

Prize Is The Pits!

Champions Day at Turffontein on 30 April hosts a lucky draw where two people can win a VIP Day at Kyalami on 23rd July 2016. Access to the VIP enclosure in the pit area, including lunch and a SEFAC branded cap and picnic blanket are included. The main winner will go for a few laps around the track in a Ferrari 360 Challenge race car



driven by Jackie Scheckter, nephew of former SA Formula 1 World Champion Jody.

DIAMOND HEIST

The debacle of the abandoned Flamingo Park meeting this past Monday due to errant wet patches will likely once again pass without a bleat from the authorities.

While horse safety is paramount, it is understood that many owners, trainers and jockeys are angry with the racing operator for the lack of proactivity. And whispers suggest that the current Flamingo Park manager is being promoted to the Vaal soon. Must be an April Fool's joke – albeit a late one.

Life's A Breeze

Justin Snaith's Windrush filly Nordic Breeze had the distinction of being the Cape's first 2yo winner in open company this term when she won impressively on debut at Kenilworth on Saturday. She was bred by Veronica Foulkes' Normandy Stud and is out of the Northern Guest mare, Nordic Vine. Veronica races her in partnership with those very lucky owners, Jane and Ken Truter.

Magic Of Mambo

Moutonshoek sire Mambo In Seattle had a weekend to remember when the son of Kingmambo was represented by no fewer than four winners. Five of Mambo In Seattle's last 11 runners have all won their respective races. Gr3 Byerley Turk winner Mambo Mime was the second son of Mambo In Seattle in the past week to have won a graded race, with his son Fortune Fella having won the previous Saturday's Gr3 Caradoc Gold Cup.

Mambo In Seattle's first crop has already proved most effective, with five stakes horses, including dual Gr1 winner Same Jurisdiction.

Seconds Out...



What's wrong with these Aussies? Jockey David Pisani – a former Australian amateur boxing champion – let his fists fly at trainer Russell Bell in a racetrack car park after Bell suggested one of his female

apprentices steer clear of the 33-year-old, who was apparently 'sniffing around.' Pisani clearly didn't appreciate the words of wisdom, and king-hit Bell before the trainer struck back with some blows of his own. The pair made no attempt to control their emotions and Bell walked away with a black eye.

TRIPPI TOPS

Leading Drakenstein sire Trippi made it back to back wins in the Gr3 Umzimkhulu Stakes on Friday night, when his daughter Fromafar prevailed in the R250 000 feature. Last year, the Gr3 feature had been won by Trippi filly One Fine Day, who defeated subsequent Gr2 Fillies Guineas winner Alexis to win the 2015 Umzimkhulu Stakes.

Scales Of Justice

Kenilworth Clerk Of Scales Miss Tarryn Jackson is taking no nonsense from poorly disciplined jockeys who don't listen. Grant Van Niekerk, Robert Khathi, Keagan De Melo and apprentice Craig Bantam were all fined R500 each in terms of rule 56.4.1.3 at varying times on 2 April for failing to proceed to the parade ring immediately after being instructed to do so by the Clerk of Scales, who was working alone.



JR's No Twit

Milnerton maestro Joey Ramsden and his well-travelled assistant Alson Ndzilana paid a visit to Mike and Mathew de Kock at Randjesfontein on Tuesday morning and the charismatic JR, having recently discovered the joys of Twitter, was quick on the button with a pic and a comment: "At the Eton School Of Racing with trainer Alson giving Mdk a few pointers as to where he might be going wrong." Mike responded: "Twitter, yes, Joey just can't help himself!"

What A Lady!

The first local woman to ride in Hong Kong since 2000 made it a quartet of winners from seven rides at Sha Tin on Sunday - and it very easily could have been five. 23 year old Kei Chiong Ka-kei created history as the first woman to ride four winners at a Hong Kong race meeting. Chiong had already become the first woman to ride three winners after Friends Forever, Supreme Flight and Gallant Rock scored, before a clever ride on McQueen delivered the history-making feat.

Ruler To Retire

Grand National winner Rule The World's owner Michael O'Leary says he does not see the need to make the nine-year-old defend the title. Rule The World had never claimed a victory over fences before Saturday - and has twice recovered from a cracked pelvis. "The horse has just arrived home, had a roll and a big feed and we're taking him into Mullingar for a homecoming parade," he said and added he would make a decision in consultation with the trainer.

