

Monday 30 July 2018

SAVABEEL SETS **THE STANDARD**



Waikato Stud based stallion Savabeel

It might seem like business as usual but closer examination of champion stallion **Savabeel's** achievements from the past 12 months reveals just how good his season has been.

Such is Savabeel's record, expectation is that he continues to churn out high quality racecourse performers with monotonous regularity.

And while that's again been the case for the 2017-18 season, the Waikato Stud sire has continued to forge through old barriers and set a new benchmark of siring success.

At next month's New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing Awards, Waikato Stud's Mark Chittick will accept the Grosvenor

Award, Dewar Stallion Trophy and Centaine Award, a Savabeel clean sweep of all three New Zealand stallion awards for an unprecedented third straight season.

Zabeel stallion Savabeel was represented by six Group One winners - Kawi (Captain Cook Stakes), Shillelagh (Cantala Stakes), Embellish (2000 Guineas), Hasahalo (1000 Guineas), Sword Of Osman (Sistema Stakes) and Savvy Coup (New Zealand Oaks), the latter five all first-time Group One winners and taking his career tally of Group One winners to 17.

While his 16 stakes winners this season was down three on last year's tally, Savabeel has continued his career ratio



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SAVABEEL SETS THE STANDARD

(Continued from page 1)

of one in 10 stakes winners to runners and he sired a million dollar yearling for the first time - Cambridge Stud's colt out of Katie Lee, which was knocked down to David Ellis, fetching \$1,025,000 at Karaka in January. His daughters Diademe and Nurse Kitchen fetched \$A1.7 million and \$A1.15 million respectively at this year's Magic Millions Broodmare Sale.

"It's been another cracking season. His success, earned in so many countries, at the highest level was huge," Chittick said.

"The obvious highlight, which he gave us the opportunity to do, was breeding the 1000 and 2000 Guineas double and we got a lot of satisfaction from Savvy Coup winning the New Zealand Oaks. They were all out of young mares too.

"That's the fortunate position we are in with Savabeel. He is always giving mares a great opportunity and continually upgrading families.

"The unwritten rule is anything above five per cent of stakes winners to runners and you have a successful stallion. I think he's one of only three in Australasia at 10 per cent or higher, which is freakish really."

Savabeel's progeny earned \$3,396,125 in New Zealand, nearly \$1.5 million clear of nearest Grosvenor Award rival Iffraaj. In the Dewar Trophy standings, Savabeel finished with \$8,422,028, more than \$4.7 million clear of Darci Brahma, while his earnings in the Centaine Award were \$13,454,236, more than \$2 million clear of Darci Brahma.

Another facet Chittick has been especially buoyed by is the upsurge of success from Savabeel's two-year-olds.

Sword Of Osman became Savabeel's second Group One-winning juvenile after Pasadena Girl's Champagne Stakes in Sydney in 2015 while Peaceful's Listed Auckland Futurity win in May took his tally of two-year-old stakes winners to 11 from the sire's overall total of 75.

"His record with two-year-old stakes winners has been a good selling point of ours and to get a top-quality horse like Sword

Of Osman winning at two this season just underscores that," Chittick said.

"It just shows his versatility and I think that's the Success Express (Savabeel's damsire) coming through."

Rising 17, Savabeel remains in excellent health ahead of the upcoming breeding season for which Waikato Stud have preferred not to make his service fee public.

"We've restricted his book to outsiders. Syndicate members' mares make up 100 of his book so we've only taken about 20 or 30 outside mares this season and that's a decision we've made to look after him as he gets older to add longevity to his stud career," Chittick said.

"He was a \$10 million purchase and I'd say 70 per cent of the original syndicate are still in him and have been wonderful supporters of his. He's getting older and we're very conscious of looking after those members and the stallion himself. This type of horse doesn't come along every day.

"He's in great order. A couple of years ago Garry suggested buying a treadmill to help get the stallions fit for the breeding season. We got it fitted out last season and he's getting full use of it this season and he looks amazing.

"He's a very good doer but he loves getting on there and working out. Our other stallions use it too, but our thinking is if we can get another year out of Savabeel because he's so fit and healthy then it's paid for itself."

