

BOULDER CUP REVIEW
11 SEPTEMBER 2005
BY STEVE MILLS

The expectation was high as runners hit the hallowed turf of Kalgoorlie-Boulder Racing Club prior to the running of the \$90,000 NRW Civil & Mining Boulder Cup and the large crowd in attendance were not disappointed with track history being made.

Nearly a year to the day Hotel Casuarina won a maiden on Kalgoorlie Cup day. Twenty-six starts later and his connections were standing collecting the trophy for the time-honoured Boulder Cup.

Trained by Neville Parnham, Hotel Casuarina \$10 ridden brilliantly by Patrick Carbery broke Corporate James' track record of 1.46.00 set in the cup of 1996.

The gelding recorded a time 1.45.30 to win by a length-and-a-half from Priceless Matt \$6.50 (Daniel Staeck). A further length-and-a-quarter away in third position was Chenille Prince \$21 (Troy Turner).

Connections of Hotel Casuarina were devastated after the running of the \$100,000 Aon Coolgardie Cup a fortnight earlier where he finished eighth. On that occasion Hotel Casuarina attempted to buck shortly after the start.

"I have to thank the stewards' panel for not sending the horse back to trials after that effort," Parnham offered. "Paddy (Carbery) told us the saddle slipped and pinched the horse on that occasion. He's never done that in the past, we were devastated. We really thought he could have won that race (Coolgardie Cup). We left disappointed, but you have to get on with life and that's what we did."

Hotel Casuarina is named after the Kilners' that run the Marri Park Tavern and Golf Course in Casuarina.

"Steve and Jeff (Kilner) race the horse with me," fellow owner and concreter Mick Italiano said after the event.

"It's amazing to see how far the horse has come in a year."

Hotel Casuarina is not nominated for Saturday's \$125,000 XXXX Gold Kalgoorlie Cup (2300m).

"I think Neville has some plans for him at the Christmas carnival in Perth," Italiano explained.

Jockey Pat Carbery can add a Boulder Cup trophy to the Kalgoorlie Cup trophy he collected on Lottila Bay in 2000.

“It’s a different feeling to Lottila Bay as he was my favourite horse, still is,” Carbery explained.

“We drew wide today and we settled worse than midfield, but Local Product provided a beautiful cart-up for us. After the disappointment in the Coolgardie Cup, it’s nice to have a change of luck.”

One again Priceless Matt proved to be a pure competitor with a gutsy second. Chenille Prince made ground in the straight to grab third in front of Heavenly Business.

Heavenly Business (4th) and Morocco Bound (5th) were both attempting to secure the second leg of the \$100,000 National Hire Cat Rental Triple Nugget Bonus.

Both were far from disgraced.

Trainer Cliff Smith said prior to the race that Heavenly Business was likely not to contest either the WesTrac Hannan’s Handicap or the XXXX Gold Kalgoorlie Cup.

Fellow mentor Neville Newton who prepares Morocco Bound will certainly push ahead towards adding a Kalgoorlie Cup to the trophy cabinet.

VRC Derby winning trainer Lindsey Smith’s combatant in Local Product (favourite at \$6) ridden by Lucas Camilleri was the medium of strong support. He did some work before finishing sixth.

Last year’s Boulder Cup winner in My Thornbird (Jason Miller) was never likely finishing tenth.

Restricted galloper Master Vision (Jess Valas) prepared locally by Pat Bermingham was one of the first beaten, finishing eleventh.

Last year’s XXXX Gold Kalgoorlie Cup winner in Violent Wind (Dion Luciani) came from the rear to grab seventh.

ROUND-UP 2005
BOULDER CUP DAY SUPPORT RACES
BY STEVE MILLS

Pat Bermingham got his carinal away to a flying start when Super Sentele (Peter Knuckey) won the opening event of the carnival – the Boulder Promotions Maiden (1300m).

In a thrilling start to proceedings, Super Sentele (\$31) scored by a long neck from the \$2.90 favourite Ears Lopy (Troy Turner). A neck away in third position was Promising Gold (Patrick Carbery).

“She bumped the fence at her only start for me last Sunday,” Bermingham explained in relation to the winner. “After that she got stuck in some difficult ground.”

