



THE ACADEMY OF CHOICE FOR JOCKEY TRAINING

NEWSLETTER

March 2008

"Remember you will not always win. Some days, the most resourceful individual will taste defeat. But there is, in this case, always tomorrow - after you have done your best to achieve success today." – Maxwell Maltz

From the Headmaster's Desk...

Dear Parents and Friends of the Academy

What a pleasure it is to see the first issue of our monthly newsletter ready to be sent out. A big thank you to our new Marketing Officer, Charles Grey, who joined us at the beginning of March and to all those who made a contribution. Some of these items will become standard for your information. These include Apprentice Jockey Statistics, Phumelela Gold Apprentice Jockey Challenge Statistics and Riding Results of our Equestrian students.

We have had an exciting month with a visit from CEO and Chairman of the Tourism Hospitality and Sport Education and Training Authority. We have received the funding and have begun the dispersal thereof – see the full story on page 2.

At a special assembly held on the 14th March, Albert Nduku, who you will remember as our Head Groom, received his SANEF Module 3 Certificate from Mrs. Jackie Bridal. This was a special achievement as Albert is the first African man in South Africa to achieve this Certificate. We are very proud of him and his achievement.



Albert receiving his Certificate from Jackie Bridal, Chairman of the KZN Instructors Panel

As you know Thomas Labuschagne and Gary Molloy have now completed their employment at the Academy. Gary Molloy has arrived safely in New Zealand and sends his love and best wishes to all of us. Thomas will be taking up his position in Korea on the 1st May and he is now preparing to depart. These men have been an integral part of the Academy and are directly responsible for the success of our Apprentice Jockeys, your children. We shall miss them and wish them all the happiness in their new careers and homes.

We also say goodbye to Willy Mahlaba our current Assistant Stable Manager who has been promoted to a more senior position at the National Groom School up the road. Willy is preparing for the SANEF Module 3 exam and we hope that he will be the second African man in South Africa to achieve this qualification.

I trust that you have all had a lovely Easter break and I look forward to seeing you again in the second term.

Yours Sincerely

Patrick Salvage
Headmaster

A Financial Boost for the Future of Horseracing



Patrick Salvage receives a cheque from Mike Tsotetsi, CEO of THETA

A contract of significant importance for the future of the South African horseracing industry was signed between THETA (Tourism, Hospitality and Sport Education and Training Authority) and the Racing and Equestrian Academy (REA) in a ceremony at the South African Jockey Academy

THETA is the authority for one of 23 sectors in the South African community that have been targeted by the Department of Labour's SETA (Services Sector Education and Training Authority), an organisation that ensures that the skill needs for every sector of the South African economy are identified and that training is available to provide for these skill needs.

Patrick Salvage, Headmaster of the REA, welcomed the dignitaries present and explained that since 2005 THETA has provided R4,5 million for two access projects, one providing bursaries for apprentice jockeys and another providing education for grooms, and yesterday a further cheque of R3 million, to be used over the next two years, was handed over to the REA.

Phumla Mnganga, a Director of Gold Circle and their Transformation Executive, explained how THETA had known very little about the horseracing industry when first approached in 2004.

“However, THETA has now formed a true partnership with Gold Circle and Phumelela in subsidising the two access projects and the projects have been true to what the government had in mind when implementing the Skills Development Act,” she said.

“The Act looked at areas of industry where structurally and historically there have been access problems to educational opportunities and to the acquisition of skills training at a higher level.

“Looking at the two access projects, the Jockey’s Academy bursaries are essentially about ensuring that the throughput of jockeys at the Academy is racially representative while the grooms side of the project is about taking members of the community who did not have the opportunity to have a basic education and giving them that opportunity so that they may progress within the industry and pursue higher level careers.”

Mnganga then told of a new project being discussed with THETA aimed at developing racing management skills, an area where there is currently a shortage of black personnel.

