



UNITED SYNDICATIONS
"Where Integrity is Integral"



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Miss Damita heading for victory!

From the Stable

A win from **MISS DAMITA**, some frustration with **EXFLYTATIONS** and some promising 2YO's in action at Caulfield have occupied the space since January with much fun I am sure for our owners in the not too distant future. It must be said that the win of **MISS DAMITA** at Donald on March 21 was a much deserved one and this mare is starting to now mature into a tough racehorse. Being weak early on, with a penchant to train off very early in her previous preparations, **MISS DAMITA** was transferred down to Mick's Warrnambool base late last year and from that base has thrived. She hasn't missed a beat and clearly enjoys the beach environment which has seen her race on no further than 9 times this time around for 1 win, 1 seconds, 2 thirds and a fourth and has been most consistent earning to date \$37,600 in stakes. So well did she pull up from Donald that she will now head to Ballarat on the 9th April and has done an excellent job with further improvement to come on the completion of this prep as she is a lovely sound mare who enjoys her 2000 meter racing.

Another mare who has come back in super order is **EXFLYTATIONS** however blotted her copy book at Cranbourne Friday March in extraordinary circumstances after two excellent runs to kick off this prep. You actually had to be at Cranbourne (as a number of owners were) to fully appreciate the circumstances that led to her failure, but in short, watching the radar all day from my office, Cranbourne missed all the rain throughout on what was a

very warm windy day. The change arrived around 4.00pm with no rain and even as I was driving to Cranbourne there was only a sprinkle and the rating for the night was still a Good 3 and raced that way for the first 6 races. Between race 6 and 7 (her race) it constantly rained throughout that period and with no official downgrade of track which meant that we couldn't scratch we were unfortunately obliged to run and knowing her dislike for conditions that jockeys commented on were more like a Soft 5/6 this led to her downfall. It was unbelievable that the only time it rained throughout the day was the 30 minutes prior to running and of course as soon as her race was run the rain ceased. Such bad luck for the connections and the horse who was given no chance after the track conditions deteriorated so quickly and extremely frustrating for all concerned. I have personally not experienced such a frustrating day/night as I did at Cranbourne with **EXFLYTATIONS** and left the course (as a few other owners did on the night) shaking our heads!

One horse that I am looking forward to resuming racing in the months ahead is our staying 3YO **FRONT PAGE NEWS** who did everything but win a race last time in after running three seconds and a third from 6 runs in what was his very first racing campaign. An on speed type of stayer, **FRONT PAGE NEWS** looked to be home a couple of times, particularly at Wangaratta where he loomed up to win but just couldn't put them away, however the thought is that he will come back a much more mature staying type

mentally and it is hoped that he can get into the winners circle this time around. A lovely big strong staying type, **FRONT PAGE NEWS** is due to resume pre-training with John Ledger very shortly after a lovely spell at Cloverdale where he spelled exceptionally well.

Our 2YO'S are starting to get into gear and we have already seen a promising debut by **BELLA AMORE** who stepped out at Bendigo in December running third (when knowing little and very immature) and is currently down at Caulfield going through her paces however another promising debutant in **FROME THE STARS** ran an excellent 5th on debut at Seymour on March 27. This filly has come a long way in a short space of time and was not expected to make the races this time after falling away after only one gallop last time in. Given a nice spell at Cloverdale where she did well, this filly had coped with all the work that Mick threw at her and went to the races after a trial win and a good 5th at Cranbourne at her next trial after racing wide throughout. Still very immature and green, **FROME THE STARS** went to the races with minimal expectations but surprisingly acquitted herself very well after showing good natural speed and hung on well in the straight to go down by only 1.8 lengths. This filly will have derived enormous benefit from a good experience at the races and with her having that one run and now going to the paddock for a well-earned spell she is expected to come back a more mature filly both mentally and physically and would be expected to greet the winners stall next time around!

UNDOUBTEDLY SO who has been with **BELLA AMORE** throughout pre-training and is now at Caulfield is another filly that we are looking forward to taking the next step in her career. A late backward foal early, this filly has made up for lost time and got to the trials last time in when not ready and pulled up shin sore subsequently to that trial. She spelled well at Cloverdale and has definitely come back

a more robust horse this time in where she would be expected to again get to the trials but this time will get there in better order. Whilst she will obviously be at her best as a 3YO she has made excellent progress for such an immature filly and is a stable favourite with her very kind nature!

Two other 2YO's looking to make their mark include **SCORPIUS** and **ZENDE** who have both matured into lovely strong colts. **ZENDE** has only recently arrived at Caulfield and is in the early stages of his pace work but has again impressed with his nature and all round sense and tractability. He had immature knees last time around which put an end to his last preparation however coming back a more mature colt, he would be expected to get to the trials and hopefully go on with it to the races. If attitude has anything to do with it he will make it as he is just a lovely colt who does everything right around the stables as does **SCORPIUS** who is currently in work with John Ledger at Wangaratta. This guy completely turned it around last time in having been a little hard to handle at his previous preps but has settled right down and is a delight to have around. Only shin soreness stopped this guy from making the races last time around after impressive trials and we look forward to his progress to the track! Our NZ Tavistock filly **SATIN STOCKING** is now making headway at Caulfield after preparations where she just wasn't quite ready to do so and has appreciated the time that she has been given. An immature filly, **SATIN STOCKING** is a prep behind others of a similar age due to her immaturity and being a NZ Tavistock, patience had to be exercised. She has been good to date and whilst still being a bit new to it all, she has coped with her work very well on the track and Mick has been able to educate her to the extent that her barrier education is being planned for the upcoming week. Not sure exactly where we will end up with her however she is not far off a trial which from past preparations will be excellent progress made!



Miss Damita winning at Donald



Rubick/Federica colt - Sydney Classic Sale.

2019 Syndications

Our 2019 Syndications to date have either been sold or well in the process of being so and include our Sydney Classic Rubick colt and our Melbourne Premier Written Tycoon filly. Our Rubick colt HAS been fully sold whilst our Written Tycoon filly has some shares remaining. Both are outstanding individuals, very athletic and they will be coming down later in the year to have a look at Caulfield and for Mick to assess accordingly.

Our Rubick/Federica colt will commence his initial breaking in with John Ledger this week which is very exciting whilst our Written Tycoon/Just Meille filly is still currently enjoying her post sale spell and will continue to do that throughout April before also heading up to team Ledger!



Written Tycoon/Just Meille filly - Melbourne Premier Sale.