

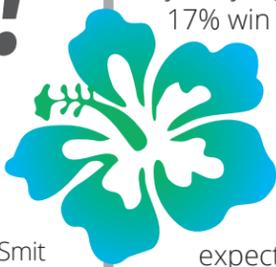
## Cox Plate – Winx vs Hartnell?

Superstar mare Winx will jump from stall three in a field of ten as she bids to land back-to-back renewals of the Cox Plate at Moonee Valley on Saturday. She put the finishing touches on her preparation with a gallop around the tight Moonee Valley circuit at the track's Breakfast With The Best event on Tuesday morning, before the draw for the big race took place. "She didn't go out to do a whole lot this morning, it was just to bring her out to release some nervous energy in her and me," said jockey Hugh Bowman. The race is being billed as a match between Winx and emerging star Hartnell, whose form has reached new levels since he was comfortably held in fifth by Winx in last year's renewal.

## Island Style

Imagine having to take an injury enforced holiday in Mauritius? That is what log-leading champion jockey Andrew Fortune and his new bride Ashley are doing after the star suffered a fall from Seeking Gold at Turffontein on Thursday, 13 October. He has been booked off riding for two weeks.

Fortune, who is currently lying well clear on the national jockey log and enjoying a 17% win strike rate for the season, told the Sporting Post: "All ok, nothing broken, thank goodness. Just a bit sore." He expects to be back in the saddle on 26 October.



## Super Silvano



Former champion sire Silvano enjoyed a weekend to remember, with his progeny faring well both on the racetrack and in the sales ring. The sire of 17 individual G1 winners to date, Silvano was represented by four individual winners this weekend. Silvano, whose 2015-2016 runners included the G1 winners Marinaresco and Silver Mountain, also proved popular at Saturday's CTS Ready To Run Sale. The evergreen son of Lomitas was the sale's leading sire by aggregate, with his seven lots to sell grossing a total of R2.275 million. His top lot sold at the RTR Sale was lot 113, a filly named Good Genes, who was knocked down to Brett Crawford for R500 000.

## Hot Hoiles!

Leading UK commentator Richard Hoiles will take over from Simon Holt as the voice of racing after being appointed lead commentator at ITV. Hoiles is well known to SA racing fans as he called both the Gr1 Investec Cape Derby and the CTS Million Dollar at Kenilworth earlier this year as part of the established international commentator swap established in 2015. Rouvaun Smit was our man who went to the Investec Derby Festival in exchange.



## Shipwrecked

On the recent debate of transparency, internationally respected racing expert Barry Irwin once told journalist David Thiselton that visiting a South African training track was like going back to the 1950's. He used an amusing analogy, writing: "Going to South Africa is like watching one of those movies where somebody gets shipwrecked and one or two of the survivors washes ashore on a remote island where prehistoric beasts roam the land." His point was the information available in our racing is controlled by those on the inside. There are zero measures on South African training tracks to exert control for the benefit of outsiders, like the media, who can then relay the information to the punters.

## MAURITIUS RULES

South African Jockey Academy (SAJA) fourth year apprentice Kersley Ramsamy, won the fourth race at Tarbes Racecourse in France, on Sunday, aboard Thabit, trained by Francisco Sanchez.

Kersley was representing Mauritius, having been selected by the Mauritius Turf Club to represent his home country in the Sheikha Fatima Bint Mubarak Apprentice World Championship race.

He won the Eastern Cape Champion Apprentice Title earlier this year and is currently based at the SAJA campus in Port Elizabeth under the care and guidance of former jockey-turned-trainer and now Riding Master, Tex Davie.



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## Handicappers Can't Win

Pakistan Star's shock first defeat in Hong Kong over the weekend might have had some fans taking aim at jockey Matthew Chadwick but the 3yo's trainer Tony Cruz had no doubts about his target after the bubble burst. "I think the way his handicap rating went up 30 points in just two starts had a lot to do with it," said Cruz, after Pakistan Star ran Mr Bogart to two and a half lengths to grab second place in the final stages. "This horse isn't fully mature, he is improving but still does things wrong and, when their rating rises so quickly, they have to race too soon against a higher class of competition. The way he races, he couldn't catch the horse on the speed at this level. To me, his performance was up to expectations." Cruz said after Pakistan Star's second win that he felt the handicapper had lifted him too much.

## Chrome Tops

With his imperious recent victory in the Gr1 Awesome Again Stakes, California Chrome (USA) [133] retains the top spot in the eighth edition of the LONGINES World's Best Racehorse Rankings for 2016.

## Cycle Of Life

UK jump jockey Wilson Renwick is attempting a dramatic career change, swapping horsepower for pedal power, as he announced his retirement from the saddle on Monday. He has not ridden since suffering multiple injuries in a fall at Market Rasen in May 2015. Nerve damage sustained in his left arm ultimately forced Renwick to call time on his career, and he told BBC Sport: "As well as the concussion, I broke a vertebra in my neck, my collarbone, my jawbone and a couple of ribs, and they've all healed". Now attached to the Italian team Parentini, Renwick is doing well in his new discipline. His switch in career path has obvious (reverse) similarities to Olympian cyclist Victoria Pendleton, who succeeded in her goal of riding at last season's Cheltenham Festival.

**New Predator**  
3rd in the  
Gr2 Joburg Spring Challenge  
at Turffontein, 8 October  
for trainer JJ v Vuuren

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