

Sunday 11 November 2018

## MADISON COUNTY TAKES THE MAJOR SPOILS AT RICCARTON



*Madison County charges to victory at Riccarton (Race Images South)*

Outstanding three-year-old **Madison County (NZ)** (Pins) repaid his many supporters when he carried the favourite's tag to a comprehensive victory in the Gr.1 Al Basti Equiworld Dubai New Zealand 2000 Guineas (1600m) at Riccarton.

The Murray Baker and Andrew Forsman-trained gelding had jumped to the top of the pre-race betting markets when he took out the Gr.2 Hawkes Bay Guineas (1400m) at Hastings in October.

Despite a slight hiccup when finishing third in his final lead-up run at Te Rapa, punters never wavered in their faith in the

China Horse Club-owned galloper as he delivered in fine style, courtesy of an ice-cool ride by jockey Matthew Cameron.

Positioned on the rail behind a solid early speed, Cameron had Madison County ticking over nicely approaching the home turn, before finding clear-air in the straight.

Madison County quickly mastered fellow Cambridge raider Dawn Patrol (NZ) (Dawn Approach) as he dashed away to win by two and a half lengths with Sir Nate (NZ) (Nadeem) closing gamely for third.

It was Cameron's second win in the race after he piloted

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# WEYNESSE

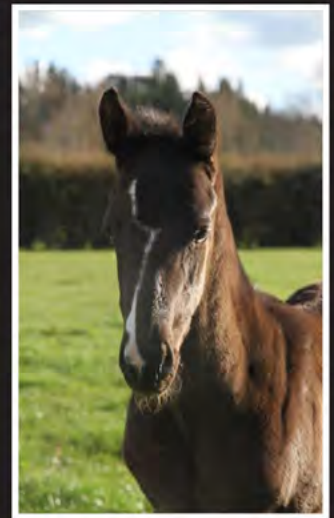
## *Stunning first foals*

*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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# MADISON COUNTY TAKES THE MAJOR SPOILS AT RICCARTON

*(Continued from page 1)*

Xtravagant (NZ) (Pentire) to victory in 2015, although after turning down the mount on stablemate and rival The Chosen One (NZ) (Savabeel), he was quick to admit he hadn't always pulled the right rein when choosing a ride in the event.

"I've had a few practice runs and finally got the right one," he said.

"That's no disrespect to The Chosen One, as he is a beautiful colt, but maybe it's just a little before his time.

"Madison County just proved he is the best three-year-old around.

"They went quick down the back, then slowed up and were all bunched up. I opted to come off into a bit better ground as I know he has an electric turn of foot and a few of them were stopping.

"He got through and was very dominant."

Co-trainer Andrew Forsman admitted there had been some minor concerns prior to the race given the Riccarton surface had been subjected to heavy rainfall in the preceding 48 hours, but as the day proceeded it continued to dry.

"I guess there was a query on the track which was a little bit niggly," he said.

"I think the horse to beat, Dawn Patrol, had to make his run on the inside which helped us a lot as Matt got a beautiful run just off the fence.

"This was our number one target as we had labelled him a Guineas horse after he won his two-year-old race last season.

"Everything has gone right, thankfully."

Forsman was also pleased to secure the victory for the gelding's owners who have invested heavily in New Zealand and are one of the dominant ownership forces in world racing.

"It's great for New Zealand racing to have them (China Horse Club) involved in the New Zealand thoroughbred industry," he said.

"To get a result like this is hopefully going to produce future



*China Horse Club Chairman, Teo Ah Khing and daughter Johannah pose alongside Andrew Forsman and jockey Matt Cameron after the trophy presentation for the Gr.1 Al Basti Equiworld Dubai New Zealand 2000 Guineas (Race Images South)*

investment from them."

China Horse Club Chairman Teo Ah Khing was on course at Riccarton to see Madison County triumph in the three-year-old feature.

Bred by Garry Chittick, Madison County was a \$36,000 purchase by Michael Wallace on behalf of the China Horse Club from Waikato Stud's Select Sale draft at the 2017 National Yearling Sale at Karaka. – NZ Racing Desk

<b>Race</b>	<b>CJC New Zealand Two Thousand Guineas Gr.1 1600m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Madison County (NZ) 2015</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>China Horse Club Racing Pty Ltd</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Murray Baker &amp; Andrew Forsman (Cambridge)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Pins (AUS) out of Red Delicious by No Excuse Needed (GB)</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>G J Chittick</b>
<b>Sales</b>	<b>2017 National Yearling Sale – Select Sale; V: Waikato Stud Ltd, P: China Horse Club; \$36,000</b>





# INDECISION TAKES OUT TE RAPA FEATURE

**A** bold front-running performance saw the Tony Pike-trained **Indecision (NZ)** (Per Incanto) add further valuable black-type to her career record when she scored in the Listed Legacy Lodge Sprint (1200m) at Te Rapa.

