

MEDIA RELEASE

16th March 2009



“Group One Glory in the West”

This week's final of the Group 1 Sky Channel Perth Cup is set up for a classic finish after 8 exciting heats last Saturday night at Cannington.

The opening heat was won by veteran Victorian chaser Trew Millions (Brett Lee-Chloe Jones) who came from fifth early to race clear of Son Of Penske in 30.51 for trainer Tina Womann.

Womann came across last year with Trew Millions, however the talented chaser had little luck in finishing third in his heat.

The second heat was exciting with Mantra Lad (Pure Octane-Al Fresco) running the second quickest time ever recorded at Cannington clocking 29.95 with his 5 length win for trainer Graeme Jose.

It wasn't just the time that was awesome, the quality of greyhounds he defeated included champion Queensland bitch Queen Lauren, and the two Victorians Turanza Bale and Proven Polly.

Mantra Lad has now won the National Distance final and the Sandown Shootout as well as over \$168,000 in stakes.

WA star Miss Slick will give WA something to cheer about this week when she contests the Perth Cup after a brilliant come from behind victory over Victorian Jarvis Bale for trainer Max Julien.

Miss Slick (Bombastic Shiraz-Little Lamplight) has won over \$214,000 in WA races with Saturday nights win her 24th over all.

Her winning time was 30.44 after running down Abner Bale coming up to the home corner and drawing away.

The fourth heat of the Cup saw an upset victory to the Barry McPherson trained Talei Bond (Bond-Ronray Lass) who led throughout to defeat the pre race favourite for the Perth Cup series Velocette.

Graeme Bate brought the reigning Australian Cup winner to Perth, however he couldn't run down the leader with ½ length separating on the line in a winning time of 30.56.

Mandurah trainer John Iwanyk recorded a brilliant win with former NSW chaser Heart Of Buderus (Elite State-Taunting) who led throughout from box 1 to score by 5 lengths in 30.44.

The talented chaser was having just his 4th run in WA where he has now won at his past two after finishing runner up first up in the state for Iwanyk and owner Jeff Schroll who combined last year with Back Tonight who finished second in the final behind Size Can Matter.

Heat 6 went the way of the Linda Britton trained Russle Up (Solve The Puzzle-Summer Bliss) who led from box 7 and ran his rivals off their legs clocking a personal best 30.22 in defeating Top End and the well sported Rumble Supreme.

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Britton, WA's leading trainer has previously won the cup with Wynlee Supreme in 1992 and Bliss Bale in 1999.

David Hobby prepared Joanne Monelli (Premier Fantasy-Foolish Girl) to win the 7th heat after she led from box 1 and clocked 30.22 a personal best.

The WA bred chaser has good early speed unfortunately she came up with box six, but with some luck in running she could give Hobby his first success in the Sky Channel Perth Cup.

Drink Driver (Collide-Camden Shiraz) led throughout in the final heat for visiting South Australian trainer Rob Harnas winning by 4 lengths from Conrad Black in 30.32.

Tayza (Stately Bird-Crazy Habit) led throughout to win the first heat of the Sky Channel Galaxy defeating Octanol by 1 ½ lengths in 41.78.

For the second year running the Pete Sayer trained bitch has made the final of the Galaxy, finishing unplaced behind Elektra in last years feature.

The little brindle bitch is raced by Port Bouvard resident Greg Dwyer who has enjoyed seeing his bitch represent WA in the National Distance final last year as WA's best stayer.

The second heat of the Galaxy was won by an all the way victory to the Victorian Darren McDonald trained Vintage Octane (Pure Octane- My Girl Georgina) who won by 5 lengths in 41.82.

The favourite in the third heat of the Galaxy Gunnadoo Magic also missed out on qualifying for trainer Robert Britton with his sisters runner Western Land (Big Daddy Cool-On This Fold) getting over the top of the leader Tawqet Delta to win by 1 length in 41.98.

Trained by Linda Britton he has now won 4 times from 6 starts in WA with a personal best of 41.76 to his name after clocking 41.98 on Saturday.

Big Loose Buddy (Trendy Leigh-Abbadale Gold) gave Brookton trainer John Vuletich his biggest thrill as a trainer when he rattled home over the top of the tiring Victorian Sirocco Hero to win by 4 lengths in a time of 41.94.

