

Monday 19 December 2016

RED LETTER DAY FOR VILE ON HOME TRACK



Miss Appleton scores a deserved stakes success at Awapuni

Not content with victory at Group Three level just 30 minutes beforehand, the Gary Vile and Alysha Collett combination went one better when they combined to score with **Miss Appleton (NZ)** (Align) in the Gr. 2 Kamada Park Manawatu Challenge Stakes (1400m) at Awapuni on Sunday.

Collett had landed Jacksstar (NZ) (Zed) a narrow but deserved winner of the Hotel Coachman sponsored

Manawatu Cup after a heady ride one race earlier. On Miss Appleton she again displayed an impeccable judgement of pace as she settled the free-going six-year-old mare in the trail behind a flying La Fille En Jeu (NZ) (Mettre En Jeu) in the early stages of the contest.

With the pacemaker setting a scorching pace in front Collett bided her time before issuing a challenge that saw Miss Appleton skip clear of

Continued on page 3





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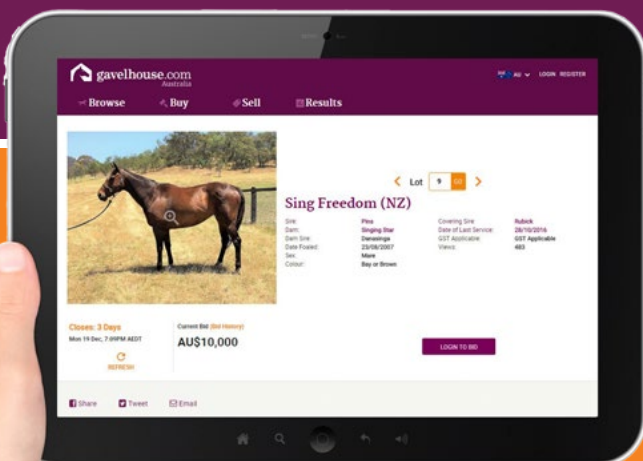


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RED LETTER DAY FOR VILE ON HOME TRACK

(Continued from page 1)

her rivals early in the run home. More known as a 1200 metre specialist, Miss Appleton was cuddled up by Collett as a wall of horses charged at her in the final stages. The Align mare found plenty as she staved off the challenges of runner-up Summer's Day (NZ) (Darci Brahma) and third placed Mighty Solomon (NZ) (Darci Brahma) to score by three quarters of a length in a smart 1.22.81 for the 1400 metre distance.

It was the mare's seventh career win and a reward for some remarkable consistency that has seen her finish outside the top three only once in nine starts during her current campaign.

"I'm just rapt to see her get that win for the boys who own her as she deserved to win a good race," said Vile.

"There was some doubt at weight-for-age over the 1400 metres but I knew there would be some good pace in the race and that would help her immensely.

"Alysha rode her a treat and the mare kicked very strongly and held them out well."

Vile was quick to pay tribute to Collett who only picked up the rides on Miss Appleton and Jacksstar on Saturday evening

after the meeting was postponed for 24 hours when a horse slipped badly in the first race run on Saturday.

"Sam Wynne was booked to ride both horses on Saturday but when the meeting was postponed she had to fly back for her commitments at Gore," he explained.

"Alysha has ridden a little bit for me in the past so I was pleased to get a senior jockey who could ride comfortably at the 53kgs that Jacksstar carried.

"Both rides were top class so it has been a very very pleasing day."

– NZ Racing Desk

Race	Manawatu RC Manawatu Challenge S. Gr.2 1400m.
Winner	Miss Appleton (NZ) 2010
Owners	A G Beech, B G Collis, A C, H A, J D, L J E & Miss S A MacDonald, R W Mai, A R Osborne, M E Sinclair & G R Vile
Trainer	Gary Vile (Awapuni)
Breeding	by Align (AUS) out of Our Aspiration by Mi Preferido (USA)
Breeder	J R O'Brien; Central; NZ



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(Tale Of The Cat – Madam Valeta (Palace Music))

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COLLETT SEIZES THE INITIATIVE AND VICTORY IN THE MANAWATU CUP

A superb piece of judgement mid-race from Alysha Collett saw her seize the initiative and a victory in the Gr. 3 Hotel Coachman Manawatu Cup (2300m) at Awapuni yesterday.

Riding promising stayer **Jacksstar (NZ)** (Zed), Collett followed trainer Gary Vile's instructions of "don't wait around for them" to the letter when she made a lightning move to plant her charge on the speed during the middle stages of the contest. Until that point Chris Johnson and **Balham (NZ)** (Don Eduardo) had gotten away with daylight robbery as they slowed the pace of the race to a crawl.

