

of a beautiful spring day started to dissipate. During a busy schedule which lasted until a very chilly late evening, spectators had the opportunity to witness some of the most beautiful Arabian horses on the planet. World Champions stood shoulder to shoulder with aspirant champions and newcomers in a magnificent display of classic lines, flared

On a slightly overcast and blustery second day, the events kicked off mid-morning with Stallion classes leading up to the Championships at 3.30pm. During the 7-10 Year Old Stallion Class, Glen Jacobs received a nasty blow to the face which required stitching at the hospital. Glen bravely



Stallions Al Zeer



returned to the show after receiving medical attention to learn that his stallion, Ansata Nile Echo had gone on to win his class.

The Championships are of course the highlight of the International Show where intense rivalry, scrutiny and pride surface amongst all the participants. Handlers and managers can be seen in huddles strategising in quiet but emphatic tones. Assistants and grooms disperse around the area with plastic bags to add to the atmosphere in an effort to excite the horses during their moment of glory, all under the watchful eye of the DC.

In the first of the Championship classes, the exotic Ashhal

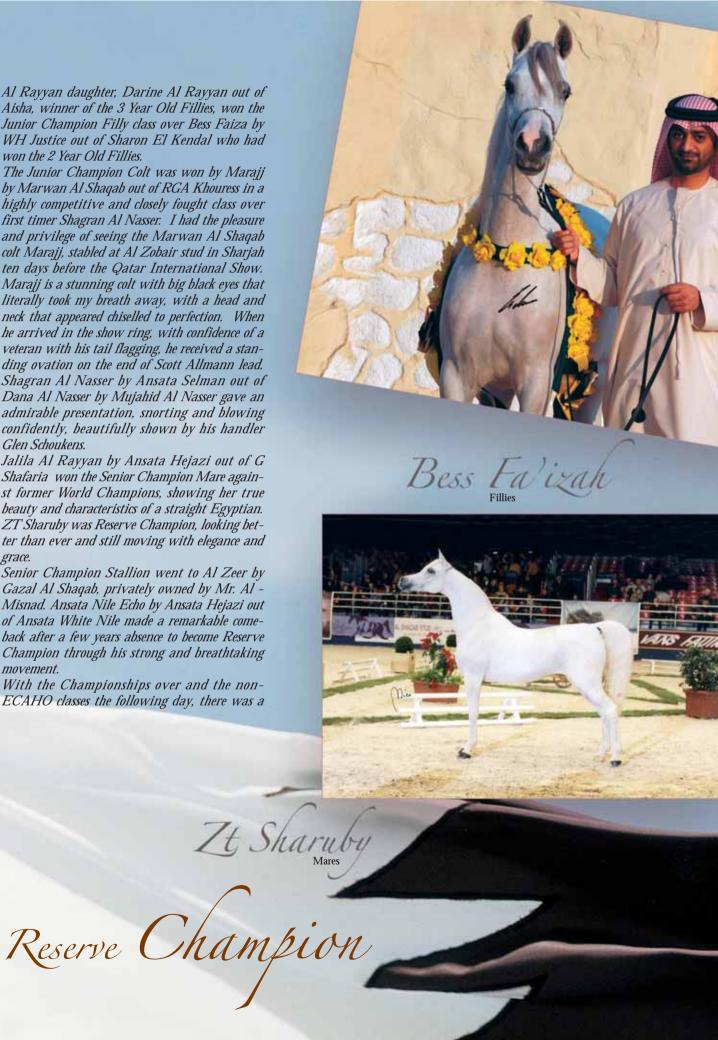
Al Rayyan daughter, Darine Al Rayyan out of Aisha, winner of the 3 Year Old Fillies, won the Junior Champion Filly class over Bess Faiza by WH Justice out of Sharon El Kendal who had won the 2 Year Old Fillies.

The Junior Champion Colt was won by Maraji by Marwan Al Shaqab out of RGA Khouress in a highly competitive and closely fought class over first timer Shagran Al Nasser. I had the pleasure and privilege of seeing the Marwan Al Shaqab colt Maraji, stabled at Al Zobair stud in Sharjah ten days before the Qatar International Show. Marajj is a stunning colt with big black eyes that literally took my breath away, with a head and neck that appeared chiselled to perfection. When he arrived in the show ring, with confidence of a veteran with his tail flagging, he received a standing ovation on the end of Scott Allmann lead. Shagran Al Nasser by Ansata Selman out of Dana Al Nasser by Mujahid Al Nasser gave an admirable presentation, snorting and blowing confidently, beautifully shown by his handler Glen Schoukens.

Jalila Al Rayyan by Ansata Hejazi out of G Shafaria won the Senior Champion Mare against former World Champions, showing her true beauty and characteristics of a straight Egyptian. ZT Sharuby was Reserve Champion, looking better than ever and still moving with elegance and grace.

Senior Champion Stallion went to Al Zeer by Gazal Al Shaqab, privately owned by Mr. Al -Misnad. Ansata Nile Echo by Ansata Hejazi out of Ansata White Nile made a remarkable comeback after a few years absence to become Reserve Champion through his strong and breathtaking movement.

With the Championships over and the non-ECAHO classes the following day, there was a





the Arabian horse tinged with sorrow that I am no longer amongst them on a daily basis. If you are considering an Arabian adventure, book the 2007 Qatar International Show into your diary next year, you'll not regret it.



Ansata Nile Echo Stallions