

Sunday 26 February 2017

KAWI ON TOP AFTER OTAKI WFA TURNS MATCH RACE WITH START WONDERING



After a terrific home-straight struggle between two high-quality gallopers, Kawi asserts his superiority over Start Wondering in the weight-for-age mile at Otaki.

Kawi (NZ) (Savabeel) yesterday bagged his sixth Group One title when he trumped the in-form Start Wondering (NZ) (Eighth Wonder) at Otaki.

The Haunui Farm WFA Classic was widely viewed as a match race between the two and so it developed with the New Plymouth representative gaining the upper hand close to the post.

“To me he was very strong late and looking like he wants 2000 metres now,” trainer Allan Sharrock said.

Jason Waddell was having his first ride on Kawi and he played his part to perfection to guide Savabeel’s best son to victory.

“He’s class and they played the waiting game and when

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PER INCANTO

LEADING SIRE OF
INDIVIDUAL 2YO WINNERS
2014 -15

LEADING SIRE OF
INDIVIDUAL 3YO WINNERS
2015 - 16

OLDEST NOW 4YO



PER INCANTO

CURRENTLY
2ND ON 3YO SIRE
FOR INDIVIDUAL WINNERS
2016 -17



PER INCANTO

CURRENTLY
3RD ON GENERAL SIRE
FOR INDIVIDUAL WINNERS
2016 -17



OUR GRADUATES

COX PLATE
MELBOURNE CUP
CAULFIELD CUP
10 DERBIES
7 OAKS

**AND ALREADY 9 STAKES
PERFORMERS THIS SEASON**

TRACK RECORD IS CRITICAL





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(Continued from page 1)

they got out into the open he was dominant in the last few strides," Sharrock said.

"I'll speak to Jason, but I'm leaning toward the 2000 metre at Ellerslie next."

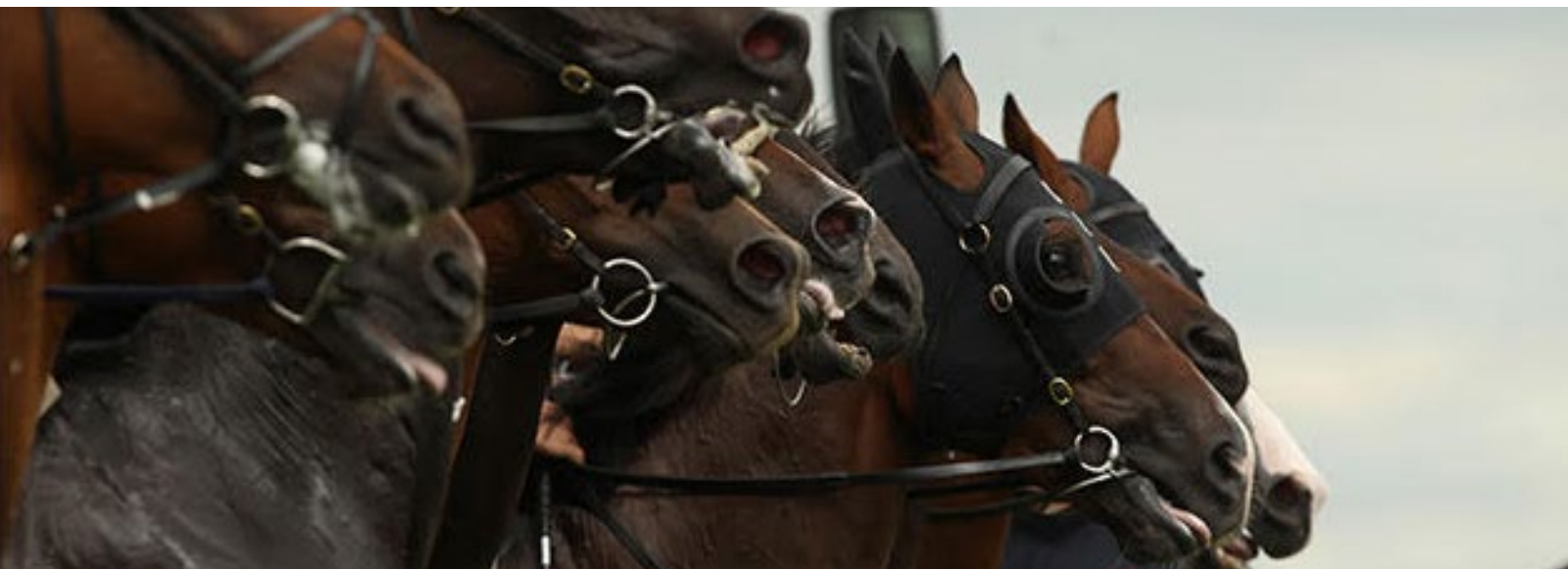
The Group One Bonecrusher New Zealand Stakes in a fortnight's time is the race Sharrock has his eye on and will then make a choice between Sydney or Brisbane.