With that experience under her belt, Super Sentele improved lengths to score. The victory would have put a smile on the face of Singapore businessman Victor Sujanani who races the 5-year-old.

“Victor has had a few horses with our stable,” Bermingham said. “He’ll be happy to learn of this success.”

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With the opening winner of the carnival under his belt, jockey Peter Knuckey made it a race-to-race double when Stormy Gale won the Tom Sayers Memorial Class One (1200m).

Stormy Gale \$6 rattled home to record a half-length winning margin from a determined Miss Cherub (Lucas Camilleri). A short-half-head away in third position was Another Commodore (Shaun McGruddy).

Knuckey has put himself in the frame to have a decent crack at the \$5,000 Goldfields Furniture and Goldfields Betta Electrical Jockeys’ Bonus. The award goes to the rider to secure the most winners over the 3-day carnival in races with 8 or more starters.

Stormy Gale is trained by Bob Cramp. The Perth-based trainer is a former proprietor of the Hannan’s Hotel, and is he is no stranger to success over the Round.

Over the years, Cramp’s stable has been associated with some of the biggest betting plunges witnessed at a Round.

His colours of purple and white quarters have been carried to victory by some handy gallopers over the years. With two wins from just four career outings, Stormy Gale could be destined for bigger things.

Knuckey who made the trip from Melbourne to ride at the meeting demonstrated no signs of jetlag when he completed a winning treble on Tomsoya \$in the Boulder News & Lotto / Oliver Foundation Class Two Handicap (1600m).

The Brad Graham-trained gelding made it back-to-back wins on the Goldfields.

Tomsoya \$7 won a 1600m maiden the previous week.

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With a name like Irish Pride it’s hardly surprising that the Neville Parnham-trained galloper is full of determination.

The 8-year-old galloper chalked-up his second win at the track this season when Tim Stubberfield piloted the gelding to an all-the-way victory in the Diggers and Dealers Sprint (1200m).

Lumping 62.5 kilos, Irish Pride defeated Celtic Scene (Richard Rhodes) and Twin City Girl (Jessica Hill).

“This was carnival was going to be his swansong, but we could be tempted to give him another year,” part owner Kim Loxton reflected after the win of Irish Pride. “He’s been a fantastic horse and provided us with plenty of fun from one side of Australia to the other.”

Parnham was equally full of compliments for his charge.

“We purchased him at a dispersal sale in Sydney for \$20,000,” Parnham reflected.

“He’s won against the odds on many occasions, but has finished the bridesmaid in some excellent races against very good horses.

“His fetlock has been a concern for over 18-months and I’d like to think he’s done enough for all of us.”

Irish Pride’s career record reads 63 starts for 15 wins, 17 seconds and 4 thirds. Yesterday’s win took his total career stakes to \$358,000.

Stubberfield’s only other ride at the track this season resulted in a win aboard Irish Pride in the AHA Cup. On that occasion he lumped 62 kilos to victory.

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Local car dealer Paul Smythe will be keeping a close eye on the \$35,000 Golden City Motors Trainers’ Bonus sponsored by his firm over the week.

Smythe also trains a handy team and appeared a relieved man when Calmbeforethestorm won the Widdeson’s Hire Service Class Three Handicap (1200m).

“That’s the first winner the stable has had for many weeks – more than I want to think about,” Smythe said after the success of Calmbeforethestorm.

“He’s a real honest type and really has a solid kick-and-sprint on him. “He had his distracters before he got here, but he has done nothing wrong for us.”

Beautifully ridden by Neil Chapman, Calmbeforethestorm \$4 won by three-quarters-of-a-length from Scenic Vision (Steven Parnham).

Smythe did not have to wait long for his next victory as he completed a race-to-race double with Cracker Thunder \$6.50 in the East Gold Dairy Distributors Class Five Handicap (1400m).

Ridden to victory by Russell Stewart, Cracker Thunder released some pressure on the senior jockey.

“Thank goodness,” Stewart exclaimed as he returned to scale. “It’s been a frustrating couple of weeks and it’s good to see the stable back in the winners’ circle.”

Stewart was optimistic that Cracker Thunder would take some beating yesterday and his assessment was spot-on with the mare defeating Last Reply (Stephen Miller) by length-and-a-half.

