

Friday 15 March 2019

CLASSIC TEST FOR BAKER-FORSMAN FILLIES



Queen of Diamonds heads up a three-pronged attack on Saturday's Gr.1 Al Basti Equiworld Dubai New Zealand Oaks for the Murray Baker & Andrew Forsman team

How his trio of talented fillies handle the step up to 2400m on a rain-affected Trentham track is Cambridge trainer Andrew Forsman's only concern heading into Saturday's Gr.1 Al Basti Equiworld Dubai New Zealand Oaks (2400m).

Forsman and training partner Murray Baker will produce **Queen Of Diamonds (NZ)** (Savabeel), **Clementina (NZ)**

(Savabeel) and **Rubira** (Lope de Vega) in the three-year-old fillies feature on a track rated a dead six on Thursday morning.

"We've got three good fillies that give us a chance," Forsman said.

"There's no superstar in the race this year. Queen Of Diamonds looks pretty good but she's got to run out 2400m

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CLASSIC TEST FOR BAKER-FORSMAN FILLIES

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on a potentially rain-affected track. Against ours, Pinmedown and Imelda Mary look very nice fillies and it's hard to fault what they've done."

China Horse Club-owned Savabeel filly Queen Of Diamonds assumed favouritism for the Oaks after her brilliant win in the Gr.2 Lowland Stakes (2000m) at Hastings last month under jockey Matthew Cameron, who retains the ride on Saturday.

"She was very good at Hastings. She was well ridden the way the track was playing. You had to be on the speed that day and she got the right run but she's also got the turn of foot to do that," Forsman said.

"Now she's got to take that ability to the 2400m on an off track. We know she can sprint well but she's just got to relax now so she can conserve her energy and produce that when it matters."

TAB bookmakers installed Queen Of Diamonds as a \$4.20 final field market favourite ahead of last-start Gr.3 Sunline Vase (2100m) winner Pinmedown (NZ) (Pins) at \$4.80, with third favourite Imelda Mary (NZ) (Ferlax) at \$6.50. Rubira was at \$11 and Clementina at \$13 after their runs for eighth and second respectively in the Sunline Vase.

"We probably would have ridden Clementina quieter at Ellerslie but from that good draw we opted to put her in the race and that negated her turn of foot a little bit. Ridden more patiently, she'll see the 2400m right out," Forsman said.

"Rubira was getting wound up when the gaps closed and while she wouldn't have won, she probably would have finished right up with the placed horses. She's been crying out for a bit of give in the ground and she gets that this weekend.

"Whether she's mature and strong enough yet to run out the 2400m on a testing track is a query but she deserves her chance. All three of ours are performing well and they all look as good as they did starting their preparations."

With all three holding a nomination for the Gr.1 Australian Oaks (2400m) at Randwick on April 13, that gives weight to the possibility of a trip to Sydney should they run well on Saturday.

Other New Zealand Oaks runners nominated for the Australian Oaks include Pinmedown, Imelda Mary, Savy Yong Blonk (NZ) (Savabeel), Sentimental Miss (NZ) (Reliable Man), Shezathinka (So You Think), Elate (NZ) (Savabeel) and Nerve Not Verve (NZ) (Shocking).

- NZ Racing Desk





SIRES' PLAN LIKELY FOR PROBABEEL

It would take an exceptional performance from smart filly **Probabeel (NZ)** (Savabeel) at Rosehill on Saturday to force trainer Jamie Richards to deviate from the plan to tackle next month's Gr.1 Sires' Produce Stakes (1400m).

The Karaka Million 2YO (1200m) winner is nominated for the Gr.1 Golden Slipper Stakes (1200m) but Richards said the plan has always been to head to the Championships via the Gr.2 Harrolds Magic Night Stakes (1200m) where she'll jump from near the outside.

But that's something she has recent experience with. "I think she's a pretty exciting filly," Richards said.

"Not often do you get a horse that draws the outside at Ellerslie and puts a space on them like she did, so that's a dominant performance. Hopefully she can measure up."

Probabeel has won three of her four starts and is very much a filly on the up and has been handed plenty of respect as a \$5.50 second favourite for her Australian debut.

Richards, who also trains six time Group One winner **Melody Belle (NZ)** (Commands) and cult hero **Te Akau Shark (NZ)** (Rip Van Winkle), said it was former Godolphin boss Henry Plumpton, now chief executive of Cambridge Stud, who suggested the 1400m Sires' was the right race for Probabeel.