Kawi settled back on the rails before Waddell got him off the fence near the 600 metre mark to improve around runners.

Start Wondering, in search of the third Group One victory of his campaign, was in front at the top of the straight but he was unable to hold out Kawi's finishing burst and succumbed by three quarters of a length.

Sofia Rosa (NZ) (Makfi) was two and a half lengths adrift of the top two but there was plenty of merit in her run after missing the kick. Like Kawi, she will appreciate the step up to 2000 metres in the New Zealand Stakes ahead of a trip to Sydney.

Race	Otaki Maori RC WFA S. Gr.1 1600m
Winner	Kawi (NZ) 2010
Owners	A Baeyertz, G A MacDonald, S A Sharrock, G H Phillips, J P Goodin, B R Sharrock and T Kemp
Trainer	Allan Sharrock (New Plymouth)
Breeding	by Savabeel (Aus) out of Magic Time by Volksraad (GB)
Breeder	Mrs C M & J P Goodin



STALLIONS 2016

CHARM SPIRIT

(Invincible Spirit - L'Enjoleuse by Montjeu)

\$22,500*

POUR MOI

(Montjeu - Gwynn by Darshaan)

RETURNING

\$17,500*

RIP VAN WINKLE

(Galileo - Looking Back by Stravinsky)

\$12,500*

SHAMEXPRESS

(O'Reilly - Volkrose by Volksraad)

\$12,500*

MONGOLIAN KHAN

(Holy Roman Emperor - Centafit by Centaine)

NEW

\$10,000*

FALKIRK

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

\$4,000*

*All service fees exclude GST and include a Live Foal Guarantee



KIWIS SPRING SURPRISE IN SURROUND

The Kiwis sprung an early autumn upset when the Mandy and Matt Brown-trained **La Bella Diosa (NZ)** (So You Think) – who raced as La Diosa in New Zealand – sprinted through along the rails to win the \$A200,000 Group Two Surround Stakes at yesterday's Randwick meeting.

On a track downgraded to heavy as steady rain fell throughout the day, the Gai Waterhouse and Adrian Bott-trained \$2.35 favourite Global Glamour (Star Witness) set a fast pace to the turn in the 1400 metre event, with jockey Josh Parr angling to the centre of the track on straightening.

Counteracting this move, Jason Collett saved ground by staying close to the inside, a masterstroke for the Rangiora filly, winner of the Group One New Zealand One Thousand Guineas in her homeland and backed from \$13 into \$9 yesterday. Although drifting toward centre-track in the final stages,

her home-straight dash had taken La Bella Diosa well clear and with enough in hand to comfortably hold off the fast-finishing Chris Waller-trained Omei Sword (High Chaparral) by 1½ lengths. Global Glamour was a further half-head back in third.

"We weren't really sure she would handle a track like that but obviously she did so it is all good," Matt Brown said.

"She's always shown a lot. She won the Thousand Guineas pretty well and the owners wanted to have a go at the Australian Oaks so we came over early and to get a result like that is great."

Brown said the Keith Nolan Classic at Kembla Grange was the next logical step before the 2000 metre Vinery Stud Stakes at Rosehill. Australian bookmakers have her as a \$6 favourite for the 2400 metre Group One ATC Oaks on April 8.

Collett, a former Kiwi jockey now

based in Sydney, was rapt with the result.

"Pretty happy to win for a Kiwi," Collett said. "Makes it a bit more special."

"She flew through the ground. She did it easily. I was a bit worried once I got her up over the rise but she had a kick. She's a classy filly."

– racenet.com.au & AAP TURF

Race	ATC Surround S. Gr.2 1400m
Winner	La Bella Diosa (NZ) 2013
Owners	Calder Bloodstock Ltd, G L Currie, Bruce Honeybone & Deborah Martin, M L Gibson, P B C Sipsos and T W Archer Trust
Trainer	Mandy & Matt Brown (Rangiora)
Breeding	by So You Think out of Star Affair by Star Way (GB)
Breeder	T W Archer Trust



La Bella Diosa easily accounts for Omei Sword (#4) and Global Glamour in the Surround Stakes at yesterday's Randwick meeting.





LI'L SISTER DOES WHAT BIG SISTER DID

The Akau Racing's bid for major two-year-old honours was strengthened yesterday when **Gold Fever (NZ)** (Savabeel) kept it in the family with a sterling effort to claim the Group Two Matamata Breeders' Stakes.

