

OPAL PARK STUD DERBY SHOW

Opal Park Derby Show was held at Werribee Park in Victoria, an excellent Indoor venue which allowed the Reining horses to be shown at their best. The Show had all the hype of an overseas competition, with the Sponsors especially catered for, enthusiastic crowd, tastefully decorated arena with indoor plants, white picket fencing, sponsors banners and trade stands.

The Show was most competently judged by Ross Gould of Queensland and due to the staggering number of entries the Show had to be continued through the lunch breaks with Dave Wedlock, Victorian judge, relieving.

Victorian Reining Horse Trainer, David Norbury secured a hat trick when he won the three big events at the show. Riding Carlo Visser's *Azure Bleu*, David top scored to win the Open Futurity, then saddled up his own horse, *Tell Me a Story* to secure the Feature event the rich Opal Park Stud Open Derby and then again riding *Tell Me a Story* won the hotly contested \$3000 Open Reining.

It's a high that David was still on days later, having won so much for his clients over the years in various Quarter Horse, Paint and Appaloosa Shows, it was his turn to win both the Open Reining and Open Derby Reining on his own gelding *Tell Me a Story*. This horse was runner up last year at the N.R.H.A. Futurity David collected the lions share of the \$6000 prizemoney, trophy saddle made by Matt Ferguson, 2 trophy buckles and lots of congratulations from friends and family. This was a very popular win and well deserved.

This was an outstanding effort for David considering entries that totalled over 250 from all parts of Australia including Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia and Victoria. The Derby Show is the highlight of the Victorian Reining season with entries up by 45% on last year and having the distinction of being the richest Non-Pro show ever held in Australia. With the event having 9 buckles, 2 saddles, numerous rugs and other prizes together within excess of \$20,000 in prizemoney it is no wonder the sport of Reining is a buzz world wide.

Ian Kindt from Queensland also won the Limited Non-Pro and Intermediate Non-Pro on *Pep 'N' Shine*. This was an



L to R: Mr Norbury Snr, Evelyn Woods Saddle Sponsor, Stacey and Courtney, Karen Norbury, Matt Ferguson Saddle maker, Grant Lawson strapper. With David Norbury and *Tell Me a Story*, the Open Derby Winner



Tell Me a Story and David Norbury sliding into the top spot in the V.R.H.A. Opal Park Stud Open Derby held at the Werribee Park Indoor Arena, Victoria.