"She's a filly that will appreciate a bit further, the way she races she switches off and relaxes and can sprint," Richards said.

Probabeel is a long way down the order of entry for the Golden Slipper with the bulk of her \$550,000-plus prizemoney coming from a sales restricted race.

It's been close to two months since the Karaka Million and Richards said Probabeel warmed up nicely with a barrier trial win in New Zealand over 1000m on March 5.

Exciting two-year-old filly Probabeel will have her first Australian start at Rosehill on Saturday

What he's not certain about is whether or not she'll thrive on the expected wet track.

"There's not a lot we can do about that, we just have to have a go and see how we get on," he said.

"She did trial on a heavy track in the spring but it's a bit different under race day conditions.

"I'm not exactly sure how she will handle it, we've had a dry summer in New Zealand so it's a wait and see."

Richards has three other horses nominated for races during The Championships and all eyes will be on how fillies **Savy Yong Blonk (NZ)** (Savabeel) and **Shezathinka** (So You Think) perform in the Gr.1 Al Basti Equiworld Dubai New Zealand Oaks (2400m) at Trentham this Saturday.

Both three-year-olds are in the Gr.1 Australian Oaks (2400m) picture while we'll see last year's champion two-year-old **Avantage** (Fastnet Rock) in action at Rosehill next Saturday.

Avantage has won six of her seven starts and will line up in either the Listed Darby Munro (1200m) or Gr.3 Birthday Card Stakes (1200m) on the way to the Gr.2 Arrowfield Sprint (1200m) on April 13.

-Racing NSW



NEWS IN BRIEF

Richards pleased with Oaks pair

Te Akau trainer Jamie Richards will take two fillies south to contest Saturday's Gr.1 Al Basti Equiworld Dubai New Zealand Oaks (2400m) at Trentham and he believes they are both winning chances.

Shezathinka (So You Think) and **Savy Yong Blonk (NZ)** (Savabeel) will represent the stable and both fillies head into the race in good form, with Shezathinka finishing runner-up last start in the Gr.2 Lowland Stakes (2100m) at Hastings, while Savy Yong Blonk ran on for third in the Gr.3 Sunline Vase (2100m) earlier this month.

"They are two really nice fillies that ran second and third in the lead-up races," Richards said.

"Shezathinka is still a maiden, but she is an exciting filly. I'm disappointed she hasn't won a race before now, but we wanted to give her a crack at the Lowland and to split Queen Of Diamonds and Imelda Mary was a really good effort.

"She will go into the race in good order, a mile and a-half is no problem.

"Savy Yong Blonk is a really exciting Savabeel filly. She was unlucky at Ellerslie, she got taken out at the corner when she was making her run and to balance up and pick herself up to finish third was a really good effort."

Chris Johnson will travel north to ride Shezathinka, while Michael McNab will be aboard Savy Yong Blonk.

The Roger James and Robert Wellwood-trained filly was heading into the race off the back of victory in the Listed Oaks Prelude (1800m) at New Plymouth last month and looked a major threat in the running before fading late.

"She had a heart fibrillation last start," Wellwood said. "In that regard we have just got to rule a line through that race.

"Troy (Harris, jockey) said she felt super in the running and travelled up very nicely. He was really happy, but unfortunately she did have a heart fibrillation.

"It's not ideal heading into the New Zealand Oaks having that, but we do know that horses can bounce back extremely well their next run.

"We have got to forget that run and head on with some form of confidence."

and hopefully he can take us across with him but I'll be telling Sam not to use him too much early," Cowan said.

"He can go forward then dive for cover and get as cosy a trip as possible. I don't want him used twice. Ideally we can get one shot at them at the end. On his work and the way he's feeling, I suspect he'll go pretty well."



Sasso Corbaro (All Too Hard)

Black-type mission for Sasso Corbaro

Former Australian galloper **Sasso Corbaro** (All Too Hard) will get the chance to add some valuable black-type to her page when she competes in the Listed Gavelhouse.com Lightning Handicap (1200m) at Trentham on Saturday.

It will be the four-year-old mare's second start in New Zealand and she left quite the impression on new trainer Jamie Richards with her fresh-up win over 1200m at Otaki last month.

"It was a really good win, to miss the kick like she did and come right down the outside and beat them hands down (by 2-1/2 lengths)," Richards said.

"We are looking forward to the challenge, she is down in the weights and hopefully she can be competitive."

Richards said the mare is not ideally placed given she carries the 53kg minimum in the handicap event where the 101 rated **Signify (NZ)** (Perfectly Ready) will carry 60kgs.

