

## SOUTH AFRICA

## VAAL



RACE 1	6:30 PM	(R\$95,000)	Vaal Classic -- 1000m			
1	3444	Varachino's Champ	60	[ 5]	T Matsoele	13.3%
2	866853	Amaze Me	60	[ 9]	T Mango	20.0%
3	094332	Power Of Tiger	60	[ 7]	T Ncume	0.0%
4	570305	Hurricane Power	60	[ 2]	C Mabaya	5.6%
5	233736	Empress Wu	60	[ 6]	T Lukhele	13.0%
6		El Zani	60	[ 1]	P Mlangeni	7.1%
7	67	Seven Times Red	60	[ 3]	S B Mthembu	9.1%
8	0	Speedwell Queen	60	[ 4]	I Lukhele	0.0%
9		Wispinthewillow	60	[ 8]	T Demont	0.0%

SELECTIONS	VAAL CLASSIC	1000M DISTANCE	BEST TIME 1000M
★ 3 Power Of Tiger	5 Empress Wu 28%	5 Empress Wu 40%	1 Varachino's Champ 0:57.87
6 El Zani		3 Power Of Tiger 25%	3 Power Of Tiger 0:58.01
1 Varachino's Champ		1 Varachino's Champ 8%	5 Empress Wu 0:58.36
5 Empress Wu		4 Hurricane Power 6%	4 Hurricane Power 0:58.86
			2 Amaze Me 0:59.27

**Race Preview:** Power Of Tiger confirmed recent improvement with a career-best second last time and a repeat of that performance should suffice in this lineup. Varachino's Champ is held by that rival on recent form but has shown enough to be competitive. Empress Wu fit a similar profile but is vulnerable to less-exposed rivals. Newcomers El Zani don't need to be special to make the presence felt. The betting should provide a guide to the chances.

RACE 2	7:05 PM	(R\$120,000)	Vaal Classic -- 1000m			
1		Irish Wilma	60	[ 6]	K De Melo	14.7%
2		Lady Enid	60	[ 9]	M Mbuto (2.5)	9.6%
3	33	No Drama	60	[ 2]	P Mxoli	12.4%
4		Platinum Shay	60	[ 5]	D Schwarz	6.0%
5		Regal Queen	60	[ 8]	J R Syster	10.3%
6	3	Secretary Bird	60	[ 3]	R Munger	17.9%
7		Staggerwing	60	[ 1]	C Murray	14.6%
8		Tax Free	60	[ 4]	C Habib	10.3%
9	4	Versatility	60	[ 7]	M Yeni	11.0%

SELECTIONS	VAAL CLASSIC	1000M DISTANCE	BEST TIME 1000M
6 Secretary Bird		3 No Drama 33%	6 Secretary Bird 0:58.02
9 Versatility		6 Secretary Bird 33%	3 No Drama 0:59.86
3 No Drama			9 Versatility 0:59.88
7 Staggerwing			

**Race Preview:** Well-related Secretary Bird caught the eye when running on strongly once the penny had dropped to finish a close-up third on debut. She would've come on with the benefit of that experience and could improve sufficiently to open her account. No Drama has shown enough to keep the selection honest, though a bigger threat will likely come from Versatility who finished alongside that rival on debut and will have more to offer given that introduction. The betting could provide a guide to the chances of the newcomers, of whom well-bred Staggerwing makes most appeal.

RACE 3	7:40 PM	(R\$130,000)	Vaal Classic -- 1000m			
1	53	Buffalo King Cody	60	[ 3]	S Valjalo (4)	8.9%
2	22	Catfish	60	[ 2]	G Lerena	22.3%
3		Crimson Clover	60	[ 5]	M Yeni	11.0%
4	3	Time Is Precious	60	[ 1]	K De Melo	14.7%
5		Two Tigers	60	[ 4]	C Habib	10.3%
6		Enigma	57.5	[ 7]	P Mxoli	12.4%
7		Perfect Sky	57.5	[ 6]	C Zackey	17.0%

