

SA VERSUS THE WORLD ON CUP DAY



Frankie Dettori



Anton Marcus



Pierre Strydom

Frankie Dettori and Mick Kinane, two of the biggest names in horseracing, are among the six international jockeys who will clash with South Africa's top riders in the International Jockeys' Challenge at the Steinhoff International Summer Cup race meeting at Turffontein Racecourse in Johannesburg on Saturday 29 November.

The international team contains champions from several countries including the UK, France and Australia. The full team is Frankie Dettori (England), Mick Kinane (Ireland), Ryan Moore (England), Damien Oliver (Australia), Srinath Surender (India) and Christophe Soumillon (France).

Italian-born Dettori has become a legend in his own lifetime and is the most famous jockey in the world. He is the retained rider for Godolphin, the banner under which the rulers of Dubai race, and has won virtually every major race in the world including the Epsom Derby, the Dubai World Cup, the Breeders' Cup Turf in the USA, the Japan Cup and the Arc de Triomphe.

Like Dettori, Irish-born Kinane has long been regarded as one of the best jockeys on the planet and has won the Irish Jockeys' Championship a record 13 times. He, too, has won major races in a string of countries including the Epsom Derby twice, the Arc de Triomphe, the Belmont Stakes and the Melbourne Cup, Australia's most famous race.

Ryan Moore was champion apprentice in the UK in 2003 and went on to clinch the British Jockeys' Championship in 2006, when he booted home 180 winners. Injury put paid to his chances of retaining the title last year, but he currently holds a commanding lead in the race for this year's UK jockeys' title.

Belgium-born Christophe Soumillon has been a dominant figure in French racing for years. He was champion apprentice there in 1999 and won the French Jockeys' Championship in 2003 with 207 winners. His major successes include the Arc de Triomphe, the Breeders' Cup Turf, the Dubai Duty Free and the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes in England.

Surender has won the jockeys' title in India no fewer than five times and has won virtually all the major races in that country. He has ridden over 900 winners from 2800 rides, including some 40 successes in Macau.

Oliver is a household name in Australia and has won 80 Group 1 races, including the Melbourne Cup twice, four Caulfield Cups, two Cox Plates and a Golden Slipper to complete the Grand Slam of Australian Racing. He has won the Melbourne Jockeys' Premiership on seven occasions and ridden with success in New Zealand, Mauritius, Hong Kong, Japan, Ireland and England.

The international riders will compete against South Africa's best jockeys in a thrilling four-race challenge on Steinhoff Summer Cup day.

The riders to represent South Africa will be selected in the near future. Phumelela has asked the National Horseracing Authority, an autonomous national body that is responsible for ensuring that all races are run according to the rules of horseracing, to choose the team.

There will be a draw for mounts in each of the challenge races and the runners will be seeded beforehand in order to equalise the chances of the two teams as much as is possible.

The International Jockeys' Challenge will be one of the highlights of a glorious afternoon of horseracing action on 29 November. The R2-million Steinhoff Summer Cup, one of the most famous races on the South African racing calendar, is the headline event and is certain to produce a memorable battle between many of the best thoroughbreds in the country.

Several other major races will also be run and there's no doubt that the afternoon will live up to its billing of "Joburg's Golden Event".

Phumelela's Group CEO Rian du Plessis said: "African Horse Sickness regulations make it extremely difficult to stage an international horse race in South Africa currently, so instead we have gone for an international jockeys challenge. It should be a fabulous afternoon and we are delighted to be staging the event in conjunction with Steinhoff, one of South African horseracing's major sponsors and supporters."

Derrick Matthew, Marketing Executive of Steinhoff International Group Services, said: "It is a privilege to be associated with the Summer Cup - an event which is more than 100 years old. With the initiatives undertaken and the commitment shown by all concerned we are excited that this event will receive the prestigious recognition it deserves and be established as an annual event not to be missed!"

Phumelela's General Manager Marketing and Communications, Robert Garner, said the jockeys' challenge would capture the imagination of horseracing fans and the general public alike.

"It's South Africa versus the world and brings international horseracing to our shores, something that has been lacking for years," said Garner. "Our jockeys have been champions across the globe from Michael Roberts in the UK to Bartie Leisher, Basil Marcus and Douglas Whyte in Hong Kong, and we believe the whole country will get behind our jockeys on the big day."

National Colour seen here as a three-year-old winning her final start in South Africa in July 2006 in the Mercury Sprint, which was her third Grade I victory in succession.



Sean Tarry said after National Colour's fine second in the Group I Nunthorpe Stakes over five furlongs (1000m) run at the Newmarket July course that he and jockey Kevin Shea had been quite confident beforehand when they saw the fast conditions and the tailwind.

