

1960 - 1980 Cont.

Orbiter (from the prolific family founded by Toscolayo) after some brilliant form in NZ with 17 wins was sold to the US for US\$120,000. On the eve of the 1966 Yankers series suffered from a virus and did not race up to expectations. He would ultimately fully redeem himself.

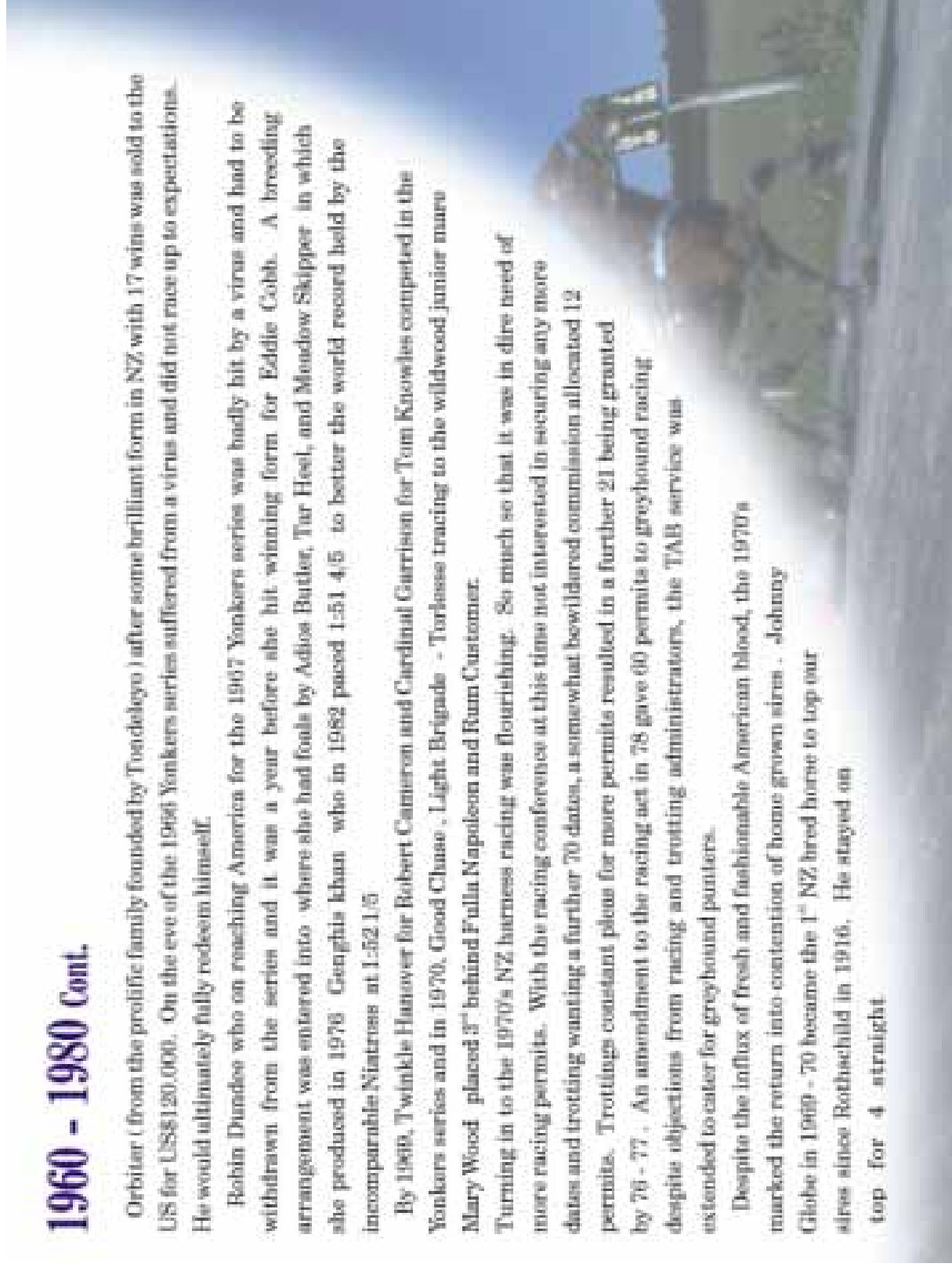
Robin Dundee who on reaching America for the 1967 Yankers series was badly hit by a virus and had to be withdrawn from the series and it was a year before she hit winning form for Eddie Cobb. A breeding arrangement was entered into where she had foals by Adios Butler, Tar Heel, and Meadow Skipper in which she produced in 1976 Genghis Khan who in 1982 paced 1:51.45 to better the world record held by the incomparable Niatrix at 1:52.15

