

Wednesday 30 September 2020

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## Sprint



# They're Off!

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# CONTINUING THE TRADITION OF CHAMPIONS

DYNASTY SIRE OF  
BLACK KNAP  
*Settlers Trophy (Listed)*

*Black Knap was Dynasty's  
66<sup>th</sup> full black type horse  
and his 126<sup>th</sup> full  
black type win.*

## CONGRATULATIONS

*Trainer: V Marshall*

*Jockey: M Byleveld*

*Owners: Messers A & G Foster*

*Breeder: A & G Foster*



Craig Kieswetter

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# *That* *Summer* *Feeling*



Chase Liebenberg

Vaughan Marshall & MJ Byleveld celebrate 2019 Matchem win by One World



**While stakes levels remains a major unresolved issue on the South African horseracing landscape, we are back into the big race swing in the Cape and Gauteng, with Saturday seeing double feature action at Durbanville and Turffontein.**

The last two winners of the Gr3 Matchem Stakes have gone on to win the Met, while further back the honour roll boasts present day sires, and even an SA Horse Of The Year in Variety Club.

The Matchem, named in honour of the famous foundation stallion Matchem (1748 – 21 February 1781), was traditionally the starting gun of the Cape Summer Season, but with a shift in a cash-stressed marketing focus and an abbreviated programme, that doesn't apply today.

On Saturday the Durbanville co-feature is run for R125 000, twenty one years after it was won by Vaughan Marshall subsequent super sire Captain Al for a gross R100 000.

It was traditionally run at Kenilworth but was switched to Durbanville in 2010, and on the revamped surface, the draw is important, but slightly less so.



Wayne Marks

Diana Stakes contender Pretty Young Thing

The earliest record of the Matchem Stakes dates back to 1958. It was then open to 2 and 3yo's and run on 19 April over 1400m at Kenilworth for a stake of £1250. The idea of running juveniles against 3yo's over 7 furlongs in April, at what was more or less weight for age terms, came in for a lot of stick though, with many feeling it was too much to ask of the youngsters.

However, on the day a total of 6 run-

ners faced the starter, including a pair of 2yo's (Kowloon and Avon) and four 3yo's. The 1958 running of the Matchem proved the quality and strength of the juvenile crop. Although the game filly Kowloon cantered to post as the favourite, she failed to show and it was left to Mr A Kruger's colt Avon.

Ridden by M Strydom and carrying 7st 8lb, Avon brought the field into the straight and never looked like being headed, scoring by half a length from

## Capetown Noir wins the 2013 Matchem Stakes



Wayne Marks

the fast-finishing Southern Drawl (8st 13lb) who had been hampered when making his run.

Avon was a bay colt by Naval Prince out of Avonet and was bred by J.R.A. Bailey. He was owned and trained by Mr A Kruyer.

Fast forward to 2020 and Saturday's field of nine is headed by Snaith's former Equus Champion Sprinter Kasimir (like 2019 winner One World, a son of past winner Captain Al), who has his first run since staying on steadily in the Gr1 Mercury Sprint at Hollywoodbets Greyville. His Durbanville form is good.

Adam Marcus' Twist Of Fate has his first run as a gelding after his disappointing

(he was apparently haemoconcentrating) Durban July effort. He will be running fresh in view of the late end to the SA Champions Season on the East Coast.


A field of eleven fillies and mares line up in the Gr3 Diana Stakes on the same afternoon. The fairer sex event is run for R25 000 less than the males.

The field is loaded with class and includes Candice Bass-Robinson's Clouds Unfold, who returns from a suspension after having bled in the Gr1 Garden Province Stakes last time. She won her start over 1400m and from the 1 draw must be the horse to beat.

Cape Fillies Guineas winner Mississippi Burning enjoyed a promising SA Champions Season and after a short break, she is too good to leave out of

calculations.

The 1400m specialist Pretty Young Thing ran a cracker in the Garden Province Stakes last time despite casting a shoe. She is very effective this trip and with Anton Marcus behind the controls, she must be in the mix.

Glen Kotzen has fitness on the side of his charge Third Runway, who won her last outing over the course and distance with ease. She loves this distance and has shown herself to be a dangerous forward galloping sort in the best of company. 

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feature news on  
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## The Merit Of It


The National Horseracing Authority have advised that Black Knap has had his merit rating raised from 94 to 98 after he won the Listed Settlers Trophy over 2000m at Durbanville on Saturday.

The Handicappers took into account that Black Knap carried half-a-kilo overweight when arriving at this vas-

essment, which was reached using 4th placed Herodotus as the line horse. As such, he remains unchanged on 102.

Runner-up Bayberry goes up from 99 to 101, while 3rd finisher Silver De Lange (who was half-a-kilo under sufferance at the weights) was raised from 89 to 90.

There were no other increases, however, two horses received a ratings' drop.

Crome Yellow is down from 106 to 104, and Duchess Of Bourbon was cut from 95 to 92. 

# FOALS

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## PRIX DE L'ARC DE TRIOMPHE WEEKEND ENABLING HISTORY!

**History-bidding Enable has come in to favourite with Hollywoodbets for Sunday's Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, when she could make history by becoming the first to win the famous race three times. Tellytrack (Dstv 249) will broadcast both days of the meeting from ParisLongchamp.**

A wholesale shake-up of the betting market took place on Monday as punters cottoned on to the likelihood of a soggy racing surface, which is not

expected to suit the erstwhile favourite, Love.

While a sound surface prevailed at Longchamp for trials day just a fortnight ago, subsequent rain, including 19mm from Sunday into Monday, has led to going described officially as very soft and further heavy rain is forecast for Friday.


The latest penetrometer reading for the Paris track is 4.0, close to the 4.1 on which last year's Arc was staged.

The testing conditions that day are thought to have contributed to Enable's defeat by Waldgeist, but punters have evidently decided she is more likely to relish the mud than Love.

Enterprising backers have been casting about for alternatives to the two who have dominated betting on the Arc for months.

Stradivarius, outpaced on good ground on trials day but an impressive Gold Cup winner on soft in the summer, crashed down to 7-1 after being twice those odds on Sunday, while In Swoop is a general 16-1 shot from 25-1.

Some riders do not yet know whether they can compete in France this weekend. Talks continue between the British Horseracing Authority and Public Health England, which could free jockeys from the need to self-isolate on their return, providing they follow a testing regime and adhere to separation protocols for the following week.

Jockeys like Andrea Atzeni and Oisin Murphy might therefore be able to ride in France this weekend and still be able to take part in Future Champions Day the next Saturday. Conceivably, Atzeni could recover the mount on Stradivarius, for whom Olivier Peslier is currently booked. Murphy, meanwhile, might be offered an Arc mount by Aidan O'Brien. 



## HAVE A BET!

While Hollywoodbets are offering full previews on their [blog.hollywoodbets.net](http://blog.hollywoodbets.net) and betting facilities on the Arc, Phumelela's Robert Garner provided the Sporting Post Sprint with the provisional TAB pools for the Arc race meeting as follows:

All races: Commingled Win, Place, Exacta or Swinger and Quinella (First, second any order); SA pools Trifecta, Quartet and Place Accumulator (Races 2-8), Jackpot (Races 5-8).

