

SPRING SPREE STAKES (GRADE 3) - R250,000 - 1200m - Turffontein
1st R156,250, 2nd R50,000, 3rd R25,000 - August 31

=1. PRINCE OF KAHAL

5yo ch.g. by Kahal - Vogue (Model Man)
2nd dam: Thousand Nights (Foveros)
3rd dam: Cruive (Capriole)
Owner: R W S Chung
Bred by Clifton Stud
Trainer: R R Magner
Jockey: D Schwartz

=1. ANGEL'S POWER

7yo b.g. by Miesque's Approval - Angel Child (Mogok)
2nd dam: Dearest (Elliodor)
3rd dam: Distant Echoes (Prince Sao)
Owners: Dr R J P Mponya and E G Bouwer
Bred by Scott Bros
Trainer: M and A Azzie
Jockey: S Khumalo

3. Zouaves

6yo b.g. by Sail From Seattle - Zayna (Jallad)
Owners: Mesdames A Devachander and C Woodruff
Bred by Danika Stud

Then came: La Bella Mia, Social Order, Clever Guy, Will Pays, Valbonne, Bold Eagle, Down To Zero, Russian Prince, Doosra

Won by: deadheat - 1 - head

Time: 71,78

The first Graded stakes of the new racing season witnessed a grandstand finish with the judges unable to split favourite PRINCE OF KAHAL and ANGEL'S POWER.

The latter made a powerful move to head Prince Of Kahal inside the closing stages but the favourite rallied gamely to force a deadheat on the line. Zouaves finished a length behind and had but a head to spare over the mare La Bella Mia.

This was a first stakes success for each of the joint-winners, both of which were bred in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands, Prince Of Kahal at Clifton Stud and Angel's Power by the Scott Brothers.

In addition, it was fourth time lucky for veteran Angel's Power, following his seconds in 2016 and 2017 and fourth twelve months ago. The seven-year-old is out of unraced Angel Child and hails from the family of three-time Horse of the Year Pocket Power, his J&B Met winning sister River Jetez and the champion sprinter Harry's Echoe.

For Prince Of Kahal, this was a well-deserved and overdue stakes success, considering he came off second-best in head-bobbing finishes to last season's Gr3 Lebelo Sprint and Gr3 Tommy Hotspur Handicaps. Raced by Hong Kong patron Robert Chung, the five-year-old son of deceased Kahal is the third stakes winner out of Gr1 SA Fillies Sprint second Vogue, whose Fort Wood son Fort Vogue won both the Gr2 Peninsula Handicap and Gr3 Schweppes 2200, while Jet Master daughter Whatalady captured the Gr3 Acacia Handicap.

JOBURG SPRING CHALLENGE (GRADE 2) - R350,000 - Turffontein - 1450m

1st R218,750, 2nd R70,000, 3rd R35,000 - October 5

1. PRINCE OF KAHAL

5yo ch.g. by Kahal - Vogue (Model Man)
2nd dam: Thousand Nights (Foveros)
3rd dam: Cruive (Capriole)
Owner: R W S Chung
Bred by Clifton Stud
Trainer: R R Magner
Jockey: D Schwartz

2. Chijmes

4yo ch.g. by Ato - Sophie's Choice (Russian Revival)
Owners: Mr J M and Mrs C Ulcoq and Mr R S and Mrs B A Napier

Bred by Summerhill Stud (Pty) Ltd

3. Infamous Fox (AUS)

5yo gr.g. by Foxwedge - French (Nadeem)

Owners: Ralphs Racing (Pty) Ltd

Bred by Glastonbury Farm

Then came: *Zouaves, Chimichuri Run, Punontheredlight, Ehsaan, Clever Guy, Angel's Power, Buffalo Bill Cody (Ire), Will Pays, Full Mast, Romi's Boy

Won by: head - shorhead - shorhead

Time: 1-28,88

* Zouaves finished second, demoted to fourth on objection

That PRINCE OF KAHAL has hit his straps at age five was underlined when the chestnut made it three wins in a row and back-to-back Graded stakes victories in this Gr2 event.

Whereas he had forced a deadheat in the Gr3 Spring Spree Stakes on 31 August, the gelding claimed an outright victory here, flashing up late from off the pace to edge out Zouave and Chijmes in a thrilling three-way finish.

Drama was to follow however, as the runner-up was relegated to fourth on the grounds of interference to Infamous Fox, who was moved up to third. Adding to an eventful race, favourite Buffalo Bill Cody blew the start and finished downfield.

Maturity has clearly brought out the best in the super-consistent winner, who remains undefeated in three starts this season. The R120,000 yearling purchase is also racing's newest millionaire, this eighth career success pushing his earnings to R1,073,788.

(For pedigree details, see Spring Spree Stakes above)

JOBURG SPRING FILLIES & MARE CHALLENGE (GRADE 2) - R350,000 - Turffontein - 1450m

1st R218,750, 2nd R70,000, 3rd R35,000 - October 5

1. VISTULA

4yo b.f. by Ideal World - Venus Rising (Second Empire)

2nd dam: Over Flame (Averof)

3rd dam: Overspeed (Marazion)

Owners: Adv A P Joubert and Hyperpaint Syndicate

Bred by Riethuiskraal Stud

Trainer: P A Peter

Jockey: W Kennedy

2. Gin Fizz

3yo b.f. by Soft Falling Rain - Espumanti (Dansili)

Owners: Wilgerbosdrift (Pty) Ltd

Bred by Wilgerbosdrift & Mauritzfontein

3. Perfect Tigress

4yo b.f. by Where's That Tiger - Tree Of Perfection (Toreador)

Owners: J Sarkis, L M Nestadt, G D Tooch, D Yutar and H N Yutar

Bred by Hemel 'N Aarde Stud

Then came: Spiritofthegroove, Sidonie, Schippers, Bullsade, Rouge Allure, Flying Fable, Cascapedia (Ire), Pool Party, Green Top, Rock A Roll Dancer, Carioca

Non-runner: Saragon

Won by: neck - 1.25 - 0.50

Time: 1-27,14

Ideal World's daughter VISTULA was the epitome of grit and courage when she came up tops to notch up her first stakes success.