This Saturday nights final has a winners purse of \$80,000, the second richest staying event in Australia.

GROUP ONE – SKY CHANNEL PERTH CUP \$140,000 to the winner



Russle Up

15 starts 8-4-1 (\$19,895)

Solve The Puzzle – Summer Bliss

Black Dog December '06

Owner: **Gary & Craig Weston**

Trainer: **Linda Britton**

Cannington best: 30.22 (7) (5 Starts 4-1-0)

Lightly raced local with very good form looked impressive last week leading all the way from an outside draw. Beat some handy types in a personal best of 30.22 and appears a dog with a solid future has won four on the track in succession. Each way chance from box one in good hands.



Miss Slick

60 starts 24-21-2 (\$214,220)

Bombastic Shiraz – Little Lamplight

Black Bitch January '06

Owners: **Pam & Max Julien**

Trainer: **Max Julien**

Cannington best: 30.02 (5) (53 Starts 24-19-2)

Local sprint star and 2008 WA Greyhound of the Year finalist some think unlucky not to be wearing the crown. Fantastic record at Cannington with 24 wins came from behind last week to record another polished performance. Needed an inside draw and has got it enhancing her chances the main local hope is certainly a big show.



Trew Millions (VIC)

67 starts 25-15-7 (\$165,205)

Brett Lee – Chloe Jones

Black Dog August '05

Owner: **Dennis Trewin**

Trainer: **Tina Womann**

Cannington best: 30.51 (5) (3 Starts 1-0-1)

Victorian sprint star and a dog that has made a lot of finals without winning. Raced well last week and is capable of an upset if things went his way. Drawn okay just needs to begin as well as he can to be a chance. Always thereabouts place looks best.



Talei Bond

52 starts 14-9-7 (\$42,165)

Bond – Ronray Lass

Red Brindle Bitch April '06

Owner: **L.C McDonald, P. Hawks, I. Johnson** Trainer: **Barry McPherson**

Cannington best: 30.56 (2) (40 Starts 10-9-5)

Honest local sprinter with a heap of experience at Cannington. 40 starts for 10 wins just kept going last week when she upset the pre-post favourite Velocette. Time needs to be smarter if she is to trouble this lot from box four. Place chance with luck.



Mantra Lad (VIC)

30 starts 13-6-2 (\$168,485)

Pure Octane – Al Fresco

Red Fawn Dog July '06

Owners: **M & F Hallinan** Trainer: **Graeme Jose**

Cannington best: 29.95 (5) (2 Starts 2-0-0)

Very versatile sprinter and stayer from Victoria he has scored group wins over both distances. Has never raced better than in his two wins in the West. Overcame box four twice for two outstanding wins last weeks a best of the night lightening fast 29.95. Will start a short priced quote and disserves the mantle is certainly the one to beat if he begins clean and has a little bit of luck will be hard to hold out.



Joanne Monelli

32 starts 11-7-6 (\$53,340)

Premier Fantasy – Foolish Girl

Black Bitch December '06

Owner: **Mike Quinsee** Trainer: **David Hobby**

Cannington best: 30.22 (1) (26 Starts 8-6-4)

Smart local sprinter with eight Cannington wins to her credit, held on well to cause a minor boilover in her heat when she downed several more fancied interstate visitors. Will need a few things to go her way from box six and will start nice odds to win the final. Might just be out of her class but did a good job in the heat to record a personal best 30.22. Place chance best.



Drink Driver (SA)

38 starts 16-5-4 (\$37,555)

Token Prince – Eriskay

Black Dog January '06

Owners: **Robert Sims** Trainer: **Robin Harnes**

Cannington best: 30.32 (3) (1 Starts 1-0-0)

South Australian campaigner who did a good job in the heat to win in 30.32. Showed he has some ability and will be better for another run on the track. Won't want to get into any trouble early as it certainly will harm his chances from this outside draw honest type will be nice odds.



Heart Of Buderus

17 starts 5-4-3 (\$16,175)

Elite State – Taunting

Black & White Dog February '07

Owner: **Jeff Schrull** Trainer: **John Iwanyk**

Cannington best: 30.44 (1) (3 Starts 1-1-0)

Has raced well since coming to the West and joining the powerful Iwanyk kennel. Handy type in his home state of New South Wales and perhaps needs to improve on his best winning time of 30.44. With a bit luck in running could finish in the placings.