The flying grey five-year-old mare was known for her excellent gate speed and blistering early pace in her days in South Africa where she won three Grade I races.

In the Gr1 Nunthorpe Stakes the course record was broken by over a second and the first seven horses home finished inside the previous record time.

The winner was the 12-1 shot Borderlescott, a six-year-old gelding by Compton Place.

National Colour, who is by the very successful South African stallion National Assembly, came within 0,5 lengths of becoming the first South African-bred horse to win a Group I race in Europe.

In the stands Tarry and owner Chris van Niekerk thought that she would do it when she was clear with a furlong to go. However Borderlescott ran on very strongly and caught her coming up the steep climb towards the finish, giving both trainer Robin Bastiman and jockey Pat Cosgrave the first Grade I wins of their respective careers.

Kevin Shea quipped afterwards that it was the fastest he had ever been in his life.

National Colour was affectionately known in South Africa as the "flying grey filly", a name she probably inherited from the original "flying filly", a famous British-bred called Mumtaz Mahal, who appears seven times in her pedigree and whom she resembles quite closely.

Ironically Mumtaz Mahal won the Nunthorpe in 1924.

National Colour had knee surgery after a race in Dubai in March last year and this was her second run after a rest of over a year.

Tarry said, "She ran a great race and we have no excuses. We are a bit disappointed that she beat all the fancied horses but was caught by an outsider. The hill at Newmarket did find her out. We had planned the race for the flat track at York and had the race taken place there it might have been a different story. But it was a good field and she has now proven herself at the highest level so hopefully we can move forward from here. We will now go for the Prix de l'Abbaye at Longchamp on Arc day. That is a flat course but obviously the going on the day might not be as fast. She is a filly who has her issues but she's come out of the race as well as we could have expected."

The Nunthorpe is traditionally run at York but after heavy rain virtually flooded the course during the week the Group I and Group II races were rescheduled to other racecourses around the country. One of the premier events of the York meeting, the Group I Juddmonte International Stakes over one mile and two furlongs (2000m), was run on the Newmarket July course and saw the Aiden O'Brien-trained Duke Of Marmalade, a four-year-old colt by Danehill, stamp himself as the best turf racehorse in the world. It was his fifth Group I victory in succession and he easily repelled the challenge of 12-1 shot Phoenix Tower with Epsom Derby winner, New Approach, in third.

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KUMARAN NAIDOO



A notable training feat was pulled off by Kumaran Naidoo when he won one of Kimberly's two feature events of the season, the R100,000 Racing Association Sprint over 1000m, with the Kwazulu Natal raider Execute.

The race does not carry Listed status but nevertheless Execute's win provided three firsts as it was all of Naidoo's, apprentice jockey Derrick David's and the sire Woodborough's first feature winner.

Woodborough stands at Mike and Wendy McHardy's Rathmor Stud and the win would have brought a consolation, however small, for the tragic loss of Wendywood, who along with Gypsy's Warning was one of two recent Grade I winning fillies bred by the stud.

Execute looked an unlikely winner on paper as not only was he out of the handicap by 2,5kg but David, under the conditions of the race, was not allowed to claim his current 1,5kg apprentice allowance.

However, Naidoo and David had still been bullish about his chances due to the excellent sand work the four-year-old gelding had shown at home at Summerveld.

"There were no horses in the yard who could go with him on the sand," said Naidoo. "He has the shuffling type of action typical of a sand horse and his best previous runs had also come in soft going. He is also a type that lies handy and then stays on at the end."

The latter two assets always augur well for the sand as the lack of grip on the surface tends to blunt the strong turn of foot relied on by those who come from off the pace.

Naidoo hired former Summerveld trainer, John Fox, to transport Execute up to the race. Another Naidoo horse, Raising Dust, accompanied Execute and ran fifth in the first race on the card. Kimberly trainer, Cliff Miller, saddled both horses.

Fox has had previous success at this meeting having transported

two Mike de Kock-trained Bridget Oppenheimer-owned horses in the last two years, Made Of Money, who won the R100,000 Flamingo Casino Mile in 2006, and Pine Nut, who finished second in the R100,000 Racing Association Mile in 2007.

In the race Execute, having been backed in from 14-1 to 12-1, never looked like being beaten.

He was right up with the pace from the off and then produced a telling kick in the final 400m that took him well clear of the field. He ran out a 5,25 length winner.

Execute, purchased for a mere R12,000, has become a bargain horse in no uncertain terms, having now won three races for owner Brian Thomas and taken his stake earnings to a healthy R160,000.

