Gr3 Protea Stakes R200,000 • Turffontein (stand) • 30 March '19

Over The Moon

Just three weeks after dead-heating in the Listed Ruffian Stakes at the same venue, Wylie Hall's stakes icebreaker Twilight Moon and the undefeated Aussie import Frosted Gold bumped heads again in the R200 000 Gr3 Protea Stakes.

On a day for bargain buys and young sires, Twilight Moon confirmed that his last show was no flash in the pan. And this time there were no questions or photographs as the R20 000 sale graduate asserted his superiority on a kilo worse terms than on their previous clash, when he got the better of the De Kock grey Frosted Gold to score a fluent win by 1,25 lengths in a time of 64,18 secs.

The Daytona Stud bred Twilight Moon's win was a first stakes success for Cheveley Stud's well performed young Redoute's Choice stallion Wylie Hall when he won three weeks back and he gave apprentice Denis Schwarz another opportunity on Saturday to boost his CV.

Trained by Paul Matchett, Twilight Moon is out of the three-time winning Qui Danzig mare, Twilight. He was bought for R20 000 off the KZN Yearling Sale.

He has run three times for two wins and a place and took his stakes to R208 875.

Gr3 Protea Stakes 1100m

Winner Twilight Moon raced 4th; led 200m; ran on Runner-up Frosted Gold (best handicapped) raced 2nd; led 400m; green

Third Green Laser raced in the rear; running on at finish, but well **beaten**

Time: The second fastest of the three 1100m races, the time was a good one. We gave the runner-up (prev 81/94) 94 which makes the winner (prev 73/88) 93 and the third (prev 60/77) 78

B:Daytona Stud

Storm Bird Stakes (2yo's)(L) R150,000 · Turffontein (stand) · 9 March '19

Stakes Icebreaker

The day's opening feature produced a thrilling dead heat with the Paul Matchett once raced maiden Twilight Moon rallying strongly under Denis Schwarz to take the favourite Frosted Gold under Gavin Lerena all the way to the wire – and the judge couldn't split them as they clocked a time of 58.8 secs for the 1000m.

The Hollywood Syndicate's recent Vaal debut winner Look To The Sky showed enthusiastic pace but had to be content with third a further 1,75 lengths back, with the filly Cavivar not disgraced in fourth.

The Daytona Stud bred Twilight Moon's win was a first stakes success for Cheveley Stud's well performed young Redoute's Choice stallion Wylie Hall.

One of 34 Gr1 winners sired by triple Australian champion sire Redoute's Choice, Wylie Hall was an outstanding performer who banked more than R3.6 million. First past the post in the 2014 G1 Vodacom Durban July, Wylie Hall won or placed in 15 of 21 outings, with his victories including the Gr1 SA Derby and the Gr1 President's Champions Challenge.

Trained by Paul Matchett, Twilight Moon is out of the thrice winning Qui Danzig mare, Twilight. He was well bought for R20 000 off the KZN Yearling Sale.

He has run twice for a win and a place and took his stakes to R83 875.

A handsome grey colt, his co winner Frosted Gold is unbeaten in two starts for stakes of R133 750.

Frosted Gold was acquired by Form Bloodstock off the Blandford Lodge draft at the 2018 Melbourne Premier Yearling Sale for A180\,000$.

He is by Vinery Stud's All Too Hard, the Champion Three-Year-Old Colt in Australia in 2012/13 and a half-brother to Australia's famous galloper Black Caviar. He is out of the Verglas mare Mary Dór – a winner in France and a full sister to Gr1 performer, Stormy River.

Storm Bird Stakes (2yo's) (L) 1000m

Dead-heat winner Twilight Moon raced towards the rear early; 3rd at 400m; hanging in from 150m; led 150m

Dead-heat winner Frosted Gold (3rd best handicapped) raced 4th; hanging out, and shifted away from the crop concluding stages; got up last stride to share

Third Look To The Sky raced green in 2nd; ran on

Time: The fourth fastest of the afternoon's six sprint races, the time a fair one. We gave the fifth horse (prev best 81) 81 which makes Twilight Moon (prev 73) 88, Frosted Gold (prev 81) 94, and the third (prev 77) 89. Juveniles at this time of year are bound to make strong improvements on ratings.