"When you are a rating 83 mare, Princess Kereru (NZ) (Pins) is in there rated 97, and there is only three kilos between them, it makes it hard to compete."

Grunt on song for All Star Mile

New Zealand-bred galloper **Grunt (NZ)** (O'Reilly) is set to line-up in the inaugural A\$5million All Star Mile (1600m) at

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Signify (NZ) (Perfectly Ready)

Cowan hoping Lightning strikes twice

Alex "Snookie" Cowan is claiming home track advantage for Saturday's Listed Gavelhouse.com Lightning Handicap (1200m) at Trentham.

The Ashburton trainer will produce **Signify (NZ)** (Perfectly Ready) in the sprint feature at the Wellington Racing Club meeting some 542km away from his actual home base.

But such is Signify's record at Trentham, Cowan reckons it's like playing a home game.

"He loves the place and that's the number one reason we're here," said Cowan, who trains Signify for his wife Tracey.

"He's got a bit of weight to carry, 60kg is about the roof for him, and things have to go ideally with that weight."

Cowan has engaged newly-anointed Group One-winning rider Sam Collett, whose job will be to obtain the most economical run possible from barrier seven.

"He's got Ferrando drawn right beside us



Elate (NZ) (Savabeel)

Heart fibrillation adds uncertainty ahead of Oaks

Promising three-year-old filly **Elate (NZ)** (Savabeel) suffered a heart fibrillation in the Gr.3 McKee Family Sunline Vase (2100m) last start, causing concern for her connections leading into Saturday's Gr.1 Al Basti Equiworld Dubai New Zealand Oaks (2400m).



NEWS IN BRIEF



Grunt (NZ) (O'Reilly)



Surprise Baby (NZ) (Shocking)

Flemington on Saturday and trainer Mick Price is expecting a strong showing from the dual Group One winner.

The four-year-old son of O'Reilly finished midfield in the Gr.3 Shaftesbury Avenue Handicap (1400m) when sporting Yulong's green colours for the first time earlier this month.

Grunt carried 61.5kg when finishing sixth to Violate (Sebring) in that race and Price is happy with the way he has come through his first-up run and believes the mile distance will suit his charge on Saturday.

"He worked super last weekend," Price said. "I'm very happy with him and he's on the up and up all the time.

"He'll show up in the All-Star Mile and give a really good account of himself.

"He was beaten 2.9 lengths first-up. Perhaps if he would have run third everyone says, 'he's just about to win'.

"You will see him turn up in the mile and you will see him run really well."

Price has identified multiple Group One-winning mare Alizee (Sepoy) as the one to beat in the rich mile feature.

"She has got to be the one to beat," Price said. "She's trained at the track and she's in sparkling weight-for-age form. She's got to be the clear pick."

Adelaide Cup success for lightly-trying son of Shocking

Monday's Gr.2 Adelaide Cup (3200m) winner **Surprise Baby (NZ)** (Shocking) has provided a stunning return on investment for connections of the Kiwi stayer, who purchased the son of Shocking for just \$5,500 from online auction gavelhouse.com as an unraced three-year-old.

The Paul Preusker-trained four-year-old has proved a revelation, winning four of his six starts and becomes the seventh stakes winner for Rich Hill Stud stallion Shocking,

who also sired last year's Adelaide Cup winner Fanatic (NZ), the Group One winner of the New Zealand Oaks (2400m).

Bred by Rich Hill Stud, home to Melbourne Cup and Australian Cup winner Shocking, the stayer is the 14th stakes performer for the young sire.

"He was a nice horse," Rich Hill Stud Managing Director John Thompson said.

"I took him to the New Zealand Bloodstock Select Sale and couldn't sell him. I decided that he would make a Ready To Run horse and he just didn't breeze up that well on the day.

"I still liked the horse, so I put him in work with Margaret Falconer with the idea of winning a trial and getting him sold.

"He proved a bit difficult and he never got to the trials early in his three-year-old season, so I thought we'd missed the boat."

As a result, Thompson decided to list the untried galloper on gavelhouse.com, where he fetched \$5,500 to the bid of Australian owner John Fiteni.

"John bought the horse off gavelhouse pretty much sight unseen," Thompson said. "He rang up and Paul Preusker came over to look at him after John had bought him.

"Paul said they were looking for a nice staying horse and I said to him that if he could get him to relax, he might make a nice staying horse and that he would be more a four or five-year-old because he was just mentally a bit immature.