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HANNAN’S HANDICAP REVIEW
15 SEPTEMBER 2005
BY STEVE MILLS

Trainer Sharon Miller collected her second consecutive WesTrac Hannan’s Handicap (1400m) when Wire Detonator ridden by Jason Brown scored a thrilling victory at the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Racecourse yesterday.

The \$120,000 feature sprint was a beauty with Wire Detonator \$6.50 getting home to score by a short-half-head from Boulder Cup victor Hotel Casuarina (Pat Carbery). A head away in third position was the early leader Volition (Peter Knuckey).

Similar to many stories on the Goldfields over the years, the winner is raced by Davor Prerad. Coming to Australia as a migrant at the age of seventeen, the lucky owner eventually found a home in Leinster as a chef.

It was here that the story of Wire Detonator came to be. The five-year-old gelding’s mother in Princess Ifrad raced with limited success in region. Prerad handed over Goldfields currency— a carton of beer – to the connections of Princess Ifrad, and the mare was his.

The battling chef decided to mix the mare with Tribu and the result – a Hannan’s winner.

Wire Detonator provided the likable Prerad with his finest moment in the sport.

“I never thought it would come to this,” Prerad said after the win. “It’s an unbelievable feeling to be standing here.”

Prerad now resides in Karratha but was never going to miss seeing his charge run the biggest race of his life.

Jockey Jason Brown claimed his second Hannan's with a masterful ride. Sitting just off the pace, Brown timed his finish to perfection.

"I had the draw and it all went to plan," Brown explained. "I wasn't too sure if we'd won on the line, it was tight."

As for Sharon Miller she was confident that Wire Detonator had survived.

"We brought him here just before last year's Round and he won his maiden," Miller offered. "He then performed well at the Round and we were confident going into today's event."

The runner-up Hotel Casuarina did not enjoy much room over the concluding stages, but he was not on his own. Just four lengths covered the majority of the field in a terrific spectacle.

Blinded finished right on their heels in fourth position for champion rider Paul Harvey. The \$2.80 favourite Hartleys Dream (William Pike) finished fifth – just a length and quarter off the winner.

Local galloper Le Dolphin was unable to gain a clear run over the concluding stages and was far from disgraced in sixth spot.

The well-supported Red Hannigan was eighth and last year's runner-up in Dead Eye Dick finished second last.

Once again it was Sharon Miller - whom continues to build a well-deserved reputation as the Queen of the Turf in the Goldfields - that stole the show. She won the event with the very talented Ellicorsam last year and this year Wire Detonator.

That performance puts her in elite company, as it was legendary trainer Frank Maynard who last performed the feat in 1988-89.

When quizzed if Davor the respected Chef had ever cooked her a meal, Miller replied in the negative. Providing he continues to breed horses like Wire Detonator, I don't think she'll care.

**ROUND-UP 2005
HANNAN'S HANDICAP DAY
SUPPORT RACES
BY STEVE MILLS**

With small fields dominating the first four races on Thursday there was not too much damage done in relation to the Round bonuses on offer.

Neville Parnham was unlucky not to move a step closer to collecting the \$35,000 Commodore provided by Golden City Motors in the trainers' bonus.

Going into the meeting, Parnham had two of the required six winners to collect the bounty on offer. Hotel Casuarina was unlucky not to win the Hannan's Handicap and due to insufficient starters his win with Danzadash \$4.20 in the Seppelt Great Western Handicap (1100m) doesn't count towards the bonus.

His son Steven rode Danzadash to victory.

This effectively means that WA's leading trainer will need to win four eligible races tomorrow, a task that could be beyond his reach if the fields fall away.

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Trainer Lindsey Smith and jockey William Pike combined to score a double in consecutive races on Thursday with Billyaintsilly and Old Warrior.

Billyaintsilly is partly owned by Racing Radio's Marty Young. The informative broadcaster would have been impressed as he watched his charge storm to a comfortable victory in the EBM Insurance Class Six Handicap (1200m).

Billyaintsilly was commissioned to start a very warm favourite at \$1.70.

Old Warrior \$2 recorded his first win from 11 starts by recording a length-and-a-quarter victory in the Bundy Rum Maiden (1600m).

Similar to Billyaintsilly, Old Warrior was competently steered to victory by Pike. It was his 22nd and 23rd win of the season and wraps-up the local jockey premiership for talented hoop.

