

The answer is... What A Question

KWAZULU-NATAL ANNUAL AWARDS

THE annual KZN Awards function was held on August 24, 2006. The three-year-old Qui Danzig gelding, What A Question, owned by Ben and Sue Jonsson in partnership with Rob Hamilton and bred at the Daytona Stud, won three awards including Horse Of The Year at the function held at Greyville Racecourse in Durban.

The awards represent achievements based on the performance of horses normally domiciled in KwaZulu-Natal. They were presented at a glittering dinner to honour the top performers, both equine and human, attended by a large gathering of racing personalities.

What A Question also won the Three-Year-Old Colt/Gelding and the Champion Sprinter awards, making it a great evening for his trainer, Alistair Gordon. He was also on hand to see his four-year-old Goldkeeper filly, Disco Queen, win the Older Filly/Mare award for her owners, Messrs M Marffy, P H Fisher, T Karnezos, S Marffy and A Papageorgiou.

The Two-Year-Old Filly category was won by Team Valour's London News filly Sally Bowles and owners Messrs R L Bruss, P A Deal, Mrs D Bruss, and Mrs P D Hardy were awarded for Zebra Crossing winning the Older Colt/Gelding category.

The award for the Champion Two-Year-Old Colt/Gelding was made to Mr D P Marescia's Count Dubois gelding, Zeeno, trained by Duncan Howells.

Former champion jockey turned trainer, Michael Roberts, was on stage with owners Mr R and Mrs E M Pennells, G J Westwater and J T Meyer to receive the award for Silver Empire's success in the Three-Year-Old Filly category.

The award for Stayer of the Year went to the Brett Crawford-trained Reveille Boy owned by Mrs Sabine Plattner. Brandon Lerena received the apprentice award and Sean Cormack was declared the leading Jockey of the Season.



Categories: 3 Year Old Colt/Gelding, Sprinter, Horse Of The Year

From Left: Nicholette Roscoe, Sue Jonsson, Alistair & Jeannet Gordon, Alfred Shumane, Koskool Mpukane, Nxolise Mpukane and Ben Jonsson.

Dennis Drier was voted Trainer of the Year and the award for the Training Achievement of the Year went jointly to Corinne Bestel and Duncan Howells.

Summerhill Stud was named Breeder of the Year and Mxolosi Mpukane was declared the Groom of the Year.

The Owner of the Year award was presented to Mrs Sabine Platter and the special award, for his contribution to racing, was made to owner-breeder Chris Saunders.

A number of Winter Season Accolades were also presented.

They were received by Anton Marcus (Jockey) with 127 points, Mike de Kock (Trainer) with 92 points, Lammerskraal Stud (Breeder) with 88 points and Tony Moodley (Owner) whose horse Equal Image amassed 28 points.

The Meritorious Award went to popular owner, Chris van Niekerk, whose "flying filly" National Colour won seven of her 10 starts. The last three were Grade 1 events of which two, the South African Fillies Sprint and the Mercury Sprint, were during the KwaZulu-Natal Winter Season.

The last horse to win three Grade 1 events in a row

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Pictured are: **ABOVE** – The new owners, listed alphabetically: Rick Achmat, Derek Campbell, Ismail Cole, Derick Davids, Trevor Dodgen, Latiefa Ely, Godfrey Fowler, Faeza Heuwel, Kim Jefftha, Ashley Jordan, Raymond Koopstad, Cyril Malan, Henry Meleni, Mark Mias, Timothy Nhlapo, Jacobus Poggenpoel, Leonard Poggenpoel, Dinish Rajpaul, Wilmot van Wyk, and Gold Circle, which retains one share.

RIGHT – Ashraf Mohamed, Western Cape Chairman Gold Circle, and Michel Nairac, CEO Gold Circle.



New owners embark on a voyage of opportunity

IN February of this year, Gold Circle purchased two horses, with the purpose of offering their racing careers to a Syndicate. This ownership initiative is intended to expose those who love horseracing to the joys of being an owner.

As has been witnessed overseas, syndicates are fast becoming the means with which to gain a relatively inexpensive entry level into racehorse ownership, whilst still being able to experience the pure exhilaration of watching your very own horse flash past the post.

This wonderful initiative on the part of Gold Circle has opened the door to a wider spectrum of owners and will hopefully pave the way forward for others to follow. Racing is now being taken to the heart of the community.

