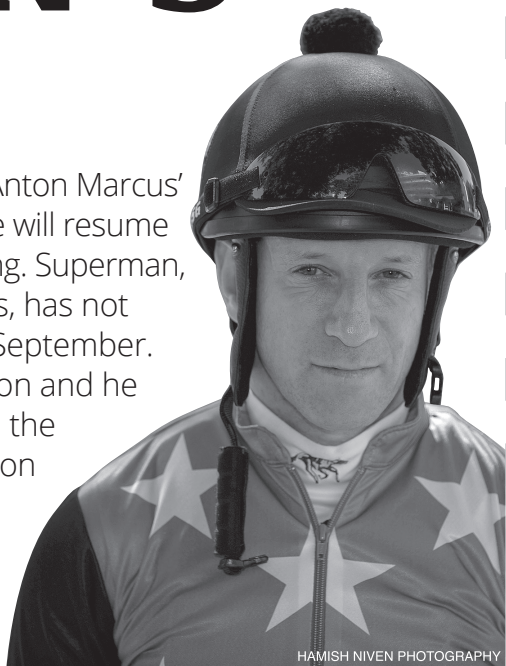


ANTON'S BACK

It is good to see champion jockey Anton Marcus' name back in the racecards and he will resume riding at Greyville this Friday evening. Superman, as he is known to his legion of fans, has not seen action since Scottsville on 4 September. He has ridden 5 winners this season and he will no doubt gradually start to up the ante. The low-key multiple champion rode an extraordinary 7 Gr1 winners last season amongst his 169 firsts. His win strike-rate was a top-class 27%!



HAMISH NIVEN PHOTOGRAPHY

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That's how many wins the outstanding filly Songbird has run up in her unbeaten winning streak after she had the easiest of times winning Parx' \$1 million Gr1 Cotillion Stakes on Saturday. According to her Hall of Fame trainer Jerry Hollendorfer, she was scheduled for a plane ride back to Santa Anita on Wednesday to prepare for a start in the \$2 million Gr1 Breeder's Cup Distaff on 4 November where, for the first time, she will take on older fillies and mares.

The Power Of One?

Tellytrack CEO Rob Scott has confirmed that the racing channel will only be utilising one presenter on course with effect from 1 October. Scott said that it was a new approach. "We are revisiting the whole tipping and presentation of the channel and are looking to add some great new features in the coming months," he said. An industry insider closely associated with the broadcaster labelled the decision 'ludicrous' and added that differing views made for interesting television. As a comparison in the international scheme of things, Hong Kong has 5 presenters, Singapore 4 and GBI 2.



TELLYTRACK

Come What May

It will be interesting to see whether the NHA take any action against apprentice Brandon May who appeared to cost his mount Moulina second place in the first race at Durbanville on Saturday. The Stipes Report confirms that an enquiry will be opened. While it wasn't a blatant drop of the hands, there is little doubt that young Mr May appeared to misjudge the line – or maybe he even got a touch tired in those final strides?

1 2 3 4 5 6 IN A ROW

The former Mike de Kock trained Karraar made it six straight wins in Mauritius on Saturday. The feature race, The Radio Plus 14th Anniversary Trophy was run over the Draper's Mile at the Champ de Mars. Karraar grabbed the lead from the word go and was never seen again to give Gilbert Rousset and Bernard Fayd'herbe their second win of the day. The Australian-bred son of Reaan could only win two races here and was purchased second hand for R180 000 by Joey Ramsden's Goodhope Racing on the 2015 Michael Holmes Super Sale.

Back To War

Champion Singapore galloper War Affair (O'Reilly-Kristique, by Kris S) made a welcome return to the winner's circle when landing the S\$125,000 Kranji Stakes A race over 1400m at Kranji racecourse on Sunday. Having just his second start since resuming from a long layoff due to injury and fitness concerns, the 2014 Singapore Horse of the Year showed a glimpse of his brilliant best when scoring by 0.1 length over fellow NZ-bred gelding Majestic Moments. "He showed his class today, to come back from a long break and to win second-up, what a fantastic performance," said trainer Bruce Marsh. War Affair's main target is the Gr1 Kranji Mile (1600m) on 9 October.

She's Back!

Australian jockey Michelle Payne has ridden her first winner since returning from a career-threatening injury. The 30-year-old, who became the first female rider to win the Melbourne Cup last November, took the Coleraine Cup on Birds Of Tokyo on Sunday. It was Payne's sixth race since surgery on her pancreas after a fall in May.



Punters Fleeced

Congratulations to the newly formed training partnership of Carl Burger and Riaan Van Reenen. Things are looking up and from a limited 21 horse string they saddled their second winner in ten days when the 66-1 Royal Fleece won the last at Durbanville on Saturday and delivered a knockout blow for Pick 6 players. The daughter of Argonaut was ridden by the somehow always underrated Craig du Plooy.

Opening The Batting

The Dolphins, KZN's beloved provincial cricket team, are currently experiencing a period of transition, with the latest change being the acquisition of a new title sponsor. After months of negotiations, it has been announced that Hollywoodbets has signed on as the team's title sponsor for the 2016/2017 season.

JULY FEVER

Well-known racing personality of yesteryear Molly Joyce has republished her 1980 top-seller July Fever on Amazon. The 77 year old, who once walloped Johnny Cawcutt and Stanley Amos in a Kenilworth 2400m grass gallop, and trained for top owners, has some amazing stories to tell. She can be contacted on email at molsdolls@gmail.com for any inquiries about her excellent book.