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# FOAL ALERT

## Rafeef x Cool River (Filly)

*"As a stallion Rafeef epitomises power and it is great to see that attribute being carried to his progeny. This filly is a half-sister to the Listed winner Stream Ahead, and we have her full brother called Shimmer heading to the Nationals Two Year Old Sale up in Johannesburg. Already this filly is very correct, stands strong over good ground, and has a terrific hind quarter. There is a lot of excitement surrounding the Rafeef horses heading into training and for us on the farm that encourages us tremendously."*

*– Craig Kieswetter*



Craig Kieswetter

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**SET TO TAKE  
ON THE  
WORLD!**



With their 'have horse will travel' approach to life and business, the Spies family have conquered all corners of South Africa and even North of the Limpopo from their Vaal base for the past 35 years. Now the time has come to spread their wings beyond Africa. The richly endowed Saudi Cup meeting at King Abdulaziz

**Racetrack in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, is next on the radar.**

Having turned 50 earlier this month, and with a sparkling silverware collection of Gr1 trophies, and even a Zimbabwe Champion Trainer trophy on the mantelpiece at his Vaal home, Hollywoodbets trainer Corne Spies is

ready for new challenges - and maybe even to conquer the world.

His recent Gr1 winning son of Oratorio, Van Halen, and the stable's rising star and Gr2 Golden Horseshoe winner Nourbese - Drakenstein stallion Futura's first stakes winner - have already transferred into quarantine in



**Team Spies lead in Saudi-bound Van Halen after Gr1 Mercury victory**

Johannesburg, in preparation for an incredible journey via Mauritius and Europe into Saudi Arabia.

It is ironic that the time-tested Spies approach of sourcing the genuine value is being showcased to the world by the pair, who cost less than \$14 000 between them!

A dual Gr1 winner, Van Halen, was bought for a mere R100 000 at the 2017 Cape Premier Yearling Sale, while the exciting 3yo Nourbese was a R140 000 buy from the 2019 Emperors Palace National 2YO Sale.

While we are looking five months ahead, Van Halen could be a likely

candidate for the \$1,5 million Saudia Sprint, won earlier this year in a thriller by New York Central who pipped Matera Sky.

The Saudi authorities are keen to promote their sport and with the headline Saudi Cup stakes breakdown awarding \$10 million to the winning horse, \$3,5 million to the second and then generous bites all the way down to \$200 000 for tenth finisher, it's a raceday worth pursuing with even a half decent horse.

"It's a time consuming and costly exercise but they are both top horses and we'd like to take our chances. I have been an international trainer for some years, you know," laughs Corne in an

obvious reference to his Zim championship crown.

But he frowns and on a serious note the Equine Sciences graduate talks about the current climate here, where he says he is extremely worried about the stakes situation.

"The stakes model versus the cost reality is out of sync. It's been on the decline for over a decade and now the bottom has fallen out of it. Stakes is a priority that needs to be remedied as soon as possible. Billionaires may be happy to race for rosettes. But the core middle class owner base at the base of the pyramid is diminishing fast. While nobody enters the sport with his eyes



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*Another terrific season countrywide  
capped with success in the Gr1 Mercury Sprint*



*Van Halen wins the Gr1 Mercury Sprint*



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*Nourbese wins Gr2 Golden Horseshoe*



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## Only billionaires race for rosettes

Van Halen wins Gr1 Mercury Sprint under Craig Zackey

open and genuinely expecting to get rich, when one sells racehorse ownership, the fun aspect has to be balanced with the bonus of a break even or a possible return. Right now, there is no light and I hope that the powers-that-be can do something soon. I don't have the answers, but our in-house marketing has never really worked for racing. We have left it to sponsors to do the work. We need to find professionals to do a professional job of marketing the sport. Once stakes are in order and remotely realistic again, I feel things can resume to something reasonable," he adds.

On his season plans, Corne says that he won't be heading to Cape Town for the summer season.

"We tried it over the last two years. We succeeded at the bottom end but our top horses didn't deliver. It's expensive to go and sets one back a bit. I also feel that the national 3yo programme needs to be looked at. The Gauteng Guineas is the start of the SA Triple Crown in early February. The Cape Derby is run three weeks later. With the overlap, there is little opportunity either way for the Cape guys to go for the Highveld features and vice versa."

For now, he steps the very smart 2019 Golden Slipper winner Cockney Pride out in the Gr2 Joburg Spring Challenge at Turffontein on Saturday. She hasn't run for nine months, since finishing downfield in the Cape Fillies Guineas last year.

"She is a really lovely filly and we are starting her on Saturday. She will need the run," he said.

He adds that we can also look out for his very smart sprinter Singforafa, as well as his Summer Cup entry Imperial Ruby.

"Imperial Ruby won the Gold Bowl as a 3yo. As a Silvano, he will only improve with age and will be better this term.

He has drawn poorly in the Summer Cup but it's nice to have a big race



Candiese Lenferna

Nourbese wins Gr2 Golden Horseshoe under Stuart Randolph





Candiese Lenferna

Futura's first stakes winner, Nourbese

runner, so we will monitor how the field evolves and make a decision later on about him."

The BSA National 2yo Sale catalogue is now online.

Corne says that they have been fortunate to have bought very well at this sale, but he is not sure yet to what extent his buying power will extend. He says that he never worries about look-

ing at the catalogue too far in advance, as there is 'always quality'.

"Looking at the catalogue only really tells one which horses will go for money. With limited budgets, we prefer to go and do physical inspections without the pedigree page at the sale and pick from there. That way we can often buy reasonably priced horses with less fashionable pedigrees."


While he has rationalised his string down

to 100 horses, he notes that while many have suffered economically during 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, he also knew of people on the other side of the coin whose businesses had prospered.

"That's the nature of life. And there are always folk willing to take a chance in bad times. But we really absolutely need to sort the stakes situation out sooner rather than later. That will incentivise buyers again and put money back in breeders pockets – thus arresting the decline."

Corne points out that many people in racing know only racing. He doesn't have small children – Carmen is 18 and in matric, while 23 year old Xander is doing articles as a trainee attorney – but says that it is clear that many families depend on the sport.

"We need to make it work. MOD has the right values. We now need to get the right guys into the right positions and start taking much less out of the game than has been the case in recent years.

Looking after all our customers and making the right calls for racing will get the engines firing again." 

**Cover Image**  
"Settlers Trophy start"  
courtesy of Chase Liebenberg



**CANDIESE LENFERNA**  
PHOTOGRAPHY

*A passion for  
the thoroughbred  
and a passion  
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Hollywoodbets Empangeni Team receiving the award for

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on Sunday, 27th September 2020.





Ideal World



Candiese Lenferna

# RUNNING ON EMPTY

**The controversial omission of the Equus Awards for Stayer of the Year is yet more proof that the staying horse is in decline in South Africa. Whilst there is no disputing the fact that our racing programme is very much geared towards speed, there must always be room for the staying stallion, for ultimately their loss will see a reduction in the gene pool of those horses generally considered responsible for soundness in the breed.**

Over the past decade, breeders have looked to Silvano and Dynasty as the prime source of classic stamina. With the recent announcement of Silvano's retirement and the latter's passing last year, that leaves only a handful of proven staying stallions, a woeful state

of affairs considering that the country's most valuable and iconic races, the Gr1 Durban July, Met and Summer Cup are run over 2000m or beyond.

