

Sunday 17 December 2017

CLEAN SWEEP FOR CHAMPION STABLE



Lizzie L'Amour adds her name to Murray Baker and Andrew Forsman's list of Gr.2 Cal Isuzu Stakes winners (Trish Dunell)

The country's leading trainers have continued their recent domination of a Te Rapa Group Two feature with this year's winner completing a stunning stakes double on the Hamilton course.

Murray Baker and Andrew Forsman have enjoyed a stellar run in the Cal Isuzu Stakes (1600m) with past successes with Lady Kipling (NZ) (Savabeel) (2011), Diademe (NZ) (Savabeel) (2013), Sports Illustrated (NZ) (Fast 'n' Famous) (2014) and last season with Coldplay (NZ) (Savabeel).

It was the turn on Saturday of **Lizzie L'Amour (NZ)** (Zabeel), who led home a stable trifecta 12 months to the day since she claimed top honours in the Gr.3 Waikato Cup (2400m).

The Zabeel mare was making her first appearance since a disappointing spring campaign in Melbourne where she failed to flatter in four appearances.

"In Australia she didn't exhibit this sort of form and I don't

Continued on page 3



Roster 2017



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CLEAN SWEEP FOR CHAMPION STABLE

(Continued from page 1)

know why – she’s not called Dizzy Lizzie for nothing,” Baker said. “She had been working well though.”

Lizzie L’Amour sat outside the leader Stolen Dance (NZ) (Alamosa) and she finished bravely under rider Matthew Cameron.

“She’s obviously a very good mare when she’s right and it was a good ride from Matt, he got his tactics right,” Baker said.

The favourite Love Affair (NZ) (Savabeel) did well to come from the back of the field, on a day when there was a bias toward on pace runners, to finish runner-up in her first crack at weight-for-age. Stolen Dance boxed on strongly for third.

“It’s very satisfying and a big surprise, I thought Love Affair would be very hard to beat,” Baker said. “She’s a very good horse and her turn will come.”

Lizzie L’Amour will now defend her crown in the Gr.1 Zabeel Classic (2000m) on Boxing Day at Ellerslie where she will renew her rivalry with Stolen Dance. Plans for Love Affair have yet to be confirmed.

– NZ Racing Desk.

Race	Cal Isuzu Stakes Gr.2 1600m
Winner	Lizzie L’Amour (NZ) 2012
Owners	G J & Mrs L M Moore
Trainer	Murray Baker & Andrew Forsman (Cambridge)
Breeding	by Zabeel out of Sabia (Fr) by Saddlers Wells (USA)
Breeder	Mrs L M Moore

NEWS IN BRIEF

Three in a row for Etah James

Fitness concerns proved to be unfounded when **Etah James (NZ)** (Raise The Flag) brought up a winning hat-trick at Caulfield on Saturday.

Trainer Matt Cumani had voiced his fears earlier in the week that the five-year-old mare was lacking in fitness leading into the Blue Star Print Group Handicap (2420m).

Etah James controlled the running for much of the race and when the pressure went on before the turn she quickened and had the running as they came into the straight. She was never challenged and went on to win by 1.8 lengths.

“I think Linda (Meech) rode a beautiful race... she made it her own,” Cumani said.



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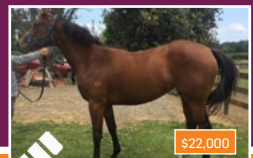
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CRACK ME UP WINS GROUP TWO VILLIERS STAKES

Queensland trainer Liam Birchley has exacted revenge for being beaten in a tight finish in the Villiers Stakes almost a decade ago with **Crack Me Up (NZ)** (Mossman) giving him the Group Two feature at Randwick.

But there were some anxious moments as Josh Parr set off to make every post a winner on Cabeza De Vaca (Northern Meteor) who had a lead of between ten and 12 lengths on the field at the top of the straight.

It was shades of Parr's performance on Red Excitement (Excites) in the Chelmsford Stakes when it took the champion Winx (Street Cry) to run him down.

Crack Me Up is no Winx but Jason Collett got him going at the right time and the \$6 chance ran down the leader to win by a long neck.

"He loves the big tracks but it worked out a bit unusually," Birchley said.

