%	5,834,021	20,542
BJ Crawford	347	56	16%	85	24%	33%	41	12%	177	51%	5,302,375	15,281
AC Greeff	454	67	15%	106	23%	31%	56	12%	212	47%	4,520,750	9,958
C Bass-Robinson	365	29	8%	32	9%	19%	41	11%	151	41%	4,044,425	11,081
A Nel	231	44	19%	39	17%	36%	32	14%	129	56%	4,003,200	17,330
Y Bremner	364	49	13%	52	14%	31%	56	15%	179	49%	3,966,500	10,897
PA Peter	258	39	15%	54	21%	33%	36	14%	119	46%	3,746,586	14,522
GS Kotzen	347	31	9%	36	10%	25%	42	12%	129	37%	3,130,250	9,021
GD Smith	501	40	8%	36	7%	17%	41	8%	187	37%	3,097,175	6,182
DC Howells	256	26	10%	40	16%	33%	34	13%	120	47%	2,845,625	11,116
SD Gray	238	17	7%	13	5%	23%	25	11%	99	42%	2,829,363	11,888
JAJ v Vuuren	213	28	13%	45	21%	44%	30	14%	97	46%	2,812,211	13,203
DR Drier	195	30	15%	47	24%	34%	22	11%	99	51%	2,793,325	14,325
VH Marshall	229	25	11%	28	12%	25%	29	13%	112	49%	2,552,000	11,144
GV Woodruff	155	18	12%	33	21%	33%	22	14%	79	51%	2,406,937	15,529
AG Laird	171	22	13%	42	25%	26%	20	12%	88	51%	2,387,750	13,963
T Laing	232	29	13%	20	9%	35%	24	10%	110	47%	2,321,500	10,006
PF Matchett	175	16	9%	9	5%	11%	24	14%	66	38%	2,291,312	13,093
J Ramsden	168	18	11%	12	7%	25%	15	9%	66	39%	2,074,837	12,350
MG & AA Azzie	191	18	9%	27	14%	33%	21	11%	73	38%	2,052,650	10,747
GM Alexander	186	18	10%	14	8%	7%	21	11%	75	40%	1,936,737	10,413
DS Bosch	157	18	11%	17	11%	35%	23	15%	76	48%	1,893,850	12,063
RR Magner	197	17	9%	9	5%	44%	16	8%	86	44%	1,828,426	9,281
G Maroun	248	18	7%	14	6%	14%	18	7%	72	29%	1,782,938	7,189

LEADING JOCKEYS by WINS

SEASON 2018/2019 • 1 August - 30 December 2018

jockey	rides	wins	win %	fav	fav %	wfav %	2nd %	2nd four	1st four	1st four %	stakes	stks/rides
A Marcus	297	94	32%	188	63%	36%	53	18%	206	69%	9,706,037	32,680
M Yeni	780	91	12%	130	17%	27%	105	13%	379	49%	8,517,871	10,920
R Munger	664	81	12%	72	11%	31%	74	11%	300	45%	6,964,636	10,489
G Cheyne	398	70	18%	117	29%	32%	61	15%	219	55%	5,087,850	12,784
R Fourie	284	66	23%	107	38%	37%	42	15%	185	65%	5,975,325	21,040
L Hewitson	402	66	16%	72	18%	29%	72	18%	224	56%	8,263,162	20,555
G Lerena	222	62	28%	104	47%	38%	28	13%	142	64%	5,985,933	26,964
W Kennedy	513	55	11%	49	10%	29%	59	12%	233	45%	6,361,213	12,400
A Domeyer	217	39	18%	51	24%	31%	34	16%	134	62%	3,932,175	18,121
C Zackey	479	39	8%	33	7%	24%	51	11%	182	38%	4,315,874	9,010
L J Ferraris	347	37	11%	32	9%	28%	29	8%	128	37%	3,581,163	10,320
K De Melo	363	36	10%	40	11%	28%	44	12%	168	46%	4,257,026	11,727
C Maujean	429	29	7%	26	6%	27%	35	8%	150	35%	3,064,825	7,144
S Veale	254	29	11%	42	17%	36%	17	7%	104	41%	2,680,325	10,552
K Zechner	397	29	7%	16	4%	13%	23	6%	127	32%	2,993,848	7,541
D Dillon	319	29	9%	15	5%	20%	35	11%	121	38%	2,776,850	8,705
D Schwarz	303	29	10%	15	5%	27%	31	10%	104	34%	2,792,575	9,216
S Khumalo	171	28	16%	33	19%	36%	19	11%	77	45%	2,841,547	16,617
M Khan	271	27	10%	16	6%	19%	30	11%	110	41%	3,361,112	12,403
C Orffer	204	27	13%	40	20%	30%	26	13%	102	50%	2,543,225	12,467
B Fayd'herbe	164	25	15%	24	15%	25%	15	9%	78	48%	2,781,900	16,963
P Strydom	182	25	14%	27	15%	22%	20	11%	84	46%	2,406,413	13,222
R Simons	251	23	9%	38	15%	24%	22	9%	97	39%	3,138,299	12,503
R Danielson	217	21	10%	39	18%	28%	32	15%	97	45%	2,436,300	11,227
M v Rensburg	250	21	8%	27	11%	22%	20	8%	98	39%	2,183,638	8,735
G Wright	131	21	16%	18	14%	22%	14	11%	56	43%	1,785,975	13,633



Anton Marcus can rewrite the history books on Saturday

Mr Four Most!

Anton Marcus made history last season when he notched up his 101st Gr1 winner to register a memorable success in the Voda-com Durban July. On Saturday he steps back into the history books – this time as the possible first jockey to win the L'Ormarins Queen's Plate four times on the trot. Marcus pilots Legal Eagle, who bids to match Pocket Power's four LQP streak from 2006 to 2010, and is the right man for the job – having recently taken the lead at the top of our SA national jockey log.



Joey Ramsden ranks with the best in the chase for royal honours

The Glad Hatter

Milnerton trainer Joey Ramsden, who saddles the Argentinian-bred Hat Puntano in Saturday's L'Ormarins Queen's Plate, has a smart record in the prestigious mile. He saddled Variety Club to win in 2011 and produced the double with Winter Solstice in 2005 and 2006. He also has a few seconds to his credit – going back to Invincible in 2005, Silver Mist, who nearly shattered the Pocket Power fairytale in 2006, and Variety Club in 2012.



Mike de Kock and Randall Simons are bidding for a very rare double

Double Duo

Recent Cape Guineas winning combination of Mike de Kock and jockey Randall Simons team up in the L'Ormarins Queen's Plate with their classic feature winning star

Soqrat(Epaulette) to register a Guineas- LQP double not achieved this century. The last Australian bred winner of the race was Gimmeth-



Chase Liebenberg

greenlight (More Than Ready) back in 2012. Mike de Kock last won the Queen's Plate in 2011 with top filly Mother Russia. Simons registered his first ever Cape win on Soqrat in the Guineas last month – so these are heady days for the young rider!