Classic horses are the meat and drink of Mauritzfontein Stud and history shows that its policy of standing high-class middle distance stallions such as Janus, Wilwyn, Free Ride and most recently Fort Wood, has brought with it great success.

Current resident stallion, the Kingmambo horse Ideal World, also fits that mould, his best runners excelling over ground.

Champion daughter Smart Call won the Gr1 Woolavington 2000 at three before scoring an epic victory in the 2016 Met, a feat repeated by paternal half-brother

Rainbow Bridge in 2019.

Ideal World's classic winners include Gr1 SA Derby winner Samurai Warrior, Gr3 Track and Ball Derby hero Cape Speed and Track and Ball Oaks victress and Gold Cup second Zante. His marathon runners include Hermoso Mundo, who was named the country's Champion stayer of 2017 with his historical Gold Bowl/Vase/Cup treble and Kenilworth Cup winner Mercurana, while Shady World and Onesie both captured the country's longest race, the 3600m Port Elizabeth Gold Cup.

It's no secret that the progeny of Klawervlei Stud's Twice Over show their true colours over ground.

Best known as the sire of dual July





Fillies Classic, Secret Potion won the Gr2 SA Oaks while Out Of Your League emulated his sire in last season's Gr1 SA Derby.

Fort Ember won the Gr2 Gold Bracelet and was runner-up in the Gr1 Summer Cup, while Chitengo proved herself a stayer of note by winning the Aquanaut Handicap.

Wilgerbosdrift resident Flower Alley, the sire of a Kentucky Derby winner prior to his arrival in South Africa, is fast proving himself a fine source of middle-distance runners, his progeny improving as they mature. His first South African crop includes Oaks Trial victress Fayrooz, as well as Gr1 SA Fillies Classic runner-up Marygold, Gr2 SA Oaks second Pomander and East Cape Derby second Rock Aloe, while Bayberry, who chased home unbeaten Katak in the Gr3 Pocket Power Stakes over 2400m, was beaten a neck in last weekend's Listed Settlers Trophy.

winner and Horse of the Year Do It Again, his tally of stakes winners also includes Gold Cup third Doublemint, who claimed both the Gr3 Chairman's Cup and Winter Derby.

Remarkably, daughters of Twice Over filled two of the three top spots in last season's Gr2 Track and Ball Oaks won by Moon In June, with third place going

to Ballet Shoes, who had also finished third to Summer Pudding in the Gr2 SA Oaks.

Fort Wood's champion son Elusive Fort captured both the Gr1 SA Derby and Daily News 2000 and not surprisingly, he is passing on his class and stamina. Siren's Call captured two legs of the Triple Tiara including the Gr1 SA

The son of Distorted Humor already counts a potential classic contender in second-crop daughter Princess Calla, following her eye-catching third in the mile Gr1 Thekwini Stakes behind champion Anything Goes and War Of Athena.

Go Deputy is a prime example of a stallion who has received neither the



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Racing photography courtesy of

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Candiese Lenferna

Moon In June

recognition, nor the support, he deserved.

A Gr1 turf winner over 2400m, he not only sired Triple Crown winner Abashiri, his record as a staying stallion is exemplary. Royal Badge and Current

Event both claimed the Gr3 Cape Summer Stayers Handicap, Tambalang won the Aquanaut Handicap while Icy Trail took the Gr2 Premier Trophy and Arezzo the Settlers Trophy. His daughters in particular excel over ground and include Gr2 Gold Bracelet

winner Flying Ice as well as the Queen Palm winners Deputy Ryder and Adobe Pink. Widow's Peak claimed the East Coast Oaks and ran second in the East Coast Derby while Gold Cup third Flichty By Farr was runner-up in the Gr2 SA Oaks and together with Flying

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Ice and Deputy Ryder, reached the frame in the Gr3 Track and Ball Oaks.

Clifton Stud's Mambo In Seattle too is an undervalued stallion despite his early achievements while based in the Western Cape.

Like Ideal World, he is a son of Kingmambo capable of siring classic performers, witness Majestic Mambo and Mambo Mime, both of whom placed in the Gr1 Daily News 2000, and fine stayers such as Fortune Fella (Gr3 Caradoc Gold Cup) and Smart Mart (Kenilworth Cup). 🐾



Go Deputy

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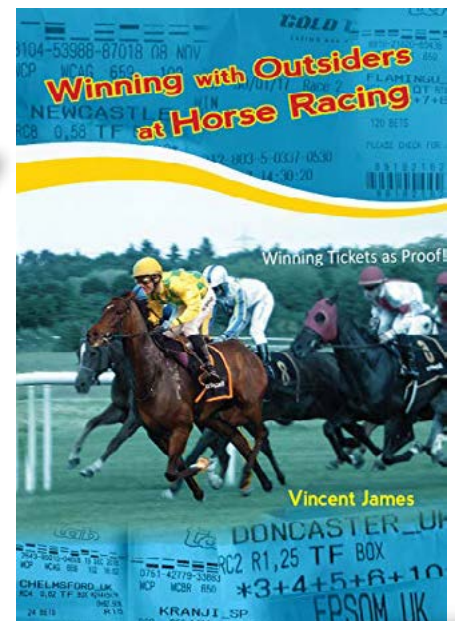
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# MILLENNIUM MAGIC

## *That's Dubawi*

**Darley's Dubai Millennium horse Dubawi has long been established as an outstanding sire.**

Already the sire of 43 individual Gr1 winners, Dubawi produces top-class horses with monotonous regularity and is by some way the best thoroughbred stallion currently standing at stud in Britain.

This year alone, Dubawi has been represented by a slew of high-class gallopers notably Gr1 winners Ghayyaith, Lord North and Space Blues.

Dubawi is also now making his mark as a sire of sires, and looks poised to become an important sire of high-class stallions.

While subsequently exported to Japan, Dubawi's 2000 Guineas winning son Makfi is a proven source of G1 winners, with his five Gr1 winners to date headed by Gr1 Poule d'Essai des Poulains/G1 Prix de la Forêt winner Make Believe. The latter has made a sensational start to his stud career with his first crop currently including this year's French Derby winner Mishriff and fellow group winners Rose Of Kildare and German champion Ocean Fantasy.

Makfi made news over the weekend with his son Attorney landing Saturday's Gr3 JRA Colin Stephen Quality Handicap at Rosehill.

The deceased Poet's Voice, whose third dam was a 3/4 sister to champion US sire Exclusive Native, also made his mark prior to his untimely death in 2018.

The Gr1 Queen Elizabeth II Stakes winner is currently responsible for 21 stakes winners headed by the Gr1 winners Trap For Fools and Poet's Word.

Poet's Voice enjoyed notable success in Italy, where his progeny include the classic winners Poeta Diletta, Summer Festival, Sand Zabeel and Mi Raccomando.

Dubawi's Gr1 Prix du Jockey Club (French Derby) winning son New Bay has also made a promising start to his stud career and he came up with his first group winner when his gelded two-year-old son New Mandate captured the Gr2 Juddmonte Royal Lodge Stakes on Saturday.

From the family of top sires Oasis Dream and Kingman, New Bay, whose daughter Saffron Beach won the first race at Newmarket on Saturday, looks poised for a successful career at stud.