"He has won four from six races and an Adelaide Cup and it is just a phenomenal training performance. He had a real dash at the end of the two miles and he is one of the most exciting young stayers in Australia."

While Thompson was left lamenting the sale of the progressive stayer as well as his dam Bula Baby, the affable studmaster could see nothing but positives for his young sire Shocking.

"His dam is a Kaapstad daughter of Miss Tesla, so she had a pedigree, but she hadn't done a whole lot and I sold her on gavelhouse as well for \$400 I think," Thompson said.

"From a breeder's perspective it's not a great story but thank god I've still got Shocking.

"He had three winners on Sunday, he had three winners the weekend before and he had a very impressive maiden winner in Arctic Shock at Pakenham last week.

"He has got Formidable, who won a stakes race in New Zealand and was sold to Hong Kong where he is called Tianchi Monster. He has won three of his past four starts and is a good chance in Sunday's Hong Kong Derby (2000m)."

Thompson said the numbers of mares that patronised Shocking ebbed and flowed as it often can with staying stallions.

"He is probably typical of a staying sire in that he got good support for his first two years and then as his progeny were only two-year-olds, the support drops off," he said.

"The same thing happened with Pentire and the same thing happened with Zabeel.

"He has got a lot of nice young horses around and he has good numbers of yearlings this year on the back of siring an Oaks winner in his first crop.

"There are not many horses that can sire two-mile winners and he has sired back-to-back Adelaide Cup winners, so he is certainly one of the most promising staying influences in Australasia."



Blitzing (NZ) (Jimmy Choux)

Blitzing storms in

The admirably consistent **Blitzing (NZ)** (Jimmy Choux) sealed a Tony Cruz, Happy Valley double when landing section one of the Class 3 Matheson Handicap (1200m) under Karis Teetan.

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YOU'RE INVITED

NZTBA Waikato Branch together with **Te Aroha Jockey Club** kindly invite all Members of the NZTBA to join them on Saturday 6th April at Te Aroha for the running of the Group One **Fiber Fresh New Zealand Thoroughbred Breeders Stakes** in their Marquee by the Parade Ring.



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NEWS IN BRIEF

"The time wasn't impressive but I think he still has a bit of improvement in him," Cruz said of Blitzing after the gelding nailed his third win at start 12. "He has a racing mind now and he's much more professional.

"He's a Class 3 horse, he's no superstar, but he's been consistent. What I like about him is his size and his conformation, he has a very strong body, a good sprinting frame and he can take his races."

Blitzing was purchased by Upper Bloodstock out of Seaton Park's 2016 New Zealand Bloodstock Ready To Run draft.



Folk Dress (Pierro)

Dress rehearsal for Coolmore two-year-old

Talented juvenile **Folk Dress** (Pierro) showed her potential at Matamata on Wednesday when taking out the Matley Financial Services 1200.

The two-year-old filly settled in behind the speed under jockey Opie Bosson before improving at the turn and distancing her rivals in the straight to win by 1-1/2 lengths.

It was the first win for the Coolmore-owned filly who has been marked as a \$14 fifth favourite for the Gr.1 Courtesy Ford Manawatu Sires' Produce Stakes (1400m) by TAB bookmakers. [Full story here](#)

Sweeney bags first win

It was a memorable day at Matamata on Wednesday for Te Awamutu trainer Debbie Sweeney after she recorded her first win as a solo trainer when **First Rock (NZ)** (El Roca) took out the Rees Tavern 1200.

Sweeney had won 260 races in partnership with her father Graeme Sanders before his retirement last year and Sweeney was pleased to get on the board on her own account.

"I had been struggling to get a win, I had been close a couple of times, but it's great (to get the win today)," Sweeney said.



First Rock (NZ) (El Roca)

First Rock competed in the first two-year-old race of the season back in September and Sweeney was happy to record the win after three previous runner-up results.

"On the turn she was travelling really well, so I was hopeful," Sweeney said. "She has always shown a lot of promise and she is going to be a lovely three-year-old filly."

The win could be a sign of bigger things for Sweeney and her two-year-old El Roca filly who holds a nomination for the Gr.1 Courtesy Ford Manawatu Sires' Produce Stakes (1400m) at Awapuni later this month.

"We'll see how she pulls up from this, but we will probably have a look at that (Sires' Produce)," she said.



Glory Days (NZ) (Red Giant)

Sydney rider sought for Glory Days

Bill Thurlow is sticking to his policy when it comes to booking a rider for **Glory Days (NZ)** (Red Giant) in the Gr.1 Sydney Cup (3200m) at Randwick next month.