Successful over 3200 metres at his last start, Jacksstar didn't flinch when the sprint went on in the straight as he and Balham set down to fight out the finish. In a desperate struggle the five-year-old gelding prevailed by a long head from a game Balham with favourite Five To Midnight (NZ) (Domesday) running home well for third.

Vile was a contented man when interviewed after the race.

"It turned out to be a good ride didn't it," he commented.

"I said don't wait around for them



Alysha Collett and Jacksstar grab a narrow victory

as he's the fittest horse in the race. He had just come back from two miles and I knew on the turn he would out-tough them."

It was a welcome return to form of late for the Zed gelding who had promised plenty last season when winning the Listed New Zealand St. Leger at Trentham over 2500 metres.

"I think the wet spring sort of got to him a bit," noted Vile when questioned about some indifferent runs earlier in this campaign.

"He's on form now though. He'll go out to the paddock for a few days and then we'll have a look at the

Wellington Cup."

The Gr. 3 Wallaceville Estate Wellington Cup (3200m) is the feature event at Trentham on the 21st of January.

– NZ Racing Desk

Race	Manawatu RC Manawatu Cup Gr.3 2300m.
Winner	Jacksstar (NZ) 2011
Owners	Mrs C A & P M Algie, Mrs C & R Wilkie
Trainer	Gary Vile (Awapuni)
Breeding	by Zed out of Star Guest by Pentire (GB)
Breeder	Mrs C A & P M Algie; Central; NZ





NEW ZEALAND RACING MOURNS THE LOSS OF REBECCA BLACK

New Zealand racing was dealt a tragic blow on Sunday with the death of South Island jockey Rebecca Black in a race fall at Gore.

Black died after her mount, Point Proven, was one of two horses to fall in race eight at the Tapanui Racing Club meeting. Misscattlecreek and rider Terry Moseley also crashed in the incident

with Moseley emerging without major injury although Misscattlecreek had to be humanely euthanized.

Black, 40, who was based at Riverton, was the mother of three children. She rode her first winner in the 1993-94 season and had a career tally of more than 100 wins.

New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing (NZTR) Chief Executive



Rebecca Black

Greg Purcell said that the death would be felt by the close-knit racing community throughout New Zealand. "All our thoughts are with Rebecca's family and friends at this dreadful time."

New Zealand Jockeys' Association president Dave Taylor said that he and Black's colleagues were "deeply saddened" by the tragedy.

Black is the second jockey to be fatally injured in a race fall in New Zealand in the past 10 years. Ashlee Mundy died following a fall at Kurow in December 2012.

The Racing Integrity Unit has opened an inquiry into the incident.



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VERDI ON SONG FOR CHALLENGES TO COME

Up and coming stayer **Verdi (NZ)** (Zabeel) overcame a horror trip in transit to secure a victory at Te Rapa on Saturday that has his connections thinking of a possible Group One challenge later in the season.

The rugged Zabeel four-year-old was posted three-wide throughout the Hamilton Taxis sponsored rating 75, 2100 metre contest. While most pundits thought that spelt the end of his chances, no-one told Verdi who kept running on resolutely before driving strongly in the closing stages to snatch the victory in a blanket finish.

Co-trainer Andrew Forsman was full of praise for the effort as he hinted at a possible Gr. 1 Barfoot & Thompson Auckland Cup (3200m) mission in the future.

"He covered a lot of ground, obviously, and was niggled at a fair way out," he said.

"As a son of Zabeel, to keep boxing on like that is very encouraging.

"Hopefully two miles in

March might be right up his alley. The further he got into the race today the better he went so that's a very good sign."

Rider Michael Coleman was equally impressed when questioned after the race.

"He's a real stayer and he had to be today with the three wide trip," he said.

"He was struggling a bit when they turned up the wick but he kept up a strong gallop and hit the line well."

The win was an emotional one for the Smithies family of Monovale Stud who bred and race the gelding, with father Paul Smithies having passed away suddenly through a heart

attack back in July. Verdi is from their redoubtable mare Miss Opera, the dam of multiple Group One winner Sir Slick (NZ) (Volksraad) and Gr. 1 New Zealand Derby winner, Puccini (NZ) (Encosta De Lago).