Narrowly beaten at her last start in the Gr.3 Sweeney Stakes (1215m)

<b>Race</b>	<b>Waikato RC Sprint H. L 1200m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Indecision (NZ) 2013</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>S L Malcolm, Mrs C N &amp; Ms J Taylor, Faith Taylor, Brent &amp; Cherry Taylor</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Tony Pike (Cambridge)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Per Incanto (USA) out of Yeah Nah by Kinjite</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>Little Avondale Trust &amp; Mrs N K Smyth</b>
<b>Sales</b>	<b>2015 National Yearling Sale – Premier Sale; V: Little Avondale Stud, P: Bruce Perry Bloodstock; \$260,000</b>



at Rotorua, Indecision would not be denied on Saturday after being rated perfectly in front by rider Leith Innes.

Innes had the mare humming along nicely throughout the contest as she comfortably held out the challenge of race favourite Yearn (NZ) (Savabeel), who had tracked her throughout.

“She’s come back a lot stronger mare this season,” Pike said.

“She’s always been there or thereabouts but she is now a lot more mature and racing more professionally as well.

“I thought she had got the win at Rotorua, but she just missed. Her trackwork since then has been first-class and she is definitely heading the right way.”

Pike has high hopes that his charge

can continue the improvement she has shown as he contemplates bigger challenges over the summer period.

“It was a handy enough field today although probably not the best of the sprinters,” he said.

“It was still a pretty tidy field and she did it well.

“We will probably put a nomination in for the Railway and hope we can get her there in one piece.

“She is holding her form consistently and she takes luck out of the equation with her racing pattern, so she would have to be a chance in a race like that.”

The Gr.1 Sistema Railway (1200m) is the marquee event at Ellerslie on January 1.

A half-sister to multiple Group One winner Viadana (NZ) (Towkay), Indecision took her career record to five wins and a further 6 minor placings from just 20 starts, with two of those wins at Listed level.

The result capped off a terrific ten-minute period for Little Avondale Stud stallion Per Incanto, who produced a stakes-winning double after Casaquinman (NZ) scored just moments earlier in the Listed Yesberg Insurance Services Pegasus Stakes (1000m) at Riccarton.

– NZ Racing Desk

*Indecision and Leith Innes in full flight at Te Rapa (Race Images (Kenton Wright))*





# DEE AND GEE UPSETS IN METROPOLITAN TROPHY



*Dee And Gee is out on her own as she scores an upset victory at Riccarton (Race Images South)*

Outsider **Dee And Gee (NZ)** (Darci Brahma) stunned the Riccarton crowd on Saturday as she registered her biggest career victory when winning the Listed Redwood Metropolitan Trophy (2500m).

The five-year-old mare defied her rivals all the way down the long Riccarton home straight after rider Cameron Lammas sent her to the front with more than 1600m left to run in the contest.

Those who expected the \$51 chance to weaken were sadly disappointed as she kept up a strong gallop to dispose of the well fancied northern raiders Felaar and Mental Telepathy. The run provided an eye-catching dress rehearsal for the mare's next challenge, the Gr.3 Christchurch Casino New Zealand Cup (3200m).

"She was a handy sort of horse last season who I always

thought would get a bit of distance," co-trainer Peter Corbett said.

"She won over 2500m on Cup day last year, although this season she just hadn't come up like I thought she would.

"I thought he (Lammas) went too early but I didn't know how she was travelling on the Slow8 track, but obviously she handled it well."

Rated an \$81 chance in the Fixed Odds market for the New Zealand Cup prior to the win, Dee And Gee now sits at \$21 with the Hastings-trained High Spirits (NZ) (Darci Brahma) installed favourite at \$5.

Earlier in the day underrated Woodville galloper **Casaquinman (NZ)** (Per Incanto) sprang another upset when he dashed home to win the Listed Yesberg Insurance Services Pegasus Stakes (1000m).

*Continued on page 6*





# DEE AND GEE UPSETS IN METROPOLITAN TROPHY

*(Continued from page 5)*

The Shane Brown-trained gelding was having his first start in a new campaign after finishing mid-field in the Autumn Sprint Championship (1200m) final at Trentham in May.

The six-year-old possesses a powerful finishing burst and he put that to good effect as he chimed in out wide in the home straight to clear out from the chasing pack.