After a slow start from a wide draw, the four-year-old found herself racing towards the rear of a strung-out field but powered up the inside rail to draw alongside leader Gin Fizz and asserted close home after a pulsating duel. The runner-up, who was recording her fourth second place from six starts, was followed home by longshot Perfect Tigress.

The Paul Peter-trained Vistula has now won five of her last six races, with the only blip coming in the Gr1 Garden Province Stakes, where she finished fifth.

The latest Stakes winner for her Mauritzfontein-based sire, Vistula was bred and is co-owned by former TBA Chairman Advocate Altus Joubert, who was on course to receive the silverware. Her dam,

the Second Empire mare Venus Rising, is a daughter of Listed Ladies Mile winner Over Flame (Averof), whose half-brother Phineas Fogg (Bold Voyager) won the Gr3 First Crop Sprint. This is also the immediate female line of Gr1 Cape Guineas winner Bushmanland (Centenary).

MATCHEM STAKES (GRADE 3) - R200,000 - 1400m - Durbanville
1st R125,000, 2nd R40,000, 3rd R20,000 - October 5

1. ONE WORLD

4yo b.c. by Captain Al - Aquilonia (Giant's Causeway)
2nd dam: Leonila (Caerleon)
3rd dam: Dinalina (Top Ville)
Owners: E A Braun, K P Truter, A J van Huyssteen and Mrs J Truter
Bred by Klawervlei Stud
Trainer: V H Marshall
Jockey: M Byleveld

2. Search Party

7yo b.g. by Captain Al - Princess Magdalena (Pennekamp)
Owner: Mrs D J Sherrell
Bred by Ascot Stud (Pty) Ltd

3. Undercover Agent

5yo b.h. by Captain Al - Secret Risk (London News)
Owners: G Bortz and A J van Huyssteen
Bred by Moutonshoek

Then came: Pleasedtomeetyou, African Warrior, New Caledonia, Sacred Arrow, Ready Steady Go, Fifty Cents, Star Chestnut, Bishop's Bounty
Won by: 0.50 - 1.25 - 0.50
Time: 1-22,27

Captain Al four-year-old ONE WORLD overcame a long break to lead home the trifecta for his late sire in the Gr3 Matchem Stakes at Durbanville.

Unraced since his defeat in the Gr3 Winter Classic back in May, the colt looked a goner when headed by Gr1 winner Undercover Agent, but not for the first time, he fought back gamely to regain the lead close home and land the spoils by a half length from a fast-closing Search Party, with Undercover Agent back in third.

Successful in eight of ten starts, Vaughan Marshall's charge won five on the trot before forfeiting his unbeaten record in the Gr1 Cape Guineas, but regained the winning thread with a front-running success in the R5-million CTS 1600 in late January. A narrow winner of the Gr3 Winter Guineas, he found the extra furlong of the Winter Classic beyond him when comprehensively beaten into second by Vardy (Var).

Bred by Klawervlei Stud and a R425,000 purchase at the Cape Premier Yearling Sale, One World is a half-brother to Russian 1000 Guineas victress Glorious Lass (Galileo) and to the stakes-placed filly Count To Ten (Count Dubois). His dam Aquilonia placed once and is out of Gr2 Prix de Malleret second Leonila, whose own sister, the French Oaks queen Caerlina, bred Irish and French 1000 Guineas third, La Nuit Rose (Rainbow Quest).

DIANA STAKES (GRADE 3) - R200,000 - 1400m - Durbanville
1st R125,000, 2nd R40,000, 3rd R20,000 - October 5

1. FRONT AND CENTRE

3yo b.f. by Dynasty - Alignment (Alzao)
2nd dam: Scots Lass (Shirley Heights)
3rd dam: Edinburgh (Charlottown)
Owners: Ridgemont
Bred by Highlands Farms Stud (Pty) Ltd
Trainer: B Crawford
Jockey: G Cheyne

2. Freedom Charter

5yo ch.m. by Elusive Fort - Betty Burke (Captain Al)

Owners: M F Bass, P G de Beyer, B Lemos and W Smith
Bred by P G de Beyer

3. Helen's Ideal

4yo b.f. by Ideal World - Tequila Blush (Fort Wood)

Owners: P Barrett and P G de Beyer

Bred by P G de Beyer

Then came: Shamrock Wind, Star Fighter, Dynamic Diana, Lesedi La Rona, Sugar Girl, Madonna, IntothelimeLight (Aus)

Non-runner: Shamrock Wind

Won by: 0.50 - 0.75 - 0.75

Time: 1-23,60

As expected, the cream rose to the top in the Gr3 Diana Stakes at Durbanville, where FRONT AND CENTRE, the sole Gr1 winner in the line-up, fully justified her 9-11 odds under top weight. Returning from a thirteen-week break, last season's Gr1 Cape Fillies Guineas victress produced a sustained finish to land the Gr3 race with a fair bit of authority.

It was a fifth success for the Ridgemont Highlands homebred, who firmly put a frustrating winter campaign behind her. Bedevilled by wide barrier draws in all three Greyville starts, her runner-up efforts in both the Gr1 Woolavington 2000 and Gr2 SA Fillies Guineas were testament of her talent.

Unraced as a juvenile, Front And Centre made quite an impression when winning her first three starts, the last of which a facile victory in the Gr1 Cape Fillies Guineas. She five-time winner has finished off the board just once, that when seventh behind Celtic Sea in the Gr1 Garden Province Stakes.

A half-sister to Gr1 winning juvenile and promising young stallion Potala Palace (Singspiel) and the Italian Stakes-performer Allegoria (Spectrum), Front And Centre is one of nine winners out of Gr3-placed Irish-bred Alignment, whose Sadler's Wells daughter Line Ahead bred Gr2 Dubai City Of Gold Stakes hero Excellent Result to Shamardal and Gr3 Robert J Frankel Stakes victress Midnight Crossing to Dark Angel.

