

Sunday 23 June 2019

SLEEPING BEAUTY TAKES OUT TAURANGA CLASSIC



Sleeping Beauty is clear of Art Deco (outer) and New York Minute as she heads to the winning post at Tauranga (Trish Dunell)

Class performer **Sleeping Beauty (NZ)** (Rip Van Winkle) underlined her credentials on the deep winter tracks when she out-toughed her female rivals to take out the Listed Ultimate Ford and Mazda Tauranga Classic (1400m) under weight-for-age conditions at Tauranga on Saturday.

The six-year-old Rip Van Winkle mare has fashioned an impeccable record on wet tracks having now won five of her ten starts, along with a further three placings on tracks rated in the Heavy range.

Faced with a puggy Heavy11 surface, the Lance O'Sullivan and Andrew Scott-trained runner took

no prisoners as she bounced well from the starting gates to sit outside pacemaker New York Minute (NZ) (Iffraaj) throughout.

Rider Craig Grylls took the initiative with 700m to run as he drove his charge to the lead before establishing a winning break shortly after turning

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Michael Cox - Former South China Morning Post and now The Age racing writer.

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SLEEPING BEAUTY TAKES OUT TAURANGA CLASSIC

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for home. Despite feeling the effects of her earlier exertions in the final 200m, Sleeping Beauty rallied gamely to win by a length and threequarters from Taranaki visitor Art Deco (NZ) (Road to Rock) with New York Minute a nose back in third.

Co-trainer Andrew Scott paid tribute to the gritty nature of his charge after the race.

“She was up on speed and Craig had to make a move on her which had us worried that it might fire her up, but she has kept up a really strong gallop,” he said.

“She’s just so versatile and can handle any ground, she’s just a really good racehorse.”

Bred and owned by Sir Peter Vela, Scott was quick to mention how the victory would be received at Vela’s Pencarrow Stud operation.

“We were out at Pencarrow Stud on Monday and all the staff out there will get a great kick out of this,” he said.

“They all work hard in behind the scenes so to see this mare crack on and get the money makes it a good team effort.

“She seems to be getting more tractable and is learning to race.

“It is very encouraging so fingers crossed we can crack on to the Foxbridge Plate (Gr.2 1200m) and those early stakes races.”

Grylls was also impressed with the effort by his mount who made it two black-type wins in a row after taking out the Gr.3 Rotorua Stakes (1400m) at her last start.

“She jumped really good although we had to do a bit of work to get outside the leader,” Grylls said.

“She settled nice and travelled

really strong throughout and I was just hoping that she would keep going through it (the ground) when I let her head go.

“I could hear them coming but she had done enough so it was a good effort.”

A daughter of Danehill mare Kailey Princess, Sleeping Beauty has now won ten of her 23 starts and over \$238,000 in prizemoney.

– NZ Racing Desk

Race	BOP RC Tauranga Classic L 1400m
Winner	Sleeping Beauty (NZ) 2012
Owners	Sir Peter Vela
Trainer	Lance O’Sullivan & Andrew Scott (Matamata)
Breeding	by Rip Van Winkle (IRE) out of Kailey Princess (AUS) by Danehill (USA)
Breeder	P J & P M Vela Ltd



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SHOWCASING TO THE FORE AT ROYAL ASCOT

Racing at Royal Ascot on Friday delivered a Group One winner for former Haunui Farm shuttle stallion Showcasing.

The Gr.1 Commonwealth Cup (1200m) for three-year-olds was won by **Advertise**, who kept up the winning run of jockey Frankie Dettori when scoring by a length and a half. The Martyn Meade trained Showcasing colt won the Gr.1 Phoenix Stakes (1200m) last season at two and was second in the Gr.1 Dewhurst Stakes

(1400m) at Newmarket.

He failed to stay a mile when running first up in the Gr.1 2,000 Guineas (1600m), but found his best form dropped back to his favoured sprint trip.

"I'm so pleased for Martyn. His horses were sick in the spring and Advertise ran badly in the Guineas. He had to bite the bullet and close his stables for a month and he's got his reward," said Frankie Dettori.

A 60,000-pound purchase for

Dermot Farrington from the Goffs Doncaster Yearling Sale, Advertise runs for Phoenix Thoroughbred Ltd and has the impressive record of four wins and two seconds from seven starts.

Showcasing, a son of Oasis Dream, commenced stud duties at Haunui Farm in the 2011 breeding season and has met with remarkable success since his first crop hit the racetracks in New Zealand in the 2014-15 term when he was the Champion Two-Year-Old Sire (on stake earnings) and leading First

Season Sire.