At a function at Kenilworth racecourse, a group of 20 racing enthusiasts were launched on an amazing voyage – that of racehorse ownership. South Africa's newest and very obviously most excited group of owners are embarking on a trip which will take them through unimagined heights and is bound to test the mettle of most amongst them – but it will be an incredible adventure – and expectantly, an enriching one.

A window of opportunity has been opened for these 20 people, from all walks of life, to now share in horse ownership. Racehorse ownership is no longer the domain of the wealthy, a new face has emerged.

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was the great Illustrador and the quality of the National Colour's overall performance was enhanced by the fact that, as a three-year-old, she took on all-comers among the best sprinters in the country and beat them soundly.

Trainer Duncan Howells said Zeeno's success in the Grade 1 Gold Reef Casino Resorts Medallion was a dream come true.

"It is a great achievement for any trainer to win a Grade 1 race."

Commenting on the trainer achievement award, he thanked his owners and staff without whose help he could not have attained the success he had.

"Zeeno has been a very special horse for me and it was sad to see him go. It would have been great to see him racing here in South Africa.

"But the offer made for him was too good to pass up. We will be following his progress in Dubai and if he gets to run at the Dubai World Cup meeting we will definitely fly over to see him run."

Owner Richard "Chips" Pennells said he and his partners were "absolutely delighted" with the three-year-old filly award received by Silver Empire.

"I am not boasting but it did not come as a great surprise. She is a tremendous filly and there is still a lot to come from her. After a narrow defeat in her first race she has won her next four in a row and we are hoping she can maintain her winning streak.

"She is over the virus and sinus problems she had early in the year. We are aiming her at a feature race in Johannesburg later this year. We are just waiting for the release of the programme.

"There are some fantastic stud farms in South Africa with capable people running them. We have terrific stallions and I have bought some very nice fillies with the aim of breeding and making some contribution to racing in this country."

Tony Moodley, who received the Winter Season owner accolade, said: "This was another honour for me in a wonderful season. I'd also like to compliment Gold Circle on a superb awards function at Greyville. Everything was exceptional, from the food to the entertainment."

NEWS IN BRIEF



Diamond Quest heads for Dubai

CANON Gold Cup winner Diamond Quest (above) has joined the Mike de Kock yard joining a strong tour party heading for Dubai.

After his thrilling win on August 5, the owner Mrs R Leheup received an invitation for the horse to compete in next year's Melbourne Cup and it is their intention to use the winnings from the Gold Cup to make this a reality.

The son of Saumarez out of the Australian mare Discover Diamonds will add a further string to the ever strengthening bow of Mike de Kock joining Greys Inn, Iridescence, and many more already based in Dubai.

Diamond Quest's travelling companions are Bennie Blue, Candy Critic, Money Bags, Express Way, Bad Girl Runs, and Kapil. With this arsenal I'm sure we can look forward to a great Carnival Season.

Wilgerbosdrift brings in two new sires

WITH the untimely passing of sire Rich Man's Gold, Wilgerbosdrift Stud has brought in two new sires to its ranks.

These were showcased at a recent stallion day at the farm. RIGHT APPROACH (GB), a Gr1 winning son of Machavellian, and TIGER RIDGE(USA), a Champion sire in Florida, should prove suitable replacements. With a strong band of broodmares including last season's champion Ilha Da Vitoria, we can look forward to some exciting thoroughbreds gracing our tracks.

Racing South Africa returns to UK headquarters

TOGETHER with representatives from its stakeholders: Western Province Owners & Trainers, Gold Circle, Racing Association and the Thoroughbred Breeders Association, Racing South Africa return to the hallowed grounds of the UK's racing headquarters.

Racing South Africa has secured a sponsorship package at Newmarke's Rowley Mile Racecourse from October 12 to 14, 2006, the weekend of the Gr.1 Champion Stakes. This includes the sponsorship of the first Racing South Africa Houghton Stakes, use of the Members' lawn marquee, and a trade stand within the Members' Courtyard. Supported by the Department of Trade and Industry, the mission objective is in line with the SA Equine Trade Council's strategy of promoting the South African horseracing industry to foreign markets in conjunction with the development of reliable export protocols.

For more information mail Peter Gibson, CEO, Racing South Africa, at horsetradesa@mweb.co.za.



