

Monday 3 October 2016

BLACKISTON EXTENDS HIMSELF TO GET AGENT



Michael Walker guides Inside Agent home at Flemington

Nigel Blackiston didn't know whether he could afford **Inside Agent (NZ)** (Stravinsky) when the colt was offered as a yearling at the Premier session of the 2015 New Zealand Bloodstock National Yearling Sales Series.

The Flemington trainer put together an ownership group to eventually secure him for \$180,000. The colt is from well performed mare Octapussy (Octagonal) and is a half brother to stakes winning mare Pussy O'Reilly (NZ) who finished second to I Do (NZ) (No Excuse Needed) in the 2014 Gr. 1

Makfi Challenge Stakes.

It may prove to be cheap after Inside Agent landed the Listed Poseidon Stakes (1400m) at Flemington on Sunday at his second race start.

Ridden by Michael Walker, Inside Agent scored a half-length win from Magnarock (Magnus) with Peacock (Lonhro) 1-1/2 lengths away third.

"We saw him over in New Zealand about six months

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BLACKISTON EXTENDS HIMSELF TO GET AGENT

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before the sale and I loved him then," Blackiston said.

"We wanted to buy him but I wasn't sure we could afford him.

"It's the most I've spent but I got people involved and it's worked out really well.

"It's a beautiful pedigree and it's very exciting to come and win a Listed race at his second start."

Blackiston said Inside Agent would now head to the Gothic Stakes at Caulfield on October 15 before the Group Three Carbine Club Stakes at Flemington on October 29.

"The plan has always been to get him to the Carbine Club Stakes," Blackiston said.

"I think that's a nice level for him this time in and I hope he can make a Guineas horse in the autumn."

Walker said the decision to ride Inside Agent quietly was made before the strong wind started at Flemington.

The jockey said from the time he first sat on the colt he had a high opinion of the three-year-old.

"He doesn't know a lot about racing," Walker said.

"He was very green and only applied himself when the

second horse came up to him.

"He's got a future."

A half-sister to Inside Agent fetched \$600,000 at the New Zealand Premier Yearling Sale earlier this year when purchased by the China Horse Club from the Cambridge Stud draft.

AAP Racing

Race	VRC Poseidon S. L 1400m.
Winner	Inside Agent (NZ) 2013
Owners	Mr J D Clark, Mr M Ramunno, Barnadown Racing 2, Mr M R Marriott, Mr R J Kennelly, Mr A C Myott, Mr D A Miller, Miss J Smith, Mr H J Asher, Mr P Mckay, Mr P D Rossdale, Mr C J Chilton, Mr W C Chilton, Sir P Hogan, Mr P J Walker
Trainer	Nigel Blackiston (Flemington)
Breeding	by Stravinsky (USA) out of Octapussy (AUS) by Octagonal
Breeder	Sir Patrick & Lady Hogan & P J Walker; Waikato; NZ
Sales	2015 National Yearling Sale - Premier Sale V: Cambridge Stud \$180000 P: Nigel Blackiston T/ bred Racing

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FRANCALETTA MAINTAINS UNBEATEN RECORD WITH CLASSY DISPLAY

On a day where punters took a bath supporting a host of well favoured candidates it was unbeaten mare **Francaletta** (High Chaparral) who restored their faith when she dominated her opposition to score handsomely in the Stella Artois sponsored 1400 metre special conditions event at Hastings.

The four-year-old High Chaparral mare, who races in the familiar colours of Wellington businessman Lib Petagna, took her record to three wins from three starts as she provided jockey Michael Coleman with an armchair ride throughout the contest. The experienced Matamata hoop was full of praise for the effort from his mount where she was posted wide for most of the journey after jumping from an outside barrier.

“She always travelled well, despite being a bit green in the straight, and is really a smart mare,” he said.

“I wasn’t worried about being a bit wide as the inside was well off and when we came around the corner I was only three-wide and in the best part of the ground.

“She is going to win a

good race somewhere along the way.”

Petagna’s racing manager Bruce Perry was a relieved figure after the contest having seen another of the JML Bloodstock team lose his unbeaten record in the previous event when Zacinto colt Ugo Foscolo (NZ) could only run sixth in the Gr. 2 Sacred Falls Hawke’s Bay Guineas.

“We’re delighted as Michael rode her beautifully,” he said.

