

Sunday 15 May 2016

MACKINTOSH CHEWS 'EM UP AT DOOMBEN



Mackintosh continues his rise in the Australian three-year-old standings with an end-to-end win in the Rough Habit Plate.

Champion trainer Chris Waller has a firm grip on the Queensland Derby trophy after **Mackintosh (NZ)** (Pins) scored an all-the-way win in the Group Two Rough Habit Plate over 2000 metres at Doomben yesterday.

Sent out a \$2.10 favourite, Mackintosh was ridden confidently by Blake Shinn and continued Waller's dominance of the Rough Habit Plate when he scored a comfortable $2\frac{3}{4}$ length win, this success bringing the expat-

Kiwi's tally to three wins in the past four years.

Mackintosh added to the wins of Sadler's Lake (High Chaparral) last year and Hawkspur (Purrealist) who was successful in 2013 before progressing to win the Derby.

"We've learned over the past few years what works and what doesn't when it comes to bringing horses to this carnival," Waller said.

"With this horse we've been taking small steps and

Continued on page 3



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MACKINTOSH CHEWS 'EM UP **AT DOOMBEN**

(Continued from page 1)

hopefully now, with a bit of confidence, he can go on to the Grand Prix and Queensland Derby.

“Winning gives confidence whether it’s a horse, a sportsman or a businessman.”

Mackintosh booked his ticket north when he won at Hawkesbury on April 30 when having his first start for Waller.

“He’s an emerging New Zealand-bred gelding with the right bloodlines,” Waller said.

“We’d like to see him win like he did today at his next start in the Grand Prix and if he can then he’ll be a legitimate chance in the Derby.”

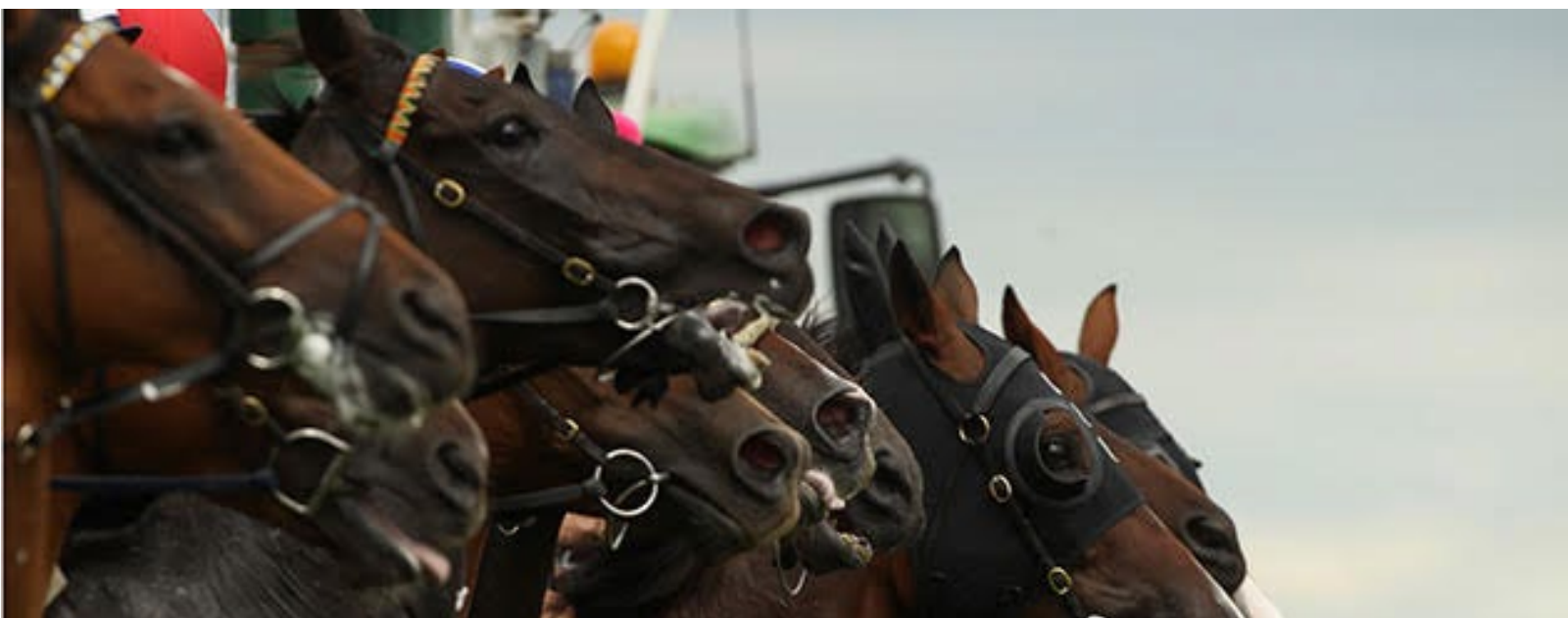
Shinn is keen to stick with Mackintosh in the Group Three Grand Prix Stakes, over 2200 metres at Doomben on May 28, and the Group One Queensland Derby, over 2400 metres at Eagle Farm on June 11.