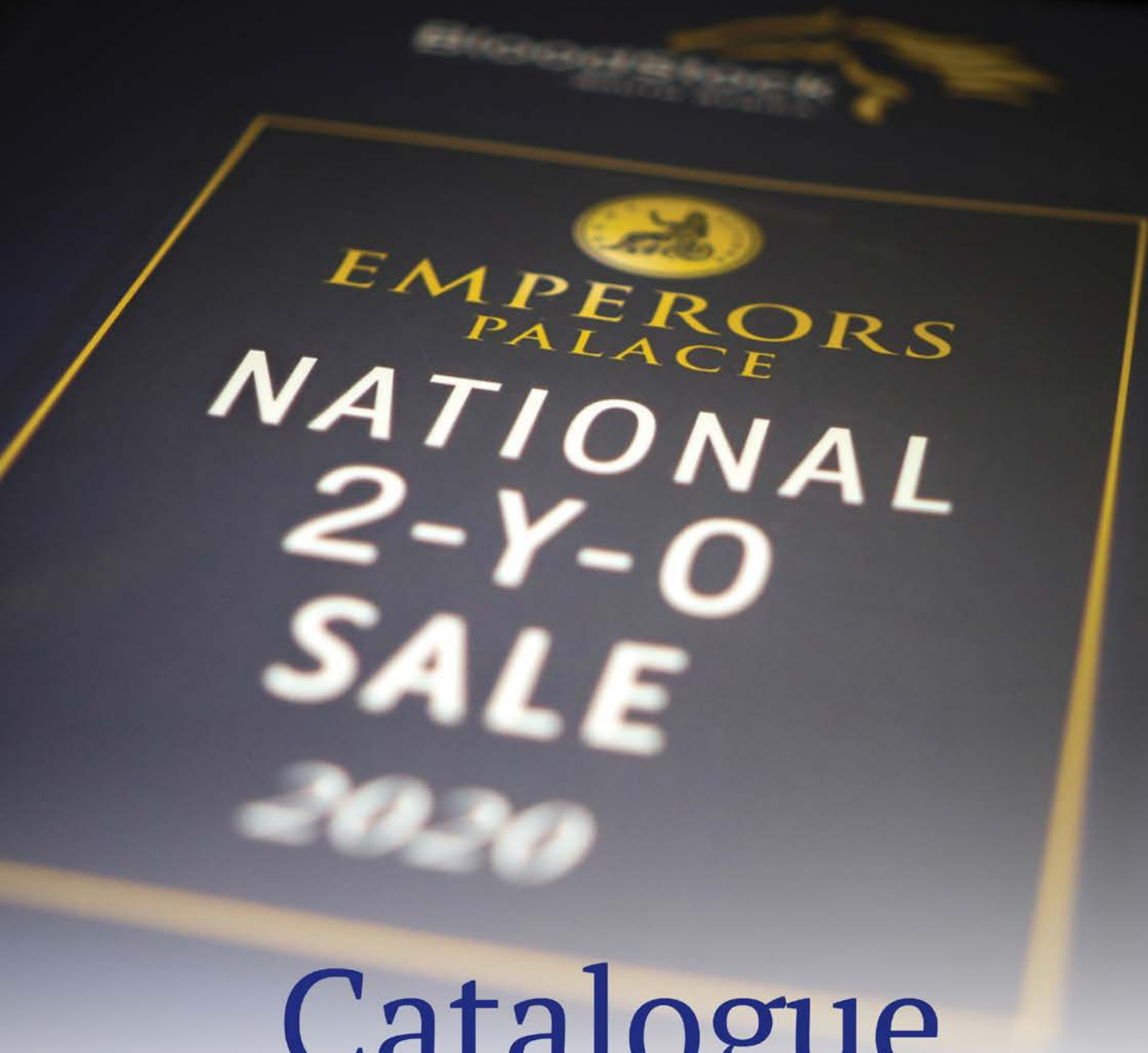
However, Dubawi's most exciting sire son thus far is undoubtedly his 2000 Guineas/Lockinge Stakes winning son Night Of Thunder. His first Northern Hemisphere crop has already produced no fewer than eight group winners, headed by G2 Dante Stakes winner Thunderous, Italian classic winner Auyantepui, and Jersey Stakes hero Molatham.

In South Africa, Dubawi's Gr1 SA Nursery/G2 Dingaans winning son Willow Magic has made a promising start to his stud career with Willow Magic's early winners headed by Saturday's debut winner Somasonic and MK's Pride -a winner of two of just three starts. 🐾

Click on the **Clocking The Gallop** image below to listen to Mickey Goss chatting about Willow Magic – Dubawi's fastest son







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Injured MJ Byleveld is attended to by a paramedic



# MJ OUT FOR 6 MONTHS

**While his timing is lethal on the racetrack, Sun Met winning jockey MJ Byleveld has not had the same good fortune when it comes to injuries.**

He was hospitalised early on Tuesday morning after falling heavily during trackwork at the Vaughan Marshall yard at Milnerton.

The Avontuur-sponsored rider told the Sporting Post Sprint from his hospital bed that he had suffered a fracture of the tibia and his ankle after his mount tragically suffered a heart attack.

MJ was awaiting the specialist, but sounded in groggy good spirits as he chatted to us and said that he had no

idea how long he will be off.

He was set to undergo surgery this morning and is expected to be out of action for 4 to 6 months.

The dynamic rider has had no luck over the past few years, usually on the eve of the Cape Summer Season. That's poor timing as he is attached to a top-class yard!

It's a case of deja vu!

In 2019 he suffered a neck injury that kept him out for many months. "I'm devastated. I didn't need this kind of news on the eve of the Cape Summer Season," a visibly disappointed MJ Byleveld told the Sporting Post in September 2018 just

prior to undergoing complex back surgery.

In August 2016 he had an operation to repair the right leg injury he suffered when he was kicked by Ready To Attack after the 2015 Langerman.

The aspect of the absence of medical care at trackwork has again been highlighted, with onlookers informing the Sporting Post that the injured jockey had to wait 'forever' and as long as forty minutes for medical help.

The racing industry surely owes our workriders better.

Best of luck MJ! 🐎





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# BIG WIN



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## LUCKY WINNER STRIKES AGAIN!

A 56-year-old woman from East London is ecstatic after winning for the second time in one month! Narissa Peters who played on the Hollywoodbets Lucky Numbers draw – SA Powa Numbas yesterday with R10 has now won R250 000, shortly after winning R100 000 just last week! The lady with the luck, who placed this winning bet on the Hollywoodbets website, says that the numbers that she played were not random or dates she relates to, but rather well- thought out numbers. The mother of one explains that she was extremely happy that she had won and wanted to jump on the roof when she found out! She plans to take care of family and pay off her debts to allow her some financial freedom. Since she started betting with the Purple Team in 2013, she has introduced numerous friends and family because she believes that Hollywoodbets is the best!





# PHUMELELA SILENT ON VAAL

**Beleagured and rudderless racing operator Phumelela continue to stumble from one management crisis to another. Latest is that the Vaal Racecourse was presented for racing in a less than satisfactory condition for Tuesday's meeting, with a track inspection undertaken by concerned jockeys and trainers delaying the first.**

The sorry saga of the Vaal track management goes back years and once again we have stakeholders asking for a copy of the O'Connor Commission of Inquiry instituted in October 2018. Simply – we don't have a copy of the report and don't have anybody on record as having even seen it.