The half-sister to Gold Rush (NZ) (So You Think), who won last year's edition of the J. Swap Contractors-sponsored feature, joined stablemate and Karaka Million winner Melody Belle (NZ) (Commands) as a feature juvenile winner and they now have the Group One Sistema Stakes in a fortnight's time in their sights.

Another member of the stable in Summer Monsoon had earlier finished runner-up in the Listed Reid & Harrison Slipper with a performance that had boosted confidence in Gold Fever.

"She's holding her form really well and she had also worked very well with Summer Monsoon here on Tuesday morning," said Jamie Richards, who trains in partnership with Stephen Autridge.

"The Savabeels are really tough and she's a filly with attitude and come race day she's very hard to get past.

"She'll go to the Group One in a couple of weeks and she's run well at Ellerslie before."

Gold Fever settled close to the pace and one off the fence and wound up powerfully in the closing 250 metres under stable rider Opie Bosson.

"She travelled nicely and the fast pace helped," he said. "She's a tough little filly, not the easiest to ride, and all credit



Gold Fever (nearest camera) narrowly fights off Joyfully to take the Matamata Breeders' Stakes.

to Cameron Lammas, who has educated her and made my job a lot easier."

Joyfully (NZ) (Highly Recommended) travelled one spot ahead of Gold Fever and made a fight of it in the straight before going under by a head.

Santuzza (NZ) (Savabeel) set a hot tempo in front and she boxed on gamely for third ahead of Princess Rihanna (NZ) (Showcasing) while the well-supported Ujjayyi (NZ) (Iffraaj) got into a nice place near the speed before running off on the home turn.

Race	Matamata Breeders' S. Gr.2 1200m
Winner	Gold Fever (NZ) 2014
Owners	Te Akau Gold Fever Syndicate (Mgr: D C Ellis)
Trainer	Stephen Autridge & Jamie Richards (Matamata)
Breeding	by Savabeel (Aus) out of Gold Rocks (Aus) by Oratorio (Aus)
Breeder	G D & Mrs H J Nicholls and Waikato Stud Ltd





SUMMER PASSAGE MAY BE AUSSIE BOUND

Precocious colt **Summer Passage** (Snitzel) has strengthened his case for an autumn trip across the Tasman with an impressive triumph yesterday opening his black type account, the pacy Australian-bred making full use of an inside gate to pave the way for a front-running victory in the Listed Reid & Harrison Ltd Slipper at Matamata.

Trained on the track by Lance O’Sullivan and Andrew Scott for Hermitage Thoroughbreds, who also raced the Group One Livamol Classic winner Willie Cazals (Aussie Rules) out of Wexford Stables, the youngster’s immediate future will be up for discussion next week.

Options include the \$A3.5 million Group One Golden Slipper and the \$A1 million Group One ATC Sires’ Produce Stakes should connections be keen on Sydney.

“There will be a boardroom meeting, but he’s still got to improve to get to those heights,” Scott said.

An \$A800,000 Sydney yearling, Summer Passage finished runner-up on debut at Pukekohe last month from an outside alley, but yesterday he was able to hold the front from an inside barrier.

“There was a lot of pressure early in the race when they went hell for leather and then he kicked off the corner,” Scott said. “That was really encouraging for the future.”

Summer Passage was clear 200 metres from home and under the urgings of Craig Grylls held a strong gallop to win by half a length.

“We had to take bad luck out of it and put him in the race,” Grylls said. “He came back to me nicely and he had a good kick.”

“He put it all together today and he’s a very strong colt with a brilliant action.”

Summer Monsoon (Stratum) closed well to finish second ahead of Hanger (NZ) (O’Reilly), who acquitted himself well on debut.

The favourite Aim Smart (Smart Missile), who had Summer Passage’s measure at their previous meeting, was given a cosy run near the pace but he had nothing to offer rider Vinnie Colgan in the straight and they beat only one runner home.

Race	Matamata RC Slipper S. L 1200m
Winner	Summer Passage (Aus) 2014
Owners	Hermitage Thoroughbreds Pty Ltd
Trainer	Lance O’Sullivan & Andrew Scott (Matamata)
Breeding	by Snitzel (Aus) out of Subsequent (Aus) by Encosta de Lago
Breeder	Highgrove Stud, Mr RT Gilbert



Summer Passage (green and red colours) holds on grimly to deny Summer Monsoon and complete an all-the-way win over the male juveniles at Matamata.





