

Sunday 7 July 2019

MISS MANDITO GIVES LITTLEFIELD FIRST CITY WIN



Miss Mandito in full stretch on her way to winning the Leilani Series Final (1400m) at Flemington on Saturday. (Bruno Cannatelli)

Miss Mandito (NZ), a four-year-old daughter of Valachi Downs sire Zacinto, has brought up a milestone for Charlotte Littlefield at Flemington, giving the trainer her first city winner in the Leilani Series Final.

With Michael Walker aboard, Miss Mandito defeated favourite El Questro (Lago Delight) by a half neck in Saturday's A\$125,000 race for mares over 1400m, with another length to Something Silver (Medaglia D'oro) third.

"I'm shaking I'm so happy," Littlefield, who has been training for three years, said.

"She was absolutely super.

"This is what dreams are made of. I don't think you can put into words what it means to me. It's a whole team effort.

"We were just desperate to get that city win. It became the elusive city win but now it's finally there.

"And to be at Flemington, that couldn't be any better."

Miss Mandito was racing on a seven-day back-up after a city placing on a wet track at Caulfield last weekend and took her overall record to four wins from 15 starts, having registered three victories in country Victoria last

preparation.

"We chose her from the paddock; I broke her in. It's just really satisfying to have done everything with her and to see her come through and win at Flemington," Littlefield said. -AAP

Race	VRC Leilani Series Final 1400m
Winner	Miss Mandito (NZ) 2014
Owners	Johnno's Syndicate (Mgr: M J Fiteni)
Trainer	Charlotte Littlefield (Pakenham)
Breeding	by Zacinto (GB) out of Mandy O'Reilly by O'Reilly
Breeder	G R Wrigley





Staphanos

New for 2019



- By global sire sensation and Japanese Horse of the Year Deep Impact.
- Deep Impact Champion Sire in Japan in 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018. The World's Leading Stallion by progeny earnings for 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018.
- Deep Impact - His eight crops of racing age have collectively earned more than \$600 million and won 260 stakes races.
- Deep Impact has highest advertised service fee in the world at \$540,000.
- Staphanos - Multiple Group One performer in Japan.
- Staphanos - Multiple Group One performer in Hong Kong.
- Precocious - Winner as a 2yo.
- Ability - One of Japan's top ranked horses as a 3yo, 4yo, 5yo and 6yo winning in excess of NZ\$1m in each season.
- Class - Timeform Rated 123.
- Staphanos is the winner of \$NZ 6.2m - making him the highest stake earner at stud in New Zealand.
- Turn of Foot - Last 600m in 32.9 winning the Group Three Tokyo Fuji Stakes.
- Speed - Track record breaker in the Group Naruo Kinen running 1.57.6 over 2000m.
- Staphanos is an outstanding physical type.

GROUP ONE

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COSTA EYES STAKES MOVE FOR GOLD AMBITION

New Zealand-bred gelding **Gold Ambition (NZ)** (Savabeel) has earned himself a chance in stakes company after confirming his reputation as a horse with a mind of his own at Doomben.

Despite coming from well back off a muddling early pace Gold Ambition beat Awake The Stars (Redoute's Choice) by a neck in Saturday's Class 6 Handicap (1600m).

Trainer Michael Costa said the best way to describe the six-year-old was "weird" and having a mind of his own.

"He was on his game today and you could see how well he can finish. We have tried him over a middle distance but really

his best distance is around the 1600m to 800m," Costa said.

"The (Listed) Tattersall's Mile in a fortnight might be the right sort of race for him. He will probably run in it.

"The key to him is keeping him fresh and for 1600m races we can do that."

Gold Ambition has now won A\$450,000 in prize money but Costa believes it could be much more if he race like Saturday in all of his races.

Winning rider Robbie Fradd said his mount had knuckled down well and hit the line hard.