Showcasing's leading progeny include the 2015 Karaka Million 2YO (1200m) winner Hardline, Gr.2 Wakefield Challenge Stakes (1200m) winners Showboy and Xpression and Gr.3 winners Carnival (CJC Stewards Handicap, 1200m) and Bit Lippy (Taranaki 2YO Classic, 1200m).

Despite ceasing shuttle duties to New Zealand in 2018, Showcasing will still be represented at the National Yearling sales in 2020 and 2021 with his final two crops.



Showcasing





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CHOUXTING THE MOB WINS AGAIN AT FLEMINGTON

Under the urgings of champion jockey Damien Oliver, Simon Morrish-trained **Chouxting The Mob (NZ)** (Jimmy Choux) has overhauled his rivals to continue his winning run in a staying race at Flemington.

The five-year-old gelding went into Saturday's Great Ocean Road Handicap (2520m) having won his past three starts and knuckled down to his task in the final 200m on a soft track to extend his winning streak.

Chouxting The Mob, the \$2.15 favourite, defeated Flow Meter (Danerich) by a long neck with Last Week (Tamayuz) another neck away third.

"As I continue to say, I don't know how good he is but he is a real stayer," Morrish said.

"I'd love to see 3000-metre, 3200-metre races for him.

"He's a credit to himself and it was a great ride."

Just like two weeks ago

when Chouxting The Mob also won at Flemington over 2500m, Saturday's race was a heat of the Banjo Paterson Series.

The final of the series is a \$150,000 race over 2600m at the same track in two weeks, which Morrish said looks a logical option.

"It's pretty hard to throw last start winners out into the paddock," Morrish said.

"But he's been terrific to us and I don't want to hurt him. We'll just see how he pulls up. The Final is there in a fortnight and we'll see what happens.

"I think it's the obvious thing to do but we'll see how he pulls up."

Race	VRC Great Ocean Road H. 2520m
Winner	Chouxting the Mob (NZ) 2013
Owners	Mr RD Wood, Ms SG Kalinowsky, Mr MJ Kalinowsky, Mr BM Kent, Mr BW Kalinowsky, Mr TR Whyte, Mr GF Amaranti, Mrs DS Amaranti, Mr JR Walker, Mr JR Lindsay, Mr GJ Berrell, Mr NK Peebles, Mr RJ Berven, Mr MJ Grace, Mr PF Jones, Mr W English, Mr MS Robertson, Miss MA Hull, Mr AP Wilson
Trainer	Simon Morrish (Ballarat)
Breeding	by Jimmy Choux out of Bidthemobgooday (AUS) by Reset (AUS)
Breeder	Chouxmaani Investments Ltd



Chouxting The Mob gets up at Flemington to record his fourth win in a row (Bruno Cannatelli)

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LIL MISS SWISS CLAIMS AMBERLEY CUP

Under-rated mare **Lil Miss Swiss (NZ)** (Rip Van Winkle) produced a devastating late burst to snatch victory in Saturday's feature flat race at Riccarton, the Greenwood Amberley Cup (1600m).

Dropped out to a clear last in a strung-out field by apprentice rider Tanya Jonker, the Rip Van Winkle five-year-old looked a forlorn hope when still spotting the leaders a conservative ten lengths at the 800m mark.

Set alight by Jonker down the outside rail in the home straight, Lil Miss Swiss claimed the lead in the final bound as she denied evergreen galloper Scapolo (NZ) (Bachelor Duke) a fairy tale conclusion in his 78th and final start, as she snatched the victory by a short head.

Co-trainer Kelvin Tyler, who prepares Lil Miss Swiss with daughter Aimee at the venue, advised the team has bigger things in store for their charge later in the winter.

"That is the only way to ride her, drop her out and come around them," Tyler said.

"Tanya knows her well although I did think it might be a bit short for her (Lil Miss Swiss) today and maybe not quite wet enough.

"I know she is well as she has been working the track down and she is in a good place.

"We don't have a lot of races down here for these staying types, so possibly we will take her north for the Parliamentary Handicap (Trentham,



Apprentice Tanya Jonker poses with co-trainer Kelvin Tyler and Lil Miss Swiss at Riccarton (Race Images South)

July 13) next."

The victory was the 6th in a 38-start career for Lil Miss Swiss who had also taken out the Listed Riverton Cup (2170m) earlier in the year.

