

# Name In The Hat?

"Making himself at home, Hat Puntano beginning to look like the sensational multiple Gr1 winner he was at the races". Mick Goss was referring to the multiple Argentinian Gr1 winner and the subsequent Charity Mile star, who has settled in well into his new domain of the Summerhill stallion barn. Gaynor Rupert's Drakenstein Stud, the Vilela family of former Samsung connection and ten-time champion breeders, Summerhill Stud, have joined forces to bring the son of Hat Trick to the market. His service fee is available on application.



PAMELA MAY VAN ZYL

## ABSOLUTE MONSTER

A 14 length win for the Charlie Appleby-trained Ghaiyyath (Dubawi-Nighttime, by Galileo) in the Gr1 Grosser Preis von Baden run over 2400m at Baden-Baden in Germany on Saturday may have paved the way for a tilt at the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe - providing Enable with some pretty hefty competition! This was the first attempt at the distance for the Godolphin-owned 4yo. Jockey William Buick labelled the winner an 'Absolute Monster.'

## Summer's Cool

The Gr1 Gauteng Summer Cup is no longer on the Asian Pattern Committee's hit list for a status downgrade, for the moment. Phumelela Racing Executive Patrick Davis told Short Heads that they have decided not to change the conditions away from that of a handicap. "The stake remains at R2m and we will do all we can to encourage out of town participation to boost the race. We will continue to contribute towards the travel costs of raiders as has been the case in the past."



## Lotsa Fun

Avontuur's triple Gr1 winning sire Oratorio (Danahill) enjoyed two winners over the past weekend. Operetta made it three on the trot when winning the Ladies Stakes run over 1200m at Turffontein on Saturday. The 4yo Operetta is unbeaten since being fitted with blinkers - this being her sixth victory. Out of the Var mare Varsity Queen, Operetta was bred by Pippa Mickleburgh and she was an R180 000 buy from the 2017 CTS Ready To Run Sale.

## Asking Questions

The Mauritius Stipes take issue with items like slipped saddles and changes in riding tactics. They ask the questions - why are our officials not doing the same?

## Resting

Bernard Fayd'herbe has had his recovery slot extended to 30 November on the advice of his doctors. He was anticipated back in the saddle in a matter of weeks and his absence leaves the Cape jockey ranks a touch on the thin side.



HAMISH NIVEN PHOTOGRAPHY

## BIG BROTHER

The NHRA have launched an exciting advance in Racing Control technology. The 'Virtual Boardroom' is a facility which enables officials based at HO to have real-time and review access to the live video patrol footage of any racemeeting countrywide, and to actively participate as members of a Stipendiary Board at the race meeting.

## Prince Charming

The Varsfontein bred Gimmethgreenlight entire Yulong Prince - known here as Surcharge - has been entered for the A\$8 million Gr1 Melbourne Cup and the A\$5,15 million Caulfield Cup. Now a 5yo in the care of Chris Waller, Yulong Prince ran just under 4 lengths off the winner when making his first Australian start. He won or placed in 10 of his 11 South African starts, winning the Gr1 Daily News 2000, Tony Ruffel Stakes and Secretariat Stakes, and also finishing second in the Gr1 SA Derby, Gr1 SA Classic and Gr2 Gauteng Guineas.



## What's Retirement?

Racing legend and former champion jockey Garth Puller celebrated his 68th birthday as we went to print on Tuesday. He says he has no plans to retire soon. "Sitting idle at home could age me," he quipped.