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Sharon and Stephen Miller have been great supporters of the Round for many years.

The pair continued that love affair when Wire Detonator won the WesTrac Hannan's Handicap for Sharon late on Thursday afternoon.

Earlier in the day, the husband and wife duo won the opening event of the day – the Nick Robin Memorial/GWN Class Five Handicap (1760m) with Last Reply.

Having been placed on the Sunday, Last Reply \$2.05 grinded-out the final 200 metres on Thursday to win the event by a long neck.

It was Last Reply's fourth victory from just 13 outings. Adding further gloss to the win was the fact the mare broke another Sharon Miller-trained galloper in Miss Copycat's class record by .33 of a second.

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Speaking of records, Dual Power repeated the dose in the Coca Cola Class One (1400m) by creating a new class record of 1.23.98. The mark was set back in 1996 by Vain Stream, so it's a class record that has stood the test of time.

Dual Power \$4.60 is raced by a group of connections with strong Goldfields roots and these days is prepared by Ivan Haggerty in Bullsbrook.

The win secured jockey Peter Knuckey some breathing space in his quest to collect the \$5,000 on offer in the Goldfields Furniture-Goldfields Betta Electrical Jockeys' Bonus.

Knuckey has four eligible wins, three clear of all his rivals.

One of the part owners of Dual Power is local trainer Aaron Bazeley.

Fresh from a win in the Harry Wulff Memorial Golf Day on Monday, Bazeley also prepared a winner on Thursday.

He was successful with Liscannor Bay in the Barmingo Invitation Stakes (1200m).

Having won his maiden race at his previous outing, Liscannor Bay \$3.50 was impressive with Jess Valas booting home the emerging galloper.

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John Lugg will be hoping that Violent Wind can win today's \$125,000 XXXX Gold Kalgoorlie Cup (2300m) for the second consecutive year.

He enjoyed mixed fortunes on Thursday.

His Hannan's runner in Le Dolphin was unable to obtain a clear run in the home straight to narrowly miss collecting a cheque.

Thankfully for Lugg, Girl In A Storm \$5 did the job for his stable in the Mobil Statewide Oil Maiden (1200m).

After finishing second at her two previous outings on the Goldfields, Girl In A Storm demonstrated terrific fighting qualities to score for jockey Clint Harvey.

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KALGOORLIE CUP REVIEW
17 SEPTEMBER 2005
BY STEVE MILLS

A bottle of humble Liquid Paper was responsible for adding the name Priceless Matt to Goldfields racing folklore when the six-year-old gelding stormed to victory in Saturday's \$125,000 XXXX Gold Kalgoorlie Cup (2300m) at the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Racecourse.

Trained by master horseman Fred Kersley, the bumper crowd watched Priceless Matt – the \$5.50 favourite - enjoy a perfect run for jockey Dan Staeck before scoring score by a length in a time of 2.22.87.

The early leader and Pat Bermingham-trained Master Vision \$21 (Jessica Valas) fought on tenaciously to grab second. A half-length off was Mercedario \$26 (Peter Hall) who improved to grab third.

Local racing legend George Grljusich and Ron Sayers – a former prominent Goldfields' resident and now one of the State's leading breeders - own Priceless Matt.

Priceless Matt's victory in the Cup completes a remarkable journey.

The colourful pair came to breed Priceless Matt after Grljusich won a raffle at a Round promotion conducted at Sayers' beautiful Gidgegannup-based Yarradale Stud in the late 1990's. Grljusich was there because Sayers' has shouted him a trip down to Perth for his birthday.

Ron along with his wife Lyn have been great mates with George and his wife Pat for years.

To cut a long story short, the prize was a service to Sayers' emerging stallion Pricelessly.

Grljusich and Sayers soon cut a deal to mate Dancilla - a mare of questionable appearance but with a fair amount of talent predominantly on country tracks.

In typical Grljusich-generosity, George returned the favour to Sayers by giving him 50% of the foal, which turned out to be Priceless Matt.

“After he was born Ron sent me a registration form with proposed names for signing,” Grljusich explained. “I took a look and didn’t like any of them. So I quickly white-inked the names over and replaced them with ours.”

