

EPSOMIRON DUKE WINS WITH LAST STRIDE

Epsom and sunshine add up to the perfect day-out for racegoers. Top of the card in the Spring Meeting is the "City and Suburban" with ROC DU DIABLE leading yet another French invasion. The crowd's money is staked high on REFUND - a 9 to 2 favourite. If he comes up, he will bring more than a refund for the backers.

Twelve runners are lined up for the long twisting course and they're away to a perfect start. Although carrying top weight TSAOKO sets the pace, closely followed by JACOBITE and REFUND.

Three furlongs and coming up to Tattenham Corner, it's TSAOKO still in the lead - but only just. REFUND and JACOBITE are ready to challenge him, and IRON DUKE and BIG WIG are close at hand as they round racing's most famous bend and come into the straight. TSAOKO, No. 1, still leads. Jockey Carr is setting a terrific pace - but JACOBITE, No. 15, is catching up fast. And now he's level with REFUND, No. 8, coming up to make the next challenge. Moving up from the rear are IRON DUKE and ROC DU DIABLE.

The last hundred yards. IRON DUKE and the French horse are battling it out in a neck-and-neck duel. ROC DU DIABLE moves up along the rails (IRON DUKE is nearer the camera). What a finish - as almost locked together, they fly past the post. The judge calls for the cameras - for a few minutes, no one knows who's won. Rae Johnston thinks it's his race, but the photo shows it's the other way round. Edgar Britt made it on IRON DUKE in the last stride. It's the finish of the year, but there are repercussions - Jockey Johnston is temporarily suspended. IRON DUKE is home at 5 to 1.