“We targeted Cup week from the time we turned him out,” Brown said.

“When a plan comes off it is fantastic.

“Full credit to Dylan (Turner) as he has made a huge effort to get down to the 53.5kg so that shows you what he thinks of this horse.”

Rider Dylan Turner produced an ecstatic whip flourish at the finish post after claiming victory and was still on a high when interviewed after the race.

“He’s a lovely horse who makes you look good,” he said.

“The weight (53kg) was hard for me but I’ve known for a month now so I have had time to prepare for it.

“I was a little bit scared coming in to a race like this fresh but it just proves what he can do.”

Casaquinman holds a nomination for Wednesday’s Gr.3 Lindauer Stewards Stakes (1200m) with Brown indicating he would take his place in the field provided he pulls up well from his weekend exertions.

– NZ Racing Desk

<b>Race</b>	<b>CJC Metropolitan Trophy H. L 2500m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Dee and Gee (NZ) 2013</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>Peter R Corbett &amp; Terrill T Charles</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Terrill Charles &amp; Peter Corbett (Tamaru)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Darci Brahma out of Gabana by Jungle Pocket (JPN)</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>Sildi Bloodstock Ltd</b>
<b>Sales</b>	<b>2015 National Yearling Sale - Select Sale; V: The Oaks Stud, P: SF Ritchie; \$16,000</b>

<b>Race</b>	<b>CJC Pegasus H. L 1000m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Casaquinman (NZ) 2012</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>B Gee Syndicate</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Shane Brown (Woodville)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Per Incanto (USA) out of Puan Silk by Towkay (AUS)</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>K J &amp; Mrs S E Lyford</b>



*Dylan Turner celebrates as he crosses the finish line with Casaquinman (Race Images South)*





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# WEIR FARM BRINGS OUT BEST IN TOP PROSPECT



*A change in training environment is paying dividends for Top Prospect (Bruno Cannatelli)*

**T**rainer Darren Weir says a change in training environment has brought out the best in Flemington winner **Top Prospect (NZ)** (Swiss Ace).

One of three runners for the champion trainer in Saturday's Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Plate, Top Prospect had support in betting before scoring a strong win.

Ridden by Craig Williams, Top

*Continued on page 9*

<b>Race</b>	VRC Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation H. 2000m
<b>Winner</b>	Top Prospect (NZ) 2013
<b>Owners</b>	Top Prospect, Mr JW Woodbridge, Mr T Jeans, Mr AJ Merlo, Mr GJP Van Ameyden, Carty Racing, Mr C Kosta, HGMC Racing, Men in Lightning, Shire Racing, Mr KR Mackenzie, Keating Racing, Proline Thoroughbreds No.2, Mr MJ Coughlan, Mr TP Johns, Mr DM Ackery, Mr AW Rohde, Powerhouse, TAPD Racing, School Fees Racing
<b>Trainer</b>	Darren Weir (Ballarat)
<b>Breeding</b>	by Swiss Ace (AUS) out of Princess Carolina (AUS) by More Than Ready (USA)
<b>Breeder</b>	G Harvey
<b>Sales</b>	2015 National Yearling Sale – Select Sale; V: Westbury Stud, P: The Robt Dawe Agency; \$65,000







# WEIR FARM BRINGS OUT BEST IN TOP PROSPECT

*(Continued from page 8)*

Prospect firmed from \$15 into \$11 in a half-neck win over Etymology (New Approach) with Lycurgus (Star Witness) three quarters of a length away third.

A former New Zealand galloper with Richard Collett, Top Prospect was having his sixth start since joining Weir's stable.

Weir switched Top Prospect to his farm at Baringhup and was a little surprised by the victory, thinking he was still one run shy from being at his best.

"Since he's gone to the farm he's really thrived," Weir said.

"He wasn't an easy horse early on as he had a high head carriage but his manners are a lot better now and he's racing a lot better."

Weir said Baringhup's rural setting provided a more relaxed atmosphere while the horses get plenty of work training on deep sand tracks at the property.

Top Prospect is likely to be aimed at the Ballarat Cup on November 24

where he could be joined by fellow Flemington runners, Pleasuring (Hard Spun) and Lucky For All (NZ) (Tavistock).

"I thought Pleasuring ran well but I'm not sure about Lucky For All," Weir said.

"He might nearly be ready for a break."

Lucky For All's jockey John Allen reported the saddle shifted shortly after the start.

-AAP

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# SOUNESS WINS TRIP TO THE DUBAI WORLD CUP

Christchurch-based racegoer Bevan Souness almost missed collecting a trip for two to the Dubai at Riccarton Park Racecourse on Saturday.