It would come as no surprise to those that know the Grljusich-clan, that family means much. So with that in mind, George decided to make his first choice Priceless Matt after grandson Matt Armstrong, now an emerging talent with the Railway Football Club.

His second was Priceless Dan after another grandson in Daniel Grljusich – also an exciting footballer for the Panthers.

“When you think about it, it should have been Priceless Dan considering he’s out of Dancilla,” Grljusich reflected.

Priceless Matt was certainly overdue after being placed in this year’s Aon Coolgardie Cup (1600m) and NRW Civil and Mining Boulder Cup (1760m).

Having won the Coolgardie Cup in 2004, Priceless Matt has raced with great heart since and his victory on the weekend was well received.

According to Racing and Wagering WA chief steward Brad Lewis, there were few hard luck stories in the Kalgoorlie Cup making it one of the cleanest conducted in the last decade.

THE WINNING OWNERS BY STEVE MILLS

For the second consecutive year, a locally owned horse won the Kalgoorlie Cup. Sure it wasn’t trained here, but indirectly it was as one of the owners in George Grljusich prepared the horse in Kalgoorlie-Boulder before sending it to leading trainer Fred Kersley.

George was there to see Priceless Matt salute but his good friend and fellow owner Ron Sayers was in Perth due to a family commitment.

What can you say about George and his devoted wife Pat that hasn’t been said? They live almost a fairy tale existence for those that love racing. Their house is situated at the top of the famous Kalgoorlie-Boulder Racecourse’s home straight.

Pat watched the race from over her back fence and George gave her special coded signals using his recuperative walking stick.

A former KBRC committeeman and 36 years a trainer at the course, the 67 year-old Grljusich lapped-up the win surrounded by his children and grandchildren.

“It’s beautiful, very emotional,” a delighted Grljusich said after the victory of Priceless Matt. “It’s just sad my good mate Peter Moore is not here to enjoy the moment with us.”

Peter Moore – a former respected committee member of the KBRC – was heavily involved with Grljusich’s team for many years. Peter died in May and he was clearly on his mate’s mind after the win.

Grljusich was quickly avalanched with hugs and handshakes after Priceless Matt secured the biggest win of his career.

George was dressed in the same red socks, white shirt (no tie) and black suit he wore when Priceless Matt secured last year’s Coolgardie Cup.

“I’m a little superstitious,” Grljusich laughed. “In addition to the outfit, the grandfather clock in the house has to be set prior to me leaving for the track and Pat watching from home all helps.”

Grljusich was full of praise for trainer Fred Kersley and jockey Daniel Staeck, describing the efforts with the horse as sensational.

Surrounded by numerous family members and friends, George concluded by offering special thanks to another grandchild in Madison Armstrong celebrating her ninth birthday on the day her pop achieved a lifelong ambition – winning the time-honoured Kalgoorlie Cup.

As for Ron Sayers, he would not have minded in the slightest George being the centre of attention, such is the admiration he holds for his friend.

It was not the first time Sayers has tasted success in the Cup. He was a part owner of Forehand who won the 1995 Kalgoorlie Cup.

The win of Priceless Matt adds further gloss to his growing reputation as a breeder.

THE WINNING JOCKEY BY STEVE MILLS

After securing his first major win on the Goldfields, 26-year-old jockey Daniel Staeck reflected on how far he had come since learning his trade on the Goldfields eight years prior.

“I used to live in a shed behind there,” Staeck offered as he pointed to an area behind the existing jockeys’ room.

“At the time I was indentured to Lou Luciani and came up here for a season to ride. It taught me a fair bit about life but I was always had drive to do better.”

Staeck's effort in the Cup aboard Priceless Matt was close to perfect and the win will elevate his growing career further.

"He (Priceless Matt) travelled beautifully throughout and I was pretty confident on the corner that he had plenty left," Staeck reflected.

"It's a great feeling to make a group of locals as happy as they obviously are."

Staeck holds trainer Fred Kersley in the highest esteem, especially after securing the winning ride.

"I'd like to thank Mr Kersley for convincing me to ride the horse," he explained. "I wasn't certain that he would stay but Mr Kersley convinced me to take the mount."

Staeck also paid tribute to Kersley's staff for the work they do with horse and for making his job a lot easier.

He also wasn't going to forget Priceless Matt.

