

ROLL IN THE HAY ROLLS TO FIRST CAREER STAKES VICTORY AT FAIRVIEW TEAM VALOR YEARLING BUY COMES WITHIN 4/5THS OF COURSE RECORD CANDICE BASS-ROBINSON HAD THE FILLY SPOT ON FOR LADY'S PENDANT S.

Roll in the Hay looked decidedly up against it this afternoon at Port Elizabeth's Fairview Racecourse in the Listed Lady's Pendant Stakes. She had only ever been victorious in her previous starts over the 1000-meter trip and today she was asked to stretch out to 1200. She faced an odds-on favorite in World Radar that had won 6 of 8 starts including 4 wins in her last 5 starts among them a Grade 3 at Kenilworth and a rising 3-year-old star in Joyful Noise that was looking for a fifth win in her last 6 outs.



Candice Bass-Robinson leads in Roll in the Hay after the Gimmethgreenlight filly won her initial black-type win

The Gimmethgreenlight filly broke okay from her rail post position and raced toward the rear of the 9 horse field in the early going. Strategy going into the fray was for jockey Aldo Domeyer to get the filly covered-up and produced late. However, the filly was so full of herself that the trainer's plan had to be scrubbed. Domeyer did a marvelous job in keeping the filly relaxed under light restraint as she raced without cover for most of the race.

“She was so full of herself and so on point today that I couldn't wait and moved her much earlier than I would have liked,” Domeyer explained, “but I saw the winning post and I knew she would win today. She warmed up brilliantly, she went down to post very well and Candice had her on song today. She won so easily. She pricked her ears and won eased down. It was her day. She is not done, I think will win more of these black-type races.” [Video](#)

Joyful Noise was silent today and World Radar broke in a tangle. There was no question which filly was going to win today, only the margin was in doubt and the official verdict on the line was 2½ lengths, which easily could have been 4 or more had Domeyer not allowed her to ease up in the final sixteenth. Final time of 1:07 1/5 was just four-fifths shy of the 7-year-old course record for 6 furlongs.



Barry Irwin said "It is not often that one has a horse win a black-type race with such ease as this filly did today."

The trainer said "She is such a fast and talented filly, but she has a wind issue, and if not for that she would be even better. It's a shame, but today we got the big bold black-type that we have been searching for. She is better at 1000 than 1200 because of the wind issue, but we brought her here because the course is slightly downhill in the stretch and we thought that would suit her."

Barry Irwin said "This filly represents quite a remarkable dilemma because of her wind. She has a completely paralyzed left aretynoid and she gets only a fraction of the air most of her rivals enjoy. Most horses that are wind-impaired like her are life-and-death to last five-eighths of a mile. (We had one once that was unbeatable at 4 ½ furlongs in West Virginia, but could not see out the 5.)

"We decided not to do surgery and see if we could do well enough with her over 5 furlongs and we have been moderately successful. But today she went 6 furlongs! Stunning. I know the course is downhill, blah blah, blah, but she ran for 67 seconds under a large weight package and won with something in reserve. It really is on the verge of being unprecedented.

"I am seriously thinking of doing the tie-back surgery when she has a break, perhaps over their winter, because she has shown enough to make me believe that she could cut it in Grade 1 company. Remember how close to came in that Grade 2 Southern Cross Stakes? This filly is well built, has a real turn of foot and she retains all of her desire to compete at a high level of racing. I will talk to Candice about this next week."