Mike Tsoetsi, the CEO of THETA, presented the R3 million cheque to the Academy, and explained that this was a significant project as the disadvantaged community, including females, are now being given access both to a scarce skill (jockeyship) and to a market that very few people enter. Chris Johnson, Chairperson of the THETA board, was fascinated with the stories of two of the 46 apprentice jockeys currently benefiting from the projects, young first years, Justine King and Nonthando Ngcoya. Two hundred grooms will also be benefiting from the projects this year.

By David Thistleton

From the Boys Dorm...

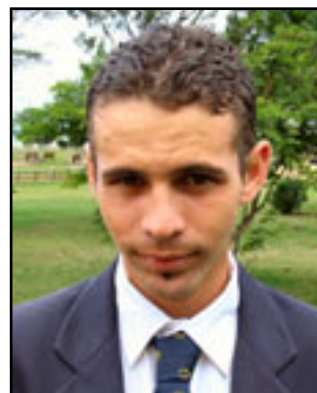
Currently our boy’s dormitory accommodates 27 apprentices:

4 Out of school, 2 Post Matrics, 4 Grade 12’s; 9 Grade 11’s and 8 Grade 10’s.

The housemaster, Mr. Nel, is in charge of the boy’s dormitory with the support of two prefects: Brandon Lerena (Head Boy) and Aldo Domeyer.



Brandon Lerena



Aldo Domeyer

The Post Matric and Out of School apprentices in the dormitory act as student and kit masters, making it a dynamic, interesting community. It is camaraderie that often enables the boys to make friendships that last a lifetime.

New appliances and furniture...

A PVR/decoder was installed in the dormitory this term. This enables the apprentices to record races to watch later in more detail.

The dormitory also received a brand new lounge suite. We hope to find a sponsor for a second lounge suite so that we finally can get rid of the ugly 'bean bags' and to seat all the boys in the lounge.

And just to make sure that the boys keep record of their weight consistently, a new digital bathroom scale was placed in the senior bathroom.

Free time...

Life in the dormitory is not always hard work (home work, dormitory duties, etc.) – the boys organise sports games in the afternoons/evenings and are often up to pranks that turn their housemasters' hair grey.

They frequently go to the beach to enjoy the sun and sea as only Durban can offer, go to the movies or shopping on weekends. Thank you to all staff members on weekend duties who make this possible for our boys.

The 2008 intake...

The twelve 1st year boys have settled very well into their new environment during the first term. They went through an orientation and fund raising program which included a car-wash and a 1st year concert. The 1st year concert included gum boot-dancing, singing and role play.

Their enthusiasm and determination has really produced pleasing results and we are proud of their efforts.

The Housemaster's door is always open. The dormitory experience fosters in each boy an appreciation of the worth of others and the shared benefits of living in a community and promotes initiative. Character building values such as selflessness, humility, kindness and sportsmanship are taught and encouraged in a home-away-from-home environment. Boys have to be independent and manage on their own. These lessons are the real benefits of being at the SAJA.

By Marius Nel – Housemaster

1st Year Concert...

We often see apprentices riding and racing but we very rarely see their cultural and creative side. However at the beginning of this year the first year Apprentices embarked on producing their very own concert.

From the outset, the first years were fairly confused about what should be in their production. They finally decided to do what they were good at. The evening started with a two hour delay – due to load shedding. This did not dampen their spirits. As soon as the lights returned they were ready to go.

First up on the programme was a slide presentation by Samantha Harman showing our experiences from Spirit of Adventure. Next the entire first year group performed a rousing gumboot dance. Then break dancing by Justine and Jaswick, followed by more dancing by Justine and the twins Siyabonga and Sanele Duma. The Finale had the audience in stitches

with the first year's re-enactment of "Summer Loving" from Grease with our very own Danny, Sandy, Pink Ladies and T-birds.

It was an enjoyable evening for both audience and pupils and we hope to make the first year concert a new tradition at the Academy.

By Whitney Ford

Valentines Day, Alter-Ego Dress Day & Movie Night...

A series of events were organized to raise much-needed funds for our Boy's and Girl's dorms.

Valentines Dance...

We kicked the fundraising drive off with the Valentines Dance in our Staff Room which was converted into a red and white 'Love Shack'.