-AAP



Race	BRC Class 6 Hcp 1600m
Winner	Gold Ambition (NZ) 2012
Owners	Z An
Trainer	Michael Costa (Gold Coast)
Breeding	by Savabeel (AUS) out of Senorita Lucy by Senor Pete (USA)
Breeder	Finemore Thoroughbreds Pty Ltd & Planette Thoroughbred Trading Pty Ltd

Gold Ambition earned a shot at stakes success with a win at Doomben on Saturday (AAP)

PREFERMENT *impressive foals...*



Ex Preloved (TEOFILO)



Ex Moodhilla (EXCEED & EXCEL)



Ex Keep Smiling (STRAVINSKY)





BLACK-TYPE TARGETS ON HORIZON FOR JUVENILE WINNERS



Two-year-old filly London Bound cruises to victory in the opening race at Te Rapa (Trish Dunell)

The connections of impressive two-year-old debut winners at Te Rapa and Awapuni on Saturday are eyeing bigger things in the new season.

London Bound (NZ) (Proisir) made a spectacular start to her career in the Win the Group 2 Waikato Guineas (1200m) at Te Rapa. After sitting in last place early in the race, she cruised up behind the leaders approaching the home turn for jockey Craig Grylls.

London Bound took over

effortlessly at the top of the straight and powered clear, winning by seven lengths from the last-start Listed Castletown Stakes (1200m) winner Flaunting (NZ) (Showcasing).

“We’ve always had a big opinion of her and she did it really well today,” said Clayton Chipperfield, who trains the filly for owner Pharos Thoroughbreds.

“I’ve told the owners they have a potential Oaks (2400m) filly on their hands next season. She’s built like a

tank and is bigger than any of my colts. But the way she won today, we might have to look at the 1000 Guineas (Gr.1, 1600m) in November as well. It’s pretty exciting.

“In the meantime, there’s another race at Te Rapa in two weeks that has a Pearl bonus. If she pulls up really well from this run, there’s a chance she might back up there.”

London Bound is the fourth individual winner for Rich Hill Stud’s

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BLACK-TYPE TARGETS ON HORIZON FOR JUVENILE WINNERS

(Continued from page 7)



Lord Bouzeron (inside) defeats Kellys Inspiration on debut at Awapuni for trainer Chrissy Bambray (Race Images PN, Peter Rubery)

first season sire Proisir, the equal most this season alongside Charm Spirit.

Meanwhile, Lord Bouzeron's (NZ) (Burgundy) victory in the Rayner Building 2YO (1200m) at Awapuni has earned him the chance to add to a proud family record in a Listed spring feature.

"I'll probably aim him for the Wanganui Guineas (1340m), which is my favourite race," trainer and part-owner Chrissy Bambray said. "He'll have one more run before that."

Bambray's father Tony won the Wanganui Guineas with Lord Turbo (NZ) (Perfectly Ready) in 2013 and

Alcaldesa (NZ) (Nom Du Jeu) in 2015, while Acquisto (NZ) (Thewayyouare) placed in 2014. This year's edition will be held on September 7.

Lord Bouzeron's winning debut on Saturday was a stylish first step, racing on the pace throughout and taking a clear lead with 300 metres to run.

Kellys Inspiration (NZ) (Burgundy) emerged from the pack with a strong challenge, but Lord Bouzeron held on by a short head. The rest of the field finished almost five lengths adrift.

"I said to Holly (Andrew, jockey) that if he gets into a dogfight, he'll win all day long," Bambray said. "It looked

like the other horse was going to go past, but I knew he'd hold on.

"He reminds me a lot of Lord Turbo, and he's probably a bit more switched on. We've always really rated him and he's got big things ahead."

Lord Bouzeron is by Cambridge Stud stallion Burgundy out of the Pentire mare Threepence (NZ), who is a half-sister to the Auckland Cup (3200m) winner Titch (NZ) (Lord Ballina).

– NZ Racing Desk.

