

**The David Allan Column**

## Newer names and different equine faces



*The grey Megaspiel (by Singspiel), shows off her filly by War Command.*

IN past columns or round a table, reference has been made to more overseas pedigrees filtering into the gene pool in South Africa. Broodmare purchases, imported stallions and perhaps liberated international trade are all factors.

We have observed that our SA trainers carry the burden of having to - in addition to training the horses - “do the buying” i.e. researching multiple catalogues and often travelling away in a manner not mirrored in other places. A proliferation of new names and associated conformations and tempera-

ments presents a challenge.

Having myself bought last year (for an amazed client) a close relative of SAKHEE by lovely broodmare sire MEDICEAN by MACHIAVELLIAN for R175,000, I thought that we could chat here about some names within our own team of investor mares in the northern hemisphere.

Your appetite for FRANKEL references will be sated – he does crop up below – but then so do KODI BEAR and HOT STREAK. **(to page 2)**



## DAVID ALLAN

For hands-off investors, we provide a complete range of selection, mating and management services with constant communication, visit arrangements, transport when necessary and book-keeping. Our people include local novices and experienced overseas people. If with SA connections, the rationale is to generate sterling and euro to reinvest or buy something to take south.

A keen UK racing client was looking for “alternative investments”. He went very “alternative”, investing in cage-fighting thus boggling a few minds, but with a little help from this friend, who had provided him with one very good racehorse and several other runners at destination tracks, he also invested in breeding.

Under an agreed and fairly careful budget, I bought two young winning, nicely related mares—coincidentally both costing a very reasonable 42,000 guineas – both in foal for the first time, both to first season sires.

VIVID BLUE is by HAAFHD, a Guineas and Champion Stakes winning son of ALHAARTH thus linking two great female lines- ALHAARTHs and HAAFHD’s dam, Classic winner AL BAHATHRI for whom a gallop in Newmarket is named. VIVID BLUE’s maternal grandsire is INDIAN RIDGE which was enough by itself to bring me to her.

**Her own female line is a live branch of the old South African family of KUNDALINI, her sibling being DIAMOND DIVA by DANSILI.**

VIVID BLUE was in foal to then new reverse-shuttler HELMET, carrying a colt, and as befitting a cracking mating under our system, a cracking fellow he turned out to be! 11 months after in utero purchase, the foal made 68,000 guineas in the same Newmarket ring. Our man was delighted with this immediate bonanza and felt that it was more satisfying than cage fighting. His elderly mother adored the foal with whom she became acquainted at The National Stud.



***Mother of the investor greets the first-born. He made 68,000 Guineas as a foal and 200,000 Guineas as a breeder.***

His first pin hooker stubbed his toe and, after an x-ray issue at yearling sales, sold him privately for €70,000 on the day. 6 months later, our product made 200,000 guineas for his second pinhooker at the Newmarket Breeze Ups bought by Shadwell for whom he has since won.

Obvious matings are rarely the best, but Juddmonte’s BATED BREATH (DANSILI) suited VIVID BLUE on several counts. The resulting colt was (is) nice but was off colour on his foal selling day. Also he was two lots off the end of a near-13 hour selling session.

We let him go for mid 20 thousands because the IRR still looked good and he was being bought for a successful racehorse owner who (now) has him in training at 2.

Somewhat dazzled by the brilliance of TORONADO (HIGH CHAPARRAL) on the racecourse, our investor really wanted to go to him first season. The mating was OK, not optimum. The resultant individual – another colt –was never for the foal sales, but has a chance as a yearling.

VIVID BLUE’s latest foal – a couple of months ago – is a filly by the highly compatible HOT STREAK, a first season son of the admirable IFFRAAJ. HOT STREAK was a Gr3 winning Gr1 placed 2 year old and ran consistently in top sprints. VIVID BLUE, continuing her excellent record, is now back in foal to HELMET.

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The other mare of the two – a winning SINGSPIEL called MEGASPIEL – went over to our regular base in Tipperary. A full sister to a Gr2 winning filly (also 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Gr1 Matriarch S. and Hollywood Oaks), this attractive grey is scopier than many Singspiels. Perversely her first foal, a filly by HARBOUR WATCH (by ACCLAMATION sire of top class DARK ANGEL and several other highly commercial stallions) was a bit scrawny. We did well to get €29,000 for her at Goffs Foals and that was all she ever did. But the second foal was a juicy black HOLY ROMAN EMPEROR colt on a great mating. At Newmarket he brought 41,000 guineas (and was resold for 55,000 so they “got out” with change).

Next came a lovely filly by WAR COMMAND (WAR FRONT), now a yearling, who will probably be kept to race. After slipping CANFORD CLIFFS (TAGULA), the mare now goes to KODI BEAR at a cautious fee while the second and third foals run. He is a Gr2 winning son of the extraordinarily prolific and top of the commercial pops, KODIAC.

Other mares with us have comparable stories, some costing 80,000, one costing 4,000. One, half sister to a GALILEO champion, went twice to FRANKEL on that cross producing one bad one and one (now 2yo) that might do the business having brought 100,000 guineas – not a top FRANKEL price but healthy enough. We took the mare over in foal to NATHANIEL (GALILEO) and she has since excitingly produced a filly by the Champion AUSTRALIA (also GALILEO).

Another yearling in the teams is by INTELLO (GALILEO) who has been well received then there are newish foals from potentially smart mares by the new horse at The Irish National FREE EAGLE, a Gr1 winner at The Royal Meeting by HIGH CHAPARRAL and a large new colt by GUTAIFAN, a first season son of the red hot DARK ANGEL. We have sold several DARK ANGELS recently but it is difficult to pinhook them or breed them (at €60,000) now. So we move to GUTAIFAN on a good mating.

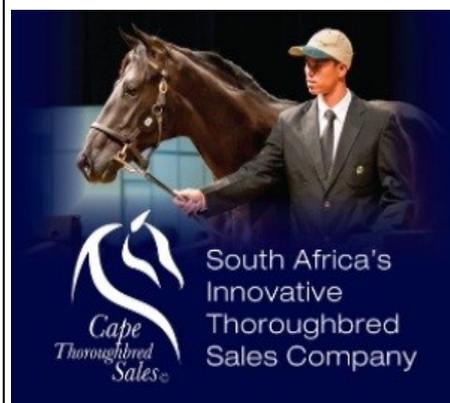
Darley’s NIGHT OF THUNDER (Guineas winner by DUBAWI who turns them both out sharply but has not transferred that trait to his first crop) covered our 4,000 guineas mare earlier this month. She (by HAWK WING by WOODMAN therefore broodmare sire material) is worth more now having sold 4 foals for €230,000, admittedly with gaps in production, the first 3 being winners of 10 races so far.

Meanwhile, others visit new GALILEO boy THE GHURKA and Coolmore’s well priced MASTERCRAFTSMAN (DANEHILL DANCER)– a proven good sire, not always the sexiest, but with his best crops coming through now. One to watch! - tt.

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