EXTENDED LISTS OF ALL STATS

are just a [click away on the Sporting Post website](#)

Sporting Post statistics reflect all earnings, incl restricted races & handicaps

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BEST RATINGS

Mon 17 Dec - Wed 2 Jan 2019

Ascot Sprinters Rule The Roost

Highest ratings for both sexes and 3 in the top-ten males!

MALES (up to 1600m)										
AR	horse	age	sire	breeder	date	fin	class	distance	course	aptitude
109	Pacific Trader	4	Sail From Seattle	Ascot Stud	29Dec	1	Cnd	1000	Kenilworth	109/-/-/-
106	Exelero	8	Western Winter	Lammerskraal Stud	24Dec	1	Cnd	1200	Fairview	106/95/-/-/-
105	Kasimir	4	Captain Al	Drakenstein Stud	29Dec	2	Cnd	1000	Kenilworth	105/101/-/-/-
105	Rebel's Champ	4	Rebel King	Nine Bridges Association	29Dec	1	MR110	1000	Turffontein	105/-/-/-/-
102	Bold Respect	4	Bold Silvano	Ascot Stud	29Dec	3	Cnd	1000	Kenilworth	109/98/-/-/-
100	Fifty Cents	6	Trippi	Drakenstein Stud	24Dec	2	Cnd	1200	Fairview	100/100/-/-/-
99	Trip To Heaven	7	Trippi	Highlands	29Dec	5	Cnd	1000	Kenilworth	117/108/-/-/-
98	Pleasedtomeetyou	3	Querari	La Plaisance Stud	22Dec	1	Cnd-3	1000	Kenilworth	98/84/-/-/-
97	Search Party	6	Captain Al	Ascot Stud	29Dec	4	Cnd	1000	Kenilworth	109/84/-/-/-
91	Prince Of Kahal	4	Kahal	Clifton Stud	29Dec	2	MR110	1000	Turffontein	91/90/-/-/-

FEMALES (up to 1600m)										
AR	horse	age	sire	breeder	date	fin	class	distance	course	aptitude
90	Mary O' Reilly	3	Sail From Seattle	Ascot Stud	24Dec	1	MR87f	1200	Fairview	90/78/-/-/-
90	Generous Lady	3	Philanthropist	Highlands	23Dec	1	MR78f	1400	Fairview	69/90/-/-/-
88	Running Brave	3	Brave Tin Soldier	Summerhill Stud	29Dec	1	Cndfm	1160	Turffontein	88/87/-/-/-
87	Comaneci	3	Gimmethgreenlight	Nadeson Park Stud	29Dec	2	Cndfm	1160	Turffontein	87/-/-/-/-
83	Varsity Lover	3	Var	Drakenstein Stud & Team Valor Int	19Dec	1	MR84f	1000	Kenilworth	83/56/-/-/-
83	Outlandos d'Amour	3	Captain Al	Klawervlei Stud	19Dec	2	MR84f	1000	Kenilworth	83/-/-/-/-
82	High Seas Beauty	5	High Chaparral	bred in Australia	22Dec	1	MR79f	1400	Turffontein	76/82/-/-/-
81	Perfect Tigress	3	Where's That Tiger	Hemel 'n Aarde Stud	22Dec	3	MR79f	1400	Turffontein	72/81/-/-/-
81	Emerald Tiara	2	Gimmethgreenlight	Moutonshoek	31Dec	1	MJP	800	Vaal	81/-/-/-/-
81	Vistula	3	Ideal World	Riethuiskraal Stud	20Dec	1	MP-1m	1200	Vaal	81/-/-/-/-

MALES (1600m and more)										
AR	horse	age	sire	breeder	date	fin	class	distance	course	aptitude
105	Matador Man	5	Toreador	Scott Bros	26Dec	1	MR109	1600	Greyville	94/105/104/86/-
103	Roy Had Enough	4	Pierro	bred in Australia	26Dec	4	MR109	1600	Greyville	72/103/100/93/-
99	Mac de Lago	7	Encosta de Lago	bred in Australia	22Dec	2	MR96	1600	Kenilworth	81/106/97/107/79/-
96	Dark Moon Rising	5	Ideal World	IR Heyns	26Dec	3	MR109	1600	Greyville	77/99/90/95/87/-
95	Kazaar	4	Querari	JR & Mrs Slade	26Dec	2	MR109	1600	Greyville	73/95/-/-/-
94	Thanksgiving	3	Dynasty	Gary Player Stud	26Dec	1	MR80	1600	Greyville	67/94/-/-/-
93	Afrikaburn	7	Trippi	Drakenstein Stud	24Dec	1	Cnd	1600	Fairview	94/100/105/74/-
92	Star Chestnut	6	Horse Chestnut	Drakenstein Stud	24Dec	2	Cnd	1600	Fairview	91/98/90/75/-
91	Laws Of Succession	7	Jay Peg	Klawervlei Stud	24Dec	3	Cnd	1600	Fairview	59/91/91/84/-
90	Pilou	5	Western Winter	Lammerskraal Stud	27Dec	1	MR90	1600	Vaal	64/90/79/72/-

FEMALES (1600m and more)										
AR	horse	age	sire	breeder	date	fin	class	distance	course	aptitude
93	Helen's Ideal	3	Ideal World	PG de Beyer	29Dec	1	MR80f	1600	Kenilworth	77/93/-/-/-
84	Red Al	3	Captain Al	Riverton Stud	28Dec	1	MR72f	1900	Greyville	-/74/84/-/-
84	Star In The Sky	3	Silvano	Scott Bros	22Dec	5	MR72f	2000	Kenilworth	60/76/71/84/-
84	Fort Ember	6	Elusive Fort	Arc-en-Ciel	26Dec	3	Cndfm	1600	Greyville	-/100/101/101/-
83	Red Herring	3	Curved Ball	Rathmor Stud	21Dec	1	MR62f	2000	Greyville	5/61/61/83/-
81	Roy's Riviera	4	All Too Hard	bred in Australia	26Dec	2	Cndfm	1600	Greyville	62/96/94/93/-
81	Camphoratus	4	Byword	R & Mrs Pickering	26Dec	1	Cndfm	1600	Greyville	71/81/-/-/-
80	Twice As Smart	4	Twice Over	Riverton Stud	26Dec	4	Cndfm	1600	Greyville	83/92/-/-/-
80	Sao Paulo	6	Trippi	Drakenstein Stud	21Dec	1	MR82f	1600	Fairview	77/80/-/-/-
79	Secret Depths	3	Elusive Fort	PG de Beyer	19Dec	2	MR71f	1600	Kenilworth	78/79/-/-/-