The following prizes were awarded:

Best Dressed Guy	-Sphamandla Mngoma
Best Dressed Guy	-Holly Gilliver
Best Dressed Couple	-Kelsey Ford and Evert Pheiffer
Best Dressed Staff Member	-Miss Ford

Alter Ego Dress Day...

Alter Ego Dress Day was both entertaining and slightly concerning - with Gareth dressed as Hitler and all the girls dressed as the Rovers Rugby Team, fully equipped with coach, manager, ref and groupies. Other personalities such as Usher, Eminem, Tony Hawk and J'Lo were also found at the Academy that day. Even Miss Ford as Avril Lavigne and Miss Halgreen, as the Nutty Professor made an appearance.



Movie Night...

This was a great opportunity for pupils to relax and enjoy their last night at the Academy before the holidays began. Popcorn, biscuits, hot chocolate and coffee was sold. All attendants settled in the big classroom for 30 Days of Night and Resident Evil.

A BIG thank you to everyone who supported our fundraising efforts.

By Whitney Ford

Equestrian 1st Term Report & Results...

Our first term was a fairly slow one in terms of shows as the season has just begun. However we have had some outstanding results from both pupils and staff.

Our first show of the term was Canterbury training show in Pietermaritzburg. Andrea Kittel achieved a First and a Second, Holly Gilliver a Second, Miss Halgreen a Third and Miss Ford competed successfully on her young horse.

Nastasha de Klerk and her two horses, Aucor Modern Minstrel and Vermol Divine Lustre, competed at the C & S Shongweni Showjumping Show and received a 2nd place on Divine Lustre.

The South African Jockey Academy hosted their first affiliated show of the season. In the JE/F grade, Holly Gilliver achieved a First and a Third and in the CE/CD grade Sarah Salvage a First and a Second. In the JE/E grade competition Andrea Kittel achieved a second place on Griffin and Kelsey Ford competed successfully for the first time in D-grade on her horse King's Head.

Tiffany-Jane Herron and her horse Shoshone Dior were placed second in her first Junior Pre Novice eventing show at Shongweni Club.

At the Hawkstone training show Holly Gilliver and Chevaughn Greenham rode clear rounds; Paula McKenzie had a First place and Miss Ford a second place.

At the Barry Yarnell KZN closed championships. Tiffany-Jane Herron was placed third in her JE round, Nastasha De Klerk placed 7th in her JD round and Kelsey achieved a double clear in her D grade competition.

Karla Veerkamp competed in two elementary/medium dressage shows at the Durban Shongweni Club and came 2nd and 3rd in her first show. In her second show she received two first places.

Good Luck to all those riders who will be competing in the Canterbury Affiliated Showjumping show and the Three Springs Eventing at Treverton during these holidays.

By Eric Higgs & Whitney Ford

A New Name for Our Newsletter...

We would like to extend an invitation to all Parents and Learners to submit a selection of potential names for our monthly Newsletter – for example our year book is called **Winning Times**. Please e-mail your suggested Newsletter names to Charles Grey marketing@theacademy.co.za or by fax: (031) 769 1034. The Parent or Learner that comes up with the best name will be mentioned in our April Edition.

We would also appreciate some feedback, suggestions and ideas for our new Newsletter. If there is any information you feel should be included please contact Charles on (031) 769 1103 or 082 454 8808 or by e-mail. Your contributions and suggestions will no doubt ensure the success of this Newsletter.

Forthcoming Events...

The South African Jockey Academy celebrates its 50th Anniversary this year and a series of celebratory events have been planned:

DATE	EVENT
26 – 28 April	KZN Interschool Challenge at Shongweni Polo Club
3 May	50 th Anniversary Race Meeting at Greyville
17 May	50 th Anniversary Race Meeting at Kenilworth, Cape Town
30 May	50 th Anniversary Golf Day in Cape Town
21 June	50 th Anniversary Race Meeting at Turffontein, Gauteng
25 June	50 th Anniversary Race Meeting at Arlington, Port Elizabeth
17 July	50 th Anniversary Golf Day at The Royal Durban Golf Club
16 & 17 August	Affiliated Showjumping Show at the Academy
24 September	Matric Dance
17 October	Official 50 th Celebration incorporating a Thanksgiving Service, a Tree Planting Ceremony and Gala Black Tie Dinner.

