

## ~ The Early Word ~ New Zealand

Ellerslie & Trentham this Saturday both racing on heavy tracks. No jumps racing & numerous fresh runners make for a interesting day at both venues. This signals the start to the real heavy tracks & only the far north & the east coast of the North Island will provide anything different for a while.

We split our bets between the venues this week & find an excellent best bet & a nice priced value runner.

Our best bet for today is **Wellington Race 8 No: 3 Yanna Marie**. Superb run from behind last start, heavy track on this course over this distance & with a 3 kg claim make Yanna Marie appear very hard to not see in the winners circle. Only threats appear as the 7 & 13. anything more than \$3.00 is too good to pass. Our rated price is 2.20 Expected price 3.00

Our value bet for today is **Ellerslie Race 10 No: 7 John Gray**. Slow away last start cost him all hope, track conditions much more to his liking here should be a huge assist. With all his best runs being in the mud & with this race so late in the day John Gray looks to be a good risk at overs. Our rated price is 7.00. Expected price 12.00

### Adelaide

#### The Banker

Race 2 # 1 Road Worker

Rated: 2.4

Expected: 2.7

It was a really good effort after working hard mid race to run down clear leader to get up and score on the line last start. Looks to get the gun run on what looks to be just a moderately run race and really should just be too strong in the run home. Looks well in carrying the same weight(58kg) in what appears to be an easier assignment.

A good bet at 2.40 or better.

Scrubby Creek(3) 4.0, Lady Branax(5) 5.50 and Wells Street(4) 8.50 rate next best.

**BEST BET**

#### The Banker

Race 8 # 5 By Sea

Rated: 3.2

Expected: 5.0

Eight year old gelding who has just taken that run or two extra to find his form this time in. Really good effort to finish fourth beaten just 1.2 lengths behind Road Worker last start after being caught out wide early. Was then forced to work up outside the leader (best ridden off the pace) mid race to the turn before just fading out late. Once he finds his form he invariably holds it. Rises just 0.5kg and the 1800m now appears ideal.

Each way special and rates narrowly on top at 3.20 or better.

Manhattan Sky(1) 3.40 is the big danger with Our Shanagolden(2) 6.50 and De Kolta(3) 7.0 the only others with genuine claims.

Lacey Underall

2008 Adelaide Cup Winner

**NEXT BEST**

### Brisbane

#### The Value

Race 8 # 11 Monashee Warrior

Rated: 5.0

Expected: 8.0

At the time of writing, it looks like we will be racing on a track that is either the better size of heavy or the worse side of slow. That is a great result considering just under eight inches fell throughout the week. Clearly the best each-way bet of the day is in the last in Monashee Warrior. This lightly raced four year old has now strung three wins together after being off the track for over a year. He was very well backed last Wednesday week when winning most impressively at the Sunshine Coast. This bloke is ready to take the next step up . A great each-way bet.

**BEST BET**

#### The Value

Race 7 # 7 Queen of Queens

Rated: 6.5

Expected: 9.0

This mare has shown ability to handle the track conditions. Had a tough run last time out when well beaten by Ballack when doing a power of work three deep. Should be getting a nice run from the alley and will be in the finish.

**E/W BET**

Viewed

2008 Brisbane Cup Winner

## Melbourne

### The Banker

Race 8 # 1 Tempest Tost

Rated: 2.7

Expected: 5.5

Tempest Tost is an exciting galloper from the Gary White yard who was a touch unlucky last start when running a close 3rd to Take All Of Me. She will be fitter for that run and the 1kg weight relief assists. The 1200 metres is more suitable and she has won her only start at the track. She is going to be difficult to hold out from such a good draw.

BEST BET

### The Value

Race 1 # 2 Miss Badoura

Rated: 4.0

Expected: 6.5

Miss Badoura is an aging mare and they are often dangerous propositions but she seems exceptionally well placed in the opening event of the day. She has been racing well of late with a close up 3rd to Chasm before running 4th to Speed Gifted. Count To Zero ran 2nd in that race but he struggles at Caulfield. Miss Badoura, conversely, goes well at The Heath and loves the mile. A return to the senior rider is also a big plus. She should be right in the finish.

E/W BET

Efficient

2007 Melbourne Cup Winner

## Sydney

### The Banker

Race 1 # 1 Lustre Lady

Rated: 2.7

Expected: 2.7

Quality four year old mare who has a distinct class edge on rivals. Ran some super races in much stronger company during Autumn carnival behind the likes of Hot Danish, Belong To Many and Gamble Me. Comes into this off a 49 day break and prepared for this with an effortless 9.5 length romp in recent barrier trial. Wet track form is very good-this just seems her race.

Prepared to take 2.70 or better.

Very open race after that with only really Royal Singer(3) not given any chance.

### The Banker

Race 8 # 4 Joku

Rated: 3.8

Expected: 3.4

What a consistent performer this bloke is. Has the very impressive record of 12-6-3-0. Just found the 1900m a fraction too far last start behind Penrickson when tiring late for 5th when still only beaten less than three lengths. Before that scored a game win defeating Emperor over 1800m at Rosehill. Does drop back to 1600m here but by the last race in the heavy going, cant see how that will be a problem. Will settle up on the pace and looks extremely hard to get past. On the seven day back up suggests he has pulled up well from last weeks effort.

Prepared to take 3.80 or better.

Dangers include Rainbow Styling(7) 5.0, The Astronomer(8) 5.50 with Spinney and Visit The Queen(9) both at 7.0.

BEST BET

NEXT BEST

No Wine No Song

2008 Sydney Cup Winner

## ~ The "Get Out" Stakes ~ Western Australia

An 8 race card that looks really tough on paper for punters. Plenty of depth in each race, exacerbated by the likelihood of possible affected going. There has been plenty of rain around in Perth the last few days with more showers predicted for Saturday. Certainly a day to look for value.

**STAR RISCA ( R6 #6)** – somewhat underrated galloper who is flying at the minute, and looks a second to none chance here to complete a hat trick of wins. Produced stunning win over a good galloper last start when came from a mile back in the straight to power over the top of Inarticulate over this distance 14 days ago. Prior to that, won with ease, again over the 1600m at Ascot. Best when ridden cold early and likes the pace on up front, should get a strong tempo here from the likes of McLurch. Has won on dead going and looks an each way special in a race with ostensibly few chances. Rated Price: 3.50

**GAMROY (R7#1)** – 4yo gelding, who has displayed outstanding potential, in his lightly raced career to date. Forget he ever went around last time as he was blocked for clear running the entire length of the straight. His 4 career wins to date in 7 race starts have all been with consummate ease. Drawn wide for this, but that may even be an advantage, as he should drop out early, and then come with one sweeping run late. No fancy odds, but clearly looks the outstanding bet on a tough card. Has shown he can handle any sting out of the ground with a runaway 6l win at Northam for his maiden win. Looks genuine Saturday class and should win this against basically a mid week field. Rated Price: 2.20