3yo MALES (any distance)										
AR	horse	age	sire	breeder	date	fin	class	distance	course	aptitude
98	Pleasedtomeetyou	3	Querari	La Plaisance Stud	22Dec	1	Cnd-3	1000	Kenilworth	98/84/-/-/-
94	Thanksgiving	3	Dynasty	Gary Player Stud	26Dec	1	MR80	1600	Greyville	67/94/-/-/-
91	Van Halen	3	Oratorio	Limpco Retail	22Dec	6	Cnd-3	1000	Kenilworth	99/72/-/-/-
89	Russet Air	3	What A Winter	Lammerskraal Stud	22Dec	2	Cnd-3	1000	Kenilworth	89/-/-/-/-
85	Green Haze	3	Gimmethgreenlight	Lammerskraal Stud	27Dec	1	Cnd	1600	Vaal	85/87/-/-/-
85	Good Rhythm	3	Eightfold Path	Jagessar Limited	26Dec	1	MR72	1400	Greyville	70/85/-/-/-
83	The Highway Man	3	Querari	IR Heyns	28Dec	1	Cnd	1400	Fairview	75/83/-/-/-
82	Approach Control	3	Potala Palace	Ralphs Syndicate	27Dec	3	Cnd	1600	Vaal	-/82/-/-/-
82	Vascostreettractor	3	Twice Over	Klawervlei Stud	19Dec	5	MR74	1200	Kenilworth	82/75/-/-/-
82	Seventh Sea	3	Seventh Rock	Klawervlei Stud	22Dec	3	Cnd-3	1000	Kenilworth	87/66/-/-/-

3yo FEMALES (any distance)										
AR	horse	age	sire	breeder	date	fin	class	distance	course	aptitude
93	Helen's Ideal	3	Ideal World	PG de Beyer	29Dec	1	MR80f	1600	Kenilworth	77/93/-/-/-
90	Generous Lady	3	Philanthropist	Highlands	23Dec	1	MR78f	1400	Greyville	69/90/-/-/-
90	Mary O' Reilly	3	Sail From Seattle	Ascot Stud	24Dec	1	MR87f	1200	Fairview	90/78/-/-/-
88	Running Brave	3	Brave Tin Soldier	Summerhill Stud	29Dec	1	Cndfm	1160	Turffontein	88/87/-/-/-
87	Comaneci	3	Gimmethgreenlight	Nadeson Park Stud	29Dec	2	Cndfm	1160	Turffontein	87/-/-/-/-
84	Star In The Sky	3	Silvano	Scott Bros	22Dec	5	MR72f	2000	Kenilworth	60/76/71/84/-
84	Red Al	3	Captain Al	Riverton Stud	28Dec	1	MR72f	1900	Greyville	-/74/84/-/-
83	Red Herring	3	Curved Ball	Rathmor Stud	21Dec	1	MR62f	2000	Greyville	5/61/61/83/-
83	Outlandos d'Amour	3	Captain Al	Klawervlei Stud	19Dec	2	MR84f	1000	Kenilworth	83/-/-/-/-
83	Varsity Lover	3	Var	Drakenstein Stud & Team Valor Int	19Dec	1	MR84f	1000	Kenilworth	83/56/-/-/-

BLACK TYPE RESULTS

FAIRVIEW (turf)**Wednesday, 2 January****Course Variant: 0.95s slow (bend)**

26mm of irrigation was added to the 12mm of rain that fell in the seven days leading up to this meeting. The penetrometer read 23 and the going was posted as good. There was an easterly tail wind of around 23km/h, and the false rail was out 2m to the 1200m, increasing to 7m to the 800m mark, with a 7m spur.

Lady's Bracelet (F&M)(Listed) R150,000**Snaith Draws First Blood**

With over fifty horses running at Kenilworth this weekend, Justin Snaith still found some time to travel the 2000km round trip on Wednesday to Fairview to grab the first feature trophy of 2019.

With three runners on the day, the Snaith Racing Team may have expected more than a winner – but they left the Eastern Cape with mission accomplished thanks to a facile first stakes success for the Silvano filly, Platinum Class, who gave Richard Fourie an armchair ride.

The local star Madame Speaker was having her first outing in mixed age company and carried bottomweight in the R150 000 Listed Lady's Bracelet. She also started a narrow tote favourite in the field of nine.

But it was no race.

Valentine's Girl led Cloud Atlas and Maverick Girl, with Madame Speaker relaxed in fourth for much of the journey. The well fancied Platinum Class was dropped out to last by Richard Fourie.

Into the final 300m Madame Speaker moved up dangerously but was no match for the flying Platinum Class who strode up on the outside to win going away by 2 lengths in a time of 96,59 secs.

Just My Style came on late for third, a further 1,25 lengths adrift, with former Kimberley campaigner Sea Bean a well beaten fourth.

A R210 000 National Yearling Sale buy, the winner, who races for Drakenstein Stud, was bred by Mauritzfontein and Wilgerbosdrift and is a daughter of the super sire Silvano (Lomitas) out of the four-time winner Express Queen (Jet Master) – who also produced last season's Mauritius Champion Stayer, Our Emperor (Dynasty).

Platinum Class has won 5 races with 5 places from 15 starts for stakes of R372 000.

Lady's Bracelet (F&M) (Listed) 1600m

Winner Platinum Class (best handicapped) raced in the rear; led 200m; won going away Runner-up Madame Speaker (2nd best

handicapped) raced 4th; led 350m; no chance with winner

Third Just My Style raced 5th; stayed on, but well beaten

Time: Run in a time 1,73 seconds (approximately 9 lengths) faster than the quickest of the other two 1600m events, this comparatively was the fastest race on the card.

We gave the runner-up (prev 79/81/87/85/90) 90 which makes the winner (prev 89/88/84/93 – has done 97) 96 and the third (prev 75/70/72/76 – has done 87) 89

91	1	0.00	PLATINUM CLASS (4)	60.0	R Fourie	11/10
4 b f Silvano - Express Queen (Jet Master)						
85	2	2.00	MADAME SPEAKER (9)	56.0	G Cheyne	2/1
3 b f Pathfork - Word Perfect (National Assembly)						
84	3	3.25	JUST MY STYLE (1)	60.0	W Agrella	18/1
4 b f Irish Flame - Onawingandaprayer (Jet Master)						
80	4	5.25	Sea Bean	(5)	60.0	L Hewitson 15/1
76	5	7.00	Maverick Girl	(3)	60.0	R Munger 22/1
75	6	7.50	Sao Paulo	(6)	60.0	M Thackeray 13/1
73	7	8.25	Travel In Style	(2)	60.0	J Penny 28/1
68	8	10.50	Valentine's Girl	(7)	60.0	L Mxothwa 28/1
40	9	23.50	Cloud Atlas	(8)	60.0	M Yeni 22/1
Time: 96.59s (60.37s avg/1000m, or 60km/h) SP Total %: 115%						
1st T: J Snaith O: Drakenstein Stud (Nom: Mrs G A Rupert) B: Wilgerbosdrift & Mauritzfontein						

TURFFONTEIN (stand side)**Saturday, 29 December****Course Variant: 0.12s slow (straight)**

25mm of rain fell in the seven days leading up to this meeting, and with 24mm of irrigation added the going was posted as good, off a penetrometer reading of 23. The false rail was set at zero for races around the turn, and there was a northerly cross wind of around 20km/h.