Phumelela Gold Apprentice Challenge...

How it works...

This competition has 2 phases to it - Phase 1 is from August to November and Phase 2 is from February to July. A race is held in Johannesburg and Durban, different racecourses, different distances, this is to give the apprentice a chance to get to know the various racecourses. It is run on a point system, 1st place is 10 points, 2nd place is 6 points, 3rd place is 4 points, 4th is 3 points, 5th is 2 points and 6th place is 1 point. There are three prizes handed out for Phase 1:- 1st place, 2nd place and 3rd place. This is the same for Phase 2 and then there is an over-all winner which combines the points for both Phases.

Phase 1

1 st – B. Lerena	30 points
2 nd – B. Nyawo	24 points
3 rd – D. David	23 points

Currently in Phase 2

1 st – D. David	25 points
2 nd – A. Mlaba	22 points
3 rd – B. Lerena	14 points

Overall Top Ten, this ends in July, 2008

1) D. David	48 points
2) B. Lerena	44 points
3) A. Mlaba	38 points
4) D. Howell	28 points
5) J. Samuel	25 points
5) K. Teetan	25 points
7) B. Nyawo	24 points
8) L. Africa	15 points
9) N. Welch	13 points
10) A. Nienaber	12 points
10) D. Habib	12 points

By Robert Moore

Apprentice Log Positions to Date for the Current Season...

LOG POSITION	APPRENTICE	WINS	PLACES	RIDES
1	Brandon Lerena	40	95	342
2	Aldo Domeyer	27	70	279
3	Karis Teetan	18	80	269
4	Karl Zechner	18	71	256
5	Andile Mlaba	17	49	252
6	Jarred Samuel	16	88	333
7	Vicky Minott	16	31	167
8	Derreck David	14	75	261
9	Victor Morake	14	29	155
10	Kendall Minnie	9	53	228
11	Eldin Webber	9	53	224
12	Nicola Welch	9	32	122
13	Andrew Nienaber	9	28	157
14	Vicky Badenhorst	8	22	146
15	Donavan Howell	7	33	149

Apprentice Race Results – March 2008...

DATE	RACECOURSE	APPRENTICE RACE RESULTS
01/03/08	Turffontein	Derreck David – 1 place Andile Mlaba – 2 places
02/03/08	Scottsville	Brandon Lerena - 2Wins Karis Teetan - 2 places Aldo Domeyer - 1 win & 2 places Jarred Samuel – 2 places
02/03/08	Durbanville	Devin Ashby – 1 place
03/03/08	Flamingo park	Victor Morake – 2 wins & 1 place Timothy Pretorius – 1 win
04/03/08	Durbanville	Vicky Minott – 1 win & 2 places Donald Bogaleboile – 1 place
05/03/08	Scottsville	Brandon Lerena – 1 place
06/03/08	Vaal	Brandon Lerena – 1 win Andrew Nienaber – 1 win & 1 place Andile Mlaba – 1 place Donovan Howell – 1 win & 1 place
07/03/08	Fairview	Gavin Coetzee – 1 win Kendall Minnie – 1 win & 2 places Victor Morake – 1 place Eldin Webber – 1 place
07/03/08	Greyville	Karl Zechner – 2places Donovan Howell – 2 places Karis Teetan – 1 win & 1 place
08/03/08	Kenilworth	Oswald Noach – 1 win & 1 place