WESTERN CAPE FILLIES CHAMPIONSHIP (GRADE 2) - R350,000 - 1400m - Kenilworth

1st R218,750, 2nd R70,000, 3rd R35,000 - October 26

1. THIRD RUNWAY

3yo b.f. by Gimmethegreenlight - Outrage (Black Minnaloushe)

2nd dam: Niyabah (Nashwan)

3rd dam: Gharam (Green Dancer)

Owners: P Bamford and Mesdames C le Metayer and H Mennessier

Bred by Varsfontein Stud

Trainer: G S Kotzen

Jockey: M Winnaar

2. Pretty Young Thing

3yo b.f. by Jackson - Nona In Command (Commands)

Owner: Ridgemont Stud

Bred by Highlands Farms Stud (Pty) Ltd

3. Roll In The Hay

3yo b.f. by Gimmethegreenlight - Country Girl (Mon Sang)

Owners: Mrs V and Mr Singh and Team Valor International

Bred by Nadeson Park Stud

Then came: Driving Miss Daisy, Larentina, Sailing Ship, Drama Queen, Point Of Sale, Athalia, Casino Queen, Calypso Beat, Amy Johnson, Mirage, Somewhere In Time, World Radar, Maidens Prayer

Non-runner: Kelpie

Won by: 1.75 - 0.50 - longhead

Time: 1-26,94

Varsfontein-bred THIRD RUNWAY stamped her ticket to the Gr1 Cape Fillies Guineas after leading virtually every step of the way in this classic prep for fillies.

Allowed to stride on by jockey Morné Winnaar, the diminutive daughter of Gimmethegreenlight maintained her advantage throughout and finished strongly to take the honours by the best part of two lengths from Pretty Young Thing, while Roll In The Hay made it a one-three for Varsfontein-based stallion Gimmethegreenlight.

The Glen Kotzen-trained winner also completed a fine feature double in her first outing since landing the Listed Irridescence Stakes back in June.

Raced by an international partnership of English and French owners, she is the first foal of the Black Minnaloushe mare Outrage, whose siblings include Gr3 Prix du Cap winner Croc Valley (Western Winter) and Listed Durbanville Cup winner Galileo's Night (Galileo). Her Irish-bred dam Niyabah is a winning own sister to multiple Gr3-placed Shaya, while half-sister Asaleeb (Alhaarth) produced the Mike de Kock-trained Gr2 Betting World Oaks victress Tajmeel (Nadeem).

CAPE CLASSIC (GRADE 3) - R200,000 - 1400m - Kenilworth
1st R125,000, 2nd R40,000, 3rd R20,000 - October 26

1. SILVER OPERATOR

3yo b.c. by Silvano - Sting Operation (Captain Al)
2nd dam: Roxanne (Western Winter)
3rd dam: Roxy Cafe (Royal Chalice)
Owner: M J A Ferreira
Bred by Klawervlei Stud
Trainer: V H Marshall
Jockey: A Marcus

2. Captain Tatters

3yo b.g. by Gimmethgreenlight - Lady Tatty (Solskjaer)
Owner: J P Cuvelier
Bred by Estate G J Royden-Turner

3. Seventh Gear

3yo b.c. by Captain Al - Cherry On The Top (Tiger Ridge)
Owner: Khaya Stables (Pty) Ltd
Bred by Wilgerbosdrift & Mauritzfontein

Then came: Prince Of Persia, Macthief, Three Two Charlie, King Of Gems, Snow Report, General Franco, Padre Pio, Sachdev, Hubble

Won by: 0.50 - 2.75 - longhead

Time: 1-26,69

SILVER OPERATOR became the latest black type winner for champion sire Silvano when he scored a workmanlike victory in the Gr3 Cape Classic.

Sent off a warm favourite, the Vaughan Marshall-trained colt lived up to the hype and surged into the lead in midstretch. Galloping on resolutely, he held the late charge of Captain Tatters to land this 1400m Classic prep by a cosy half length.

Never worse than second in four outings, the colt was an impressive debut winner in early June and gave notice of his talent when failing by a diminishing shorthead in the Gr3 Langerman in just his second start. He prepped for this race with a gutsy second on September 7 off a three-month rest. Jockey Anton Marcus, who partnered the colt for the first time, remarked that his mount would probably be effective over further.

A R700,000 yearling purchase and the 83rd locally-bred stakes winner sired by reigning champion stallion Silvano, Silver Operator was bred by Klawervlei Stud from the Listed Swallow Stakes winner Sting Operation, who is a daughter of Gr1 Thekwini Stakes victress Roxanne.

PEERMONT EMPERORS PALACE CHARITY MILE (GRADE 2) - R1,000,000 - 1600m - Turffontein
1st R580,000, 2nd R200,000, 3rd R100,000 - November 2

1. BARAHIN

4yo b.c. by Gimmethgreenlight - Mocha Special (Silvano)
2nd dam: Mabola Plum (Fort Wood)
3rd dam: Michabo (Super Concorde)
Owner: Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid al Maktoum
Bred by Wilgerbosdrift & Mauritzfontein
Trainer: M F de Kock
Jockey: C Murray

2. Chijmes

4yo ch.g. by Ato - Sophie's Choice (Russian Revival)
Owners: Mr J M and Mrs C Ulcoq and Mr R S and Mrs B A Napier
Bred by Summerhill Stud (Pty) Ltd

=3. Cascapedia

6yo b.m. by High Chaparral - Janoubi (Dansili)
Owners: Mauritzfontein (Pty) Ltd
Bred by Camas Park Stud

=3. Flying Winger

5yo b.h. by Alado - Midfield Scortcher (Sportsworld)
Owner: A G Laird
Bred by Alado Project

Then came: Tilbury Fort, In The Dance, Infamous Fox (Aus), Zouaves, Zillzaal, Marchingontgether, Noble Secret, Camphoratus, Tristful, Approach Control, Pilou

Non-runner: Buffalo Bill Cody (Ire), Divine Odyssey

Won by: 3.50 - 3.25 - deadheat

Time: 1-38,10

One of six winners on the day for the all-conquering Mike de Kock stable, Sheikh Hamdan's BARAHIN powered into the lead 300m out and it was race over as he strode to a dominant victory, his fifth from ten starts.

It was a welcome return to the winners enclosure for the colt, who was scoring for the first time since June, when he defeated older rivals in the Gr3 Jubilee Handicap. As a juvenile, he also landed the Gr2 Golden Horseshoe at the expense of his stable companion and champion Soqrat.

Barahin came into this Gr2 event off a ring-rusty fifth in his seasonal debut on October 12. That he stripped razor sharp was evident from this impressive win, which no doubt cemented his claims to the upcoming Gr1 Summer Cup.