Then Phumelela CEO John Stuart appointed Andy O'Connor, a former chairman of the NHA, to lead a commission to review the track management systems for Phumelela after repeated track problems surfaced.

According to Stuart at the time, O'Connor's independence and integrity was above reproach, making him the perfect candidate to lead a team tasked with making recommendations to Phumelela.

Part of O'Connor's mandate was to investigate track management processes and the ways in which they could and should be improved, to draw up Standard Operational Procedures regarding the implementation of improved track management processes, and to ensure the alignment of the maintenance of training and racing tracks, with the feature race calendar at the various racing courses.

"How is it possible that we have the same problem every year? If I was in charge they would have fired me ages ago," Vaal-based Andrew Fortune told the Sporting Post Sprint.


In a reference to various patches covered with loose grass, Fortune said it was

common sense that loose grass would not simply grow without creating a divot and planting a root.

"I'm afraid it's another case of the wrong people in the wrong jobs. Why do we keep repeating the same old nonsense year in and year out?" he asked.

He said that the racemeeting proceeded, with jockeys, owners and trainers not wishing to participate, allowed to exercise their right of withdrawal and those jockeys riding having to take care to avoid the bad patches.

"Bills have to be paid. Everybody is under pressure. Some of us don't have a choice but to race. And then what about Thursday?" he asked saying that the image of the sport had once again suffered due to a lack of management.

There has been no official explanation or apology by the racing operator. 



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# NHRA CHIEF; 'BREMNER YARD IN CLEAR'



Yvette Bremner

**With local tensions continuing to simmer just below the surface, Phumelela have failed to engage with the public and general stakeholders almost a fortnight after the Black Thursday incident at Fairview Racecourse that claimed the life of a racehorse and caused injuries to many others, as well as certain individuals.**

Between 150 and 200 protesters stormed the Fairview training centre and broke the locks of the stables, freeing around 28 horses early on the morning of Thursday 17 September.

The National Horseracing Authority reacted quickly on news of the incident, diverting senior management to Fairview.

A meeting was convened by NHRA CEO Vee Moodley on the same afternoon, where local trainers indicated their willingness to go ahead with the scheduled racemeeting the following day.

All of the Yvette Bremner runners were withdrawn, and after a Friday morning information catch-up with participants, the racemeeting went ahead without incident.

The Yvette Bremner yard, which was the apparent target of the attack, was subsequently closed, with the trainer and her partner Hedley McGrath – a longstanding leading owner – indicating in mainstream media articles that they may be moving overseas.

Racing operator Phumelela issued a statement to a local horseracing media platform, Clocking The Gallop, on Sunday 20 September stating that they did not wish to engage in debate via the media on the unfortunate incident.

They said that their 'focus has been and will remain on ensuring the continuation of undisturbed racing at Fairview and the safety of spectators, personnel employed at the track and the horses'.

The Sporting Post has learnt that the EFF have since laid criminal charges and intend pursuing a civil action against Nitro Security, the company owned by a DA ward councillor, and who were contracted to guard the Bremner yard.

This follows allegations that a dismissed worker was shot in the leg with live ammunition. The worker was apparently hospitalised for several days.

Zukile Matshisi, 49, was allegedly among the protesters who released 28 racehorses from Bremner's yard at the racecourse and was arrested on charges of public violence and malicious injury to property. The case was adjourned to October 26.

While there is clearly divided opinion in the inevitable blame game and finger pointing, the National Horseracing Authority appear to have actively played their role in terms of their sphere of control and responsibility in a highly charged and sensitive environment.

And the spotlight has once again shifted back to racing operator Phumelela, who run racing in the Eastern Cape and, very importantly, own the land on which the majority of the Grooms working at Fairview reside including the employee who was dismissed after having been found guilty of stabbing a horse in February.

The lack of control and the cocktail of proven incendiary influences in a generally peaceful community are what is alarming certain stakeholders, who have

expressed concern that the Fairview environment is a powder keg ready to explode at any time again – as nothing has effectively changed in terms of controls or policies post the 17 September incident.

The National Horseracing Authority have done their bit and their rules are clear:

Referring to compliance with legislation, rule 12.1 states that a trainer shall ensure that he complies with all legislative requirements and prescripts, and in particular the Basic Conditions of Employment Act, insofar as the employment of stable personnel is concerned.

Rule 12.2 states that a trainer found guilty by a competent body of non-compliance with the Labour requirements, may be required to re-apply for a trainer's licence and the non-compliance will be taken into account when such re-application is considered by the licensing board.

NHRA CEO Vee Moodley, the Sporting Post on Monday that he was satisfied that his team had performed their duties with diligence and due urgency and that they were acting within the parameters of their rules and regulations.

He confirmed that based on all evidence and known facts to date, that no licenced individual had warranted a charge in terms of any of the NHRA's rules.

He also said that the NHRA is satisfied that the Bremner yard had fulfilled their duties according to the abovementioned rules.

The NHRA chief said that he was unable to comment on any charges laid with the SAPS by any outside party. 🐾



Vee Moodley



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Jaap Visser (right) with Andy O'Connor

JC Photos



# VISSER FOR MILNERTON

Another former Flamingo Park trainer could soon be taking occupancy at Milnerton Training Centre.

With Corrie Lensley having settled at his Cape base for six months, his former Northern Cape Champion colleague Jaap Visser may soon be headed in the same direction to the centre where the turf famously 'meets the surf.

The Uptington-born former Griquas and Blue Bulls Fly-half and Fullback, who

spent 18 years with the CID, has been Course Manager at Flamingo Park for four years.

A man who believes in the philosophy that hard work never killed anybody, says that he is still winding up logistical issues at the famous sand track and thanked Phumelela Management -particularly Jay Harrielall and Thomas Rasasamola – for being very good to him.

"We are all going to miss this racecourse but times change and we have to move

on and adapt. We had options of the Vaal and the Eastern Cape, but as a family we felt we would be happiest in a larger centre. It's not a simple matter – I'm 64 years of age and change is never easy.

But I thankfully have my family and some good people behind me and horses are my life," said the man who first started training some 40 years ago.

Jaap was Northern Cape Champion in the 2012/13 season. 🐎

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# FIRST FOR MAY!

Former Cape-based jockey Brandon May celebrated Spring Day in fine style at Tauranga in the Waikato/Bay of Plenty region today when he booted home his first winner seven months after his arrival in New Zealand.

All The Rage trained by Team Rogerson made Wednesday 30 September a memorable day in the life of the SA Jockey Academy graduate who started his second career as a workrider in the island country in the southwestern Pacific Ocean.

An excited Brandon told us some months ago that he decided on the international move, seeking new opportunities and looking for a fresh start.


"I arrived here on 13 February, just before lockdown and travel restrictions were implemented by the New Zealand government. I was contracted to Kilgraven Lodge. They are a breaking-in centre and I was actually initially under the impression that they were also a racing yard!" he explains.

"It was a lot different for me, but plenty of fun. And I can truly say I'm a better horseman now. Which I believe will make me a better jockey. I spent more than 4 months breaking in horses and helping wherever necessary. I really worked hard!" he says with pride.