		Brandon Lerena – 1 place
08/03/08	Turffontein	Brian Nyawo – 1 place
09/03/08	Clairwood	Brandon Lerena – 2 wins & 1 place Karis Teetan – 6 places Karl Zechner – 1 win & 1 place Donovan Howell – 1 place Jarred Samuel – 1 place
10/03/08	Flamingo Park	Andile Mlaba – 1 place Victor Morake – 2 places
11/03/08	Vaal	Andile Mlaba – 2 places Timothy Pretorius – 1 place
12/03/08	Scottsville	Jarred Samuel – 3 places Brandon Lerena – 3 places Karis Teetan – 2 places Sphamandla Mngoma – 1 place
13/03/08	Vaal	Brian Nyawo – 1 win Derreck David – 2 places Andile Mlaba – 1 place
14/03/08	Fairview	Victor Morake – 2 place Eldin Webber – 1 place Kendall Minnie – 1 place
15/03/08	Turffontein	Andile Mlaba – 2 places
15/03/08	Durbanville	Oswald Noach – 2 places
18/03/08	Fairview	Kendall Minnie – 1 win Eldin Webber – 2 places
19/03/08	Scottsvile	Karl Zechner – 1 win & 1 place Karis Teetan – 1 win & 1 place Aldo Domeyer – 1 place Jarred Samuel – 1 place
20/03/08	Vaal	Derreck David – 4 places
21/03/08	Fairview	Eldin Webber – 1 place Victor Morake – 1 win & 1 place Kendall Minnie – 3 places
22/03/08	Turffontein	Andrew Nienaber – 1 place
22/03/08	Durbanville	Oswald Noach – 2 places
23/03/08	Clairwood	Andile Mlaba – 2 wins & 1 place Brandon Lerena – 1 win & 1 place Aldo Domeyer – 1 place Derreck David – 1 win & 1 place Donovan Howell – 1 place Karis Teetan – 1 place Timothy Pretorius – 1 place
24/03/08	Vaal	Derreck David – 1 place
25/03/08	Fairview	Eldin Webber – 1 win Kendall Minnie – 1 place
26/03/08	Greyville	Aldo Domeyer – 1 win & 2 places Karis Teetan – 2 wins Brandon Lerena – 2 places Karl Zechner – 1 place

27/03/08	Vaal	Derreck David – 1 place Brian Nyawo – 1 place
28/03/08	Fairview	Vikki Badenhorst – 1 win Kendall Minnie – 2 places
28/03/08	Durbanville	Devin Ashby – 1 place Oswald Noach – 1 place
29/03/08	Turffontein	Derreck David – 1 win & 1 place
29/03/08	Greyville	Aldo Domeyer – 1 win & 1 place Karis Teetan – 1 place Jarred Samuel – 1 win & 1 place Karl Zechner – 2 places Brandon Lerena – 2 places
30/03/08	Turffontein	Donovan Howell – 2 places Derreck David – 1 place Andrew Nienaber – 1 place
30/03/08	Durbanville	Vicky Minott – 1 win & 1 place Devin Ashby – 1 place
31/03/08	Flamingo Park	Derreck David – 1 place Victor Morake – 1 place

Ending Off With a Smile...

A champion jockey is about to enter an important race on a new horse. The horse's trainer meets him before the race and says, "All you have to remember with this horse is that every time you approach a jump, you have to shout, 'ALLLLEEE OOOP!' really loudly in the horse's ear. Providing you do that, you'll be fine."

The jockey thinks the trainer is mad but promises to shout the command. The race begins and they approach the first hurdle. The jockey ignores the trainer's ridiculous advice and the horse crashes straight through the center of the jump.

They carry on and approach the second hurdle. The jockey, somewhat embarrassed, whispers "Aleeee oop" in the horse's ear. The same thing happens--the horse crashes straight through the center of the jump.

At the third hurdle, the jockey thinks, "It's no good, I'll have to do it," and yells, "ALLLEEE OOOP!" really loudly. Sure enough, the horse sails over the jump with no problems. This continues for the rest of the race, but due to the earlier problems the horse only finishes third.

The trainer is fuming and asks the jockey what went wrong. The jockey replies, "Nothing is wrong with me--it's this crazy horse. What is he--deaf or something?"

The trainer replies, "Deaf?? DEAF?? He's not deaf--he's BLIND!"

Celebrating 50 Years of Excellence!