"People have a tendency to underestimate consistent achievement at the highest level," Staeck explained. "That's what this horse has done throughout this campaign and it is often overlooked."

THE WINNING TRAINER BY STEVE MILLS

They call him the horseman with the Midas touch. Fred Kersley doesn't need confirmation that he's a genius. After all, he dominated the trots for years and will go down in history as the mentor that prepared champion galloper Northerly.

You'd think that with all that emotional exposure under his belt, Kersley would be immune to winning a race like the Kalgoorlie Cup.

"I respect this event enormously," Kersley explained. "Some sections of the media wrote this race off because it lacked depth. I didn't subscribe to that as there were plenty of horses with good form going in the race. I wasn't overly confident about his (Priceless Matt) chances."

Kersley was full of praise for Priceless Matt.

"He's a wonderfully durable horse and he deserved to win another major race," he said. "It's just terrific to prepare a winner that has provided so much joy to the locals."

When quizzed on how he rated winning a Kalgoorlie Cup in comparison to his many other achievements, Kersley answer was glowing for the region.

“I’ve got to say it is right up there,” Kersley offered. “It’s a very special race and there’s just something about this place which makes you really reflect on the significance of it all.”

Will Priceless Matt be back next year?

“A year is a very long time with horses, but if he’s fit, I can’t see any reason why he wouldn’t,” the talented horseman replied. “All I know is my daughter Kate just loves the horse as do all of our staff.”

THE WINNING HORSE BY STEVE MILLS

Since winning last year’s Aon Coolgardie Cup, Priceless Matt has been a revelation.

Saturday’s success took his career tally to 8 wins, 7 seconds and 9 thirds from 53 starts and the 6-year-old now boasts stakes collected in excess of \$350,000 dollars.

Not bad for a \$5 raffle horse.

He is likely to contest some major races in Perth before returning to the Goldfields again for the 2006 carnival.

WHERE YOUR HORSE FINISHED IN THE KALGOORLIE CUP BY STEVE MILLS

PRICELESS MATT (1ST) – Was definitely due a success after being placed at his previous four outings. Terrific ride and only had to overcome the early leader to win.

MASTER VISION (2ND) – Being able to set his own speed out front suited the Pat Bermingham-trained gelding. Beautifully rated by leading apprentice Jess Valas. Still a class four galloper so will strip a stronger conveyance next year.

MERCEDARIO (3RD) – Overcame a bad gate to make ground in the concluding stages to grab a place. Now has a Kalgoorlie Cup placing to add to his Boulder Cup placing last year.

CHANT A LEE (4TH) – Outstanding performance by a horse having just her 11th career outing. Certainly worth watching in the future as she gains experience.

MEXICAN MIST (5TH) – Beaten by just over two lengths was a fantastic effort for a horse having her first look at the track.

KIWI HOMBRE (6TH) – Was checked down the back but wasn’t really hindered enough to alter where he finished according to his jockey Russell Stewart.

VIOLENT WIND (7TH) – Last year’s winner just plodded in the straight after going wide on the bend. Will now head to Perth.

UNIVERSAL WARRIOR (8TH) – Met with support but was never a realistic winning hope.

POWER MAK (9TH) – Always well back.

DUNDALLY (10TH) – Similar story to Power Mak and the second favourite burnt a few fingers as he was supported strongly.

MOROCCO BOUND (11TH) – The local horse was never really in a position to win the race. Deserved better based on his great form in recent months.

JUNGLE JAZZ (12TH) - Got into some minor trouble with Kiwi Hombre mid-race and was never a winning hope from that point onwards.

LOCAL PRODUCT (13TH) – Unfortunately for connections he bled and was beaten by 21 lengths.

**ROUND-UP 2005
KALGOORLIE CUP DAY SUPPORT RACES
BY STEVE MILLS**

Opening event on Kalgoorlie Cup day - the Readymix Maiden (1400m) - was taken out by the Neville Parnham-prepared Red Sea Palace (Steven Parnham).

With more than eight runners in the field, the victory took Parnham to his third eligible win for the carnival in the Golden City Motors Trainers’ Bonus.

Phil Ibbotson races Red Sea Palace in partnership with the M P M Racing Syndicate.