Race	WRC Win the Group 2 Waikato Guineas 1200m
Winner	London Bound (NZ) 2016
Owners	Pharos Thoroughbreds
Trainer	Clayton Chipperfield (Te Awamutu)
Breeding	by Proisir (AUS) out of Open Letter (IRE) by New Approach (IRE)
Breeder	M H Dalgleish

Race	MJC Rayner Building 2YO 1200m
Winner	Lord Bouzeron (NZ) 2016
Owners	Chrissy Bambray and Mrs S K Finnegan
Trainer	Chrissy Bambray (Foxton)
Breeding	by Burgundy out of Threepence by Pentire (GB)
Breeder	J N Wallace
Sales	2018 National Yearling Sales – Book 2; V: Ardsley Stud, P: Mr AI & JK Bambray; \$35,000





SULTAN DELIVERS **SPECIAL WIN**

Te Rapa specialist **Sultan Of Swing (NZ)** (Bachelor Duke) struck again at the Hamilton track on Saturday, providing a poignant result in the U S Navy Flag Foxbridge Plate 17 Aug (1600m).

Winning jockey Taiki Yanagida wore a black armband over the blue, black and green colours of owner-breeder Dominic Li, whose long-time New Zealand racing manager and friend Maryanne Simon lost her father Jim Mead this week.

"It's a tough time for Maryanne, but

I'm pleased the horse could deliver for everybody," trainer Shaune Ritchie said.

Sultan Of Swing has never been beaten at Te Rapa, winning the Gr.3 J Swap Contractors Sprint (1400m) last December in his first start at the track and scoring a last-start win over 1600 metres on June 8.

On Saturday he delivered again. After dropping back to last in the early stages of the race, the six-year-old swooped around the outside to hit the lead with 250 metres to run. Andoyas (Lando) chased hard and got within

half a length, but Sultan Of Swing held on to complete the 10th win of his 34-start career.

"He was detached early, but he got to the right part of the track and won well," Ritchie said.

"He's turning into a bit of an iron horse. He's been up for a long time, but we're still waiting for him to hit the brick wall.

"We keep spacing his races out, running every three or four weeks, which seems to help."

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Course specialist Sultan Of Swing maintains his perfect record at Te Rapa (Trish Dunell)





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SULTAN DELIVERS SPECIAL WIN

(Continued from page 6)

Sultan Of Swing is closing in on the \$300,000 mark, with today's win lifting his career earnings to \$290,914.

Yanagida admitted to some nerves when he saw the yellow and blue colours of his employers, Lance O'Sullivan and Andrew Scott, closing in down the home straight.

"I galloped Andoyas the other day and he went quite well, so I was keeping an eye on him," he said. "But luckily my horse was better this time.

"He was sleeping in the first 400

metres, but I gave him a little squeeze after that and he turned the engine on. He ran home really well and concentrated nicely all the way."

Sultan Of Swing is one of five winners from five foals to race out of the High Chaparral mare Queen Cha Cha (NZ) (High Chaparral). He is a half-brother to the Li-bred Suavito (NZ) (Thorn Park), who won eight races including the Gr.1 Futurity Stakes (1400m) and Gr.1 CF Orr Stakes (1400m). – NZ Racing Desk.

Race	WRC U S Navy Flag Foxbridge Plate 17 Aug 1600m
Winner	Sultan of Swing (NZ) 2012
Owners	IDL Racing
Trainer	Shaune Ritchie (Cambridge)
Breeding	by Bachelor Duke (USA) out of Queen Cha Cha by High Chaparral (IRE)
Breeder	IDL Racing

NEWS IN BRIEF

Kaapfever returns to form

The Joseph Pride-trained Kaapfever (Sufficient) was back to his winning best on Saturday taking out the Randwick Mayors BM78 (2400m) at Randwick.

The four-year-old son of Sufficient was disappointing last start but relished conditions on Saturday finishing strongly on the Heavy9 track to hold off a challenge from runner-up Our Candidate (Camelot).

Jockey Rachel King was impressed with the run and felt his race fitness got him over the line.

"He loved the track and with a couple of 2400m runs under the belt, he got the trip today," she said.

Kaapfever trialled twice in New Zealand before joining Pride's Warwick Farm-based stable early last year.



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HERENGAWE ON CUPS PATH

With a strong performance at Awapuni on Saturday, emerging wet-track performer **Herengawe (NZ)** (Zed) produced a bold audition for next month's Gr.3 Winning Edge Presentations 122nd Winter Cup (1600m) at Riccarton.

A last-start Rating 72 winner, Herengawe was thrown in at the deep end on Saturday and tackled open class for the first time in the Grant Plumbing (1400m).

