



# PRIME DISPATCH

EDITION 180 – 12/11/2017

COMPILED BY JOE O'NEILL



**Banachek returns to the winners circle – Great training performance by Darren Weir!!!**

Congratulations to the three Melbourne Racing Clubs on putting together a great carnival. The amount of effort put in by the staff of the clubs is phenomenal and the returns to not only the industry but Victoria is measured in the hundreds of millions of dollars. Winx win in the Cox Plate was the obvious highlight and something we may never see again. To join Kingston Town with three wins puts her amongst the very best in the long history of our great sport. A mare like Winx also elevates the profile of the industry to a level that we normally don't achieve.

I will in time do a detailed analysis of the results of the nine main meetings of the Carnival. The three days at Caulfield were very good followed up by two record breaking meetings at Moonee Valley and then the four fabulous days at Flemington. The VRC did a very good job at Flemington considering the major redevelopment being undertaken at the track. The new member's stand is going to be quite an asset for the industry as a whole.

If I had one wish it is that the leaders of our industry in NSW and Victoria sit down and start to work together to offer a better co-ordinated programme. The Spring and Autumn Carnivals in NSW and Victoria should flow into each other which would give us two great periods of racing each year complimented by racing from our smaller jurisdictions in the off periods. Going head to head with major meetings on the same day in the two big states is stupid and to be honest we don't have enough top shelf riders to support two major meetings on the same day.

It will be interesting to see the wagering figures for the whole Carnival. They should be impressive.

I must say as I walked back to the carpark through the Birdcage at Flemington yesterday I got a sense that the industry is heading in the right direction. There will always be some issues to deal with in an industry as big as racing with billions of dollars of turnover. It certainly appears one has raised its head in the last week which is disappointing. I'm confident the Integrity Services will sort out this situation and ensure we continue to compete on a level playing field. I have complete faith in the Integrity Services at RVL.

### **ON THE TRACK**

We had an interesting week of highs and lows. We started the week off with Flying Jess getting badly checked at the start of the Myer Classic and being last into the straight on a leader biased track. She did a good job to make up ground in the straight and we were confident she could run a good race in the Matriarch Stakes. Once again, she was the victim of a chain reaction which saw her smashed into the running rail at about the 1500m point of the race. This resulted in Dwayne Dunne getting a 10 meetings suspension for the interference caused!!!

It is a fact that Flying Jess's record at Flemington is awful with no placings in six starts. Her record in her remaining 14 starts sees her winning twice with placings in five Group and Listed races. This includes her win the \$2 million Magic Million's Guineas. She now heads to the paddock after a preparation that included second placings in the Group 2 Stocks Stakes, Group 3 Cockram Stakes and Group 3 Lady's Day Vase. Her combined losing margin in these three high profile races was just .7 of a length. She could easily have won all three races.

Banachek was very good at Kilmore on Sunday winning in fine style. He is a stunning looking horse that was gelded after his last preparation and has come back a leaner more athletic looking animal. He was very well ridden by John Allen and once again Darren Weir did the job. He now heads to Ballarat for their cup day. This was Banachek's second win from only five starts which is promising.

The next few days produced some nice results with Lomazzo scoring a good win on Tuesday at Muswellbrook. This has been a good meeting for us over the years. It was nice to see him back winning. His half-brother Powerline ran a mighty race for third in the Greys Race at Flemington on Oaks Day. Lomazzo isn't the easiest horse to train but has ability and was placed in the Magic Millions Country Cup at the Gold Coast in January. Hopefully he can hold his form and win again shortly for his loyal group of owners and if his form warrants it head to the Gold Coast for a crack at the Country Cup once again. It isn't often that horses at his level get a crack at running in a \$250,000 race.

I was thrilled with Our Netbank's debut for second on Tuesday at Doomben. She is a beautiful looking filly by Hussonet who is a sire we have had great success with. Tony Gollan has done a very good job with her and she shouldn't be a maiden for too long. She is the 4<sup>th</sup> Hussonet filly we have raced with the other three Hijack Hussy, Huiskes and Hussy's Glow being stakes performers.