- NZ Racing Desk



Brilliant juvenile Group One winner Sword Of Osman





AURIE'S STAR RETURN LIKELY FOR I AM A STAR

The Aurie's Star Handicap at Flemington will be the starting point for Group One winner **I Am A Star (NZ)** (I Am Invincible) who has been off the scene since last spring.

The 2016 Myer Classic winner has not raced since finishing last in her defence of the Group One fillies and mares race at Flemington in November.

Trainer Shane Nichols aborted her autumn campaign and the mare, who has been back in work since June, had a jump-out at Pakenham last week.

"We had some issues in the autumn where she just didn't come up," Nichols said.

"She had a splint that was developed and she had a little bit of an issue with her feet so we elected to stop and give her a break.

"She had a trial last Wednesday at Pakenham on the synthetic track and she'll probably trial again on Monday week at Cranbourne, weather permitting.

"Then she'll go to Flemington for the Aurie's Star first-up."

The Group Three Aurie's Star (1200m) is on August 11 and Nichols plans to progress into the spring with a Group Two race she won last year a target.

"She's going to get 57 or 58 kilos in the Aurie's Star which is probably above her desired weight range but it's just a nice place to tee her off for the start of the preparation," the trainer said.

"It really doesn't open up for her until she gets out to a bit further at her third run in.

"We've got a six to eight run preparation planned in the spring."

I Am A Star's only win last spring came in the Group Two Stocks Stakes (1600m) for mares at Moonee Valley and Nichols plans to give the rising five-year-old another crack at that race.

"She'll probably head towards the Stocks Stakes and then she might run in the Toorak or the Myer Classic," he said.

"She does like to get down in the weights but against the boys at weight-for-age in the Memsie and races like that, they're just a little bit strong for her.

"But I'm really happy with her and she's going well.

"Around the Valley at the mile she has won the Sunline Stakes and the Stocks Stakes.

"That Stocks Stakes would be a target and then she'll probably run in three Group Ones after that. If she can run a place in any of them that would be great."

- AAP Racing



Group One winner I Am A Star





HOME TRACK DOUBLE COMPLETES SATISFYING SEASON FOR LATTA

A winning double on her home turf at the weekend has completed a very satisfying season for Awapuni trainer Lisa Latta.

Victories by Just You (NZ) (Pour Moi) and Keep It Savvy (NZ) (Savabeel) lifted her total to 52 wins for the year with 10 of those achieved at stakes level. The final tally placed her sixth on the National Trainer's Premiership ladder, with Latta delighted with her body of work for the year.

"We've had a really good season, especially given that we were operating with reduced numbers on what we had worked with in the past," she said.

"The changes we made have come together nicely so I'm delighted with how it has all gone."

Three-year-old filly Dijon Bleu (NZ) (Burgundy) was one of the star performers notching five wins from just eight starts, with all five coming at stakes level including the Gr. 2 Sir Tristram Fillies Classic (2000m) while she also finished runner-up in the Gr.1 One Thousand Guineas (1600m) at Riccarton.

"Dijon Bleu was a real star for us and such a genuine filly," said Latta.

"Her wins were a real highlight as was the Waikato Cup victory with Five To Midnight.

"However, if I had to nominate my biggest thrill it would be the win by Authentic Paddy in the Zabeel Classic at Ellerslie.

"He's been in the stable since he was a two-year-old and is such a genuine horse, so to get his Group One win was really something special."

Latta is gearing up for another Group One campaign with the rising nine-year-old as she looks to kick off his season in the Gr.2 Lisa Chittick Foxbridge Plate (1200m) at Te Rapa on 18 August.

"Paddy is back for another season and will kick off in the Foxbridge at Te Rapa next month," she said.

"We have him nominated for all three days at Hastings so safely through Te Rapa he will head to the Tarzino Trophy on the first day of the Carnival there."



Veteran galloper Authentic Paddy returns to the winner's enclosure after winning the Gr.1 Zabeel Classic

The Tarzino Trophy (1400m) is the first Group One event of the new season that will be run at Hastings on September 1.