By 1969, Twinkle Hanover for Robert Cameron and Cardinal Garrison for Tom Knowles competed in the Yankers series and in 1970, Good Chase , Light Brigade - Torlesse tracing to the wildwood junior mare Mary Wood placed 3rd behind Fulla Napoleon and Rum Customer.

Turning in to the 1970's NZ harness racing was flourishing. So much so that it was in dire need of more racing permits. With the racing conference at this time not interested in securing any more dates and trotting wanting a further 70 dates, a somewhat bewildered commission allocated 12 permits. Trottings constant pleas for more permits resulted in a further 21 being granted by 76 - 77 . An amendment to the racing act in 78 gave 60 permits to greyhound racing despite objections from racing and trotting administrators, the TAB service was extended to cater for greyhound punters.

Despite the influx of fresh and fashionable American blood, the 1970's marked the return into contention of home grown sires . Johnny Globe in 1969 - 70 became the 1st NZ bred horse to top our steeplechase since Rothschild in 1916. He stayed on

top for 4 straight



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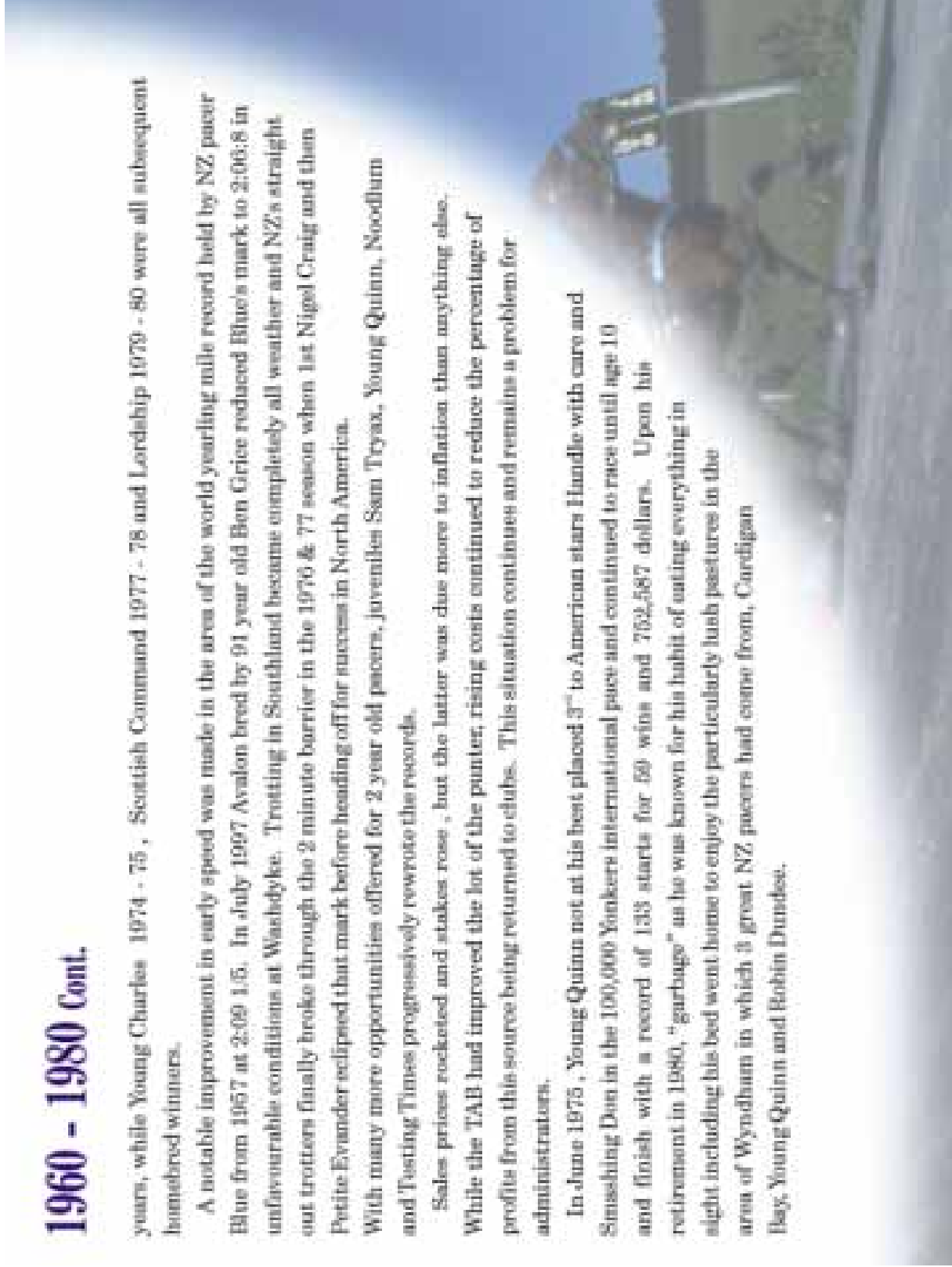
years, while Young Charles 1974 - 75 , Scottish Command 1977 - 78 and Lordship 1979 - 80 were all subsequent homebred winners.

