



PROBLEMS: Brad Haddin.

Wade's looking good to Mickey

WAYNE SMITH
CRICKET
IN ROSEAU, DOMINICA

AUSTRALIAN coach Mickey Arthur and captain Michael Clarke agree on just about everything but not, it seems, on whether Brad Haddin automatically will be the wicketkeeper when the Test side next assembles in Brisbane in November.

Clarke raised eyebrows before the third Test here when he stated unequivocally that Haddin, as the long-time incumbent, would reclaim his spot from caretaker keeper Matthew Wade for the first Test of the series against Graeme Smith's South Africans at the Gabba.

It was a commendable display of loyalty by Clarke for a teammate currently going through a difficult period in his life away from cricket but it always seemed precarious to lock the selectors into an inflexible position before the final Test of the 2011-12 summer had even unfolded. Wade produced at Windsor Park one of the finer Australian innings of recent years in scoring his maiden Test century and then backed up with a near faultless display behind the stumps.

The catch he took at the end of a long day to dismiss Darren Bravo yesterday might not have been the most difficult he has ever gloved but it was certainly one that had to be taken to get Australia back into the Dominica Test.

Arthur attempted to unlock what had been locked, insisting what Wade had done in Roseau would most certainly resonate in the selection room when the five wise men meet in November to pick the Test side.

"Of course it has bearing," Arthur said. "Had Haddis not had to go home (from the Caribbean for personal reasons) he would have started this series. And that was always our communication with Brad. He knew that."

"Wade stood up brilliantly and I'm just so happy because it's creating depth for us."

"There is a lot of water to go under the bridge before our next Test match against South Africa at the Gabba."

"For us to comment now is probably too early."

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Nathan's Racebook

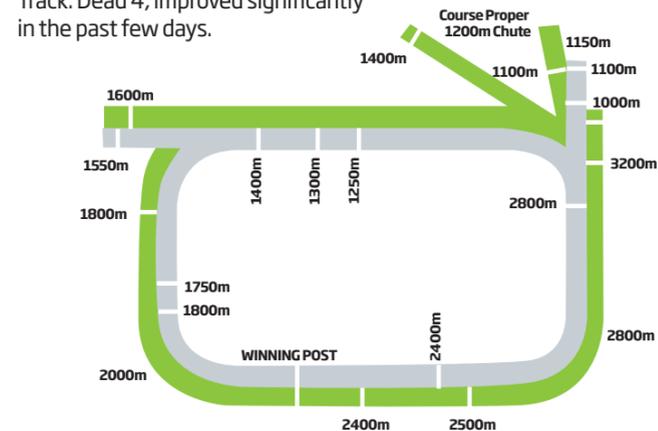
Racing Writer Nathan Exelby looks for the winners at Randwick and at Eagle Farm



RANDWICK

Circumference: 2048m Straight: 408m Direction: Clockwise

Track: Dead 4, improved significantly in the past few days.



WEATHER FORECAST

Fine 24°

TRACK FORECAST

3 4 5 6 7 8
DEAD

Randwick Race 2 Frank Packer Plate

2000m, 1.04pm



Gai Waterhouse

In the run: Gai Waterhouse-trained Fat Al and Just The Tonic take up the running. Ambidexter and Rekindled Alliance settle further back.

Take Note: Ambidexter and Rekindled Alliance come back from taking on tougher opposition, often a good formula in this race.

Did You Know: Fat Al is attempting to become just the fourth horse to complete the Carbine Club-Packer double. Gai Waterhouse trained two of the others in Spurred On and Juggler.

Early Money: Iggi Pop \$9 into \$7. Rekindled Alliance easy out to \$6. Fat Al rock solid favourite

Nathan's tip: Fat Al **\$2.10**

Nathan's danger: Ambidexter **\$4.80**

Randwick Race 6 Sydney Cup

3200m, 3.35pm



Niwot

In the run: Solid Billing led this last year, so expect similar tactics. Once Were Wild, Older Than Time and Our Serena close up.

Take Note: Seven Chairman's Handicap winners have won this race since 1986. Chris Waller-trained Permit attempts to join Marooned as the only one of those to have also won the Manion Cup.

Did You Know: Seven of the past 20 winners have come through the BMW. Drunken Sailor was the best this year. Niwot meets him better at the weights.

Early Money: Niwot easily best backed this week and displaced Permit as favourite with TattsBet yesterday.

Nathan's tip: Niwot **\$3.60**

Nathan's Danger: Older Than Time **\$9**

Three top chances but not More Joyous

NATHAN EXELBY

THE man who told us Sizzling could not win the Magic Millions, that Samaready was unbeatable in the Blue Diamond and then named the same filly a false Golden Slipper favourite, is now pottling More Joyous and Manighar in the Queen Elizabeth Stakes.

Vince Accardi, the founder of dailysectionals.com.au, is looking to Rekindled Interest, Jimmy Choux and Americain as the main chances in today's 2000m feature.

"If it wasn't for the fact she was trained by Gai Waterhouse, who is one of the best trainers we have ever seen, I would comfortably declare More Joyous has no chance," Accardi said.

"The Gai factor is the unknown but the numbers tell me 2000m poses a huge problem, even if they go slow, as many are suggesting."

"When she ran in the Cox Plate, she was able to run early sections 5.5 lengths below the average, yet even after doing no work early, she produced a 1.7 lengths negative final 200m split. That articulates to me this horse falls short at 2000m."

"A slow pace will help but the reality is, when she's asked for the supreme effort, it will take a big edge off her usual fabulous kick."

Accardi said Manighar would be clear top pick at 2400m but that he was more of a grinder at 2000m.

"Peter Moody is a master trainer so I'm sure Manighar



ON THE BURST: Americain's burst of acceleration gives him a great chance in today's Queen Elizabeth Stakes. Picture: Colleen Petch

has another run in him but he just doesn't have the same sprint at 2000m," Accardi said.

"In his two 2000m wins, the Australian Cup produced negative splits for the last 400m and then in the Ranvet he had a negative final 200m (versus the average). In the BMW at 2400m, he had positives the whole way through."

"That reinforces he doesn't



The Gai factor is the unknown

Vince Accardi on More Joyous

have the same sprint at 2000m as he does at 2400m."

Accardi scoffs at those suggesting the Cox Plate form is weak and suggests it will stack up strongly today.

"In last year's Cox Plate, they ran the same pace to the 800m as Might And Power did in his year," Accardi explained. "Yet Jimmy Choux was still there right to the end. They

won't go anywhere near as hard here, so he's going to have a big kick."

Accardi said Americain was "the only other horse I am paying any respect to" because he has a burst of acceleration.

"He clearly finished off better in the BMW and with Craig Williams in the saddle, he gets every chance to produce his best here," Accardi said.