“She’s unbeaten in three now but so was Ugo Foscolo and we got our butts kicked there. That’s racing though so we’re pleased to get this one.

“I’ll leave any future plans up to her trainers, Andrew (Forsman) and Murray (Baker), but I think there could be a black-type option somewhere along

the way for her.”

Plans for Ugo Foscolo, who started favourite in the Hawkes Bay Guineas, are also up in the air although Perry did note a run in the Gr. 3 James & Annie Sarten Memorial Stakes (1400m) at Te Rapa in late October is a distinct possibility.

- NZ Racing Desk

Race	Hawkes Bay Stella Artois S. 1400m.
Winner	Francaletta (AUS) 2012
Owners	JML Bloodstock Ltd (Mgr L Petagna)
Trainer	Murray Baker & Andrew Forsman (Cambridge)
Breeding	by High Chaparral (IRE) out of Snow peak (GB) by Arazi (USA)
Breeder	Raffles Dancers (NZ) Pty Ltd



High Chaparral mare Francaletta enhanced her growing reputation at Hastings on Saturday





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LUCY KEEN ON COUPLANDS MILE WITH HEAVENS KEEP

Awapuni trainer Lucy Tanner got the performance she was looking for from stable favourite **Heavens Keep (NZ)** (Savabeel) when he delivered a big effort to capture the Tumu ITM sponsored 1600 metre contest at Hastings on the weekend.

Tanner knew her six-year-old Savabeel gelding had to run in the money to justify her plan to contest the Gr. 2 Coupland's Bakeries Mile at Riccarton next month. The late bloomer had displayed plenty of promise in his last campaign where he won four of his 13 starts with Tanner keen to step him up to top company this season if his form warranted it.

Two starts in his current campaign had seen the gelding improve his fitness with Tanner and rider Johnathan Parkes confident he could deliver on the weekend. The pair had devised a plan to sit back off an expected hot tempo on Saturday and that played out beautifully as Parkes slotted Heavens Keep in behind a torrid pace set by Maid Of Steel (NZ) (Guillotine) and Strada Cavallo (NZ) (Alamosa).

Parkes bided his time nicely and once angled into the clear Heavens Keep dashed home in the straight to score narrowly but well and confirm he is on target for his Riccarton mission.

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Heavens Keep (purple blinkers) puts himself in the picture for a feature race start with a gritty win





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LUCY KEEN ON COUPLANDS MILE WITH HEAVENS KEEP

(Continued from page 5)

“He didn’t jump away that great so I was able to slot across to three back the fence which wasn’t a bad spot to be in,” explained Parkes after the contest.

“At the top of the straight I had to wait for the run but once he got out into the clear he let down like a good horse.”

Tanner was understandably excited when interviewed after the race as her charge came back to the winner’s enclosure.

“I’m very very happy as I thought he would go a good race as he usually takes a couple to get to full fitness so we were expecting a better performance,” she said.

“His coat is finally falling out now so it’s onwards and upwards from here, bring on the Couplands Mile.”

Tanner has a plan in place to get to the Group Two Riccarton feature on the 9th of November with one to two more starts for her charge over the next month.

“We’ll have a couple of more runs now but it was

imperative we ran first, second or third today,” she explained.

“I was confident with him as he needed his first two starts so now we’ve had the win we can move forward. You have to look ahead and keep planning so that’s what we are going to do.”

Bookmakers reacted to the win by trimming the gelding’s odds to \$21 for the Coupland’s Bakeries Mile where he currently sits 31st in the order of entry before any ratings adjustment is assessed from his victory on the weekend.

- NZ Racing Desk

Race	Hawkes Bay Tumu ITM H. 1600m.
Winner	Heavens Keep (NZ) 2010
Owners	L C Hickman & Mrs L E Tanner
Trainer	Lucy Tanner (Awapuni)
Breeding	by Savabeel (AUS) out of Eden (AUS) by Zeditave (AUS)
Breeder	D G B Fell; Central; NZ



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ROSIE ALL SMILES AFTER PROFILE DELIVERS

Rider Rosie Myers was feeling confident of a good performance from her mount **Profile (NZ)** (Volksraad) in the lead-up to her assignment in rating 75 company at Hastings on Saturday and she wasn't disappointed as the promising mare delivered in fine style in the penultimate race of the three-day Hawkes Bay carnival.