A notable improvement in early speed was made in the area of the world yearling mile record held by NZ pacer Blue from 1957 at 2:00 1/5. In July 1997 Avalon bred by 91 year old Ben Grice reduced Blue's mark to 2:00:8 in unfavourable conditions at Washdyke. Trotting in Southland became completely all weather and NZ's straight out trotters finally broke through the 2 minute barrier in the 1976 & 77 season when 1st Nigel Craig and then Petite Evander eclipsed that mark before heading off for success in North America.

With many more opportunities offered for 2 year old pacers, juveniles Sam Tryax, Young Quinn, Woodlum and Testing Times progressively rewrote the records.

Sales prices rocketed and stakes rose , but the latter was due more to inflation than anything else. While the TAB had improved the lot of the punter, rising costs continued to reduce the percentage of profits from this source being returned to clubs. This situation continues and remains a problem for administrators.

In June 1975 , Young Quinn net at his best placed 3rd to American stars Handle with care and Smashing Dan in the 100,000 Yankers International pace and continued to race until age 10 and finish with a record of 133 starts for 59 wins and 752,587 dollars. Upon his retirement in 1980, "garbage" as he was known for his habit of eating everything in sight including his bed went home to enjoy the particularly lush pastures in the area of Wynydhum in which 3 great NZ pacers had come from, Carthigan Bay, Young Quinn and Robin Dundee.





