

Blackfriars blitz in Boulder Cup



WWW.TBWA.NET.AU

The 2020-21 WA sires' table had a familiar look on Monday morning following a Blackfriars (Danehill) blitz on the weekend.

The Scenic Lodge champion led the premiership when TBWA posted the first ladder of the season on September 3 but he was no more than a Saturday city win ahead of Patronize (Redoute's Choice), Trade Fair (Zafonic), Bradbury's Luck (Redoute's Choice) and Playing God (Blackfriars).

Fast-forward three weeks and Blackfriars (\$670,085) has opened up a sizeable lead over Gingerbread Man (\$386,460) who has risen to second spot thanks to Coming Around in Melbourne and Phanta in Perth.

Blackfriars sired a winning treble with Indigo Blue, Last Of The Line & Bonneville Black at Belmont on Saturday and he was back in business at Kalgoorlie on Sunday when Friar Fox and Divine Shadow filled out the quinella in the Boulder Cup (Listed, 2105m).

Friar Fox (6m Blackfriars - Pearlesque by Statoblest) was winning her second black-type race for owner-trainer Justine Erkelens following the Natasha Stakes (Listed, 2200m) at Ascot.

A bargain \$14,000 buy from Scenic Lodge at the 2016 Magic Millions Perth Yearling Sale, she has now earned \$421,205 including Westspeed bonuses of \$75,000.

"She doesn't like being boxed. It just fries



I'm All The Talk DARLING VIEW THOROUGHBREDS

her brain," Erkelens said when the mare was brought back home from on-course accommodation in Victoria last year. "She's just got to be out in a rural area."

Erkelens trains at Muchea, not far from Scenic Lodge, and now she has another Kalgoorlie Cup (Listed, 2200m) in sight next month to go with Action Pak (Star Pak) in 2008.

Scenic Lodge bred a sister to Friar Fox from the last crop sired by Blackfriars and she was purchased by Melbourne trainer Ciaron Maher for \$85,000 at this year's Perth Magic Millions.

"We were so lucky to stand Blackfriars," Scenic Lodge's Jeremy Smith said at the 2020 WA Thoroughbred Awards on Saturday evening. "He was an amazing stallion and did so much for us and the wider industry in Western Australia."

Smith and his father David had just accepted the 10th Champion sire award for Blackfriars: "It was his best season on record with two Group 1 winners - Black Heart Bart and Come Play With Me - for over \$6 million in prize money.

"It's also really good to see his son Playing God making such an impression to ensure the Blackfriars legacy lives on."

TBWA members Bob and Sandra Peters swept honours at the WA Thoroughbred Awards winning Racehorse of the Year and Breeder of the Year.

Racehorse of the Year Regal Power (Pierro) won feature events at home and interstate last season starting with the Railway Stakes (Gr 1, 1600m) at Ascot. He then travelled east to hit a \$5 million jackpot in the All-Star Mile (1600m) at Flemington in March.

Peters Investments also won Breeder of



Playing God

DARLING VIEW THOROUGHBREDS

the Year with their mares Broadway Belle (Redoute's Choice) and Star Encounter (Jeune) who finished on equal points allocated for major races during the season.

Broadway Belle foaled Regal Power while Star Encounter was represented by Perfect Jewel (Redoute's Choice) who was a winner of the La Trice Classic (Gr 3, 1800m), Belmont Sprint (Gr 3, 1400m) and Hyperion Stakes (Gr 3, 1600m).

Star Encounter also had Star Exhibit (Statue Of Liberty) carry the cerise and white colours to victory in the Lee-Steere Stakes (Gr 2, 1400m) last November.

Former Mungrup Stud stallions Playing God and I'm All The Talk, now based at Darling View Thoroughbreds, picked up the other breeding awards.

Kay Cee (Playing God) was named 3YO Racehorse of the Year after a ground-breaking victory in the Kingston Town Classic (Gr 1, 1800m). She also won the Burgess Queen Stakes (Listed, 1400m), Raconteur Stakes (Listed, 1500m) and Belmont Guineas (Listed, 1600m).

Watch Me Dance (I'm All The Talk) earned 2YO Racehorse of the Year honours after climaxing an autumn campaign in the WA Sires' Produce Stakes (Gr 3, 1400m). She was also runner-up in the Karrakatta Plate (Gr 2, 1200m) and Gimcrack Stakes (Gr 3, 1100m).