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VON TUNZELMAN 'AT THE TOP OF HIS GAME'

Roger James had the utmost confidence in the ability of **Von Tunzelman (NZ)** (Zabeel) to make a success of his first crack at black type and the well-bred grey didn't let him down.

The Cambridge trainer has never made any secret of the regard he has for the four-year-old, who came from the back of the field for a hollow victory in the Listed Marks Ewen & Associates Kaimai Stakes.

performer J'Adane (NZ) (Danehill), Von Tunzelman is raced by breeders Brendan and Jo Lindsay and he now has four wins and five placings from ten appearances, a record James said should read even better.

Race	Matamata RC Kaimai S. L 2000m
Winner	Von Tunzelman (NZ) 2012
Owners	B J Lindsay MNZM & Mrs J E A Lindsay
Trainer	Roger James (Cambridge)
Breeding	by Zabeel out of J'Adane by Danehill (USA)
Breeder	B J & Mrs J E A Lindsay

"I thought he was at the top of his game today and it may be a silly thing to say going into a race of this magnitude, his toughest test to date, but I would have been disappointed if he hadn't won," James said.

"He's had four runs further than a mile and you could easily make a case to say that he should have won all four. We've been patient with him and we're reaping the rewards now."

"His work on Tuesday was that of a top-liner."

Ridden by Michael Coleman after Leith Innes was unable to make the weight, Von Tunzelman won by a comfortable half length from Fanatic (NZ) (Shocking), who weaved a path between runners and finished off well.

By Zabeel out of the Group One

The Waverley visitor Cruiser (NZ) (Captain Rio) enjoyed a good run behind the pace and boxed on bravely for third.



Coming staying star Von Tunzelman is too strong for Fanatic in Matamata's Kaimai Stakes.

MELODY BELLE

2017 Karaka Million winner

**Born, raised & sold by Haunui Farm
Bred by Marie Leicester**





ROYDON, OPIE: BEEFEATER ON WAY TO TOP



A mid-race dash to the lead by Opie Bosson pays off as Beefeater (white cap) holds off Lizzie L'Amour in the Rating 85 mile at Matamata.

Both Roydon Bergerson and Opie Bosson have a big tick alongside the name of **Beefeater (NZ)** (Alamosa), the Awapuni trainer and the Pukekohe jockey combining with the lightly tried four-year-old to win yesterday's Tonezone 1600 at Matamata and agreeing that the top grade will hold no fears for him.

"I think he's up to black type and we'll probably be looking at the 2000 metre weight-for-age race at Palmerston North," said Bergerson, referring to the Group Two Awapuni Gold Cup on April 1.

Raced by his Hunterville breeder Christopher Grace, Beefeater was

among the tail-enders in the early stages yesterday before his rider made a sharp move, looping the field when the pace dropped off markedly down the back straight to take up the running.

"I hoped Opie would press forward then and the next moment he was away," Bergerson said.

"It was a great ride and that's why he's the best in the business."

Beefeater was hotly challenged soon after straightening by Lizzie L'Amour (NZ) (Zabeel), but he responded strongly to earn the fourth win of his fourteen-start career with Stylish Attack (NZ) (Tavistock) coming

on bravely for third.

"They were crawling up front and from where I was I would have had no chance when they sprinted so I had to go and put some speed into the race," Bosson said.

"He's still very green but watch out when a set of blinkers go on him."

Race	Matamata RC Tonezone H. 1600m
Winner	Beefeater (NZ) 2012
Owners	C R Grace QSM
Trainer	Roydon Bergerson (Awapuni)
Breeding	by Alamosa out of Karaka by Kings Island (Ire)
Breeder	C R Grace



SWEYNESSE

- **A winner at his only start at two and winner of his first four starts** including Dual Group 3 wins in the Spring Stakes and Gloaming Stakes.
- **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.
- **One of the top Australian 3YO colts of his year with a top Timeform rating of 122.**
- **By Lonhro -The Champion 3YO, the Champion miler, the Horse of the Year, the Champion sire.** Lonhro set a new Australian record of 160 individual winners in a season. His son the unbeaten juvenile Pierro was rated the best Colt in Australia since 1977.
- **Out of the multiple winning mare Swansea by Champion Sire Singspiel** (Sire of 98SW).
- **Sweynesse is the highest rated stallion from the Zabeel sire line to begin stud duties in New Zealand since Savabeel.**



\$6,000
+ GST LFG



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Phone: Ray Knight 027 495 7319 or 0800 233 729

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SONG TO THE MOON **FULL ON FOR DERBY**

ong touted as a Derby hopeful even when he was only a budding talent, **Song To The Moon (NZ)** (Savabeel) took a step closer towards that goal when he showed he could mix it with Kranji's big boys on Friday night.