– NZ Racing Desk

Race	Waikato RC Hamilton Taxis H. 2100m.
Winner	Verdi (NZ) 2012
Owners	Monovale Holdings Ltd
Trainer	Murray Baker & Andrew Forsman (Cambridge)
Breeding	by Zabeel out of Miss Opera by Paris Opera (AUS)
Breeder	Monovale Holdings Ltd; Waikato; NZ



Verdi scores a gritty win at Te Rapa





VINEVALE EXCELS AT TE RAPA

Progressive mare **Vinevale** (Flying Spur) enhanced her solid record with a stylish win at Te Rapa on Saturday.

On a day where most winners came from handy positions the Flying Spur four-year-old benefitted from a superb ride from jockey Mark Du Plessis who secured an economical run from a wide barrier. Sent out after the tearaway pacemakers Ali Baba (NZ) (Savabeel) and Alamer (NZ) (Alamosa), Vinevale surged at the pair close to the line to score by a neck in a handy 1:29.7 for the 1500 metre journey.

The victory ended a frustrating day for her trainers Stephen Autridge & Jamie Richards, who were left with only one runner after the abandonment of the meeting at Awapuni.

“She’s got plenty of ability, but hasn’t had a lot of luck and everything went well today,” Autridge said.

“It was a big effort to come from off the pace at the 600 metres, but she really found the line and she’s good enough to reach top-class.

“She galloped very well on Tuesday, is handling the training and racing and being out of a Zabeel mare it should just keep happening.”

Bred by Brent and Cherry Taylor of Trelawney Stud, who share in her ownership, Vinevale is from race winning mare, Eden Valley (NZ) (Zabeel), a sister to multiple stakes winner Hill of Grace (NZ) (Zabeel) who



Vinevale (red hood) nabs Ali Baba (inner) at the winning post on Saturday

won over \$2 million in prize money.

“I thought Mark (Du Plessis) rode her beautifully and got her into a nice spot from a wide alley, and although she looked a bit flat coming into the straight once he balanced her up she ran home very well,” said Trelawney Managing Director Brent Taylor.

“The comment from the boys is that she is now looking for more ground. We always thought she would be able to, but we’re pleased to see that she is heading that way and can’t wait to give her a chance.

“It’s taken ten starts to get into this position and hopefully she can show what we think she’s capable of.”

Trelawney Stud is offering a half-brother to Vinevale, by Pins, Lot 141, at the New Zealand Bloodstock Premier Yearling Sale on 30 January at Karaka.

– NZ Racing Desk

Race	Waikato RC Metro Direct H. 1500m.
Winner	Vinevale (AUS) 2012
Owners	Brent & Cherry Taylor, Jans Trust, Jake & Jude Moreland, Faith & Jane Taylor, Jay Benton & Scott Malcolm
Trainer	Stephen Autridge & Jamie Richards (Matamata)
Breeding	by Flying Spur (AUS) out of Eden Valley by Zabeel
Breeder	Trelawney Stud; Waikato; NZ





HAVE SADDLE, **WILL TRAVEL!**

Alysha Collett's motto is pretty simple these days - "have saddle, will travel." It stood her in good stead when answering a distress call from Awapuni trainer Gary Vile that saw her rack up back-to-back Group successes on Sunday.

"I only took the rides at 4pm yesterday and booked my flights last night," Collett said, after taking out the Gr.3 Hotel Coachman Manawatu Cup on Jacksstar (NZ) (Zed) and Gr.2 Kamada Park Manawatu Challenge Stakes on Miss Appleton (NZ) (Align). While she was "pretty happy" with the day's results she admitted it could have ended rather differently. Collett said she had a missed call about heading to Gore to ride today instead. "Imagine if I'd gone down there and those two horses had won at Awapuni, I would've cried!"

The 22-year-old is making a big impression this season, currently sitting on 37 wins, along with Kelly McCulloch and Chris Johnson, behind Danielle Johnson, on 45 in the National Jockey's Premiership.

Despite this, chasing the premiership isn't a focus. "I just want to ride," she said. "I know the more I work the more money I make!"

Collett attributes her decision to become a jockey to

brother Jason's early success. "Jase was getting good and had bought a new car," she explained. "I could see you could make money from riding and figured if he can do it and be good, then I could."

It was hardly a surprising career choice given her pedigree. Dad Richard, now a successful trainer, had ridden over jumps before joining his father Don in a training partnership. On the female side, mum Judy was a trailblazing South Island hoop apprenticed to the incomparable Jim Tomkinson. Judy's father Ron Hawes was a leading jumps jockey of his generation.

"The family was always involved in racing and I loved going to the races," Collett recalled. "When Tash [older sister Natasha] rode it didn't really appeal to me, it wasn't until Jase started. I always had an advantage over him!"

