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ASSINIBOIA DOWNS



The Inside Track | Issue #157 | Friday, November 8, 2024







DINING

BET NOW

140 VLTs

ASD Hours

- Open daily from 10 a.m. to 1 a.m.
- · VLT machines are sanitized between use
- Assiniboia Downs will open at 10 a.m. on Monday, November 11th, however, please note that the VLTs will open at 1 p.m.

Assiniboia Downs is Open-Year Round

- 140 VLTs open daily from 10 a.m. to 1 a.m. Free games for cash prizes!
- Free Draws for \$200 cash every Friday, Saturday & Sunday at 9 p.m.
- Wagering on top tracks from North America & Europe
- Daily Happy Hour, \$11.95 lunch specials, evening specials and full dining menu
- · Facility rentals
- · Special events

Go to <u>ASDowns.com</u> for a complete list of upcoming events and specials.

In this edition . . .

- What's happening at the Downs?
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Do the Downs!

<u>Upcoming Handicapping Tournaments</u>

Player's Choice Tournaments

- Player's Choice Saturday, November 23
- Player's Choice Saturday, December 28



Entry fee \$25. Entrants pick 10 races from any thoroughbred, harness or quarter horse track that is racing on the contest day. A \$2 WPS wager is placed on one horse from each race. The entrant with the highest bankroll is the winner.

Prizes:

• 1st Place: \$1,000 plus trophy

2nd Place: \$4003rd Place: \$2004th Place: \$1005th Place: \$50

2024 Tournament Winners:

- Player's Choice Saturday, January 20 Winner: Ron Phelps
- Player's Choice Saturday, February 17 Winner: Trevor Phelps
- Player's Choice Saturday, March 16 Winner: Don Allard
- Player's Choice Saturday, April 13 Winner: Myron Fedoruk
- Player's Choice Saturday, May 11 Winner: Kevin Arnst
- Las Vegas Challenge Monday, June 17 Winner: Darcy Penner
- Las Vegas Challenge Monday, July 8 Winner: Brittany Jonatanson
- Las Vegas Challenge Monday, August 12 Winner: Ken Porter
- Las Vegas Challenge Monday, September 2 Winner: Paul Gray
- Las Vegas Challenge Monday, September 23 Winner: Alan Hampton
- Player's Choice Saturday, October 19 Winner: Randy Premachuk

Breeders' Cup Exclusive Contest:

Congratulations to the 11 people who correctly selected five winners on the Friday and Saturday Breeders' Cup races. The \$500 prize was split evenly among the following 11 winners: Kevin Arnst, David Borowski, Len Charney, Wayne King, Larry Liebrecht, James McMullin, Ray Miller, Barry Mymko, Maggie Van Eerd, Neville Walters & Harold Wiens.

Club West Gaming Lounge



Join us today in the Club West Gaming Lounge and discover why we're the ultimate destination for VLT entertainment in the area!

Premier Amenities

- **Spacious Area:** Our gaming lounge provides ample room for you to relax and enjoy your gaming experience comfortably.
- Sanitization: VLT machines are sanitized between use.
- **Great Customer Service:** Our friendly staff is dedicated to providing top-notch service, ensuring your visit is enjoyable from start to finish.
- **Licensed Lounge:** Sip on your favourite drinks from our licensed lounge while you play.
- Food & Drink: Indulge in delicious food and drinks available right in the gaming lounge.



ASD is the place to be every Friday, Saturday & Sunday night! A Free Draw for \$200 Cash plus a chance to Spin the Lucky Wheel to win up to \$100!

- Spin the Cash Wheel every Friday, Saturday & Sunday: Enter for a chance to spin the lucky Cash Wheel to win up to \$100 cash. Draws from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- Draws for \$200 Cash every Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Join us in the VLT Lounge every Friday, Saturday and Sunday for a chance to win \$200 cash. The draw for \$200 cash will take place at 9 p.m.
- Dinner specials, drink specials and a chance to win some cash! It doesn't get any better than that!

There's Always a Deal at ASD!

New! \$11.95 Daily Lunch Specials

Daily from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Each day of the week will feature a daily food item as outlined below.

 Mondays: Jalapeno Chicken Parm Sandwich

• Tuesdays: Downs Burger

 Wednesdays: Grilled Cheese with Bacon and Tomato

• Thursdays: Taco Salad

• Fridays: Crispy Chicken Ranch Wrap

Saturdays: Western OmeletteSundays: Hot Beef Sandwich



Happy Hour

New hours! Daily from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. to close.