With Lisa Allpress in the saddle, the four-year-old son of Zed sprinted superbly through the mud to go from last to first and beat the front-running King Cougar (NZ) (Alamosa) by a length and a quarter.

"He's quite an exciting horse, a good up-and-comer," Waverley trainer Joanne Moss said.

"He's gone through the grades nicely this season, he's just cruising along and seems to be a happy horse.

"It was a really good win today. You take every win as it comes in this game, because they're not easy to get.

"We've nominated him for the Winter Cup next month, so

we'll see what happens. The plan was to run in this race first, and if he went well, have a go at the Opunake Cup (1400m) in a couple of weeks. Then we could carry on to the Winter Cup after that. But we'll be watching the weather as well, so we'll just see how we go."

Herengawe has now had 12 starts for five wins, three placings and \$79,685 in stakes for his owner-breeder, champion jumps jockey Isaac Lupton. All of his five wins have come this season.

"He's got that natural maturity now, with this being his second full prep," Lupton said. "He seems to really like the wet tracks, so we'll just keep targeting those."

Four of Herengawe's five wins have

Herengawe (outside) defeats King Cougar at Awapuni on Saturday (Race Images PN, Peter Rubery)

come on heavy tracks, with the only exception being a victory on a Dead5 at Hawera last October.

Herengawe had been rated a \$16 chance in the Winter Cup market prior to Saturday's win, but now shares \$8 second favouritism with Red Sierra (NZ) (Redwood). Rosewood (NZ) (Redwood) heads the market at \$6.

Saturday's runner-up King Cougar is now rated a \$14 chance for the Winter Cup, while third-placed Dougie is not nominated. She's Poppy (NZ) (Alamosa) and Comeback (NZ) (Makfi), who completed the five-horse field, are now at \$14 and \$18 respectively.

– NZ Racing Desk.

Race	MJC Grant Plumbing (1400m)
Winner	Herengawe (NZ) 2014
Owners	I A Lupton
Trainer	Joanne Moss (Waverley)
Breeding	by Zed out of Vim by Germano (GB)
Breeder	I A Lupton





CUP TEST FOR UNICORN AS SO'S YOUNGSTER AIMS FOR BACK-UP WIN

Chris So's exciting youngster **Classic Unicorn (NZ)** (Per Incanto) will aim to build on his impressive debut win when he takes his place in the Class 3 Members Cup Handicap (1000m) at Sha Tin on Sunday.

The three-year-old showed immaturity first time out but his talent shone through as he cruised to a comfortable two and three-quarter length win.

"He's a young horse and even you can tell he's just a baby, he still has to learn," So said.

"He still needs to learn and in his trial he seemed alright, but when he's put under pressure he doesn't know yet. For now, he won't go for 1200m, the straight is easier for him, he has a lot of speed and he doesn't need to worry about figuring out the turn."

Classic Unicorn arrival as an unraced New Zealand import with two

barrier trials under his belt and So has been impressed since day one.

"That's why after the first trial here, I gave it to the champ (Zac Purton) to try," So revealed. "We knew the horse even when he trialed in New Zealand, he won by 12 lengths, we saw the replay of the trial - we know he has a lot of speed."

Classic Unicorn was put through his paces in a trial on the dirt late last

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Impressive debut winner Classic Unicorn will be out to build on his record on Sunday (HKJC)





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CUP TEST FOR UNICORN AS SO'S YOUNGSTER AIMS FOR BACK-UP WIN

(Continued from page 9)

month, finishing off in an untested manner under Jack Wong. Derek Leung takes the race day reins from Zac Purton on Sunday, with the champion jockey - unable to ride at Classic Unicorn's allotted 116lb - set to partner Seven Heavens (133lb).

"I galloped him in the morning and he gave me a great feel," Leung said. "He has a very good action and last time he won impressively in Class 4. Now, up to Class 3 with a light weight, the race looks good for him."

Leung expects the pace to be a testing one for the inexperienced Per Incanto gelding.

"I can see quite a few horses will go forward, so it will be challenging for him early, for the new horses it is quite difficult when the horses next to him all challenge him," the jockey said.