Turanza Bale (VIC)

39 starts 7-12-5 (\$58,945)

Primo Uno – Daishi Bale

Victorian sprinter that finished second last week to Mantra Lad would have some claims if he gains a start.



Carlson Bale (VIC)

23 starts 9-4-2 (\$21,195)

Primo Uno – Daishi Bale

Talented local that finished second last week behind Joanne Monelli a tall ask in this company will be long odds if he gains a start.

Local expert's selections for the final are as follows.

Peter O'Neill

1st Mantra Lad
2nd Miss Slick
3rd Trew Millions

Ryan Lavitzke

1st Mantra Lad
2nd Miss Slick
3rd Heart Of Buderus

David Simonette

1st Russle Up
2nd Miss Slick
3rd Mantra Lad



Local Market for the Sky Channel Perth Cup:

\$140,000 to the winner Group 1 SKY CHANNEL Perth Cup (530m)			
Box	Greyhound	Trainer	Price
 1	Russle Up	Linda Britton	\$7.00
 2	Miss Slick	Max Julien	\$3.00
 3	Trew Millions	Tina Womann	\$9.00
 4	Talei Bond	Barry McPherson	\$51.00
 5	Mantra Lad	Graeme Jose	\$2.00
 6	Joanne Monelli	David Hobby	\$21.00
 7	Drink Driver	Robin Harnes	\$8.00
 8	Heart Of Buderus	Jason Iwanyk	\$34.00
 9	Turanza Bale (RES)	Graeme Bate	\$33.00
 10	Carlson Bale (RES)	Linda Britton	\$50.00

What's happening on race night?

Join us at Greyhounds WA Cannington for the running of the Perth Cup and Galaxy Final. Dine in Checkers Restaurant and watch an exciting night of greyhound racing with full TAB facilities, Sportsbet, DJ tunes, full bar facilities, on-course parking and plenty of room for the kids to play.

Perth Wildcats signing and giveaways, outside bars and totes, live trackside with Mick Radley.

Or, spend the evening on-course with **FREE gate entry!** Plus there's kids activities, Puppy Club, live band 'Cave' and fireworks after last race!

Gates Open 5.30pm

First Race approx. 7.05pm.

Checkers Restaurant Buffet: Adults \$52 12-17 years \$28 5-11 years \$17 Under 5 years FREE

Beverage packages are available - Adults \$33, Kids \$12 per person

Bookings Essential on **08 9458 9182.**

The History of the Perth Cup

In the 33 years since Dennis Calleja's greyhound Marcus Rate took out the first running of the *W.A. Gold Cup*, as it was then known, the Sky Channel Perth Cup, has developed into one of the country's most important group one classics. His first prize of \$1300 pales when compared to the \$140,000 on offer to the winner of this year's cup on April 21st.

The race has had a number of sponsors over the years and was known as the Brownes Gold Cup from 1976 to 1986. In 1987 it was called the Australis Mining Gold Cup, in 88 it was the Fairplay Gold Cup then from 1989 until 1992 it was called the Winfield Gold Cup. In 1993 a long sponsorship begun with Be Active and it was known as the Be Active Gold Cup in 1993 and 94 before being called the Be Active Perth Cup until 2007 when the club welcomed their new sponsor Sky Channel.

The Sky Channel Perth Cup has an honour role the envy of many, with some of the nation's top performers claiming the trophy.

While local dogs have at times had their fair share of success, more often than not in the last two decades the winner has been the best-performed chaser in the country at the time.

Possibly the best dog to have raced in the West enjoyed a stella run of success at Cannington in 1998. Jane Carruthers arrived in town for the big race that year with the mighty Rapid Journey. He had just won the Golden Easter Egg in Sydney and was keen for more Group One success.

That year local star Reggemite didn't let his fans down when he ran a slashing 30.54 in his heat. He had the crowd buzzing with his near track record run, but then Carruthers unleashed her brindle sensation on Cannington bettering Reggemite's time by a neck and equalling his track record of 30.52 in an awesome heat winning display.

Rapid Journey dominated the final of '98 and justified the second shortest odds offered in Cup history winning by almost 8 lengths at the quote of 1/3. Later in 1998 he again showed his liking of the Cannington 530m by returning and claiming the National Sprint Championship.