The Waverley trainer confirmed plans are underway for Glory Days to be in Sydney for the A\$2 million feature following her decisive win in Saturday's Gr.1 Auckland Cup (3200m) at Ellerslie.

He is weighing up the lead-up race options for Glory Days, but has already decided on what he will do for a rider in Sydney. [Full story here](#)



Luvaluva (NZ) (Mastercraftsman)

Sargent's house of Group One hopes

John Sargent is on target to send one Group One prospect across the Tasman from Australia, while he has received a filly from New Zealand for a possible Sydney Group One mission.

The former Kiwi trainer is setting **Luvaluva (NZ)** (Mastercraftsman) for the Gr.1 Fiber Fresh New Zealand Thoroughbred Breeders' Stakes (1600m) at Te Aroha on April 6 and a newcomer to his Randwick stable is **House Of Cartier** (Alamosa), whose major assignment will be the Gr.1 Australian Oaks (2400m) at Randwick on April 13.

House Of Cartier, a daughter of Alamosa and the Gr.1 Auckland Cup (3200m) winner Shez Sensational (NZ) (Ekrar), had six starts for Pukekohe trainer Nigel Tiley for a win and three placings. [Full story here](#)



Our Libretto (NZ) (O'Reilly)

Our Libretto shaping up for lucrative autumn

Our Libretto (NZ) (O'Reilly) progressed from winning a maiden at Sandown to finishing third in the Gr.2 Zipping Classic (2400m) last year but trainer Grahame Begg now has his sights set on even bigger fish.

Our Libretto was unplaced in two starts in New Zealand before being transferred

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NEWS IN BRIEF

to Begg by owner Jonathan Munz and has won four of her six starts for the Group One winning trainer.

Begg has pencilled in the Gr.2 Sunline Stakes (1600m) at Moonee Valley on March 22 as the starting point for this campaign and is anticipating ending it in Queensland after a stop in Sydney.

On Tuesday Begg took Our Libretto to Moonee Valley for a gallop to acquaint herself with the course.

"She's had two trials in the last four weeks and the timing for this gallop was ideal leading into her first-up run," Begg said.

"She loved the surface and the Sunline looks the perfect race to start her off in. She's a laid-back sort and she's handled this morning easily."

Our Libretto made rapid improvement in her first Australian preparation and Begg has ambitious plans for the five-year-old daughter of O'Reilly.

"She's showing us she is still improving and the plan is to head to Sydney after the first-up run here and then on to Brisbane all being well.

"The way she's going at the moment is extremely pleasing, she's entered for the Coolmore Legacy (Gr.1, 1600m) in Sydney and then on to Brisbane for a races like the Doomben Cup (Gr.1, 2000m) and Brisbane Cup (Gr.2, 2400m).

"She's big mare - 550kg so she appreciates a bit of give in the ground and she's got a great nature so it's all there ahead of her."



Eminent (Frankel)

Eminent in "terrific" form ahead of Ranvet

Eminent (Frankel) will need some of his champion trainer's gold medal-winning form to have any chance at a Group One victory during Sydney's autumn carnival.

Star jockey James McDonald said the five-year-old felt terrific after he gave him

a workout at the Canterbury Racecourse quarantine centre on Wednesday.

McDonald said the unknown question is whether Eminent can recapture his form in time for March 23 to be competitive in the Gr.1 Ranvet Stakes (2000m) at Rosehill Gardens. [Full story here](#)



Avantage (Fastnet Rock)

Sydney likely for Avantage

Exciting three-year-old filly **Avantage** (Fastnet Rock) is on the brink of a race day return after winning her 1000m trial heat at Avondale on Tuesday.

The Group One-winning daughter of Fastnet Rock did enough to get the better of pacemaker Starman (NZ) (Ifraaj) to win by a head, with a further five-lengths back to stablemate Icebomb (NZ) (Darcy Brahma).

"I thought she trialled nicely," trainer Jamie Richards said. "She's a filly that doesn't over exert herself unless she really has to. [Full story here](#)



Danzdanzdance (Mastercraftsman)

Danzdanzdancing her way to Sydney

Group One-winning mare **Danzdanzdance** (Mastercraftsman) pushed star mare Melody Belle (NZ) (Commands) all the way in the Gr.1 Bonecrusher New Zealand Stakes (2000m) at Ellerslie on Saturday and her connections believe that

run has topped her off nicely ahead of her Sydney campaign.

