



LANCELOT A FIRST STEWARDS' CUP AND QATAR GOODWOOD FESTIVAL WINNER FOR IVORY

Hertfordshire trainer Dean Ivory saddled his first Qatar Goodwood Festival winner today, and in one of the meeting's feature races.

Victory for the Ivory-trained Lancelot Du Lac (25/1) in the £250,000 Qatar Stewards' Cup over six furlongs was a second win in the contest for jockey Frankie Dettori, who succeeded on Magical Memory in 2015. Dettori made plenty of use of seven-year-old Lancelot Du Lac, keeping clear of bunching before coaxing his partner home three-quarters of a length ahead of runner-up Aeolus (16/1). Upstaging (25/1) was a further nose behind in third, a head in front of fourth-placed Growl (7/1). The 5/1 favourite Sir Dancealot was soon at the back of the 26-strong field, and finished 22nd. The starting stall positions for the first four horses were, in order: 15, 12, 7 and 8.

Dettori is not a regular rider of Ivory's horses, in contrast to Robert Winston, but the last-named jockey partnered Stake Acclaim who finished 15th, putting up a better show than his finishing position suggests. Explaining the jockey bookings, Ivory said: ""Adam Kirby was going to ride 'Lance', but was booked by Clive Cox to ride at Newmarket, and since Frankie was available I rang Ray Cochrane [Dettori's agent] and said 'there's a spare ride here'. Ray said 'Dean, I'd love him to ride the horse'. Robert was due to ride Tropics in the race, but we had to take him out on account of the soft ground, and Robert was keen to save the horse in any case. I had already booked Frankie for 'Lance', and I explained that to Robert when Tropics came out, so he accepted the ride on Stake Acclaim."

Lancelot Du Lac carried the colours of Michael and Heather Yarrow, who keep "a dozen to 14 horses" with Ivory and are among his most loyal owners, but were absent from Goodwood after booking a holiday. Ivory said: "I'm thrilled for the horse and thrilled for the owners, who really deserve to win a nice race. I always thought he had a decent race in him and I'm delighted it's this one today. I thought the ground might be a little bit too soft for him, but that rain has just freshened it all up a bit and it wasn't tacky ground."

"He did it the hard way, even though the ground wasn't perfect for him - he got a bit tired towards the end, but Frankie had guided him to the [far] rail and he kept pulling a little more out of the bag. It's wonderful to see the horse win. It wasn't the idea to jump handy, it was to get a lead, but once he got there he stayed there, and with the hood on it helped keep him up to his work.

"We'll sit tight with him now, and I'll speak to Mr and Mrs Yarrow, but we might decide after a race like that we're in no hurry. Let's put a bit back into the horse. There is the Ayr Gold Cup, and having seen him jump out and travel so well it's good to know he can do that and keep out of trouble in these big races. I know it sounds daft, but even at his age I'm still learning a bit about the horse, and being a son of Shamardal he's getting better with age.

"It's been a difficult year, and Librisa Breeze [Ivory's best horse] got into a bit of trouble [when unplaced in Tuesday's Qatar Lennox Stakes] earlier in the week, so there's a bit of a downer in the yard, but the team pulls through. We're not the biggest of yards but our horses always come first, and there's a great atmosphere among everyone that works there."

FRANKIE DETTORI WINS QATAR STEWARDS' CUP

Frankie Dettori gets a second win at this year's Qatar Goodwood Festival in the £250,000 feature race of day five, the Qatar Stewards' Cup Heritage Handicap over six furlongs, aboard 25/1 chance Lancelot Du Lac. It is a second success in the big handicap sprint for Dettori following Magical Memory's win two years ago.

"Dean Ivory was very sweet on the horse. Lancelot Du Lac had boiled over at Ascot so the trainer put the hood on today and it made a big difference, he was very calm today," reported Dettori. "And perhaps the wet conditions really suited him.

"I was there to be shot at, but in fairness he put his head down and galloped to the line. I didn't have to do much. Usually in this kind of handicap you are all out to the line, but I was able to have a look around and punch the air! They came close, but I could feel underneath he was giving me plenty, and never at any moment did I think they were going to get past. He was in a good rhythm; he had his head down and galloped to the line."

Lancelot Du Lac was drawn in the middle of the big field in 15, but nevertheless Dettori, who made nearly all on the horse, was able to tack over to the far rail, the plan to come down the rail was made by Dettori mid-race.

"At first I was going to go in the middle as I didn't think I was be able to get across with 15 other horses on my right, " he said, "but he jumped so good and I had plenty of daylight I thought well I can get there. He had bags of speed, I was able to come across slowly without burning too much petrol, and the rest is history."

This was the first time Dettori has ridden the horse. The ride was booked by Dettori's agent Ray Cochrane, whom Dettori explained is good friends with the trainer.

"Dean tries really hard," smiled Dettori. "I've known him a long time and it means a lot to him to win a big race like this. Jumping off after (flying dismount), well it's a bit of fun, and after all this is still a big race. Dean does not run a big operation, but he does it well and I know how much it means to him."

3.35pm Qatar Stewards' Cup Heritage Handicap

1 Lancelot Du Lac (Michael & Heather Yarrow) Dean Ivory 7-9-05 Frankie Dettori 25/1 DRAWN 15

2 Aeolus (Andrew Buxton) Ed Walker 6-9-04 Pat Cosgrave 16/1 DRAWN 12

3 Upstaging (HRH Sultan Ahmed Shah) Paul Cole 5-8-11 David Egan (5) 25/1 DRAWN 7

4 Growl (Dr Marwan Koukash) Richard Fahey 5-9-03 Connor Murtagh (7) 7/1 DRAWN 8

5 Shanghai Glory (Fitri Hay) Charlie Hills 4-9-02 Fran Berry 14/1 DRAWN 3

26 ran

Time: 1m 12.28s

Distances: $\frac{3}{4}$, nose, hd, $\frac{3}{4}$

Breeder: Elektra Di Fausto Martellozzo & C SAS

Breeding: b g Sharmardal (USA) - Dodie Mae (USA) (Capote (USA))

Tote Win: £28.10 Places: £5.80, £5.20, £5.40, £2.60 Exacta: £762.20

Dean Ivory - 7 Goodwood winners (1 at Qatar Goodwood Festival)

Frankie Dettori - 196 Goodwood winners (67 at Qatar Goodwood Festival)

WALKER GUTTED

The Pat Cosgrave partnered Aeolus, who was fourth in a Group Three on the Tapeta at Newcastle last time out, came home two to the better when finishing three quarters of a length second to Lancelot Du Lac (25/1) and ridden by Frankie Dettori in the feature race of the day the Qatar Stewards' Cup.

Sent off at 16/1, the son of Araafa pleased his trainer Ed Walker with the performance if leaving him feeling less than happy.

Walker said: "I am bit gutted.

"We were just unlucky, he has run an absolute blinder. The plan was the Wolkingham Handicap all year but the ground was too quick. This was plan B.

"Everything went right baring a few seconds of daylight when it was needed. He has made up a lot of ground on the winner - who has won well in the end.

"Second is tough - second is first loser isn't it?"

"I am just a seriously bad loser."

Pat Cosgrave, rider Aeolus, added: "He ran a nice race. We got stopped a little when I wanted to go but I couldn't fault him. That Dettori is always in the way!"

Paul Cole, whose Upstaging (25/1) filled the third place, a nose further back, commented: "We thought he was going to win it! He has run an amazing race - that is all you can hope for in a race like this, it is so competitive.

"He got interfered with a little bit otherwise we might have been second."