



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **9th October 2006**



### **“He’s A Suave Fella”**

The Howard Pacific Finance Group 1 Paws of Thunder proved an exciting feature final with chances a plenty at the home turn but after coming from well back early Victorian Suave Fella raced home strongly to record his first group success.

Suave Fella’s (\$6.70) victory brought up a fourth Victorian win of the six “Paws” staged since the revamp of the time honored St Ledger took place in 2001. It was a courageous effort to take out the rich final and the lightly raced sprinter seems to be improving all the time.

Trainer Jason Thompson had a two-pronged chance in the final but, after Andy Palmer was relegated to last at the post the first time and Suave Fella was only sixth, his chances looked forlorn. Suave Fella, however, dived along the rails as the field wheeled in to the back straight. He was chasing outsider Wongawillisue (\$20.20) – which had steamrolled across from box seven to be on the rails at the first turn – and Genista Gemini while National Derby winner Brother Knows (\$3.60) unleashed a burst with 250m to run. Before the home turn, Suave Fella and Brother Knows looked to have the front runners measure with Suave Fella finishing much the better – and on the inside of Brother Knows – to go on and score by 1 1/4 lengths in a relatively slow 30.50.

Wongawillisue rallied in the final stages to hold on and finished second while Brother Knows was third, a mere fraction to the good of an unlucky Path To Power.

Suave Fella’s sire Modern Assassin was an impressive winner of the “Paws” in 2002 while his dam Jessie Shiraz finished 5<sup>th</sup> behind Stately Bird in 1999. In a further connection to the race, 2004 winner Kobble Rock was successful at Cannington on Saturday night, the aging veteran whelped March 04 scoring at the big odds \$30.40.

The Group 1 win comes at an opportune time for Suave Fella with the field for the Sky Channel Topgun to be decided on October 15. While victory in the Paws Of Thunder does not guarantee the black dog a start in the \$125,000 to the winner feature, it will have improved his prospects no end!

Jason Thompson spoke with Sky Channel’s Michael Radley after the race.

“It was a big run, he didn’t begin that well and low and behold Andy Palmer got him just after the start, and when the field tangled up down the back he drove through and I thought he might run a place but he finds the line this dog, the time was steady but the effort was hugh” Thompson said.

*Continued on Page 2*

## AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

Radley asked Thompson about future plans. "We'll target the major races in Melbourne and I hope the Top Gun panel saw the run tonight it should help his chances of getting a start. He races well at Sandown and has trialed there in under 30." Thompson said.

After the placings the field finished in the following order 4<sup>th</sup> Path To Power (\$3.30 fav), 5<sup>th</sup> Genista Gemini (\$12.90), 6<sup>th</sup> Andy Palmer (\$7.60) 7<sup>th</sup> I love Lucy (\$9.10) and Jayell (\$12.30).

Suave Fella is a Black dog whelped May '04 by Modern Assassin from Jessie Shiraz (Black Shiraz x Mary McGregor). The Group 1 Paws Of Thunder was Suave Fella 10<sup>th</sup> win from 28 starts and he has been placed 10 times. The \$100,000 first prize took his stake earnings to \$127,050.



**Happy Connections after the Paws of Thunder**

Listed below are the past winners of Paws Of Thunder which was formerly known as the St.Leger and first run in 1957. The NSW NCA restructured the prizemoney and the race name in 2001.

1957 **Idle Sign**, 1958 **Ebony Minda**, 1959 **Super Samson**, 1960 **Constant Raider**, 1961 **Elsie Moss**, 1962 **Black Top**, 1963 **Miss Warcroft**, 1964 **Revival King**, 1965 **Daily Tide**, 1966 **Sunset Fire**, 1967 **Another Glitter**, 1968 **Zoom Top**, 1969 **Beau Brin**, 1970 **Size Seven**, 1971 **Romantic Top**, 1972 **Likely Light**, 1973 **Trella Light**, 1974 **Busy's Chief**, 1975 **Mighty Aussie**, 1976 **Palaver**, 1977 **Fine Arama**, 1978 **Oberon Lily**, 1979 **Lord Raleigh**, 1980 **Glider's Son**, 1981 **Promises Free**, 1982 **Winifred Bale**, 1983 **Winston Lass**, 1984 **Beach Rhythm** 1985 **Another Flash**, 1986 **Memories Gate**, 1987 **See Yah**, 1988 **Grizzly Bear**, 1989 **Jessica Kate**, 1990 **Dixie Lass**, 1991 **Little Denver**, 1992 **Iago**, 1993 **Leon Mal**, 1994 **Zazziam**, 1995 **Nine Inch Nails**, 1996 **Tamborine Dancer**, 1997 **Elle's Commando**, 1998 **Waiwera Marika**, 1999 **Stately Bird**, 2000 **Some Secret**, 2001 **Suellen Bale**, 2002 **Modern Assassin**, 2003 **Winsome Shot**, 2004 **Kobble Rock** and 2005 **Pure Octane**.

## AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION

### Quidame Too Good in Sydney Cup

On a very big night of racing the other Group feature on the card was the Group 2 Howard Pacific Finance Sydney Cup Final, while a crack field was set down for decision Queenslander Quidame (\$2.10) justified her short priced favouritism with a dominant all-the-way win. Trainer Tony Brett had campaigned Quidame in most states including a win in the Group 3 Darwin Cup in early August. But she had never venturing to Wentworth Park until last Saturday, when the talented front runner was untroubled to win her heat in a smart 42.49.

She quickly led from box three on that occasion and, from box two in the final on Saturday night, she again got to the front early and dictated terms, to score in 42.61 Ever consistent Victorian Mid City Mandy (\$9.10) trailed Quidame to the back straight but could get no closer than two and quarter lengths, the margin at the finish. Miss Grub (\$20.30) battled away to finish third, some fourth lengths from the winner.

Quidame has been a wonderful race bitch for owner-breeder Helen Ivers and trainer Tony Brett and with plenty of rich staying events left in 2006 she will no doubt be hard to beat in what ever event she is set for.

Michael Radley spoke to Tony Brett after the win. "You can pretty much rely on her a bit like Bogie Leigh she out and goes and give ever inch, if she gets beat it's because she wasn't good enough. I think she's a bit more seasoned now, she has matured as a stayer she's stronger with a little bit more kick at the end of her races. She is well over her toe problem and just loves to race." Brett said.

Radley also asked about the team at home and future plans with Quidame. "Yes I have a great team at home they do most of the work and allow me to travel and take the spotlight it doesn't seem fair, but Mum and Fleur do a fantastic job. I'll give Sandown a miss it is just to close after tonight I'll take her home and give her a slow down, look for a 600 somewhere and have a crack at the Hume Cup at the Meadows. The Meadows has been good to us before so hopefully it will be good to us again." Brett concluded.

After the placings the field finished in the following order 4<sup>th</sup> Angel Doll (\$49.30), 5<sup>th</sup> Royal Riddle (\$9.30) 6<sup>th</sup> Miss Brook (\$5.00) 7<sup>th</sup> Miss Porsca (\$11.90) and Itza Bee (\$7.00).

Quidame is a Black Bitch whelped May '03 by Flying Penske from Sheza Swifty (New Tears x Voodoo Lady). The Group 2 Sydney Cup was Quidame 32nd win from 60 starts and she has been placed 19 times. The \$25,000 first prize took his earnings to \$172,965.

Listed below are the previous winners of the Sydney Cup.

1963 **Wally's Best**, 1964 **Pinkstone**, 1965 **Barry's Pixie**, 1966 **Rose Moss**, 1967 **Only Ten**, 1968 **Zoom Top**, 1969 **Our Vent**, 1970 **Miss Limit**, 1971 **Top Saba**, 1972 **Jan's Issue**, 1973 **Miss High Lo**, 1974 **Miss High Lo**, 1975 **This Guy Moss**, 1976 **Glahda**, 1977 **Bozo Belmont**, 1978 **Brigante Babe**, 1979 **Debraja Flash**, 1980 **Henry's Girl**, 1981 **Supreme Hiwai**, 1982 **Pleasure O'Hope**, 1983 **Olympic Rose**, 1984 **Linen's Best**, 1985 **National Lass**, 1986 **Beautiful Dream**, 1987 **Sonic Wave**, 1988 **Kirsty's Charity**, 1989 **Rules**, 1990 **Rocket To Tubrid**, 1991 **Vindicate**, 1992 **Sailing Waverly**, 1993 **Trojan Tears**, 1994 **Raven Kelly**, 1995 **Fire Lad**, 1996 **Bonza Boy**, 1997 **Ringside Fire**, 1998

## AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND RACING ASSOCIATION



Tony Brett & Quidame after the Sydney Cup win (Pics Courtesy Greyhound Recorder)



For more information please contact:

**Neil Brown**  
AGRA Publicity Officer  
Tel: 03 97691234  
Mob: 0423 129 950

**Donna Summers**  
AGRA Executive Officer  
Tel: 02 96465711  
Mob: 0414 524 907