



PRIME DISPATCH

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Flying Jess winning the Magic Millions Guineas in January

Running in the ATC Carbine Club Plate at Royal Randwick on Saturday

Thank heavens the weather around Sydney appears to be starting to settle down. The track at Randwick would be a soft 6 as I write this and with the prospect of more drying weather today could well get back to a soft 5 by Saturday. Let's hope so because the ATC have assembled a wonderful card of racing with the feature being the Doncaster Handicap over the famous 1600m trip.

All being well we will be represented by Flying Jess at the meeting in the Group 3 Carbine Club Stakes. John Moloney is very happy with her leading into the race and she will be partnered by Brenton Avdulla who knows the filly well having ridden her in her lead up run to the Magic Millions and then followed her home in that win. I hope she draws a nice gate 4 or 5 would be ideal. Barriers make a big difference to a horse's chances of success.

Flying Jess won't be our only runner for the day with another Magic Millions feature winner Husson Eagle running in the Listed Manihi Stakes at Morphettville. Casa De Lago joins Husson Eagle in Adelaide and we also have Isthmian and Chasity Strikes likely to line up at Taree.

It is a busy week with Great Southern running at Sandown today, Husson Boots at Doomben and Lomazzo at Newcastle in the final qualifying race for the Provincial Championships. The \$390,000 final is at Randwick on 8 April where we plan to run Savoureux in the Sapphire Stakes.

Other runners over the next few days include Awasita, Strike For Victory and Munjai at Scone on Monday.

We also have Kissing Game, Cattonar, Hussy's Glow, Invincible Al, Watego's Beach, Zelsignoret and Honolulu Lass either jumping out or competing in barrier trials.

We should have plenty of runners in the coming few weeks as we head towards the Scone and Adelaide Carnivals.

WOODSIDE PARK

I have been really quite impressed with the progress and direction that Woodside Park has taken over the past couple of years. The once proud breeding industry in Victoria has taken a back seat to the Hunter Valley over the past two decades and it is nice to see a Victorian stud standing a couple of very progressive horses.

Written Tycoon has done a great job and currently occupies 9th spot on the National Sires List. The progeny of their new horse Zoustar has attracted a lot of attention at this year's yearling sales and looks to have a future on what I have seen.

I wish them every success going forwards. It is a big gamble to stand a sire with only a small percentage actually being successful.

THE EVEREST

It looks like 'The Everest', the \$10,000,000 1200m WFA Sprint to be run at Royal Randwick on the same day as the MRC Caulfield Guineas meeting will go ahead. It

is a great concept and effectively pushes the Sydney Spring Carnival out by a further two weeks.

This meeting is held two weeks before the Cox Plate and I'm certain the authorities in NSW haven't overlooked that a suitable lead up race to the Cox Plate at that meeting could well see Australia's greatest drawcard Winx run on the day at Randwick. What a promotion. It will be interesting to see how the final card for the day comes together. You can bet it will be a cracking meeting.

In fact the whole Sydney Spring Carnival could and I guess is probably being revamped to avoid the clash with the football grand finals with racing being the only game in town during that period.

RVL really need to look at their carnival structure with the obvious competition coming from NSW and the attraction of big money on offer in Queensland leading up to the \$10,000,000 Magic Millions race day in January.

There are only so many good horses to go around and the big money on offer in both NSW and Queensland connections of these horses will be looking to where they can get the best returns.

It will be very interesting to see how these scenarios pan out.

THIS WEEK'S YEARLINGS

Firstly, I would like to make the point that I am very happy with the way our yearling purchases have been received by the market. We have had over 50 new enquiries in the past week.

I have steadily increased 'our spend' at the yearling sales over the past few years but felt I needed to if we were to continue to be competitive and a leader in our industry.

At the end of the day I am out there trying to buy not only horses that can win on the track but also to secure horses that can compete with the best on the big days. It is no fluke that there is rarely a major carnival in Melbourne and Sydney where we are not represented.

Our effort in having seven runners at the Magic Millions \$10 million Day in January shouldn't be under estimated. Our trainers and I had targeted the day and to win one of the

big races was a dream result, with luck in running we could have won a couple more but there are so many variables in racing.

