



## Victorian News

**Andrew Thompson**

**TOP-LINE** Victorian trainer Jason Thompson is looking forward to the coming few months with plenty of hope.

He has elite sprinter Monsters Inc, up-and-coming sprinter Whiskey Assassin and hand type Awesome Cole all set for a busy time with the National Sprint series, Topgun, Shootout and Melbourne Cups on the agenda.

“Monsters Inc will go through the sprint championship series,” he said. “He’s done more than we had ever hoped for and he’s not getting any youngster. When he tells me he’s had enough he will stand at stud immediately,” Thompson said.

“He’ll be a great acquisition to the stud ranks. Monsters Inc will be great back up to No Intent. It’s very handy being so closely related to one of the two young stud dogs who are throwing some outstanding race dogs.”

Thompson said there were plenty of stud dogs standing who only had a handful of starts, but being able to race at the elite level had to give a dog like Monsters Inc a great chance of performing at stud. “There’s a knock on plenty of the up-and-coming stud dogs at present, but there are two standing out, No Intent and Brett Lee,” he said.

“They both have similar bitch lines and it seems more important than ever that stud dogs need to have outstanding bitch lines to make it at stud.

“In some ways it doesn’t matter how good you were on the track you need that quality of bitch line.”

The trainer/studmaster said he was delighted with the quality of greyhounds sired by No Intent.

“I couldn’t be happier. I’m like a bloke with two dicks at the moment. It doesn’t matter where you look, be it Shepparton, Wentworth, Nowra and anywhere else, No Intent pups are winning everywhere,” Thompson said.



*Jason Thompson with Whiskey Assassin.*

Thompson said he was also looking forward to Queensland owned Whiskey Assassin stepping up to the elite level.

Thompson wasn't frightened to take on classic winner Hallucinate at Ballarat with Whiskey Assassin and his charge didn't let him down, running away to a stunning win on a wet track.

"Awesome Cole is a good grade five dog, but I think Whiskey Assassin is in a different league. He's up to the elite level," he said.

"He's only had 20 starts and about seven of those for me. He's owned by Terry Hinds in Queensland and I would hope he shapes up to top level from here on."

Thompson said probably the fastest dog of his dozen in work was yet to raced.

"He's a brother to Hullucinate named Carnage. I'm having a bit of trouble getting him to the track. He's had five bone chips removed from around his stopper bone and I've been trying to get him to the race track for about 12 months," he said.

Thompson said Carnage had trialled 19.50 seconds over the 347m at Geelong.

"That's an enormous run for a dog that is a 500 metre dog," he said.

"He went 19.62 at Geelong, 19.01 at Shepparton and 24.20 at Bendigo before breaking down again.

"It's been a bit better than a fair litter. They have all got great motors."

Thompson said No Intent was currently getting a full book of bitches.

"Primo Uno has also had about 125 bitches so he's been given a chance to prove himself," he said.

"I've cut back Awesome Assassin to four or six a month. That takes the pressure off a bit. He'll be 10 in September. He looks terrific and by cutting him back it will allow him to continue serving for another 12 or 18 months. It's just about managing the dog," he said.

"You have to look after him. He's been a fantastic dog to me," he said.