“He gave me a good ride today and in the end it was pretty painless,” Shinn said.

“Once he found the front he was able to sustain a high cruising speed and made the race his own.”

– AAP TURF

Race	BRC Rough Habit P. Gr.3 2000m
Winner	Mackintosh (NZ) 2012
Owners	T Muollo, A Muollo and L Petagna
Trainer	Chris Waller (Rosehill)
Breeding	by Pins (Aus) out of Lolly Scramble by Generous (Ire)
Breeder	Waikato Stud Ltd
Sales	2013 National Weanling, Broodmare & Mixed Sale; V: Waikato Stud Ltd, P: Bridge Racing; \$11,000



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STORMING THE TOWER DELAYS JUMPS CAREER WITH ROTORUA CUP SUCCESS

Cambridge trainer John Bell is happy to bide his time before introducing **Storming The Tower (NZ)** (Storm Creek) to a new role on race day.

He has been extensively schooling the seven-year-old, who has shown a natural aptitude for the jumping game, but the gelding's flat form is likely to delay his hurdle debut for the foreseeable future.

Storming The Tower doubled his collection of silverware yesterday with a tenacious display to add the Group Three Campbell Infrastructure Rotorua Cup to the Bay of Plenty Cup he won in March.

That was his first success in more than three years, not that Bell was unduly concerned.

"He's run a lot of seconds, thirds and fourths in Group and other races so he does deserve this," he said.

"Rotorua can be a tricky track so he's done well to handle it. He'll be going for his hurdle ticket at some stage but he does need a break as well so we'll see what happens."

Storming The Tower was in touch with the leaders

throughout the 2200 metre contest and dug deep in the straight under Vinnie Colgan, deputising for the suspended Leith Innes, to post the sixth win of his career.

"It's a bit disappointing Leith wasn't on him because he's done a lot of the work, but Vinnie had him relaxed down the back and put him to sleep," Bell said. "He did a fantastic job."

In a driving finish, Storming The Tower beat Gentil Tonton (Yeats) and the brave topweight Authentic Paddy (NZ) (Howbaddouwantit), who gave the winner and the runner-up six-and-a-half and seven-and-a-half kilos respectively.

Race	Rotorua Cup Gr.3 2200m
Winner	Storming the Tower (NZ) 2008
Owners	Benedict Sin and John Bell
Trainer	John Bell (Cambridge)
Breeding	by Storm Creek (USA) out of Midnight Dip by O'Reilly
Breeder	Stoney Bridge Thoroughbred Ltd
Sales	2009 Winter Mixed Bloodstock Sale; V: Twin Pines Ltd, P: New Zealand Bloodstock Ltd; \$4200



Wide on the track in search of better going, the Rotorua Cup field are led in their charge to the finish by Storming The Tower (green and maroon colours), with Gentil Tonton (black and red) to his outside and topweight Authentic Paddy on his inner.





Sunday 15 May 2016

BEN'S DAY BRIGHTENED BY DESERVED ROTORUA STAKES WIN FOR ILLUMINATI

Ben Foote's day didn't start well at Rotorua but he ended it on a celebratory note after a significant victory from his genuine mare **Illuminati (NZ)** (Keeper).

"I dropped my lip earlier after the other two horses didn't perform up to expectations," the Cambridge trainer said, "but I'm happy now."