Myers has been aboard the lightly raced five-year-old in all of her six starts to date and isn't about to give up the association any time soon after the combination recorded their third victory when downing pacemaker Henree Winkler (NZ) (Rip Van Winkle) in the shadows of the winning post on Saturday.

"I think we probably got back a little further than I intended but she has such an amazing turn of foot I wasn't too concerned," she explained.

"She won her first two races and has only been out of the money once so she's done a good job as she's had a few problems as well.

"She is a very nice mare and I think we will be picking up some black-type in the near future."

Co-trainer Emma Haworth, who prepares the Volksraad mare with father David, admitted to some worries during the contest when her charge was near the rear in the early running.

"I was a little worried as she was well back early on but she is a class mare and we're pretty excited about her future," she said.

"She was a late starter who didn't do anything until she was a four-year-old. She hasn't got the best knees so we have



Profile and Rosie Myers storm home on the outer to grab the mare's third career win

to be careful where we place her.

"She was unlucky at Wanganui where she ran second in her first run this time in. We were a little nervous about the sticky track today but she's just so tough that she puts her head down and gives it her all every time.

"I'm not too sure where to from here but we'll get her home and see how she pulls up and make a plan from there."

- NZ Racing Desk

Race	Hawkes Bay Hastings Heart of the Bay H. 1400m.
Winner	Profile (NZ) 2011
Owners	C R Grace QSM
Trainer	David & Emma Haworth (Foxton)
Breeding	by Volksraad (GB) out of Kapastar by Kaapstad
Breeder	C R Grace; Central; NZ





MAYBE MIAMI CEMENTS COUPLAND'S BID WITH RICCARTON VICTORY

It was mission accomplished for trainers Kevin & Pam Hughes when their classy sprinter-miler **Maybe Miami (NZ)** (Iffraaj) scored a gritty win in Saturday's Coupland's Bakeries Mile Prelude (1400m) at Riccarton.

The five-year-old Iffraaj gelding

has the Gr. 2 Coupland's Bakeries Mile on the 9th of November as his main spring assignment and has now cemented his place in the final field with the victory. That allows Kevin Hughes the luxury of choice when it comes to a final lead-up run in preparation for the feature mile during next month's Christchurch Cup Week.

"We were pretty sure he was going to make the field on his current rating but that win has taken away any pressure there may have been to get him in the race," noted Hughes.

"It was a good tough win on Saturday as he raced pretty fiercely during the run but he certainly didn't chuck it away in the straight.

"He will most likely have one more start before Cup Week but I'm just not sure where that will be as there are a couple of nice options for him."

Hughes is eyeing up an open 1600 metre event at the Ashburton meeting

on 15 October as the preferred option for his charge who has now won five of his 16 career starts.

"I'm keen on the race at Ashburton as he goes well there but it will depend on what sort of track is presented," he advised.

"It can get very firm there so I wouldn't run him if it was like that. There is also a nice 1400 metre race on his home track a week after Ashburton so it is good to have that option as well.

"The track on Saturday was just perfect with a little give in it which is what he prefers. He went well in the Winter Cup on a heavy track but if he can get something more like Saturday's surface then he is going to be competitive in anything he lines up in."

Hughes was also delighted for apprentice Tanya Jonker who guided Bonaparte (NZ) (Showcasing) to an all-the-way win for the stable earlier in the day.

"I was rapt for Tanya as she did exactly what I asked her to do and she deserved to get the victory," he said.

"The horse had been a bit of a rogue in his early days but he put a couple of wins together at the end of his last campaign and has come up really well this time in.

"I don't think that will be his last win based on that performance." –

NZ Racing Desk

Race	North Canterbury RC Coupland's Bakeries Mile Prelude 1400m.
Winner	Maybe Miami (NZ) 2011
Owners	B C Thomas
Trainer	Kevin & Pam Hughes (Riccarton Park)
Breeding	by Iffraaj (GB) out of Miami by Waikiki Star (USA)
Breeder	A W Jones & Mrs E W Morris; Canterbury; NZ
Sales	2013 National Yearling Sale - Select Session V: Berkley Stud \$31000 P: NZB as agent 2013 Ready to Run Sale V: Regal Farm \$20000 P: BC Thomas