1980 - 1999

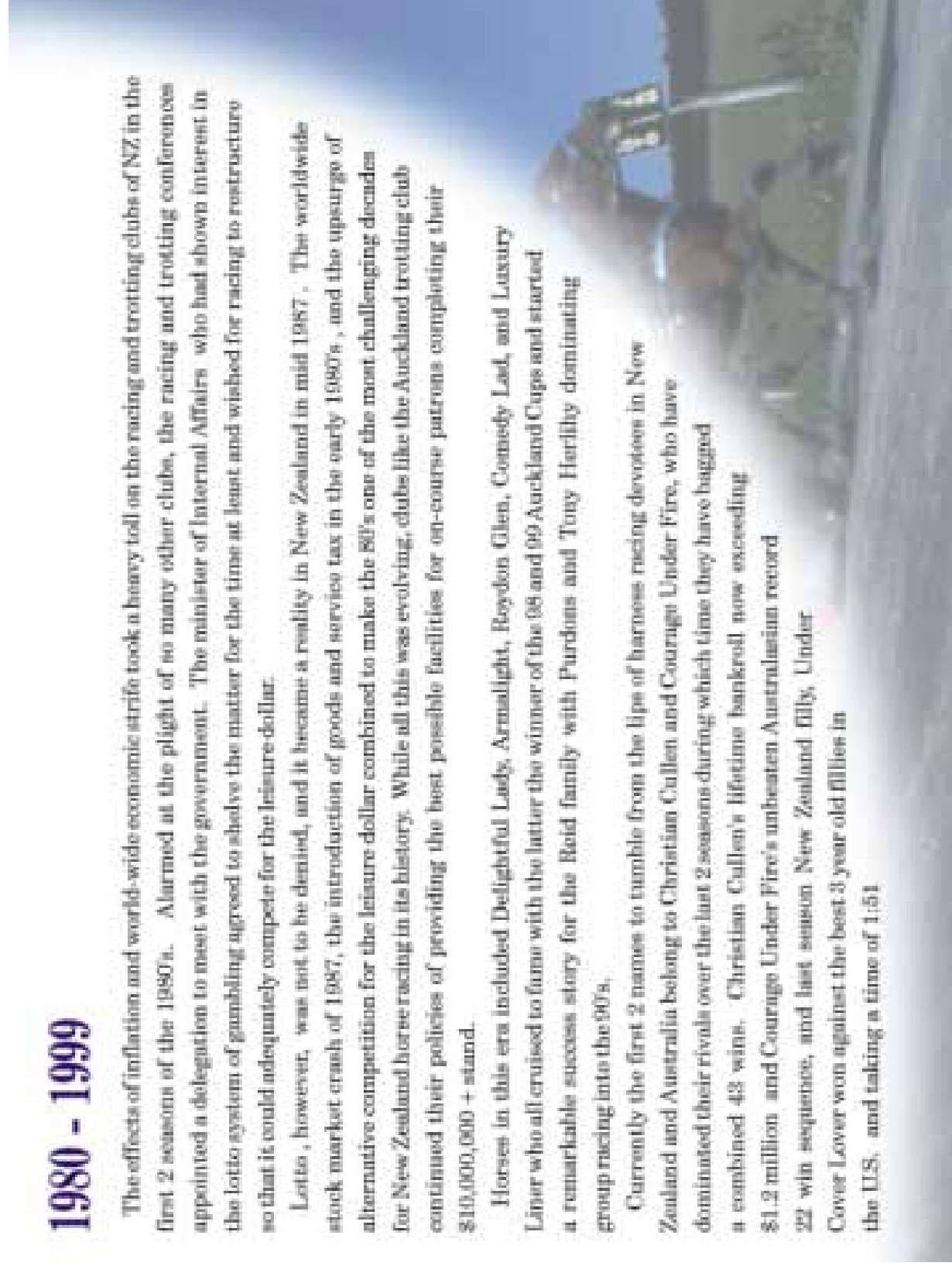
The effects of inflation and world-wide economic strife took a heavy toll on the racing and trotting clubs of NZ in the first 2 seasons of the 1980's. Alarmed at the plight of so many other clubs, the racing and trotting conferences appointed a delegation to meet with the government. The minister of Internal Affairs who had shown interest in the lotto system of gambling agreed to shelve the matter for the time at least and wished for racing to restructure so that it could adequately compete for the leisure dollar.

Lotto, however, was not to be denied, and it became a reality in New Zealand in mid 1987. The worldwide stock market crash of 1987, the introduction of goods and service tax in the early 1980's, and the upsurge of alternative competition for the leisure dollar combined to make the 80's one of the most challenging decades for New Zealand horse racing in its history. While all this was evolving, clubs like the Auckland trotting club continued their policies of providing the best possible facilities for on-course patrons completing their \$10,000,000 + stand.

Horses in this era included Delightful Lady, Armsalight, Roydon Glen, Comedy Lad, and Luxury Liner who all cruised to fame with the latter the winner of the 98 and 99 Auckland Cups and started a remarkable success story for the Reid family with Purdons and Tony Herlily dominating group racing into the 90's.

Currently the first 2 names to tumble from the lips of harness racing devotees in New Zealand and Australia belong to Christian Cullen and Courage Under Fire, who have dominated their rivals over the last 2 seasons during which time they have bagged a combined 43 wins. Christian Cullen's lifetime bankroll now exceeding \$1.2 million and Courage Under Fire's unbeaten Australasian record 22 win sequence, and last season New Zealand filly, Under Cover Lower won against the best 3 year old fillies in

the US, and taking a time of 1:51



1980 - 1999 Cont.

It is interesting to note that the 6th dam of Under Cover Lover is an unnamed mare by Rothschild.). They are all by the American sire In The Pocket and have captivated and captured the imagination of the wider public catapulting the sport into the limelight . Like Special Force who represented New Zealand in the 1990 World Trotting Championships in Stockholm.