Class performer Scapolo tried hard to claim his 21st career victory after trainer Kevin Myers advised the race would be the last in a wonderful career that commenced back in 2011 when placed in a Listed juvenile event at his raceday debut. The Bachelor Duke nine-year-old proved a model of consistency throughout his career which saw him claim victory at

stakes level on four occasions while also registering 14 stakes placings including finishing third in the 2016 Gr.1 Haunui Farm Group One WFA Classic (1600m).

– NZ Racing Desk

Race	Amberley RC Amberley Cup 1600m
Winner	Lil Miss Swiss (NZ) 2013
Owners	K L Tyler
Trainer	Kelvin Tyler & Aimee Tyler (Riverton)
Breeding	by Rip Van Winkle (IRE) out of Miss Swiss (AUS) by Flying Spur (AUS)
Breeder	A K K Wong & S Y S Yan





VALANTE DEFIES HIS PURSUERS IN KIWIFRUIT CUP

A gutsy front-running effort saw tough as teak gelding **Valante (NZ)** (Tavistock) defy his rivals to run him down in the Orora Kiwi Packaging Kiwifruit Cup (2100m) at Tauranga.

The Graeme Lord-trained seven-year-old was niggled at in front throughout the entire 2100m journey but refused to lie down as he fought off the late challenges of The Kipling Girl (High Chaparral) and Redcayenne (NZ) (Bullbars) to take out the major spoils in the event.

Almost hoarse after cheering home his charge, Lord admitted the stars had aligned for a race he had been targeting for some time.

“The puggy track was what he had been waiting for all winter,” Lord said.

“This was one of the races I had been setting him for and when we went to Ruakaka last week it was a bit of a bonus running third. If he had of won, we knew he would still be getting into this on the minimum (weight).

“He won at Waipa a year ago on a puggy track and to have 53kgs on his back today was a bonus.

“He’s one tough boy and I’m just rapt.”

Rider Donovan Mansour admitted he wasn’t certain of victory when the challenges kept coming but praised the toughness of his mount over the concluding stages.

“He makes you earn your riding fee,” he said.

“It was very sticky out there and when those horses looked to come past me in the last 50m he actually put his head down and got to the line.

“I thought I was going have to give up the lead at one point and coming to the 800m I wasn’t confident at all.

“You’re not quite sure how well you’re going but he just dug down deep and he did it well.”

Raced by a large syndicate that includes former trainer Peter McKay, his wife Kim and Lord himself, Valante had been earmarked for a jumping career when sent to Lord but his form on the flat has seen him remain untested over fences to date where he has now picked up his sixth career victory.

– NZ Racing Desk

Race	BOP RC Orora Kiwi Packaging Kiwifruit Cup 2100m
Winner	Valante (NZ) 2011
Owners	Peter & Kim McKay, Peter Reid, Kim Hughes, Melissa Armit, Wally O’Hearn, Wayne Lowen, Graeme Lord, John McGifford & Paul Claridge
Trainer	Graeme Lord (Cambridge)
Breeding	by Tavistock out of Steal (AUS) by Red Ransom (USA)
Breeder	D J Myers
Sales	2013 National Yearling Sale - Premier Sale V: Haunui Farm \$40000 P: PN & K McKay



Valante (middle) clings gamely to his lead at Tauranga (Trish Dunell)





BAERTSCHIGER FRIDAY'S KING OF THE KIDS

Nobody could begrudge trainer Shane Baertschiger for earning the tag of “king of the kids” in Singapore on Friday night after three of his two-year-olds won one after another – the well-backed trio of **Charming Diamond (NZ)** (Showcasing), **No Regrets (NZ)** (Showcasing) and **Hotshots Slam (NZ)** (Swiss Ace).

For good measure, No Regrets, a son of Showcasing, saluted in the highlight of the night, the third Leg of the Singapore Golden Horseshoe series, the S\$75,000 IRT Juvenile Stakes over 1200m while the other two, Charming Diamond, also by Showcasing, and Hotshots Slam, who is by Swiss Ace, landed the two Restricted Maiden races, both run over 1100m on Polytrack.

As if the night could not get any better, Baertschiger later went on to make it a sensational four-in-a-row with debutant Wassergeist, a son of Fastnet Rock he raced in Melbourne with trainer Trent Busuttin.

The Australian handler certainly has an embarrassment of riches in the two-year-old ranks this year. After the treble feat, he singled out Hotshots Slam as the most impressive of the three winners, even professing he might be the best of his batch of juveniles this year.

