

July 29, 2011

MY KAZZIE FINISHES HER SOUTH AFRICAN CAREER AS A STAKES WINNER TEAM VALOR YEARLING BUY TAKES LISTED EAST CAPE PADDOCK STAKES TWICE GRADE 1 PLACED AT 2, SHE HAD 4 WINS FOR 3 DIFFERENT TRAINERS



My Kazzie closed out her 4-year-old season and, likely her racing career, today with a stakes score in the East Cape Breeders' Paddock Stakes, a Listed black-type event over a mile at Arlington in South Africa. The Western Winter filly actually finished a neck behind the first-place finisher, however, she was put up following an inquiry, which was precipitated by Generous Anna sawing off the eventual winner in mid-stretch.

A 7 to 1 chance drawn wide, My Kazzie had only two beat much of the way in the 15-horse stakes, was allowed to gradually creep closer by jockey Richard Fourie, who turned her loose in the lane to make up all but a neck of an 8-length deficit a furlong from home.

"She was always going to win and she was always going to be put up," said Jono Snaith, whose brother Justin trains My Kazzie, who he has sent out for a few races late in the South African season after the filly was switched from Durban to the Port Elizabeth region in a search for a black-type win before her racing career came to a conclusion.

My Kazzie has now won 4 races for 3 different trainers, having been Grade 1 placed twice at 2 for her namesake, trainer Mike Azzie, and taken a pair of wins last season with Neil Bruss in Durban.

Barry Irwin, who bought her as a yearling at the National Yearling Sale, said "This win triples her value. Nothing worse than having a couple of Grade 1 places and never winning a stakes. Thanks goodness Justin got the job done for us!"



Justin and Jono Snaith (L to R) of Snaith Racing.

The tall, dark-coated filly most likely will now be sent to Summerhill Stud, where she is slated to be covered by Visionaire, a Grade 1 winner of the King's Bishop Stakes at Saratoga that will stand his first season at stud in South Africa this year.

"That foal will be inbred 3 x 3 to Gone West, a stallion that has had an enormous impact on racing in South Africa," said Irwin. "We will put My Kazzie into our budding broodmare band of black-type winners and producers, from which we plan to market yearlings.

"We sold 3 yearlings this year at the inaugural Cape sale and realized prices of \$247,000, \$77,500 and \$37,500 and came away very happy. We hope to be able to market up to 10 yearlings each year at the select sales. We have some high powered mares in our group, including the dam of Ebony Flyer, as well as the top-class racers Spring Garland and She's on Fire."