So is wary of his former boss Caspar Fownes's galloper Seven Heavens (Frankel) who drops back to Class 3 in search of his first Hong Kong win at start 17.

"It's tough, Caspar's horse is also strong, mine is only three years old and he still needs the chance to develop," So said.

Purton, who steered Classic Unicorn to his debut victory, will reunite with Seven Heavens but spoke highly of So's galloper.

"Classic Unicorn's got a lot of speed, he's going to be forward, he's got a light weight and he's coming off a nice win, so he's definitely the one to beat,"

he said.

"He went well (first up), he's still very raw, he did a little bit wrong but he was still too good and he's always shown in all his trials that there is something there. He'd take a bit of a confidence out of that and he should be hard to beat again," he added.

Purton's mount Seven Heavens was luckless in defeat over this course and distance three starts ago when blocked for a run over the closing stages, and, following the demotion of

the winner, he was promoted to third.

"I mentioned to Caspar a long time ago that I thought the straight was probably going to be a nice track and distance for him and he's probably run his best race at this track and distance," Purton said.

"He gets the drop in grade - the tempo of this distance suits him and he doesn't have to think too much because he's going in a straight line."

-HKJC





DERBY BECKONS FOR EASY DOES IT

Easy Does It (NZ) (Super Easy) had to win Friday's S\$50,000 Class 4 race over 1600m in Singapore to keep his Derby dreams alive – and he rose to the occasion in style.

With talented apprentice jockey Simon Kok Wei Hoong in the irons, the son of Super Easy was in a striking position right from the start.

Dropped into the box seat, he always had leader Cracking Tottie (NZ) (So You Think) in his sights before popping up as the main threat when he was peeled off for his run at the corner.

He did, however, glance past Shadow Speed (Dabirsim) twice in the process, but once he was on the straight and narrow, he responded to Kok's urgings to peg Cracking Tottie back and sustain a powerful gallop to the line.

On the line, Easy Does It had three-quarter length to spare from a very gallant Cracking Tottie with Yulong Sheng Long (Pendragon) third another 1 ¾ lengths away. The winning time was 1min

36.18secs for the metric mile.

With trainer Stephen Gray having jetted back to England to put in the finishing touches to Singapore sprinter Lim's Cruiser's (Casino Prince) prep towards a second tilt at a race there (either the Gr.1 Darley July (1200m) at Newmarket on July 13 or the Gr.2 Lennox Stakes (1400m) at Goodwood on July 30), it was his wife Bridget who deputised for the post-race debrief at Kranji.

"He's a nice horse. He should have won first-up (from an 18-month spell), but he got checked," said Gray.

"Steve has always thought well of him - since he was a three-year-old. He had to win tonight to make it for the Derby and he's done it well.

"It was his first time over the mile and on the way he finished off, he should be able to see out the 1800m as well."

The Singapore Derby (1800m) is the third and final Leg of the Singapore Four-Year-Old Challenge and will be run on July 21.

Kok said getting thrown onto horses like Easy Does It makes his job easier, and that gelding certainly lived up to his name



A strong win on Friday night has Easy Does It in the mix for a Singapore Derby start (STC)

throughout the race.

"He's a horse who has good speed and can switch off and relax," said the Ipoh-born rider.

"There was a solid pace to the race and it suited him nicely. I just made sure I didn't use too much petrol at the beginning and in the middle stage.

"He hit the line strongly and I think the three-kilo claim helped him, too."

With that third success, Easy Does It has now taken his prizemoney past the S\$110,000 mark for the Easy Does It Stable, a syndicate made up mostly of New Zealanders. -STC

Race	STC C4 1600m
Winner	Easy Does It (NZ) 2014
Owners	Easy Does It Stable
Trainer	Stephen Gray (Singapore)
Breeding	by Super Easy out of Nova by Almutawakel (GB)
Breeder	D E & E Y Nakhle
Sales	2015 National Weanling, Broodmare & Mixed Bloodstock Sale; V: Westbury Stud, P: Kilgravin Lodge; \$20,000 – 2016 Ready To Run Sale of 2YOS; V: Kilgravin Lodge, P: Mr S Gray; \$70,000

