

Ridgemont's Champagne Celebration

The disappointment of having to make the tough precautionary call to scratch their Australian-bred star Run Fox Run in view of the prevailing going, turned into a celebration for the Ridgemont Racing Team at Kenilworth on Saturday when Nastergal came to the party and scored her first stakes success in style.

The withdrawal of two serious contenders in Brett Crawford's Run Fox Run and the Marshall runner Canukepitsecret reduced the R250 000 Gr3 Champagne Stakes field to just seven.

With a trio of representatives, Candice Bass-Robinson would have fancied her team's chances of lifting the honours – and enjoying the distinction of saddling the final feature winner of the 2018/19 Cape season.

But it was the lesser fancied Nastergal who was to deliver the thrills.

With each of the seven runners hard against the steel 100m after the gates were sprung, Ridgemont-Highlands sponsored jockey Greg Cheyne's initiative to, possibly reluctantly, take up the running on Nastergal was to prove a match-winning move.

The prospects of Cheyne's calculated tactical gamble got brighter as the race went on and after the challenge of the fancied Dynamic Diana folded late, the daughter of Duke Of Marmalade finished her race strongly to hold off various flying challenges and win by 2,25 lengths in a time of 79,64 secs.

Ostinato came out of the pack to hold off Crowded House and Too Phat To Fly.

The fancied runners were outgunned.

Ross and Wayne Kieswetter were on hand to lead the winner in with Craig Carey.

It was their second home-bred success of the afternoon after their Dynasty colt Yorktown impressed when a runaway winner of his maiden earlier on.

Bred by Ridgemont, Nastergal is out of the unraced Black Minnaloushe mare, Royale Noir.

She is by Drakenstein Stud's Cartier Champion Duke Of Marmalade and became the high-class son o Danehill's fifth local and 41st individual stakes winner.

Nastergal has won 3 races with 7 places from 12 starts for stakes of R335 575.

Gr3 Champagne Stakes (F&M) 1200m

Winner Nastergal set the pace; won going away

Runner-up Ostinato raced 3rd; no chance with winner

Third Crowded House raced 4th; kept on

Time: This was the slowest of the afternoon's four sprint races.

We gave the runner-up (prev 84/89/79/78 – has done 95) 86 which

makes the winner (prev 82/89/86/73/87) 93 and the third (prev

76/73/79/73/74) 85. A race to forget.

93	1	0.00	NASTERGAL	(7)	59.5	G Cheyne	9/1
3 ch f Duke Of Marmalade - Royale Noir (Black Minnaloushe)							
86	2	2.25	OSTINATO	(6)	60.0	M Winnaar	11/1
4 b f Judpot - Waltzing Time (Anytime)							
85	3	2.35	CROWDED HOUSE	(3)	59.5	S Mbhele	18/1
3 b f Elusive Fort - Tarragon (Toreador)							
85	4	2.55	Too Phat To Fly	(5)	60.0	R Munger	9/1
84	5	2.85	IntothelimeLight	(4)	60.0	C Orffer	15/1
82	6	3.15	Lesedi La Rona	(2)	59.5	B Fayd'herbe	21/10
83	7	3.20	Dynamic Diana	(1)	60.0	R Fourie	17/10

Time: 79.64s (66.37s avg/1000m, or 54km/h) **SP Total %:** 109%

1st **T:**C Bass-Robinson **O:**Messrs C & R Kieswetter & Ridgemont Highlands (Nominee Craig Carey) **B:**Ridgemont

Cheers Duke

The dashed dreams of the gallant Helen's Ideal's to wear the Cape Winter Triple Tiara lay scattered on the Kenilworth turf on Saturday as the Snaith stable dominated the finish to the R150 000 Listed Winter Oaks.

The Paul Reeves trained Helen's Ideal won the first two legs of the series with authority and on paper she looked like she would stay the 2200m.

The betting public were behind her, as were her connections.

But at the 300m marker it was clear that the daughter of Ideal World was treading water and she ended up out of the money and 13 lengths back in an anti-climax to what was hoped to be a champagne afternoon for the Reeves team.

But while Helen's Ideal was thrashing against the tide, the Snaiths were riding the crest of the wave as their duo of Duchess Of Bourbon and Fortune Flies dominated the finish.

