

Friday 1 March 2019

DERBY DAY LAUNCHING PAD TO INTERNATIONAL TARGETS FOR ROGERSON PAIR



Speedy sprinter Ferrando will tackle the Gr.3 Waikato Stud Plate at Ellerslie on Saturday (Race Images, Peter Rubery)

As always, Hamilton trainer Graeme Rogerson isn't shying away from a challenge.

Rogerson and his co-trainers Debbie and Bailey Rogerson will produce **More Wonder (NZ)** (Mossman) in Saturday's Gr.1 Vodafone New Zealand Derby (2400m) and **Ferrando (NZ)** (Fast 'n' Famous) in the Gr.3 Waikato Stud Plate (1200m) at Ellerslie.

Should they perform to expectations, Rogerson is planning big things for both horses.

"We think More Wonder is a really good horse. We're thinking about taking on Winx with him but we'll just play that by ear," he said.

"And Ferrando, if he runs really well, hopefully he'll get an invitation to Hong Kong (for the Gr.1 Chairman's Sprint Prize over 1200m on April 28)."

Ferrando went within a whisker of claiming his first Group One win when run down late by Enzo's Lad (Testa Rossa) in

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the Telegraph (1200m) at Trentham, run in a sizzling 1:06.95.

"It was a sensational run and the watered track didn't help but it was still touch and go whether he might have actually won the race," Rogerson said.

"He's drawn another bad alley this weekend but he's a proven horse. With a dry track and if he gets the run to suit, he'll be very competitive.

"He's worked really well this week. Bailey is really happy with him and she told me they'll know he's there."

TAB bookmakers installed Ferrando a \$6 third favourite for the set-weights and penalties sprint behind Spring Heat (More Than Ready) and Princess Kereru (NZ) (Pins) at \$5.

A winner of eight of his 23 starts, seven of those at 1200m, Ferrando will head to Trentham next start to defend his Listed Lightning Handicap (1200m) crown on March 16 before heading overseas.

"He won the Lightning last year and then went to Adelaide and it rained. He needs a rock-hard track," Rogerson said.

Rogerson has high hopes for More Wonder in Saturday's Derby, despite the Mossman gelding never racing past 1600m.

A winner of three of his 16 starts, More Wonder ran a luckless fourth in the Gr.1 Levin Classic (1600m) at Trentham before meritorious runs for fifth in the Gr.1 Thorndon Mile (1600m) at Trentham and fourth in last week's Gr.1 Haunui Farm WFA Classic (1600m) at Otaki against the older horses.

"He's shown he's up to running against the very best horses. A few things have gone wrong, otherwise he should probably have been a Group One winner already," Rogerson said.

"I know it's a Derby but he's a really good horse. Horses don't work like he's been working at home. He's just got to put it all together. He struck a wet track last week and he'd done a few things wrong in the run beforehand but with the right run this weekend, he's in this Derby up to his eyeballs.

"He's working like a Derby winner and he'll be very competitive if he does everything right. He doesn't pull or anything at home but he's such a strong horse. I think that much of him I paid \$280,000 for his half-brother at Karaka."

TAB bookmakers have More Wonder as a \$13 fifth favourite for the Derby behind Surely Sacred (NZ) (Rock 'n' Pop) at \$3.50, Vernanme (NZ) (O'Reilly) at \$6, In A Twinkling (Fastnet Rock) at \$7.50 and Platinum Invador (NZ) (Redwood) at \$10.

More Wonder holds nominations in Australia for the Gr.1 Rosehill Guineas (2000m) on March 23, the Gr.1 Australian Derby (2400m) at Randwick on April 6 and the Gr.1 Queen Elizabeth Stakes (2000m) at Randwick on April 13, a race slated as potentially the last for champion mare Winx (Street Cry).

- NZ Racing Desk





FROM DUBAI TO THE DERBY



Caulfield Cup-winning jockey Pat Cosgrave will ride Nobu in the Gr.1 Vodafone New Zealand Derby (Bruno Cannatelli)

Caulfield Cup-winning jockey Pat Cosgrave will make a flying visit to Auckland this weekend to partner the Chris Waller-trained Nobu (NZ) (Reliable Man) in the Gr.1 Vodafone New Zealand Derby (2400m).

The 36-year-old Northern Irishman shot to prominence in this part of the world after partnering Benbatl (Dubawi) to win the Gr.1 Caulfield Stakes (2000m) last October before adding the Gr.1 Caulfield Cup (2400m) on Best Solution (Kodiac) a week later.

Cosgrave, who is currently based

in Dubai, won't arrive in Auckland until Saturday morning but is looking forward to the challenge and linking up with the Waller stable once again.

"I rode Comin' Through for Chris Waller in Dubai a couple of times earlier in the year and I know his Racing Manager Charlie Duckworth well, so the ride has come through that," Cosgrave said.

"Chris asked if I would be interested in going down and riding Nobu and I had never been there (New Zealand) before. Chris is a world-class trainer, so I have taken the opportunity to go

down and see how it goes.

"If Chris is sending it there he must think it has a live chance in the big race."

Cosgrave said he had already watched some videos of past New Zealand Derbys to get an idea of what awaits and he would be doing more homework before making the journey.

"Between now and Saturday I'll be going through all his races and looking through some of the opposition as well and hopefully see how the race is going to pan out," Cosgrave said.

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FROM DUBAI TO THE DERBY

(Continued from page 4)

"I want to learn as much as possible, there is not much point in going all the way down to ride this horse and not have my homework done.

