

TEAM VALOR INTERNATIONAL WINS ITS RECORD 60TH RACE THIS SEASON, TROJAN ACCOUNTS FOR A STABLE RECORD IN SOUTH AFRICAN VICTORY, WIN BY YEARLING BUY CAME AMID INTERNATIONAL JOCKEY CHALLENGE



Jockey Karl Neisius is interviewed by Tellytrack's David Mollett after the veteran rider won one for the home team aboard TVI's Trojan in the international jockey challenge.

Team Valor International achieved a milestone 60th victory this season with the 4 ¼-length score by Trojan in a handicap at Turffontein this afternoon.

Prior to this year, the stable had never won more than 44 races in a single season. In 2008, however, Team Valor has shattered the previous record.

Team Valor is winning at a strike rate of 20 percent in 2008 and compiled earnings of more than \$3,442,000.

Trojan was piloted to victory by veteran reinsman Karl Neisius, a Cape Town champion jockey who was in Johannesburg riding for the home team against an international assemblage of some of the world's most accomplished jockeys in a special contest sponsored by the Phumemela racing association.

A National Yearling Sale buy for Barry Irwin, owner of Team Valor, Trojan was winning his fourth career race and second on the trot. Ridden confidently for veteran conditioner Ormond Ferraris, Trojan stalked in fourth, emerged as a contender for the lead 2 furlongs from home and blasted clear in the final furlong to win going away.

"You know he's not done, this horse," suggested Neisius. "He can win a few more. He's improving."

From *Tabonline.co.za* comes the following:

THE South Africans dominated the International Jockeys' Challenge on Steinhoff Summer Cup day at Turffontein on Saturday and thumped the international team by 60 points. The South Africans scored 179 points while the rest of the world, led by international superjockey Frankie Dettori, amassed 119.

South African captain Mark Khan won the bronze saddle as the jockey to score the most points in the four races.

Englishman Darryl Holland got the international team off to a flying start in the first of the four races. The affable rider gave 4-1 second favourite Profit Report a super ride, settling him in fifth behind

pacemaker Sardine Run before making his move shortly after the runners cornered into the home stretch. International team captain Frankie Dettori aboard Kingdom Come led briefly 200m later, but Holland had his mount in full stride and his teammate's lead lasted no more than a few strides.

Profit Report, who races in the all royal blue silks of Larry Nestadt, kept going to win easily from 28-1 chance Light Spectrum (Belgian Christophe Soumillon, representing France). Ruling champion SA jockey Mark Khan did best of the South Africans in finishing third aboard Emir. Favourite Tap Tap (Weichong Marwing) progressed in the straight, but made no impression on the winner.

Winning trainer Geoff Woodruff complimented Holland on a "brilliant ride". "He rode (Profit Report) to the letter," the Vaal-based former champion enthused. "At the weights he had a big chance, providing he was correctly ridden."



Trainer Ormond Ferraris instructs jockey Karl Neisius.

Jockey Karl Neisius took the South African team into a clear lead in the International Jockeys Challenge when Ormond Ferraris-trained second-favourite Trojan led a long way out and ran on well to win the second leg over 2000m.

High Speed Rush (Piere Strydom) set the pace from Bhekinkosi (Anthony Delpech) with E-Fuel (Weichong Marwing) next and ahead of Majestic Circle (Damien Oliver) and Trojan.

Marwing took his mount to the front just after the runners cornered, but the topweight's enthusiasm for his job soon petered out and Trojan was left in front. He kept going well to beat Bhekinkosi with Extrapolator third. Favourite Sunny Jim finished a never-nearer fourth.

The South Africans drew further ahead in the third challenge race when Piere Strydom pounced late aboard outsider Speech Time to beat Christophe Soumillon on Worldwise and the last leg was won by Kevin Shea aboard Urban Reason.

"It's been a great day," enthused Shea, who also won the topline, the R2-million Steinhoff Summer Cup.