Gr3 Lebelo Sprint**R250,000****Rebel With A Cause**

While the Computaform Sprint is the chief medium term target, the Gr1 Cape Flying Championship to be run on Sun Met day could well be on the radar.

That was the word from trainer Paul Peter after his very progressive speed merchant Rebel's Champ made it three wins on the trot to win the R250 000 Gr3 Lebelo Sprint at Turffontein last Saturday- the final feature of 2018 on the South African programme.

Peter, whose first career winner was the top-class speedster Magico, who scored on July day in 2010, is yet to saddle a Gr1 winner but Rebel's Champ could well be the horse to take him to greater heights.

"I haven't spoken to my owners yet about the programme, but the Cape Flying is certainly an option as it is at level weights. He is a lovely horse and is improving all the time. The Computaform Sprint on 27 April is definitely in the plans though," he told the Sporting Post after the 4yo gelding had blitzed to victory under the 'Peter Peruv-

an Pro', Carlos Herrera Gomez – who has chalked up 11 winners since booting home his maiden SA first in early October.

Starting at 3-1 and lumping top weight of 60kgs, Rebel's Champ got the better of a spirited duel with a determined Muzi Yeni and Prince Of Kahal to win by 0,30 lengths in a time of 56,42 secs.

This was the Hyperpaint Syndicate owned Rebel's Champ's first stakes success and the 1000m specialist could add an interesting dimension to the Met day speed contest.

The 2016 Lebelo winner Rivarine stayed on late for third a further 1,60 lengths back.

A R10 000 purchase off the 2016 CTS August Two-Year-Old Sale, Rebel's Champ is now a winner of 8 races with 6 places from 20 starts for stakes of R744 775.

He was bred by the Nine Bridges Association Syndicate and is a son of 2009 Equus Champion Sprinter Rebel King (National Emblem) – and the first foal of the one-time winner Anne Bonny (Captain Al).

Gr3 Lebelo Sprint 1000m

Winner Rebel's Champ raced in midfield; ran on strongly to lead shortly after passing the 200m marker

Runner-up Prince of Kahal raced 5th, a length in front of the eventual winner; found extra when headed and challenged strongly over the final 100m; just beaten

Third Rivarine was slow into stride; raced in the rear around two lengths behind the eventual winner; finished as well as the winner, but could not get nearer; vet reported speedy cut right hind and coughing

Time: This was comfortably the fastest of the afternoon's four sprint races. We gave the winner (prev 82/105/105/103/105) 105 which makes the runner-up (prev 67/79/87/78/90) 91 and the third (prev 85/81/97/102/67) 91

105	1	0.00	REBEL'S CHAMP (12)	60.0	C Herrera Gomez	3/1
4 ch g Rebel King - Anne Bonny (Captain Al)						
91	2	0.30	PRINCE OF KAHAL (8)	54.0	M Yeni	41/10
4 ch g Kahal - Vogue (Model Man)						
91	3	1.90	RIVARINE (11)	57.0	G Lerena	6/1
5 b g Var - River Jetex (Jet Master)						
76	4	3.40	Isphan	(10)	53.0	D Schwarz 36/1
70	5	4.50	Great Shaka	(5)	52.0	R Munger 9/1
72	6	4.75	Donny G	(4)	53.5	H vd Hoven 28/1
70	7	5.00	Wrecking Ball	(1)	53.0	J Penny 28/1
71	8	6.40	Pure Blonde	(7)	56.0	R Simons 13/1
64	9	6.45	Clever Guy	(3)	53.0	M v Rensburg 8/1
61	10	6.95	Kissable	(6)	52.5	S Khumalo 13/1
60	11	7.05	Talktohestars	(9)	52.0	K Matsunyane 36/1
68	12	7.80	Down To Zero	(2)	57.0	P Strydom 11/1
Time: 56.42s (56.42s avg/1000m, or 64km/h) SP Total %: 115%						
1st T: PA Peter O: Hyperpaint Syndicate (Nom: Mr G T Peter) B: Nine Bridges Association						

Check the race results on this page

Sporting Post
ABILITY RATINGS (AR)
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NEWS

A Real Punt...

It's the sort of name which can give a commentator nightmares. Just one slip of the tongue could result in sheer embarrassment – particularly in this social-media driven world.

Spare a thought then for Simon Holt, the racecourse commentator at Sandown on Saturday, who could be calling Fukuto home in the opening Unibet Juvenile Hurdle.

Now with David Bridgwater after two races in his native France, where his name was registered, Fukuto, who won at Argentan in October, is reported to have a good deal of ability as well as an interesting name.

"I bought him only because of his name!" quipped Bridgwater on Wednesday. "I couldn't believe it when I saw what he was called – I had to have him."

The four-year-old son of Cokoriko cost €52,000, and Bridgwater said: "He can gallop as well. I'm hoping he'll be okay and that we can have a few nice days out with him."

"Whether he's up to winning at Sandown on Saturday I'm not sure. The Nigel Twiston-Davies horse [Torpillo] looks to set a good standard."

"But he'll definitely be winning at some stage in the near future."

Fukuto is also entered in the 2m novice hurdle at Plumpton the following afternoon.

Racehorse names are an enduring fascination – as the Racing Post's daily Googling a runner item in Horse Play attests – and never more so when owners have chanced their arm and tried to get a risque one past the censors.

www.racingpost.com

Some Premier Families!

Two full brothers, two full sisters and a half-brother to 2018 Summer feature performers are among the 226 choice lots catalogued for the Cape Premier Sale on 23 January at the Cape Town International Convention Centre.

At the top of the list is Lot 1, Princess Thiana, a full-sister to multiple Horse Of The Year and champion miler Legal Eagle, who won the recent sensational Gr2 Green Point Stakes and will be out to emulate Pocket Power's record of four Queen's Plate wins at Kenilworth on Saturday. The filly is by Grey's Inn from Young Sensation (National Emblem) and has been consigned by Klawervlei, as agent.

Lot 55, from Riverton Stud, is an unnamed colt by Elusive Fort from Fiesta Queen (Parade Leader). His half-brother Gimme One Night won December's Gr3 Cape Summer Stayers and is one of the fancied runners in this Saturday's Gr3 Chairman's Cup.