Duchess Of Bourbon, owned by an American Syndicate, had been earmarked early for this race – even though modest jockey Richard Fourie said he thought that 1400m would be her game.

“The Duke Of Marmalades are not 2yo's. You can see what they are doing as 3yo's! She could be a Paddock Stakes filly – even though that is probably on the short side still, I think,” said Jonathan Snaith, who admitted that he thought Robert Khathi and Fortune Flies had the measure of Fourie and the Duchess in the final stages.

“But Richard is a difficult guy to get past if he is in front in the final 200m! They are both lovely fillies and we are pleased,” he added.

Duchess Of Bourbon (3-1) beat Fortune Flies (13-1) by a half length in a time of 144,31 secs.

Jackson's smart daughter Heaven's Embrace ran third. The Snaiths had earlier saddled Platinum Class to win the Ladies Mile.

A R600 000 Cape Premier Yearling Sale graduate, Duchess Of Bourbon has won 3 races with 6 places from 11 starts for stakes of R277 000.

The winner was bred by Golden Touch Thoroughbred Services & M Kidd and is a daughter of Drakenstein sire Duke Of Marmalade out of the twice winning Spectrum mare Rose Garden.

Winter Oaks (3yo fillies) (L) 2200m

Winner Duchess Of Bourbon raced 5th; led 400m; held on
Runner-up Fortune Flies raced 7th almost three lengths behind eventual

winner entering straight; ran on and challenged strongly

Third Heaven's Embrace raced 6th; outspinted

Time: Comparatively the slowest of the eight races around the turn, this was

run particularly slowly on the bend and developed into a 500m sprint. We

gave the third (prev 80/83/75/81/80) 82 which makes the winner (prev 84/87/88/82/85) 89 and the runner-up (prev 65/74/76//73/83) 88.

Possibly not

a result to stand the test of time.

89	1	0.00	DUCHESS OF BOURBON	(3)	59.0R	Fourie	3/1
3 b f Duke Of Marmalade - Rose Garden (Spectrum)							
88	2	0.50	FORTUNE FLIES	(6)	59.0	R Khathi	13/1
3 b f Dynasty - Right And Ready(GB) (Whipper)							
82	3	3.75	HEAVEN'S EMBRACE	(5)	59.0	G Cheyne	13/1
3 b f Jackson - Overarching(USA) (Arch)							
84	4	4.05	Star Fighter	(9)	60.0	B Fayd'herbe	7/2
68	5	13.30	Helen's Ideal	(1)	60.0	D Dillon	2/1
65	6	13.70	Je Ne Sais Quoi	(7)	59.0	M Byeleveld	22/1
65	7	14.95	Coral Bay	(8)	60.0	M Winnaar	13/1
57	8	17.95	Mary Moon	(4)	59.0	S Khumalo	50/1
0	9	99.99	Wallis Simpson	(2)	59.0	C Orffer	22/1
Time: 144.31s (65.6s avg/1000m, or 55km/h) SP Total %: 113%							
1st T:J Snaith O:Bourbon Lane Stables (Nom: Mr M J McMahon) & Mr A R & Mrs A B L Beck B:Golden Touch Thoroughbred Services & M Kidd							

On The Ball

Jockey Craig Zackey hasn't enjoyed the greatest of seasons but pulled himself back on track at Scottsville on Saturday in double quick time with a peach of a confidence boosting ride to win the R250 000 Gr3 Track and Ball Oaks on the Drakenstein owned and bred Seville Orange.

Trainer Lucky Houdalakis hasn't done a lot of SA Champions Season raiding but his 3yo daughter of Duke Of Marmalade put her hand up that she may be ready for better, when running a decent third behind Return Flight in the Gr2 SA Oaks at Turffontein in early May.

Seville Orange then put in a fair effort (4th 3,55 lengths) when none of them got close to Silvano's Pride in the Woolavington 2000 at Greyville on 1 June.

Easy to back at 8's from her wide draw, Zackey rode her confidently here when bouncing her and taking her round the pack to show the way.

Once out front, the pair dictated matters and despite coming under pressure late in the straight, Seville Orange galloped powerfully to hold off a flying late challenge from Flichity By Farr by 1,20 lengths.

The winner's time was 147,57 secs.

The Kotzen longshot Snapscan looked dangerous and challenged all the way up the home straight down the outside without finding the little extra – she stayed on nicely for third, a quarter length back.