"I was a bit worried when the other one was so far in front.

"I got beaten in this race by a short margin some years ago with Rags To Riches so this helps make up for that."

Parr said he may have pushed the button too soon on Cabeza De Vaca while Collett thought he was always hoping the leader would start to put in some short strides.

"There's only so much you can do

when a horse is ten lengths in front," he said.

"I had to be patient. About the 150 (metres) I thought I had a chance and at the 100 I was confident we would get there."

The winner of the Villiers is eligible for a bonus for winning the Bernborough Handicap at Doomben but Birchley said the A\$1 million Magic Millions Cup (1400m) at the Gold Coast on January 13 was the plan.

The Villiers winner is also exempt from ballot for the Doncaster Mile in April and that is a target he and connections will look at.

"The Doncaster is definitely something to look at now he is guaranteed a start," he said.

"But we'll get to the Magic Millions first."

Bradbury Park will offer a half-brother by Reliable Man as lot 111 at January's NZB Book 1 Sale -AAP

Race	Villiers Stakes Gr.2 1600m
Winner	Crack Me Up (Mossman) 2013
Owners	M A McLean, R J McLean, G G Chapman, S M Achilles, S R Webber, S N Edmondstone, R S Heritage, P J Daniel, L A Maddison, Mrs J C Maddison, J A Ford, G P Ford, J A McIntosh, C M Cygler, C J Wessel, Mrs T M Wessel, Ms D Aram, Hervey Jump Out Synd (Mgr: Ms S Murtagh)
Trainer	Liam Birchley (Woodford)
Breeding	by Mossman (AUS) out of Chuckle (AUS) by Danehill (USA)
Breeder	RA & JE Ferguson Partnership Syndicate



A well-timed ride by Jason Collett gets Crack Me Up over the line in front in the Gr.2 Villiers Stakes (Bradley Photography)





FUTURE LOOKING GOOD **FOR CD STAYER**

Talented central districts galloper **Five To Midnight (NZ)** (Domesday) is on target for a second crack at a Group One staying feature.

He finished a meritorious fifth in

last season's Barfoot & Thompson Auckland Cup (3200m) and his preparation for the March event was boosted at Te Rapa on Saturday.

Runner-up in his previous start in the Gr.3 Counties Cup (2100m), Five To Midnight had no trouble going one better under a faultless ride from Leith Innes.

"The horse had done really well since Pukekohe, I couldn't have been happier with him, and I would have been disappointed if he wasn't right in this," trainer Lisa Latta said.

They sat in the trail before angling clear on straightening and the five-year-old wasn't to be denied in the run

to the post.

"He got the gun run and Leith peeled out turning in and the horse won nicely," Latta said.

"We'll probably look at the Avondale Cup at Ellerslie on Boxing Day and then work our way to the Auckland Cup."

Five To Midnight, who ended his last campaign with victory in the Listed Hawke's Bay Cup (2200m), is raced by Kevin Pratt under his Kamada Park racing banner.

"He loves the game and deserves every bit of success, he puts a lot of money into the game," Latta said.

Five To Midnight, whose half-sister (Lot 820) will be offered by The Oaks

Race	Skycity Hamilton Waikato Cup Gr.3 2400m
Winner	Five To Midnight (NZ) 2012
Owners	Kamada Racing
Trainer	Lisa Latta (Awapuni)
Breeding	by Domesday (AUS) out of Fastnet Lady (AUS) by Fastnet Rock (AUS)
Breeder	The Oaks Stud
Sales	2014 NZB Select Sale, V: The Oaks Stud, P: Lisa Latta Racing Stables; \$165,000



Stud during the Book 2 sale at Karaka in 2018, had a long neck to spare on the fast-finishing Promise To Reign (Manhattan Rain), who came from the tail of the field.

Zambezi Warrior (NZ) (Pentire) continued to show improvement with his run for third ahead of Rock On (NZ) (Road To Rock), who was slow to get into stride before looping the field down the back straight to sit outside the leader.

– NZ Racing Desk.

Five To Midnight is headed for bigger things after winning the Gr.3 Skycity Hamilton Waikato Cup (Trish Dunell)





PITMANS CHASING GROUP ONE SPOILS

Savvy southern trainers Michael and Matthew Pitman are gunning for two Group One Trentham features.

