

**ARIMA RACE CLUB**  
**RACE DAY REVIEW**  
**DAY 20 SATURDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2010**

**Donut Prince, Super Grey go past \$500,000**

DONUT PRINCE stormed down the homestretch to pass \$500,000 in career earnings during the 20th round of the Arima Race Club's 2010 Season at Santa Rosa Park, Arima. The 2008 Carib Brewery Guineas winner and Trinidad Derby Stakes runner-up produced one of the most explosive 'stretch runs of the season to win the feature event of an eight-race card. Donut Prince looked to have no chance when he turned for home in the Restricted Handicap, but crossed the finish line a relatively comfortable winner by a length and a half. Although the Jamaican-bred five-year-old was the 3/1 second favourite, he was competing over a trip as sharp as 1,200 metres for only the second time in 28 career starts and many experts felt that the finish line would come way too soon for him.

They seemed vindicated at the top of the straight, but apprentice Prayven Badrie pushed the turbo boost button and Donut Prince took off like he hadn't since his three-year-old days. He has not been the same since those good old days when the Harriram Gobin-trained chestnut was the top betting choice in all three triple crown races. The slide actually began when Donut Prince lost the Derby by a whisker to Pride 'N' Glory, and it was certainly heart-warming to see the acceleration we took for granted in '08 again. Music Maestro, who has struggled to such an extent recently that the only time he had finished "on the board" in his previous eight starts was in a four-horse race, also ran on well to be second, while Rewardsinheaven ended up third after looking all over a winner when he was cruising in front turning for home.

This American-bred three-year-old is yet to live up to lofty expectations as he has failed to score in seven tries after equaling the 1,000-metre track record on debut in October. Last year's Santa Rosa Classic winner Hurricane Watch placed fifth as the favourite but Merlin Samlalsingh would not have been too disappointed as he also owns the winner. And Donut Prince banked another \$17,500 for Samlalsingh with his ninth career triumph to go past \$500,000 in career earnings. Super Grey had gotten there just 45 minutes earlier despite the fact that the grand old man of local racing had just failed to score his fourth victory in succession. But the Jamaican-bred ten-year-old went into the \$25,000 Optional Claimer needing only about \$1,000 to cross the half-million dollar mark and earned \$8,480 for the 20th runner finish of a fabulous career. Super Grey has also placed third 20 times and been victorious on 17 occasions in a career spanning over 100 races.

In stark contrast, his conqueror is only three years old and was racing for only the third time since coming across for Jamaica a few months ago. I'm Coming Baby had finished runner-up and then prevailed over 1,200 against her contemporaries, but few expected that she would be able to take such a significant step up the ladder and even be competitive against older horses over two turns.

The John O'Brien-trained filly was not only competitive, she was very impressive and pulled away from Super Grey in mid-stretch, leaving horses of the calibre of Silent Reproach, Dance Machine, Hesuntouchabull and Regent Street in her wake. Silent Reproach, the third-placed finisher in the Guineas and Midsummer Classic two years ago, had returned from a seven-month layoff last time out and proved that he is still far from regaining his best form by finishing sixth in the 1,750-metre contest.

Dance Machine, the fifth-placed finisher in all three legs of last year's Triple Crown despite battling injury throughout his career, ended up seventh of nine after scoring three weeks earlier in his first start since the Derby in September. Hesuntouchabull, also recently back from injury, was fifth and American-bred favourite Regent Street ended up a non-threatening third. I'm Coming Baby looked so good that owner Howard Hamilton may start considering running the daughter of Dayton Flyer in the other two legs of the local triple crown, - the Midsummer Classic (August 1) and Republic Bank Derby (September 24) - especially since a filly (Grand Riviere) has already beaten the colts when the triple crown started with the Guineas on May 31.

It was indeed a grand day for the relatively new owner as Hamilton's other runner, Appealing Harvest, slammed a bunch of West Indian-bred three-year-olds by almost nine lengths in the second division of an 1,100-metre contest. Hamilton denied Harold Chadee when I'm Coming Baby beat Super Grey, but it was still a very successful day for the veteran owner/trainer. Last year's Oaks Stakes winner Be Nice, also bred by Chadee, won the 1,200-metre Optional Claimer, four races after Mythical King, claimed by Chadee's son Dave after his previous start, had come late to win the opener - a 1,300-metre Conditional Handicap E. Chadee, O'Brien (Appealing Harvest, I'm Coming Baby) and Gobin (Nature's Reality) were the leading trainers, while two-kilo claimer Brian Boodramsingh (Mythical King, I'm Coming Baby) was the only rider to score more than once.

Racing continues at Santa Rosa on Saturday.