There looks to be more to come for the small bay with the white blaze and Naidoo might be eyeing the R600,000 Emerald Cup over 1450m at the Vaal for both him and a new arrival in his yard, another previous feature race sand winner, Dynamite Mike.

Dynamite Mike has been bought out of the Herman Brown-yard by owners of Naidoo's and the five-year-old grey's long-term goal could still be the Dubai Carnival.

Naidoo has made a fantastic start to his career, having taken out his license just 17 months ago.

Starting with a string of just 10 horses, when sharing a yard with Tony Rivalland, he now has his own yard with 40 horses and sent out 19 winners in his first full season.

He would like to grow his string to 50 this season and has some nice two-year-olds to look forward to, including the top-priced lot from the Sibaya Yearling Sales, a National Emblem half-sister to Graded winner, the Rivalland-trained London Guest.

Naidoo's good older horses include seven-time winner, Northern Tribe, and he also thinks a lot of three-time winning miler, Preach Connection.

David is also a jockey full of promise and having ridden his first winner, which happened to be for his parents, Eblam and Elaine, only in March last year, he booted home 27 winners last season and is one of the pretenders to the throne of Champion Apprentice.

NEW FACE IN CAPE TRAINING RANKS



The torrid Cape winter has played havoc with racing in the region. Recently abandoned Kenilworth meetings delayed newly licenced private trainer Michael Robinson's first runner.

The thirty-six year old Robinson, whose wife Luella is daughter of KZN trainer Doug Campbell and an accomplished horsewoman in her own right, learnt the ropes with Mike Stewart in Noordhoek and Chris Snaith before moving to KwaZulu-Natal some seven years ago to join the powerful

Dennis Drier yard, where he spent six years as an assistant to one of the most knowledgeable men in the game. "Dennis was a hard taskmaster and a very driven man who taught me so much about horses, people and winning. He had the most wonderful knack of priming a horse for a particular race and had an eye for well-priced animals who could run. He afforded me plenty of responsibility and left the string in my care in his absence, without giving me a host of instructions. Faith like this gives one plenty of confidence to

grow and I believe it has prepared me well for my new role."

Some twelve months ago Robinson landed the plum job of pre-trainer to the powerful Rupert string at L'Ormarins in the scenic Franschoek valley and he now describes himself as 'extremely fortunate' to enjoy the lifestyle and facilities of a world-class establishment. "It's an absolute pleasure working for Mrs Gaynor Rupert and we have settled in really well. In view of the fact that the facilities and tracks are outstanding we decided to experiment with training off the farm and thus the fact that I have taken out a licence."

The Ruperts have been huge supporters of the sport through investment in quality bloodstock and also the sponsorship of the prestigious Grade 1 Queens Plate. They have decided to separate their L'Ormarins wine and equine interests and thus the new name of Drakenstein Stud as registered owners of their runners. The familiar blue and white silks remain unchanged.

As a former Capetonian - Mike grew up in the Simonstown area - he has slotted in well and says that he hardly misses KwaZulu-Natal. "I loved Natal, but the Cape is my home and one couldn't hope for a better environment to train horses and raise a family.

EYE-OPENER FOR FELIX COETZEE



One of South African horseracing's favourite sons and greatest ambassadors, three time SA champion jockey Felix Coetzee, paid a fleeting visit to our shores en-route to his nineteenth season in Hong Kong. The forty-

nine year old rider, who was returning from the scenic Santa Ynez Valley in Santa Barbara, California, where he had completed his second Monty Roberts course, said that he was raring to go for another Hong Kong racing season, which, as a result of the Beijing Olympics, is starting later than usual.

Coetzee, who graduated from the SA Jockey Academy in 1979, has an impressive list of achievements to his name that includes holding the joint record for Gold Cup victories - seven with the legendary Charlie Barends- as well as three SA Jockey championships. He has won practically every Group 1 race in Hong Kong, where he has been based since 1992, and is probably best known for his association with the great sprinter Silent Witness, on whom he rode seventeen consecutive wins, as well as the speedster's eighteenth and final victory.

