



PRIME DISPATCH

EDITION 129 – 22/09/2016

COMPILED BY JOE O'NEILL



Norman May 1928 – 2016

On a bright Thursday afternoon in 1983 I headed off to cricket practice at Waverley Oval in Sydney's Eastern Suburbs. I was on a week's leave from the Army and rather than head back to Queensland had decided to spend the week in Sydney. After practice I headed to the pub for a few beers which was a common ritual for the young guys playing for the club.

At the pub one of our selectors Jim O'Regan asked me what I was doing on Friday and I said nothing much. He invited me to lunch at The Clock Hotel at Surrey Hills and I duly turned up at 1230 for a few beers before we sat down. Little did I know that I was about to have one of the most amazing few hours of my life. It wasn't long before Norman May turned up and then Keith Miller. NSW leftie David Hourn was never late for a 'drink' and he was at The Clock when I arrived as was Jimbo who thrived on having a cold beer and relating tall tales but true from the legendary past. As we headed to

the table Dick Thornett turned up who was one of only five Australians to represent Australia in three different sports at the highest level. He was the publican at The Clock and good company.

In any case Miller held court supported by Norman and David who is a very funny man. Dick simply threw in the odd jibe to ignite Keith and many hours later I headed back to Randwick without saying so much as a word throughout the afternoon. It was a privilege to have spent time with them.

Sadly David Morrow passed on word that Norman had passed away while I was in Vietnam and to be honest Australia has lost one of its greatest ever sports broadcasters. He was the voice of so many sports on the ABC and while he will probably be best remembered for his superb calls of Australian swimming at the Olympics my best memories of him were his broadcasts of the Australian Surf Titles which were superb. His level of knowledge was without peer and in all he called a total of 44 different sports throughout his career at the ABC.

I was lucky enough to have lunch with him at the SCG in December 2014 and while he was frail he still had an incredible memory and cheeky grin which he will be remembered for.

QUEENSLAND SUMMER CARNIVAL GETS FACE LIFT

Last week I made the point of just how lucky Queensland Racing was to get a CEO of Dr Eliot Forbes ability and already we are starting to see improvements. The Queensland Summer Carnival will run from 19 November 2016 through to 28 January 2017 at the Sunshine Coast with 16 'black type' races on offer and over \$13 million in stakes money.

This is a good boost for the industry in Queensland which has been hampered by political interference for too long. The industry is a big employer in the state and also generates big revenue through the Magic Millions Carnival and associated events.

ON THE TRACK

The past few days have seen our horses performing well without getting the major end of the prize. I was very pleased with the run of Tough Vic on Sunday in Hobart where he finished a close 2nd. He is a really promising staying three year old and I am looking forward to his next run over 1400m. He has a really good action and enormous stride. Bella Venus travelled well to the turn but failed to handle the heavy track.

It is time for Tasracing to step up and rebuild the Hobart track. It isn't up to standard and as soon as it gets a shower of rain falls apart.

It is hard to overcome bad barriers and Husson Boots did a great job at Doomben to just be beaten after coming from the outside gate. Once again we had a rain affected track. As a child growing up on the Darling Downs I was told to never complain when it rained but I sure you will agree we have had more than our fair share right across the Eastern Seaboard and into Southern Australia over the winter months.

Our only runner for the weekend is an important one with Flying Jess lining up in the Group 2 Thousand Guineas Prelude. Her performance in this race will guide us to where she heads for the remainder of the spring. This is a big race for Yarraman Park with four of the runners being by their sires Hinchinbrook and I Am Invincible.

We had seven horses trial over the past few days with Isthmian and The Wasp scoring strong wins but all doing the job. I felt sorry for Michael Dee on Monday at Cranbourne where he rode Kaera Jaani in her first trial. As she came out of the gates she through her head up and struck Michael quite severely on the head. It wouldn't be much fun trying to ride an inexperienced two year old in a trial after being hit by Mike Tyson. The good news is that neither Michael nor the filly sustained any lasting injuries.

I update our Website, Facebook page and our Twitter account almost on a daily basis. Check these out at [Prime Thoroughbreds Pty Ltd](#) for Facebook, [@JoefromPrime](#) for Twitter and of course

primethoroughbreds.com.au

YEARLINGS

I have included information on the Snitzel filly out of Signoret. At least 80% of her has been taken up and with Snitzel being our top sire I expect she won't last long and she is our final yearling syndication for this year.