Drink Specials

- 6 oz. House Wine \$5.50
- House Spirits \$5.50
- Domestic Beer \$5.50
- House Lager Pint \$6.00
- Downs Caesar \$7.00

Appetizer Specials

- Sweet Potato Fries \$8.95
- Chicken Fingers \$8.95
- Cheese Nachos \$8.95
- Pot Stickers \$8.95

All of the above specials are dine-in only and are subject to applicable taxes.

Evening Chef's Specials

Daily from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. - Reservations are not required.

- Mondays: Chicken Finger Dinner \$14.95 Crispy breaded chicken tenders served with our famous honey dill dip. Served with fries and coleslaw.
- Tuesdays: 20% Off all regular priced food items.
- **Wednesdays: Pizza \$15.95** 12-inch thin crust pizza. Ham & Pineapple, Pepperoni & Mushroom or Vegetarian (tomatoes, onions, peppers, black olives & mushrooms).
- Thursdays: Chipotle Mozza Burger \$15.95 Our signature chuck patty and crispy bacon smothered in melted mozzarella. Topped with fresh sliced tomato, fried onion rings, chipotle mayo and sweet bold barbecue sauce.
- Fridays: Steak & Suds \$29.95 8 oz. NY Striploin charbroiled and seasoned with our smoky dry rub. Served with fresh vegetables and a choice of mashed potatoes or french fries. Plus a complimentary pint of ASD Lucky Lager.
- Saturdays: Prime Rib & Wine \$29.95 8 oz. Certified Angus Prime Rib. Served with fresh vegetables and a choice of mashed potatoes or french fries, horseradish, and Yorkshire pudding au jus. Plus a complimentary 6 oz. glass of house wine.
- Sundays: Fish & Chips \$16.95 Two pieces of beer battered cod with tartar sauce and lemon. Served with french fries and coleslaw.

As a special bonus, everyone who orders one of the evening specials will receive a game card to play "Pick to Win" in our Club West Gaming Lounge. Pick the green poker chip and you can spin our cash wheel to win up to \$100 cash!



Spirit Hour



House Vodka, Rye, Gin, Rum & Spiced Rum - 1 oz - \$4 Every night from 11 p.m. to Midnight

Christmas Buffet Sunday, December 22 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.



Let us do all the work for you! Indulge in a mouthwatering array of traditional Christmas favourites including roast turkey with gravy, baked ham & more. See full menu below.

- Turkey
- Stuffing, Gravy & Cranberry Sauce
- Sliced Ham in Dijon Cream Sauce

- Perogies
- · Sweet & Sour Meatballs
- Mashed Potatoes
- · Green Beans Almondine
- Greek Vegetable Salad
- Caesar Salad
- · Broccoli Mandarin Salad
- Kolbassa & Cheddar Cheese
- Flatbreads, Croissants, Rolls & Butter
- Pumpkin Pie, Cakes, Dainties & Cookies

Adults: \$39.95, Seniors (65+): \$35.95, Kids (6 to 12): \$29.95, Kids (5 & under): \$16.95. Prices are subject to applicable taxes.

The Christmas Buffet will sell out quickly so make your reservation now!

Call 204-885-3330.

New Year's Eve Dinner & Dance

Tuesday, December 31



Join us for an extraordinary evening of dining and dancing as we bid farewell to 2024 and welcome 2025 in style. Our celebration features an amazing Certified Angus Prime Rib Buffet from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. followed by an evening of dancing until 1 a.m.

- Certified Angus Prime Rib Buffet
- Late Lunch
- Incredible Door Prizes
- Free Coat Check
- Huge Dance Floor
- · Party Favours
- Chance to Win a Share of \$2,025



- DJ Music & Lights
- Hosted by CJOB's Kathy Kennedy
- See Buffet menu here

Tickets are \$84.95 per person (plus taxes & gratuities)

Tickets may be purchased from the General Office at Assiniboia Downs during regular office hours (Monday to Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.) - OR - call 204-885-3330 to order your tickets by phone.

This event sells out every year so get your tickets now!

Breeders' Cup Betting Recap

One longshot again the key to a fun and lucrative day of punting, and learning



Longshot Starlust rallies between horses to win the Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint on Saturday at Del Mar. (Casey Phillips/Eclipse Sportswire/Breeders' Cup)

Another <u>Breeders' Cup</u>, another learning experience, but one of our favourite longshot picks of all time came in this year. And once again, it came in the Turf Sprint.

