Hello, and welcome to the latest Anglo German Racing Newsletter! In this 13 page issue covering racing over the last month, we look back at a Group 1 race in Cologne, as well a wonderful meeting at Mannheim, which featured three Fegentri races as well as a race dedicated to Trakehner breed horses. We also look back on some big two year old races in Germany and Group action from Düsseldorf.

Further afield, we reflect on the Velka Pardubicka in the Czech Republic, a 250,000 Euro chase in Italy, Group 1 action in Kazakhstan, and races in Norway and Poland.

Don’t forget, for all the very latest information, please follow our Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/anglogermanracing or check out our website at www.anglogermanracing.com

Darren Thrussell, Editor

Content

News/Previews Germany – Pages 2, 6
Mannheim Special – Pages 3-5
News/Previews Europe - Pages 7-8, 13
Pardubice Special – Page 9-12

Imprint

Anglo German Racing
Chief Editor: Darren Thrussell

Postal address
Hattendorffstr. 83
29225 Celle
GERMANY

Email address
info@anglogermanracing.com
stefanie@anglogermanracing.com

Published weekly

The Martina Ruzickova-trained CHARME LOOK and jockey JAN FALTEJSEK jump one of the many tough obstacles on their way to victory in this year’s renewal of the Velka Pardubicka at Pardubice in the Czech Republic earlier this month. There is a Pardubice report and photo special beginning on page 9 of this newsletter (Photo copyright Stefanie Ihlenburg / Anglo German Racing).
FLOWER BLOOMS IN EUROPA REPEAT

The Peter Schiergen-trained filly NIGHTFLOWER repeated her victory in last year’s Group 1 Preis von Europa when landing this season’s renewal of the 155,000 Euro race at Cologne last month.

Sent off the 30:10 favourite, Nightflower was settled in midfield by jockey Andrasch Starke as the Markus Klug-trained Kasalla set a steady pace under Adrie de Vries, with Elite Army, representing the powerful Godolphin operation headed by Sheikh Mohammed, also prominent under Filip Minarik. However, Elite Army was bumped by Kasalla as the field turned for home, putting paid to any chance the Saeed bin Suroor-trained gelding had of winning. However, Kasalla maintained her lead up until the final furlong, when Nightflower and Starke made their move to claim victory in the 2400 metre contest by ¾ of a length from English import Red Cardinal, making his debut for trainer Andreas Wöhler, with Kasalla back in third.

You can see the race here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lqB8ZrvpDKA

Photo right: ANDRASCH STARKE, who rode NIGHTFLOWER to victory in the Group 1 Preis von Europa at Cologne last month (Photo copyright Stefanie Ihlenburg / Anglo German Racing).
FRENCH IMPORT TAKES MANNHEIM STEEPLECHASE

The highlight of the wonderfully entertaining Fegentri / Trakehner meeting at Mannheim last month was the Preis der INTER Versicherungsgruppe Deutscher Amateurpreis steeplechase, one of three races on the card for the Fegentri World Amateur Jockeys championship. A field of seven lined up for the 3600 metre contest, with the four year old filly GOUDEVIVRE, formerly trained in France but now with Cologne-based Sarah Weis, coming home a comfortable winner of the race under French jockey GONZAGUE COTTREAU, who looks set to be crowned Fegentri Jump Jockey champion for the second successive year.

Elsewhere at Mannheim, it was a good day for the United States, as their two riders took the flat races on the card. ERIC PORETZ, who went one to finish second in the steeplechase aboard Athou du Nord, took the Fegentri Gentlemen’s flat race on the unfancied ALASTAIR, who was recording only his second victory in 42 races. An hour later, it was the turn of fellow American SARAH SHAFFER to step on to the winners podium as he partnered the Christian von der Recke-trained EL DUQUE to victory in the Fegentri Ladies race.

As well as the Fegentri races, the traditional Trakehner race took place, open only to Trakehner breed horses. Organised by Trakehner breeder Dr. Dirk Friedrich, this year’s contest saw eight horses line up, and it was VIRGINIAN SNOW under Nadine Kessler (photo right, copyright Darren Thrussell / Anglo German Racing), winner of the race in 2014 and 2015, who completed the hat trick, coming home ahead of O’Bella, who was organiser Dr. Friedrich’s first ever runner in the race.