Once lockdown was eased, Brandon set out to pursue his passion and try and get into race riding – something he admits

was always his goal leaving South Africa.

"It was a real journey finding the right trainer! After an interview with Hall of Fame trainer Graeme Rogerson, who trains in partnership with his wife Debbie and granddaughter Bailey – who in 2017 was the world's youngest trainer – my mind was made up. Mr Rogerson is a well established trainer with lots of horses, and a true professional at everything he does. I can honestly say he was such a godsend! He is such a fair and honest man," says Brandon emotionally.

Brandon rode his first winner at Hollywoodbets Scottsville in May 2014 for Kumaran Naidoo. 

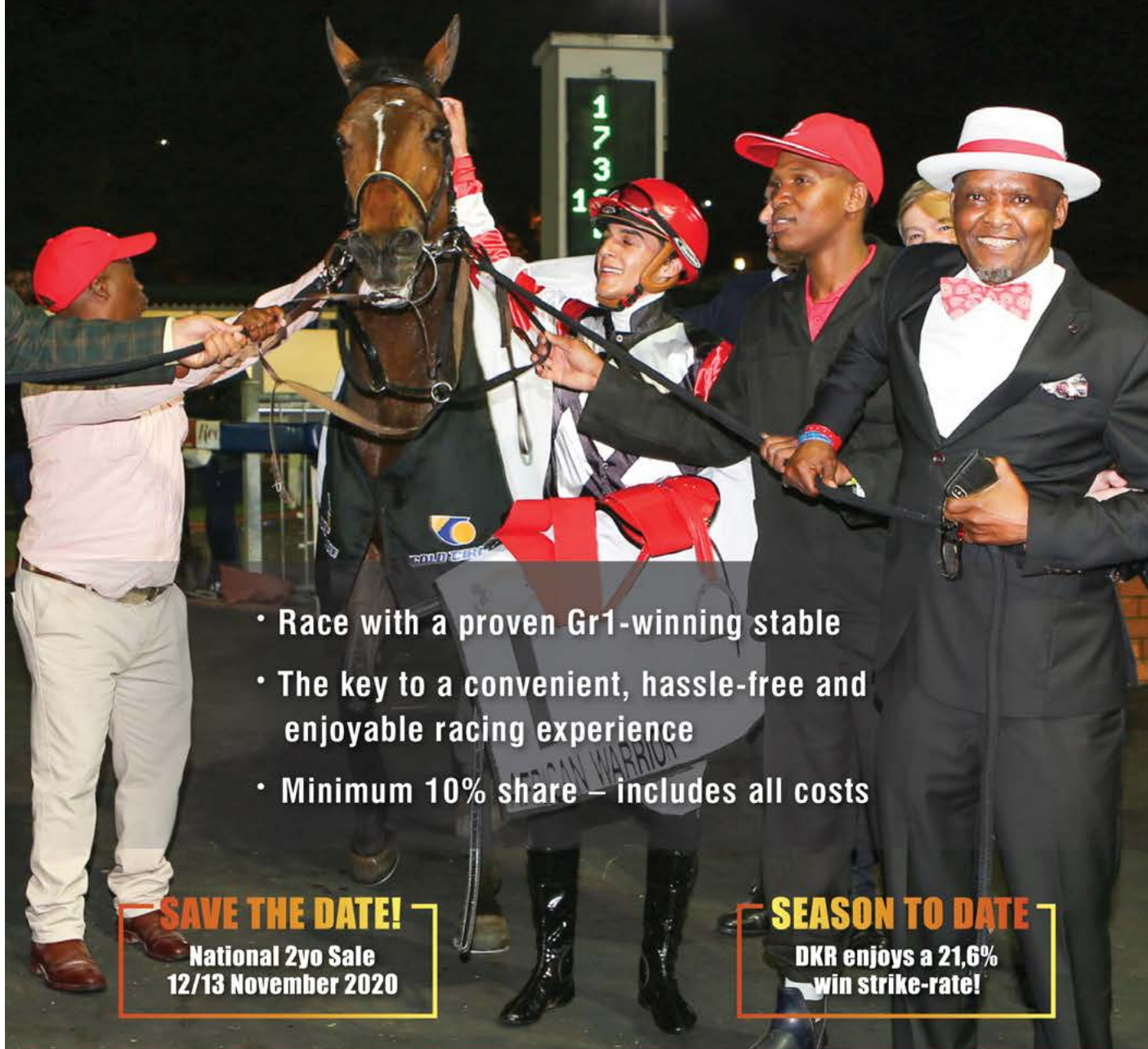


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# RIVERTON

## BOYS WILL BE BOYS



Captain Of All x Neurose c & Erupt x Seniorita Al c



Erupt x Myra's Magic c

Robertson-based Riverton Stud has been a nursery of champions for years and Natasha and Duncan Barry have enjoyed a busy few weeks recently. So far this season Riverton Stud has had six foals and all of them have been colts. What's the statistical chances of that? Natasha sent us these pics of their future stars.

"We had a lovely visit from Donna Bernhardt, her brother Philip and friend Thinus this weekend. Donna took these lovely photos," Natasha told the Sprint.

She said that the single guy is an Erupt colt out of Myra's Magic, a half-sister to Victory Moon, that they have in partnership with Litchfield.

The two gorgeous colts in the next pic are, on the left a Captain Of All out of Neurose, the dam of Great Shaka who had his 7th win earlier this month, and to the right an Erupt out of Seniorita Al, the dam of multiple graded stakes winner Al Mariachi. 🐾

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*Pedigree*

*Performance*

# Riverton Stud





# DREAMS ARE GOOD FRIENDS



Lancaster Bomber x Dream De Ra c

Our Lancaster Bomber quartet of foals that were 'flying in formation' in last Wednesday's issue attracted some admiring comments.

Top breeders Avontuur didn't miss the 'Bomber bus' either and stallion

manager John Freeman sent us this pic of a Lancaster Bomber colt born on 31 August out of Dream De Ra, a daughter of Oasis Dream and a first foal for Avontuur-bred SA Sprint Champion Val De Ra (Var).

