MEDIA RELEASE
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Rose of Galo Steals Black Top Crown

Written by Stuart Turner GRNSW Website

Kennewell's charge was boxed favourably from the outside and so it proved as she led from the first corner to win by three lengths in Friday's night's final at Unibet Gardens.

This was a first Group win in almost 50 years of training for Kennewell (pictured with Rose of Galo), who is originally from Broken Hill.

The popular 71-year-old was a happy man after claiming the $40,000 top prize and was ready to take his time toasting the win.

"The missus said not to hurry home if you have a winner," he said afterwards with a big smile. "She said I could take my time.

"I said, 'what happens if I'm not back until Monday'.

Rose Of Galo after winning the Black Top (Pic GRNSW Website)

"She said that's fine - as long as you come back with a win."

Rose of Galo ($4.20) led most of the way to come home and win in an impressive 29.52.

Push It ($2.90) finished strongly to finish second, with Alan's Kidz ($10.80) third.

AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

The win took much-travelled Rose of Galo's career record to 21 wins from 58 starts.

Kennewell, who works out of Mount Tarampa, close to Ipswich, said would now prepare his sprinter for the forthcoming Gold Coast and Brisbane cups.

There was a great crowd in attendance for the meeting, the first of Greyhound Racing NSW's Thank Dog It's Friday series.

After the placed runners the field finished in the following order 4th Zipping Summah ($4.20), 5th Hersi ($17.40), 6th Tricky Rose ($14.10) 7th Cloud Ten ($37.70) 8th Miner's Moss ($8.80) fell.

Rose Of Galo is a blue bitch whelped February 2011 by El Galo from Noir Rose (Black Enforcer x Beilpajah Rose) she is raced and trained by Albert Kennewell from Mount Tarampa in Queensland. She has raced 57 times for 21 wins and 19 placings, adding the Black Top Final's first prize of $40,000 it took his overall stake earnings to $90,935.

The NSW NCA could not have selected a better name for this on going feature at the Gardens. The race is now operated by the new Gardens franchise, Black Top by Top Linen from Classy Jane was an icon of the sport, he was raced by Frank Holmes of Highfields (near Newcastle) and his breeder Mrs. Edna Hanson bred him in Birmingham Gardens the suburb in which the Gardens track is located. He raced in the early 60's only contested 20 races for 17 wins and two seconds. He retired as Australia's highest stakes winner with 5352 Pounds. His introductory stud fee set at 65 pound was a record service fee in Australia.

A breeding success of extraordinary proportions Black Top created his own dynasty which continually re-wrote the record books on greyhound racing in this country. The feature races his progeny won and the stars he produced are to numerous to list, he served a record 1326 bitches and sired 6000 puppies earning approximately $150,000 in service fees. There is no doubt we will never see another Black Top, he was the one and only. Black Top was inducted into the AGRA Hall of Fame at the AGRA Awards night at Sandown in March 2008 and again in March 2009 in Perth when he went into the Sires category.

The Immortal Black Top in action

Previous winners of the Black Top **2005** Buddy Rich 29.41, **2006** Mojestic 29.87, **2007** One Tree Hill 29.44**, 2008** Lochinvar Prada 29.65, **2009** Cindeen Shelby 29.64, **2010** Snozz 29.34, **2011** Penthouse 29.53, **2012** Bye Bye Bucks 29.71 **and 2013** Billy Buzzard.

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