He is by Gimmethelight, whose daughter Third Runway had scored a facile victory in the Gr2 Western Cape Fillies Championship at Kenilworth a week earlier. Remarkably, the Varsfontein resident tasted international success three days after Barahin's success when his Gr1 winning son Yulong Prince (formerly Surchage) opened his Australian account at Flemington in a Listed race on the Melbourne Cup undercard.

As for Barahin, he has already made a sizeable dent in his R2.6-million purchase price, this latest success pushing his earnings past the R1,8-million mark. Yet another success for breeders Wilgerbosdrift & Mauritzfontein, he is out of the Silvano mare Mocha Special, whose siblings include Gr2 Camellia Stakes winner Mochachino (Silvano) and Gr1-placed Gr3 Tommy Hotspur victress Mocha Java (National Assembly), as well as Zimbabwean stakes winner Macchiato (Jet Master).

GRAHAM BECK STAKES (GRADE 3) - R200,000 - 1400m - Turffontein

1st R116,000, 2nd R40,000, 3rd R20,000 - November 2

1. FROSTED GOLD (NZ)

2yo gr.g. by All Too Hard - Mary d'Or (Verglas)
2nd dam: Miss Bio (River Mist)
3rd dam: River Sans Retour (Vacarme)
Owner: D D MacLean
Bred by JML Bloodstock Ltd
Trainer: M F de Kock
Jockey: C Zackey

2. Magic School

3yo ch.f. by Philanthropist - Magic Approach (Right Approach)
Owner: Drakenstein Stud
Bred by owner

3. Riverstown

3yo b.c. by Byword - Carraig Aonair (Fastnet Rock)
Owner: Mauritzfontein (Pty) Ltd
Bred by Wilgerbosdrift & Mauritzfontein

Then came: Eden Roc, Steak And Ale, John Hancock, Shango, Rooi Tom, Ballon d'Or, Land Of The Brave, Stop For Nothing, Tallinn, Putotheredlight, On My Mind

Won by: 1 - shorthead - 1.50

Time: 1-26,34

FROSTED GOLD opened his three-year-old campaign on a winning note in what proved to be a drama-filled race.

On My Mind stumbled as the gates opened, unseating jockey Nooresh Juglall, and the riderless Tarry runner went on to cause a fair bit of chaos in the process. Then Callan Murray miraculously managed to stay aboard the winner's stablemate Tallinn, after losing the right-side stirrup, which he only regained at the 400m mark.

Frosted Gold began his forward move 300m out and once in the clear, ran on stoutly to score by a length from the outsiders Magic School and Riverstown, both of which had to contend with the riderless On My Mind.

The New Zealand-bred winner was having his first start since a troubled off-the-board effort in the Gr1 Mercury Sprint. De Kock had raised a few eyebrows when he entered the then juvenile in a race filled with older, battle-hardened sprinters. Things quickly went pear-shaped when the colt blew the start, losing five lengths and injuring his mouth in the pens. That he finished one from last came as no surprise. Prior to that eventful day, he boasted an exemplary record of three wins and two seconds in as many starts. Successful in both the Gr2 SA Nursery and Storm Bird Stakes, he was an unlucky second in the Gr1 Gold Medallion when balked and having to switch at the crucial stage.

Gelded four days after the Mercury Sprint, he was put away and as De Kock explained: *"He is a horse that has had his issues and has had the vets and physios. (Owner) Dave Maclean has been a soldier and this is a deserved success."*

New Zealand-bred Frosted Gold was purchased by Form Bloodstock at the Melbourne yearling sale and is by Australian champion All Too Hard, a half-brother to the legendary racemare Black Caviar. His dam, French-bred Mary d'Or, also produced Sunshine Mighty (Murtajil), a Listed winner in Macau and the stakes-placed filly Maryore (Onemorenomore). Twice stakes-placed in her native country, Mary d'Or is an own sister to Gr1 Prix Jean Prat hero and French 2000 Guineas second Stormy River. Other winning siblings include Gr1 Grand Prix de Saint-Cloud winner Silverwave (Silver Frost) and Gr3-placed Line Drummer (Galileo).

HSH PRINCESS CHARLENE STARLING STAKES (GRADE 3) - R200,000 - 1400m - Turffontein
1st R116,000, 2nd R40,000, 3rd R20,000 - November 2

1. MILL QUEEN

3yo ch.f. by Querari - Moulin Grise (Grey Eminence)
2nd dam: Mille d'Or (Elliodor)
3rd dam: Millwood (SNL) (Thatching)
Owners: S Poriazis, W G de Kocker and W Volschenk
Bred by Digteby Stud
Trainer: D Nieuwenhuizen
Jockey: G Lerena

2. Wisteria Walk

3yo b.f. by Vercingetrix - Wooden Doll (Fort Wood)
Owners: Stone Hill Stud
Bred by Maine Chance Farms (Pty) Ltd

3. Kayla's Champ

3yo b.f. by Noordhoek Flyer - Denschogar (Al Mufti)
Owner: F Bronkhorst
Bred by Gary Player Stud (Pty) Ltd

Then came: Shivers, Cockney Pride, Sidonie, League Of Her Own, Invisible, Palace Of Dreams, Lady Legend, Swept Off My Feet, Golden Belle, Snow Palace, Glory Days

Won by: longneck - 0.75 - 1.75

Time: 1-25,60

David Nieuwenhuizen-trained MILL QUEEN was another who started her sophomore campaign on a winning note, scoring a first stakes success in the Gr3 HSH Princess Charlene Starling Stakes.

Returning off a three-month rest, the Querari filly engaged Wisteria Walk in a fierce duel to the line and showed a determined attitude to prevail by a long neck.

This was a third success for the winner, who has yet to finish out of the first two in five starts. Runner-up to subsequent Ruffian Stakes victress Basadi Faith on debut, she reeled off two victories and put

an exclamation point on her juvenile season with a fine second in the Gr1 Thekwini Stakes, with champion Gabor having to pull out all the stops to wear her down in the closing stages. Bred by Hans and Judy Stegeman at their Digteby Stud, Mill Queen is out of their homebred three-time winner Moulin Grise, while grandam Mille d'Or is a half-sister to the stakes winner Dance On Wood (Bashkirov).