It was apparent in 1994 that having the best dog in the country was no guarantee of conquering one of the Nation's toughest sprint challenges. Star Queenslander Worthy Reward smashed the track record in his heat win that year and backed it up with a faultless display in his semi-final. Although drawing poorly in six he was sent out a 2/5 favourite but found trouble and was no match for the Troy Provost trained Just Like Whiskey who held off the fast finishing Worthy Reward to win by two lengths.

Harry Sarkis ventured west in 1996 fresh from taking out the Easter Egg with his smart black bitch Tenthill Doll. Harry showed his confidence early by supporting his bitch heavily in the traditional Calcutta and she didn't disappoint equalling the track record in her heat. When she drew the cherry in the final, bookmakers sent her out the shortest priced favourite in history at 2/7. The race was never in doubt and she cruised in to beat Jurassic Vapour and top local bitch Storm Act.

Seven of the last nine winners have come from interstate. Victorian Amy's Doll remained undefeated in the series when she claimed the trophy in 1993 for young trainer Paul Mills. Paul enjoyed a great visit that year also qualifying City Success for the final and was to become a regular over the next few years at Cannington as he tried to recapture the Cup.

Queensland had won the first of its two Perth Cups in 1987 when Pretty Fearless out kicked Scot A Win in one of the closest finishes on record, and claimed its second cup in 1995 with the Michael Zammit prepared Brisk Bill.

That same year a super smart local bitch by the name of South Georgia was emerging and many thought she had the speed to match Brisk Bill in the final. She led them into the back straight but could not hold on as Brisk Bill raced away for a convincing win over another visitor Baltusrol with South Georgia a gallant third.

Star Tribute for Dave Irwin overcame box eight with a barnstorming finish to win in 1997. That year NSW dog Welsh Duo put in a slashing performance in the heats and after drawing box one was expected to jump a short-priced favourite in the final. In possibly the most sensational incident in Group One racing, the stewards at kennelling, due to weight variation, scratched Welsh Duo.

Marcus Rate's 1976 annihilation of the field stands as the second biggest winning margin in Cup history.

It would take another 14 years before his winning margin of 10 lengths would be bettered. It was broken in 1990 when one of the smartest bitches to race at Cannington finally emerged from the shadow of her famous litter sister. Sand Pebble, trained in the hills east of Perth by Ron Timms, won the first Gold Cup of the nineties by an emphatic 10-¾ lengths to easily hold off Grant Langston's Quit and her mighty sister Sandi's Me Mum. Sand Pebble's race career was cut short by injury but many who saw her run remember her as the equal of Sandi's Me Mum in ability.

Perhaps the most remarkable Perth Cups came in the two years following Sand Pebbles win.

Frantic Night was purchased for \$200 by a group of owners headed by Billy Choules shortly before the 1991 series. He was not fancied in either the heat or semi final but made his way through to the final, drew the checks and the rest is history. A bad scrimmage on the first turn allowed him to rail through and pinch the race as a rank outsider with the celebrations from exited owners continuing for many days.

In 1992 the Cup was run as Perth experienced its wettest February day on record. Former Victorian chaser Wynlee Supreme ploughed through the bog to win in the slowest time in history. His win as a 50-month old dog also made him the oldest winner of a Perth Cup. The conditions were so bad that officials had to cancel the last race on the program when the sea of water on the infield made it impossible for the below ground lure system to operate.

Wynlee Supreme gave trainer Linda Britton her biggest win in the sport and was to be the first of two wins in the race. She qualified four runners for the final in 1999 with all eyes on the superstar Reggemite.

In a major shock Reggemite began well but was injured driving into the first corner, he battled on strongly to finish fourth but sadly it was the last time he was to race at Cannington. Britton trained the quinella that year as Bliss Bale held off kennel mate Shirdon's Alarm to win by a half length.

Nifti Fire went into the first Perth Cup of "the naughties" as the form greyhound for popular trainer Jodie Harding. When he drew the cherry in the final, many thought the race was as good as over. As luck would have it, Nifti Fire began only fairly and copped a buffeting going into the first turn. His chances looked remote going down the back straight but he showed great fighting qualities to get up in the last bound to grab the 2000 Cup.