Bazz (NZ) (Bahhare) and So It Goes (Magic Albert) had turned in disappointing efforts in the Rating 85 mile before Illuminati restored the stable pride with a runaway win in the Listed Classic Cuisine Rotorua WFA Stakes.

The mare has been hot on the trail of black type in the last two seasons and she had placed at Group Three level in the Winter Cup, the White Robe Lodge Stakes and the Cuddle Stakes before breaking through at Arawa Park.

"It's well-deserved and she's quite a tough mare," Foote said. "She got a couple of Group placings last preparation but she never got the tracks to suit her – she needs cut in the ground."

He has yet to confirm Illuminati's winter campaign, but the Listed Tauranga Classic next month and a second crack at the Winter Cup at Riccarton on August 6 are two tempting options.

Illuminati jumped well yesterday from her inside gate to track the pace and rider Trudy Thornton said she had no worries during the running.

"She travelled well, I got to the outside turning for home and she did the rest. She gives her heart and soul and it's a terrific result."

Illuminati was two-and-three-quarter lengths clear of the



Illuminati and Trudy Thornton complete their no-worries win.

outsiders Madonna Mia (NZ) (Red Clubs) and Lady Zafira (NZ) (Iffraaj) at the post.

Race	Rotorua S. L 1400m
Winner	Illuminati (NZ) 2009
Owners	D Bennisson, C & C Devitt, B W Foote, B P King, N McElhinney and G R Shewan
Trainer	Ben Foote (Cambridge)
Breeding	by Keeper (Aus) out of Heavenly Trail (Aus) by Godswalk (USA)
Breeder	W C Y Fan
Sales	2011 Ready to Run Sale; V: Regal Farm, P: Mr S K Lau; \$15,000

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MEGAN AND RUDY SHARE THE HONOURS WHEN A TAD LEICA MATCHES JOEY JONZ



Joey Jonz sets up a Liefing family double with his convincing win at New Plymouth.

Megan Liefing set her husband a hard act to follow yesterday but the Pukekohe trainer was up to the challenge.

Megan accompanied stable runner **Joey Jonz (NZ)** (Starjo) to New Plymouth where he triumphed in the Energy City Ford Open 1800 and fifteen minutes later, at Arawa Park, husband Rudy saddled **A Tad Leica (NZ)** (Rios) to win the Rydges Hotel Rotorua 1400.

"We had Joey Jonz set for the Listed Anzac Mile at Palmerston North but we didn't get the rain that was forecast

so we scratched him and Danza Lad on the morning of the race and I came home with them," Megan Liefing said. "This win makes up for that.

"It's getting quite difficult to split the pair of them and it will be worse now with this win as they will both be rated about the same.

"Danza Lad will go to the Rangitikei Gold Cup and after that we'll sit down and make a plan for this bloke."

Fourth when resuming at Tauranga last time out, Joey Jonz

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MEGAN AND RUDY SHARE THE HONOURS WHEN A TAD LEICA MATCHES JOEY JONZ

(Continued from page 6)

was ridden handy to the leaders by Dylan Turner and rounded off strongly in the straight to beat Bel Sorriso (NZ) (Keeper) and Mr Kanton (NZ) (Ishiguru).

A Tad Leica had finished runner-up at her first appearance of the year and she had no trouble going one better in the hands of apprentice Emma Smith.

“The mare’s only 15.1 or 15.2 hands – her nickname’s Tiny – but she’s a winner,” Liefting said. “She’s a niece of Justa Tad and she’s got the same attitude as her.”

Justa Tad (NZ) (Istidaad) was an outstanding race mare for the Lieftings and was the dual Group One winner of the New Zealand Oaks and the New Zealand One Thousand Guineas.

The mare has also made her mark at stud as the mother of the two-time stakes winner Move Faster (NZ) (Keeper), the multiple winner Just Got Home (NZ) (Storming Home) and the Australian Group performers Arianne (NZ) (Zabeel) and Tohunga (NZ) (Zabeel).