SELECTIONS	VAAL CLASSIC	1000M DISTANCE	BEST TIME 1000M
10 Miami Mountain	6 African Pride 100%	10 Miami Mountain 67%	11 Rafa Bay 0:55.18
6 African Pride		4 Karate Kid 53%	3 Mover And Shaker 0:55.70
11 Rafa Bay		5 Gimmethedoodlife 47%	6 African Pride 0:55.78
1 Cosmic Star		6 African Pride 47%	4 Karate Kid 0:55.79
		1 Cosmic Star 53%	2 Sheldon 0:55.85

SELECTIONS	VAAL CLASSIC	1000M DISTANCE	BEST TIME 1000M
1 Buffalo King Cody		2 Catfish 67%	2 Catfish 0:57.61
2 Catfish		1 Buffalo King Cody 33%	1 Buffalo King Cody 0:59.11
4 Time Is Precious			
7 Perfect Sky			

**Race Preview:** Buffalo King Cody improved after an introductory outing to finish third over this trip behind re-opposing Catfish, who wouldn't be winning out of turn after filling the runner-up berth in both starts. However, the fitting of blinkers and engagement of a 4kg claimer could give the former the edge. Time Is Precious showed promise on debut and will be competitive with natural improvement. Well-bred debutante Perfect Sky is worth a market check and betting support would speak volumes of her chance.

RACE 4	8:15 PM	(R\$120,000)	Vaal Classic -- 1000m			
1	566	Scorpio	60	[ 9]	R Munger	17.9%
2	922	Stoneywood	60	[ 4]	C Zackey	17.0%
3	067524	Rock Music	60	[ 8]	S Bungane (4)	6.0%
4	986008	Scott's Guard	60	[ 6]	M Mbuto (2.5)	9.6%
5	09550	In The Willows	60	[ 3]	P Mxoli	12.4%
6		Edelsteen	60	[ 2]	K Matsunyane	8.8%
7		King Redoute	60	[ 7]	K De Melo	14.7%
8	8003	Charleston Dawn	57.5	[ 5]	K J Lihaba	7.4%
9		Treasure State	57.5	[ 1]	M K Katjedi	5.1%

SELECTIONS	VAAL CLASSIC	1000M DISTANCE	BEST TIME 1000M
2 Stoneywood	3 Rock Music 33%	2 Stoneywood 67%	3 Rock Music 0:57.69
7 King Redoute		8 Charleston Dawn 33%	2 Stoneywood 0:57.89
8 Charleston Dawn		3 Rock Music 13%	1 Scorpio 0:59.09
9 Treasure State			8 Charleston Dawn 0:59.43
			6 Edelsteen 0:59.49

**Race Preview:** After consecutive runner-up finishes, well-related Stoneywood won't need to improve a great deal to go one better. Treasure State attracted market support when finishing third on debut, so she could play a leading role in receipt of a sex allowance and with natural improvement expected. Charleston Dawn also has the means to make their presence felt. Newcomer King Redoute is bred to be useful and won't need to be special to run a forward race in this company.

RACE 5	8:50 PM	(R\$160,000)	Vaal Classic -- 1000m			
1	565126	Cosmic Star	61	[ 9]	M Yeni	11.0%
2	821390	Sheldon	61	[ 3]	K De Melo	14.7%
3	290708	Mover And Shaker	60.5	[ 7]	M Mbuto (2.5)	9.6%
4	322729	Karate Kid	59.5	[ 6]	P Mxoli	12.4%
5	401832	Gimmethedoodlife	57	[ 1]	G Lerena	22.3%
6	113042	African Pride	56.5	[ 8]	T Mayhew	3.3%
7	698440	Magic Tattoo	56	[ 2]	C Zackey	17.0%
8	154336	Night Bomber	56	[ 5]	D Schwarz	6.0%
9	302019	Dontshootthebarman	54.5	[ 10]	S Bungane (4)	6.0%
10	21101	Miami Mountain	53.5	[ 4]	J R Syster	10.3%
11	311322	Rafa Bay	52.5	[ 11]	B Marx-Jacobson (4)	3.0%