With the advent of chilled and frozen semen and embryo transfer, the task for New Zealand breeders is to balance the old gene pool, further use gene pools, manage the environment of breeding and to market the great scope that is created by this technology. The New Zealand Equine Health Board was set up to insure the future health of the horse industry . New Zealand enjoys a special health status in the world as we do not have any of the major equine diseases.

The access to the supply of semen from leading American stallions is a year to year agreement and allows us to access sires such as Western Hanover, Artzplace, and Pine Chip. Like Ireland and Kentucky, New Zealand is a natural breeding ground for horses coupled with the proud tradition in horsemanship, our verdant landscape provides the perfect environment to breed and train horses that can race competitively anywhere in the world.



Christian Cullen



NEW ZEALAND'S PLACE IN THE EQUINE WORLD

New Zealand's thoroughbreds

The NZ Thoroughbred is indeed an international commodity. In the latest full Southern hemisphere racing season, NZ bred gilltoppers enjoyed top level success in South Africa, Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia as well as dominating the top end of the Australasian racing scene.

The 1998/99 season NZ-bred horse's posted claimed 18 of 63 group 1 races in Australia with just 8% of Australia's 32000 racehorse pop. Defining evidence of this came thorough Melbourne's spring carnival when claiming 53% of group races on offer the Melbourne cup Quinella Zabeel ,Champagne, and Night and Power in the Cox plate. While the real star, sire sensation Zabeel rested in his paddock being the 1st sire to have progeny earnings of 10 million in a season.



The \$1.6 million Zabeel-Eight event sold in January 1998



EQUESTRIAN AND SPORT HORSE

Following the Los Angeles Olympic games, certainly as far as the 3 day event team is concerned, sitting in their saddles in the seasons since that golden games when Mark Todd won his 1st Olympic gold, has fashioned them an amazing record. The kiwis still set the benchmark for the sport worldwide. Add to that an endurance team that won the world championships at its 1st overseas venture last year., it is an extraordinary record, and one largely achieved by superb equine athletes.

New Zealand has developed an international reputation for excellence that spans the whole equine industry. Whether it is racing, eventing, polo, or bloodstock breeding, New Zealand is at the cutting edge. Just as high quality pastures and unpolluted environment that New Zealand is famed for, a lot of research both here and overseas has gone in to feeding methods for horses and this is partly responsible for improved performance. Scientists have shown how incorporation of the appropriate amounts of trace elements - selenium, zinc, manganese, chromium, copper, iron and other minerals such as calcium, phosphate as well as other basic concentrated foodstuffs such as oil, amino acids, and vitamins can improve a horses performance. New Zealand has played a major role in the international development of techniques for diagnosis and treatment of trace mineral problems particularly of selenium, iodine, cobalt, zinc, copper. Furthermore, high growth rates which are induced by high producing pastures lead to heavier bodies and stronger muscles which stress the skeleton causing back problems, splints, tying-up, etc. Astute trainers recognise that maturity comes with age and so New Zealand horses are generally noted for their greater racing age and durability.





MARKETING TO FUTURE GENERATIONS

To summarise, in the past NZ harness racing has found innovative solutions to the problems it has faced: from slow horses to fast operators. Today, harness racing faces perhaps its sternest challenge: to hold public interest in the face of counter attractions.

While it is proven NZ can deliver class horses created by importers with astute judgment for horses and the climate to breed, the greatest stimulant for progress was international exposure. Our current horses racing in Australia have given a huge stimulant to our exports to Australia and our best marketing tool. However our domestic racing economy is weak and slipping. In 1987 racing domestically had 95% of the gaming dollar now it is at 17% in 1999.

NZ's biggest challenge is to create a new generation of people interested in furthering the history created by previous generations.

While previous generations loved and had passion for the horse many today are not exposed to the heart and soul which makes it a truly great sport.

We need to install the passion and understanding of standardbred racing for the sport to flourish into the next millennium.

Being in Sydney at this time makes me believe, with the 2000 Olympics, that like so many other sports trotting needs the International competition and exposure to show what it can achieved and what it can offer.



*"To Be More Global Will Make
The Breeders More Inspired
Along With The Public"*



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EXPERIENCE