Race	Taranaki RC Energy City Ford H. 1800m
Winner	Joey Jonz (NZ) 2009
Owners	Kakapo Lodge Ltd
Trainer	Rudy Liefting (Pukekohe)
Breeding	by Starjo out of Mi Martina And I by Mi Preferido (USA)
Breeder	Kakapo Lodge Ltd

Race	Rotorua RC Rydges Hotel Rotorua H. 1400m
Winner	A Tad Leica (NZ) 2011
Owners	R C Hirst and Kakapo Lodge Ltd
Trainer	Rudy Liefting (Pukekohe)
Breeding	by Rios out of Inspire by Shinko King (Ire)
Breeder	D M Arnold & Dr R K Griesbach



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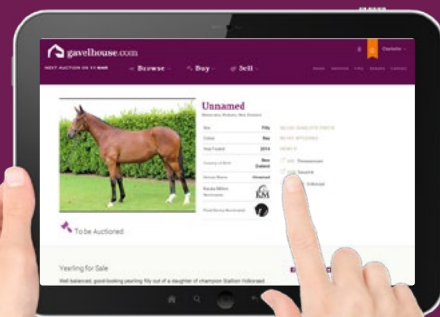
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Sunday 15 May 2016

CAULFIELD WIN PUTS TAVI BAY ON HENRY'S PROVEN PATH TO QUEENSLAND SUCCESS

Caulfield trainer Henry Dwyer is hoping lightning strikes twice following the narrow victory of **Tavi Bay (NZ)** (Tavistock) at her home track yesterday, the filly taking out The Jericho Cup in 2018 Handicap and booking herself a trip to Brisbane for the Group One Queensland Oaks.

Two years ago Dwyer claimed the corresponding 2000 metre race with Sonntag (Teofilo) who went on to provide the trainer with his first Group One win in the Queensland Derby.

Dwyer used yesterday's race to test Tavi Bay for a potential Oaks run and declared she could be Brisbane-bound in the upcoming week, joining stablemate and last week's Adelaide Group One winner Precious Gem (Econsul).

Ridden by Chris Parnham, Tavi Bay scored a short-head win from She's Got Speed (Speed 'n' Power) with the \$3 favourite Unbreakable (Hard Spun) a long neck away third.

"The earlier they can get up there the better," Dwyer said. "They can settle into the warm weather and work that way every morning.

"We might look at going this week.

Tavi Bay has the last say in the three-year-old stayers' race at Caulfield.

Precious Gem is already up there so they can stable together.

"She's on the way up rather than having had a long preparation and being on the decline."

Yesterday's victory came at the third run of Tavi Bay's current campaign and the daughter of sire-of-the-moment Tavistock has appreciated the lift in distance.

Winx's win aside in 2015, Dwyer says it doesn't take a star to win the Queensland Oaks but Tavi Bay does come with a touch of quality.

"I've always thought that and it's just been a case of getting her out in trip. And she's had a few setbacks along the way," Dwyer said.

"She's pulled up pretty clean in the wind today, which is great for a stayer."

Parnham, who returned to the winner's list at Geelong on Friday following an injury-enforced lay-off, said Tavi Bay would appreciate the distance of the Oaks.

"The strongest part was her last 200 metres so the bigger track and extra distance will be ideal," he said.

– AAP TURF

Race	MRC Jericho Cup Raceday H. 2000m
Winner	Tavi Bay (NZ) 2012
Owners	Shergar Thoroughbreds
Trainer	Henry Dwyer (Caulfield)
Breeding	by Tavistock out of Bantry Bay by Viking Ruler (Aus)
Breeder	Whakanui Stud Ltd
Sales	2014 South Island Yearling & Mixed Sale; V: Fairdale Stud, P: Sherger Thoroughbreds; \$7000





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KOENIGSEGG ONE SET FOR A SPELL AFTER GETTING BACK ON TRACK AT ROTORUA

Koenigsegg One (NZ) (Swiss Ace) wasn't a match for the top three-year-olds in his first black type test but trainer Tony Pike has taken the blame for that failure.

The promising gelding was unplaced behind Xtravagant (NZ) (Pentire) in last month's Group Three Cambridge Breeders' Stakes and atoned with a smart win in the Taumarunui Gold Cup 30th July 1400 at yesterday's Rotorua meeting.

"In hindsight, I shouldn't have run him at Te Rapa from the wide gate," Pike said. "He got caught three deep and copped a couple of checks and was never in it."