SELECTIONS	VAAL CLASSIC	1000M DISTANCE	BEST TIME 1000M
10 Miami Mountain	6 African Pride 100%	10 Miami Mountain 67%	11 Rafa Bay 0:55.18
6 African Pride		4 Karate Kid 53%	3 Mover And Shaker 0:55.70
11 Rafa Bay		5 Gimmethedoodlife 47%	6 African Pride 0:55.78
1 Cosmic Star		6 African Pride 47%	4 Karate Kid 0:55.79
		1 Cosmic Star 53%	2 Sheldon 0:55.85

**Race Preview:** Progressive Miami Mountain is bounced back to best with a last-start win when returning to sprinting after his no-show in a 1400m Grade 2. He has shown enough pace to be effective over this trip and a resultant 2-point penalty isn't likely to halt his momentum. Fellow 3yo African Pride has the form and experience to fight out the finish, and is distance suited too. Older rivals Cosmic Star and Rafa Bay are proven at this level and remain competitive off their current marks.

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RACE 6	9:25 PM	(R\$125,000)	Vaal Classic -- 2000m			
1	583152	<b>Gimmeachoice</b>	60.5	[ 2]	C Zackey	17.0%
2	165251	<b>The Playboy Bomber</b>	60	[ 1]	C Maujean	6.3%
3	845324	<b>Jordan</b>	59.5	[ 3]	K De Melo	14.7%
4	543570	<b>American Rebel</b>	58	[ 4]	G Lerena	22.3%
5	650010	<b>Diesel's Shadow</b>	58	[ 5]	S Valjalo (4)	8.9%
6	251790	<b>Eiger Sanction</b>	57	[ 11]	P Mxoli	12.4%
7	651248	<b>Santiago's Pride</b>	55.5	[ 7]	K J Lihaba	7.4%
8	684765	<b>Arumugam</b>	55.5	[ 10]	L Nhlapo	5.4%
9	621916	<b>Storm Ahead</b>	55	[ 9]	M Yeni	11.0%
10	597423	<b>Repetition</b>	54.5	[ 6]	R Munger	17.9%
11	616177	<b>Oklahoma Twister</b>	52.5	[ 8]	J R Syster	10.3%
					H Van Der Westh	10.1%



SELECTIONS	VAAL CLASSIC	2000M DISTANCE	BEST TIME 2000M
1 <b>Gimmeachoice</b>	3 Jordan 40%	1 Gimmeachoice 50%	8 Arumugam 2:00.11
2 <b>The Playboy Bomber</b>	5 Diesel's Shadow 25%	10 Repetition 50%	9 Storm Ahead 2:00.12
3 <b>Jordan</b>	7 Santiago's Pride 22%	6 Eiger Sanction 42%	5 Diesel's Shadow 2:00.77
10 <b>Repetition</b>	4 American Rebel 20%	4 American Rebel 42%	6 Eiger Sanction 2:01.03
	6 Eiger Sanction 19%	7 Santiago's Pride 42%	4 American Rebel 2:02.17

**Race Preview:** The Playboy Bomber produced a career-best effort when winning over 1800m in his first go at the trip last time. A 5-point penalty seems fair but this extended trip could be even more to his liking. Runner-up Gimmeachoice is 0.5kg better off and would've tightened up since that comeback run, so he could improve sufficiently to turn the tables. Jordan, closely matched on the form, is both consistent at this level and competitive off his current mark. Repetition was an unlucky loser of his last start but that was at a lower level, so he must find improvement in his peak outing to have a say.

RACE 7	10:00 PM	(R\$100,000)	Vaal Classic -- 1600m			
1	684740	<b>Express Yourself</b>	60.5	[ 4]	D Schwarz	6.0%
2	344655	<b>Unsolved Riddle</b>	60.5	[ 1]	J Botes (2.5)	4.8%
3	219	<b>Agoge</b>	59.5	[ 7]	C Zackey	17.0%
4	022572	<b>Peace Treaty</b>	57.5	[ 5]	R Munger	17.9%
5	51855	<b>Heavenly Good</b>	56.5	[ 6]	C Habib	10.3%
6	808381	<b>Carnelo</b>	56	[ 2]	S Valjalo (4)	8.9%
7	883577	<b>Prophet</b>	56	[ 3]	T Mayhew	3.3%
8	423847	<b>Majalun</b>	54.5	[ 8]	M V'rensburg	11.8%
9	719078	<b>That's Magical</b>	52	[ 9]	J Gates	5.2%
					M G Azzie	5.4%