– NZ Racing Desk

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HELLO AGAIN **FOR TRACK SPECIALIST**

Gritty Matamata mare **Hello M'Lady (NZ)** (Shocking) once again showed her love for the Rotorua surface when she pulled out all stops to gain victory in her first run for four months on Saturday.

The four-year-old has now won three of her five starts at Arawa Park with one of her unplaced runs being a close fourth at Listed level back in October last year.

Successful over the same 1215m distance at the corresponding meeting in 2017, Hello M'Lady was sent out favourite in the six-horse rating 75 contest despite not having

been seen since finishing down the track in the Gr.3 Cuddle Stakes (1600m) at Trentham in March. Handled patiently by regular pilot Cameron Lammas, the Shocking mare travelled kindly throughout before issuing her challenge near the outside fence in the run home.

Under the urgings of Lammas, Hello M'Lady gained the upper-hand over pacemaker Stradivarius (NZ) (Stravinsky) in the final few bounds to record her fourth career victory.

"She's probably lacking fitness but her class showed in the end," said trainer Vicki Prendergast when questioned after the race.

"She loves this course and ground at this time of the year. She just loves winter.

"I was really worried that Cameron may have left his run too late, but he knows what he is doing."

Prendergast has no firm plans for the mare who was twice placed at stakes level during her three-year-old campaign.

Race	Taumarunui RC Patrons H. 1215m.
Winner	Hello M'Lady (NZ) 2013
Owners	M & V Prendergast
Trainer	Vicki Prendergast (Matamata)
Breeding	by Shocking (AUS) out of The General's Lady (AUS) by General Nediym (AUS)
Breeder	L Williams; Waikato; NZ



"We would like to get a black-type win with her," she said.

"We will see wait to see how she pulls up and make a plan from there.

"We'd like to get back up to the mile with her, but we need to get these fitness runs into her first."

The result also signed off a successful season for Lammas who clocked up win number fifty with the victory.

– NZ Racing Desk

Hello M'Lady wins at her favourite Rotorua venue on the weekend





STAKES ASSIGNMENT AN OPTION FOR CAPE DU JEU

The opportunity to add some valuable black-type to her promising career record is the goal for Saturday's impressive Awapuni winner, **Cape Du Jeu (NZ)** (Nom Du Jeu).

The Nom Du Jeu mare registered her third win from her last five starts when she comfortably held out her rivals over 2100m on her home turf after winning over 1800m at New Plymouth a week ago.

The run of success for the rising five-year-old was welcomed by trainer Gary Vile who has always had faith in her ability.

"She has always shown a lot since she first entered the stable, but she was quite weak and just needed time to mature," he said.

"She's by Nom Du Jeu out of a Cape Cross mare so her breeding suggested she would be better with age and that is how it is playing out for her.

"This time in she has really strengthened and the benefit of that has been pretty evident in her last two runs."

Vile wasn't afraid to back his charge up after her win at New Plymouth as she had shown him she was full of life after the win.

"It was a tough track at New Plymouth and I thought she might feel the effects of that run," he said.

"During the week she was dancing around when she was heading out to trackwork and feeling pretty full of herself, so I decided to line her up again.



Johnathan Parkes guides Cape Du Jeu to victory at Awapuni

"It was a good win in a handy field so she can have a little break now before we bring her back again later next month."

Vile has his eyes on a home track feature for Cape Du Jeu once she returns from her let-up.

"I think we might tackle the Group Three mile here at the Marton meeting in September," he said.

"I think she can go a very cheeky mile when she's on the fresh side and she should be able to get into the race on the minimum.

"As long as she comes up well we will keep her going while there is still some cut in the tracks as that is where she is best suited."

The race referred to by Vile is the Gr.3 Boehringer Ingelheim 1550

that will be run at Awapuni on 15 September.

Vile also advised he has lost the services of Gr.2 Hawke's Bay Guineas (1400m) winner Hard Merchandize (NZ) (Burgundy) who has been sold and will do his future racing in Hong Kong. The four-race winning son of Burgundy will enter quarantine on Tuesday before transferring to Hong Kong later in August.