Grant Langston dominated training ranks in the late eighties and early nineties qualifying three runners for the final on four occasions. He managed to win the race only once. Miss Crisp will always be remembered as the bitch that took out the last Cup run on grass at Cannington. She began brilliantly from the white and was never troubled in beating the croweater Faust's Legend in quick time. She'll also be remembered as the mother of Paradise Street, the best stayer produced in the West and a three-time winner of the State Distance championship and National Champ in 1998.

In 2001 Graeme Bate sent over the brilliant Kantarn Bale for the series and he quickly emerged as Cup favourite with dashing wins in the lead up Interstate Challenge and Perth Cup heat. He drew well in box two in the final but totally bombed the start and ran a remarkable race to finish second to the Jason Thompson-trained Sammy Mint.

Sammy Mint had qualified with a tough-as-teak performance from box six in his heat. When Thompson drew out the envelope to give his dog the coveted rails in the final, he knew he had the chance to end Sammy Mint's racing career with a Group One victory. He was right as Sammy Mint easily held off Kantarn Bale and hometown favourite Cobram Storm.

The 2002 cup saw group one success for Victorian super sprinter Modern Assassin often the bridesmaid in the many major finals he gave nothing else chance after sweeping to the front at the first turn and led from that point on to win in 30.60. Favourite was the all conquering Carlisle Jack who had breezed into town to take the Interstate Challenge in track record time and after a brilliant heat win he was all the rage for the final but early trouble after a slow start left him near the rear and struggling. Trained by Mary Mugavin-Brown the Perth Cup was a highlight of a stellar career for the talented black chaser.

Outstanding Gippsland sprinter Elgrando had been most unlucky not to snare a Group 1 victory in 2002. Travelling to the West in 2003 in search of the Perth Cup, the "big fellow" showed a distinct liking for the Cannington circuit. After a brilliant heat win, he made a sweeping run down the back straight in the final to claim the leader Rifle Street in the shadows of the post. The \$60,000 first prize took his stake tally to over \$184,000. Elgrando trained by Carolyn Jones was one of five Victorians to make the final.

Victoria provided the winner of the Perth Cup for the fourth time in succession in 2004. Many were surprised by the performance of relatively unknown sprinter Kilby Supreme when she gave some of the big names a run for their money. Her star was to shine brightly as the speedy black bitch made Cannington her own not only accounting for a top class field but taking a big chunk of the 530 metre track record in the process.

It was a tremendous thrill for Victorian trainer Elaine Vigor with Kilby Supreme becoming her first Group One success and she shared the night with "Kilby" owner popular MGRA employee Jackie Davis.

A well deserved Group One glory was finally posted by Sun Hero in the Perth Cup of 2005. The Andrea Dailly trained super sprinter had made nineteen group finals, with his closest finish at Group One level being third in the Paws Of Thunder of 2004.

It was a happy return to Perth for former Sandgropers Tom and George Dailly who had been introduced to the sport by their late father, George Senior. The Perth Cup was proving easy pickings for Victorian trainers with Sun Hero's win the fifth in succession. It was also a big "V" trifecta with Go Forever finishing second and Black Lee third.

2006 and Greyhounds WA were delighted with a spectacular evening of greyhound racing. A record crowd in excess of 5300 the biggest ever assembled at Cannington since the opening night back in 1974. Victorious in the big final was up and coming Victorian sprint sensation Superman after establishing a new track record in his heat win Superman begun well from box seven and finding the front early he careering away to win comfortably from fellow Victorians Trewly Special and Pororoca.

2007 and superstar Victorian sprinter and reigning AGRA Australian Greyhound of the Year Betty's Angel captured the Sky Channel Perth Cup with a brilliant win.

Beginning well from box 1 Betty's Angel (\$1.80) was beaten for the early lead by the locally trained Decathalon (\$26.10) he held that advantage through the first turn and down the back, with "Betty" in hot pursuit. Unfortunately at the first turn youngster Kostic Burns fell heavily causing havoc for a number of finalist's behind the two leaders.

Decathalon was still in front into the home straight and for a fleeting moment looked like winning, but the last section has always been Betty's Angel's best and she raced pass Decathalon going on to win by one length and three quarters with Brother Knows (\$29.80) seven back in third, time for the final was 30.47.

2008 and high speed Queensland youngster Size Can Matter captured the Group 1 Sky Channel Perth Cup final in brilliant fashion with a very impressive all the way win.

