ANNIKA 85

reverential tones as Woods

While Karrie Webb may still be the official world number one — and the Australian did successfully and hold all four majors. The certainly thought about the Grand Slam, and I definitely think I could win all four in one year."— Reuters

RACING

from Dhamo

Ameeta goes for superior breed

AMEETA Mehra has a vision to breed an international racehorse and to develop an international professional orientation at the Usha Stud-Farm since she entered into the industry a deende ago.

Her mission in life is to breed and sell superior racehorses internationally including in the Malayan Racing Association (MRA) circuit which boasts of more than 2,100 racehorses from many parts of the racing world, including India.

With a Equine Management diploma from Irish National Stud Farm, equine nutrition studies under the Kentucky-based renowned Joe Pagan and Stephen Jackson, and also a Business Management diploma in India, she was able to introduce a new phase of growth and development to her stud farm.

The stud farm started by her late father, Major Pradeep Mehra, an international polo player, in 1973 has gained recognition as one of leading establishments in India.

Now, Ameeta intends to take Usha Stud Farm to greater heights.

The farm initially has a small number of imported mares and a stallion named Grey Gaston, whose first progeny Manitou (born in 1974) won the 1978 Indian Derby in record time.

The period between 1973 to 1984 saw the rapid growth of the farm, the first in the country to be professionally managed. In many ways, it has been a trend-setter, a benchmark for other farms, too. Besides, excellent management, Usha Stud Farm also boast top quality stock, as well as the best in facilities.

The farm has leading veterinarians in breeding practices and results.

For the past two and a half decades, Usha Stud Farm has produced more than 150 classic winners in India, eight Indian Derby winners, six Indian Turf Invitation Cup. Revelation is the only-filly to have won the Indian Derby and the Invitation Cup double.

Usha Stud Farm also has a unique record in breeding top sprinters as proven in the Sprinters



GLAMOUR ... Ameeta Mehra (right) leading in Alameda after winning the Group 1 Usha and Mehra Stud Stayers Trophy.

Cun

Razeen (Northern Dancer Secret Asset) was the first stallion of international standard to stand in India. He was purchased in 1992 from Sheikh Mohammed by the farm. Razeen was the first favourite for the Epsom Derby, the year Quest For Fame won. He has already produced in India for the farm two Indian Derby winners from his first two crops amongst a host of other classic winners.

Not content with their achievements thus far, the Mehras bought yet another stallion from Sheikh Mohammed, the only horse that beat Arazi as a two-year-old. A truly outstanding and correct. Mr Prospector horse, Steinbeck, who judging by his performance, pedigree and conformation can stand anywhere in the world today.

Steinbeck throws horses from 1400m up to 2000m. His first crop of foals were born in the year 1995. The horse of the year 1999-2000 was sired by Steinbeck Running Flame.

Whether it is the large paddocks on virgin land, or the ratio of one man to two horses, or the abundance of fresh alfafa growing in the fields, the signs are there for producing a top class yearling. — GORAM