Despite poking fun at brother Jason, Collett relies on his advice and speaks to the one she calls "the favourite child" regularly. She also followed in his footsteps when winning the Auckland District Apprentice Board scholarship which saw her spend time riding for the Chris Waller stable in Sydney.

She said the differences between the local scene and the intensely competitive Sydney circuit were immediately obvious. "It was more serious, more professional, you noticed the pressure straight away," she said. "It was cool riding against jockeys you'd seen on TV. They were all very nice, not arrogant at all."

"They want to see you do well, so they will watch replays with you and point things out," she said. "They want to keep the quality high."

One aspect of riding in Sydney which Collett has adopted since returning to New Zealand is seeking professional assistance from a sports psychologist.

"I went to one in Sydney when I kept getting suspended, it is not unusual in Australia," she explained. "If you're letting bad experiences get you down it helps you put things into perspective. Probably the best advice I've had was to rid myself of negative and toxic influences and situations."



Alysha Collett scored a winning stakes double at Awapuni

Continued on page 9





HAVE SADDLE, WILL TRAVEL!

(Continued from page 8)

Taking that on board Collett is now looking forward and focusing on her next career goals.

"I want to win a Derby or an Oaks, Jase hasn't managed one yet and he's still out with a broken foot, so my hopes are high," she laughed. "I'd love to win a Group One for dad, he's got some nice horses coming up."

While she is yet to snag a New Zealand Group One, Collett does have the honour of being the inaugural winner of the NZB Cup at Korchin in Inner Mongolia which was billed as a Group One event.

"It wasn't how I was expecting my first group one to

be," she said. "Cousin Sam was going and she put my name forward and I was asked to go. It was an experience and they really looked after us. The owners really get into it too, with high fives and cheering."

While many jockeys these days rely on managers to book their rides Collett prefers the personal approach. "I like talking to owners and trainers myself," she said. "I probably make the wrong decisions sometimes but I do try and stay loyal."

Fortunately for Collett and the Gary Vile stable she made the right decision this weekend.

- NZ Racing Desk



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This 2YO filly is the by the champion sire of juveniles **Showcasing** out of Blue Hope who is the dam of five foals to race, all winners, including five-time race winner **Skyweka** (pictured left).

She is already in training with **Tony Pike**. She's a very nice quality type of filly, a good walker and nice mover who really looks the part.



LOCAL QUINELLA TO START THE DAY AT AWAPUNI

Awapuni's rescheduled raceday started well for the locals when Lisa Latta scored the quinella

Race	Manawatu RC Mills Reef Winery 2YO H. 1100m.
Winner	Dijon Bleu (NZ) 2014
Owners	K T J Dixon, P Finlayson, Miss L M Latta, Ms D A Masters, M G Passey, A J Rennie & T D Tomlins
Trainer	Lisa Latta (Awapuni)
Breeding	by Burgundy out of Pristino (AUS) by More Than Ready (USA)
Breeder	Robinson Family Trust; Central; NZ
Sales	2016 National Yearling Sale - Select Session V: Landsdowne Park Ltd \$26000 P: Lisa Latta Racing Stables

in the opening event, the Mills Reef Winery 2YO Premier (1100m).

Latta produced **Dijon Bleu (NZ)** (Burgundy) and Dreams Of Platinum (Dream Ahead) in the field of seven starters with the pair dominating the event from go to whoa. Dijon Bleu made the best start and led out her stablemate, who tracked the speed throughout the contest. The pair skipped away early in the run home to wage a titanic struggle over the closing stages with Burgundy filly Dijon Bleu bobbing at the right time to snatch victory by a nose from Dreams Of Platinum.

Matamata visitor Gold Fever (NZ) (Savabeel), who started a warm

favourite off the back of a smart debut win, closed hard in the final 50 metres but had to settle for third.

Latta admitted she held high hopes for the winner after she had trialled nicely at Waverley late last month.

"She had trialled up nicely and had also had a couple of jumpouts," she noted.

"She's always shown a bit although she went a little fierce today and wouldn't come back to Kelly (McCulloch).

"I was a little bit worried she wouldn't kick on in the straight but she did and held nicely in the end."

Dijon Bleu is the second winner for Cambridge Stud based stallion



Burgundy (NZ) (Redoute's Choice) from his first crop of New Zealand runners. The filly holds a nomination for the rich Karaka Million that will be run at Ellerslie on the 29th of January, with her winnings from the victory lifting her into the top ten on the current list of qualifiers for the \$1million event.