Lot 95 is Lemon N Lime, by Elusive Fort from Lemon Drop Girl, by Parade Leader, raised by Dr Ian Heyns. He's a full brother to Geoff Woodruff's top staying filly and SA Oaks winner Secret Potion, who lowered the colours of Cascapedia in a minor feature at Turffontein before finishing in the money in the Gr1 Summer Cup, narrowly missing the first four.

Avontuur Stud's Delta Queen (Lot 152) is a daughter of VAR and the international performer River Jetez, which makes her a full sister to Rivarine, who won the Listed Golden Loom Sprint at Turffontein in November.

Long Day's Journey (Lot 184), a graduate of Drakenstein Stud, comes up in the latter part of the auction. He's a full-brother to so far multiple Gr3 winner and top-level performer Chimichuri Run, victorious in the Gr3 Spring Spree Stakes at Turffontein and a chestnut, like his brother.

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 29 December 2018)

horse	age	sex	points	races
Tilbury Fort	5	c	124	2
Coral Fever	6	c	88	2
Soqratt	3	c	85	2
Cascapedia	5	f	72	2
Front And Centre	3	f	70	1
Captain Aldo	8	c	62	2
Head Honcho	5	c	50	1
Legal Eagle	7	c	50	1
Kasimir	4	c	50	1
One World	3	c	48	2
Arctica	6	c	48	2
Rainbow Bridge	4	c	48	2
Dawn Assault	5	c	44	1
Clouds Unfold	3	f	42	2
Chimichuri Run	3	c	35	2
Princess Rebel	4	f	30	1
Hawwaam	3	c	30	1
Nafaayes	3	f	30	1
Rebel's Champ	4	c	25	1
Takingthepeace	4	f	25	1
Gimme One Night	5	c	25	1
Sylvan On Fire	5	f	25	1
Do It Again	4	c	24	1
Undercover Agent	4	c	24	1
Alyaasaat	3	c	24	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
Al Danza	5	f	12	1
Ghaalla	3	f	9	1
Full Mast	4	c	7	1
Temple Grafin	3	f	2	1

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SUNDAY - 23 DECEMBER - MOBILE

SIGNPOSTS

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

CAPTAIN OF ALL (Captain Al)

Lady Legend 2f (Maritzburg by Elusive Quality)

[Scottsville 1 Maiden Juvenile Plate \(Fillies\) 1000m \(05/01\)](#)

Song For All 2f (Savannah Song by National Emblem)

[Kenilworth 2 Juvenile Plate \(Fillies\) 1000m \(05/01\)](#)

DUKE OF MARMALADE (Danehill)

Duchessofcornwall 2f (Tiger Strike by Tiger Ridge)

[Kenilworth 2 Juvenile Plate \(Fillies\) 1000m \(05/01\)](#)

MASTER OF MY FATE (Jet Master)

Me Before You 2f (Windy City by Al Mufti)

[Scottsville 1 Maiden Juvenile Plate \(Fillies\) 1000m \(05/01\)](#)

WYLIE HALL (Redoute's Choice)

Pay Pay 2f (Jolly Along by Silvano)

[Kenilworth 2 Juvenile Plate \(Fillies\) 1000m \(05/01\)](#)

2nd season sires - 3yo's

ATO (Royal Academy)

Chijmes 3g (Sophie's Choice by Russian Revival)

[Turffontein 4 Sea Cottage Stakes \(3yo's\)\(Listed\) 1800m \(06/01\)](#)

DUKE OF MARMALADE (Danehill)

Orange Bitters 3g (Sangria Girl by Wolfhound)

[Kenilworth 3 Maiden Plate 2500m \(04/01\)](#)

Je Ne Sais Quoi 3g (Star Deputy by Deputy Governor)

[Kenilworth 4 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1600m \(04/01\)](#)

Princess Irene 3g (Archerfield by Arch)

[Kenilworth 6 Jamaica Handicap \(F&M\)\(Listed\) 2000m \(04/01\)](#)

Peter Paul Rubens 3g (Aquatint by Peintre Celebre)

[Kenilworth 3 Maiden Plate 1400m \(05/01\)](#)

Viti Levu 3g (Valdovino by Al Mufti)

[Scottsville 8 MR 68 Handicap \(F&M\) 1600m \(05/01\)](#)

Viscountess Vivien 3g (Love Vivien by Captain Al)

[Turffontein 2 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1400m \(06/01\)](#)

JACKSON (Dynasty)

Destin 3g (Princess Isabella by Personal Hope)

[Kenilworth 3 Maiden Plate 2500m \(04/01\)](#)

Nashville 3g (Let's Go Gold by Goldkeeper)

[Scottsville 2 Maiden Plate 1200m \(05/01\)](#)

Dynamite Jack 3g (Crystal Tiara by Beautiful Crown)

[Kenilworth 9 MR 72 Handicap 1600m \(05/01\)](#)

MASTER OF MY FATE (Jet Master)

Blush Scarlet 3g (Blushing Fairy by Jallad)

[Kenilworth 4 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1600m \(04/01\)](#)

Indi Anna 3g (Zahara by Argonaut)

[Kenilworth 4 Maiden Plate \(F&M\) 1600m \(04/01\)](#)

In The Stars 3g (Al Nibari by Al Mufti)

[Kenilworth 8 MR 68 Handicap \(F&M\) 1000m \(04/01\)](#)

Gold Pact 3g (Golden Dawn by Goldmark)

[Kenilworth 1 Workrider's Maiden Plate 1000m \(05/01\)](#)

Triple Fate Line 3g (Tina's Trip by Trippi)

[Scottsville 2 Maiden Plate 1200m \(05/01\)](#)

Master Of Spain 3g (Iberia by Cordoba)

[Kenilworth 3 Maiden Plate 1400m \(05/01\)](#)

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

[Kenilworth 4 Gr3 Politician Stakes \(3yo's\) 1800m \(05/01\)](#)

William Henley 3g (Queen Of All by Jallad)

[Turffontein 1 Maiden Plate 1400m \(06/01\)](#)

Chevron 3g (Dancette by Dancing Duel)

[Turffontein 1 Maiden Plate 1400m \(06/01\)](#)

Gift For The Gap 3g (Idler by Fort Wood)

[Turffontein 4 Sea Cottage Stakes \(3yo's\)\(Listed\) 1800m \(06/01\)](#)

NOBLE TUNE (Unbridled's Song)

White Lightning 3g (Thunderous Belinda by Fanatic Dane)

[Scottsville 4 MR 80 Handicap 1400m \(05/01\)](#)

POMODORO (Jet Master)

Shuckra 3g (Scented East by West Man)

[Turffontein 4 Sea Cottage Stakes \(3yo's\)\(Listed\) 1800m \(06/01\)](#)

Return Flight 3g (Heading Home by Special Preview)