"I'm just ecstatic with how our mare has pulled up after the race," said Chris Gibbs, who trains the four-year-old with Michelle Bradley.

"She looks wonderful, she didn't really tighten up with the run.

"On Monday I put a saddle on her and she was just bouncing. She hasn't left an oat, so I am really happy.

"The two mares went really hard on a heavy track, and it does take it out of them, but I'm really happy. It just makes you feel good about putting her on the plane next Monday."

Danzdanzdance is being set for a two-run Sydney campaign where she will team-up once again with jockey Opie Bosson, who was committed to ride Melody Belle in Saturday's contest.

"Michelle will meet her over there and we are staying with the Lee boys," Gibbs said.

"She's going back into the same yard she stayed in as a three-year-old when she went there and she settled in there beautifully.

"That's a big thing when you travel that far. If you can put them back into the same routine as what she has already been through she should just settle in and let down really quickly.

"Opie hopped off and he will hop straight back on again. We are happy to have him onboard, he does know her really well."

The grey daughter of Mastercraftsman will initially contest the Gr.1 Ranvet Stakes (2000m) at Randwick on March 23, before a potential tilt at the Gr.1 Queen Elizabeth Stakes (2000m) where she will likely meet glamour mare Winx (Street Cry).

"We decided on the Ranvet and then the Queen Elizabeth. It is what it is, you can't be scared off by one horse (Winx)," Gibbs said.

"She is going to have to prove herself in the Ranvet (before starting in the Queen Elizabeth)."

Sydney options for Rondinella

Cambridge trainer Roger James is pleased with the way **Rondinella** (NZ) (Ocean Park) has come through her last-start placing in the Gr.1 Bonecrusher New Zealand Stakes (2000m).

The four-year-old mare, prepared in partnership with Robert Wellwood, finished third behind Melody Belle (NZ) (Commands)

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NEWS IN BRIEF



Rondinella (NZ) (Ocean Park)

and Danzdanzdance (Mastercraftsman) on an unsuitable Heavy track at Ellerslie last Saturday.

"There is every chance she is going to run in Australia next start," James said.

"Quite possibly in Sydney next weekend. She will hold a nomination for the Ranvet (Gr.1, 2000m) and the Epona Stakes (Gr.3, 1900m) on the same day."

The daughter of Ocean Park is one of the most progressive gallopers in New Zealand and has won four of her 11 career starts, with a further four placings.



Ardrossan (Redoute's Choice)

Group Three target for Ardrossan

The Stephen Marsh-trained **Ardrossan** (Redoute's Choice) will trial before resuming his Australian campaign later this month.

The Redoute's Choice entire arrived in Sydney last week with a temperature, which resulted in his withdrawal from last Saturday's Gr.1 Canterbury Stakes (1300m) at Randwick.

Marsh said he has improved considerably since his arrival and will now be set to tackle the Gr.3 Star Kingdom Stakes (1200m) at Rosehill later this month.

"He has improved a lot," Marsh said. "He will trial on Monday at Rosehill and from there he will head back to Rosehill on the

30th of March and will run in a Group Three 1200m race."

Ardrossan was in good form in New Zealand earlier this year, winning the Gr.3 Concorde Handicap (1200m) at Ellerslie in January before running third to Melody Belle (NZ) (Commands) in the Gr.1 BCD Group Sprint (1400m) at Te Rapa a fortnight later.



Melody Belle (NZ) (Commands)

Triple crown in the crosshairs for Melody Belle

Connections of six-time Group One winner **Melody Belle (NZ)** (Commands) are already eyeing up a spring campaign with their star mare.

The Jamie Richards-trained four-year-old, who is raced by Fortuna Syndications, capped an outstanding season when victorious in the Gr.1 Bonecrusher New Zealand Stakes (2000m) at Ellerslie on Saturday and will now head to the spelling paddock before returning in the new season.

"She trotted up perfectly this morning, the vet is 100 percent happy with her," syndicate manager John Galvin said. "But we will do some precautionary x-rays before she goes to the paddock, just to make sure there is nothing underlying there.

"She will go to the paddock and come back in on the first of May and we will start to prepare her for the Lisa Chittick Foxbridge Plate (Gr.2, 1200m) again."

Galvin said Melody Belle will follow the same spring path through the Hawke's Bay spring carnival, however, the Gr.1 Livamol Classic (2040m) will be added to her schedule before a possible tilt at the Gr.1 Cox Plate (2040m) in October.