– NZ Racing Desk

Race	Levin RC Courtesy Ford H. 2100m.
Winner	Cape du Jeu (NZ) 2013
Owners	S K K Goh & G R Vile
Trainer	Gary Vile (Awapuni)
Breeding	by Nom du Jeu out of Cape Rose by Cape Cross (IRE)
Breeder	S K K Goh; Central; NZ



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PROMISING JUMPER ENHANCES REPUTATION AT ROTORUA



Tommyra heads for the winning post at Rotorua

Matamata trainer Toby Autridge firmly believes he has a very talented jumper on his hands after **Tommyra (NZ)** (Raise The Flag) picked up his second hurdle success from just three starts at Rotorua on the weekend.

The handy flat performer commenced his career in the South Island where he won three times before being transferred to Moira and Kieran Murdoch's Pukekohe Park

operation where he won once from fifteen attempts.

Sent to Autridge for education as a jumper the rising seven-year-old won on debut over the fences at Hastings before finishing a meritorious fourth behind Monarch Chimes (NZ) (Shinko King) in the Hawkes' Bay Hurdle (3100m).

"He has always appealed as a very good jumper from the day we first got him," said Autridge.

"He has a lot of respect for the fences and I think he has only really made one mistake which was in a trial before he had his first jumping start.

"He won his maiden easily enough before acquitting himself well in top company at Hastings, so he has made really good progress so far."

Autridge was quietly confident heading into Saturday's race although he was mindful of the calibre of his

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PROMISING JUMPER ENHANCES REPUTATION AT ROTORUA

(Continued from page 9)

opposition. That confidence was well rewarded as Tommyra travelled easily throughout before outfinishing race favourite Banbury Lad (NZ) (Woodbury Lad) in the dash to the post after the final obstacle.

"He was up against some very promising hurdlers so I did have some reservations before the race," he said.

"The second horse looks a real star of the future so to get the win is very satisfying.

"I do think this horse is going to be much better next year as they

generally tend to improve a heap after their first jumps campaign,

"He is a real gentleman to work with, in fact he is so placid he lets the seven-year-old grandson of one of the owners catch him and bring him from the paddock.

"With the attitude he has to the fences I can see him being a good prospect in some of the better races next year."

In the meantime, Autridge will let his charge recover from his exertions before looking at the possibility of a

start in the open hurdle event at Te Rapa on 25 August to round out his winter campaign.

– NZ Racing Desk

Race	Taumarunui RC Harcourts Taumarunui Hurdle 3000m.
Winner	Tommyra (NZ) 2011
Owners	Mrs D A & T G Autridge, R S Cole, Mrs L C & R L Ginns & D J Robb
Trainer	Toby Autridge (Matamata)
Breeding	by Raise the Flag (GB) out of Hippo Priscilla by Blues Traveller (IRE)
Breeder	D J Robb; Auckland; NZ

NEWS IN BRIEF

Hairi improving but still in ICU

Almost two weeks after suffering brain trauma in a race fall, Singapore apprentice jockey Khalid Hairi Marzuki is still under observation in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of the Khoo Teck Puat Hospital, but his condition is reported to have improved.

The 31-year-old went through a first surgery to remove a blood clot in his brain on the same night he fell off Chariots Of Fire, on Singapore Derby day on July 15, followed by a second operation two days later to relieve the pressure at the bottom of his fractured skull.

While he was not fully conscious in the first couple of days, Hairi (as he is better known) does wake up more often these days, though still sedated. He can communicate through writing to medical staff, and family members and friends who have been by his bedside round the clock since the fall.

Hairi, who is the son of ex-jockey Marzuki Sani, had just returned from a successful stint in New Zealand where he rode 19 winners in 21 months under the Singapore Turf Club training programme where he was apprenticed to trainer Stephen Marsh at Cambridge.



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BIG THINGS TIPPED FOR MICHAEL MCNAB

Champion trainer Chris Waller is tipped to have another major winner in his stable in the new season with New Zealand jockey Michael McNab.