[Turffontein 5 Gr3 Three Troikas Stakes \(3yo Fillies\) 1400m \(06/01\)](#)

Kapama 3g (Kruger Park by Al Mufti)

[Turffontein 9 MR 66 Handicap \(F&M\) 2000m \(06/01\)](#)

POTALA PALACE (Singspiel)

Senatla 3g (Impressee by Nayef)

[Kenilworth 4 Gr3 Politician Stakes \(3yo's\) 1800m \(05/01\)](#)

Perfect Summer 3g (Summer's End by Spectrum)

[Kenilworth 9 MR 72 Handicap 1600m \(05/01\)](#)

Reach For The Line 3g (Limber Pine by National Assembly)

[Turffontein 6 Gr3 Tony Ruffel Stakes \(3yo's\) 1400m \(06/01\)](#)

THE APACHE (Mogok)

Potawatomi 3g (Crimson Fantasy by Crimson Waves)

[Kenilworth 4 Gr3 Politician Stakes \(3yo's\) 1800m \(05/01\)](#)

Senor Lizard 3g (Belle Petite by Lizard Island)

[Turffontein 4 Sea Cottage Stakes \(3yo's\)\(Listed\) 1800m \(06/01\)](#)

WHERE'S THAT TIGER (Storm Cat)

Ingwe 3g (French Girl by National Assembly)

[Kenilworth 2 Maiden Plate 1200m \(04/01\)](#)

Perfect Tigress 3g (Tree Of Perfection by Toreador)

[Turffontein 5 Gr3 Three Troikas Stakes \(3yo Fillies\) 1400m \(06/01\)](#)

SIGNPOSTS

Notable Maiden Winners

VERCINGETORIX

Rated **AR 80 Astrix** (2c Victory Dance by Victory Moon)
Maiden Juvenile Plate Greyville (turf) (1000m) (30/12)

After having been a close up third to a more fancied stable companion on debut, Paul Peter's charge led throughout here. He was always in command and with the rest some eleven lengths adrift easily accounted for the 8/10 favourite by three and a quarter.

GIMMETHEGREENLIGHT

Rated **AR 81 Emerald Tiara** (2f Jewel In Her Crown by Jallad)
Maiden Juvenile Plate Vaal (straight) (800m) (31/12)

Making her first racecourse appearance, Sean Tarry's charge was soon positioned close to the speed. She got the better of the odds on favourite 100m out and with the rest well beaten won going away by a length and a half.

Horses To Follow

SILVANO

Rated **AR 94 Billy Silver** (4g Evening Attire by Kahal)
Assessment Plate Vaal (straight) (1200m) (31/12)

In this, his first appearance since relocating to the Highveld, Billy Silver showed his well-being after a five month break in no uncertain terms. Content to sit sixth of the seven early on, he won in hand by two and three quarters, ridden hands and heels.

Winners Bred Abroad

- another **AUSHORSE** winner

Roy's Magic (AUS) 5g Foxwedge- Wild Storm(CHI) (Hussonet)
Greyville 1400m (26/12)

another **AUSHORSE** winner

Waldorf Astoria (AUS) 3f Fastnet Rock- Lady Melksham(AUS) (Artie Schiller)
Kenilworth 2000m (22/12)

another **AUSHORSE** winner

High Seas (AUS) 5m High Chaparral- Attesa(USA) (Belong to Me)
Turffontein 1400m (22/12)

another **AUSHORSE** winner

Atyaab (AUS) 3c Dundee- Sylvaner(NZ) (Danasinga)
Turffontein 2000m (22/12)

another **AUSHORSE** winner

Fantasy Art (AUS) 7g Wanted- Artist Johanna(ARG) (Festin)
Fairview 1600m (21/12)

Is Your Horse One To Follow?

Check the **Notable Maiden Winners & Horses for the Notebook** on this page

- see how promising the Sporting Post **ability ratings (AR)** say they are.

SPORTS AND BETTING

FA Cup

Selected Fixtures Preview



The world's oldest footballing competition continues this week-end – this time, with the big guns joining in at the third round of action. Cup competitions are usually filled with surprises and loads of upsets, and after what promised to be a hectic festive season of football in the late stages of December, teams could opt to take a breather and afford opportunities to their younger players, while some would see it as their only way of silverware.

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

- FRIDAY 4 JANUARY**

11/1 Tranmere | Draw 52/10 | Tottenham 1/5 (21:45)

I'm expecting an easy win for Spurs. Back them on the (-1) Handicap at 11/20.
- SATURDAY 5 JANUARY**

1/7 Manchester United | 6/1 | Reading 16/1 (14:30)

For value, take Solskjaer's side to Score in Both Halves at 13/20.

17/20 Bournemouth | 24/10 | Brighton 33/10 (14:30)

The Seagulls have struggled on the road this season and I fancy Howe's side to get the job done in 90 minutes.

1/5 Chelsea | 52/10 | Nottingham 11/1 (17:00)

Take Chelsea to Win to Nil at 17/20.

19/2 Blackpool | 47/10 | Arsenal 1/4 (19:30)

I'm backing Arsenal to end Blackpool's Cup run once again this season, but with the odds too short on the straight win, I suggest taking the Gunners to Win & Both Teams to Score at 31/20.
- SUNDAY 6 JANUARY**

1/16 Manchester City | 19/2 | Rotherham 25/1 (16:00)

