"Always looking ahead"

The Thoroughbred Group - News

FOCUS ON: Eyeofthetiger (BRZ)

Dear Breeders

Our old chum Gary Player took time off from his hectic schedule to visit a few farms with me last weekend. He was awestruck when he saw Eyeofthetiger at The Alchemy – so much so that he asked me to find another share for him. He was sending two mares this season but he is now sending four. Eyeofthetiger has a superb temperament and enjoyed our visit. Gary spent a long time talking to and about him. Our thanks to Johan and Melanie and The Alchemy team for their hospitality and care.

Gary and Eyeofthetiger

In our regular contact with breeders we get exciting news about new foals. We are often sent photo's of foals associated with stallions in our portfolio that we want to share with you. The focus is always on what the new sires are doing and I am happy to report that our boy Eyeofthetiger has been getting more than his fair share of praise from those that have foaled one down this season. They are, in the main, big strong leggy, attractive foals – all correct with good bone and great heads. SA buyers like to buy them big and strong. Who as it that said "we like to buy them by the pound"? and so they do. Eyeofthetiger like so many stallions that have produced big strong yearlings at sale time is

Gary and Johan

sure to prosper. He will get over 80 mares this year.

Everyone knows Duncan Barry for telling it like it is. His reports in the past on the progeny of other new sires are always eagerly awaited by those of us town boys that rely on his 'nod". When Duncan called to say that he'd had one of the early Eyeofthetiger arrivals we were delighted. The report was classic Duncan, enthusiastic and factual. What he had to say amounted to a huge endorsement of this young sire. Thanks Duncan.

Foal out of Lustrati

He has a magnificent half sister by Eyeofthetiger to stakes winners Lustre Bug and Sentinal out of the 4 time winner Lustrati who has 6 winners from 7 to race.

One of The Alchemy's first foals of the season was an Eyeofthetiger filly out of two time winner Happy Herald. The foal is a half sister to stakes winner Gothic Rock and her dam is a half sister to Izindaba, dam of a host of stakes winners.

Foal out of Val's Guest

The Alchemy also have a foal out of their 3 time winning Northern Guest mare Val's Guest. Typically scopey with good strong legs.

Guy Murdoch says that his Eyeofthetiger colt out of Gary Player's small Al Mufti mare Ala Cherie, is "*absolutely fantastic*". David Hepburn-Brown of Hemel 'n Aarde is delighted with his "strong scopey colt" out of Voice of Africa & Count Duluc's half sister, Pretty Priceless. The Freeman's of Boland have a very positive attitude to this stallion and are happy with their filly and a "very very nice" colt. Gavin Walker has a lovely colt. James Armitage also sent two mares last year. One has foaled so far he "can't believe what a good looking stallion he is and is very happy with the leggy correct filly he has out of Gold Offer.

Foal out of Happy Herald

Eyeofthetiger is the highest weighted 3yo ever to win the Durban July and is the 2nd fastest winner on record. His dam was a champion winner of 7 races in the USA & Brazil and 4 Gr1 races.

Spring is finally here and showing it most glorious face. I have never seen so many flowers in the Karoo veld. It's like a Persian carpet. An excellent omen for a superb foaling season – like good wine horses have good years and I have this strong feeling that 2008 is one of those. Thought I'd share a pic taken at the side of the road with those of you that have not been lucky enough to see the flowers this year. I have never seen anything quite as fantastic. It's not too late to get out there – take a drive from Worcester to Robertson and include a visit to Eyeofthetiger – you won't be disappointed.

Foal out of Origanum