The fancied Mike de Kock trained Blossom came through down the inside and ran 2,20 lengths off the winner.

A five time Gr1 winning Cartier Champion, the winner's Drakenstein Stud resident sire Duke Of Marmalade has impressed with his first SA crop (now 3yo's) – his most recent big score coming via his daughter Santa Clara in the Gr2 KRA Guineas.

The winner is out of the three-time Galileo mare, Serruria.

Gr3 Track And Ball Oaks 2400m

Winner Seville Orange set the pace 1.75 lengths clear; kept on strongly in the home straight

Runner up Flichity By Farr raced 9th entering the home straight 4,75 lengths behind the winner; ran on; beaten 1,2 lengths

Third Snapscan raced 3rd entering the home straight; 2 lengths behind the winner; beaten 1,45 lengths; jockey Kennedy was fined R750 for striking this horse more than 12 times

Time: Although the time was a decent one, this comparatively was only the third fastest of the four races around the turn, the pace being on the sedate side of fair.

We gave the winner (prev 86/95/99/52/98) 99 which makes the runner up (prev 92/87/90/93-has done 98) 94 and the third (prev 83/78/85/92/95) 97

99	1	0.00	SEVILLE ORANGE	(12)	55.0	C Zackey	20/1
3 ch f Duke Of Marmalade - Serruria(GB) (Galileo)							
94	2	1.20	FLICHTY BY FARR	(1)	58.0	L Hewitson	167/20
4 ch f Go Deputy - Flichity (Western Winter)							
97	3	1.45	SNAPSCAN	(6)	55.0	W Kennedy	20/1
3 b f Oratorio - Cash Register (Casey Tibbs)							
96	4	2.20	Blossom	(2)	55.0	G Lerena	33/20
91	5	2.70	Bondiblu	(8)	58.0	M Yeni	18/1
93	6	3.60	Princess Irene	(11)	55.0	C Orffer	25/1
94	7	3.65	Sabina's Dynasty	(5)	60.0	A Marcus	31/4
84	8	7.15	Dynasty's Blossom	(3)	58.0	D Dillon	15/1
83	9	7.40	Roy's Riviera	(4)	58.0	S Veale	17/2
83	10	7.80	Insignis	(10)	58.0	M v Rensburg	15/2
83	11	7.90	Expedite	(9)	58.0	L J Ferraris	40/1
0	12	72.40	Just One More	(7)	58.0	G Wright	100/1
Time: 147.57s (61.49s avg/1000m, or 59km/h) SP Total %: 110%							
1st T:M Houdalakis O:Drakenstein Stud (Nom: Mrs G A Rupert)							
B:Drakenstein Stud							

Santa...stic!

Something of a stakes bridesmaid as a 2yo, the beautifully bred Santa Clara has blossomed as a 3yo on the East Coast and she took a giant leap for SA Champions Season recognition when powering home to win the Gr2 KRA Fillies Guineas at Greyville on Friday evening.

Running from an awkward draw, Santa Clara appeared quite green at her first start under the lights but relaxed maturely in the hands of Bernard Fayd'herbe as Gauteng challenger Running Brave set the fractions ahead of Silvano's Pride and Celtic Sea.

Into the home run, Santa Clara catapulted through to take up the running and was never headed.

At the line, Santa Clara held a 2,75 length advantage over Cape Fillies Guineas star Front And Center who made up lengths from her dropped in position from her wide draw to run a great race in second.

The winner's time was 97,05 secs.

A R1 million Cape Yearling Sale purchase, Maine Chance Farms bred Santa Clara who is by Duke Of Marmalade (Danehill) out of an unraced full-sister, Shina (Lomitas) to champion sire Silvano.

Santa Clara has won 3 races with 6 places from 11 starts for stakes of R646 250.