The Riccarton based father and son team have eyes for the Grant Plumbing Levin Classic (1600m) on January 13 and the Al Basti Equiworld Dubai New Zealand Oaks (2400m) on March 17.

The filly they have the highest hopes for is **Savvy Coup (NZ)** (Savabeel), who at Awapuni on Saturday produced a dynamic performance to win the Gr.3 Lawnmaster Eulogy Stakes (1500m).

The daughter of Savabeel lowered the colours of the favourite Dijon Bleu (NZ) (Burgundy), who had previously finished runner-up in the Gr.1 New Zealand 1000 Guineas (1600m).

"We've always had confidence in the filly, very happy with the result," Matthew Pitman said.

Savvy Coup was impressive when winning twice during the New Zealand Cup carnival and

seven days ago she ran second over 1400m at Trentham. She was handled by Chris Johnson on all three occasions, but he had commitments on Saturday at Te Rapa.

"I was disappointed Chris wasn't on, we've had a great association, but I was so pleased to get Michael McNab," Michael Pitman said. "I consider him the best rider here today."

Savvy Coup settled back off midfield and when Dijon Bleu made her move, McNab tracked her into the race and they finished too well in the closing 200m.

"I said to Matt at the 600m mark that the filly only needs a bit of luck, she was travelling that well," Pitman said.



Savvy Coup (red cap, blue sleeves) gets the better of Dijon Bleu in the Gr.3 Lawnmaster Eulogy Stakes victory (Race Images)

Waikato Stud will offer a brother (Lot 190) to Savvy Coup at the Book 1 sale at Karaka next month.

– NZ Racing Desk.

Race	Lawnmaster Eulogy Stakes Gr.3 1500m
Winner	Savvy Coup (NZ) 2014
Owners	Mrs A M, A R, C J, F H & J F Bruford, Mrs J D, L R & R A Coupland
Trainer	Michael & Matthew Pitman (Riccarton Park)
Breeding	by Savabeel (AUS) out of Eudora by Pins (AUS)
Breeder	Waikato Stud
Sales	2016 NZB Premier Sale, V: Waikato Stud, P: NZB as agent, \$65,000

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LUCKLESS CHAMBORD FEATURES IN ROYAL STABLE SUCCESS

Stephen Autridge's tipping skills were put to the test at Te Rapa and only rotten luck prevented a winning result.

The Matamata horseman, who trains in partnership with Jamie Richards, gave a solid push toward Chambord's (NZ) (Zabeel) chances in the Gr.3 J Swap Contractors Sprint (1400m) only for the son of Zabeel to strike trouble in the straight.

Chambord was denied a run until late in the straight and once clear the injury-plagued seven-year-old powered home for second.

"I'm a Chambord man," Autridge said. "He's just a loveable horse who's

been to hell and back. He's not timid and he's just a genuine racehorse."

However, the stable still celebrated a near perfect result with barn mate **Royal Success (NZ)** (Savabeel) winning for the sixth time in 12 starts. His career has also been interrupted by leg issues.

"They had worked together during the week and Royal Success probably looked the better, but I thought the track may have been a bit hard for him today."

Royal Success was given a cost trip in the trail by Cameron Lammas and a determined finish got him home by a head from the luckless Chambord,

who drove late under Chris Johnson after being hemmed in until too late.

The run of the third placegetter Ronchi (NZ) (Stravinsky) was also full of merit after again missing the jump, as he had done at his previous two appearances, and storming home along the fence.

– NZ Racing Desk.

Race	J Swap Contractors Sprint Gr.3 1400m
Winner	Royal Success (NZ) 2012
Owners	Te Akau Royal Success Syndicate (Mgr: D C Ellis)
Trainer	Stephen Autridge & Jamie Richards (Matamata)
Breeding	by Savabeel (AUS) out of Royal Show by Deputy Governor (USA)
Breeder	J W Campin
Sales	2014 NZB Premier Sale; V: The Estate of J W Campin, P: Mr DC Ellis; \$130,000 2015 NZB Ready To Run Sale of 2yos; V: Lyndhurst Farm, P: Mr DC Ellis/JW Richards; \$250,000



Royal Success (three off rail) holds out his unlucky stablemate Chambord (four out) in the Gr.3 J Swap Contractors Sprint (Trish Dunell)



*Sweynesse is a chip
off the old block*

Darren Beadman

Sweynesse, is a son of former champion racehorse and super sire Lonhro. Beadman rode Lonhro in most of his 26 wins and he gets to work with many of that horse's sons and daughters at Godolphin.