Starlust (\$33.60) came flying late after finding trouble and got up by a neck to win the Turf Sprint over Motorious (\$12.90), Ag Bullet (\$9.30), and Star of Mystery (\$7.30), in a race where only a length separated the top six finishers. Favoured Cogburn (\$0.80) was in the photo and ended up fifth. Second choice Bradsell (\$6.80) finished last, which was unexpected, but he was also the main reason we played Starlust in the first place.

Using the "Forgotten Euro" angle and looking for a horse that fit that description, we found Starlust in the DRF company lines of Bradsell and a few other Turf Sprint runners, and he had been close to them without winning. Two starts back he had been beaten only three quarters of a length by Bradsell in the Nunthorpe Stakes (G1) in England, and in his

next start against that rival in the Prix de l'Abbaye de Longchamp (G1) in France he was beaten 6 ½-lengths after a troubled trip.

We figured (correctly!) that if Starlust got a clean and lucky inside trip from Post 4 while the favourites Cogburn in Post 9, and Bradsell in Post 12, had tough wide trips, Starlust had a fighting chance to win at long odds. And we were right! Starlust paid \$65.70 to win, and the \$2 exactor with Motorious paid a whopping \$680.30!



Moira (center) holds off a hard-charging Cinderella's Dream (inside) to win her first Grade 1 race in the Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Turf last Saturday at Del Mar. (Alex Evers/Eclipse Sportswire/Breeders' Cup)

That was enough to play some flyers at long odds on the rest of the card, but we just couldn't get any of them home. The only race we really hit after the Turf Sprint was the Filly & Mare Turf, which was won by Canadian runner Moira, who returned \$12.90 to win and topped an exactor over favourite Cinderella's Dream which paid a decent \$48.50 for \$2.

We got the exactor, and a 20-cent superfecta, by playing Cinderella's Dream over Moira and Anisette and reversing it, with ALL and ALL in the third and fourth legs. This superfecta strategy of one horse over two or three others in second, with ALL in the third and fourth legs, is not only less expensive than boxing horses, it works.

We had a much larger exactor with Cinderella's Dream on top, but for once jockey William Buick couldn't get there in time, despite a fabulous ride. Buick is the best "in-traffic" rider we've seen since the great Patrick Valenzuela exited the scene, with an astonishing ability to go from last to first through huge fields of horses. He didn't make it this time, falling half a length short, but it sure was fun to watch.

We hit scattered Pick 3s throughout both Breeders' Cup days at Del Mar, but certainly nothing we needed a wheelbarrow for. We even took a shot at the Pick 6, which paid \$382,693.90 for \$2. Could we have won it? No.



Sierra Leone (far left, pink silks) gets ready to power home and win the Breeders' Cup Classic last Saturday at Del Mar. (Rich Steele/Eclipse Sportswire/Breeders' Cup)

The Pick 6 winners included Rebel's Romance (5.40) in the Turf; Sierra Leone (\$15.10) in the Classic; Moira (\$12.90) in the Filly & Mare Turf; Straight No Chaser (\$13.40) in the Sprint; More Than Looks (\$15.40) in the Mile; and Full Serrano (\$27.30) in the Dirt Mile.

Many of the winners in the Pick 6 were on handicapper's lists as horses with a chance, but as their fourth, fifth, and sixth selections. None of these horses were a complete surprise, but with the Pick 6 being a \$2 minimum bet, your keys have to correct.

We hit a few legs of the Pick 6, but missed with our key horses, and were especially wrong about the Classic, which set up for grinder Sierra Leone after a six-horse speed duel early. Sierra Leone is not a plodder, but he needs a big pace battle to win based on his previous races, as he can't really accelerate late. He got just what he needed.

As predicted by the morning clockers, European turf sensation City of Troy couldn't handle the dirt, and when he tried to dig in from early stretch he just floundered. In-and-outer Fierceness, arguably the most talented horse in the race after City of Troy, ran a big race to finish second after being close to the fast pace, as did Japanese runner Forever Young, who was also close to the pace and kept coming while drifting out to finish third.

