



# PRIME DISPATCH

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**Under Command enjoying life after racing in Tasmania**

**3<sup>rd</sup> in 2012 Group 1 Caulfield Guineas**

I'm sure the owners that raced Under Command would get a thrill out of the photo of him competing recently in Tasmania. He is now 15 years old but is in great shape and loves his life and more importantly is very well looked after. He was a magnificent athlete and still is very quick on his feet and is still a beautifully well balanced horse when he moves around.

He resides at Charlie Goggin's Runnymede property outside of Hobart and is being ridden here by Charlie's grand-daughter Ashley Meaburn.

I can't remember a busier time than I have experienced over the past couple of weeks. I was so relieved to get the last of the December accounts out yesterday. Our accounting package is being upgraded which should improve things quite a bit.

### **MAGIC MILLIONS WRAP UP**

I am in awe of the job Magic Millions have done in recent years to grow the Carnival to where it is now. The yearlings were sold to buyers from 13 countries with the biggest number going to Hong Kong where 48 yearlings fetched \$11,985,000. Domestically NSW buyers accounted for 350 purchases for a total spend of \$59,991,500 followed by Victorians with 173 yearlings for \$22,113,350.

The total spend at Magic Millions was \$145,881,150 with a clearance rate of 86.77%. This is up from \$69,223,250 at the 2012 Sale. In 2012 I purchased five yearlings for \$287,500 (59<sup>th</sup> biggest buyer) compared with this year's five yearlings for \$1,280,000. This placed us as the 25<sup>th</sup> biggest buyer at the sale.

I am looking at purchasing a further six to eight yearlings at the upcoming sales. In February I have the Inglis Classic Sale and Perth Magic Millions Sales to attend.

In conclusion we have won more Magic Millions races than any other buyer in the past three years with four wins including two of the big ones with Flying Jess and Husson Eagle. Our other two winners were Atalanta Miss and Rumeron. Since 2010 we are equal best buyer with six wins.

### **NOEL LECKIE**

I was very sad to hear of Noel Leckie's passing on Tuesday morning from a massive heart attack. I have known Noel for many years and as Chairman of Scone Racing Club Noel was instrumental in getting the two days stand-alone May Carnival at Scone up and running. The May Carnival at Scone had Noel's footprint all over it. High Class!!!

He was a superb administrator and it wasn't only the high quality of racing that stood Scone apart from the rest but the whole event is in a class of its own. The quality of catering is superb with the friendly and welcoming approach of all concerned with the event makes it unique and such a must to attend.

Our deepest condolences go out to Julie and his family. Not only Scone but Australia has lost a great person of rare talent.

Noel bred this year's Magic Millions two years old winners Houtzen as well as the high class Darren Weir trained Voodoo Lad. He loved the industry and quite often one of his closest friends David Morrow would call me to say Noel thought so and so would run well today. He was a very good judge.



**Noel Leckie (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) big loss to our industry**

### **ON THE TRACK**

This week we have a bit on with last start winner Husson's Kiss running tonight in the Tasmanian 1000 Guineas. Tomorrow at Royal Randwick we have Awasita and Raido lining up and on Friday Hussy's Glow will probably start at Werribee.

I was thrilled with Annaman's run at the Gold Coast on Magic Millions day and he heads to the Sunshine Coast on Saturday. Ankara Lass rounds out our runners at Goulburn on Monday.

We also have quite a few horses barrier trialling over the next few days with the Smart Missile filly winning a Newcastle trial impressively this morning.

## OUR YEARLINGS

I have shares available in three of the five yearlings I purchased at the recent Gold Coast Magic Millions Sale.



**Sebring / Queen Hazel filly – Kris Lees**

**10% shares \$31,500 5% shares \$15,750**

**40% remaining**

This filly rated very highly as a type and this is backed up with a terrific pedigree. She is closely related to Criterion and comes from a great two year old family. I couldn't have been happier when I secured her. She has a wonderful hindquarter, deep girth and is a lovely walker. She is an attractive looking filly which is positive. The progeny of Sebring can be a bit common looking but that isn't the case with this filly.

I love buying out of families where Oaks fillies appear on the page and in this case we have a Canadian Oaks winner and Champion Three Year Old in Canada as the third dam. Queen Hazel

(USA) was a two year old winner in the USA and also Group 3 placed. She has had one foal to race with it winning twice I 2016 and being metropolitan placed.

Queen Hazel is a ½ sister to the stakes performer Flying Jazz the winner of six races. The dam line here is good with the first three dams having 19 to race for 16 individual winners with a number of black type performers on the page. She has been well bred with an unraced two year old filly by Smart Missile and a foal by Sebring following this filly. In 2016 on the strength of this foal she went back to Sebring and is believed to be in foal. This reads very well.

There are not too many better sires in Australia than Sebring. He is very versatile and gets high class two year olds as well as very good staying horses. This season he is sitting 8<sup>th</sup> on the National Sire's List, 4<sup>th</sup> on the Two Year Old List and 6<sup>th</sup> on the Three Year Old List.