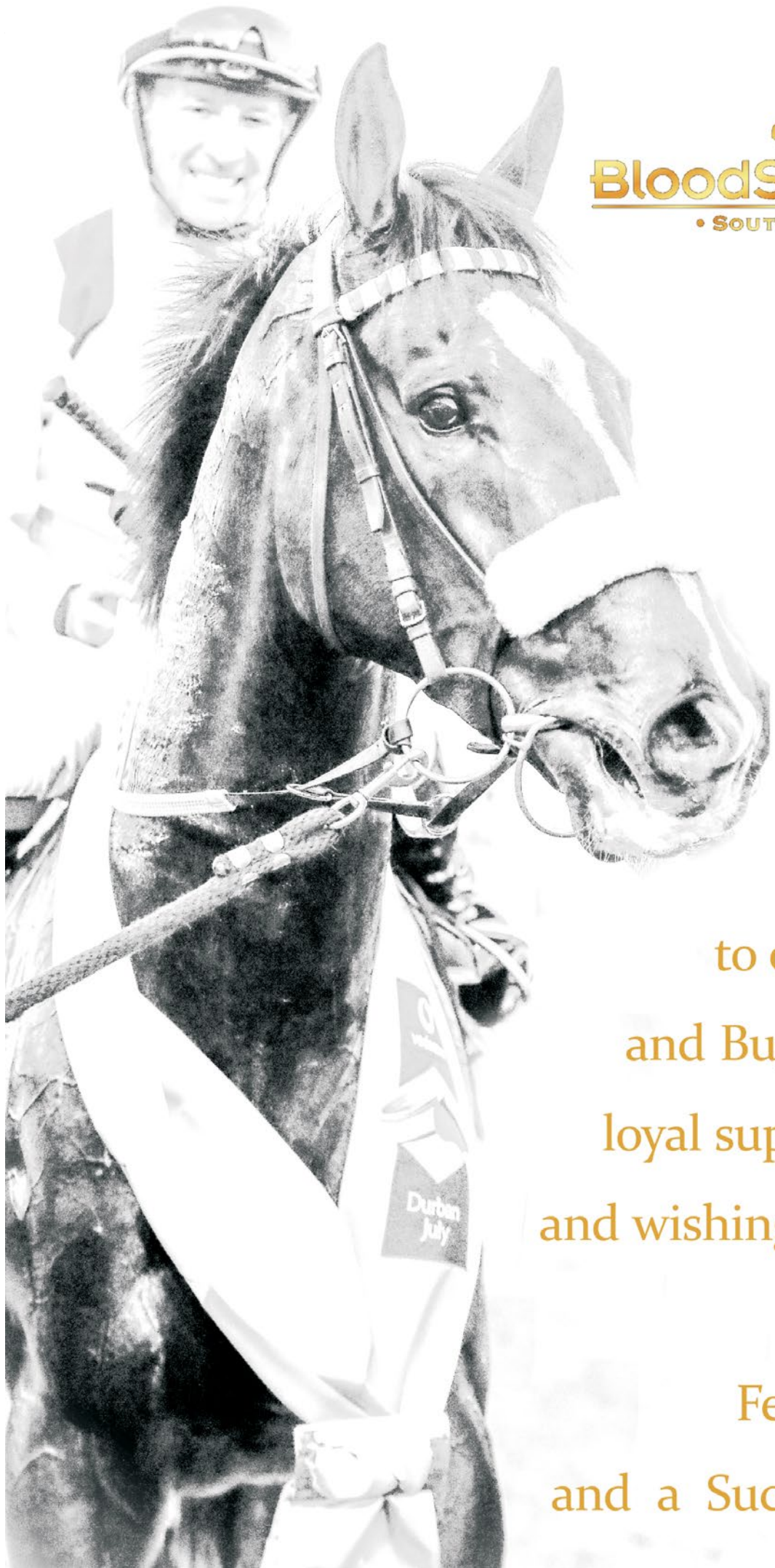
Guardiola's side are too short at 1/16 so I suggest leaving them out of your bets, but if you really want to bet on this game, take City to Win By Three Or More Goals at 11/20.
- MONDAY 7 JANUARY**

33/10 Wolves | 26/10 | Liverpool 15/20 (21:45)

I'm tipping a draw at 26/10.

TREBLE @ 4/1

Tottenham (-1) Handicap 11/20
Bournemouth Win 17/20
Chelsea (-1) Handicap 17/20



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and wishing you all an
enjoyable
Festive Season
and a Successful 2019.

CLOCKWATCHING WITH STEVE FURNISH

Pretenders To The Fore

A REVIEW OF THE WEEK'S BEST SPEEDRATINGS

50% Front Runners

Vaal 20 December

The MR76 Handicap was by far the fastest of the three 1200m races on Thursday and here it was nice to see the 5yo SPORTING MONARCH find the winner's enclosure. Racing off a mark some 25 points lower than that of his earlier best, the son of Rebel King raced in midfield during the early part of the race. He ran on best of all over the final 400m and under a well-judged ride from Piere Strydom, he got up late to deny the front running 3yo INEXHAUSTIBLE.

They also ran three races over 1000m and stopping the clock in the fastest time here was the former Cape Town campaigner NICKY NOO. One of five winners on the card to score from the front, Clinton Binda's charge kept on strongly at the business end of the race and won well by a length and three quarters from the well-supported outsider SWELL TIME (33/1 into 13/1).

Three of the four remaining races were staged over 1600m and stopping the clock in the fastest time amongst these was the 3yo SEVILLE ORANGE in the MR76 Handicap. Allowed to ease right out to 11/2 from 33/10 at the track, the daughter of Duke Of Marmalade raced fifth in a strung out field. She made her move approaching the 400m marker and won comfortably by a length and a quarter after striking the front 250m from home.

Titbits Soon clear, the 18/10 favourite VISTULA won the second division of the maiden plate for the girls over 1200m without any anxious moments by four and a quarter.

Outstanding Beauty

Fairview 21 December

Quickest home in the two 1000m events on the poly track on Friday afternoon was CASA DE VAR in the MR60 Handicap. Taken straight to the front by Musi Yeni, the daughter of Var led throughout. She was always in command and won well by a

length and a quarter.

The two 1300m races were both maiden plates and by far the quicker of these was the girl's affair won by BELIEVETHISBEAUTY. Deep in the red at the off, the well supported favourite was soon prominent. She put her head in front as they approached the 200m pole and drew clear easily in the closing stages of the race to win going away by five and a half.

Four of the afternoon's nine races were run over 1600m and stopping the clock in the fastest of these, a MR82 Handicap, was SAO PAULO. Positioned in midfield for most of the trip, the 6yo quickened nicely over the final 400m and got the verdict by a half over the running on SEA BEAN

Titbits Runner up in the maiden plate for the boys over 1300m, PEKING TYSON ran on from the rear and gaining at the finish was only beaten by a quarter of a length.

Speedy Boy

Greyville 21 December

The opening maiden plate was surprisingly the fastest of the three 1200m races that got proceedings underway on Friday evening and here we saw a very comfortable victory for the favourite HEY BOY. Taken straight to the front by Craig Zackey, the son of Var led throughout. He was always in command and won going away by two.

The MR72 Handicap was by far the faster of the two 1600m races on the card and here victory went to the top weight SALTORO RIDGE. He got away well when the gates opened and soon up handy raced prominent throughout. He struck the front at the top of the short home straight and kept on strongly in the closing stages of the race to beat the running on favourite THE SULTANS BAZAAR by a half. Beaten less than a length into third, the veteran EMPEROR NIARCHOS ran on very well from the rear in this race.

They also ran two races over 2000m

Last Week's Top Rated
SPEED RATINGS winners incl.