- A multiple Group One performer (2nd G1 Randwick Guineas, 3rd G1 Spring Champion) beating some of the best 3YO Group One winners in Australia including Kermedec, Preferment, Hampton Court, Shooting To Win, First Seal.
- Winner of first four starts including dual Group 3 wins in the Spring Stakes and Gloaming Stakes.
- A winner at only start as a 2YO.
- A top 3YO Timeform rating of 122 makes Sweynesse one of the top Australian 3YO colts of his year.
- By Lonhro -The Champion 3YO, the Champion miler, the Horse of the Year, and now a Champion sire. Lonhro set a new Australian record of 160 individual winners in a season. His son Pierro, unbeaten juvenile Triple Crown winner, was rated the best juvenile colt in Australia since 1977.
- Out of the multiple winning mare Swansea by Champion Sire Singspiel (5xG1 Winner and sire of 98SW).
- Sweynesse is a magnificent individual. He stands 16.2 hh. He has a powerful hind quarter, a strong shoulder and a great athletic walk. He is very correct.
- Sweynesse is syndicated amongst many of New Zealand's top breeders who are strongly supporting him at stud.



Ray Knight

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VICTORIAN SUPER SUB STARS AGAIN

Patrick Moloney has proved himself to be the perfect pinch-hitter.

The stable jockey for Mike Moroney's Flemington operation has twice answered the call from the trans-Tasman trainer to substitute in New Zealand for a suspended Jake Bayliss and both times has filled in admirably.

"I'm more than happy to take every opportunity I get to come over here and ride some nice horses," he said.

Moloney, whose maiden visit featured victory aboard On The Rocks (NZ) (Alamosa) in the Listed Trevor Eagle Memorial (1500m), teamed up with the flying youngster **She's A Thief (NZ)** (Showcasing) at Te Rapa on Saturday for an effortless win.

"She's quite an impressive filly and I was blown away with her professionalism," he said. "I was really impressed with what she did today."

She's a Thief was coasting in front to the turn and glided clear in the straight with Moloney afforded the luxury of a couple of looks over his shoulder in the closing 300m.

"She's lived up to all expectations," he said. "She can only continue to improve."

She's A Thief, who had won in similar fashion on debut last month, will now head to the Gr.3 Barneswood Farm Eclipse Stakes (1200m) on



Another NZ win for Patrick Moloney who scored an effortless win on She's A Thief at Te Rapa (Trish Dunell)

January 1 at Ellerslie before returning for the Listed Karaka Million (1200m) later in the month.

"We were going to go straight to Auckland on New Year's Day but she was getting above herself, she's really thriving at the moment," said Moroney's Matamata training partner Pam Gerard.

"She's an angel with a great attitude, she's so easy to deal with."

The slick daughter of Showcasing had three lengths at the post on the debutant Wisdom Patch (Snitzel), who raced greenly in the straight, with Dublin Rose (NZ) (O'Reilly) a half of a length further back in third spot.

– NZ Racing Desk.

Race	Wentwood Grange Premier 1200m
Winner	She's A Thief (NZ) 2015
Owners	Karen Glindemann, Jane Carolan, Jo Hikaka, Lisa Lindberg, Lynette O'Connor, Woburn Farm & Ballymore Stables NZ Ltd
Trainer	Mike Moroney & Pam Gerard (Matamata)
Breeding	by Showcasing (GB) out of Steal (AUS) by Red Ransom (USA)
Breeder	D J Myers
Sales	2016 NZB National Weanling, Broodmare and Mixed Bloodstock Sale, V: D J Myers, P: Woburn Farm; \$13,000 2017 NZB Festival Yearling Sale, V: Woburn Farm, P: Paul Moroney Bloodstock; \$30,000