On the next two pages are a series of further photos from the raceday (All photos are copyright Darren Thrussell / Anglo German Racing).
As well as being editor of this newsletter, Anglo German Racing’s Darren Thrussell also works at Mannheim as racecourse co-presenter in the parade ring, offering his views on the upcoming races alongside chief presenter Sascha Martin Hertel. Along with the rest of the people at the course, Darren would be more than happy to see you at one of the racecourses five meetings next year. The racecourse also has its own website at http://www.badischer-rennverein.de/ and a visit to this wonderful and friendly racecourse is highly recommended!
FAVOURITE LANDS
DÜSSELDORF FEATURE

The 16:10 favourite NOOR AL HAWA won the Group 3 Grosser Preis der Landeshauptstadt at Düsseldorf earlier this month. Ridden as usual by Eddie Pedroza, the Andreas Wöhler-trained Makfi colt showed a fine turn of foot to collar long time leader Nordico in the closing stages, and despite the close attention of Degas, who finished ahead of Noor al Hawa when the pair were second and third in this year’s German 2000 Guineas at Cologne, Noor al Hawa prevailed today to gain revenge on his rival, with Nordico back in third.

You can see the race here: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iEHFQ-o7ViU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iEHFQ-o7ViU)

TOP TRAINERS TAKE BIG TWO YEAR OLD PRIZES

The two richest two year old races in Germany took place over the last few days. Sunday saw the 155,000 Euro Preis des Winterfavoriten at Cologne, which was won by the Andreas Wöhler-trained previous course and distance winner LANGTANG, who pushed himself to the front of the betting for next year’s German Derby when coming home two lengths ahead of Fulminato, one of two runners in the race for trainer Andreas Löwe.

Friday saw the richest two year old race in Germany, the Ferdinand Leisten Memorial BBAG sales race at Baden-Baden, worth a massive 200,000 Euros. Open to horses who were offered for sale at last year’s BBAG sales auction at Baden-Baden, the 1400 metre contest went the way of DIA DEL SOL for current German champion trainer Markus Klug, who got the better of outsider Dragon Lips by ½ length. Dia Del Sol’s success completed a hat trick on Friday’s Baden-Baden racecard for Dutch jockey Adrie de Vries.

You can see the races here:
- Preis des Winterfavoriten: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Xvnqv43J2A](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Xvnqv43J2A)
- Ferdinand Leisten Memorial: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9iyZaFFomtw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9iyZaFFomtw)

The richest two year old fillies race in Germany, the Preis der Winterkönigin, is run at Baden-Baden on Sunday, and a preview of the race, along with a preview of Sunday’s steeplechase at Bremen will appear on our Facebook page soon.
JOCKEY LEGEND WALSH THIRD IN ITALIAN CHASE

RUBY WALSH, widely recognised as one of the top jump jockeys in the world, was unable to add the Group 1 Gran Premio Merano to his list of big race wins last month as he could only finish third on the Willie Mullins-trained Alelchi Inois in this year's renewal of Italy's richest jumps race.

The 250,000 Euro steeplechase, which once again saw an international field line up, was won by the Czech-trained 32-1 outsider MAZHILIS under Czech champion jockey Jan Kratochvil, who got the better of French raider All En Voran, ridden by English jockey James Reveley, with Walsh and Alelchi Inois back in third.

Although most eyes were on Walsh, it was his countryman Phillip Carberry who set the pace of the French-trained Chiffre d’Affaires. Indeed, the pair were still well clear when taking a crashing fall at one of the many large hedges taken during the 5000 metre contest.

You can see the race here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dijViH0OQLU

SUPER SECOND FOR JOCKEY GARNER IN GROUP 1 HURDLE

Just a few weeks after securing his first ever victory in Italy, English jockey TOM GARNER achieved his first ever Group placing when riding the Arnaldo Bianco-trained NOTTI MAGICHE to an excellent second place in the Group 1 Merano Champion Hurdle at Merano on the first day of their Gran Premio racing festival last month.

Riding Notti Magiche for the first time, Garner sent the six year old Montjeu gelding into the lead straight from the start. However, the pair were headed halfway through the 4000 metre contest by the Czech-trained BROG DEAS, winner of this race in 2014, and regarded as one of the best hurdlers in central Europe since moving to trainer Radek Holcak’s yard from Ireland in 2013. Despite having missed all of last year, Brog Deas soon galloped clear of his rivals under jockey Lukas Matusky, and crossed the line six lengths clear of Notti Magiche, with Chiaromonte back in third.