Fayd'Herbe set to ride in Macau

BERNARD Fayd'Herbe (pictured), one of our leading jockeys, has accepted a contract to ride in Macau for 3 months.

Bernard parts our shores on September 15 and I'm sure his services will be sorely missed, especially considering the rich vein of form he has been in recently with the Snaith yard as well as numerous other trainers all around the country.

We wish him many winners and will follow his progress with interest.

NATIONAL LOGS AT 31 JULY 2006

TRAINERS

	Name	Runs	Wins	Win %	2nd	3rd	Other	Place %	Win Stakes	Total Stakes
1	M F de Kock	649	117	18.03	80	87	105	59.94	9,660,205	12,996,245
2	C S Laird	581	115	19.79	88	67	117	66.61	6,445,233	9,050,823
3	G V Woodruff	527	103	19.54	56	50	93	57.31	5,943,265	7,761,805
4	J Ramsden	774	130	16.80	102	90	159	62.14	5,045,540	7,431,645
5	D M Kannemeyer	487	95	19.51	54	64	89	62.01	4,967,375	6,418,690
6	D Zaki	619	91	14.70	77	70	109	56.06	3,692,750	5,816,245
7	O A Ferraris	433	73	16.86	71	60	79	65.36	3,419,115	5,233,965
8	J Snaith	873	106	12.14	126	97	158	55.78	3,106,897	5,203,337
9	G D Smith	1154	131	11.35	142	136	210	53.64	3,158,657	5,201,407
10	S G Tarry	571	71	12.43	59	57	92	48.86	3,401,010	5,188,150

OWNERS

	Name	Runs	Wins	Win %	2nd	3rd	Other	Place %	Win Stakes	Total Stakes
1	Mrs M Slack	102	20	19.61	16	6	16	56.86	4,931,020	5,643,280
2	Mrs B D Oppenheimer	271	58	21.40	39	31	39	61.62	3,666,378	4,653,278
3	Mrs S Plattner	354	57	16.10	46	45	63	59.60	2,730,335	3,792,150
4	Mr G J & Mrs R D Beck	347	63	18.16	54	43	54	61.67	2,336,305	3,519,535
5	Mr C J H Van Niekerk	215	34	15.81	27	17	33	51.63	2,010,235	2,644,670
6	Mr St John D Gray	207	29	14.01	26	23	43	58.45	1,196,420	2,396,170
7	Fieldspring Racing	86	22	25.58	11	12	17	72.09	2,007,515	2,377,770
8	Mr D R & Mrs K M L Makins	167	21	12.57	8	18	32	47.31	1,191,920	2,207,085
9	Mr Y Khan	73	18	24.66	11	8	10	64.38	1,631,065	2,055,530
10	Mrs I Jooste & Mr M J Jooste	118	27	22.88	23	14	29	78.81	1,208,040	1,946,675

BREEDERS

	Name	Runs	Wins	Win %	2nd	3rd	Other	Place %	Win Stakes	Total Stakes
1	Summerhill Stud (Pty) Ltd	1450	166	11.45	126	130	300	49.79	6,282,595	9,307,275
2	D Cohen and Sons (Pty) Ltd	1089	104	9.55	128	111	226	52.25	3,430,962	6,038,780
3	Wilgerbosdrift	398	68	17.09	48	40	65	55.53	4,023,025	5,659,705
4	Maine Chance Farms (Pty) Ltd	713	89	12.48	69	82	133	52.31	3,471,700	5,261,750
5	High Season Stud	1293	94	7.27	97	136	247	44.39	2,885,927	5,022,945
6	Highlands Farms Stud (Pty) Ltd	646	78	12.07	68	73	120	52.48	3,171,815	4,889,095
7	Lammerskraal Stud (Nom: MLP Rattray)	477	81	16.98	60	42	85	56.18	3,124,925	4,843,955
8	Haras Old Friends	37	12	32.43	4	5	3	64.86	4,055,645	4,539,095
9	Mrs B D Oppenheimer	277	58	20.94	37	30	39	59.21	3,330,055	4,188,050
10	Ascot Stud (Pty) Ltd	573	64	11.17	64	57	108	51.13	2,308,530	3,610,630