"I'll be there early and I'll walk the track a couple of times and Charlie has helped me pick up another ride beforehand."

Cosgrave was impressed with Nobu's last-start fourth in Rating 65 company at Ellerslie over 2100m, closing late after going back to last.

"Charlie said his closing sectionals were very good and that he should improve with the step up in distance, so he looks a nice ride," he said.

The seven-time Group One winning

rider is embracing the challenge of riding in another jurisdiction, having clocked a few air points throughout his career.

"I rode in the UK all summer last year and then went to Melbourne for three or four weeks to ride for Godolphin," Cosgrave said. "Then I came back here to Dubai in the second week of November and I've been here since.

"I'm really looking forward to getting to New Zealand, it is going to be interesting and something new and hopefully the horse will run a big race.

"I've ridden in Ireland, UK, France, Germany, Italy, Turkey, South Africa, Dubai, Australia and now New Zealand. There's not many places left, probably the only place I haven't been is the US."

Cosgrave has four rides at Meydan in Dubai on Thursday night before boarding a plane to Auckland and is hoping to amass some nice rides ahead of the world's richest raceday, the Dubai World Cup meeting on March 30.

With six Group One races on the program and three Group Two races, the total purse for the World Cup meeting is a mind-boggling US\$35 million.

Cosgrave said the Super Saturday meeting on March 9 would provide a clearer indication as to which horses might figure on World Cup night, but he already has some irons in the fire.

"I'm hoping to ride a horse in the UAE Derby (Gr.2, 1900m) for (American trainer) Kenny McPeck, a horse called Grecko, but things are more finalised after the ninth of March.

"That confirms what is going to get in and what is going to run but I'm also hoping to pick up a ride for Saeed (bin Suroor).

"Something might pop up between now and then, fingers-crossed.

"Between myself and Christophe Soumillon we ride the horses for Saeed bin Suroor and freelance after that.

"Saeed is first and after that we pick up what we can. It is tough racing during the carnival but it is good."

Cosgrave reported that last year's Gr.1 Dubai World Cup (2000m) winner was on-track for another tilt at the carnival's feature.

"I galloped Thunder Snow on Tuesday morning, he is in good form and he is going to run on Super Saturday and crack on to World Cup night," he said.

Meanwhile, the jockey said he would love to return to Australia at some stage following his success in spring.

"I really enjoyed coming down to Australia and obviously, I did pretty well winning the two Group Ones," Cosgrave said.

"I'd love to come back but have nothing planned yet, but you never know what could come from riding for powerful owners and a good trainer like Chris Waller."

– NZ Racing Desk





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TRANS-TASMAN FOCUS FOR PIKE

While Cambridge trainer Tony Pike has plenty to focus on in his homeland, with **Surely Sacred (NZ)** (Rock 'n' Pop) the favourite for the Gr.1 Vodafone New Zealand Derby (2400m), he will also have an eye across the Tasman shortly after the blue-riband event.

Progressive galloper **Ever Loyal** (Sebring) will contest the Gr.3 Liverpool City Cup (1300m) at Randwick just ten minutes after the Derby and Pike believes he is a good chance of snaring the thick end of the prize in both races.

Ever Loyal has the services of Kerrin McEvoy and will jump from barrier eight in the competitive nine-horse field and is rated a \$7.50 chance.

"His racing manners last season weren't quite there," Pike said. "He was a little bit aggressive and just did a few things wrong and he probably struggled to get 1600m.

"He had an injury enforced layoff and he has probably come back better than ever.

"His two runs resuming off a 12-month break have been exceptional. His sectionals have been very good, so I think it is time to step up in class and have a crack in Sydney on Saturday.

"He was probably a touch unlucky first-up in the Concorde

(Gr.3, 1200m) behind a very promising horse in Ardrossan and he was very dominant last start in good time.

"I think he is definitely up to the Sydney class of horses in the lower grades at this stage and the long-range plan is to get some prizemoney in the bank and hopefully get his rating up to possibly have a go at a race like the Stradbroke (Gr.1, 1400m) in

Queensland during the Winter Carnival."

Pike couldn't be happier with Surely Sacred, the \$3.80 favourite for the New Zealand Derby on the back of a strong win in the Gr.2 Avondale Guineas (2100m) last start.

"He's had the perfect preparation," Pike said. "He has won three out of five races and was possibly a little unlucky not to have run closer in the other two.

"He got shuffled up at a bad time in the Karaka Million 3YO race. It was a very slow tempo that day and he still closed well for fifth and was a dominant winner last start and probably off a pretty tough run.

"I don't think the 2400m is going to be an issue. He is in good form and he is a very progressive horse, so I am looking forward to Saturday."

Pike will once again join forces with jockey Vinnie Colgan who has been engaged to ride Surely Sacred. Colgan will be looking to add an incredible seventh New Zealand Derby to his record, with his most recent success in the race coming when riding Rangipo (Stryker) to victory in the 2016 Derby for Pike.

– NZ Racing Desk



Ever Loyal will line-up in Saturday's Gr.3 Liverpool City Cup (1300m) at Randwick (Trish Dunell)





WALLER PLEASED WITH SYDNEY CUP-BOUND PATRICK ERIN

Sydney trainer Chris Waller is expecting a solid showing from his New Zealand-bred stayer **Patrick Erin (NZ)** (Gallant Guru) in the Gr.1 Chipping Norton Stakes (1600m) at Randwick on Saturday.