While humility and a willingness to learn are probably not the enduring character traits that we have generally come to expect from our champion jockeys, the forty-nine year old Coetzee's enthusiasm with and interest in the philosophies and skills of the world's greatest horse behaviouralist, is intriguing and refreshing. It was in 2007 that he and fellow jockey Dougie Whyte, prompted by a fascination with all things western and cowboys, decided to

do something completely different by attending Monty Robert's course:

"Douglas and myself had the most eye-opening learning experience last year, which way exceeded our expectations. Instead of learning about the wild west and cowboys, we came away feeling humbled and with a new understanding of the horse - and ourselves! I have been riding for forty years now and have changed my approach to race-riding and really have a new empathy and admiration for what must rank as the finest creature on mother earth. I hope to attend this course as many times as I can, as I do not believe that one can ever know everything about the horse. Monty Roberts himself is an absolute legend and at the age of seventy-three is tougher than most guys half his age. Also, unlike most horseracing people, he tries to share and impart as much knowledge and wisdom as he possibly can."

A final word from Felix: "Patience and a gentle approach are the cornerstones of Monty Roberts' work. He says that if one works with a problem horse like one has only fifteen minutes, it will take all day - rather work like you have all day, then it is likely to take only fifteen minutes."

When taxed on the question of his future plans, Coetzee said that he would take things one season at a time. He had just returned from Cape Town where he had settled his nineteen year-old daughter Catherine into Theatre School and said that he had always had a soft spot for the Western Cape. He had also been given some interesting advice by his old master, Terrance Millard, whom he had bumped into in the Mother City recently:

"Mr Millard saw me and said that based on what he saw, I could go on riding to at least the age of fifty-five! This was not exactly what I expected to hear as that is only six years away and I really still feel fit and strong at this stage of the game. I doubt whether I would consider training horses as I have seen that it is a helluva tough way to earn a living. I would nevertheless like to contribute in some manner or means as the game has been very good to me. I am freelancing in Hong Kong so could return at any time if I felt like doing so."

DUKE OF MARMALADE

Duke Of Marmalade stamped himself as the best turf horse in the world on the weekend when winning the Group 1 Juddmonte International over a mile and two furlongs (2000m) at the rescheduled venue of the Newmarket (UK) July course and this would have been good news for South African breeders as he is closely related on the female side to some of our best stallions and racehorses.

Duke Of Marmalade is by one of the most influential sires of recent times, Danehill, out of Kingmambo mare Love Me True.

Love Me True hails from the outstanding broodmare Gay Missile via her daughter, Lassie Dear, who has become an internationally influential broodmare.

Lassie Dear, who is Duke Of Marmalade's third dam, is the dam of our former champion sire, sire of sires and top broodmare sire, Al Mufti, as well as Wolfhound.

Al Mufti already has four sons at stud in South Africa, the proven successful Captain Al, the exciting prospect Victory Moon, former Champion Sprinter Cataloochee and twice Grade 1 winner, The Sheik.

Lassie Dear also produced the outstanding broodmare Weekend Surprise, dam among others of AP Indy, who is in turn the sire of the deceased South African stallion, Camden Park, as well as KZN Midlands sire, Mon Sang, and the Western Cape's A.P. Magic.

That means our highest earning racehorse ever, Jay Peg, who is by Camden Park out of Al Mufti mare Laptop Lady, is in-bred 3x4

to Lassie Dear.

Weekend Surprise is the dam of another of our stallions, Tiger Ridge, who produced 11 stakes winners in the USA, before being imported here.

Another South African sire that has Lassie Dear as his second dam is KZN Midland's stallion, Houston Connection.

Besides Lassie Dear, Gay Missile also produced the successful broodmare, Gallanta, who is dam of deceased South African sire, Sportsworld.



The most expensive thoroughbred



The most expensive thoroughbred to ever be imported to South Africa, a USA-bred bay called Trippi, will take up stud duties at Drakenstein Stud in the Western Cape starting from September 1.

The standard forty shares in Trippi have been snapped up by a cross-section of the leading breeders in South Africa.

Markus Jooste (Klawervlei) is a big investor and other notables to have purchased shares are Graham Beck (Highlands), Mary Slack (Wilgebosdrift), Sabine Plattner (La Plaisance), Gary Player (Gary Player Stud) and Dan de Wet (Zandvliet).

The deal allows each investor two coverings per share per season and Drakenstein Stud Master, Ross Fuller, envisages Trippi covering 80 mares in his first season.

The stallion's cover fee for outside investors is R100 000.

Trippi is by the Forty-Niner (Mr. Prospector) stallion, End Sweep.

On his sire's side there is only one appearance of Northern Dancer, four generations back, and his dam is an outcross to Northern Dancer.

Jehan Malherbe of Form Bloodstock, who brought Trippi into the country, said, "He is an outcross to just about anything we have here."

Fuller added, "He is a very nice size at 16,1 hands and will be very well suited and easily mated to South African mares."

The eleven-year-old has already stood for three seasons in the USA.

