



Waterhouse lays down the Law to Slipper rivals

» ADAPTRA HANDICAP MATT JONES

As glamour two-year-olds Earthquake and Rubick confirmed their status as the leading Golden Slipper contenders with wins at Caulfield on Saturday, Gai Waterhouse warned Randwick winner Law would match them over 1200 metres.

Law won effortlessly by 3/4 lengths from Hostwin Pegasus at his home track and Waterhouse declared the Denman colt the equal of any juvenile racing in Australia.

"He'll improve once he gets to 1200m," the trainer said. "He's right up there with the very best of the two-year-olds because he's got a great turn of foot.

"He was very good. He took a couple of strides to really balance up early and once he balanced it was a matter of how far.

"He's very exciting and there's a lot of upside to him. Nash [Rawiller] said he could not get over how incredibly relaxed [Law] was."

Law went keenly early as Rawiller tried to get control of him and he sat just off the leaders approaching the

'He's right up there with the very best of the two-year-olds.' Gai Waterhouse

home turn before looming up and taking control of the race at the 300m mark.

Rawiller declared the horse "on track" for the Golden Slipper.

"He's a lovely horse and he showed today that he's right on track," he said. "I was happy to let

them roll along in front. He could have really burnt the candle at both ends because he was really wanting to go early but once I showed him that backside he relaxed beautifully and I think it will hold him in good stead for the future."

The Star Thoroughbreds colt is out of Chilean mare Lady Cat, which was a group winner. Star Thoroughbreds owner Denise Martin wasn't worried about the horse's pedigree when she bought him and said the colt drew early comparisons with retired champion Pierro.

"It was much the same when I bought Sebring [2008 Golden Slipper winner]," Martin said. "Sebring's dam was a maiden and I thought, 'Well, she's a well performed dam and is a group 3 winner and if it's good enough for Sebring to be out of a non-winning mare then I'm more than delighted to buy one out of a group 3-winning mare'.

"I told Nash after his first trial that there's a tiny bit about this horse that reminds me of Pierro and he laughed because he said he thought so, too. The Breeders' Plate winners are always special and he showed today that he's returned in great form. The main aim today was to win the prize-money, get him over the \$100,000, and get him into the Slipper."