Gr2 KRA Fillies Guineas 1600m

Winner Santa Clara raced 4th entering the straight; led 350m; won well

Runner-up Front And Centre (best handicapped) was drawn 12 of 13; raced 8th some 3 lengths behind the eventual winner entering the straight; ran on

Third Temple Grafina was cramped and had to ease going into the first bend; raced 6th about a length behind the eventual winner entering the straight; no impression

Time: Run in rather moderate time, this comparatively was the third fastest of the four races beyond sprint distances. We gave the third (prev 97/94/86/82/103) 103 which makes the winner (prev 92/91/102/89/99) 111 and the runner-up (prev 86/96/104/102/106) 105

111	1	0.00	SANTA CLARA	(10)	60.0	B Fayd'herbe	11/1
3 ch f Duke Of Marmalade - Shina(GER) (Lomitas)							
105	2	2.75	FRONT AND CENTRE	(13)	60.0	A Marcus	3/1
3 b f Dynasty - Alignment(IRE) (Alzao)							
103	3	4.00	TEMPLE GRAFIN	(5)	60.0	G Cheyne	8/1
3 ch f Duke Of Marmalade - Inner Temple (Greys Inn)							
100	4	5.25	Silvano's Pride	(11)	60.0	R Fourie	9/1
100	5	5.40	Running Brave	(8)	60.0	D L Habib	9/1
98	6	6.30	Nafaayes	(1)	60.0	W Kennedy	47/20
96	7	6.90	Celtic Sea	(7)	60.0	L Hewitson	33/4
96	8	7.20	Moon In June	(6)	60.0	G Wright	44/1
92	9	9.00	Princess Irene	(12)	60.0	C Orffer	36/1
91	10	9.30	Petra	(2)	60.0	B Lerena	66/1
90	11	9.90	Waiting For Change	(4)	60.0	S Veale	66/1
73	12	17.40	Railtrip	(3)	60.0	C Zackey	66/1
66	13	20.65	Arianos Shadow	(9)	60.0	M Yeni	55/1

Time: 97.05s (60.66s avg/1000m, or 59km/h) **SP Total %:** 116%

1st **T:**C Bass-Robinson **O:**Drakenstein Stud (Nom: Mrs G A Rupert)

B:Maine Chance

Kotzen Swoops

Reportedly showing some good work at home the previous week, Temple Grafina was remarkably easy to back on her return to the track following an unplaced run behind Cirillo in the CTS 1200 on Sun Met day ten weeks ago.

Anton Marcus, who had run two seconds aboard the chestnut flyer during the Cape Summer, did duty on Sunday and finally got lucky.

He had Temple Grafina relaxed a few lengths off the gallop set by Silvano's Pride, Runaway Girl and Santa Clara.

Into the final 300m Temple Grafina was switched out for a run as Santa Clara made her move to take over the lead from the enthusiastic Silvano's Pride.

In a three-cornered drive to the wire Marcus got Temple Grafina to produce a sustained finish from her unfavourable draw and she beat Santa Clara by 0,40 lengths in a time of 84,87 secs.

Snaith's Silvano's Pride became tight between the top two late and had to be marginally taken back by Richard Fourie as she finished a further 0,75 lengths adrift.

All the top trio last ran on Met day, so the form could see reversals in the months ahead.

Kotzen assistant John Buckler saddled the winner – his first feature success for them.

A R300 000 Cape Premier Yearling Sale graduate, Temple Grafina was bred by Fran Cowe and is a daughter of Drakenstein stallion Duke Of Marmalade (Danehill) out of the one-time winner Inner Temple (Greys Inn).

She has won 3 races with 2 places from 8 starts for stakes of R508 375 – and she really enjoys Greyville.

Gr3 Umzimkhulu Stakes (3yo fillies) 1400m

Winner Temple Grafina was drawn 12th of 13; raced midfield in 7th; ran on strongly to get up close home; shifted in late

Santa Clara (best handicapped) raced 3rd; led 220m; ran on; rolled out late

Third Silvano's Pride (2nd best handicapped) set the pace 2 lengths clear; had to steady late due to movement of first two

Time: This was the fastest of the three 1400m races. We gave the 5th horse (prev best 83) 83 which makes the winner (prev 91/90/87/79/75) 96, the runner-up (prev 84/85/84/95/82) 92, and the third (prev 65/78/87/92/73) 90