Come The Day won 113/20
Shadow Queen won 10/3
Atyaab won 26/10
Vistula won 18/10
Wonderous Climber won 17/10
Rebel Wilson won 11/10
Mela Stregata won 9/10
Believethisbeauty won 11/20

Top speed ratings for this weekend

(Ratings shown have already been adjusted to allocated weights)

KENILWORTH (FRI)

Race 1: (4) Shinnecock 12
Race 2: (4) Cabo Da Cruz 25
Race 3: (3) Destin 30
Race 4: (1) Bella Summer 23
Race 5: (7) Hotel Cipriani 61
Race 6: (9) Coral Bay 77
Race 7: (1) Rose In Bloom 82
Race 8: (9) Ikebana 40

KENILWORTH (SAT)

Race 1: (8) What A Red 15
Race 2: (2) Miss Honey 5
Race 3: (3) River Thames 19
Race 4: (2) Bunker Hunt 59
Race 5: (4) Platinum Prince 84
Race 6: (1) Cascapedia 82
Race 7: (1) Legal Eagle 94
Race 8: (5) Sheet Weaver 75
Race 9: (14) Meliora 44
Race 10: (9) Meteorite 67 (EW)

SCOTTSTOWN (SAT)

Race 1: (2) Hey Delilah 5
Race 2: (13) Pollard 17
Race 3: (2) Genereight 20
Race 4: (5) Archilles 59
Race 5: (10) Bonnie Dawn 58
Race 6: (1) Captain's Girl 81
Race 7: (5) The Bayou 63
Race 8: (11) Cosima 39

TURFFONTEIN (SUN)

Race 1: (10) Sea Air 21
Race 2: (11) Azeza 3
Race 3: (11) Emily Jay 93
Race 4: (9) Protea Paradise 49
Race 5: (2) Ronnie's Candy 73
Race 6: (1) Hawwaam 61 (NAP**)
Race 7: (12) Al Danza 93
Race 8: (5) Sabbatical 47
Race 9: (14) Emily Hobhouse 47

Nap bets

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

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

HIGH SEAS BEAUTY (D Stenger, Gauteng)



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SATURDAY - 22 DECEMBER
WEBSITE

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CLOCKWATCHING CONT.

where the faster of the two slowly run MR62 Handicaps for the girls, was the second division won by the progressive RED HERRING. Content to sit in midfield for most of the journey, Gavin Van Zyl's charge quickened best of all in the home straight and won going away by two and a quarter after striking the front 100m from home.

Titbits In the rear turning for home, DUNZIE won the MR68 Handicap over 1000m going away.

From Coast To Coast

Turffontein 22 December

They raced on the old stand side track on Saturday where by far the fastest of the three 1400m events was the MR74 Handicap won by the 5yo BOLD COAST. Sent off a well-supported favourite at 15/10, the son of Bold Silvano was soon up handy. He was ridden to lead approaching the 200m marker and kept on strongly in the closing stages of the race to beat the running on STREET FLYER by a quarter of a length.

The only other distance to stage more than one event on the nine race program was 1800m where the faster of the low grade handicaps was the MR71 affair won by DEFY GRAVITY. On leaving the stalls it was the Northern Cape raider ROYAL MASTER who elected to make the running, whilst Paul Peter's charge was content to sit in midfield. He ran on strongly at the business end of the race and comfortably accounted for the running on POWERED BEAUTY by a length.

In terms of distance the easiest victory on the card was registered by MISS PINKERTON when making all to win the MR84 Handicap over 1160m. Soon a length and a half clear, Ormond Ferraris' charge kept up a healthy gallop throughout. She was

always in command and won well from the running on favourite REGAL GRADUATION.

Titbits Now a winner of four from fifteen, HIGH SEAS BEAUTY ran on well from the back when winning the MR79 Handicap over 1400m going away.

7 From 25

Greyville 23 December

This was the meeting originally scheduled to take place at Scottsville. MELA STREGATA in the opening maiden plate for the girls over 1200m was the best bet on the card for many and the 3yo daughter of Scat Daddy didn't let down her supporters. In the red at the off, Duncan Howells' charge was soon positioned close to the speed. She was ridden to lead early in the short home straight and although the newcomer EXTRAVARGANT (ran on well from the rear) tried her best to make a race of it, she did have that one held by a length and three quarters at the wire.

Run in a time over 2 seconds faster than the race won by Mela Stregata was the bill topping MR88 Handicap in which the veteran SEA URCHIN registered his seventh career victory. In touch throughout, Garth Puller's charge ran on stoutly in the straight and in a thrilling three way finish he got the verdict by a quarter. Sea Urchin has gained his 7 victories from just 25 outings.

The two 1600m events were both low grade fillies' handicaps and in the faster of these the 4yo FULLFILLYOURDREAM completed a quick double. A winner over 1400m when making all on the poly track just nine days earlier, the daughter of Indigo Magic also led from pillar to post here. She was five lengths clear coming off the bend and although SHEZA

FASTEST TIMES

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

VAAL 20 DECEMBER

Penetrometer 21 – Going Good	
Course Variant: 0,27s fast	
1000m (3) Nicky Noo	56,65
1200m (3) Sporting Monarch	69,26
1600m (3) Seville Orange	95,54
2000m (1) Come The Day	123,83

FAIRVIEW (POLY) 21 DECEMBER

Going Standard	
1000m (2) Casa De Var	57,97*
1100m (1) The Carpenter	64,60
1300m (2) Believethebeauty	77,19
1600m (4) Sao Paulo	96,93

GREYVILLE (POLY) 21 DECEMBER

Going Standard	
Course Variant: 1,67s slow	
1000m (1) Dunzie	59,45
1200m (3) Hey Boy	71,55
1600m (2) Salto Ridge	96,08
2000m (2) Red Herring	123,02

TURFFONTEIN (OLD) 22 DECEMBER

Penetrometer 20 – Going Good	
Course Variant: 0,15s slow	
1000m (1) Mr Watson	57,59*
1160m (1) Miss Pinkerton	68,15
1400m (3) Bold Coast	84,21
1800m (2) Defy Gravity	111,20
2000m (1) Atyaab	125,50
2400m (1) Wonderous Climber	152,96

GREYVILLE (TURF) 23 DECEMBER

Penetrometer 22 – Going Good	
Course Variant: 1,58s slow	
1200m (2) Sea Urchin	71,96
1400m (1) Generous Lady	85,90
1600m (2) Fullfilyourdream	99,17
1800m (2) Tommy Grand	112,76
2000m (1) Chatty Cathy	127,34

ROCKSTAR did make some headway from midfield, she still had almost two lengths to spare at the wire.

Titbits A little slow into stride and cramped 800m out to boot, TOMBOLA ran on well from the rear when a 0,6 length runner up in the slower of the two MR60 Handicaps over 1600m.

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BIG WIN

R5000 000

22 DECEMBER | POWERBALL - FRENCH 5/49 | WYNBERG | STAKE: R20

Pully O Eze, a 37 year old father of two, struck it **lucky** when he won **R500 000** from R20 on the 22nd of December. He placed his bet on the **French Powerball** and said he couldn't sleep or eat when he found out that he had won. He has been betting at Hollywoodbets Wynberg every day since the branch opened and this is his **fourth big win**. He plans to use his winnings to start his own business. He thanked **Hollywoodbets** for being the **best gambling company**.



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