Beginning like a rocket from the "squeeze" box 4 Size Can Matter (\$5.00) took control in the run to the first turn with the favourite Whippy's Image after a slow start in hot pursuit, the classy white chaser held the fence around the first turn and down the back straight he showed the superior speed. The Adelaide Cup winner was trying hard but wasn't making any ground. As "Whippy's" started to wilt new challengers appeared on the scene with West Australian track specialist Back Tonight (\$9.40), racing into the picture from well back. He looked a winning chance as they came into the home straight however Size Can Matter found another gear kicking near the line to win by a length and half in 30.22.



The outstanding Size Can Matter winning the cup last year

In 33 times the Perth Cup has been staged winners have come from every corner of the country. Victoria leads the way with eight from New South Wales with six victories, four from South Australia (all in the eighties) and three from Queensland making Western Australia's showpiece a Group One race of National importance.

Perth Cup Honour Roll

Listed below is the Perth Cup honour roll it has been won by some outstanding sprinters over the years most coming from the eastern states.

1976 **Marcus Rate**, 1977 **Canonero's Gift**, 1978 **Biafra's Son**, 1979 **Rare Discovery**, 1980 **White Panther**, 1981 **General Jeff**, 1982 **Wotta Wizard**, 1983 **Superstar**, 1984 **Legatee**, 1985 **Supreme Carmen**, 1986 **Farquhar**, 1987 **Pretty Fearless**, 1988 **Karina Flash**, 1989 **Miss Crisp**, 1990 **Sand Pebble**, 1991 **Frantic Night**, 1992 **Wynlee Supreme**, 1993 **Amy's Doll**, 1994 **Just Like Whisky**, 1995 **Brisk Bill**, 1996 **Tenthill Doll**, 1997 **Star Tribute**, 1998 **Rapid Journey**, 1999 **Bliss Bale**, 2000 **Nifti Fire**, 2001 **Sammy Mint**, 2002 **Modern Assassin**, 2003 **Elgrando**, 2004 **Kilby Supreme**, 2005 **Sun Hero**, 2006 **Superman**, 2007 **Betty's Angel** and 2008 **Size Can Matter**.

GROUP ONE – SKY CHANNEL GALAXY \$75,000 to the winner



Vintage Octane (VIC)

30 starts 17-2-6 (\$115,250)

Pure Octane – My Girl Georgina

Fawn Dog October '06

Owners: Living The Dream Syndicate

Trainer: Darren McDonald

Cannington best: 41.82 (4) (2 Starts 1-1-0)

Victorian stayer that has already won a Group 2 this year will start favorite and was impressive last week apart from the fact the time wasn't there. Is sure to improve and is the one to beat has loads of ability and his best stayer efforts are surely in front of him.



Western Land

63 starts 23-13-9 (\$86,485)

Big Daddy Cool – On This Fold

White & Fawn Dog September '05

Owner: D Carl, M Greenwood

Trainer: Linda Britton

Cannington best: 41.76 (1) (4 Starts 2-0-1)

Handy former New South Wales and Victorian performer that has racing well since joining the Linda Britton kennel. Is one of the chances if he can stay in touch with the leaders. Beat some handy types home last week, place chance best.



Sirocco Hero (VIC)

34 starts 8-10-6 (\$40,320)

Primo Uno - Natural Class

Red Brindle Dog September '06

Owner: M & F Hallinan

Trainer: Wayne Vassallo

Cannington best: NBT (2 Starts 0-1-0)

Handy Victorian stayer that tired in the run to the line last week would need to improve on that run if he is have any say in this affair. Hard to see him winning it but he is capable of running a place.



Tawqet Delta

32 starts 7-2-1 (\$22,995)

Primo Uno – Glimmering Black

Red Brindle Dog July '06

Owners: Dockerland Racing Syndicate

Trainer: Nathan Iwanyk

Cannington best: 42.25 (2) (2 Starts 1-1-0)

Has raced with some minor success in Victoria and has recorded fair time here is his only win. A stayer that has shown some ability at different times. Hard to have in this and would need to do everything right to win. Will start big odds.



Octanol

22 starts 8-4-1 (\$65,895)

Pure Octane – My Girl Georgina

Brindle Dog October '06

Owner/Trainer: David Hobby

Cannington best: NBT (2 Starts 0-1-0)

Smart sprinter that has only just gone over the distance at his last few starts. Hasn't won over the 715 metres and hard to make a case for him winning here. Would need to improve to be a winning chance place hope best.