You can see the race here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eqt9O6GO4EQ

English jockey TOM GARNER, who partnered NOTTI MAGICHE to an excellent second place in the Group 1 Merano Champion Hurdle at Merano last month (Photo copyright Stefanie Ihlenburg / Anglo German Racing).
BANK ROBBED BY DERBY HERO CACCINI

One of the best known winning sequences in racing came to an end today when VA BANK, the modern day hero of Polish flat racing, suffered a shock defeat at the hands of Polish Derby winner CACCINI in the Group 1 Wielka Warszawska at Warsaw earlier this month, having been unbeaten in all his twelve previous races to date.

Sweating profusely before the race and looking a shadow of the horse who won the Group 3 Preis der Sparkassen Finanzgruppe at Baden-Baden last time out, Va Bank, who was also reluctant to enter the stalls, ran wide as the six strong field turned for home in the 2600 metre contest, losing precious ground on the leaders. However, once again showing his customary turn of foot, Va Bank sped past several of his rivals once asked to quicken by Czech jockey Marek Brezina. However, Caccini, ridden by another Czech rider in Tomas Lukasek, had got first run on his rival, and despite Va Bank bearing down on Caccini as the pair headed towards the line it was Caccini who held on by ½ length to become the first horse ever to defeat Va Bank, and bring to an end one of the great stories in European racing.

You can see the race here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Rwnw3Bc-98

WING FLIES TO NORWEGIAN CHAMPION HURDLE SUCCESS

Despite a field of only five runners, this year’s Norwegian Champion Hurdle at Ovrevoll earlier this month saw some of Scandinavia’s top hurdlers turn out for the 182,000 NOK (approx 20,200 EUR) contest over 3950 metres. The 23:10 favourite HOT WING, one of two runners in the race for local trainer Are Hydlmo, held on in a terrific finish from Swedish raider Calvados, with the second Hydlmo-trained runner, Omoto Sando, third under Welsh jockey Robbie Williams.

You can see the race here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=92z-X6_ai_8

1-2 FOR TOP TRAINER IN KAZAKHSTAN FEATURE

PETR KAREBELNIKOV, one of the top trainers in Kazakhstan for several years, was once again among the prizes as he trained the first two home in the country’s richest race of the year, the 9,000,000 KZT (approx 25,000 EUR) President of the Republic of Kazakhstan Stakes at Almaty last month.

Although the Karabelnikov-trained French import Meleagros was a late non-runner, the Kyrgyzstam-born trainer could rely on the American-bred CUMANIA to take the 2400 metre Group 1 contest under jockey Maxim Shvachev from stablemate Presanella, winner of four Group races since arriving in Kazakhstan from France, where she was placed in three races for trainer Fabrice Chappet.

You can see the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan Stakes at the following link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I{oJ107Bic
Jockey JAN FALTEJSEK won the Velka Pardubicka for the fourth time in the last five years when partnering the nine year old Martina Ruzickova-trained CHARME LOOK to victory in this year’s renewal of the famous steeplechase at Pardubice in the Czech Republic earlier this month.

Charme Look’s success also marked only the second ever victory in the race by a female trainer, with Martina Ruzickova following in the footsteps of Lenka Horackova, who trained Peruan to win the race back in 1998, 1999 and 2000.

Charme Look, a winner of eight of his previous thirteen races over fences, won the 5,000,000 CZK (approx 185,000 EUR) contest by ten lengths from German-bred Ange Guardian under Jan Kratochvil, with Zarif, who finished third in last year’s Velka Pardubicka before promoted to second after the disqualification of Nikas, third on this occasion.

Of the fifteen runners, eleven finished the race, which it is believed is the highest ever percentage of finishers in the race. Of the four who failed to finish, the well fancied Rabbit Well went back to his bad old ways, planting himself at the start of the 6900 metre race, whilst Reaper and Nikas both went at the famous Taxis ditch.

You can see the race here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gbFPwG8Zvlc

Photo right: The Martina Ruzickova-trained CHARME LOOK and jockey JAN FALTEJSEK jump the timber rails on their way to victory in this year’s renewal of the Velka Pardubicka at Pardubice in the Czech Republic earlier this month. The victory was jockey Faltejsek’s fourth in the race in the last five years (Photo copyright Stefanie Ihlenburg / Anglo German Racing).
As well as the Velka Pardubicka, the many spectators were treated to some excellent races, the chief amongst which was the Cena Labe, widely regarded as the main support race of the day, and also one where future Velka Pardubicka winners have first come to prominence. And it could well be that this year’s renewal has thrown up a potential Velka Pardubicka star in the shape of the six year old French-bred mare DELIGHT MY FIRE. Runner up in Poland’s biggest steeplechase, the Wielka Wroclawska in Wroclaw last time out, Delight My Fire went one better in the 5200 metre contest under Swedish jockey NIKLAS LOVEN, who has ridden the horse in all but one of her five races this season. There was however drama in the closing stages of the race when Arcione, who was in second place and chasing Delight My Fire, appeared to clip the rails as the field turned back on the steeplechase course proper, sending the plastic rails flying across the course. Thankfully, no injuries to either horses or jockeys were reported.