YELLOWWOOD HANDICAP (GRADE 3) - R250,000 - 1800m - Turffontein
1st R156,250, 2nd R50,000, 3rd R25,000 - November 2

1. QUEEN SUPREME (IRE)

4yo ch.f. by Exceed And Excel - Call Later (Gone West)
2nd dam: Estala (Be My Guest)
3rd dam: Roupala (Vaguely Noble)
Owners: Mauritzfontein (Pty) Ltd, M F de Kock, L M Nestadt, J R van der Linden and Mrs N P Malherbe
Bred by Thomas Hassett
Trainer: M F de Kock
Jockey: C Murray

2. Ronnie's Candy

4yo ch.f. by King Of Kings - Bennie Andthe Jets (Jet Master)
Owner: S G Gray
Bred by Graystone Stud

3. Roy's Riviera (AUS)

5yo b/br.m. by All Too Hard - Donna Amata (Anabaa)
Owner: R Moodley
Bred by G Harvey, NSW

Then came: Bize, Pretty Border, Flying Fable, Secret Potion, Perfect Tigress, Rouge Allure, Western Dance, Rabia The Rebel, Second Request, Emily Jay, Insignis
Non-runners: Chariot Of Gold, Eightfolds Lass
Won by: 4.25 - neck - 2.25
Time: 1-52,72

Irish import QUEEN SUPREME made the transition to Graded stakes winner with a rousing victory in the same Oppenheimer colours carried to victory by stable companion Cascapedia two years ago. Before that, Mauritzfontein homebreds Queen's Bay and Prestic also won this race in the famed yellow and black silks.

Notwithstanding the fact that she was making her debut in stakes company, Queen Supreme was sent off a warm favourite. Confidently ridden by Callan Murray, she always had the leaders in her sight and claimed the advantage at the quarter mark. Building on that lead, she opened by daylight and stamped her authority on the race, streaking away to a dominant first stakes success over the Gr2/3 winner Ronnie's Candy.

Clearly, the sky is the limit for the winner, who has tasted defeat just once in five starts.

A graduate of the 2017 Goffs Orby Sale, Queen Supreme is the latest stakes winner for successful shuttle stallion Exceed And Excel, sire also of the De Kock-trained multiple Gr2 winner Nafaayes and of Gr1 Gold Medallion third Exclaim'n'exclude.

A half-sister to the stakes winning duo of Be Ready (New Approach) and Call Me Handsome (Kodiac), she is out of unraced Call Later, whose half-sister Ventura (Chester House) scored four times at Gr1 level in North America and also finished second in the G.1 Breeders Cup F&M Sprint.

VICTORY MOON STAKES (GRADE 3) - R350,000 - 1800m - Turffontein
1st R203,000, 2nd R70,000, 3rd R35,000 - November 9

1. SOQRAT (AUS)

4yo b.c. by Epaulette – Elzeeza (Hussonet)
2nd dam: Lunasong (Unbridled's Song)
3rd dam: Lunaliona (Caerleon)
Owner: Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid al Maktoum
Bred by Shadwell Stud Australasia Ltd

Trainer: M F de Kock

Jockey: C Murray

2. Green Haze

4yo b.g. by Gimmethelight - Mizzen Mist (Western Winter)

Owners: J F and L M F Wernars and Mrs T J Wernars

Bred by Lammerskraal Stud

3. Master Magic

4yo b.g. by Mogok - Keen To Travel (Rakeen)

O: B I Rajhununan, B C Washington, M Naidoo, P A Govender and Mrs K Naidoo

Bred by Scott Bros

Then came: Roy Had Enough (Aus), Al Mutawakel, Divine Odyssey, Seville Orange, Shenanigans, Soldier On, Noble Secret, Unagi, Ali Bon Dubai, Second Request

Won by: 2.25 - 1.25 - neck

Time: 1-47,65

Sheik Hamdan's triple Gr1 winner SOQRAT proved his superiority in dominant fashion when landing this Gr3 under top weight.

Always in the box seat, the Australian-bred claimed the advantage in mid stretch and powered away to a commanding victory, while giving runner-up Green Haze all of 11 kg.

Winning trainer Mike de Kock remarked afterwards: "Angus Gold was leaning towards retiring him but I'm glad we agreed he stay in racing as a four-year-old. I'd like to see him take a few of them on that he finished behind last season. He has furnished and is getting stronger."

This was a seventh success for the colt, who sealed the champion juvenile title when successful in the Gr1 Premier's Champion Stakes. A classic winner of last season's Gr1 Cape Guineas, he also defeated older rivals in the Gr1 H F Oppenheimer Horse Chestnut Stakes.

The Shadwell homebred hails from the first crop of Danehill's Gr1 winning grandson Epaulette and is out of the dual winner Elzeeza, who foaled a filly by Snitzel this spring.

Grandam Lunasong ran second in the Listed Hawkesbury Guineas and is a half-sister to the dual stakes winner Lunaspur (Flying Spur), who produced Gr2 winners Moonovermanhattan (Manhattan Rain) and Colorado Claire (Hussonet) and is also the grandam of Gr2 Todman Stakes winner Gunnison and Gr3 Champagne Stakes victress Selenia, both by Not a Single Doubt. Another half-sister, stakes-placed Bubble Below (Hussonet), produced Hong Kong Gr1 winner Lucky Bubbles (Sebring).

CAPE MERCHANTS (GRADE 2) - R350,000 - 1200m - Kenilworth

1st R218,750, 2nd R70,000, 3rd R35,000 - November 23

1. RUSSET AIR

4yo b.g. by What A Winter - Icy Air (Jallad)

2nd dam: Nordic Air (Northern Guest)

3rd dam: Laughing Music (Luthier)

Owners: M W Bass, B P Finch, N M Shirliff and Mrs K Finch

Bred by Lammerskraal Stud

Trainer: C Bass-Robinson

Jockey: A Domeyer

2. Ready Steady Go

5yo b.g. by Gimmethelight - Teresina (Jet Master)

Owner: F M Carruthers

Bred by Nadeson Park

3. Pleaseditoomeetyou

4yo b.g. by Querari - Plaisir De Fete (Fort Wood)

Owner: Mrs S Plattner

Bred by La Plaisance Stud

Then came: Cabo Da Cruz (Ire), Traces (Aus), New Caledonia, Pack Leader, Photocopy, Bwana, Catkin, What A Winner, Frank Lloyd Wright, Elusive Trader, Bishop's Bounty, Sergeant Hardy

Non-runners: Rocket Countdown, Machiavelli

Won by: 1.50 - 0.50 - 0.50

Time: 70,67

RUSSET AIR added to the Bass family's proud record in the Merchants when he charged home late for a first stakes success. While the gelding is Candice Bass-Robinson's first Merchants winner, father Mike saddled no less than four winners of the 1200m sprint.