He was the leading sire in Florida and also the leading sire of two-year-olds in Florida. He was the second leading US sire standing outside of Kentucky and the third leading US third-crop sire.

As a racehorse Trippi won seven times in 14 starts from 1200m to 1800m for earnings of \$675,000.

As a three-year-old he won the Grade I Vosburgh Stakes, the Grade II Riva Ridge Stakes and the Grade II Tom Fool

Handicap, all over 1400m on the dirt at Belmont Park, as well as the Grade III Flamingo Stakes over 1800m on dirt at Hialeah Park and the Grade III Swale Stakes over 1400m on dirt at Gulfstream Park.

As a four-year-old he finished second in the Grade II Gulfstream Park Breeders' Cup Sprint Championship over 1400m on the dirt.

Although Trippi himself was a dirt horse his best performed progeny, Trippi's Storm, was transformed as a racehorse when switched to turf. He won the Grade II Kelso Handicap at Belmont Park over a mile on turf and finished third in a Grade I race over 2400m on turf at Saratoga.

Trippi's dam, the Valid Appeal mare Jealous Appeal, has produced four stakes winners and two stakes placed horses.

Fuller has inspected Trippi's foals in America and said that they are stamped with his same athletic looks and bold eye.

"The best foal I saw came from a mare with the Al Mufti shape, a close coupled type," said Fuller. "He was a speed horse but has also got his progeny to stay."

Trippi's best daughter has been Miss Macy Sue who has won eleven times for earnings of \$787 230, finishing third in the Breeder's Cup sprint for fillies and mares over 1200m on dirt at Monmouth Park and winning the Grade III Winning Colors Stakes over 1200m on dirt at Churchill Downs.

Both Trippi's Storm and Miss Macy Sue were from Trippi's first crop.

Trippi produced 228 foals in the USA of which 149 were runners (65%), 106 winners (46%), 52 won as two-year-olds (23%) and 12 were stakes winners (5%).

Fuller said that some very good quality mares had already been booked to the stallion.

RACING SOUTH AFRICA SPONSORED RACEDAY

NEWMARKET RACECOURSE - SATURDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER

Representing the South African Equine Trade Council

On Saturday 20 September, the Natwest Rowley Mile Racecourse in Newmarket is the venue for Racing South Africa's 2008 promotion of the South African horseracing industry to the hugely knowledgeable racing public in the United Kingdom.

Amongst other factors, it is thanks to the exploits of South African racehorses around the world that informed bloodstock investors like Andreas Jacobs, Sabine Plattner, Fieldspring Racing, Gainsborough and Shadwell Studs and more recently Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Maktoum and Dr Jim Hay to name a few, have made South Africa one of their first choice horseracing destinations!

When one considers that the entry level to horseracing in South Africa is nearly one fifth of the cost in the UK, it is not surprising that an estimated 25% of all horses in training in Cape Town are paid for by UK-based owners.

Whereas in the past Barbados was the winter haven for many European racing personalities, South Africa, and in particular the Cape, has taken over this mantle.

Racing South Africa's annual promotion in the UK aims to grow foreign participation by providing relevant information about our industry and to highlight Sales & Racing events in the forthcoming months and next year.

This year, Racing South Africa has secured the rights to sponsor all seven races on the day with the aim to also create a special South African theme day which potentially could become a standing feature on the UK's racing programme.

In recognition of the exceptional international achievements of Mike de Kock and his team, Racing South Africa is honoured to name the first race of the day after Mike's International Racing Stables. The full race programme, televised by Racing UK and Tellytrack, is as follows (UK times):

- 2.10 MIKE DE KOCK INTERNATIONAL RACING HANDICAP
- 2.45 THE RACING ASSOCIATION/SIR PETER O'SULLEVAN MAIDEN
- 3.20 RACING SOUTH AFRICA EBF FILLIES H'CAP
- 3.55 INVESTEC HANDICAP*
- 4.30 BLOODSTOCK SOUTH AFRICA PREMIER CLAIMER
- 5.05 PHUMELELA GOLD ENTERPRISES HANDICAP
- 5.35 KENILWORTH QUARANTINE STATION HANDICAP

* Main race of the day

As usual, South African wines will be on display in the Member's Lawn Enclosure thanks to the generous donations of Graham Beck Wines, L'Ormarins, Avontuur, La Bri and Arabella Wine Estates. To add value, Wines of South Africa (WOSA), the marketing arm of the wine industry has sponsored a wine tasting and renowned wine-expert, Pieter de Waal, will fly in to oversee the tasting.

The Racing South Africa sponsored day is for the benefit of the South African horseracing industry and as such, we welcome participation by those that wish to promote the industry.

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