At the time we reported that it was a match made in heaven when Avontuur took the plunge in 2013 and sent their home-bred flying machine Val De Ra overseas to Green Desert's brilliant speed son, Oasis Dream. 🐾



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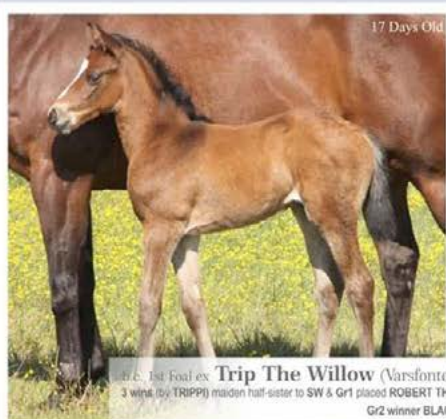




## Lancaster Bomber<sup>(USA)</sup>

War Front - Sun Shower (Indian Ridge) - Bay 2014 - 16.1hh

### Peas in a Pod!



17 Days Old  
b.f. ex **Trip The Willow** (Varsfontein Stud)  
3 wins (by TRIPPI) maiden half-sister to SW & Gr1 placed **ROBERT THE BRUCE** &  
Gr2 winner **BLACK ARTHUR**



12 Days Old  
b.f. ex **Talk Posh** (Varsfontein Stud)  
Unraced young Irish mare, her dam **So You Think** has 6 winners from  
7 runners inc. 6 stakes winners



15 Days Old  
b.f. ex **Imperadora** (Varsfontein Stud)  
winning half-sister to **LEGAL EAGLE HORSE OF THE YEAR**



18/09/20

## FORT FLAGBEARER FLYING

**Storm Cat's outstanding son Brave Tin Soldier has had a terrific month with five winners to his credit and the Fort Stud flagbearer and one time world record breaking yearling has shown again that he represents genuine value.**

A wise one man once said that the hallmark of a great sire is getting one better than himself. While a top class racehorse – Mike de Kock once said 'he could run like the wind' and was a 1200m stakes winner and a Group mile recordbreaker – Brave Tin Soldier produced the aptly named star Rabada from his second crop. He was the only colt of his generation to win a Gr1 at 2 and 3.

His fourth crop daughter Brave Mary won the Gr1 Allan Robertson Championship and, subsequently placed at feature level twice, she was exported by her new owners Team Valor International. Recent R500 000 KZN Breeders Mile winner Running Brave is Brave Tin Soldier's fourth stakes winner.

Brave Tine Soldier was bought as a foal for a world record R33-million. A Sire with race performance as well as handsome athletic good looks, he boasts two of the greatest Bloodlines in the world in Storm Cat and Mr Prospector and supported by another two great Bloodlines, Secretariat and Danzig and making up a 4 x 5 Northern Dancer for his progeny.

The Fort Stud and Stables is located in Fort Nottingham in KwaZulu-Natal. Owned and operated by Jill Fox since 2006, The Fort has bred, backed and pre-trained numerous winners of races up to Gr1 level both in South Africa and abroad, including Dubai, England, France, Germany, Mauritius and Zimbabwe. 🐾

## WINTER FIRES BURN!

Drakenstein Stud's Western Winter stallion What A Winter, whose three Gr1 winners last season included subsequent Equus Champion Sprinter Russet Air, goes from strength to strength at stud, and the triple Equus Champion was at it again on Saturday.

What A Winter supplied a trio of winners, with son Ring Of Fire scoring at Turffontein and daughter Pippielangkous and son Line Of Power scoring at Durbanville on the same day.

The Paul Peter trained Ring Of Fire jumped out and made all to win by three-parts of a length when victorious in Turffontein's fifth race. The Narrow Creek Stud bred four-year-old was winning for a third time in his career.

What A Winter's son Line Of Power shed his maiden when he scored by just under half a length over 1000m. The Greg Ennion trained 3yo colt was dropping back in trip, and he stayed on under Grant Van Niekerk to get off the mark at the fourth time of asking. Out of the Seventh Rock mare Seventh Storm, Line Of Power was bred by the Hemel 'N Aarde Stud.

What A Winter's second success at Durbanville came when his daughter Pippielangkous made most of the running to score a game, short-head win over 1000m. Bred by Mr Erhaadt Strooh, the mare has now won four times, with the speedy Pippielangkous having scored all four wins over 1000 metres. 🐾



# TEMPTING?

Avontuur GM Pippa Mickleburgh proudly shows off this beautiful Trippi half-sister to their multiple award-winning Equus Champion 2yo of last term, Tempting Fate.

The little princess is out of Avontuur superstar Var's G3 Tommy Hotspur Handicap winning daughter Miss October and was born on 31 August.

Miss October is a daughter of Bushgirl, who was by Dewhurst winner Huntingdale out of the Terrance Millard trained Durban July Handicap and Gold Cup winning English import Devon Air (Sparkler).

Tempting Fate became Varsfontein Stud's resident stallion Master Of My Fate's first Gr1 winner when he won the Golden Horse Medallion last season. 🐾



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# WIN FOR GROOMS!

**HOLLYWOODBETS GREYVILLE – MONDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020**



Race 1 – Moses Segogo – KARIN 8



Race 2 – Mandla Mgwu – ACADEMY AWARD



Race 3 – Smitele Mpho Magele – TOP SALUTE



Race 4 – Akhona Matwa – LEGEND HAS IT



Race 5 – Sethu Seni – GENTLEMAN'S WAGER



Race 6 – Siphamandla Sidumo – TRULY WICKED



Race 7 – Sibusiso Maphumulo – CERSEI



Race 8 – Aphiwe Marawa – GREAT DICTATOR

**HOLLYWOODBETS GREYVILLE – WEDNESDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020**



Race 1 – Thabang Tlali – TONIGHTS FIGHT NIGHT



Race 2 – Ntshumayelo Nqethe – MAITLAND MAGIC



Race 3 – Whandile Mdodo – SILVER FOX DOG



Race 4 – Sibusiso Maphumulo – LADY SHARON



Race 5 – Nkosiyo Mohale – EDEN GARDENS GLITZ



Race 6 – Lando Manyama – LINEAR



Race 7 – Lindokhule Mkize – MASHARI



Race 8 – Ourelio Mabunda – RETAIL THERAPY

**HOLLYWOODBETS GREYVILLE – SUNDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020**



Race 1 – Sifiso Diya – MACARA



Race 2 – Andile Nyani – CAPTAIN OUPIE



Race 3 – Vusi Jali – PINCH ME



Race 4 – Mduiso Mtswi – MATTERHORN



Race 5 – Sikhokhele Nxana – PRICELESS RULER



Race 6 – Jeropo Malinyane – SILVER CENT



Race 7 – Mzombile Mdukulwana – ADMIRAL'S GUEST



Race 8 – Sandile Zuma – CAPTAIN SEAGER



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Photo Credit: Candiese Marnewick

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Jolly Banner – can win again



## NATIONAL DAY AT SHA TIN

Hong Kong racing moves from the regular Wednesday slot to Sha Tin tomorrow with the China National Day public holiday being celebrated throughout mainland China, Hong Kong, and Macau.

Champion trainer Ricky Yiu's stable stalwart Jolly Banner is looking to land

a third Gr3 win for his handler in the National Day Cup Handicap ahead of what is likely to be the classy veteran's sixth and final Hong Kong racing season.

"This will be one of his last few runs - probably by the end of the year we will try and send him back to Australia - he's a nine-year-old, so we need to take it


race-by-race," Yiu said.

The Lonhro gelding has been nothing short of consistent across his career with HK\$14.8 million to his name from 42 starts, featuring seven wins and 23 top three finishes, since his handler picked him out at the 2013 Australian Easter Yearling Sale for AU\$300,000 (approx. HK\$1.6 million).

"It was love at first sight!" Yiu said. "I rang up the client, who is the owner now, and straight away said we need to buy this horse - he'll do well, I like him a lot, he's a natural runner."

The 109-rater's last two wins have come at G3 level, firstly the 2019 Bauhinia Sprint Trophy Handicap (1000m) at 89/1 and latterly the Premier Cup Handicap (1400m) three starts ago in June, both times with Matthew Poon in the plate.