96	1	0.00	TEMPLE GRAFIN	(12)	60.0	A Marcus	7/1
3 ch f Duke Of Marmalade - Inner Temple (Greys Inn)							
92	2	0.40	SANTA CLARA	(2)	58.5	A Domeyer	71/20
3 ch f Duke Of Marmalade - Shina(GER) (Lomitas)							
90	3	1.15	SILVANO'S PRIDE	(10)	58.5	R Fourie	10/3
3 ch f Silvano - Mary's Pride (Jet Master)							
87	4	2.15	Parental Control	(1)	58.5	D De Gouveia	10/1
83	5	3.40	Anneka	(4)	58.5	L Hewitson	6/1
86	6	3.45	Inverroche	(5)	60.0	B Lerena	12/1
81	7	4.10	Silent Crusade	(6)	58.5	S Randolph	18/1
77	8	5.35	Arianos Shadow	(3)	58.5	S Veale	16/1
74	9	6.35	Strawberry Wine	(7)	58.5	M Yeni	28/1
73	10	6.60	Runaway Gal	(9)	58.5	C Orffer	16/1
68	11	8.30	Railtrip	(11)	58.5	C Zackey	12/1
66	12	9.10	Ella's World	(8)	58.5	W Kennedy	25/1
64	13	9.60	Reactive Glaze	(13)	58.5	J Samuel	50/1

Time: 84.87s (60.62s avg/1000m, or 59km/h) **SP Total %:** 123%

1st **T:**GS Kotzen **O:**Chrigor Stud (Pty) Ltd (Nom: Mrs S Hattingh)

B:MF Cowe

A Royal Run!

Drakenstein Stud's five time Gr1 winning Cartier Champion Duke Of Marmalade celebrated another locally bred stakes success when his daughter Princess Irene continued her climb up the ladder with a smooth victory in the R150 000 Listed Jamaica Handicap at Kenilworth on Friday.

Capitalising on her handy 52kgs galloping weight, talented KZN lightweight Sean Veale rode a nicely judged race from off the gallop to make it three consecutive wins for Princess Irene, following her maiden icebreaker on 17 November last year.

Baroness Mary led early ahead of Still I Rise, Libra and topweight Red Ginger.

Sean Veale overcame the wide draw on Princess Irene and had her slotted economically against the rail after they had gone 400m.

Into the dash for home, they fanned out with Foxy Princess and Midnight Moonlight looking dangerous.

The race changed complexion into the final stages and it was Sean Veale, keeping a cool head under a swinging right handed ride, who produced the magic.

Princess Irene burst through at the 200m and got the better of the consistent Foxy Princess to win by 0,75 lengths in a time of 124,56 secs.

Expedite moved up threateningly down the inside rail but just failed to maintain her momentum and was beaten a head back in third, with Joey Ramsden longshot Dynasty's Blossom arrive too late but holding fourth a neck away.

The tote favourite Coral Bay lost ground at the jump but ran on well to grab fifth position – only 1,35 lengths off the winner.

A second locally bred stakes winning daughter for Duke Of Marmalade (Danehill), the winner was bred by Drakenstein Stud and is out of the Arch mare, Archerfield, who did not win.

She has now won 3 times for 3 places from 7 starts for stakes of R230 625.

The Duke has 12 lots on offer at the Cape Premier Yearling Sale on 23 January.

Jamaica Handicap (F&M) (L) 2000m

Winner Princess Irene raced 7th; led 100m; won well

Runner-up Foxy Princess raced 5th; led 350m; ran on, but no chance with winner

Third Expedite raced fitted with ear muffs; raced 10th; running on strongly at finish

Time: This comparatively was the fastest of the four races around the turn. We gave the third (prev 74/77/75/79/82) 80 which makes the winner (prev 76/74/67/77/76) 89 and the runner-up (prev 75/76/73/79/79) 75

89	1	0.00	PRINCESS IRENE	(10)	52.0	S Veale	6/1
3 b f Duke Of Marmalade - Archerfield(USA) (Arch)							
75	2	0.75	FOXY PRINCESS	(4)	52.5	M Winnaar	9/1
5 b m Royal Air Force - Foxy Girl (Camden Park)							
80	3	0.85	EXPEDITE	(1)	54.5	C Zackey	17/4
4 b f Judpot - Alexia (Caesour)							
83	4	1.05	Dynasty's Blossom	(5)	56.0	D Dillon	16/1
90	5	1.35	Coral Bay	(2)	53.5	R Munger	9/2
77	6	2.60	Ontenderhooks	(6)	55.0	R Simons	36/1
85	7	4.35	Red Ginger	(12)	60.0	B Fayd'herbe	20/1
70	8	4.65	Libra	(7)	53.5	S Khumalo	20/1
76	9	5.90	Talitha Borealis	(9)	57.0	R Fourie	71/10
64	10	6.30	Baroness Mary	(13)	52.0	S Mbhele	36/1
69	11	7.30	Royal Utopia	(8)	55.0	K De Melo	28/1
61	12	7.60	Perfectproportions	(11)	52.0	A Andrews	44/1
60	13	11.10	Midnight Moonlight	(3)	54.5	R Danielson	20/1
42	14	21.35	Still I Rise	(14)	55.0	L Hewitson	31/4
Time: 124.56s (62.28s avg/1000m, or 58km/h) SP Total %: 117%							
1st T: BJ Crawford O: Drakenstein Stud (Nom: Mrs G A Rupert)							
B: Drakenstein Stud							