The seven-year-old gelding finished fourth when first-up against stablemate Winx (Street Cry) in the Gr.2 The Star Apollo Stakes (1400m) at Randwick earlier this month and Waller was pleased with his run.

"His first-up run was excellent and he has improved in terms of his fitness since then," Waller said.

"He showed first-up when over 1400m that he can hold a position through having some good barrier speed, so whilst I wouldn't expect him to lead, he won't be too far away."

The Group One-winning son of Gallant Guru is on a path towards the Gr.1 Sydney Cup (3200m) in April, which will include a number of black-type assignments.

"He is tracking nicely towards a Sydney Cup and he will be going via the Gr.3 Sky High Stakes (2000m) third-up and fourth-up into the BMW (Gr.1, 2400m) and then the Grand Final for the preparation will be the Sydney Cup," Waller said.

He will also line-up New Zealand Bloodstock Sales graduate Unforgotten (Fastnet Rock) in the Chipping Norton and believes she will improve off her fifth-placed run in The Apollo.

"She just got left a little flat footed through there being no pressure in the race first-up, so if that is the case on Saturday we would get rolling a little earlier on her to ensure that she is put into the race and she will certainly improve in terms of fitness," Waller said.

"I think Unforgotten should be starting to improve second-up and up to the mile and not just be a walkover, obviously we have got a lot of respect for Happy Clapper as well."

Meanwhile, earlier in the card Waller will line-up New Zealand-bred gallopers Melt (NZ) (Iffraaj) and Zalatte (NZ) (Medaglia D'oro) in the Gr.1 Surround Stakes (1400m).

Melt finished sixth last start in the Gr.2 Light Fingers Stakes (1200m) and Waller believes she has taken a lot of improvement from that race.

"She has taken improvement from her first-up run but she is another one that has drawn wide (barrier 14)," Waller said.

"She wanted to do things upside down first-up, so hopefully we can just get her to switch off and get her to come back and relax. Providing that is the case she will finish off well."

Waller is excited about undefeated filly Zalatte's potential heading into Saturday.

"I am very excited by this horse, she follows a similar profile to Unforgotten through winning off season three-year-old

races and now she is racing against the better horses and is obviously first up," Waller said.

"I wouldn't expect her to win against these sharper three-year-old fillies, but I would expect her to show that she is going to be competitive in races going forward over a bit further.

"From her good draw (barrier four) she is going to at least get a nice run and hopefully runs close to the first three. She will then progress through to the Vinery Stakes (Gr.1, 2000m) third-up."

– NZ Racing Desk



Group One winner Patrick Erin will tackle stablemate Winx at Randwick this Saturday (Bradley Photographers)



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NEWS IN BRIEF



Queen Of Diamonds (NZ) (Savabeel)

Queen of Diamonds too strong in Lowland

Quality three-year-old filly **Queen of Diamonds (NZ)** (Savabeel) picked up the second stakes win of her career when victorious in the Gr.2 Little Avondale Lowland Stakes (2100m) at Hastings on Wednesday.

The Murray Baker and Andrew Forsman-trained filly was sent forward early from her outside gate (barrier 11) by jockey Matthew Cameron to settle outside pacemaker Miss Labasa (NZ) (Swiss Ace).

The daughter of Savabeel remained prominent throughout before Cameron presented his charge perfectly at the home turn where she was able to account for her opposition with ease, winning by 1-1/2 lengths over Shezathinka (So You Think) with Imelda Mary (NZ) (Ferlax) running home late for third. [Full story here](#)



Sponge Bob (NZ) (Keeper)

Sponge Bob ready for Derby adventure

Matamata trainer Graham Richardson is pleased with his Gr.2 Waikato Guineas (2000m) winner **Sponge Bob (NZ)** (Keeper) heading into Saturday's Gr.1 Vodafone New Zealand Derby (2400m), with the lightly-tried three-year-old having his first look at Ellerslie this morning.

"Sponge Bob galloped on the course proper at Ellerslie this morning (Monday) and he went up and followed a couple around but he worked by himself," Richardson, who trains in partnership with Gavin Parker, said.

"It was his first time there and he never flinched, he didn't shy or gawk and there are a lot of things to take-in at Ellerslie. [Full story here](#)

Tavago back from injury in Blamey Stakes

All trainer Trent Busuttin wants from



Tavago (NZ) (Tavistock)

Tavago (NZ) (Tavistock) is to see him return in one piece after he has his first run in 18 months at Flemington.

Tavago and stablemate **Main Stage (NZ)** (Reliable Man) run in Saturday's Gr.2 Blamey Stakes (1600m) with a view to a possible Sydney trip.

The winner of the 2016 Australian Derby, Tavago has not raced since the spring of 2017.

Busuttin, who trains in partnership with Natalie Young, said they forgot about Tavago for 12 months, giving the gelding the opportunity to overcome his ailments.

"Without being a disaster, he's had suspensory issues," Busuttin said.

"We now work him out the back on the sand dunes at Cranbourne and on the treadmill.

"It's the soundest he's ever been and it sounds funny, but he's fully mature now."

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NEWS IN BRIEF

The Gr.1 Ranvet Stakes (2000m) at Rosehill on March 23 and the Gr.1 Tancred Stakes (2400m) a week later are potential targets.

"He's a six-year-old that's had 14 starts and he's a gelding," Busuttin said.

"If we can keep him sound, there's plenty of races for him."

