



PRIME DISPATCH

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Rubisaki created a huge impression winning at Flemington
Trained by Patrick Payne

I can't remember being more confident of having a winner than I was last Saturday heading to Flemington to watch Rubisaki step up from a provincial grade maiden win to Saturday metropolitan class. She was outstanding on debut, better at her next start and went to a new level on Saturday when she trounced a handy field of 3yo at headquarters. She was very well ridden by Jye McNeil who is a star of the future. The plan is to run her in the Listed Taj Rossi Series Final at Flemington on 6 July and then send her for a break before being prepared for the Spring Carnival. She is a ripper of a filly and her owners are in for a great ride with her.

It could be an important few weeks for the family with her ½ sister Zizzis heading to the Listed Lightning Stakes in Adelaide on 27 July. They are both very good fillies. I was just as pleased to see Zelsignoret win at Donald. She too is well related with a metropolitan race not beyond her. Patrick Payne has done a great job with her and hopefully her owners will be rewarded with a city win. It should help her value as she is a ½ sister to the Group 1 placed Stars Of Carrum. There is a lot more to racing horses than racing horses. Our thanks go to Bill Egan who went to Donald to ride the mare

after she wasn't given a great steer at Swan Hill. Bill works in very closely with us and is the ultimate 'team' man and gave up some rides at Flemington to ride Zelsignoret.

Black And Tan rounded out a very good week running home strongly for 2nd at Randwick on Wednesday. She is a progressive mare and should be able to win a Saturday class metropolitan race in Sydney this preparation. Kris Lees has done a great job with her. I like the way she is settling in her races and not wanting to get her head up and over race.

We have a quiet week with no runners this weekend, but things really start to hot up next week. I must say my comments on the taxes being levied on bookmakers was timely with a lot of discussion this week on different media outlets.

WHAT A WEEK IN SPORT

I love watching our sportsmen and women competing successfully on the international stage. What an amazing week we have experienced starting with Ash Barty's elevation to the world's best female tennis player. She is a delightful young woman we can be justly proud of. She is a wonderful role model for our young people.

Not long after I read of Ash's elevation the news came through that Hannah Green had won the US Women's Open Golf Championship. She is a special player and at just 22 years of age has it all ahead of her.

Just to keep the run going Sally Fitzgibbons now heads the World Surf League rankings with Stephanie Gilmore in 3rd spot.

Not to outdone, the Australian Cricket Team thumped England. This was a sweet victory. The Poms have been very cocky and talking themselves up leading into the World Cup and our side copped plenty of sledging at Lords in this match. I hope a few of the locals choked on their gin and tonics as our side smashed them. There is a chance England may not make the finals which would be disappointing for the host nation which are yet to win a World Cup. Hopefully, our lads can win our 6th. The Australian side has qualified for the final stage of the tournament.

On a more sombre note congratulations to the NSW supporters on the win by the 'Blues' in the 2nd State Of Origin match. We look forward to the series decider in Sydney.

OUT AND ABOUT

During the past week I have made flying visits to Tasmania and WA to have a look at our horses and get a feel for how they are progressing. I must write I couldn't be happier.

We have two very talented and conscientious trainers in Adam Trinder and Dan Morton guiding our horses progress in those states. Not only have they excelled in their home states both have travelled interstate with great success this year. Adam's efforts with Mystic Journey are extraordinary. She is an equine superstar. While I was in Devonport last Tuesday, I had a chuckle to myself when I saw she was boxed opposite our filly Miss Bossey Belle. Our other 2yo with Adam, Scribbler had a minor setback that required surgery, but she is recovering, and the time off has seen her really strengthen up.

The two yearlings I purchased Adam this year are finished being broken in and look to have really progressed in the right direction. They are by Tasmania's two top sires Wordsmith and Needs Further. The Needs Further filly is fully subscribed with the Wordsmith almost done. In 2017 I

purchased two fillies from the Tasmanian Magic Millions sale with these being the 2nd and 3rd best fillies to come out of the sale. Could I have done it again? And Mystic Journey was the best!!!

Over in the West we had Pagani ready to trial on Monday but record rainfall for June has seen the trials put back. She looks strong, a lovely filly by one of my very favourite young sires in Sizzling. Sizzling is flying and had his 40th winner for the season at Hawkesbury on Tuesday. The winner was a ½ brother to our promising filly Fiteuse.

The two yearlings I purchased at this year's WA Magic Millions Sale have also done a treat. The Stratum filly I purchased for Dan is a real 2yo type out of a very well related mare. I'd be surprised if she doesn't get up and go early. I've always been proud of the fact I syndicated Stratum's first winner in the Tasmanian Magic Millions winner Rose Of Scotland and one of his first Stakes winners in Eramor.

The Al Maher filly is heading to Patrick Payne. She is an Oaks type with an impressive pedigree to back up her good looks. I pinched her at the sale. The breeder was entitled to get twice what I paid for her but that's the game we are in. Her pedigree has had an update with a colt named Arizona winning the Group 2 Coventry Stakes at Royal Ascot last week.

VISIT TO PATRICK PAYNE'S TRAINING COMPLEX

On Sunday 30 June we have arranged a visit to Patrick Payne's training complex at Plumpton. The visit will start at 1030am and we will finish up about 12pm. This is a great opportunity to have a look at your horses, meet Patrick and his staff. They are fantastic bunch and totally professional.

Patrick continues to do a great job for us as he has done from day one. He has put together an amazing record for us and his strike rate is the best in Victoria. His last 50 runners have yielded 16 winners which is exceptional. Patrick has the best strike rate of the top 20 trainers in Victoria for this season at 19.6%. He is also now placed 6th on the Victorian Trainer's Premiership. We are represented with five winners from 11 runners on that list of 50. He has a much smaller stable than those above him and he could sneak into 5th position if the marbles fall his way in the next six weeks. Congratulations to him and his staff.

I'm certain you will be impressed with the improvements he has made at Plumpton. He is very innovative; this is what gives him the edge over most of his rivals.

I look forward to seeing you at Plumpton.

INTEGRITY ISSUES

The integrity issues that have plagued our sport are gradually being sorted out with three arrests by the police in Queensland this week. I'm certain when the charges are made open to the public, they won't make nice reading, but we need to rid our sport of these people doing the wrong thing.

The sooner these issues are put to bed the better for all concerned. It creates a poor image for the whole industry. It is amazing just how much damage a small number of people can do. As I understand it two of the people charged in Queensland were not licenced people in racing. I suppose this is where the police come into their own being able to arrest and prosecute those doing the wrong thing.

The reality is they are taking money from those abiding by the rules.