One For The Duke

Glen Kotzen produced a first SA-bred stakes winner for Drakenstein stallion Duke Of Marmalade, when the lovely chestnut Temple Grafín bounded clear to win the R300 000 Gr3 The Debutante at Greyville on Saturday and give the combination of Richard Fourie and Chrigor Stud a nice double in the race.

Princess Peach won The Debutante in 2017 for Saturday's winning combination and the money came for Temple Grafín in the morning after some excuses when running wide in the Golden Slipper at her last start.

Going off at 9-1 and with the instructions simply – but supremely confidently – 'not to win by too far', Richard Fourie had Temple Grafín nicely settled from her wide gate as Miss Khalifa and the favourite Inverroche made the pace.

Into the straight, Temple Grafín was always going the better and she stretched clear to beat the late challenge of the previously unbeaten Oratorio filly Arianos Shadow by 1,75 lengths in a time of 71,34 secs.

A R300 000 Cape Premier Yearling Sale graduate, Temple Grafín was bred by Fran Cowe and is a daughter of Drakenstein stallion Duke Of Marmalade (Danehill) out of the one-time winner Inner Temple (Greys Inn).

She has won twice from three starts for stakes of R253 125.

The winner's sire Duke Of Marmalade, Cartier Champion Older Male in 2008 and A five time Gr1 winner, is already a proven sire success story on the international stage.

Gr3 The Debutante (2yo fillies) 1200m (turf)

Winner Temple Grafín was drawn wide; raced 5th; led 400m
 Runner-up Ariano's Shadow raced in midfield 2.5 lengths behind the winner entering the straight; ran on; held by winner late
 Third Inverroche (best handicapped) was always handy and held every chance

Time: Although the slowest of the afternoon's three 1200m races, the time nonetheless was a good one. We gave the runner-up (prev 74/87) 87 which makes the winner (prev 81/81) 91 and the third (prev 75/85/92/80) 85

91	1	0.00	TEMPLE GRAFIN	(11)	60.0	R Fourie	27/4
2 ch f Duke Of Marmalade - Inner Temple (Greys Inn)							
87	2	1.75	ARIANOS SHADOW	(4)	60.0	M Yeni	31/4
2 b f Querari - Counting Gold (Count Dubois)							
85	3	2.50	INVERROCHE	(10)	60.0	B Lerena	26/10
2 b f Ideal World - National Sensation (National Assembly)							
82	4	3.50	Western Angel	(2)	60.0	S Randolph	44/1
76	5	5.50	Miss Khalifa	(3)	60.0	M Khan	18/1
76	6	5.65	Petra	(5)	60.0	C Orffer	11/1
76	7	5.75	Sweet Mary Lou	(1)	60.0	S Khumalo	10/1
76	8	5.80	All Of Me	(13)	60.0	J Penny	100/1
75	9	5.85	Heaven's Reward	(7)	60.0	C Zackey	71/10
75	10	5.90	Boss Babe	(9)	60.0	R Danielson	9/1
62	11	10.65	Elle Va	(8)	60.0	K De Melo	22/1
62	12	10.75	Awesomely Tuned	(12)	60.0	W Kennedy	75/1
56	13	12.75	Noemi	(6)	60.0	B Fayd'herbe	16/1
Time: 71.34s (59.45s avg/1000m, or 61km/h) SP Total %: 112%							
1st T: GS Kotzen O: Chrigror Stud (Pty) Ltd (Nom: Mrs S Hattingh)							
B: MF Cowe							