You can see the race here (the rails incident happens approx 6:15 into the video):
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zlXzS_Dn0-4

Photo right: Swedish jockey NIKLAS LOVEN celebrates victory aboard the Radim Bodlak-trained DELIGHT MY FIRE in the Cena Labe at Pardubice in the Czech Republic earlier this month (Photo copyright Stefanie Ihlenburg / Anglo German Racing).

On the next two pages are some photos from the two-day Pardubice meeting from Anglo German Racing’s very own Stefanie Ihlenburg. Please note that Stefanie has taken many more wonderful photos which we do not have room for in this newsletter, however these can be viewed at the following links:

 Saturday (first link races 1-3. second link races 4-7):
https://www.facebook.com/pg/anglogermanracing/photos/?tab=album&album_id=1255777621120533
https://www.facebook.com/pg/anglogermanracing/photos/?tab=album&album_id=125585560779401

 Sunday, all races (including Velka Pardubicka):
https://www.facebook.com/pg/anglogermanracing/photos/?tab=album&album_id=125585560779401
VELKA PARDUBICKA RACEMEETING - PARDUBICE, 8-9 OCTOBER 2016
(All photos copyright Stefanie Ihlenburg / Anglo German Racing)
GERMAN CHALLENGER TIPPED FOR ITALIAN CLASSIC SUCCESS

One of the last Classics of the European season takes place this weekend when the Italian St. Leger is held at the San Siro racecourse in Milan on Saturday. Eight runners compete for the 64,900 Euro Group 3 contest, with raiders from Germany and the Czech Republic taking on three Italian-trained hopefuls.

The home challenge is headed by DUCA DI MANTOVA, second in this race last year. However, something looked to be badly amiss with the seven year old Manduro gelding when he was pulled up in a race over Saturday’s course and distance earlier this month, and he was only fourth on his reappearance after that in an ordinary looking handicap last week. TROUBLEMAKER won the race which saw Duca Di Mantova pull up, however this three year old has never raced in Pattern company before. The home defence is completed by DURLINDANA, who beat Troublemaker comfortably at Milan last month, and having finished a respectable fourth in a Group 3 race last time out, looks to be the best of the Italian runners.

ALWAYS ON SUNDAY is bidding to be the second successive Czech-trained winner of the race after Autor’s victory last year. Trained by Radek Holcak, whose father Frantisek trained Autor to his success, Always On Sunday showed improved form to win a Listed race at Prague last time out, and has the assistance in the saddle of Italian jockey Carlo Fiocchi, who was aboard Autor last year.

German-trained runners have won twelve of the last sixteen running of this race, so it should come as no surprise that their four strong entry looks to be a formidable one. Indeed, ROCK OF ROMANCE won this very race in 2014, having finished second the year before. However, the Andreas Wöhler-trained six year old gelding was only fifth in this race last year, and could only manage fourth in last month’s German St. Leger at Dortmund, a race which saw his South African-bred stable companion TELLINA finish an excellent second on the German debut. Having finished third in one of South Africa’s biggest races, the Group 1 Durban July for trainer Geoff Woodruff last year, Tellina then left his homeland for Dubai, where he ran some fine races without quite getting placed for trainer Mike de Kock against some top class international opposition. Racing for the first time in six months when securing his runners-up spot in the German St. Leger, Tellina is proven at this class and distance, and being the choice of stable jockey Eddie Pedroza, looks to be the one to beat here.

The field is completed by the high class German three year olds DSCHINGIS SECRET and BERGHAIN, third and seventh respectively in this year’s German Derby. However although Dschingis Secret in particular has big claims here on his best form, both horses have run disappointingly since their German Derby exploits, and neither are proven at this distance.

PREDICTION: TELLINA - ALWAYS ON SUNDAY - ROCK OF ROMANCE - DURLINDANA

Thank you for reading this Anglo German Racing Newsletter
Next issue - Friday 28th October