Tackling much tougher fare in the \$5125,000 Open Handicap over 2000 metres, the four-year-old looked to have his job cut out when he was shuffled back to last of the seven-horse field in a stop-start affair.

As the tempo rose approaching the turn, Song To The Moon looked a little flat-footed with jockey Nooresh Juglall looking hard-pressed to spark him up. But once into rhythm and with the winning

post in his sights, the old instincts kicked in.

Song To The Moon lunged to blouse stablemate Perfect P (Perfectperformance) in the last hop with Time Odyssey (Jet Master) half a length away to complete the trifecta for trainer Ricardo Le Grange.

"Song To The Moon has always shown stacks of ability and he showed it again tonight," said the first-year trainer. "He's always been more of an on-pace runner but tonight he showed he could come from off the pace as well.

"Nooresh was again at his very best on him. He was taking on a better class of horse tonight, he has come through and we will definitely set him for the Derby."

After winning at his previous two outings with Song To The Moon, Juglall for a second thought the booby prize could be coming their way this time around.

"I'm very surprised he won tonight. He was badly taken out and I thought I had lost the race," said the Mauritian.



Song To The Moon (#6) does best in a tight finish with stablemate Perfect P in the main event on Kranji's Friday night card.

"That's why I had to wake him up early and go around the field or we would have had too much ground to make up.

"But he showed he was all heart all the way to the line. I couldn't have asked for more and he did everything he could to get first on the line.

"Not many horses can do that. Tonight it wasn't me, but the horse."

– Singapore Turf Club

Race	Singapore TC Open H. 2000m
Winner	Song To The Moon (NZ) 2012
Owners	Jubilant Racing No 3 Stable
Trainer	Ricardo le Grange (Kranji)
Breeding	by Savabeel (Aus) out of White Mouse (Aus) by French Deputy (USA)
Breeder	Rangal Park Stud
Sales	2014 Ready to Run Sale; V: Anzac Lodge, P: Michael J Clements; \$230,000





UNBEATEN RUN CONTINUES FOR COUNT

Exciting three-year-old **Countofmontecristo (NZ)** (Echoes Of Heaven) kept his unbeaten run going when he was successful for the third time in a row at Kranji on Friday night, producing arguably his most impressive performance thus far.

While he won the first two from the front, drawing the widest barrier in the \$575,000 Graduation over 1200 metres narrowed his options, which trainer Michael Clements was keen to test.

Again ridden by Glen Boss, Countofmontecristo didn't fly the gates this time but quickly strode into a prominent position outside Mark Walker's Unsurpassed (NZ) (Exceed And Excel) with second favourite Nova Missile (I Am Invincible) in the box-seat.

When the home turn loomed, Boss

decided it was time to part company with the rest and Countofmontecristo charged to the lead before pulling away through sizzling sectionals that left his rivals gasping.

Only one challenger emerged, with Deimos (NZ) (Showcasing) reproducing the blinding acceleration that had accounted for his rivals at his previous start when he came with a sweeping run on the outside.

Although the two horses were for a short time almost on level terms, Countofmontecristo was purring along and the moment Boss went full bore the gelding slid forward again, drawing clear to post an impressive two-length victory. The little-fancied Ground Control (NZ) (Red Giant), the winner's stablemate, steamed home late for third place, another 2½ lengths away.

"He showed from the start he was super talented," assistant trainer Michael White said of the winner. "I think 1400 metres to a mile is more his go but he's done a good job winning three over 1200 metres.

"Tonight, we wanted him to take a drop on other horses as he was drawn wide. He's a nice horse coming through and I think tonight was the benchmark for him to go over the mile, even if there is still a long way to go."

Boss, who knows a thing or two about good horses, was clearly taken by Clements' rising star.

"He's the real deal, this one," he said on jumping off. "He was looking around on the way to the barriers at his last start but he didn't do that tonight. He was very calm and didn't get upset behind the barriers.

"He's got a good engine and I would like to ride him proper next time. We still don't know where the ceiling is with him and we have a lot of things to learn with him."

– Singapore Turf Club



Race	Singapore TC Graduation S. 1200m
Winner	Countofmontecristo (NZ) 2013
Owners	Joe Giovanni Sarjeet Singh
Trainer	Michael Clements
Breeding	by Echoes of Heaven (Aus) out of Replicate by Towkay (Aus)
Breeder	B F, Mrs H J & P J Crofskey
Sales	2015 Ready to Run Sale; V: Kiltannon Stables Ltd, P: Vermair Racing; \$57,500

Countofmontecristo is lonely as he passes the post to record his third win from three starts.

