

Spot On

Despite perceptions to the contrary, the handicappers often get it right. Last Winter was rated 83 after winning his only start, a polytrack maiden which he won as a 2yo eleven months ago. The Great One has won twice and is stakes placed. He is rated 83 too. They took each other on in the MR 78 Handicap at Scottsville on Saturday. Last Winter won by a short head with the four-time winning 4yo Gyre (79) over 5 lengths away in third.

LATE

We raised the late start time (21h50) of Friday evening's Listed East Coast Cup at Greyville - and also why 10 races were carded - with Gold Circle. Racing Executive Raf Sheik agreed that it was not ideal to race after 21h00 and especially a feature race. "This was done to accommodate the race sponsors who were expected to land in SA just after 20h00 on Friday. Unfortunately due to flight delays the delegation could not make it," explained Raf, who said that due to the loss of 6 races at Scottsville the previous Sunday, they were catching up - thus the heavy ten-race card.

5

Mauritzfontein sire Ideal World's Met winning daughter Smart Call made a smart return to action when third in the Gr2 Betfred Middleton Stakes at York last Thursday.

Ideal World produced recent feature race winners Hermoso Mundo (Gr3 Gold Bowl) and Louisiana (The Scarlet Lady) and the son of Kingmambo produced a total of five winners this weekend - in South Africa and Zimbabwe.



Split

Saturday's Champ de Mars meeting was the last one for the partnership of SA jockey Wesley Marwing and the Chitranjan Ramdin stable. A mutually agreed split sees Marwing winging his way back home.

No Repeat No Repeat No Repeat

The Frankel first crop fairytale failed to repeat itself when the first runner from his much anticipated second crop stepped out at Newbury last Friday. John Gosden saddled the Juddmonte homebred Westerland in a 1200m maiden - a fitting starting point as Frankel's very first foal, runner and winner Cunco grabbed the headlines with a successful debut in a division of this very race last year. Westerland ran a cracker - but was no match for the 25 to 1 shot, Nebo.



twelve

Highlands kingpin Dynasty registered his 12th black type win of the season, when his Highlands Farms Stud bred son African Night Sky won Sunday's Gr3 Winter Classic at Kenilworth.

37

Avontuur's speed king Var dominated matter in Sunday's Listed Olympic Duel Stakes, where his one-eyed daughter Hanabi became his 37th

individual stakes winner. His daughters Miss Marker and China Pearl ran third and fifth respectively. Var was also represented by his 13th juvenile winner this season when Purple Diamond won for Sean Tarry at Turfontein on Saturday.



Here's One

Melbourne Cup winner Americain sired his first Australian winner with Geegee Blackprince's success in the 1400m Tasmanian Sires' Produce Stakes for 2yo's on Sunday at Launceston. A son of Dynaformer, Americain stands the Southern Hemisphere season at Victoria's Swettenham Stud and has a filly out of a daughter of champion sire and emerging broodmare sire Exceed And Excel (Lot 22) on the Klawervlei Farm Sale next month.

15

Maine Chance's champion sire Silvano's great season continued at Greyville on Friday night when the Klawervlei Stud bred Epona won the Listed KRA East Coast Cup. This was Silvano's 15th stakes win of the season. Jay Peg's half-sister Epona was one of two winners on the night for Silvano.

Save The Date

The day after the Vodacom Durban July... so not easy to miss! The first son of Unbridled's Song to stand in South Africa, Noble Tune, will be the centre of attraction at his stallion day at Rathmor Stud on Sunday 2 July.



Best Wishes Nico



Popular Gauteng racecaller Nico Kritsiotis has been in hospital for thirteen days and underwent a lengthy operation on Tuesday morning. Kritsiotis, who received a kidney transplant in 2011, suffered a serious infection in the arm that he used for his dialysis prior to undergoing his transplant. On Tuesday morning he had a vascular procedure to remove all the ports used during his renal failure and dialysis. Speaking to Short Heads on Monday evening, Nico thanked all of those who have sent him messages of well wishes as well as numerous gifts to his hospital bedside. "I am missing my family life and the racing but this is just another hurdle that has to be overcome. I am most appreciative and thankful for the kindness and support shown from so many quarters," he said.