"This year with Hawke's Bay our plan is to run in the Livamol, we didn't run in the Livamol last year," Galvin said.

"Our objective is to win the triple crown, it

has never been done.

"With the Cox Plate, that would be her fifth start for that preparation. It's three weeks after the Livamol.

"While we will nominate her for the Cox Plate, it's not an absolute certainty that that's where we go.

"We might freshen and resume after Christmas and go to something like the Waikato Sprint fresh and then there is the All Star Mile."

More goals for Collett

Sam Collett is still on cloud nine after her first Group One victory on Saturday, when victorious aboard Glory Days (NZ) (Red Giant) in the Gr.1 Auckland Cup (3200m).

Collett was overwhelmed by all the congratulations for her achievement, but she hasn't lost focus on her next couple of goals for the season.

The popular Matamata jockey is just seven wins short of reaching 700 career wins in New Zealand and she is also in pursuit of breaking the century of wins for the season, something she did for the first time when taking last season's New Zealand Jockeys' Premiership with 132 wins. [Full story here](#)

Jericho Cup expands to include New Zealand-trained horses

Following the success of December's revival of century-old horse race, the Jericho Cup, Racing Victoria (RV) and New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing (NZTR) have today announced that the concept will be expanded to provide New Zealand-trained horses the chance to qualify for the 2019 edition.

The Jericho Cup, which was first run on the desert sands of Palestine just outside the city of Jericho in 1918, commemorates Australia and New Zealand's light-horse involvement in World War 1.

The flat race is run over 4600m at Victoria's picturesque Warrnambool Racecourse and, in keeping with the tradition of the original Jericho Cup, is only open to horses which were conceived and born in Australia or New Zealand. [Full story here](#)





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Friday 15 March 2019

GLOBAL NZ BRED WINNERS 07/03/2019 - 13/03/2019

AUSTRALIA

Cape Blanco : Oregon Dreamer (NZ) (Queen of Keros by Zabeel) 2015;
07/03/2019, 1st Pakenham RC Wagstaff Grand Handicap Mile 1400m
Sold by Monovale Farm at National Yearling Sale for \$6000

Duelled : Pistol (NZ) (Comely's Pride by Vettori) 2014;
10/03/2019, 1st Balnarring PRC BetEasy Trophy H. 1600m
Sold by Dormello Stud at Ready to Run Sale for \$30000

Gallant Guru : Accreditation (NZ) (Pernote by Personal Escort) 2012;
07/03/2019, 1st Hamilton RC Finchetts Plumbing H. 1400m
Sold by White Robe Lodge at South Island Yearling & Mixed Sale for \$20000

High Chaparral : Hiyaam (NZ) (Mazarine by Zabeel) 2014;
09/03/2019, 1st ATC Randwick City S. L 2000m

Highly Recommended : Lamington Drive (NZ) (Lamington Coup by High Chaparral) 2015;
11/03/2019, 1st Ballarat TC Eureka Concrete Maiden P. 1600m
Sold by Berkley Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$50000

Jimmy Choux : Heptagon (NZ) (Seven Schillings by O'Reilly) 2013;
10/03/2019, 1st Echuca RC Echuca Cup 1400m
Sold by Bradbury Park at National Yearling Sale for \$150000

O'Reilly : Dublin Diva (NZ) (Metropolitan by Elusive City) 2014;
10/03/2019, 1st Canberra RC Canprint Communications H. 1400m
Sold by Waikato Stud Ltd at National Yearling Sale for \$140000

Reliable Man : Francarlo (NZ) (Lady Love by Shinko King) 2015;
07/03/2019, 1st Pakenham RC Sportsbet BS Respectably Maiden P. 2550m

Savabeel : Colonel Klink (NZ) (Affairoftheheart by Fusaichi Pegasus) 2013;
10/03/2019, 1st Balnarring PRC Bob Arnold Open Trophy Race H. 2000m

Savabeel : Bromach (NZ) (Justine's Pride by Keeper) 2013;
12/03/2019, 1st Coff's Harbour RC Park Beach Plumbing H. 2000m

Shamexpress : Shamwow (NZ) (Burlesque by Thorn Park) 2015;
11/03/2019, 1st Ballarat TC Sportsbets Power Play H. 1600m

Shocking : Surprise Baby (NZ) (Bula Baby by Kaapstad) 2014;
11/03/2019, 1st SAJC Adelaide Cup Gr.2 3200m

