



Man Booker

GILES WINS MANBOOKER PRIZE

Safeguard and Sessions have got plenty in common apart from standing together at Oakland Park Stud in WA this season.

Bred and raced by Sheikh Mohammed, they were precocious sons of Champion Darley stallions and both won Group sprints under the guidance of trainer Peter Snowden.

Sessions (Lonhro) and Safeguard (Exceed And Excel) have another factor in their favour – Oakland Park owner Neville Duncan.

He bred and part-owned all-time great Northerly but has never been content to keep dining out on past glories. Since the 'Fighting Tiger' farewelled centre-stage, Oakland Park's yellow and black silks have been carried by Marasco (Makybe Diva Stakes), Shirazamatazz (WA Derby), Covertly (Railway Stakes), Ihtsahymn (Kingston Town Classic) and Roman Time (Karrakatta Plate).

Duncan and his wife Susan also bred and part-owned G3 Vain Stakes winner Jukebox. The son of Snitzel has been syndicated to stand at Aquis Farm in the Hunter Valley.

Now there's a new challenge with the first crop of Sessions and Safeguard about to go public in Perth.

"Sessions is an outstanding individual," Duncan said this week. "Peter Snowden believed he was unlucky not have won a Group 1 and said he had the temperament and physique to match his ability."

Following 5 wins in his first 8 starts in Sydney, Sessions graduated to a Group 2 victory in

The Shorts (1100m) at Randwick beating Spirit Of Boom. "The Lonhro connection also won me," Duncan admitted. "He's really making a name for himself as a sire of sires and was still a Top 10 stallion in the season just gone. When that happens, you're getting into the same territory as Redoute's Choice.

"Pierro was also in the Top 10 and Denman made the Top 10 for winners and wins. Demerit is another son doing a good job for Taunton Vale here in WA."

Besides his Perth-based progeny, Sessions also has a 2yo filly with Ciaran Maher that made \$120,000 at this year's Inglis Melbourne Premier. Duncan bred her from Ihtsatune (Ihtiram) who is a sister to his Group 1 winner Ihtsahymn. "Ciaran received positive news from the breakers. They reckon she's better than good."

Duncan stands Safeguard in partnership with Mogumber Park owners Colin Brown and Fiona Lacey. He alternates between both farms and it's Oakland Park's turn this year.

He jumped the gun this season winning 2yo trials with first-crop fillies Miss West Coast (Belmont) and Marcee A Lady (Lark Hill). They will be favoured when the juvenile season commences with the Initial Plate (1000m) at Belmont on October 6.

Miss West Coast was the top-priced Safeguard at the 2018 Perth Magic Millions. She was a \$145,000 buy for Trevor Andrews who was acting on behalf of owners Robin and Gail Humberston.

The Duncans are also on a winning ride with their tough gelding Pushin' Shapes who won the \$100,000 Coolgardie Cup (1600m) last month. He's a 6yo son of former Oakland Park sire Viscount who was sourced from Darley shortly after the buy-out of Woodlands Stud.

Pushin' Shapes shouldered a record-breaking 59kg under Joe Azzopardi in the Goldfields and he will be set for the \$125,000 Northam Cup (1600m) on October 28.

Safeguard will stand for a \$6,600 service fee this year and Sessions is priced at \$7,700. Oakland Park is also home to Not A Single Doubt's brother Rogano (\$8,800).



Ellie Giles

Taro San



ALL AMERICAN DOUBLE AT MV

All American is consolidating a position among WA's leading stallions with his first locally-bred yearlings catalogued for the 2019 Perth Magic Millions.

Based at Geisel Park Stud at Myalup, All American is right among the winners with his Hunter Valley progeny and among the more promising are Kaplumpich and All A Spritz who completed a Moonee Valley double last month.

Kaplumpich was having his first start in town after placings at Seymour and Warrnambool during an initial prep in the autumn. He sat on the speed and then powered clear to claim the DSV Air & Sea Plate (1200m) by over a length.

The 3yo colt was a \$70,000 buy for premier trainer Darren Weir at the 2017 Adelaide Magic Millions. "He was quick out of gates so I pressed forward then switched him off," jockey John Allen said. "He's got ability alright and is still learning. I think he might have a nice future."

All American sired Kaplumpich from Hussonet mare Illusionary. He's a younger full-brother to Invisible who won his maiden at Canterbury before transferring to Hong Kong for further victories at Sha Tin and Happy Valley.

All A Spritz completed the All American double in Melbourne with a front-running victory in the Quest Moonee Valley Hcp (1200m). He was also facing city company for the first time following a debut win at Echuca.

"He's full of confidence and is absolutely flying," trainer Peter Morgan declared. "I brought him here for a look around on Monday morning and he was terrific tonight. Linda (Meech) cuddled him in the lead and we're very happy with that win."

Morgan is also in the ownership with long-time clients Bruce Mathieson and Rick Smith after a successful \$50,000 bid at the 2017 Inglis Classic yearling sale.

All A Spritz is the first foal from Bubbly Duchess (Duke Of Marmalade) who is an unraced half-sister to Extra Zero (G2 Caulfield Autumn Classic), Johan's Toy (LR Reginald Allen Hcp) & Operetta Lass (G3 Adrian Knox Stakes).

All American import Taro San and apprentice Yusoff Fadzli both shed their maiden tags last month in Singapore.

Taro San had won in Australia and he made another breakthrough at Kranji following a patient ride by Fadzli. "I was a bit concerned when they missed the kick but he didn't panic and did a good job," former champion jockey-turned-trainer Saimee Jumaat said. "I didn't give him any instructions, just told him to go and enjoy the ride, and it's paid off."

The winner was placed at his first three starts after arriving in Singapore earlier this year. "I would like to thank my boss for teaching and supporting me," Fadzli said. "I work this horse and know him quite well. He's quite easy to ride and ran on very well tonight."

Taro San had initially raced as Ameridon to claim a Tamworth juvenile in January 2017. Sent to NZ for the Karaka Million by trainer Liam Birchley, he was the victim of a nightmare trip in the rich sprint at Ellerslie. Jockey Robert Thompson reported his mount was forced wide, lost a hind plate and was inconvenienced when the saddle shifted during the running!

Birchley bought him for \$140,000 at the 2016 NZB Karaka yearling sale for a Just Fun Racing syndicate. His dam Celadon (Danehill) was a Flemington juvenile winner for trainer Tony Noonan before relocating to Haunui Farm in NZ.

Geisel Park Stud stands All American for a \$7,700 (inc gst) service fee alongside Vert De Grece (\$5,500).



Peter Morgan