The 71-year-old retiree was on course celebrating his son's stag do when officials put out numerous calls on the loud speaker, all of which were deafened by the celebrations of his son's party.

When he did finally get the message, he had no idea what it was about until Mohammed Al Basti, representing Al Basti Equiworld Dubai, presented him with a trip for two to the 2019 Dubai World Cup.

"I just can't believe it," Souness said. "This is too much for me it's overwhelming."

While Souness was surprised he expected his wife Jo would be even more surprised.

"She's a nurse and she's doing a course today otherwise she would have been here with me," said Souness. "I don't have my phone with me to call her, so I will have to tell her when I get home."

Sponsored by Al Basti Equiworld Dubai, the United Arab Emirates leading distributor of horse feeds, supplements and veterinary medicines and the sponsors of Saturday's feature race, the New Zealand 2000 Guineas, Bevan and his wife Jo will enjoy a magnificent prize package.

Featured elements include two return Emirates flights from New Zealand to Dubai, Airport pickup and transfer to the 5-star Meydan Hotel for 6 nights, two tickets to the Dubai World Cup Barrier Draw, two tickets to Breakfast with the Stars, two tickets to the Gala Reception plus hospitality in the Al Basti Equiworld Dubai Private Box overlooking Meydan Racecourse on Dubai World Cup night.

Created through the vision of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, the Dubai World Cup race meeting is the world's richest with total prizemoney of US\$35 million. The meeting features six Group One races and three Group Two races, with the US\$12 million Gr.1 Dubai World Cup the pinnacle event. The 2019 edition of the Dubai World Cup takes place on Saturday March 30.

Racing fans will get another chance to join Bevan and Jo in Dubai by attending a meeting at Wellington Races between now and Gr.1 Al Basti Equiworld Dubai NZ Oaks Day on March 16, where a second winner will be drawn.



*The moment Bevan Souness found he won the Al Basti Equiworld trip for to Dubai*





# BEAUTY NOW THE BEST OF HIS GENERATION **AS LATEST LONGINES LIST PUTS HIM ON TOP OF THE WORLD**

The accolades just keep on coming for **Beauty Generation (NZ)** (Road To Rock).

John Moore's gelding numbered the LONGINES Hong Kong Mile among three Group 1 successes last season and started this campaign as Hong Kong's Horse of the Year.

An impressive reappearance success in the Celebration Cup moved Beauty Generation within hailing distance of the world's elite and the Patrick Kwok-owned gelding can now

lay claim to being the best specialist turf miler on the planet after the publication of the latest edition of the LONGINES World's Best Racehorse Rankings.

Aussie superstar Winx (Street Cry) and John Gosden's runaway Champion Stakes winner Cracksman (Zoustar) top the list on ratings of 130, but Beauty Generation is just 4lb behind them having been raised from 123 to 126 on the strength of a commanding success under top weight in the Oriental Watch

Sha Tin Trophy last month.

Moore described his stable star as "like a bottle of the best red wine you could buy" before his latest performance and the manner of that success has helped Beauty Generation leapfrog star Irish filly Alpha Centauri (Mastercraftsman) to become the highest rated specialist turf miler in the world.

Beauty Generation's new rating leaves him just 1lb behind the

*Continued on page 12*



*Beauty Generation has been recognized as the world's leading specialist turf miler (Hong Kong Jockey Club)*





# BEAUTY NOW THE BEST OF HIS GENERATION **AS LATEST LONGINES LIST PUTS HIM ON TOP OF THE WORLD**

*(Continued from page 11)*

highest rated horse in Hong Kong history – namely Moore’s mighty chestnut Able Friend (Shamardel) – and jockey Zac Purton is now hoping the freewheeling six-year-old can maintain his lofty standards in next week’s BOCHK Wealth Management Jockey Club Mile before a second tilt at the LONGINES Hong Kong Mile on 9 December.

“It’s a high rating but I think Beauty Generation deserves it,” he said.

“Yes, he’s done it early in the season and there’s a long way to go

so the challenge for John is to try and get him to maintain that form, but he carried a big weight (133lb) against a strong field and ran a very fast time so I don’t think there was any fluke about it.”

Nigel Gray, co-chairman, LONGINES World’s Best Racehorse Rankings Committee and Head of Handicapping, Race Planning and International Racing of the Club, said: “Beauty Generation has improved throughout his career in Hong Kong, and has developed into a very high class miler.”

“He’s been impressive in his two victories this season, giving weight and a beating to some very talented horses, and it’s great to see a Hong Kong horse back in the World Rankings Top Ten.”