The progressive winner, a son of former stable star What A Winter, was never in the picture early on, but when galvanized by Aldo Domeyer, the four-year-old came with a withering run to win going away by a length and a half.

Russet Air was bred by Lammerskraal and due to his less than perfect front legs, was purchased straight off the farm. Raced in partnership by Mike Bass, Marsh Shirliff and Brian and Kathy Finch, the bay is the latest stakes winner for his sire and is the second Gr2 winner produced by champion racemare Icy Air, whose rich haul of stakes successes include the SA Oaks, Gold Circle Oaks and SA Fillies Classic. The daughter of Jallad has become a fine broodmare for Lammerskraal, Russet Air being her sixth stakes performer amongst eight winners. To resident stallion Go Deputy she produced Gr2 Premier Trophy winner Icy Trail, while Gr2 SA Fillies Nursery third Icy Winter Air and Gr3 Umzimkhulu Stakes runner-up Izora are both by What A Winter's sire Western Winter. Stakes-placed Perfect Air (Dynasty) and Iceagelegacy (Rakeen) round out the mare's stakes sextet.

Remarkd Lammerskraal Stud manageress Sally Bruss: *"Icy Air has been a super mare. She has given us a foal every year and currently has a cracking Visionaire filly at foot. We have decided to rest her this year as her foalings got later and later."*

CONCORDE CUP (GRADE 2) - R350,000 - 1600m - Kenilworth
1st R218,750, 2nd R70,000, 3rd R35,000 - November 23

1. KING OF GEMS

3yo ch.c. by Kingsbarns - Sapphire Gem (Trippi)

2nd dam: Sparkling Gem (Joshua Dancer)

3rd dam: Crystal Chalice (Royal Chalice)

Owner: Drakenstein Stud

Bred by owner

Trainer: B Crawford

Jockey: A Domeyer

2. Sachdev

3yo b.g. by Silvano - Quetta (Kabool)

Owner: N Jonsson

Bred by Normandy Stud

3. Macthief

3yo ch.c. by Time Thief - Yellow Card (Trippi)

Owners: Mesdames V Brackett and G MacGregor and Messrs J G Carey, R Maingard, G F

Mamet and M J L Nairac

Then came: Viva Rio, Seventh Gear, Cane Lime 'N Soda, Snow Report, Prince Of Persia, African Warrior, Arctic Drift, Hexatonic

Won by: neck - 1 - 0.50

Time: 1-38,10

Drakenstein homebred KING OF GEMS put up a scarcely believable effort in this Guineas prep when he came from virtually last and turned it on in the straight to catch Sachdev, who looked to have the race in the bag close home. However, he had no answer to the finishing dash of the Crawford runner, who won going away.

Successful on debut, King Of Gems had failed to add to that in five subsequent starts, which nevertheless included a third in the Listed Sophomore Sprint.

The colt joins champion juvenile filly Gabor as the second stakes winner from the first local crop of Kingsbarns, a Gr1 winning son of Galileo. Sadly, he would complete just two seasons at Drakenstein before his untimely death in May 2018.

Like Gabor, King Of Gems is out of a mare by Drakenstein champion Trippi, the winner Sapphire Gem, who has a juvenile filly by Futura. Grandam Sparkling Gem, a leading three-year-old of her generation, won the Gr1 Cape Fillies Guineas and is a granddaughter of American import Flying Snowdrop, who carried the Beck silks to victory in the Gr1 Stuttafords Fillies Guineas at Turffontein.

FILLIES MILE (GRADE 3) - R200,000 - 1600m - Turffontein

1st R116,000, 2nd R40,000, 3rd R20,000 - November 23

1. SUMMER PUDDING

3yo b.f. by Silvano - Cherry On The Cake (Strike Smartly)

2nd dam: Carolina Cherry (Fort Wood)

3rd dam: Maid Of Castille (Home Guard)

Owner: Mauritzfontein (Pty) Ltd

Bred by Wilgerbosdrift & Mauritzfontein

Trainer: P A Peter

Jockey: W Kennedy

2. Keep Smiling

3yo ch.f. by Flower Power - Queen Of All (Jallad)

Owner: C J H van Niekerk

Bred by Varsfontein Stud

3. Marygold

3yo b.f. by Flower Power - Glenrossal (Anytime)

Owner: P E White

Bred by Clifton Stud

Then came: Sidonie, Cockney Pride, Tallinn, Invisible, League Of Her Own, Smiley River, Spiritofthegroove, Kayla's Champ, Gin Fizz

Non-runner: Shivers

Won by: neck - neck - 1.50

Time: 1-39,58

Making her first foray into stakes company, Silvano's daughter SUMMER PUDDING put up a scintillating effort to claim the Gr3 Fillies Mile at Turffontein while stretching her unblemished record to three from three.

The race developed into something of a scramble as several fillies threw down their challenges inside the final 150m however, the Mauritzfontein homebred found the best finish and once on the lead, she maintained her advantage to the line to score by a neck from the Flower Alley siblings Keep Smiling and Marygold.

The Paul Peter-trained bay has yet to taste defeat, as this first stakes success backed up two dashing wins over 1400m and 1600m at the Johannesburg track.

The classics surely beckons for the unbeaten three-year-old, who is her champion sire's 84th locally-bred stakes winner. She is out of Gr3 Jacaranda Handicap winner Cherry On The Cake, a half-sister to the Equus Champion three-year-old and Triple Tiara winner Cherry On The Top (Tiger Ridge), whose Silvano daughter Blossom reached the frame in a number of classics last season, notably the Gr1 SA Fillies Classic, Gr1 Woolavington 2000 and Gr2 SA Oaks.