Risk It (SA)

37 starts 15-7-6 (\$36,110)

Most Awesome – Eureka Disco

Brindle Dog May '06

Owner: A Holliday & R Johnson

Trainer: Troy Murray

Cannington best: NBT (2 Starts 0-2-0)

Handy South Australian that has performed well in distance events in three states. Finished second to Vintage Octane last week but was well beaten. With some luck in running not without a chance hard to see him turning the tables on the favourite. Place chance best.



Tayza

56 starts 20-4-5 (\$97,840)

Stately Bird – Crazy Habit

Brindle Bitch

October '05

Owner: **Greg Dwyer**

Trainer: **Peter Sayer**

Cannington best: 41.53 (2) (28 Starts 13-3-2)

Local star that represented WA in the National Distance Championship last year. Well performed here at Cannington with 13 wins and best winning time of 41.53, and she made the final of this race last year. Certainly has claims and is a genuine winning chance, is the biggest danger to the favourite. Won well last week and a repeat would put her well in this finish.



Big Loose Buddy

34 starts 9-9-5 (\$36,015)

Trendy Leigh – Abbadale Gold

Black Dog

November '05

Owner: **C R Hean, J Vuletich & M J Bradford**

Trainer: **John Vuletich**

Cannington best: 41.78 (2) (9 Starts 3-2-2)

Local that has won three times here and came home strong last week to run down Sirocco Hero. Will need to do everything right to win but a big thrill for connections to make a Group 1 final. Will start good odds place chance best.



Lilley Criminal

(NSW)

52 starts 23-5-7 (\$193,643)

Hallucinate – Que Dee Tee

New South Wales star who failed to perform last week has won two Group 1 races this year and would be a big chance if she gains a start.



Gunnadoo Magic

(VIC)

69 starts 28-17-4 (\$270,235)

Token Prince – Go Shoopa

Star Victorian stayer who up until last week was in career best form made this final last year when runner up always a chance if she can gain a start.

Local expert's selections for the final are as follows.

Peter O'Neill

1st Vintage Octane

2nd Tayza

3rd Big Loose Buddy

Ryan Lavitzke

1st Tayza

2nd Octanol

3rd Vintage Octane

David Simonette

1st Vintage Octane

2nd Western Land

3rd Sirocco Hero

Local Market for the Group 1 Sky Channel Galaxy

\$80,000 to the winner Group 1 SKY CHANNEL Galaxy (715m)			
Box	Greyhound	Trainer	Price
	Vintage Octane	Darren McDonald	\$1.40
	Western Land	Linda Britton	\$7.50
	Sirocco Hero	Wayne Vassallo	\$7.50
	Tawqeeet Delta	Nathan Iwanyk	\$51.00
	Octanol	David Hobby	\$13.00
	Risk It	Troy Murray	\$21.00
	Tayza	Pete Sayer	\$11.00
	Big Loose Buddy	John Vuletich	\$26.00
	Lilley Criminal (RES)	Anthony Azzopardi	\$8.00
	Gunnadoo Magic (RES)	Rob Britton	\$9.00

The Galaxy first became a group race in 2002 as the major distance support race to the Perth Cup Carnival prior to then it was conducted as a minor feature and was first run in 1982.

1982 **Afro Freeway**, 1983 **Supreme Carmen**, 1984 **Aulfee**, 1985 **Lady Temlock**, 1986 **Abilene**, 1987 **Lassie's Girl**, 1988 **Red Rambo**, 1989 **Ghetto's Glider**, 1990 **Busy City**, 1991 **Galahad County**, 1992 **Petite Emma**, 1993 **Cousin Johnny**, 1994 **Floral Kwondo**, 1995 **Wits End**, 1996 **Rocket Racer**, 1997 **Gemaly Park**, 1998 **Paradise Street**, 1999 **Harvard Bale**, 2000 **Alencia Bale**, 2001 "Not held" 2002 **Jennev** 2003 **Why Complain** 2004 **Winter** 2005 **Best Quoted**, 2006 **Ronray Dancer**, 2007 **Flashing Floods** and 2008 **Elektra**.

Thanks to Peter O'Neill from Racing Radio WA for story content used in this release.

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