“We are very lucky to have this fellow,” Ibbotson said after the win of his charge. “He’s gone shin-sore three times but we think he has ability. Hopefully he can return for tilt at a bigger race at next year’s carnival.”

The race was conducted in very blustery conditions with Red Sea Palace enjoying cover behind the early leader My Ben. Steven Parnham released the brake half way down the home straight and from there the event was all over.

Red Sea Palace (\$3.10) defeated Gold Desire (Clint Harvey) by over two lengths. A head away in third spot was Ears Lopy (Troy Turner).

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Emotions ran high when Irish Pride (\$2.30 favourite) won the Reed Resources Sprint (1300m).

In what may be the eight-year-old's swansong, Irish Pride lumped 63.5 kilos to victory. It was the second consecutive win at the Round and the second year in succession he had won the feature Sprint on Cup day.

"That's probably it for him, I'm 90% certain," part owner Kim Loxton said after the race. "If he pulls-up okay, we may give him one more run in Perth for the blokes involved with horse that are based there."

It was a race-to race double for trainer Neville Parnham and he stood proud as his gallant performer returned to scale.

"He's done enough, but I'll leave it to the connections," Parnham said when quizzed about Irish Pride's future.

Once again, Tim Stubberfield piloted Irish Pride to victory. The talented hoop - who struggles with maintaining a realistic riding weight - has been aboard the horse on three occasions at the track this season and has not been defeated.

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Neville Parnham continued on his winning way when he completed a treble in the first four races when Foxy Date \$1.70 won the David Moss Corporation Class Two Handicap (1200m).

Providing jockey Steven Parnham with a winning double for the afternoon, Foxy Date won by three-quarters-of-a-length from Conquest Flyer (Shaun McGruddy).

"It's very exciting because we bred her," part owner Julie Scarvaci said after the win of Foxy Date. "If she continues to develop, who knows, she might be a Hannan's horse in future years."

Julie Scarvaci and husband Rob are no strangers to success at the Round having won a Hannan's Handicap with Go The Grey. Last year they saluted in the Kalgoorlie Cup with Violent Wind.

Add a heap of other major and minor races at various Rounds in the past; it is easy to see why the Scarvaci's love the Round.

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Cliff Smith collected his ninth leading trainer award in Kalgoorlie-Boulder on the weekend and in the process continued to chalk-up winners.

Cristobal (\$9) ridden by Shaun McGruddy proved that backing up from Thursday held no difficulty for him when he won the Burswood Casino Class Five Handicap (1400m).

It was Smith's 26th victory of the season and surprisingly his first with the ultra-consistent Cristobal.

"That was his 13th run for us this season," Smith said when quizzed about Cristobal success. "I think he had 7-8 starts before arriving here, so he's done a good job."

Prior to Saturday's success, Cristobal had run four seconds, three thirds and the same amount of fourths at the KBRC this season.

"He'll head for a spell now and he should be back again next season," Smith offered.

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Trainer Michael (Pancho) Harding and jockey Rod Kirkup often win a race over the Round and the pair continued that pattern when Polish Prince saluted in the Qantas Class Six Handicap (1600m).

Polish Prince (\$8) scored by a head from Cracker Thunder (Russell Stewart) in a titanic finish. Third went to Sunrise Soaring (Lucas Camilleri) a further neck away.

"He looked good today and I was confident he'd go well," Harding offered. "He's off to York for the Cup next weekend and then to Toodyay for another."

Judging how fit the seven-year-old appeared he could take some tossing in both races.

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Trainer Sharon Miller completed a solid carnival when Wild Frankie won the Sita Environmental Solutions Class One (1300m).

Ridden by Stephen Miller, Wild Frankie \$3.50 won by a short-half-head in a terrific finish from Sand George (Jess Valas).

A win by Valas would have secured her the leading apprentice rider at the KBRC this season.

However, all was not lost as Valas won the final event of the season – the Castrol Class Three Handicap (1760m) aboard the Ted Martinovich-trained Hope And Glory.

Hope And Glory \$5 provided Valas with her 13th win of the season, blousing out Dion Luciani by one to win the title for the second year in a row.

Despite failing to find the winners' circle on Saturday, jockey Peter Knuckey did enough to collect the \$5,000 on offer in the Goldfields Furniture- Goldfields Electrical Jockeys' Bonus.

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