

**ARIMA RACE CLUB**  
**RACE DAY REVIEW**  
**DAY 16 SATURDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2010**

**Grand Riviere flies in 'Gleneagle'**

GRAND RIVIERE again proved to be in a different league to her contemporaries during the 16th round of the Arima Race Club's 2010 Season at Santa Rosa Park, Arima. In the very first two-turn classic for West Indian-bred three-year-olds of the season, the prohibitive 2/5 favourite sauntered home to win the Gleneagle Stakes by eight lengths. Grand Riviere has now scored six times from seven career starts and the latest margin of victory over her fellow fillies was the widest since she had warned of things to come by prevailing by more than nine lengths when she debuted in October. Her only loss came in a classic race (Stud Farm Association Breeders Stakes) when she faced the starter for the second time. But the John O'Brien-trained daughter of A Great Team has now won four classics since that race and five times in a row.

Of the four big race triumphs, three (St Ann's Stakes, Ibis Stakes and 'Gleneagle') have been \$150,000 events, while there was \$25,000 less total prize money in the Grade III Royal Colours Classic on March 13. Grand Riviere banked another \$90,000 for her latest triumph and the Poon Tip Stud Farm-bred and owned filly has now earned \$385,000. Inconclusive, who had beaten Grand Riviere in the 'Breeders' and finished less than a length behind her last time out in the 'Ibis' on Easter Monday (April 5), was again second best, but certainly not close this time. However, for the minor positions about a length separated the other three horses on the result board.

After finishing fourth in both the 'Royal Colours' and Ibis Stakes, Kickupastorm just avoided a hat-trick when she put her head in front of Classy Lady in the last few strides of the 1,750-metre contest. Classy Lady looked ominous when she took up the running at the far turn, but the third-placed finisher in the Ibis Stakes was passed by Grand Riviere when they turned for home, got very tired down the stretch and faded into fourth. Nevertheless, she finished more than seven lengths ahead of her fellow Glenn Mendez-trained Jamaican Vijayanti, who ended up only a head in front of another Jamaican, Royal Baby.

Royal Baby, winner of the first two juvenile races of last season, has not been close to her best since, but this was a decent performance after she had given away about ten lengths at the start. Prado's Gold and Gottago followed and Bob's Fortune, who has been in front by more than five lengths at the half-way stage, ended up more than 50 lengths behind the winner in last. The main and penultimate event of the nine-race card was preceded by a race which featured a collection of stars and it concluded in exciting fashion.

The top three were separated by less than a length as Fresh Prospect made the most of his light impost of 48.5 kilos to get the better of last year's Santa Rosa Classic runner-up Regal Honour and Savvy in the 1,350-metre Restricted Handicap. Savvy finished in front of his Douglas Bennett-trained stable companion Mission King for the very first time as last year's Republic Bank Derby runner-up placed fourth. The 2008 Derby runner-up Donut Prince ended up seventh, just behind last year's Derby fourth Marathon Man, who trailed Santa Rosa Classic hero Hurricane Watch by a length and a half. Silent Reproach, who finished third behind Donut Prince in the '08 Carib Brewery Guineas and also placed third that year in the Midsummer Classic, was seen for the first time since October and the Jamaican-bred five-year-old ended up fourth in the Conditional Handicap B.

The 1,750-metre contest was won in fine style by Jamaican-bred three-year-old Another Challenge, who had placed third in the Flamingo Stakes last time out on Easter Monday and should be a contender in this year's Guineas on May 30. Odds-on favourite Regent Street, an American-bred four-year-old, failed by 2 ½ lengths to catch the front-runner and ended up the bridesmaid for the third time in succession. Last year's St James Stakes runner-up Gold Bead was third, but Zen Master, who had won the first two-turn event for West Indian-bred three-year-olds of the season two weeks earlier, ended up seventh and last.

O'Brien had saddled six winners over the previous two race days to be the leading trainer on both occasions, but this time training honours went to Chester Roberts, who was successful with X Rated and Chief's Nephew, who was incidentally bred and previously trained by O'Brien. No rider was triumphant more than once and although punters were relatively on the ball, Hey Big Fella and Cocoa In The Sun prevailed in back-to-back 1,600-metre events on the turf at odds of 13/1 and 16/1, respectively. Racing continues on Saturday when the Santa Rosa Dash will be the feature attraction. Among the horses still in the line up at the third nomination stage for the Grade II 1,200-metre contest are Storm Street and Bruceontheloose, the Horse of the Year winners in '08 and '09, respectively, Sweet Alex and the unbeaten Bristling.