I'm really looking forward to this filly getting to the races. She is nominated for the rich Magic Millions race series and will be paid up for the lucrative BOBS Scheme. Kris Lees who is sitting 6<sup>th</sup> on the National Trainer's Title is the right man to train the filly.

It certainly would be nice to have her at the Gold Coast in January 2018 but given the strength of her pedigree and type of filly she is I wouldn't be surprised to see her really step up as the three year old.



**Exciting scenes after Flying Jess's big win!!!**



**Sizzling /Senro Kisasi filly - Patrick Payne**

**10% shares \$17,500 5% shares \$8,750**

**70% remaining**

I really liked what I saw in a number of the progeny of Sizzling at this sale. To me it is a no brainer that he will be a success at stud. He was a terrific racehorse and precocious two year old from the most dominant sire line in Australia for the past 20 years out of a 'black type' mare by one of the greatest sprinters of the modern generation in General Nediym.

Sizzling's pedigree page is very strong with a host of very good horses down the page. In fact it couldn't be any stronger with both the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> dams being superior producers.

I love the General Nediym (1<sup>st</sup> dam), Alzao stakes winner (2<sup>nd</sup> Dam) and Without Fear stakes producer (3<sup>rd</sup> dam) down the page. Eastate Label, the 3<sup>rd</sup> dam was a very high class producer also throwing the outstanding two year old filly Loving Cup.

I must say I had a bit to do with both sides of this pedigree with Sizzling's sire Snitzel being out of Snippet's Lass. Both General Nediym and Snippet's Lass were trained by Bill Mitchell when I was

his Racing Manager. They were both high class racehorses with Snippet's Lass being one of the toughest mares I have had anything to do with.

As for Senro Kasaki our promising filly and last start winner Husson's Kiss is out of Senro Kasaki which is also the dam of the highly progressive Hong Kong galloper Victory Marvel, a two time winner in Hong Kong this season. Husson's Kiss now heads to the 1000 Guineas in Launceston and then onto the Listed Strutt Stakes on Hobart Cup Day and Tasmanian Oaks. This is only Senro Kasaki's 4<sup>th</sup> foal.

This filly is much stronger than Husson's Kiss was at the same age. Senro Kasaki is out of a Danehill Dancer mare. Danehill Dancer has gradually moved up the broodmare sire's list and is now 14<sup>th</sup> on the list which is a very good effort considering he was 39<sup>th</sup> four years ago.

As a type this filly is faultless and I really like the mating of Sizzling over Senro Kasaki. This filly was bred by Ian Smith who bred the Champion sprinter Silent Witness as well as many other fine gallopers.

This was a really tough sale with many of the yearlings struggling with the oppressive conditions. This filly didn't miss a beat and handled everything with ease. She has been paid up for the rich Magic Million Series and is strong enough to perhaps get to the Gold Coast in 2018 but should train on to be a wonderful three year old. I love this filly.



**What a big day shared with Anna Power, Kate O'Neill and Gabby Moloney!!!**



**Smart Missile / Devoirs filly – Darren Weir**

**10% shares \$14,900 5% shares \$7,450**

**70% remaining**

If there was one yearling I was always going to purchase at this sale it was this one. I know the family very well and have two fillies closely related to this impressive Smart Missile filly. The first is Strike For Victory who like this filly is by Smart Missile Australia's Champion First Season Sire of 2015/16 season. Strike For Victory is probably the fastest two year old I have ever had. She has amazing talent but her attitude has let her down although this is improving.

The second filly I have from the family is Honolulu Lass out of Devoirs dam Velasco. Patrick Payne trains her and has a big opinion of her. She should race in the next six weeks. A Smart Missile colt out of Velasco named Debellatio was an impressive Trial winner at Lark Hill in WA recently and makes his debut at Ascot on Saturday and looks to have plenty of talent.

Devoirs was a good racehorse and Stakes winner. I was offered her first foal Edge Away as a weanling but felt she was too small. She is a Sydney Metropolitan winner.

This filly was reared at Yarraman Park whose reputation for rearing tough horses with good bone and a strong constitution has soared in recent years. I've written many times that it is more important where a foal is raised than who its parents are. This is certainly the case with Yarraman Park.

Progeny reared at Yarraman Park did a remarkable job during the recent Magic Millions Gold Coast Carnival where the highlight was the win by the Yarraman reared Houtzen. Other horses from the farm to perform well on the day were I Am Zelady which was 2<sup>nd</sup> in the \$1 million Mares Race and Madeenaty 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Two Year Old race as well.

I have been a strong supporter of Smart Missile since I first inspected his yearlings and have three very nice three year old fillies by him that have raced with The Wasp and Strike For Victory being very impressive winners and Chastity Strikes being placed before needing a spell after contracting a virus. He was Champion first Season Sire in his year in Australia and s leading Second Season Sire as I write this.

I am thrilled to have this filly in our team and should thrive under Darren Weir's training. The filly will be paid up for the rich Magic Millions Series and looks a real runner to me.



**Awasita lining up tomorrow at Headquarters!!!**