SELECTIONS	VAAL CLASSIC	1600M DISTANCE	BEST TIME 1600M
3 <b>Agoge</b>	3 Agoge 100%	3 Agoge 100%	6 Carnelo 1:34.42
5 <b>Heavenly Good</b>	2 Unsolved Riddle 33%	2 Unsolved Riddle 27%	2 Unsolved Riddle 1:35.44
6 <b>Carnelo</b>	8 Majalun 22%	6 Carnelo 27%	1 Express Yourself 1:36.11
2 <b>Unsolved Riddle</b>	6 Carnelo 21%	4 Peace Treaty 11%	7 Prophet 1:36.25
	4 Peace Treaty 17%	8 Majalun 8%	4 Peace Treaty 1:36.69

**Race Preview:** Agoge won a course-and-distance maiden before he was thrown into the deep-end of a 1400m 3yo Grade 3 which probably came too soon for him. A return to this distance in these calmer waters will suit so it could pay to follow his progress. Class-dropper Heavenly Good, last-start winner over this track and trip Carnelo, as well as hard-knockers Unsolved Riddle get weight from the selection so could make life difficult for him.

RACE 8	10:40 PM	(R\$125,000)	Vaal Classic -- 1200m			
1	120035	<b>Ensuing</b>	62	[ 7]	G Lerena	22.3%
2	253217	<b>Fully Loaded</b>	62	[ 11]	M Mbuto (2.5)	9.6%
3	33188	<b>Satyagraha</b>	60	[ 10]	C Zackey	17.0%
4	517580	<b>Vibe Sa</b>	60	[ 1]	C Habib	10.3%
5	218604	<b>African Prince</b>	59.5	[ 2]	M Yeni	11.0%
6	582077	<b>Cian The Conqueror</b>	59.5	[ 4]	D Schwarz	6.0%
7	321160	<b>Phil The Fluter</b>	59.5	[ 12]	R Danielson	10.9%
8	552214	<b>Antonio Gaudi</b>	59	[ 6]	K Matsunyane	8.8%
9	664422	<b>Drivelikeymaster</b>	58.5	[ 3]	M V'rensburg	11.8%
10	073426	<b>Red Penny</b>	58	[ 8]	P Mxoli	12.4%
11	898075	<b>Halberdier</b>	58	[ 9]	R Munger	17.9%
12	121093	<b>Kwagga Blitz</b>	58	[ 5]	C Maujean	6.3%
13	231	<b>Golden Operator</b>	58	[ 13]	Reserve 1	--%
					J J Van Vuuren	14.8%
					F P Habib	10.9%
					S G Tarry	12.1%
					A P Peter	17.0%
					R R Magner	9.8%
					W C Marwing	8.4%
					P J Vermeulen	5.7%
					R Klaasen	11.2%
					D N Stenger	12.5%
					P F Matchett	7.5%
					B B Ruiter	3.4%
					C Binda	10.8%
					S G Tarry	12.1%



SELECTIONS	VAAL CLASSIC	1200M DISTANCE	BEST TIME 1200M
5 <b>African Prince</b>	13 Golden Operator 100%	13 Golden Operator 83%	2 Fully Loaded 1:08.90
2 <b>Fully Loaded</b>	2 Fully Loaded 72%	2 Fully Loaded 50%	8 Antonio Gaudi 1:08.93
8 <b>Antonio Gaudi</b>	7 Phil The Fluter 67%	12 Kwagga Blitz 50%	12 Kwagga Blitz 1:08.93
1 <b>Ensuing</b>	6 Cian The Conqueror 33%	4 Vibe Sa 42%	1 Ensuing 1:08.99
	11 Halberdier 33%	8 Antonio Gaudi 30%	11 Halberdier 1:09.01

**Race Preview:** Ensuing and Antonio Gaudi are closely matched on the form of their course-and-distance meeting in a similar contest recently. Both have the means to fight it out from midfield berths. Fully Loaded is course-and-distance suited and proven at this level, but his wide draw is a concern, though it could pay to side with African Prince whose Highveld introduction was encouraging. The selection is ideally positioned in gate 2 and is open to improvement.