With his latest success, the lightly tried Koenigsegg One has furthered his record to two wins from four starts after breaking his maiden in effortless fashion at Ellerslie in January.

"He's a nice, progressive horse and I'll have a chat with the owner about whether we give him one more run or turn him out and then get him ready for

Koenigsegg One (green cap) runs down Shot In The Dark to re-establish his reputation as a quality three-year-old sprinter.

the spring," Pike said.

The Hong Kong-owned Koenigsegg One settled midfield before improving wide near the turn and he finished resolutely in the hands of Vinnie Colgan to down Shot In The Dark (NZ) (Any Suggestion) and Neala (NZ) (Mastercraftsman), who had shot clear on straightening.

"The track was a bit of a question mark but he had trialled up well on a soft track and the progeny of Swiss Ace generally handle some cut in the ground," Pike said.

"He had a bit of trouble on the

turn, but once he was balanced in the straight he did it nicely."

Race	Rotorua RC Taumarunui Gold Cup 30th July 1400m
Winner	Koenigsegg One (NZ) 2012
Owners	C W Kwok
Trainer	Tony Pike (Cambridge)
Breeding	by Swiss Ace (Aus) out of More Assertive (Aus) by Zeditave (Aus)
Breeder	G Harvey
Sales	2014 National Yearling Sale, Select Session; V: Westbury Stud, P: Waikato Bloodstock; \$130,000





Sunday 15 May 2016

JON SNOW BURSTS **BACK TO LIFE**

Jon Snow (NZ) (Iffraaj) is keeping pace with an esteemed stablemate after yesterday bagging the first victory of his career at New Plymouth, the Murray Baker and Andrew Forsman-trained two-year-old opening his account with a clear-cut win in the NZB Insurance Pearl Series Race.

Two years ago the stable sent another Iffraaj juvenile south to post his first success in the same event, with that colt, Turn Me Loose (NZ), now a multiple Group One winner.

Time will tell if the *deja vu* experiences continue but Jon Snow, who was a beaten favourite at his Te Rapa debut, has shown enough to suggest he can reach a higher level next season.

"We thought he would go well at his first start but it didn't go to plan," Forsman said.

"I think the wet track helped today – it slowed things down and let him get into the race. He's more of a miler."

Jon Snow settled behind the leaders before rider Lisa Allpress angled him into the clear at the top of the straight and the youngster let down strongly to sail clear and score by a length and a quarter.

"That's it for this preparation. He's a big, gangly sort who doesn't carry a lot of condition," Forsman said.

"We'll let him strengthen and bring him back for his three-year-old season."

Jon Snow accounted for Hello M'Lady (NZ) (Shocking), who improved on her encouraging effort for fourth at her Rotorua debut last month, as Excalibur (NZ) (Tavistock) held third from Sweepstake (NZ) (Per Incanto).

The favoured duo of Jackson Road (NZ) (Jimmy Choux) and Spondulix (NZ) (Nadeem) were the next pair home and neither raised their supporters' hopes after settling well back in the field and failing to make impressions in the run home.

Race	Taranaki RC New Zealand Bloodstock Insurance Pearl Series Maiden S. 1200m
Winner	Jon Snow (NZ) 2013
Owners	Zame Partnership
Trainer	Murray Baker & Andrew Forsman (Cambridge)
Breeding	by Iffraaj (GB) out of Orinda by O'Reilly
Breeder	R W E Moore
Sales	2015 National Yearling Sale, Select Session; V: Haunui Farm, P: A C Forsman; \$65,000



Jon Snow puts a disappointing Te Rapa debut behind him with a decisive win at yesterday's New Plymouth meeting.





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OLYMPIC ANTHEM FINDS HIS RHYTHM

A cliffhanger finish saw **Olympic Anthem (NZ)** (Starcraft) get the verdict in a five-way go to the line in the \$5100,000 Open Benchmark 89 over 1100 metres at Kranji on Friday night, giving the five-year-old two consecutive wins – a rarity for the China Horse Club-owned chestnut, in spite of his abundant raw ability.

Trainer James Peters, having prepared Olympic Anthem for five wins from only eleven runs, is keen to keep the horse wrapped up in cotton wool.

“He’s a horse with a lot of ability but he needs to find his rhythm and run relaxed to be at his best,” said the young Englishman.

