

April 13, 2010

TEAM VALOR PARTNERS TO DEPART TOMORROW ON SOUTH AFRICAN TRIP, B. EYE, KATHLEEN & MEGAN HAVE ARRANGED FOR A VARIED EXPERIENCE, TROOPS TO GO RACING, VISIT FARMS & TRAINING CENTERS, ATTEND SALES

Tomorrow 15 Team Valor partners will depart from Atlanta with Barry and Kathleen Irwin and Megan Jones for a 2-week jaunt in South Africa, culminating in the National Yearling Sale, where Team Valor will acquire the sixth group of yearlings purchased in the country since Irwin began making the annual trip.

The group will land in Cape Town, where they will spend five evenings at the 5-star Table Bay Hotel on the historic Table Bay waterfront. The first day's excursion along the Western Cape will include tours of Graham Beck's winery and Mrs. Gaynor Rupert's Drakenstein Stud. Partners will also have the opportunity to visit champion sire Jet Master and Team Valor broodmares Sunshine Lover and Joshua's Princess at Klipdrif Stud.

On Saturday, partners will follow a trip up Table Mountain with a day of racing at Kenilworth Racecourse, where Team Valor 2-year-old Victory Garden is scheduled to make her racing debut for trainer Mike Bass. Royal Purse is also entered for her second lifetime start in the maiden event.

Following sight-seeing along the Cape Peninsula and a morning at the training centers, all will travel from Cape Town to

Singita Game Reserve, where the entire group will stay together for 2 evenings at the Ebony Lodge overlooking Sand River and twice daily game drives. Ebony Lodge is on prime game viewing land, recognized globally for its formidable concentration of big game and leopard sightings.

The National Yearling Sale begins April 23 in Joburg with 100 lots selling Friday eve. Saturday partners will visit the stables of Ormond Ferraris before the races, in which yearling buy Success Counts will run against the top of her class in the Grade 2 Fillies Nursery. Prior to the sale on Sunday and Monday morning, the group will visit Randjesfontein Training Center to see Sting Operation and witness a set train with the nation's leading trainer Charles Laird before stepping next door to watch as My Kazzie and Twin Aspens go through their paces and meet multiple Graded stakes winner On Her Toes. "Our partners have asked about doing this ever since I made my first trip to South Africa," said Irwin. "I don't think they will be disappointed, especially when they drive down the Cape Peninsula."



Partners to spend 5 nights at Table Bay Hotel in Cape Town before 3 days on safari at Singita's famed Game Reserve.

