

Making Waves

"Disappointed? Yes. But bothered? No!" Joey Ramsden's reaction to Michael Clower following Saturday's Selangor Cup shock when the odds-on Table Bay was beaten into third. "Pace is important but you have got to be in the right place," Ramsden reasoned, pointing out that the first two were stone last turning for home. "The others just went too fast." His rivals will point out that it was he who provided the pacemaker, but punters and pundits alike were left stunned. However

rider Anton Marcus seemed to be singing from much the same hymn sheet as Ramsden, saying: "I think he was too prominent in running – I can't think of anything else. Table Bay is a smart horse but going through the 900m mark he was under pressure and I knew I was in trouble."



MAMBO JAMBO

Saturday's Listed Kenilworth Cup winner Smart Mart became one of eight first crop stakes horses for Moutonshoek sire Mambo In Seattle. Others include dual Gr1 winner Same Jurisdiction, Gr3 winner Fortune Fella, and this coming Saturday's Gr1 Summer Cup hopeful Saratoga Dancer. Mambo In Seattle has a smart looking 3yo this season in the form of Ramsden's I Travel Light. He was a neck second to subsequent Gr2 Selangor Cup winner Gold Standard in the Listed Racing Association Stakes.

KZN Breeders Bonanza

Entries have opened for the 8 KZN Breeders Series races with a stake of R200 000 each, held on KZN Breeders Race Day on 25 June 2017. Almost 900 horses were entered for the 2016 day. The series was introduced to reward owners and trainers who support local breeders with the purchase of KZN-bred horses. Pre Entries close 6 December 2016 at 16h00. Supplementary Entries close 21 April 2017 at 16h00. Final Supplementary Entries close 15 June 2017 at 11h00. The R2,6 million worth of races will all be run on Greyville's Polytrack, excluding the Million Mille, which will be run on turf. Visit www.kznbreeders.co.za for more.

Daddy's Girls

Daughters of Fort Wood's outstanding son Horse Chestnut continue to make their presence felt in major graded races. Flashdance Missy's talented son Ivan Fallunovalot (by Valid Expectations) won the Gr3 Frank J. De Francis Memorial Dash on Saturday. The 6yo gelding made it 4 wins in a row when scoring easily in the \$250 000 race. Horse Chestnut's daughters have already produced a number of stakes winners, including last season's Met winner and Equus Champion Smart Call. He is also broodmare sire of 2016 US Gr3 winner and Gr1 placed Zipessa. Other notable performers include Suggestive Boy (G1 Frank E Kilroe Mile), Cannock Chase (G1 Canadian International), Pisco Sour (G2 Prix Eugene Adam), Ol' Fashion Gal (G3 Jimmy Durante S), and Ocho Ocho Ocho (G3 Delta Downs Jackpot).

NO MERCY IN MAURITIUS

Cape heavyweight Bernard Fayd'herbe looks to have gotten a raw deal from the Mauritius Stipes. He pleaded guilty to a charge under MTC Rule 160 A (i) for failing to ride the Gilbert Rousset trained Dawn Raid to the satisfaction of the Stewards on Saturday 12 November. The Lateral gelding started favourite and the Stipes were not happy after the horse 'covered more ground than expected' and ran second. Fayd'herbe was suspended from riding in races for one meeting and fined Rs.25,000. On the same day, KZN jockey Ian Sturgeon was found guilty of a charge under MTC Rule 160 A (b) for 'excessively reducing the pace and causing interference'. He was also fined Rs.25,000.



A stalker 'won' the last race at the Newcastle trots on Saturday night. Punters could have been forgiven for thinking the commentator was saying "That's not very nice" as the man clad in underwear passed the winning post just in front of the horses. But the commentator was talking about the race winner, Thatsnotberry nice. Newcastle Harness Racing Club chief executive Tony Drew said the man made a "poor, poor choice". The cheeky two legged trotter was issued with a fine of A\$500 - and we assume that his merit rating has been dropped drastically.

Crowning Moment



A well-executed tactical ride from top Australian jockey Craig Williams paved the way to a win aboard Bahana in the \$1.35 million Gr1 Dester Singapore Gold Cup at Kranji on Sunday. Last year's Melbourne champion jockey was drafted in by trainer Stephen Gray to ride Bahana as regular partner Vlad Duric could not make the 50,5kgs. It has been a long slog for Gray but Sunday's win was a crowning moment of 16 years in Singapore.

Flying Frankie On Fire

Rain cut short the final meeting of the Air Mauritius International Jockeys' Challenge at Turffontein on Sunday.

BUT those in attendance were treated to the famous Frankie Dettori flying dismount, not once - but twice.

The captain of the international team delivered with his first ride of the day, aboard the Joe Soma trained Turn Back Time, as his side tried to peg back the deficit.

Shot

Heading into the meeting each of the respective captains were rooted to the bottom of the rider's standings but that changed very quickly in Johannesburg as S'manga Khumalo delivered aboard Duzi Moon in the sixth race. "The race was easy for me. It's great for the public and for me that the fight is back on and we're catching up," Dettori said after his win in the opener. "Shot!" he added, using one of South African racing's more popular expressions.

The double was completed for Dettori after the seventh as he got Seattle Lady home for an easy victory and in turn sealed up the Victor Ludorum prize, not only for the day, but for the overall competition.

Bird Luck

For that particular winning interview, Dettori recalled how a bird had provided some lucky inspiration earlier on that morning.

"I was standing under the tree and a bird pooped on my suit. The boys said it was lucky and it turned out that way," the

legendary Italian said. But any hopes that Dettori had of his team catching the South African team were dashed in spite of his personal heroics given that the local riders consistently found the placings and ended up taking the honours once again.

It is the seventh time the South African side have come out tops in this annual event. The internationals have managed to claim two victories.

His personal haul on the day was 72,5 and with each jockey being awarded 8.5 points for the abandoned race, it was enough to put his personal tally up to 87,5 for the two-legged series and ensured he edged out Gavin Lerena by a slim two point margin.

Enjoyed It

Muzi Yeni had earned the Victor Ludorum prize in Fairview but he couldn't sustain the effort at Turffontein with his best finish being a fourth in the sixth race although he did add consistently add to the team cause.

"It's been brilliant. From the minute we set foot in this country everybody's been so great and hospitable. We really enjoyed ourselves, we had a great team, good craic," Dettori said after receiving his respective awards.

The awards ceremony was also used as an opportunity to raise money for Freddie Tylicki, paralysed in a recent fall, with Dettori's silks from the day autographed by both teams and auctioned off.



SHAW, IT'S SUMMER!

Bipot King Shaheen Shaw will be thrilled to hear that the pool for his favourite bet is likely to reach R500 000, and with a Pick 6 projected at R5 million, there will be plenty of betting interest in Saturday's Sansui Summer Cup meeting. Tote betting will be available from Wednesday 23 November. To borrow a Shawism – 'Hit 'em hard Sunshines!'

Racecaller Vacancy



One of Australia's most popular commentators has announced his retirement. Greg Miles called his first race in Melbourne at Caulfield in December 1979 and his first Melbourne Cup in 1981 at the age of 22. He called a record 36th Melbourne Cup earlier this month. Miles is contracted until June, 2017, and will be part of the selection panel formed to choose his successor.

Taking The Rap

The latest NHA Calendar shows interesting cases of an owner, assistant trainer and breeders being fined for, amongst others, failing to vaccinate horses and for not updating a passport. We are so used to seeing mostly trainers, and in some cases breeders, on the receiving end of these offences. But owners and assistants - what has changed?