STABLE VISITS

The visit to Darren Weir's Ballarat Stable on Sunday 25 September at 11 am has been moved back to 9 October. Unfortunately Darren had a commitment to RVL which caused us to have to change the date but it may work out for the best with some interstate clients being in Melbourne for the Guineas meeting at Caulfield. I apologise for any inconvenience caused.

We are having a Sausage Sizzle at John Thompson's Randwick Stable on 16 October commencing at 10am.

We will also be visiting Kris Lees Ellalong Farm with this visit also including Christmas drinks for our NSW clients. I'll send through the details once we have a firm date.

SNITZEL FILLY OUT OF SIGNORET MAGIC MILLIONS AND SUPER VOBIS QUALIFIED

Snitzel / Signoret filly 2014 - Darren Weir to train 10 shares @ \$12,000

Only 20% remains



The filly

This is a very athletic filly and she reminded me a lot of our high class mare Hidden Wonder when I inspected her at the sale. This filly is a great walker and has a lovely stride.

She has a very attractive head and a great hindquarter. She also has a deep girth and vetted out without any issues.

I was thrilled to get her as I expected she may have fetched quite a bit more at the sale. A big bonus is that she was paid up for Super VOBIS which wasn't advertised. This was a big mistake by the vendors but a big help to the people who eventually race this filly.

She wouldn't have been out of place in a much higher profile sale.

Snitzel

Snitzel is one of our very best sires and is currently 1st on the Australian General Sire's List. There are about 700 sires standing in Australia. Snitzel was a high class racehorse winning four races as a two year old and highlighting his career winning the Group 1 Oakleigh Plate.

I was keen on Snitzel as a yearling. He was out of the high class mare Snippet's Lass trained by Bill Mitchell. She has gone on to be one of the very best broodmares in Australia and is also the dam of Australia's leading first season sire last season in Hinchinbrook.

You can never underestimate just how important the female line is when assessing a sire's chances of making it as a stallion.

It is fair to write that Snitzel is the most prolific sire of two year old winners in Australia with him having sired 25 individual two year old winners this season. Compare this with Written Tycoon 8 and Not A Single Doubt 6.

Snitzel's best filly was the wonderful race mare Sweet Idea.

Signoret

Signoret is by the Champion broodmare sire Anabaa. Anabaa was a very good sire and was very well managed in Australia where he only served limited books of select mares. Anabaa is currently 6th on the National Broodmare List. Again there are hundreds of broodmare sires in Australia.

As a result his daughters were very well bred and many come from 'a' grade families. When you look at his statistics the big thing that stands out is the small number of runners which have put him in the this elite top 10 position with the likes of Zabeel, Danehill, General Nediym and Encosta de Lago . Other horses of a comparable age in the top 10 are Encosta de Lago with 575 runners and Flying Spur with 450. Anabaa only has 190 runners but many are high quality ones including Buffering.

Australian General Sires List 2016 – 2017 Season

	Sire	Runners	Winners	Wins	Rnrs/Wnrs	Total Earnings
1	Snitzel (by Redoute's Choice)	118	35 (5)	42 (5)	29.7%	\$1,439,533
2	Street Cry (by Machiavellian)	74	24 (3)	26 (4)	32.4%	\$1,300,575
3	High Chaparral (by Sadler's Wells)	101	24 (2)	34 (2)	23.8%	\$1,203,811
4	Medaglia d'Oro (by El Prado)	39	10 (1)	13 (2)	25.6%	\$1,093,748
5	Redoute's Choice (by Danehill)	73	21 (3)	25 (3)	28.8%	\$1,018,821
6	Exceed and Excel (by Danehill)	88	20 (4)	22 (4)	22.7%	\$990,181
7	Fastnet Rock (by Danehill)	102	30 (1)	34 (1)	29.4%	\$984,513
8	Not a Single Doubt (by Redoute's Choice)	122	28 (2)	31 (2)	23%	\$977,276
9	Blackfriars (by Danehill)	72	16 (1)	19 (1)	22.2%	\$882,223
10	Sebring (by More Than Ready)	117	29	30	24.8%	\$870,514