



PRIME DISPATCH

EDITION 181 – 12/12/2017

COMPILED BY JOE O'NEILL



Invincible AI returns with a great win at Moonee Valley

He is a much stronger horse than during his last preparation!!!

I must say it is good to be back home after the best holiday I have ever had. Vietnam is a wonderful country with the locals being amongst the nicest people I have been lucky enough to meet. The amount of construction work being under taken in the country is quite extraordinary with things like the wifi across the board has improved quite markedly since we visited just 15 months ago.

I think it was Paul Keating who said when he was Prime Minister that we were about to enter the Asian century and how right he was. Australia's future lies in Asia where the middle class is growing at an unbelievable pace and they are looking to improve their lifestyle and diet. There are great opportunities for our industry to be a major supplier of horses for the racing industries in the region. Thoroughbred racing has commenced in Vietnam.

We should all feel very lucky living in Australia where our great provider 'Australia' seems to keep giving us a great lifestyle irrespective of the dysfunctional federal governments we have had to endure for the best part of the last decade. Consider the issues facing us compared with an emerging nation like Vietnam where the big issues are water security, power security, horrible pollution in its big cities, an inadequate health system and the list goes on. We are very lucky to be able to call Australia home.

My feet hardly hit the ground before I was back into it. We are aiming to get the November accounts out tomorrow and I head to Sydney and then onto the Hunter Valley on Friday. I'm looking forward to inspecting the yearlings at most of the farms in the Hunter. They are the major supplier to the Magic Millions and Inglis Classic sales. These are two important sales for us.

Kate did a great job for me while I was away. It is a nice feeling when your children start to show an interest in the family business and are able to make worthwhile contributions. I really appreciated her help and she brings the enthusiasm that only youth can to our business. I'm certain Syndication Companies are amongst the most complex businesses to run in Australia but the rewards when things are going well are wonderful. We had some nice success on the track while I was away.

Invincible Al showed his class at Moonee Valley winning a heat of the 55 Challenge. He is developing into a very good horse and it will be interesting to see where he takes us over the next couple of years. He relaxes well in the run and when the conditions are right he has an electrifying turn of foot.

I was more relieved than anything when Chalmers broke his maiden. He is a cracking type of horse but is a work in progress and did a great job from the gate to travel wide and easily account for his opposition in the straight. I expect him to go on with the job now he has tasted success but to be a much better horse in his next preparation.

I have a feeling Black and Tan could well be a very good filly in the making. She won twice and was placed 5th from her three runs this preparation. Her win at Sandown was outstanding. There was a temptation to head towards the Magic Millions in January but this would have made it almost impossible to have her at her best for the autumn where she will have a nice opportunity to get that all important 'black type'. She has a superb pedigree and should get out to at least 2000m which is a big plus for any horse. You only have to look at the lack of depth in our staying ranks at present to realise how lucrative it is to have an effective stayer. We proved that with Unchain My Heart a few of years ago. The staying races in Australia have been propped up by imports mainly from Europe but these horses have become very expensive with the Australian dollar dropping by about 30% in the past couple of years.

Husson Boots attacked the line at Ipswich was scheduled as a metropolitan mid week meeting. She has run 10 minor placings in her career of 17 starts with two wins. Her record could easily have been much better. She has a wonderful pedigree with her ½ brother being the multiple Group 2 winner New Predator who has also been Group 1 placed twice in South Africa since we purchased Husson Boots. She was our 7th winner since 29 October with several other of our horses being placed.

MAGIC MILLIONS

The Magic Millions Carnival is almost upon us and we are assembling our team of runners for the day which has been so kind to us in recent years. At this stage Lomazzo and Not Surprising are being aimed at the Country Cup with One Invincible Cat and Our Netbank heading to the Magic Millions Maiden. Hopefully we may have a couple more representatives but this will become clearer as we get closer to the meeting.

Our two year olds are going through their paces with Everard and Lady Husson having run nice trials in the past week. These two fillies were purchased at the Gold Coast Magic Millions Perth Magic Millions. We don't push our babies but if they tell they are ready they can head to the races. I haven't been overly impressed with many of the two year old winners this season but it is early days. Quite a few of them are just coming back into work.

It isn't easy getting runners into the Magic Millions races. There are only 20 Magic Millions races run each year with 10 of these run at the Gold Coast in January. The remaining 10 are spread across NSW, Victoria, SA, WA and Tasmania. Since Hidden Wonder won the Stayers Cup in 2010 we have won an additional five Magic Millions races with the big wins being Flying Jess in the 2017 \$2million Magic Millions Guineas and Husson Eagle in the 2016 \$1million Magic Millions Sprint.

Our six winners collectively cost \$272,500 and have won 28 races and \$3,367,431 stakes money to date. Flying Jess and Hidden Wonder were purchased from the Gold Coast Magic Millions with Husson Eagle, Atalanta Miss, Rose Of Scotland and Rumeron coming from the Adelaide Magic Millions. On average I purchase about eight yearlings from Magic Millions each year. About 3000 yearlings go through the Magic Millions Sales each year so I strike rate is very good given the high quality of stock on offer.

ON THE TRACK

We have another very busy week ahead with Reneged set to run at Randwick on Saturday, Kissing Game and Makeadane at Canterbury on Friday night, Zelsignoret at Moonee Valley Friday night, Banachek at Geelong on Thursday, Great Southern at either Cranbourne or Bendigo, and Munjai at Scone on Friday.

Added to this we have quite a few horse heading to the trials so our number of runners should continue to be strong. Currently we have 27 horses in full work which is about our normal number.

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

I will be closing this function off on 22 December. I have been thrilled with the response. If you are interested in coming along please contact us at:

primefunctions@outlook.com

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 2nd on the Second Season Winner's List and Zoustar is 3rd 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 2nd 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.