JOCKEYS

	Name	Rides	Wins	Win %	2nd	3rd	Other	Place %	Win Stakes	Total Stakes
1	M T Khan	899	185	20.58	133	117	181	68.52	6,915,370	9,751,497
2	P J Strydom	795	165	20.75	126	110	160	70.57	6,807,910	9,877,390
3	A Marcus	534	150	28.09	104	69	101	79.40	8,695,225	11,654,935
4	K W Neisius	681	128	18.80	90	95	133	65.49	5,146,870	7,588,920
5	G M Hatt	709	125	17.63	107	107	140	67.56	4,629,790	6,873,690
6	G M Cheyne	866	124	14.32	114	117	187	62.59	3,794,065	5,737,780
7	J Geroudis	607	105	17.30	74	70	97	57.00	4,754,681	6,804,491
8	M J Byleveld	987	105	10.64	93	97	208	50.96	3,805,600	5,794,813
9	D T Habib	1134	101	8.91	111	117	211	47.62	3,157,740	6,093,590
10	G J Schlechter	862	99	11.48	86	74	161	48.72	3,781,470	5,337,680

APPRENTICE JOCKEYS

	Name	Rides	Wins	Win %	2nd	3rd	Other	Place %	Win Stakes	Total Stakes
1	G J Lerena	1013	84	8.29	112	101	202	49.26	2,872,598	5,415,948
2	B Lerena	681	64	9.40	50	73	117	44.64	2,116,980	3,319,475
3	R D Fourie	382	48	12.57	45	32	61	48.69	1,503,440	2,313,635
4	Miss J Goslett	427	47	11.01	33	26	89	45.67	1,768,830	2,600,565
5	D L Habib	681	38	5.58	38	44	119	35.10	1,533,045	2,466,435
6	G A Gregorowski	333	38	11.41	35	23	48	43.24	834,085	1,207,300
7	R Danielson	662	34	5.14	44	45	132	38.52	957,015	1,858,220
8	K S Latham	473	28	5.92	44	45	71	39.75	892,475	1,771,300
9	M A Yeni	444	25	5.63	26	41	60	34.23	864,105	1,474,345
10	E W Webber	179	19	10.61	16	16	25	42.46	446,275	681,565

SEPTEMBER 2006 FIXTURES

Friday	1st	Arlington, Singapore, Haydock, Kempton
Saturday	2nd	Kenilworth, Turffontein, Mauritius, Haydock , Kempton
Sunday	3rd	Clairwood, France, Lingfield
Monday	4th	Kimberley, Newcastle, Warwick
Tuesday	5th	Kenilworth, Greyville (Night), Catterick, Lingfield
Wednesday	6th	Kimberley, Epsom, Southwell
Thursday	7th	Vaal, Haydock, Southwell
Friday	8th	Fairview, Singapore, Sandown, York
Saturday	9th	Kenilworth, Turffontein, Goodwood, York
Sunday	10th	Clairwood, Borrowdale Park, Mauritius, Goodwood, Kempton
Monday	11th	Kimberley, Redcar, Leicester
Tuesday	12th	Durbanville, Greyville (Night), Lingfield, Sandown
Wednesday	13th	Fairview, Beverley, Sandown
Thursday	14th	Vaal, Ayr, Pontefract
Friday	15th	Fairview, Singapore, Ayr, Newbury, Nottingham
Saturday	16th	Kenilworth, Turffontein, Mauritius, Ayr, Newbury
Sunday	17th	Clairwood, Curragh, Hamilton
Monday	18th	Kimberley, Kempton, Leicester
Tuesday	19th	Kenilworth, Greyville (Night), Beverley, Newmarket
Wednesday	20th	Turffontein, Goodwood, Redcar
Thursday	21st	Turffontein, Fontwell, Pontefract
Friday	22nd	Fairview, Ascot, Haydock
Saturday	23rd	Clairwood, Kenilworth, Mauritius, Ascot, Haydock
Sunday	24th	Vaal, Borrowdale Park, Ascot, Musselburgh
Monday	25th	Vaal, France, Hamilton
Tuesday	26th	Kenilworth, Greyville (Night), Goodwood, Nottingham
Wednesday	27th	Kenilworth, Lingfield, Salisbury
Thursday	28th	Vaal, Ayr, Newmarket
Friday	29th	Arlington, Singapore, Lingfield, Newmarket
Saturday	30th	Kenilworth, Turffontein, Mauritius, Epsom, Newmarket