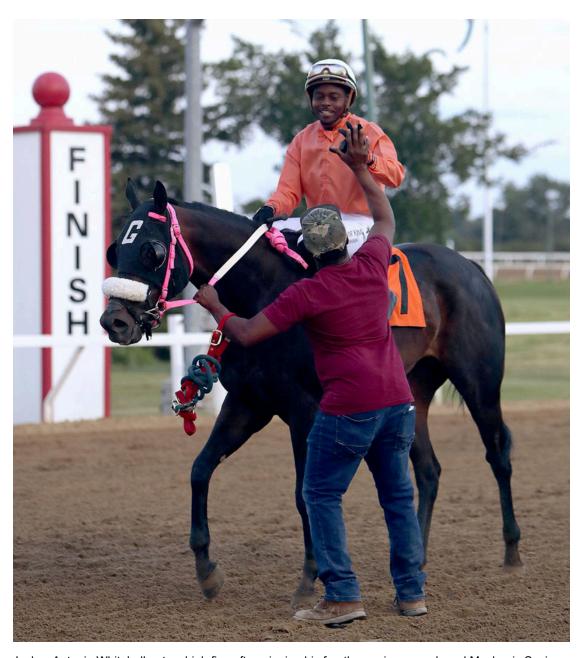
We used Forever Young and City of Troy in our Pick 6, and they just weren't good enough. The same went for many of the Japanese horses at this year's Breeders' Cup, some of whom looked like fish out of water in their crowded fast-paced American fields. You can be sure the Japanese trainers will learn from their experiences in the 2024 Breeders' Cup, and they will continue to prepare their horses even better than they already have.

What really baffles us though, is why City of Troy would be entered in the Classic, without first having been severely tested -- even in the mornings -- over a dirt track in the UK. He has one of the best trainers in the world in Aidan O'Brien, but he completely missed this one.

Like all of us, he will learn from this Breeders' Cup, too.

Looking for a Special Photo of Your Big Horse or...?

Track Photographer Jason Halstead may have just what you're looking for



Jockey Antonio Whitehall gets a high five after winning his fourth race in a row aboard Mechanic Susie on August 6 at ASD. The Manitoba-bred filly by Nonios would go on to win six in a row for trainer Elton Dickey, Whitehall, owners Tom Payne, Larry Falloon (breeder) and Dickey, including the Distaff Stakes, while earning US\$63,847. Well done! (Jason Halstead / Assiniboia Photo)

Looking for that extra-special photo of your big horse, one you might not find in your win pictures? Track photographer Jason Halstead takes numerous photos during the races, and not all of them can make it into the win photos. If you're looking for something frameable from your big race, or of your special horse, email Jason at ijhphoto@gmail.com. Prices are excellent! Almost as good as his photos



Top NFL Picks by TravyFootball Week 10

Niners over Bucs (Sunday noon): I'm feeling much more optimistic about the niners and the second half of the season coming up. The most obvious reason for optimism is the return of Christian McCaffrey to the lineup. Barring any setbacks, "CMC" will make his season debut against the Bucs, which will give a much-needed boost to San Frans offense, more specifically, in the red zone where they have struggled to finish off drives with touchdowns. I don't expect him to be in 2023 form right off the bat, but just the threat of



him being on the field totally changes how defenses will play against the 49ers now, and McCaffrey will open up for opportunities for Deebo Samuel, George Kittle, and rookie

Ricky Pearsall. Tampa Bay managed to get to overtime against the Chiefs last week, but in the end, just like everyone else this season, they fell prey to Patrick Mahomes and company.

Eagles over Cowboys (Sunday noon): The Eagles did everything in their power to try and throw away the game in Jacksonville last week, but a late interception by Nakobe Dean in the end zone sealed the victory for them. A divisional matchup against the Cowboys is next and unlike previous meetings, this one might be a little more one sided in the Eagles favour. The Cowboys are hurting, on both sides of the ball. They can't stop anyone from scoring, and now they've lost Dak Prescott on offense for at least a month. Say what you want about him, "he's not that good", "he's overpaid", "he always fails in the playoffs", but he gives Dallas the best chance to win games. Cooper Rush is not better than Dak, and Trey Lance is DEFINITELY not better than Dak, but those two are going to have to right this ship in the meantime while Dak recovers.

Rams over Dolphins (Monday night): For all the people who argue that when a game goes to overtime, the first team to get the ball, wins, I suggest you go back and watch the Rams and Seahawks from last week. Faced with a 4th and 1, the Rams defense made the stop they needed to force a turnover. Matt Stafford then proceeded to drive the entire field in three plays, capped off with a one hand touchdown grab by Demarcus Robinson. The NFC West is the most tightly contested division, with all four teams having at least four wins each, and the Rams find themselves right back in the thick of it after starting out 1-4. Even though the return of Tua Tagovailoa has improved the Dolphins offense, it hasn't translated into wins yet, having lost their last two contests on last minute field goals to the Cardinals and Bills.

