

# Susan's Sharp!

Saturday's impressive Gr2 Tibouchina Stakes winner Oh Susanna's Exceed And Excel half-brother Signore Fox registered his first stakes win on the same day. Drakenstein Stud are the breeders of Signore Fox, the Coolmore Australia-sold son of the Darley sire, who won the Listed Daybreak Lover Plate over 1200m out at Eagle Farm Racecourse. Out of the Gr2-winning mare Sharp Susan, Signore Fox had won four races prior to his latest victory. He is Exceed And Excel's 159th Stakes winner.

# Ryan's A Lion

Steph Miller's The Donegal Man's victory in the opening race at Flamingo Park on Monday marked a first winner back from a broken collar bone injury for jockey Ryan Munger. The young rider came off the Ashley Fortune trained 2yo Union Castle, who appeared to peck after the line, when placing at Turffontein on 27 April. Munger now has 114 winners to his name at a strike-rate of 10.03%. He is in seventh position on the national log.



# Lucky 13

Derreck David leads the Air Mauritius Jockey Championship title chase with 13 winners at a strike rate of over 30%. Piere Strydom, who only arrived on the island a matter of weeks back, rode his second winner on Saturday and is now in 13th position on the log with 2 winners at a strike rate of 14,3%. Striker told the Sporting Post on Monday that he was looking at July rides.

# HEADING EAST

Brett Crawford's What A Winter colt Armando may have run his last race in South Africa. Michael Clower reports that the Lammerskraal-bred colt put up a performance in the Cape Of Good Hope Nursery on Saturday that had Guineas written all over it. Crawford said: "I am waiting to hear from Tony Millard and Mr Ng but, now that Armando has proved that he is a Group winner, it's more than likely he will get going for Hong Kong."



# Famous 5

Heavyweight jockey Bernard Fayd'herbe stayed at home in the Cape on Saturday and made hay under the winter sunshine – grabbing five winners, including a Gr3 feature double. Fayd'herbe has now ridden 69 winners at a strike rate of just over 20%. He rode 76 winners last term – and is fast approaching his 1600 career mark.

# ROYAL TICKETS

Royal Ascot looms loud and proud from Tuesday 18 June to Saturday 22 June! In its continuing international expansion of the Breeders' Cup Challenge Series, the Breeders' Cup, in conjunction with Ascot Racecourse, have announced that the winners of this year's Gr1 Queen Anne Stakes, Gr1 Prince of Wales's Stakes, the Gr2 Norfolk Stakes and the Diamond Jubilee Stakes at the Royal Meeting, will be awarded automatic 'Win And You're In' berths into the 2019 Breeders' Cup World Championships at Santa Anita Park.



# DANGEROUS GAME

Melbourne Cup winning jockey Corey Brown remained under care at the Royal Brisbane Hospital on Sunday as doctors worked to determine the extent of his injuries suffered due to a fall in the Queensland Derby. The Australian Jockeys Association released an update on Brown's condition, indicating that he has no head injuries, full movement of his arms and legs but the injuries to his lower back may require stabilisation. Brown was involved in a nasty incident in the home straight of the Queensland Derby.

# 3 For 0

Avontuur's triple Gr1 winning sire Oratorio (Danehill) had another productive weekend. Oratorio's top class 3yo son Van Halen picked up a very decent prize, when the gelding sophomore captured the Durban Dash, run over 1100m at Greyville on Saturday. Bred by Limpo Retail, the Tobie Spies trained Van Halen showed his class with a courageous head win over talented stable mate Basilius. In the process, the Oratorio gelding took his tally of wins to five, with the multiple graded stakes winner having now banked in excess of R900 000. One of the best 2yo's of last season, Van Halen picked up the biggest win of his career when victorious in the 2018 Gr1 Tsogo Sun Gold Medallion and earlier this season added to that graded win when landing the Gr3 Man O'War Sprint. His sire also had a further two winners over the weekend. And then Oratorio's dual Italian classic winning daughter Cherry Collect is the dam of promising Japanese two-year-old colt Wakea (by Heart's Cry). The latter made a big impression when romping home on debut by 2.5 lengths, when triumphant over 1800m at Tokyo on Sunday.

# Royal Arrivals

Usain Bolt, and a few other celebs caused a stir at the Sun Met when arriving by helicopter. Putting things into perspective, about 400 helicopters and 1000 limousines will descend on Royal Ascot next week!

# Royal Reach

In 2018, Royal Ascot was broadcast in 201 countries with a reach of 531 million households worldwide.