After a hectic three-year-old campaign, Main Stage missed last spring, returning in a benchmark 78 race at Pakenham on February 14, finishing fourth.

"He did it upside down," Busuttin said.

"We thought he'd be out the back door, sitting last, or thereabouts and charging home, but he was up on the steel running third.

"He's got a lovely draw on Saturday and he was only a couple of lengths off Grunt last year and I think he'll run really well."



Grunt (NZ) (O'Reilly)

New colours for Grunt in Flemington return

Grunt (NZ) (O'Reilly) is set to step out in the colours of Zhang Yuesheng when he makes his return to racing at Flemington.

The Mick Price-trained four-year-old runs in the Gr.3 Shaftesbury Avenue (1400m) on Saturday on his way to a start in the A\$5million All-Star Mile (1600m) at Flemington on March 16.

Yulong Investments has taken a controlling interest in last year's Australian Guineas winner, who will become the first stallion for the group when he is retired from racing.

Chief operating officer Sam Fairgray said the four-year-old, who also won the Makybe Diva in the spring, would race on with the possibility of a Sydney campaign to follow the All-Star Mile.

Fairgray said Grunt appealed as a prospective stallion as a good-looking son of O'Reilly.

"He was a Group One winning three-

year-old and a weight-for-age winner as a four-year-old and as a racehorse he's the real deal," Fairgray said.

"We saw the opportunity and a lot of upside with him on the racing side and then with our breeding operation.

"He's a stallion that will sit well for us in Victoria and the O'Reilly's work well here in Australia.

"We're happy to have him and support him and if he goes to stud this year or the following year I'm sure he'll be well supported."



Elate (NZ) (Savabeel)

James overjoyed with filly's progress

Cambridge trainer Roger James believes Elate (NZ) (Savabeel) is shaping up as well as any horse he has prepared for the Gr.1 Al Basti Equiworld Dubai New Zealand Oaks (2400m).

James and co-trainer Robert Wellwood will produce the Savabeel filly in Saturday's Gr.3 McKee Family Sunline Vase (2100m) at Ellerslie, her final leadup for the Oaks at Trentham on March 16.

"She's as good a chance as I've had for a New Zealand Oaks," James said. [Full story here](#)

Tiger Silk aiming for first stakes victory

Pukekohe trainer Richard Collett is bullish about three-year-old filly Tiger Silk's (All American) chances heading into the Listed Mufhasa Fasttrack Stakes (1300m) at Ellerslie on Saturday.

The daughter of All American has pleased her trainer in her last two starts, after disappointing when tailing the field home in the Listed Uncle Remus Stakes (1400m) at Ellerslie on Boxing Day, and he believes she can take that form into Saturday.

"She's in really good order," Collett said.

"I was really happy with her run last start (over 1200m at Ellerslie) and she won well



Tiger Silk (All American)

the start before that, (over 1400m) here at Counties.

"We ran her again at Ellerslie the other day and brought her back from 1400 to 1200m, just because she was given a long time between races."

Tiger Silk ran on to finish sixth, but Collett was happy with the run considering she only found clear air late in the piece.

"She just never saw daylight, it was a good effort," he said. "She probably would have run second if she got clear earlier over 1200m.

"1300m on Saturday in Listed company, drawn five, I'm looking forward to it."



Emily Margaret (NZ) (Pins)

Guineas tilt hangs in the balance for Emily Margaret

A trip north to contest the Gr.2 Norwood Family Wellington Guineas (1400m) at Trentham beckons for stakes-winning filly Emily Margaret (NZ) (Pins) if she performs well at Wingatui on Saturday.

The Kevin and Pam Hughes-trained galloper will line-up in the Listed NZB Insurance Stakes (1400m) on Saturday and her connections are pleased with her in the lead-up to the race.

"She seems fine, she's freshened-up a wee bit," Kevin Hughes said. [Full story here](#)

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NEWS IN BRIEF



Langkawi (NZ) (Helmet)

Wellington Guineas beckons Langkawi

Group Two performer **Langkawi (NZ)** (Helmet) is back in winning form after taking out the Time Test 1400 at Hastings on Wednesday.

The Peter McKay-trained runner was on a path towards the Gr.1 Vodafone New Zealand Derby (2400m), however, disappointing performances in the Karaka Million 3YO Classic (1600m) and Gr.2 Waikato Guineas (2000m) put paid to those aspirations.

With victory on Wednesday, the son of Helmet now boasts a record of two wins and three seconds at the Hawke's Bay track.

"He does love racing here (at Hastings)," McKay said. "It was a bit of a drop back in distance, we were trying to go to the Derby."

"The last couple of runs have been a bit indifferent. Last start we tried to ride him back because he drew the widest and they walked and sprinted home."

"I think he may be more of a 1400m to a mile horse. I'm really pleased to get back in to winning form."

Langkawi will now head to Trentham next month to contest the Gr.2 Norwood Family Wellington Guineas (1400m).

"There's the Wellington Guineas over 1400m, that was the main aim if he happened to win here today," McKay said.

"We may have one more go at getting him over ground. He's had a long enough season, but he's enjoyed himself."



Enjoy The Show (NZ) (Showcasing)

Enjoying The Show at Counties

The Murray Baker and Andrew Forsman-trained **Enjoy The Show (NZ)** (Showcasing) made a winning start to his race career, taking out the Splice Construction 1200 on debut at Counties on Thursday.

The two-year-old son of Showcasing jumped away well from the ace barrier to take the early lead for jockey Matthew Cameron, before handing up to the Peter

and Dawn Williams-trained Well Chosen (NZ) (Reliable Man).