GAUTENG CHRIS GERBER SUMMER CUP (GRADE 1) - R2,000,000 - 2000m - Turffontein

1st R1,200,000, 2nd R400,000, 3rd R200,000 - November 30

1. ZILLZAAL

4yo b.g. by Silvano - Zulaal (Giant's Causeway)

2nd dam: Surfside (Seattle Slew)

3rd dam: Flanders (Seeking The Gold)

Owner: Al Adiyaat (Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Maktoum)

Bred by owner

Trainer: S G Tarry

Jockey: D Schwartz

2. Soqrat (AUS)

4yo b.c. by Epaulette - Elzeeza (Hussonet)

Owner: Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid al Maktoum

Bred by Shadwell Stud Australasia Ltd

3. Al Mutawakel

4yo b.c. by Silvano - Alderry (Al Mufti)

Owner: Al Adiyaat (Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Maktoum)

Bred by owner

Then came: Queen Supreme (Ire), Atyaab (Aus), Roy Had Enough (Aus), Green Haze, Barahin, Camphoratus, Sunshine Silk, Tilbury Fort, Divine Odyssey, Flying Winger, Insignis, Marchingontogogether, Dawn Assault, Shenanigans, Infamous Fox (Aus), Bize, Cascapedia (Ire)
Won by: 0.50 - longhead - 1
Time: 2-3,96

Silvano four-year-old ZILLZAAL entered this Gr1 event under the radar, with all the focus on Soqrat, but he blindsided the 2-1 favourite to cause a 28-1 shock and denying Mike de Kock a tenth Summer Cup success. He did it the hard way too, making all to upstage his flashier peers, while completing a hat-trick for the Sean Tarry stable, his victory following that of Liege in 2017 and Tilbury Fort twelve months ago.

A natural frontrunner, Zillzaal kept rolling in the straight and had enough in reserve to hold off the attentions of a low-flying Soqrat, who was rapidly making up the deficit on the extreme outside while denying Tarry a big race one-two, by just pipping the winner's stable companion Al Mutawakel on the line.

Now four, Zillzaal gained a deserved Gr1 pot after a three-year-old campaign which has seen him there or thereabouts in a number of classics, notably when second in the Gr1 SA Derby and fourth in both the Gr1 SA Classic and Gr1 Daily News 2000. He made a triumphant seasonal debut as a gelding in early October but never showed when a beaten favourite last time out in the Gr2 Charity Mile won by Barahin.

The result proved a triumph for Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Maktoum, who owns and bred both the winner and third-placed Al Mutawakel. Remarkably, both are sons of reigning champion stallion Silvano, sire also of previous Summer Cup winners Aslan and Flirtation.

Zillzaal is his illustrious sire's 23rd locally-bred Gr1 winner amongst a tally of 85 stakes winners and was bred from the Giant's Causeway mare Zulaal, an unraced own sister to American Gr3 winner Irish Surf and to High Surf (Storm Cat), the dam of Gr3 Prix d'Arenberg winner High Celebrity (Invincible Spirit). Zulaal is a daughter of Champion American three-year-old filly Surfside, while the next dam Flanders was voted the Champion juvenile filly of 1994 following victories in the Gr1 Breeders Cup Juvenile Fillies, Gr1 Frizette Stakes and Gr1 Spinaway Stakes.

DINGAANS (GRADE 2) - R500,000 - 1600m - Turffontein
1st R290,000, 2nd R100,000, 3rd R50,000 - November 30

1. SHANGO

3yo b.c.. by Captain Of All - Scorched (Jet Master)
2nd dam: Run To Daddy (Damascus Gate)
3rd dam: Daddy's Own (Dapper)
Owners: C J H van Niekerk and B G Gardner
Bred by Heritage Stud
Trainer: S G Tarry
Jockey: G Lerena

2. Frosted Gold (NZ)

3yo gr.g. by All Too Hard - Mardy d'Or (Verglas)
Owner: D D MacLean
Bred by JML Bloodstock Ltd

3. Cockney Pride

3yo b.f. by Querari - Lovely Jubbly (Rakeen)
Owners: A Pawson, D S Jolly, R P Macnab and Corné Spies Racing (Pty) Ltd

Then came: Battle Of Alesia, Eden Roc, John Hancock, Donderweer, Astrix, Promiseofamaster, Steak And Ale, Marshall, Oyster King

Won by: 2.75 - 1 - 1

Time: 1-36,57

The Tarry stable was again to the fore in the Gr2 Dingaans, where unfancied SHANGO made a mockery of his 36-1 starting price and upstaged another De Kock favourite, Frosted Gold, in emphatic manner.

Frosted Gold wrested the lead from the filly Cockney Pride inside the final furlong and looked set for victory. However, blinkered Shango came scorching up the stand side, surged past the favourite and

in a matter of strides, had cleared off to register his first stakes success by the best part of three lengths.

The Chris van Niekerk-owned colt is the first Graded stakes winner for last season's champion freshman sire Captain Of All and was bred by Dan de Wet at his Heritage Stud. He is also the first stakes winner out of Jet Master mare Scorched, who previously bred multiple Gr2-placed Captain And Master to the cover of Captain Al, the sire of Captain Of All. Remarkably, one has to go back to the third generation to find a black type winner. This is Shango's third dam Daddy's Own, one of four stakes winners out of the grand matron Molfetta imported by Dan's father, the famed breeder Paul de Wet of Zandvliet Stud. Although a non-winner, she was impeccably bred, being a Ribot half-sister to leading English sire Great Nephew.

IPI TOMBE CHALLENGE (GRADE 2) - R350,000 - 1600m - Turffontein
1st R203,000, 2nd R70,000, 3rd R35,000 - November 30

1. RONNIE'S CANDY

4yo ch.f. by King Of Kings - Bennie Andthe Jets (Jet Master)
2nd dam: Franki Fourfingers (Volksraad)
3rd dam: Light 'N Easy (Imperial Guard)
Owner: S J Gray
Bred by Graystone Stud
Trainer: S J Gray
Jockey: L J Ferraris

2. In The Dance

4yo b.f. by Gimmethegreenlight - Akinfeet (Fort Wood)
Owner: Lammerskraal Stud
Bred by owner

3. Wisteria Walk

3yo b.f. by Vercingetorix - Wooden Doll (Fort Wood)
Owner: Stone Hill Stud
Bred by Maine Chance Farms (Pty) Ltd

Then came: Perfect Tigress, Schippers, Pretty Border, Roy's Riviera (Aus), Chitengo, Vistula, Snow Palace, Running Brave

Non-runner: Mill Queen

Won by: 1.75 - neck - 0.75

Time: 1-36,86

Jet Master also featured as the broodmare sire of RONNIE'S CANDY, who registered a third Graded success by comprehensively defeating a talented field in the Gr2 Ipi Tombe Challenge.