I have completed my purchases and won't be attending the Inglis Easter Sale. I could get 100 yearlings vetted and not get a bid in with the average likely to be around \$300,000. My plan this year was to purchase 13 yearlings. I have finished up with 14 spread across six states.

HUSSON - ZANY LADY FILLY



Husson filly out of Zany Lady 2015 - Dan Morton to train
10% shares \$8,500 – 5% shares \$4,250

This filly really caught my eye at the Perth Magic Millions Yearling Sale. She is a very strong well balanced filly with a powerful shoulder and great hindquarter. I have had terrific success with the progeny of Husson having raced eight with six individual winners already. These include Husson Eagle, the outstanding sprinter and winner of the 2016 \$1 million Magic Millions Sprint on the Gold Coast on Magic Millions \$10,000,000 day.

This filly reminds me a lot of a couple of good Zeditave mares I raced in Calming and Zelady. She

has a real presence about her and I was thrilled to pick her up for about half what I was prepared at pay.

Husson is a great Sire and the job he has done in Australia has been remarkable given the start he received here standing at Patinack Farm.

I could go on forever about his accomplishments but as Hussonet's best son at stud he was always going to a great chance at stud.

Since the start of the New Year he has continued to get great results including Private Secretary's outstanding win in the \$1 million Magic Millions Mares Race at the Gold Coast in January and his two year old daughter Frolic won the recent \$250,000 Inglis Classic race at Randwick.

Other current gallopers by him doing the job are Lucky Hussler and of course our very good sprinters Husson Eagle and Raido.

Zany Lady is a very good brood mare by a great sire in Zeditave. She has had five to race for four winners and comes from a very good winning family. Zeditave has had 37 stakes winners as a brood mare sire including the Group 1 winner and Sire Reset.

It is hard to go past winning families and in this case the filly was reared at Oaklands Park Stud, one of WA's very best and the nursery that produced the outstanding gallopers Northerly, Marasco, North Boy and So Secret.



Unchain My Heart winning the Andrew Ramsden Stakes

AL MAHER MISS CUTIE FILLY



Al Maher filly out of Miss Cutie 2015
\$8,500 per 10% share (5% shares \$4250)
John Thompson to train at Royal Randwick

For a few years I have been on the lookout for a nice Al Maher filly and at last I found the one I was after. This filly is a beautiful walking filly and in many ways reminds me of the better Street Cry fillies I have inspected. She has good size and is well proportioned. She has an attractive head and is strong through the shoulder and hindquarter.

The one characteristic I really liked about this filly was her attitude. While she had a strong personality she was easy to handle and I observed her being inspected on several occasions to make sure she a good attitude. In my experience the progeny of Al Maher can be a bit 'hot'.

I was keen on the progeny of Al Maher from day one and purchased two fillies out of his first crop. One of these was Unchain My Heart. She was a wonderful staying mare and won the Andrew Ramsden Stakes twice and also the Bagot Handicap.

Like this filly Unchain My Heart came from a stout female line and wasn't unlike this filly as a type. Al Maher has been a really good sire with his progeny producing better than 10% stakes winners to winners. Only the best sires achieve this figure.

His 32 stakes winners include some outstanding females including Delicacy, Majestic Music, Speedy Natalie and of course Unchain My Heart.

Miss Cutie is by the Champion sire Street Cry and was a metropolitan winner and placed in Sydney as a two year old. This is only her second foal with the first being placed recently at Sandown.

Miss Cutie comes from a very good female line that includes the high class Group 1 performers Defier and Traveston Girl. I also like the line of dams with Street Cry, Grand Lodge, Marscay and Salieri the dam sires of the first four dams.

The 2nd dam is a half-sister to Defier who was a wonderful galloper winning three times at Group 1 level and in excess of \$2.9 million.

All in all Miss Cutie presents as quite a complete package.

SMART MISSILE DEVOIRS FILLY



Smart Missile / Devoirs filly – Darren Weir

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

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 winner WA recently and looks to have plenty of talent and is being aimed towards the Group 2 Karrakatta Plate.**

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 2nd in the \$1 million Mares Race and Madeenaty 3rd 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.

Note: This filly's ¾ brother Debellatio runs in the Group 3 Karrakatta Plate on Saturday at Ascot with another close relative Strike For Victory resuming at Scone on Monday.