– NZ Racing Desk

Lisa Latta runners Dijon Bleu (inner) and Dreams Of Platinum quinella the first race at Awapuni on Sunday






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NZ STALLION AWARDS

THE CENTAINE AWARD

STALLIONS	EARNINGS
SAVABEEL	\$4,574,374
PINS	\$4,270,775
THORN PARK	\$2,944,002
DARCI BRAHMA	\$2,730,092
O'REILLY	\$2,453,648
MASTERCRAFTSMAN	\$1,815,978
ELUSIVE CITY	\$1,704,927
TAVISTOCK	\$1,666,530
KEEPER	\$1,658,412
IFFRAAJ	\$1,417,574

Criteria: Sire whose NZ-conceived progeny have accumulated the highest stakes earnings worldwide

THE DEWAR STALLION TROPHY

STALLIONS	EARNINGS
SAVABEEL	\$2,996,864
PINS	\$1,609,784
DARCI BRAHMA	\$1,232,088
TAVISTOCK	\$1,186,033
O'REILLY	\$1,110,183
ZABEEL	\$985,838
SHOCKING	\$967,365
PENTIRE	\$958,271
MASTERCRAFTSMAN	\$815,412
THORN PARK	\$743,579

Criteria: Sire whose progeny have accumulated the highest combined stakes earnings in Australia & New Zealand

THE GROSVENOR AWARD

STALLIONS	EARNINGS
SAVABEEL	\$1,178,410
DARCI BRAHMA	\$636,109
TAVISTOCK	\$531,435
IFFRAAJ	\$464,610
ALAMOSA	\$456,717
PER INCANTO	\$403,130
PINS	\$395,361
MASTERCRAFTSMAN	\$392,115
KEEPER	\$382,657
FASTNET ROCK	\$358,855

BEST PERFORMERS	EARNINGS
KAWI	\$250,000
PERSUASIVE	\$33,000
NYMPH MONTE	\$97,500
THE SOULTAKER	\$52,000
ASPEN LASS	\$51,010
SARACINO	\$62,500
REILLY LINCOLN	\$90,250
THEE AULD FLOOZIE	\$71,125
BEL SORRISO	\$42,625
RINGO	\$109,750

Criteria: Leading Sires by Earnings in New Zealand



Monday 19 December 2016

NZ BRED WINNERS IN HONG KONG

DECEMBER 14

HORSE & BREEDING	BREEDER	RACE	SALES DETAILS
GARLIC YEAH (NZ) 2012 by Savabeel (AUS) out of Eden (AUS) by Zeditave (AUS)	D G B Fell; Central; NZ	HKJC Sham Shui Po H. 1800m.	2014 National Yearling Sale - Select Sale; V: Fairdale Stud, P: NZB as agent; \$35,000

NZ BRED WINNERS IN HONG KONG

DECEMBER 17

HORSE & BREEDING	BREEDER	RACE	SALES DETAILS
Be the Most – TRIUMPHANT LIGHT (H.K.) (NZ) 2010 by Alamosa out of Bexley by Honor Grades (USA)	G L & J D Georgetti; Central; NZ	HKJC Lukfook Jewellery Pt Bridal Collection H. 1600m.	2012 National Yearling Sale - Premier Session; V: Wellfield Lodge, P: PR Beamish; \$12,500
REGENCY BO BO (NZ) 2013 by Denman (AUS) out of Tsukioka (AUS) by Flying Spur (AUS)	Little Avondale Trust; Central; NZ	HKJC Lukfook Gold Charisma Collection H. 1400m.	2015 National Yearling Sale - Premier Sale; V: Little Avondale Stud, P: Stuart Hale & Co; \$400,000
HAMMER KING (NZ) 2011 by Iffraaj (GB) out of Swan Lake by Green Perfume (USA)	Jen Campin; Waikato; NZ	HKJC Lukfook Love Forever Collection H. 1200m.	
JOLLY JOLLY (NZ) 2011 by Stratum (AUS) out of Paolino by Housebuster (USA)	P J & P M Vela Ltd; Waikato; NZ	HKJC Lukfook Jewellery Convergence Of Love H. 1400m.	2013 National Yearling Sale - Premier Sale; V: Pencarrow Stud, P: New Zealand BStk-ag; \$150,000
HAPPY PLACE (NZ) 2010 by Rios out of Tranquill by Prince of Praise	Miss D M; G & Mrs G V Guy; Waikato; NZ	HKJC Lukfook Jewellery Beloved Collection H. 1600m.	