To the urges of Cameron, Enjoy The Show accelerated down the straight to regain the lead at the 150m mark and was able to hold out a fast-finishing Folk Dress (Pierro) to win by a long head.

Co-trainer Murray Baker was pleased with the win and said the colt is showing a lot of early promise.

"He's a promising colt," he said. "He's a Showcasing, they go well."

"He's a half to a Rosehill Guineas winner and he has got a bit of pedigree, so I think he is a chance going on."

Cameron was pleased with the debutants run and believes he will be competitive in further juvenile races in autumn.

"He's a lovely little horse and he's probably the natural two-year-old out of the three of Murray's and Andrew's," Cameron said, referring to Custom Cruiser (Toronado) and Holy Mongolempere (NZ) (More Than Ready), who finished fourth and fifth respectively.

"He jumped well, I didn't want to lead. He hasn't been around this way much. It was good to get a bit of a lead in to it. It was a bit daunting down the straight, but he got the job done."

Enjoy The Show is now on a black-type path, with his connections eyeing a tilt at the Gr.1 Courtesy Ford Manawatu Sires' Produce Stakes (1400m) at Awapuni next month.

"We have got him nominated for the Sires' and we'll see from there," Baker said.

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Friday 1 March 2019

NEWS IN BRIEF



Rock On Wood (NZ) (Redwood)

Rock On Wood resumes in style

Rock On Wood (NZ) (Redwood) made an emphatic return to the races at Hastings on Wednesday when he stormed home to win the Nadeem 1300.

The Leanne Elliot-trained four-year-old hasn't been seen on race day in almost a year and showed his class when taking out the last race on the card.

The son of Redwood showed a tremendous turn of foot to come from last at the turn to surge past his opposition to win by 1-1/2 lengths in the hands of Elliot's son, Ryan. [Full story here](#)



Melody Belle (NZ) (Commands)

No All Star Mile for Melody Belle

Melody Belle (NZ) (Commands) is coming off the back of her fifth Group One victory, but her connections are resisting the urge to accept a wildcard for the A\$5million All Star Mile (1600m) at Flemington next month.

Raced by Fortuna Syndications, Melody Belle was on the radar of Racing Victoria chief handicapper Greg Carpenter after her win in the Gr.1 Haunui Farm WFA Group One Classic (1600m) at Otaki on Saturday, but Syndicate manager John Galvin said they have elected to bypass the race.

"I fielded a call from Greg Carpenter who

advised that Melody Belle was in contention for a wildcard entry," Galvin said.

"Trainer Jamie Richards and I had previously discussed our position and we had decided that the All Star Mile, attractive as it was, was not the right race for our mare at this time.

"To travel to Australia to take on their best milers in this event, when already deep into a campaign that commenced last August, was not in the best interests of Melody Belle we had decided."

The daughter of Commands will now potentially line-up at Ellerslie next month in an attempt to add a sixth Group One win to her record in the Bonecrusher New Zealand Stakes (2000m).

"She has yet to contest a race over the 2000m distance," Galvin said.

"Given her performance in the Haunui, trainer Jamie Richards and rider Opie Bosson hold the view that 2000m will hold no fear for her.

"This race presents as an ideal opportunity for her final race of the 2018/19 season."



Ladies First (NZ) (Dylan Thomas)

Sydney still the aim for Ladies First

Last season's Gr.1 Auckland Cup (3200m) winner **Ladies First (NZ)** (Dylan Thomas) will continue on a path towards the Gr.1 Sydney Cup (3200m) despite finishing tenth in the Gr.1 Haunui Farm WFA Group One Classic (1600m) at Otaki on Saturday.

"It was a pass mark (the run)," trainer Allan Sharrock said.

"We are happy the way we are tracking. She looks really well. She went super first up (when sixth in the Listed Wairarapa Thoroughbred Breeders' Stakes (1600m)) and they often throw in one like that, so I'm not too worried at this stage.

Ladies First will have one further start in New Zealand, the Gr.1 Bonecrusher New Zealand Stakes (2000m), before heading

across the Tasman to contest the Gr.2 Chairman's Quality (2600m) at Randwick.

"She'll now go to the 2000m race at Ellerslie at weight-for-age, through that into the Chairman's and then a week later the Sydney Cup," Sharrock said.



Concert Hall (NZ) (Savabeel)

Offers refused for Concert Hall

Hamilton owner-breeder Joan Egan has put the "not for sale" sign up for her smart mare **Concert Hall (NZ)** (Savabeel), one of the most impressive winners at Matamata last Saturday.

Concert Hall, a daughter of Savabeel, took her record to four wins and two placings from eight starts when she showed an amazing final sprint in the Rich Hill Stud 1600 to burst clear of the highly talented Rhinestone Cowboy (Teofilo) halfway down the home straight and win by four and three-quarter lengths.

She had also won in convincing style in her previous start over the same 1600m trip at Tauranga earlier this month when also ridden by Matt Cameron and as a result of those performances it's no surprise she has attracted the attention of bloodstock agents. [Full story here](#)

Jessiegee on black type path

An open-class win at Wairoa last Sunday has put Awapuni mare **Jessiegee (NZ)** (Alamosa) in contention for a couple of stakes races.

