

By Paul Simmons

The Bani Yas Square Maiden Stakes over 1 mile

Gill Duffield unleashed yet another potential superstar for patron HH Sheikh Hamdan when the impeccably bred **Ayun (Jehol De Cardonne x Volna)** romped home to a devastating five length victory in this maiden and in doing so making the rest of the field look very ordinary. Secondwan led them till the two furlong marker going a fair clip, but Phil Collington had plenty of horse beneath him and let Ayun burst clear in the final furlong to win as he liked. Tidarbret (Bengali D'Albret x Iktidar) ran a sound race back in second. He looked to be staying on at the finish and was kept up to his work to hold off the field but was a good two lengths clear of the third Maaloof (Makzan x Ietlato De Carrere), who got the better of a battle with Secondwan inside the final half furlong.



The Bait Al Wakeel Handicap Stakes 0-50 over 1 mile 6 furlongs

The highly tried but clearly talented **Shereik (Frere Des Loups x Satin Sheiks)** finally repaid trainer Rob Baily's faith in her by out staying this field in dour fashion to finally break her maiden tag after several years on the track. Makhai cut out the running in the early stages but Shereik was soon brought to the head of affairs under a confident Martin Smith. She led the field at a decent pace and battled on really well in the closing stages as stablemate Skromnani and West country raider Nadal challenged in the home straight. But Shereik was not going to be denied and drew clear inside the final furlong to hold Nadal at bay. Nadal (Ventican x Bint Nariadnaia) ran a career best race in second, racing prominently throughout and challenging in determined style on the home turn for owner/trainer Jackie Hutchings. Skromnani (Tidjani x Skromnitsa) put up another decent performance and is improving with every run this season and should be winning soon.



The Penn Challenge Final Handicap Stakes for Anglo & PBAs (Final) over 1 mile

Curupanna (Opera Ghost x Easter Panic) confirmed herself as the leading Anglo with yet another fantastic victory against her peers making short work of the opposition under a fine ride from Sam Holdsworth. She made virtually all and drew clear after the final bend to quicken and pull clear easily to beat former champion Anglo L'Escalou three lengths for trainer Paul Greenwood. L'Escalou (Big John x L'Escale) is now eleven years old but still a force to be reckoned with and was conceding 2 lbs to the winner. He also seems more effective over sprint trips these days and lost nothing in defeat here. La Perruche (L'Estragon x Iron Bird) returned to form with a good performance for owner/trainer/rider Philip Rondel and looks to be coming to hand.



The Deira Handicap Stakes 0-100 over 1 mile

Kateland cut out the running for the first half mile until the awesome powerhouse that is **Angel Picamer (Amer x Picea HT)** swept effortlessly into the lead leaving the field trailing in her slip stream as she wound up the pace from the home turn showing her blinding turn of foot under an in form Sam Holdsworth to kick clear from last week's winner Noble Athlete (Dorwan Du Cayrou x Noble Dame) for a comfortable three length victory for owner/breeder Zelda Angel and trainer Bill Smith. Noble Athlete ran another game race in defeat chasing the winner all the way to the line but never looked like passing her. Petraunille (Al Sakbe x My Princess) was far from disgraced back half a length in third. She challenged for second in the closing stages but lost out in the last few strides; she in turn was clear of Aberfeldy in fourth.

The Burj Nahar Handicap Stakes 0-85 over 6 furlongs

An upset here as the Bill Smith trained and HH Sheikh Ahmed owned **Khadeer (Vadeer x Kenithra)** got the better of a momentous battle with odds on favourite Shuhood to get home under a superb power packed ride from Simon Walker. Musaaayer cut out the running until Shuhood made smooth progress to lead from the two furlong marker, but Khadeer asserted her authority inside the final furlong and the two were all out in the shadow of the post with Khadeer just getting home by a head. Shuhood (Bengali D'Albret x Shunah) is improving with every run this season and continues to impress for owner/trainer Beverley Paterson and was arguably unlucky not to claim victory. The Iraqi bred and owned Al Harith (Asad Saif x Wadha Al-Thania) trained by Sam Davison did well to finish so close having missed the break. He made a lot of ground up and was finishing well in the closing stages but was never nearer than third.



The Jebel Ali Racing Club Handicap Stakes 0-75 over 1 mile 1 furlong

A competitive handicap won in fine style by the rapidly improving **Billoube (Bengali D'Albret x Billou Al Maury)** who was placed in all three maidens and is clearly a horse of note winning on his handicap debut under a well timed ride from Mark Wall for new owner/trainer Helen Bona who is having a great season.



Fedor Du Bournais cut out the early running but was soon playing second fiddle to Balladore who briefly looked like she was going to get home, but Billoube was cantering in behind under a confident Wall who pressed the button inside the final furlong and powered home in fine style. Nenette challenged strongly inside the final two furlongs and after getting past Balladore looked set for second until HH Sheikh Mohammed's smart looking filly Few And Far (The Wiking x Elina Des Fabries) burst into contention inside the final furlong and took second in the final half furlong. Nenette (Makzan x Nelenghara) ran another game race and was in turn two lengths clear of an improving Balladore (Dormane x Ballade Folle).

The Al Fahidi Open Handicap 0-180 over 1 mile 4 furlongs

Exclusive Air cut out a decent pace from the start gradually upping the tempo until Finished Article made good headway to lead from the three furlong marker. But Marbaa was coasting in behind and as these two drew clear inside the final two furlongs it was **Marbaa (Peintre Celebre x Bahareeya)** who had more power and got home under a great ride from Jo Woodham for owner/trainer Stuart Shefras. Finished Article (Indian Ridge x Summer Fashion) was unlucky in defeat and ran his heart out, whilst Burnley (Distant Music x Dance Ahead) was another sixteen lengths back in third.



The Jebel Ali Racing Club Handicap 0-65 1 mile 4 furlongs

Nearly a year after his first victory at this track **Blu By You (Khairouan x Billou Al Maury)** returned and showed some admirable battling qualities to land his second career victory for owner/trainer/jockey Mark Wall (scoring a double), getting home by just under a length from the tough and consistent Notid. Operatic, the grand old servant, led the field throughout until Notid came to the front from the two furlong marker with Pavot Al Kyle and Blu By You in hot pursuit. As they entered the final furlong Wall pushed on with Blu By You who ran on in determined fashion to deny Notid at the line. Notid (Tidjani x Sherrie Noreen) ran his usual consistent race and was a little unlucky on the day, and Pavot Al Kyle (Pavot Al Maury x Ellaria) who won here earlier in the season, stayed on ahead of Operatic for third.



The Palm Islands Handicap Stakes 0-55 over 6 furlongs

A well deserved win for the incredibly consistent **Benny The Dip (Bengali D'Albret x Duiker)** who has finished in the frame in every one of his starts this term and got home here by a rapidly diminishing half length for the Morris family. Recent Huntingdon scorer Trip To Khairo made the running, setting off like a shot and leading the field into the home straight, but Benny The Dip and stablemate El Hamsa were travelling well in behind. As they hit the final furlong Benny The Dip drew clear and just held on from El Hamsa (Nasem x Myska) at the line for victory. El Hamsa is impressing this season with every run and would have snatched victory in a few more strides. Trip To Khairo (Khairouan x Tikis Trip) looks a smart prospect and ran another excellent race here and was just out pointed in the final furlong, but was well clear of Egypt.