From three runs down the 1000m Sha Tin straight, the game galloper has finished no worse than fourth, with a second-place finish also to go with that stunning Bauhinia Sprint Trophy win, which came at his first try at the straight dash.

Both the gelding's Pattern race successes have come against small fields - five and four opponents - and tomorrow he faces six others, breaking from gate six with Poon again holding the reins. 

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Nelson Mandela



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# STATS

## NHRA LOG LEADERS

updated 2020-09-29

### TRAINERS

Name	Runs	Wins	Win%	2nd	3rd	Other	Places	Place %	Win Stake (R)	Total Stakes (R)
Mr P A Peter	172	26	15.1	17	18	15	50	29.1	1,041,600	1,503,350
Mr S J Snaith	215	28	13	20	22	21	63	29.3	835,300	1,274,650
Mr P F Matchett	169	16	9.5	18	15	15	48	28.4	681,750	1,194,350
Mr St John D Gray	134	18	13.4	17	14	13	44	32.8	744,000	1,169,200
Mr A C Greeff	160	27	16.9	25	24	17	66	41.3	654,000	1,065,250

### JOCKEYS

Name	Runs	Wins	Win%	2nd	3rd	Other	Places	Place %	Win Stake (R)	Total Stakes (R)
Mr L Hewitson	207	28	13.5	24	34	10	77	37.2	1,209,800	1,782,875
Mr G M Cheyne	124	27	21.8	15	14	28	44	35.5	651,600	921,450
Mr S Khumalo	125	26	20.8	15	11	10	40	32	1,289,800	1,726,200
Mr A Marcus	76	19	25	6	12	12	25	32.9	818,750	1,033,625
Mr M A Yeni	185	18	9.7	20	18	11	57	30.8	809,150	1,355,300

### BREEDERS

Name	Runrs	Runs	AEPR	Wnrs	Wins	Winrs/Rnrs %	Places	B.T. Wins	B.T. Wins	Total Stakes (R)
Wilgerbosdrift & Mauritzfontein	147	269	13,402	28	32	18.3	92	1	1	2,050,475
Klawervlei Stud	212	417	8,060	29	29	13	128	1	1	1,797,300
Summerhill Stud (Pty) Ltd	138	275	10,648	25	27	17.4	59	2	2	1,533,350
Varsfontein Stud	65	114	19,602	17	17	25.8	40	3	3	1,293,750
Drakenstein Stud	83	138	13,653	19	22	22.4	56	0	0	1,160,475
(Nom: Mrs G A Rupert)										

### SIRES

Name	Runrs	Runs	AEPR	Wnrs	Wins	Winrs/Rnrs %	Places	B.T. Wins	B.T. Wins	Total Stakes (R)
Master Of My Fate	112	197	12,908	19	21	17	70	1	1	1,445,675
Gimmethegreenlight (AUS)	103	174	13,575	23	25	22.3	59	1	1	1,398,225
Var (USA)	77	139	15,993	17	22	22.1	47	1	1	1,231,425
Querari (GER)	119	210	9,457	18	19	15.1	69	0	0	1,125,400
Oratorio (IRE)	82	145	12,961	12	12	14.6	52	1	1	1,062,800

See all the detailed standings - [Click here](#)





# JOSE

## READY TO MAN UP!

**Jose Mourinho faces his former employers when his Tottenham Hotspur side travel to Manchester United on Sunday.**

The Red Devils will be looking to build on their 3-2 win at Brighton last weekend, while the north Londoners will be eager to get back to winning ways after drawing 1-1 at home to Newcastle.

Chad Nagel writes that when these

sides met at Old Trafford in December, Marcus Rashford's brace earned a brilliant 2-1 win as Ole Gunnar Solskjaer handed Mourinho his first defeat as Spurs boss.

Will it be another unhappy return to Old Trafford for the Portuguese tactician? Find out what our tipster thinks!

**Manchester United vs Tottenham |  
Sunday 4 October | Old Trafford |  
17:30**

### **To Win**

Man United 19/20

Draw 26/10

Tottenham 28/10

### **Manchester United**

Manchester United will look to take advantage of tired legs when they face a Tottenham side who have played three games in six days as they target their first home win of the season.



The Red Devils suffered a humiliating 3-1 home defeat to Crystal Palace in their opening fixture but managed to beat Brighton 3-2 at the Amex Stadium last weekend, but they were lucky to claim all three points as the Seagulls hit the woodwork five times and also scored their winning goal from the penalty spot, awarded on a VAR review after the final whistle had blown.

United's performances have been underwhelming and Solskjaer must ensure that his troops put on a much more convincing showing this time around and play with the swagger that characterised the late season sprint which sneaked them into the top four in the last campaign.

The Red Devils are unbeaten in their last three Premier League meetings with the north Londoners, winning twice with Rashford scoring in both of those wins. Look out for what price Hollywoodbets have him as an anytime scorer.

Majority of United fans have expressed their desire to see Donny van de Beek start ahead of Paul Pogba against Spurs on Sunday. The Dutchman is yet to start a league game for the Reds despite scoring against Palace after being summoned from the bench, while Pogba's performances in his first two outings have left a lot to be desired.

United need a win and they need to get it in style. That's the only way the air of negativity surrounding the club due to an awful transfer window can be lifted even slightly.

## Tottenham

Mourinho's moans are not always met with the most sympathetic ears, but his complaints over the fixture schedule – and the potential danger it causes to his players – are valid.

Two days after their unfortunate 1-1 home draw with Newcastle United, Spurs played Chelsea in the Carabao Cup before facing Maccabi Haifa two days later in the Europa League, leaving Mourinho's men with three days to prepare for Sunday's crunch clash with United.

To make matters worse, Mourinho, who is already without Gareth Bale, won't have Heung-min Son available with the influential attacker facing a lengthy spell on the sidelines after suffering a hamstring injury against Newcastle.

Son's absence is a huge blow for Spurs as the 28-year-old had been in superb form, scoring four times during the 5-2 win at Southampton and started brightly against Newcastle, hitting the post twice before being forced off.

With Bale and Son unavailable and Dele Alli – who scored in December's 2-1 loss at Old Trafford – out of favour, Mourinho will rely on star striker Harry Kane to bag the goals and fire his side to victory.

The North London outfit have won one, drawn one and lost one from their opening three Premier League matches this season – already placing them under pressure to deliver better results.

Spurs face a couple of problems but after seeing Crystal Palace deservedly pick up maximum points at Old Trafford,

coupled with United's unconvincing performance at Brighton, Mourinho's men will fancy their chances of victory.

## Probable line-ups:

### Man United: 4-2-3-1

De Gea; Wan-Bissaka, Lindelof, Maguire, Shaw; Matic, Pogba; Greenwood, Fernandes, Rashford; Martial.

### Tottenham: 4-2-3-1

Lloris; Doherty, Sanchez, Dier, Reguilon; Winks, Hojbjerg; Lo Celso, Moura, Bergwijn; Kane.

## Prediction: Manchester United Win & Both Teams To Score (5/2)

United's performances have been underwhelming with many of their players looking tired. But to be fair, they did start their season a week later than most teams. Solskjaer will know his side have to step up a few gears to secure maximum points and with Spurs' crazy fixture schedule and Bale and Son unavailable, I'm confident United will come out on top, though I still think Mourinho's men will get on the scoresheet. 🐎



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