The Alamosa five-year-old mare's effort in winning the Affco NZ Ltd Wairoa Cup (2100m) has convinced her Awapuni trainer Mike Breslin she is ready to step up to black type missions with her first stakes start being the Gr.3 Cuddle Stakes (1600m) on March 16. And if she shapes up in the Trentham event, she will start on her home course in the Gr.2 LJ Hooker Manawatu Breeders (2000m) on April 5.

[continued on next page](#)



NEWS IN BRIEF



Jessiegee (NZ) (Alamosa)

"I've been waiting to run her over ground again and today was the day," Breslin said.

[Full story here](#)



Sasso Corbaro (All Too Hard)

Sasso Corbaro earns Lightning start

A plan to chase black type with **Sasso Corbaro** (All Too Hard) is now coming together nicely for the former Australian mare.

The daughter of All Too Hard was originally set to contest the Gr.2 Westbury Classic (1400m) at Ellerslie last month for Newcastle trainer Kris Lees, but the mission was abandoned because of a setback.

However, her owners, China Horse Club Racing, decided to press ahead with a bid to boost her value with black type in New Zealand and sent her to Matamata trainer Jamie Richards, who produced her for an impressive successful New Zealand debut at Otaki last Saturday. [Full story here](#)

Wait A Sec on track for Trentham

Last Sunday Group One winner **Wait A Sec (NZ)** (Postponed) was back at Wairoa, the scene of his last raceday start, and again the focus of much on-course attention.

Whereas 12 months ago he was winning the Wairoa Cup (2100m), this time Wait A Sec was doing an exhibition gallop between



Wait A Sec (NZ) (Postponed)

tracks in the hands of Sam Collett.

"He did what we wanted. It was a good day out for him and Sam let him run along the last bit," co-trainer Guy Lowry said. "We're happy with him.

"The plan is to run him in the mile at Trentham (on March 9)."

Collett was very pleased with the gallop. "He cruised along nicely and felt good," she said. "He's a happy horse."

Wait A Sec is the winner of 13 races and almost \$400,000 in prizemoney with his best win coming in the 2017 Gr.1 Livamol Classic (2040m) at Hastings, but he suffered a tear in a tendon after winning last year's Wairoa Cup.

The main goal with the Postponed eight-year-old is to set him up for a spring campaign.



Showcasing

Ten two-year-old winners for Showcasing

Former Haunui Farm stallion Showcasing continued his success with two-year-olds in New Zealand with winner number 10 at Counties on Thursday, Enjoy The Show (NZ).

Showcasing has been prominent in the two-year-old Sires Table since his first crop hit the tracks in the 2014/2015 season, landing the title as Champion Two-Year-Old and First Season Sire, and he has headed

the table by number of winners since the 2015/2016 season.

"It's been a long time since a New Zealand stallion has had that many two-year-old winners," Haunui Farm's Mark Chitty said.

"We went back to the 2006/2007 season as that's as far back as we could go on Arion and the next closest is 8 and that was Showcasing last year and Iffraaj in the 2013/2014 season.

"The benchmark for two-year-old racing is obviously Australia and I Am Invincible leads that charge with 12 winners but he's had 40 starters, Showcasing has only had 15."

Showcasing's two-year-old roll of honour in NZ this season includes the stakes performers Appellant (NZ) who was in the Karaka Million and Listed Wellesley Stakes, Last Sight (NZ) and Rainbow Dash (NZ) who, like She's A Thief (NZ) last season, was beaten a nose in the Gr.2 Matamata Breeders' Stakes.

Since his first Southern Hemisphere crop hit the tracks, Showcasing has sired 16 two-year-old stakes performers in New Zealand from 40 starters, including six stakes winners. Amongst them are Karaka Million winner Hardline (NZ) and, G2 Wakefield Challenge Stakes winners Showboy (NZ) and Xpression (NZ).

Waikato weanling walk

The Waikato Branch of the NZTBA are welcoming interest from Waikato farms as they plan their weanling walk, which will take place on Sunday April 28.

They are particularly interested to hear from farms who have weanlings by first season sires who would like to participate.

For more information, please contact: Derek Mayne derek.mayne @xtra.co.nz, 0274666687.



THE MAPPERLEY STUD YOUNG GUNS

THE NEXT GENERATION

CONTRIBUTER

By Champion Sire High Chaparral

\$12,500 +gst LFG



- ▶ Champion Australian Middle Distance Horse of the Year
- ▶ Best performed son of High Chaparral standing at stud in NZ
- ▶ Brilliant winner of the Gr1 Chipping Norton (1600m), Gr.1 Ranvet (2000m), Gr.2 Apollo (1400m) and G.3 David Jones Cup (2000m)
- ▶ A real blueblood his first two dams are stakes winners

A FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH

COMPLACENT

Authorized - Insouciance by Quest for Fame

\$5,000 +gst LFG



- ▶ Defeated his rivals in a crushingly dominant fashion to claim the Gr.1 Spring Champion stakes
- ▶ He won the Gr.1 Spring Champion (2000m), Gr.2 Chelmsford (1600m), Gr.3 Gloaming (1800m) and the Gr.3 Craven (2000m)
- ▶ Bred on the same cross as leading proven sire Tavistock
- ▶ From the sensational family of Gr.1 winners Wandjina, Dracula & Crystal Lily

THE ULTIMATE WARRIOR

PUCCINI

Encosta De Lago - Miss Opera by Paris Opera

\$5,000 +gst LFG



- ▶ Champion 3yo Horse of the Year
- ▶ Dual Gr.1 winner & 7 time Group winner
- ▶ Encosta De Lago's best performed son standing at stud in the world
- ▶ His stakes winning dam is a multiple group producer and this is one of New Zealand's greatest families

