

# Records set at WA Charolais Bull Sale

By JODIE RINTOUL & KANE CHATFIELD

A NEW \$23,000 State record auction top price and the highest average for the sale were major highlights in an otherwise sale of mixed results at the seventh annual WA Charolais Bull Sale at Brunswick last week.

It was certainly a sale of two extremes with some vendors experiencing real highs, while others found the going a little tougher when it came to clearance.

The first half of the sale was solid with multiple buyers operating on many of the bulls but as the sale proceeded and buyers began to fill orders, it became tough going for the selling team.

When the final hammer of Elders auctioneer Don Morgan fell, 20 of the 32 bulls (63 per cent) had been sold under the hammer at an average of \$6663, which is now the best recorded in the sale's seven year history.

The averaged jumped \$1022 on last year's result when vendors sold 23 from 39 bulls (59pc) offered at an average of \$5641.

Both Elders auctioneer Don Morgan and Landmark South West livestock manager Michael Rose agreed it was a good line-up of bulls and the final result was not due to the quality of the offering, but a lack of buying support.

Mr Morgan said the top end of the sale was extremely strong which resulted in the average being up on last year.

"The bulls with good muscling and softness sold well and then if they were backed up by better figures,



□ A new WA record top sale price for a Charolais bull was set at the seventh annual WA Charolais Bull Sale at Brunswick last week when a Liberty bull sold for \$23,000 to Central Stockcare. With the polled red factor bull Liberty Major General M38 were Kevin Yost (left), Liberty stud, Toodyay, Elders auctioneer Don Morgan, buyer Dean Ryan, Central Stockcare, Bullsbrook, Dean Taafe, Landmark Donnybrook, Morgan and Robin Yost, Liberty stud and the sale's top-priced bull sponsor Jarvis Polglaze, Zoetis South West.

buyers certainly chased them," Mr Morgan said.

"While the bulls that sold, sold well, the clearance was disappointing and I did think presale it would be a little stronger than it was."

Mr Rose said buyers were very selective and prepared to pay good money for the top bulls they really wanted.

"There was good competition on the top bulls with a number of bidders operating on them," Mr Rose said.

"However while the top end of the market was good and we saw a few bulls sell extremely well overall, the clearance was disappointing and this was not a reflection of the quality of the offering rather a lack of buying support.

"The bulls presented in great condition."

With strong interest from a number of buyers on the second bull to enter the ring from the Yost family's Liberty stud, Toodyay, it didn't take long for the \$23,000 record to be set.

When the 1040kg Liberty Major General M38 (P) (AI) (R/F) entered the ring in lot two, Mr Morgan called for \$20,000 but buyers failed to bite.

Mr Morgan eventually took an opening bid on the polled, red factor at \$14,000 and when he did a flurry of other bids were directed his way.

With a number of prospective buyers bidding on the upstanding sire, the price quickly rose and surpassed the \$20,000 mark.

In the end it was return Liberty buyer of 15 years Dean Ryan, Central Stockcare, Bullsbrook, who had the final bid at \$23,000 on the bull which was sashed the junior interbreed champion bull at the 2017 IGA Perth Royal Show.

Mr Ryan, who with his wife Kate, also runs Minnie Creek

station, north Gascoyne Junction, said Major General was an exceptional bull.

"He has a great head, good feet, a massive butt and plenty of length," Mr Ryan said.

"He is also ranked fourth in Australia on his figures.

"I came with the intention of buying him and I knew I would have to pay for him.

"He is a real herd improver."

Mr Ryan was also attracted to the bull's red factor because of the way he intends to use Major General.

"I will use him over Droughtmaster and Santa Gertrudis commercial cows both naturally and in an AI program at our Badgingarra property to breed bulls to use at the station and calves for the supermarket trade," Mr Ryan said.

"The bulls we breed will be used over Droughtmaster and Santa Gertrudis cows on the station to produce calves which we background at Badgingarra before going through the feedlot at Gingin and sold to various markets while the calves from Badgingarra are weaned

straight into the feedlot at Gingin before being sold into the supermarket trade as milk-tooths with a 260kg dressed weight."

The Ryans diversified to using Charolais genetics in their herds following the suspension of the live export trade in 2011 giving them more options when it came to marketing their cattle.

Mr Ryan said the Charolais breed gave them good weight in their calves and also produced a flat back animal which was suitable for the local market.

Not only was the son of Rangan Park Redemption E42 easy on the eye with its structure, softness and length, it also had the EBVs and scan figures to match.

For its EBVs it is in the top one per cent of the breed for 200, 400 and 600-day weights (+25, +62 and +71) plus carcass weight (+45), top 5pc IMF (+0.9) and top 10pc milk (+12).