Beauty Generation will carry a Group 1 penalty against a maximum of eight opponents in the Jockey Club Mile including the Sha Tin Trophy runner-up Singapore Sling and previous G1 winners Beauty Only (Holy Roman Emperor) and Seasons Bloom (Captain Sonador).

- HKJC



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# RATTAN ROARS HOME IN DRAMATIC PANASONIC CUP



*Rattan quickens best under Chad Schofield to land a dramatic Panasonic Cup.*

Acceleration is perhaps the most priceless asset a racehorse can own and **Rattan (NZ)** (Savabeel) used his turn of foot to telling effect at Sha Tin on Saturday to land a Panasonic Cup that prompted delight for Chad Schofield and a powerful sense of “what might have been” from connections of the pair who chased him home.

Winning trainer Richard Gibson missed saddling the 200th winner of his Hong Kong career due to a trip to Europe to celebrate his father’s 80th birthday but can look forward to other major days with a gelding who quickened at the key moment to get the better of Conte (Starcraft) and the Zac Purton-ridden Little Giant (NZ) (Swiss Ace) in a pulsating finish.

However, the reaction of those closest to the placed horses suggest that this is a race that may well have a significant bearing on plenty of good races to come.

Runner-up Conte had Umberto Rispoli bemoaning a wide draw which he felt cost him the race while paying a handsome tribute to “one of the most beautiful horses I’ve

ridden in my life.”

Little Giant’s trainer David Hall hinted that two LONGINES HKIR options are still on the table after his troubled passage under 126lb from stall 10, but Schofield was left beaming at how “one of my favourite horses” erased memories of a frustrating, narrow defeat aboard Glorious Forever in the Sa Sa Ladies’ Purse.

Purton had dictated to Schofield aboard Time Warp in last week’s feature but this time Schofield was able to settle into a perfect midfield slot as Little Giant edged his way across in behind from his wider stall.

Rispoli was forced to work hard to set a true pace aboard Conte from even wider out in stall 14, but the effort of doing so took a toll close home and Rattan swept by late to score by a neck with Little Giant the same distance away in third despite throwing down a highly impressive 22.12 secs for his final 400m.

Schofield, clearly thrilled to have got one over on Purton

*Continued on page 15*





# RATTAN ROARS HOME IN DRAMATIC PANASONIC CUP

*(Continued from page 14)*

this time, said: "Rattan's been a great horse for me - that's the fourth time we've won together - and he's improved a lot."

"I thought he was a live chance going into last year's Derby. He didn't quite get the trip there but he has a very good turn of foot over 1400m or a mile and I believe he could run next in the Chevalier Cup over a mile here on November 25."

Rispoli was clearly frustrated to be collared late on Conte but was also proud of the way John Size's powerful gelding battled on his first run since June.

"He's an amazing horse and I think he would have won with a better draw," he said. "That was his first run in Class 1 and his first run of the season so to do that from such a wide gate tells you how much ability he has."

Hall didn't have too much time to digest Little Giant's performance as he was straight back into the fray with a winner as Matthew Poon, completing a double, forced Nuclear Power ahead close home in the Panasonic Kitchen

Handicap (1200m).

However, the Aussie handler remains firmly of the opinion that Little Giant "lost no admirers whatsoever in defeat" and will consult with the Wizard Syndicate before deciding on whether to take a crack against the elite performers in either the LONGINES Hong Kong Sprint or LONGINES Hong Kong Mile.

"I think you have to say it all came down to the barrier," he reflected. "You can only imagine how much closer Little Giant would have been early on with stall 3 rather than 10 and I have to think he could have won with the box seat run."

"It's not the perfect scenario to think about going into Group 1 company after a defeat, but if he'd won today we would almost have been forced to go to one of the International races."

"Let's see what the owners have to say but, put it this way, the question of whether to go for it will definitely be asked."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Freedman finale ends on a positive note

Michael Freedman marked his final day as a trainer in Hong Kong with an emotional winner when Honest Way (NZ) (Per Incanto) came with a perfectly-timed challenge under Douglas Whyte to land R2.

Whyte had promised he would help send the departing handler out with a winner during a midweek dinner and Freedman - returning



to train in Australia for personal reasons - was keen to look forward rather than back as he reflected on his frustrating 15-month stay.

"It's been a bit of a rocky road, for sure, but we'll chalk it up to experience," he said. "I'd love to have a horse good enough to come back here for one of the International races in the future - that would be high on the bucket list."

*Honest Way and Douglas Whyte provide Michael Freedman with a farewell winner.*