IT'S IN THE BLOOD

HE'S REMARKABLE

Pentire - Axiom by Zabeel

\$3,000 +gst LFG



- ▶ Best performed son of Pentire standing at stud in New Zealand
- ▶ Full brother to Dual Gr.1 winning 3 year old horse of the year Xtravagant
- ▶ Group winner in Australia over 1400m
- ▶ Performed amongst the best NZ 2nd season sires in Australasia

**TAKE
YOUR
SHOT**

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M

MAPPERLEY
STUD

Friday 1 March 2019

GLOBAL NZ BRED WINNERS

21/02/2019 - 28/02/2019

AUSTRALIA

Bernardini : Play Me Now (NZ) (Gabana by Jungle Pocket) 2015;
22/02/2019, 1st MVRC Hellenic Hotel Williamstown H. 1600m

Burgundy : Divine Red (NZ) (Divine Browne by Savabeel) 2014;
23/02/2019, 1st Darwin TC Gardens Park Golf Links H. 1000m
Sold by Riverrock Farm at Ready to Run Sale for \$85000
Sold by Seaton Park Ltd at National Yearling Sale for \$30000

Dalghar : Shaman (NZ) (Extra Celestial by Danehill Dancer) 2015;
23/02/2019, 1st Gosford RC Easy Mix Concrete Maiden P. 2100m
Sold by Brighthill Farm at National Yearling Sale for \$100000

O'Reilly : Rock Pearl (NZ) (The Pearler by Volksraad) 2015;
22/02/2019, 1st Benalla RC Royal Hotel Benalla Maiden P. 1406m
Sold by Phoenix Park at National Yearling Sale for \$80000

O'Reilly : National Park (NZ) (Marahau by Pins) 2015;
24/02/2019, 1st Coff's Harbour RC Elmac Electrical Maiden P. 1215m

O'Reilly : Rein vigorate (NZ) (She's Goodlookin by Zabeel) 2015;
28/02/2019, 1st Kyneton & Hanging Rock RC Furphy Maiden P. 1850m

Ocean Park : Seaway (NZ) (Miss Purrfection by One Cool Cat) 2014;
23/02/2019, 1st ATC Schweppes H. 1500m
Sold by Waikato Stud Ltd at National Yearling Sale for \$210000

Paco Boy : Iwatani (NZ) (Kintyre Lil by Casual Lies) 2012;
23/02/2019, 1st Mackay TC Seven Mackay H. 1200m
Sold by Landsdowne Park Ltd at National Yearling Sale for \$30000

Pentire : Penny to Sell (NZ) (Stretto by Dance Floor) 2011;
23/02/2019, 1st SAJC 13cabs H. 1550m

Per Incanto : Sally Sells Shells (NZ) (Waitui Belle by Cape Cross) 2014;
23/02/2019, 1st Woolamai DRC Wonthaggi Club Trophy H. 1008m

Pins : Oh Why (NZ) (Just be Cos by No Excuse Needed) 2014;
23/02/2019, 1st Goondiwindi RC Celebrating Ten Years of Turf Track Racing H. 1400m

Pins : Baaed (NZ) (Baas by Anabaa) 2015;
26/02/2019, 1st Bathurst TC Rural Bin Service Maiden P. 1108m

Pins : Hirtshals (NZ) (Burnzees Magic by Kinjite) 2013;
27/02/2019, 1st BRC Paynters P. 1050m

Power : Volt of Power (NZ) (Almeida by Don Eduardo) 2015;
25/02/2019, 1st Taree RC Winning Post Function Centre Maiden H. 1250m
Sold by Brighthill Farm at National Weanling, Broodmare & Mixed Sale for \$26000

Redoute's Choice : Chocolatier (NZ) (La Praline by Anabaa) 2014;
21/02/2019, 1st Hawkesbury RC Bioworma H. 1800m
Sold by Lime Country Thoroughbreds Ltd at National Yearling Sale for \$160000

Redwood : Red Valentine (NZ) (Alma Star by Al Maher) 2014;
24/02/2019, 1st Balaklava RC Balaklava Stitch Joint P. 2200m
Sold by Westbury Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$65000

Reliable Man : Mr Dependable (NZ) (La Grande Dame by Pins) 2015;
21/02/2019, 1st Hawkesbury RC Sky Racing Maiden H. 1500m
Sold by Phoenix Park at Ready to Run Sale for \$310000

Rios : Quietly Angry (NZ) (Raudkivi Lass by Pins) 2014;
27/02/2019, 1st Terang RC National Herd Development H. 1200m

Sakhee's Secret : Inastride (NZ) (Starfire Glow by Danasinga) 2011;
21/02/2019, 1st Warrnambool RC McCarthy Catering H. 2388m

Savabeel : Vinaceous (NZ) (Villifye by O'Reilly) 2015;
24/02/2019, 1st Pinjarra RC SMB Electrical Maiden P. 2000m
Sold by Waikato Stud Ltd at National Yearling Sale for \$210000

Shamexpress : Eokalio (NZ) (Diamantaire by Montjeu) 2015;
25/02/2019, 1st Shoalhaven City TC Bridges Finance Maiden P. 1100m
Sold by Windsor Park Stud at Ready to Run Sale for \$130000

Shamexpress : Embrace Me (NZ) (Party Royal by King's Chapel) 2015;
22/02/2019, 1st MVRC Typhoon Tracy S. Gr.3 1200m