Its scan data showed numbers of 9mm for P8 and rib fat, 136cm<sup>2</sup> EMA and 4.9 IMF.

The next best price in the Liberty team was \$9750 and this was the third top price in the sale.

Achieving the price for the stud was Liberty MarsBar M44 (P) (R/F) when it was knocked down to the losing bidder on the day's two top-priced lots Trevor Kanny, Bonegilla Grazing, Walkaway.

Mr Kanny said while he was losing bidder on the two top-priced bulls beforehand, he was still very happy with his purchase of MarsBar.

"He is a nice, stretchy bull with good bone and conformation," Mr Kanny said.

Marsbar, will go into the operation's sire battery to cover the 260 Angus-Santa Gertrudis cross breeders.

While a few of the Charolais infused heifers are retained for breeding, the majority of the March to May-drop calves are weaned into the family's own feedlot in December and fed for 80 to 90 days before being sold direct to processors at 500 to 530kg.

MarsBar was a late March



□ With Venturon Motivate M8, the sales \$16,000 second top-priced bull, were Harris, Anne and Andrew Thompson, Venturon Charolais stud, Boyup Brook, Landmark Boyup Brook-Bridgetown agent Jamie Abbs, buyers Barry and Dot Bell, Bardoo Charolais stud, Elgin and Elders stud stock manager Tim Spicer.

2016-drop polled red factor son of Liberty Just Ramblin Along and out of a Liberty Below Zero daughter.

The 876kg bull (November 27) scanned 7mm for rib and rump fats, 128cm<sup>2</sup> EMA and 4.6pc IMF and recorded +20, +42 and +56 to rank in the breed's top 5pc for all weight intervals, top 10pc for mature cow weight (MCW) (+55), carcass weight (CW) (+29) and IMF (+0.7).

Return Liberty buyers Kim and Kerrie Dunnet & Co, Nannup, were again good supporters of the stud purchasing two bulls at \$6250 and \$4000.

They bid \$6250 for a son of Liberty Just Ramblin Along, Liberty Masterpiece M61 (P), which had figures of +20 and +60 for 200 and 600-day weight (top 5pc) and +36 400-day weight (top 10pc).

Kaloorup producers TG & VE Wrigglesworth also bid strongly on the Liberty bulls securing two at \$6250 and \$4000.

The Wrigglesworths bid to \$6250 for the 910kg Liberty Maui Jim M63 (P) which was a son of Liberty Just Ramblin Along with growth EBVs of +17, +33 and +60 for 200, 400 and 600-day weight.

By the end of the sale the Liberty stud had cleared eight bulls from its offering of 11 at



□ Landmark south west livestock manager Michael Rose (left), buyer Trevor Kanny, Bonegilla Grazing, Walkaway, Jess Yost, Liberty stud, Toodyay and Elders livestock sales manager WA Tom Marron with Liberty MarsBar M44 that sold for the sale's \$9750 third top price.

an average of \$7750.

The second top price in the sale was set at \$16,000 when fellow Charolais stud breeders Barry and Dot Bell, Bardoo stud, Elgin, were the final bidders standing on the 1016kg Venturon Motivate M8 (AI) (P) offered by the Thompson family's Venturon stud, Boyup Brook.

Mr Bell said Motivate was a very structurally correct sire and they were drawn to Motivate because it was homozygous polled.

"We have been going down the polled path for a few years and you get there quicker if

you use homozygous polled bulls," Mr Bell said.

"He is an exceptionally long bull and is showing good muscle structure without being overfed."

The Bells will not be the only Charolais stud using Motivate in their next breeding program as they have already sold semen to the Palgrove stud, Queensland.

Motivate is sired by a Charolais breed legend, Winn Mans Lanza 610S and had scan figures of 8mm for P8 and rib fat, 136cm<sup>2</sup> EMA and 6.2 IMF.

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## 7TH ANNUAL WA CHAROLAIS SALE

(Under the hammer results)

|              | offered   | sold      | top             | gross            | average       |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|------------------|---------------|
| Liberty      | 11        | 8         | \$23,000        | \$62,000         | \$7750        |
| Kooyong      | 7         | 7         | \$8500          | \$37,250         | \$5321        |
| Venturon     | 6         | 2         | \$16,000        | \$20,000         | \$10,000      |
| Downunder    | 2         | 1         | \$6000          | \$6000           | \$6000        |
| Bellevue     | 4         | 2         | \$4000 (2)      | \$8000           | \$4000        |
| Wundam Glen  | 2         | -         | -               | -                | -             |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>32</b> | <b>20</b> | <b>\$23,000</b> | <b>\$133,250</b> | <b>\$6663</b> |