“The barrier (nine) was a concern for Hotshots Slam. He was caught three wide but he won well – he could



Hotshots Slam scores as he pleases even after being trapped three deep (Singapore Turf Club)

be my best two-year-old this year,” said Baertschiger after Hotshots Slam clocked a quick time of 1 min 5.19secs without being fully extended, an early indication of his vast potential.

“He will go for the Aushorse Golden Horseshoe. His second trial was enormous. When Matty (Kellady) gave him a squeeze, he finished off like a smart horse.

“It’s a shame he was scratched because of mucus. Matty was meant to ride him then, but he couldn’t make the weight (49.5kgs) tonight.”

It was lightweight jockey A’Isisuhairi Kasim who did the honours

on Hotshots Slam on Friday, as he did on Charming Diamond, a noticeable trend that has given the former two-time Singapore champion jockey a kickalong on such juveniles for a while now.

“I was happy to sit on the outside on both winners for Shane as they are two-year-olds and don’t like taking so much kickback, especially for Charming Diamond on the Poly,” said A’Isisuhairi.

“There was a lot of speed on the inside, but both horses came back nicely beneath me. Hotshots Slam

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BAERTSCHIGER FRIDAY'S KING OF THE KIDS

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was very impressive and Charming Diamond also produced a good strong finish, and should win more races.

"I don't ride a lot for Shane, but they were all young horses with lightweights, which I can ride. I don't mind these young horses, they are good opportunities for me.

"One might end up becoming one of the best horses in Singapore."

Baertschiger would not go as far as putting his three winners on such a pedestal yet, but all three should be in the mix for the last Leg, the Aushorse Golden Horseshoe (1200m) on July 19.

"I had three in the third Leg, so I had to run the other two elsewhere. The handicap (49.5kgs) in the other two races also helped (make the decision on how to split his five horses)," he said.

"Both horses in the 2YO race ran well. They dictated the race, and it's good they have the rails to guide them.

"No Regrets got a bit lost when Boom Shakalaka headed him, but he kicked back and got the bob. Boom Shakalaka was a bit unlucky (the pair were split by the fast-finishing Mister Dynamo), but they both ran well.

"No Regrets has a high action and when he ran on Poly for the first time, I thought he was a hack, but luckily, he levels it out on the turf.

"They won't run on Polytrack for

sure, but the Aushorse will be their grand final."

In a thrilling three-way go, No Regrets held on by a short head from Mister Dynamo, who denied Baertschiger the quinella by a head. The winning time was 1min 10.84secs for the mile on the Long Course.

Jockey John Powell said he was suitably impressed with the way the Auric Stable-owned No Regrets picked himself off the canvas to overhaul his stablemate Boom Shakalaka, who incidentally, had A'Isisuhairi in the irons.

"From the good gate, the plan was to lead. At the 300m, the other horse got a neck on us, but I think he got there too soon and got lost," said the Australian jockey.

"My horse scored a tough win."

As for Charming Diamond, a debut third to Big Hearted – who was incidentally scratched from Friday's third Leg – Baertschiger is adamant he should have won in easier fashion had he drawn better than 12.

"He was caught three and four wide. It was a big win; he ran time (1min 4.86secs) for the 1100m on Polytrack," he said.

"If he draws a barrier, he wins easy."

-STC

Race	STC MDN 1100m
Winner	Charming Diamond (NZ) 2016
Owners	Dragon Typhoon Stable
Trainer	Shane Baertschiger (Singapore)
Breeding	by Showcasing (GB) out of London Dream by Handsome Ransom (AUS)
Breeder	K T & Mrs T M Brophy & K D Landrigan
Sales	2018 Ready To Run Sales; V: Kiltannon Stables, P: Mr SD Baertschiger; \$120,000

Race	STC Juvenile S. 1200m
Winner	No Regrets (NZ) 2016
Owners	Auric Stable
Trainer	Shane Baertschiger (Singapore)
Breeding	by Showcasing (GB) out of Rockelle (AUS) by Rock of Gibraltar (IRE)
Breeder	BF Bloodstock Ltd & Haunui Bloodstock Ltd
Sales	2018 National Yearling Sale – Book 1; V: Haunui Farm, P: Hughes Bloodstock; \$130,000

Race	STC MDN 1100m
Winner	Hotshots Slam (NZ) 2016
Owners	Ghgygs Stable
Trainer	Shane Baertschiger (Singapore)
Breeding	by Swiss Ace (AUS) out of Derrydane by Danehill (USA)
Breeder	G Harvey
Sales	2018 National Yearling Sales – Book 1; V: Westbury Stud, P: Mr S Gray; \$180,000