Shamoline Warrior : Korodon (NZ) (Centennial Star by Centaine) 2013;
27/02/2019, 1st Gawler & Barossa JC Sanders Fodder H. 1732m
Sold by Bluegables Farm at Ready to Run Sale for \$36000

Shocking : Eugenio (NZ) (Rixi by Strategic) 2015;
24/02/2019, 1st Hawkesbury RC Livamol Maiden H. 1800m

Swiss Ace : Louise (NZ) (Katmai by Strategic) 2014;
27/02/2019, 1st TTC Drummond Gold H. 1400m

Tartan Bearer : Emberspeed (NZ) (Pink Pier by Galileo) 2014;
23/02/2019, 1st Mackay TC Urban Kitchen Maiden H. 1300m

Tavistock : Fuga (NZ) (Danger Point by Danehill) 2015;
23/02/2019, 1st Yarra Valley RC Mark Leonard Plumbing Maiden P. 1500m
Sold by Cambridge Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$55000

Tavistock : Stocktaka (NZ) (Shartz by Centaine) 2015;
27/02/2019, 1st MRC Mypunter.com Maiden P. 1300m
Sold by Diamond Lodge at Ready to Run Sale for \$145000



GLOBAL NZ BRED WINNERS 21/02/2019 - 28/02/2019

HONG KONG

Ekraar : Flying Noble (NZ) (Keeperinthemyst by Keeper) 2013;
24/02/2019, 1st HKJC Butterfly H. 1400m

Guillotine : Voyage Star (NZ) (Next Century by Stravinsky) 2015;
24/02/2019, 1st HKJC Lung Yat H. 1200m
Sold by Windsor Park Stud at Ready to Run Sale for \$130000

Per Incanto : Time to Celebrate (NZ) (Silver Cent by Centaine) 2013;
24/02/2019, 1st HKJC Fu Tai H. 1600m
Sold by Berkley Stud at South Island Yearling & Mixed Sale for \$82500

Shocking : Formidable - Tianchi Monster (H.K.) (NZ) (Princess Biscotte by Casino Prince) 2014;
24/02/2019, 1st HKJC Tai Hing H. 2000m
Sold by Rich Hill Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$39000

Swiss Ace : Wah May Princess (NZ) (Upgrading by Encosta de Lago) 2015;
27/02/2019, 1st HKJC Shing Yip H. 1200m
Sold by Westbury Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$90000

Tavistock : Gentry (NZ) (Sogno by Zabeel) 2011;
27/02/2019, 1st HKJC Yue Man H. 1650m

MACAU

El Hermano : River Colour (NZ) (Golans Lass by Golan) 2011;
23/02/2019, 1st Macau Shatin H. 1800m

Red Giant : Pearl Lucky (NZ) (Crystal Hill by Danehill) 2014;
23/02/2019, 1st Macau Tsimshatsui H. 1500m
Sold by Westbury Stud at Ready to Run Sale for \$24000

Red Giant : River Double (NZ) (De World Cup by Dehere) 2013;
22/02/2019, 1st Macau Clydebank H. 1350m

MALAYSIA

Bachelor Duke : Nova Warrior (NZ) (Muppy by Snaadee) 2011;
24/02/2019, 1st Perak TC Class 4 H. 1100m
Sold by Esker Lodge at National Yearling Sale for \$11000

Battle Paint : War Dragon (NZ) (Jabot by Green Perfume) 2014;
23/02/2019, 1st Selangor TC Class 3 H. 1200m

Danroad : Totality (NZ) (Brindillemousse by Last Tycoon) 2008;
24/02/2019, 1st Perak TC Class 5 H. 1200m
Sold by Highview at National Yearling Sale for \$40000

Darci Brahma : Archer Company (NZ) (Magical Moment by Sadler's Wells) 2012;
24/02/2019, 1st Perak TC Class 5 H. 1200m
Sold by Mana Park at Ready to Run Sale for \$50000

MALAYSIA (CONT.)

Mastercraftsman : Mr Hopkins (NZ) (Ruby Rouge by Red Ransom) 2013;
23/02/2019, 1st Selangor TC Novice P. 1600m

Ocean Park : What (NZ) (Howmuchyacharging by Howbaddouwantit) 2014;
23/02/2019, 1st Selangor TC Class 5 H. 1100m
Sold by Archer Park at Ready to Run Sale for \$16000

Onceuponatime : Red Rackham (NZ) (Easy Way by Casual Lies) 2012;
23/02/2019, 1st Selangor TC Class 5 H. 1100m

Sakhee's Secret : Bristol Diamond (NZ) (Sparkling Promise by Wolfhound) 2012;
24/02/2019, 1st Perak TC Class 5 H. 1400m
Sold by Wentwood Grange at National Yearling Sale for \$22500

SINGAPORE

Epaulette : Stay the Course (NZ) (Z'Honor by Zabeel) 2015;
22/02/2019, 1st Singapore TC Manulife Cup 1400m
Sold by Esker Lodge at National Weanling, Broodmare & Mixed Sale for \$95000

Pins : Dark Necessities (NZ) (Sparkling by O'Reilly) 2014;
22/02/2019, 1st Singapore TC Cancham Cup 1000m

Red Giant : Stealth Giant - Star Emperor (Sing.) (NZ) (Lotta Luv by Dubawi) 2013;
22/02/2019, 1st Singapore TC Canada Cup 1200m

Data Provided By
ARION PEDIGREES