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Monday 3 October 2016

NZ STALLION AWARDS

THE CENTAINE AWARD

STALLIONS	EARNINGS
PINS	\$1,297,812
DARCI BRAHMA	\$1,205,864
SAVABEEL	\$1,205,567
THORN PARK	\$978,452
O'REILLY	\$740,813
PER INCANTO	\$685,852
MASTERCRAFTSMAN	\$656,992
ZABEEL	\$608,006
SHOCKING	\$591,841
IFFRAAJ	\$572,935

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

THE DEWAR STALLION TROPHY

STALLIONS	EARNINGS
PINS	\$929,328
SAVABEEL	\$916,210
SHOCKING	\$566,950
ZABEEL	\$514,030
DARCI BRAHMA	\$486,424
MASTERCRAFTSMAN	\$444,600
O'REILLY	\$417,504
TAVISTOCK	\$391,085
PER INCANTO	\$378,170
PENTIRE	\$336,368

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

THE GROSVENOR AWARD

STALLIONS	EARNINGS
SAVABEEL	\$416,845
IFFRAAJ	\$252,475
DARCI BRAHMA	\$209,149
PER INCANTO	\$205,540
TAVISTOCK	\$192,820
SHINKO KING	\$175,705
EL HERMANO	\$173,825
FASTNET ROCK	\$169,240
AUSSIE RULES	\$161,250
KEEPER	\$154,045

BEST PERFORMERS	EARNINGS
KAWI	\$250,000
THE SOULTAKER	\$52,000
PERSUASIVE	\$33,000
SARACINO	\$62,500
PACORUS	\$51,025
MEGABLAST	\$51,425
EL PESCADO	\$57,500
MONGOLIAN FALCON	\$77,000
WILLIE CAZALS	\$161,250
LORD BEAVER	\$18,475

Criteria: Leading Sires by Earnings in New Zealand



Monday 3 October 2016

NZ BRED WINNERS IN HONG KONG SEPTEMBER 28

HORSE & BREEDING	BREEDER	RACE	SALES DETAILS
MI SAVVY BOY (NZ) 2009 by Savabeel (AUS) out of Mi Centie by Centaine (AUS)	M C Fong; Auckland; NZ	HKJC Begonia H. 1650m.	
SHINING CHAMPION (NZ) 2010 by Thorn Park (AUS) out of Catalina Lady by Flying Spur (AUS)	Mrs J Broome	HKJC Magnolia H. 1200m.	

NZ BRED WINNERS IN HONG KONG OCTOBER 1

HORSE & BREEDING	BREEDER	RACE	SALES DETAILS
Fortune Road – CHEERFUL BOY (H.K.) (NZ) 2011 by Road to Rock (AUS) out of Hanabananah (AUS) by King Charlemagne (USA)	Nearco Stud Limited; Waikato; NZ	HKJC Chongqing H. 1600m.	2012 National Weanling; Broodmare & Mixed Sale; V: Highden Park P: Lime Country Thoroughbreds Ltd; \$30,000
Cousin Colin – AMAZING KIDS (H.K.) (NZ) 2011 by Falkirk out of Cadence by Rhythm (USA)	Colyton Road Holdings Ltd; Central; NZ	HKJC National Day Cup Gr.3 1000m.	
KING'S MAN (NZ) 2012 by Iffraaj (GB) out of Ruqqaya by Van Nistelrooy (USA)	Trelawney Thoroughbred Ltd	HKJC Nanjing Handicap 1400m.	2014 Ready to Run Sale of 2YOs; V: Mana Park P: Mr R Yiu; \$85,000

NZ BRED WINNERS IN SINGAPORE SEPTEMBER 30

HORSE & BREEDING	BREEDER	RACE	SALES DETAILS
ENTHUSE (NZ) 2012 by Coats Choice (AUS) out of Proms by Centaine (AUS)	A W Jones & Mrs E W Morris; Canterbury; NZ	Singapore TC Class 5 H. 1000m.	2014 South Island Yearling & Mixed Sale; V: Berkley Stud, P: Taikorea T/breds Ltd; \$11,000 2014 Ready to Run Sale; V: Taikorea Thoroughbreds Ltd, P: NZB as agent; \$47,500
DISTINCTIVE DARCI (NZ) 2013 by Darci Brahma out of Distinctive Lass (AUS) by Orientate (USA)	Nearco Stud Limited; Waikato; NZ	Singapore TC Class 4 H. 1100m.	2015 National Yearling Sale - Premier Sale; V: Curraghmore Stud, P: Te Akau Racing; \$100,000