Let's hope she can make it four from four.

On Thursday Reneged headed to Hawkesbury where he drew the outside gate which is never ideal. He was also gelded after his last preparation but thinks he is still a colt which is interesting. He stormed home for second and was very well handled by Tye Angland. He will now be targeted at the Goulburn Cup where Tye has indicated he wants to ride the horse which is very positive.

Reneged is being set for the \$1 Million Magic Million's Stayers Cup at the Gold Coast in January which is a race we won with Hidden Wonder a few years ago. He has always displayed good ability.

On Friday One Invincible Cat and Munjai headed to Kempsey for the club's cup day. Unfortunately, we struck a red-hot leader biased track and these horses did good jobs to finish second and third.

Track bias has been an ongoing issue from Brisbane to Flemington this year with the drier than normal weather in most areas seeing us racing on very firm tracks which suit on pace runners.

I spoke with John Thompson a few weeks ago after he had a very difficult day at the track. He said the day was a 'character building one'. Well we had one of those on Saturday where Flying Jess was out of action after only 500m of the race, Makeadane pulled up coughing and Raido was full of mucus when he was scoped after the race. This can be a frustrating game at times, but racing is a sport with our horses being athletes. Everything needs to be right for them to win in the highly competitive environment we compete in.

We have a busy week starting with Chalmers running at Gosford on Tuesday. We also have The Wasp nominated for Wednesday at Hawkesbury, Kaera Jaani at Murray Bridge on Wednesday, Honolulu Lass and perhaps Invincible Al at Moonee Valley on Friday night, Black and Tan at Sandown and Savoureux at Rosehill on Saturday.

On top of this we have quite a few horses running in trials or jump outs which will see our number of runners heading into the summer months continuing to be strong.

### **CUP WEEK FUNCTION**

Our function at John Moloney's Stable on Sunday was terrific. We had about 70 clients and friends turn up with the weather being good which was great.

It is amazing just how many people descend on Melbourne for the carnival. Our next major function is the lunch at Flemington in the Committee Room which should be a great day. The details are laid out later in this dispatch.



**Lomazzo as a yearling he was and is a cracking looking horse!!!**



**Black And Tan romping home for John Moloney at Ballarat first up!!!**

**IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE RICKY STUART FOUNDATION**  
**FLEMINGTON COMMITTEE ROOM LUNCH**  
**20 JANUARY 2018**

At this stage the tables are filling quickly with Magic Millions, The Canberra Raiders, The Melbourne Storm and Moloney Racing taking booking one table or more. We have also had three tables taken by Prime Thoroughbreds clients. If you are interested in getting involved send a note to

[primefunctions@outlook.com](mailto:primefunctions@outlook.com)

At this stage the tables are filling quickly with Magic Millions, The Canberra Raiders, The Melbourne Storm and

I am pleased to announce that our lunch in the Committee Room at Flemington on 20 January 2018 will be conducted in partnership with the Ricky Stuart Foundation in support of autism.

Ricky is an owner with Prime Thoroughbreds and is very well known in Rugby League and Rugby Union circles. He had distinguished careers firstly in Rugby Union where he toured Argentina with the Wallabies but as a Rugby League player and coach he has few peers. He is the current coach of the Canberra Raiders a club he won three premierships with as a player.

Ricky represented and coached the NSW State Of Origin Side, went on two tours of Great Britain and France with the Australian Rugby League Kangaroos and has won an NRL Premiership as a coach with Eastern Suburbs in his first year as an NRL coach. In 1993 he was awarded the Rothman's Medal being recognised as the finest player in the competition.

It is our aim to firstly have a great day while doing so raising some money for this very worthwhile cause. We will deliver further information as we get closer but I can assure you it will be a memorable day for those lucky enough to attend. The cost for the day in the Committee Room is \$225 per head. The VRC Committee Room over looks saddling enclosure and is the prime position at the great course.