“A good speed like tonight suits him but once he overraces he goes too hard and cannot produce.

“I will keep him to 1000 and 1100 metres on the Polytrack. There is a Kranji Stakes B race over 1000 metres in two weeks but I’m not sure if he is still eligible after tonight’s win.”

Winning jockey Michael Rodd, who was securing his third win aboard Olympic Anthem, agreed that it may be best to stick to a winning recipe with the quirky individual.

“He’s got so much potential but he’s a horse you can’t steer. You need to put your leg on one side to keep him

going around bends or he’ll shoot off,” said the Australian.

“He’s his own worst enemy and he’s also a bleeder – but on his day he’s a great horse. Tonight, he was ambling but I had to wake him up in the home straight. I knew he would keep attacking the line.

“We need to space his runs. He’s fresh every time he steps out and that’s when he runs his best.”

Flyer Sebas (Exceed And Excel) led as expected and was still giving plenty halfway up the straight. Normally he tends to collapse as the swoopers come at him but this time he kept finding. Favourite Nova Warrior (NZ) (Bachelor Duke), who had the drop on Sebas from the start, was also still fighting hard while a couple of big

finishers were joining in late as the winning post loomed.

But Olympic Anthem poked his head in front right on the line to beat Nova Warrior, who held the same margin on a very resistant Sebas, with fourth and fifth just noses away.

– Singapore Turf Club

Race	Singapore TC Benchmark 89 H. 1100m
Winner	Olympic Anthem (NZ) 2010
Owners	China Horse Club Stable
Trainer	James Peters (Kranji)
Breeding	by Starcraft out of Fire Song by Senor Pete (USA)
Breeder	P Webb
Sales	2012 National Yearling Sale, Premier Session; V: Trelawney Stud Ltd, P: DGR Thoroughbred Services; \$150,000



Olympic Anthem (nearest camera) does best in a massed finish to Friday night's sprint.





ALIBI PROVES HE'S GOING THE RIGHT WAY

By winning at Kranji on Friday night, **Alibi (NZ)** (Darci Brahma) not only maintained his unbeaten record, he showed himself capable of moving through the grades and ready for an increase in distance.

The three-year-old overcame all sorts of trouble, including an interrupted run and his rider losing his whip, to score on debut a month ago in a 1200 metre Restricted Maiden and although there was no such drama in this week's \$575,000 Graduation over the same distance, the Michael Clements-trained galloper had to really earn his oats inside the last 400 metres.

Race	Singapore TC Graduation S. 1200m
Winner	Alibi (NZ) 2012
Owners	Alibi Stable
Trainer	Michael Clements (Kranji)
Breeding	by Darci Brahma out of Bound to Impress by Galileo (Ire)
Breeder	T R & Mrs V M Pascoe
Sales	2014 Ready to Run Sale; V: Esker Lodge, P: Michael J Clements; \$90,000

The two-to-one favourite was the first to mow down the early playmakers as they came to the 300 metre mark but he wasn't alone. Last-start winner Star Genius (Starcraft) and War Citi (War Chant) came upsides with bold runs while Lady Iffraaj (NZ) (Iffraaj) was also in the contest.

With rider Vlad Duric at his most vigorous, Alibi got over the line for a hard-fought and deserving win, holding Star Genius off by a short head with another neck to War Citi in third.

Clements saw plenty of merit in the dogged determination of his new protege, whom he was seeing race for the first time "live" as he'd been in Nepal at the time of the debut win.

"They went very hard early and it looked like he was outpaced," he said. "Going on that alone, he's probably looking for 1400 metres. The difference in pace compared to his last race probably found him out early in the run but his class has come through."

Duric agreed with Clements about the more laboured run

to the line as a sign for more distance in his future racing.

"This horse really excites me but he will need to keep improving," the jockey said. "He's got a very nice turn of foot but was probably a bit beaten for speed. He still scored a nice win but he's definitely looking for 1400 metres next time out."

After his two-from-two, Alibi has already brought his lucky connections, a big group of happy owners rejoicing at the winner's stall, more than \$580,000 in stakes.

– Singapore Turf Club



Alibi makes it two-from-two at Kranji on Friday night.