Relaxed early on, St John Gray's homebred came from near last and accelerated smartly in the straight to run down her rivals, scoring by the best part of two lengths.

No stranger to success, the four-year-old had cracked her maiden as a juvenile in the Gr2 SA Fillies Nursery and also landed the Gr3 Starling Stakes at three. She has lost just once in three starts this season, when second behind Queen Supreme in the Gr3 Yellowwood Handicap.

The chestnut is a daughter of King Of Kings, the widely-travelled English 2000 Guineas winner, who died in 2015.

Gray bred Ronnie's Candy from Gr3 Jacaranda Handicap second Bennie Andthe Jets, who is also the dam of Gr3 Protea Stakes third Mogok Master (Mogok). She is out of New Zealand import Franki Fourfingers, an own sister to stakes-placed Australian galloper Desert Light and a half-sister to the dual New Zealand stakes winner and classic performer, Light Opera (Straussbrook).

MERCHANTS (GRADE 2) - R350,000 - 1160m - Turffontein
1st R203,000, 2nd R70,000, 3rd R35,000 - November 30

1. MARDI GRAS

4yo gr.g. by Oratorio - Sarabande (Goldmark)
2nd dam: Blitz Polka (Truely Nureyev)
3rd dam: Meg's Retreat (Proclaim)
Owners: L and W Zackey, G J Nassif, J Nassif and Z L Nassif

Bred by Avontuur Thoroughbred Farm

Trainer: S G Tarry

Jockey: G Lerena

2. Warrior's Rest

5yo b.g. by What A Winter - Bardot (Badger Land)

Owner: C J H van Niekerk

Bred by Lammerskraal Stud

3. Van Halen

4yo b.g. by Oratorio - Rock Concert (Lecture)

Owners: F N Englezakis, R P Macnab, A Pawson and F van Wyk

Bred by Limpo Retail

Then came: Ultra Magnus, Down To Zero, Gimme A Wave, Wynkelder, Clever Guy, Valbonne, Prince Of Kahal, Rebel's Champ, Sunset Eyes, Basilius, Sir Frenchie (Aus), William The Silent, Captain Aldo

Non-runners: Mombela, Hero's Honour

Won by: 2.25 - neck - 1

Time: 66,04

Progeny of Avontuur stallion Oratorio filled three of the first four places in Turffontein's Gr2 Merchants, with MARDI GRAS making a winning debut for the Sean Tarry stable.

The blinkered grey came from off the pace and once in the clear, dashed home to put two lengths between himself and stable companion Warrior's Rest, with Oratorio four-year-olds Van Halen and Ultra Magnus next best. Oratorio is no stranger to dominating top events, after all Cue The Music and Van Halen fought out the finish to the 2018 Gr1 Gold Medallion.

This was a second Gr2 victory for Mardi Gras, to go along with an equally facile score in the Senor Santa Stakes back in March.

Bred by Avontuur Stud, the five-year-old is certainly living up to his pedigree as the fourth stakes performer out of Gr1 Majorca victress Sarabande. To Fort Wood she produced the Gr2/3 winner and Gr1 Durban July third Chesalon, whilst Var is the sire of Bauhinia Stakes victress La Volta and Gr1 Allan Robertson third Valeta, who in turn produced Gr3 Starling Stakes winner and Gr1 Garden Province second She's A Giver (Philanthropist).

MAGNOLIA HANDICAP (GRADE 3) - R200,000 - 1160m - Turffontein

1st R116,000, 2nd R40,000, 3rd R20,000 - November 30

1. TRUE TO LIFE

3yo b.f. by Duke Of Marmalade - Mina Salaam (Medaglia d'Oro)

2nd dam: Circle Of Life (Complete Warrior)

3rd dam: Teclafields (Northfields)

Owners: J F and L M F Wernars and Mrs T J Wernars

Bred by Northfields Stud (Pty) Ltd

Trainer: J J van Vuuren

Jockey: C Maujean

2. Dancing Queen

4yo b.f. by Mambo In Seattle - Jet Princess (Jet Master)

Owners: S Mileham, G H Long, H D Long and L C Long

Bred by Boland Stud

3. Sarah

3yo ch.f. by What A Winter - Sylvie (Dupont)

Owners: Hyperpaint Syndicate

Bred by P G de Beyer

Then came: Pool Party, Operetta, Double 'O' Eight, Singforafa, Via Seattle, Green Plains, Nicky Noo, Mary O'Reilly, Ancient Spirit (Aus), Desert Rhythm, Lesedi La Rona, Ulla, Dalai's Promise

Non-runners: Rio's Winter, Princess Nicole

Won by: 3 - neck - 0.50

Time: 66,19

Taking full advantage of her light weight, favourite TRUE TO LIFE streaked to a dominant first stakes victory.

Coming from midfield, the Duke Of Marmalade three-year-old delivered the knockout punch approaching the final furlong and quickened clear for a deserved first stakes success.

The Wernars-owned filly built on a promising juvenile season, which saw her capture her first two starts and finish third in the Gr2 SA Fillies Nursery. Rested after unplaced efforts in the Gr2 Golden Slipper and the Gr1 Thekwini Stakes, she made a winning return at the Vaal early last month and is clearly on an upward curve.

True To Life is one of seven local stakes winners for her Drakenstein-based sire and remarkably, all are fillies!

She was bred by Robin Bruss' Northfields Stud from a family he has nurtured over the past couple of decades. From third dam Teclafields he bred a trio of Gr1 winners in Gr1Met hero Zebra Crossing (Jallad), Champions Cup hero African Lion (Shalford) and True To Life's grandam, the champion racemare Circle Of Life. Following a glittering local career, Robin sent Circle Of Life to the States where she visited the likes of Gone West, Giant's Causeway and Johannesburg before returning to her birth country in foal to Medaglia d'Oro. The result of that mating was True To Life's dam Mina Salaam, who became her dam's first black type winner when scoring at stakes level at home and in Zimbabwe. Circle Of Life subsequently produced Gr1 Summer Cup winner Deo Juvente to champion Trippi.