Shocking : Arctic Shock (NZ) (Art Beat by Captain Rio) 2015;
07/03/2019, 1st Pakenham RC Electronic Signage Australia Maiden P. 1600m
Sold by Seaton Park Ltd at National Yearling Sale for \$65000

Shocking : Katazyna (NZ) (Fabianska by Danehill) 2013;
10/03/2019, 1st Balnarring PRC BetEasy Trophy H. 2000m

Shocking : Shockfactor (NZ) (Lonhrielle by Lonhro) 2013;
10/03/2019, 1st SCTC Lexus of Maroochydore H. 1600m
Sold by Rich Hill Stud at National Weanling, Broodmare & Mixed Sale for \$17000

HONG KONG

Jimmy Choux : Blitzing (NZ) (Fast Fame by Fast 'n' Famous) 2014;
13/03/2019, 1st HKJC Matheson H. 1200m
Sold by Seaton Park Ltd at Ready to Run Sale for \$46000

Savabeel : Unicon Jewellery (NZ) (Lucida by O'Reilly) 2012;
10/03/2019, 1st HKJC Primula H. 1600m
Sold by Waikato Stud Ltd at National Yearling Sale for \$225000

Stravinsky : Sky Treasure (NZ) (Inzabeel by Zabeel) 2013;
10/03/2019, 1st HKJC Geranium H. 1400m

HONG KONG

Sold by Lime Country Thoroughbreds Ltd at National Weanling, Broodmare & Mixed Sale for \$31000
Sold by Lakeview Farm at National Yearling Sale for \$70000

Tavistock : Cinquante Cinq (NZ) (Jugadora by Jugah) 2014;
13/03/2019, 1st HKJC Jardine H. 1650m
Sold by A. J. Ryan at National Weanling, Broodmare & Mixed Sale for \$18000
Sold by Hyde Park at National Yearling Sale for \$160000

MACAU

Lord of Warriors : My Dream (NZ) (Miss Maradona by Felix the Cat) 2008;
08/03/2019, 1st Macau Harrow H. 1510m
Sold by Selwyn River Stud at Selwyn River Dispersal Sale for \$500

Super Easy : Bada Baby (NZ) (Woodbury Belle by Woodbury Lad) 2014;
08/03/2019, 1st Macau Blackburn H. 1350m

MALAYSIA

Alamosa : Nicator (NZ) (All in Grace by Prized) 2014;
10/03/2019, 1st Selangor TC Maiden S. 1300m

Darci Brahma : Jubilation (NZ) (Safari Sunset by Volksraad) 2010;
10/03/2019, 1st Selangor TC Class 5 H. 1300m
Sold by Te Mania Thoroughbreds at National Yearling Sale for \$60000

O'Reilly : Dragon Kingdom (Sing.) (NZ) (Glam Slam by Pins) 2012;
10/03/2019, 1st Selangor TC Maiden H. 1300m
Sold by Courtza Park at Ready to Run Sale for \$85000

Pour Moi : Motaja - I am the Boss (Sing.) (NZ) (Roxon by Postponed) 2014;
10/03/2019, 1st Selangor TC Class 3 H. 1600m

Showcasing : Phantasos (NZ) (No Lane Bridge by Centaine) 2014;
10/03/2019, 1st Selangor TC Class 5 H. 1300m
Sold by Haunui Farm at National Weanling, Broodmare & Mixed Sale for \$10000
Sold by Haunui Farm at National Yearling Sale for \$20000

SOUTH AFRICA

All Too Hard : Frosted Gold (NZ) (Mary d'Or by Verglas) 2016;
09/03/2019, 1st Turffontein Storm Bird S. L 1000m

SINGAPORE

Alamosa : Success Come True (NZ) (Falaniella by Faltaat) 2013;
08/03/2019, 1st Singapore TC Class 5 Race 1200m

Savabeel : Sacred Croix (NZ) (Croix du Sud by Howbaddouwantit) 2014;
10/03/2019, 1st Singapore TC Class 4 H. 1400m
Sold by Fairdale Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$260000

Thorn Park : Debt Collector (NZ) (Prompt Payment by In the Wings) 2012;
10/03/2019, 1st Singapore TC Class 1 H. 1400m
Sold by Prima Park at Ready to Run Sale for \$120000
Sold by Windsor Park Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$30000

U.S.A.

Buffalo Man : Barbello (NZ) (Lebanese Nights by Not a Single Doubt) 2014;
09/03/2019, 1st Golden Gate Maiden Claiming 1600m
Sold by Totara Park Stud at National Yearling Sale for \$1250

Data Provided By
ARION PEDIGREES

