

January 28, 2012

**TEAM VALOR INTERNATIONAL IS OFF TO A FLYING 2012 START IN JANUARY
STABLE LEADS PUBLIC SYNDICATE WITH 4 STAKES VICTORIES THIS MONTH
KENTUCKY-BASED PARTNERSHIP STABLE HAS WON 5 OF LAST 7 OUTINGS
INTERNATIONAL OWNER WINS RACES ON THREE DIFFERENT CONTINENTS**



Team Valor International is off to a flying start with its international stable in the month of January, as just this week Barry Irwin's stable of syndicated runners has won races on three different continents, namely North America, Europe and Africa.

Today was a particularly glorious afternoon on the second-biggest day of the South African racing calendar on the day of the J & B Met. Team Valor had its partnership-owned Ebony Flyer run away from a high-class, contentious field of fillies and mares to snag a second career Grade 1 victory in the Majorca Stakes going a mile.



Sent off as the second choice to a Mike de Kock-trained runner because of an uncharacteristically weak effort in her most recent outing, Ebony Flyer (above) crushed her opposition in crunch time to draw off to a 1 ¾-length victory. Ebony Flyer was bought privately as a foal, then bought again from that group by Barry Irwin, who formed a new partnership to race her when she was a yearling. She now has a record from 10 starts of 7 wins, 2 places and 1 unplaced. She is the Classic winner of the Grade 1 Cape Fillies Guineas when she took a notable scalp as she beat Horse of the Year Igugu.

Earlier on the same card, Team Valor struck with a 2-year-old filly named Agra, who beat a field of 10 colts and fillies for the Schweppes Summer Juvenile Stakes, a Listed black-type event over 5 furlongs. The fleet filly stunned onlookers with the ease of her triumph, as she sauntered to the wire nearly 4 lengths clear of her opposition to remain unbeaten in 2 starts.

So Team Valor International, with the season not quite a month old, as fashioned a lead atop the standings for stakes wins among public syndicate stables, a position it has led for the past several seasons in North America.

Team Valor now has 4 stakes victories, which is a lead of 3 stakes wins over its nearest rival among syndicate stables. Team Valor is the only syndicate stable to win a Grade 1 race so far during the current season.

Overall, Team Valor from 18 starts in 2012, has 6 wins for a gaudy winning strike rate of 33.33 percent. The stable has already earned \$209,027 this season.

Earlier stakes victories for Team Valor International this season have come from Barry Irwin's own home-bred Howe Great in leading home stablemate Lucky Chappy to take the \$100,000 Kitten's Joy Stakes at Gulfstream Park and from National Yearling Sale bargain Comtesse Dubois in winning the Laisserfaire Stakes at Kenilworth race course in South Africa.

Team Valor so far in 2012 has had 9 runners in stakes races, for 4 wins and 1 stakes placing. The winning strike rate in stakes so far this season has been 44 percent.

Of the 6 wins, 4 have come in stakes for a winning ratio of 66.66 percent stakes wins from wins.

Public Syndicate Groups - Stakes Stats for 2012				
	Stakes Winners	Stakes Wins	Individual Gr Winners	Graded Stakes Wins
TEAM VALOR INTERNATIONAL	4	4	1	1
CLASS RACING	1	1	1	1
PEACHTREE	1	1	1	1
BLINKERS ON	0	0	0	0
BONGO	0	0	0	0
CENTENNIAL	0	0	0	0
DOGWOOD	0	0	0	0
ELITE RACING	0	0	0	0
FANTASY LANE	0	0	0	0
FUNKY MONKEY STABLE	0	0	0	0
I E A H	0	0	0	0
MAGDALENA RACING	0	0	0	0
MAJESTIC RACING	0	0	0	0
PARTING GLASS	0	0	0	0
PEWTER	0	0	0	0
PINNACLE RACING	0	0	0	0
SACKATOGA STABLE	0	0	0	0
SOVEREIGN	0	0	0	0
STARLIGHT	0	0	0	0
STARVIEW	0	0	0	0
TEAM STALLION	0	0	0	0
TEAM VICTORY	0	0	0	0
THOROUGHbred FUTURES	0	0	0	0
THOROUGHbred LEGENDS	0	0	0	0
THREE CHIMNEYS	0	0	0	0
VICTORY THOROUGHbreds	0	0	0	0
WEST POINT	0	0	0	0
WINNERS CIRCLE PARTNERS	0	0	0	0
WOODFORD RACING	0	0	0	0