I'm expecting the function to be very popular given the number of replies I have already had for the day. This is a superb venue and Shawn Cosgrove will be our host for the day.

*To book this function email: ***primefunctions@outlook.com****

On Sunday 21 January we will be visiting Fulmen Park on the Mornington Peninsular for a bbq lunch. This will also give you the opportunity to inspect the facilities available at the property where we spell many of our horses.

**SHARES AVAILABLE IN STAR WITNESS FILLY**  
**DARREN WEIR TO TRAIN**  
**10% REMAINS**

I have completed the purchase of the Star Witness filly out of Involve. She is a cracker and full details are enclosed.

The 10% shares will be \$11,500 with 5% shares available. Hopefully she can join Holding, Unchain My Heart, Pitt Street, Too Many Reds and Invincible Al as successful horses we have purchased privately.



**Star Witness / Involve filly 2016**  
**\$11,500 per 10% share (5% shares available)**  
**Australian Champion trainer Darren Weir To Train**

Over the years I have purchased some outstanding horses privately to syndicate. Included are the high-class gallopers Holding, Unchain My Heart, Too Many Reds, Believe 'n Achieve, Pitt Street and more recently our talented gallopers Invincible Al, Invincible Amici, Kissing Game and Isthmian.

In all cases this strategy has allowed us to keep the entry price down for clients wanting to get involved in racing. The horses listed above have given their owners terrific satisfaction and enjoyment.

This Star Witness filly which was reared at Yarraman Park represents great value. Let's look at why I purchased her.

## **The filly**

I was taken by this filly's physical presence when I inspected a group of yearling fillies at Yarraman Park earlier this year. She is a strong well-balanced athlete with good bone. She is an attractive filly with good conformation and no issues on x-ray. She becomes our first yearling purchase for the new season.

I'm really pleased to have secured her and I am very pleased to offer such a nice filly to the market and I have high expectations for her.

## **Star Witness**

Star Witness was also a good chance to be a success at stud. He has a good pedigree and is out of a very fast mare who is sister to the outstanding mare Chinchilla Rose. He comes from a family that produced the handy sprinter Ferocity, a reasonable sire himself. Star Witness was a very good juvenile and trained on. He won twice at the top level and competed with distinction in England.

More to the point he was selected to stand at the famous Widden Stud. Like all studs Widden don't always get it right but they do more often than not when selecting sires to stand at the famous nursery. Widden's current stallion roster with runners are Sebring, Nicconi, Star Witness, Your Song and Zoustar.

Sebring is number two on the current season's Australian Winners List, Nicconi comes in at seven. Star Witness is the leading fourth season sire in Australia after securing the top spot on the third season list in 2016/17 Season.

Young Song is 2<sup>nd</sup> on the Second Season Winner's List and Zoustar is 3<sup>rd</sup> on the First Season Sires List.

About 700 sires are represented on these Lists so the statistics are very impressive.

Tara Madgwick summed it up very well:

*"Widden's Star Witness appears a sure thing to continue his rise up the Australian Stallion ranks judging on his ability to sire arguably Australia's best two 3YO's of either sex. From just three crops he has sired high class sprinter milers that perform from Two to Three. With over 360 mares covered in the last two seasons don't expect this guy to slow down anytime soon."* Tara Madgwick, Breednet

## **Involve**

Involve is by Champion Broodmare Sire Encosta de Lago. He has won the Broodmare sire's title in the past two seasons and is currently placed in 2<sup>nd</sup> spot behind Zabeel.

Involve has done a good job at stud with four winners from just five to race. This is her sixth foal. She has been proven to produce nice class horses with all four of her winners being metropolitan class horses including this filly's full brother Arrestar who won recently in Brisbane.

Involve is out of the Lunchtime mare Glorified who produced 9 winners including the very good gallopers British Lion and British General from 11 to race.