Waller's Queensland stable manager Paul Shailer tipped big things for McNab after the jockey won on Irish Optimism (Approve) at Doomben on Saturday.

It was McNab's first metropolitan winner in Brisbane after he was lured from New Zealand to be Waller's Queensland stable jockey.

He rode a winner at his first ride on the Gold Coast but missed the winning ride on Sacred Rebel (Sepoy) at the Sunshine Coast recently when he couldn't make the weight.

Shailer said racegoers could expect big things from McNab now he had his weight under control.

"He had a bit of trouble coming out of the New Zealand winter to here, but he's got his weight down," Shailer said.

"If he can ride 54 or 54-1/2kg consistently, he is going to be a force to be reckoned with in the premiership here."

McNab won a Group One race on smart filly Melody Belle (NZ) (Commands) in New Zealand last year.

"It is good to get going for Chris and Paul. I'm starting to settle in now and the weight is coming off steadily. I'm loving the lifestyle here," McNab said.

Sydney's premier trainer, Waller operates stables at Rosehill and Flemington and since opening his Gold Coast base this season, he has 40 metropolitan winners in Queensland.

That places him sixth on the Brisbane premiership for 2017/18 and he is fifth on the Melbourne table.



Kiwi jockey Michael McNab has started well in his new assignment for the Chris Waller stable in Queensland



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NZ STALLION AWARDS

THE CENTAINE AWARD

STALLIONS	EARNINGS
SAVABEEL	\$13,454,236
DARCI BRAHMA	\$11,211,948
TAVISTOCK	\$7,857,603
O'REILLY	\$7,696,293
ROAD TO ROCK	\$7,486,944
MASTERCRAFTSMAN	\$6,710,733
PER INCANTO	\$5,367,268
SHOWCASING	\$4,874,988
PINS	\$4,356,556
IFFRAAJ	\$4,061,937

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

THE DEWAR STALLION TROPHY

STALLIONS	EARNINGS
SAVABEEL	\$8,422,028
DARCI BRAHMA	\$3,447,652
O'REILLY	\$3,154,179
TAVISTOCK	\$3,031,729
MASTERCRAFTSMAN	\$2,880,192
PINS	\$2,831,139
IFFRAAJ	\$2,757,604
RIP VAN WINKLE	\$2,577,918
PER INCANTO	\$2,454,517
MAKFI	\$2,237,437

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

THE GROSVENOR AWARD

STALLIONS	EARNINGS
SAVABEEL	\$3,396,125
IFFRAAJ	\$1,906,527
DARCI BRAHMA	\$1,813,983
TAVISTOCK	\$1,704,727
PER INCANTO	\$1,485,307
FASTNET ROCK	\$1,420,200
ALAMOSA	\$1,310,808
MASTERCRAFTSMAN	\$1,244,625
PINS	\$1,115,915
ROC DE CAMBES	\$1,085,715

BEST PERFORMERS	EARNINGS
EMBELLISH	\$466,310
GINGERNUTS	\$180,000
DEVISE	\$157,750
GOBSTOPPER	\$188,375
SHADOWS CAST	\$154,812
AVANTAGE	\$742,370
STOLEN DANCE	\$131,450
SAINT EMILION	\$218,300
PACKING PINS	\$122,750
VIN DE DANCE	\$623,500

Criteria: Leading Sires by Earnings in New Zealand



Data Provided By
ARION PEDIGREES



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NZ BRED WINNERS IN SINGAPORE

JULY 27

HORSE & BREEDING	BREEDER	RACE	SALES DETAILS
GRAND KNIGHT (NZ) 2014 by Sufficient out of Sabio Lass by Carnegie (IRE)	J M Newman; Waikato; NZ	Singapore TC Restricted Maiden S. 1400m.	2016 National Yearling Sale - Festival Session; V: Seaton Park Ltd, P: NZB as agent; \$3,500
BRINGER OF WAR (NZ) 2014 by Burgundy out of Eclectic Heights by Keeper (AUS)	D C Ellis & K W Fenton-Ellis MNZM; Waikato; NZ	Singapore TC Class 4 H. 1200m.	