Last week 2-1 Season overall 18-9

Wager on Top Tracks



Watch and wager on world class racing from the comfort of your private carrel in our race book located on the 2nd level of the grandstand. The race book is open daily at 10 a.m. Can't make it to the track? Visit one of our partner locations listed below or wager at <a href="https://doi.org/10.1001/journal

Carryover Watch

- Woodbine (November 8) Jackpot Super Hi-5 carryover \$214,411
- Mohawk Harness (November 8) Jackpot Super Hi-5 carryover \$153,763.
 Mandatory payout on Saturday, November 9.

See all carryovers <u>here</u>.

Can't make it to the track to wager?

Watch and wager at one of our off-track betting locations:

- Canad Inns Windsor Park 1034 Elizabeth Road
- Green Brier Inn 1611 Main Street
- Rookies at Central Hotel 201 Melrose Avenue East
- Quest Inn 367 Ellice Avenue
- McPhillips Station Casino 484 McPhillips Street
- Club Regent Casino 1425 Regent Ave W
- Nor-Villa Motor Hotel 1763 Henderson Hwy
- Club 3D 3317 Portage Avenue
- Wager 24/7 at HPlbet.com



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- Wager on your account on betting terminals
- Earn cash bonuses on wagering (see below)
- Convert your points to CASH
- Buy programs & DRF on HPIbet.com

CASH BONUSES FOR WAGERING

PLATINUM BONUS LEVEL

Bet \$5,000 or more in the week* and receive a cash back bonus of 4%

GOLD BONUS LEVEL

Bet \$4,000 or more in the week* and receive a cash back bonus of 3%

SILVER BONUS LEVEL

Bet \$3,000 or more in the week* and receive a cash back bonus of 2%

BRONZE BONUS LEVEL

Bet \$2,000 or more in the week* and receive a cash back bonus of 1%





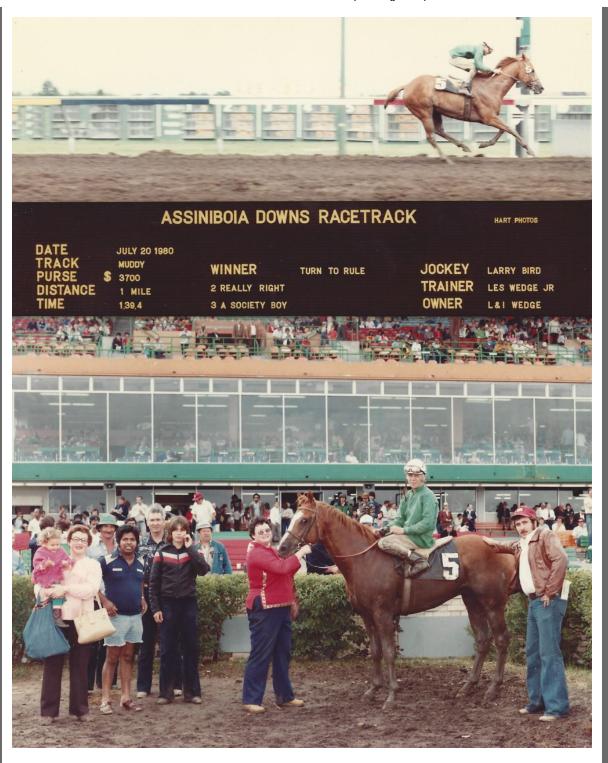
Wagers must be placed using your HPlbet Rewards Card. The week (*) is designated as Monday through Sunday. Any bonus money earned during this period will be deposited to your HPl account on Wednesday by 5 p.m. Betting bonus cash is in addition to regular HPlbet rewards points earned. Assiniboia Downs reserves the right to alter or amend this promotion at any time. Bonus calculations are available on payouts of \$2.20 and above. Maximum weekly bonus deposit \$1,000.

"I Won Bigg" Wagering Group

The "I Won Bigg" wagering group will be meeting every Saturday at 10:30 a.m. on the plaza in the Clubhouse. This week's featured tracks will be Woodbine and Del Mar. Everyone is welcome. If you would like more information please email Larry.

A Snapshot in Time

by Track Historian Bob Gates



On October 17, 2024 Linda Scott (nee Wedge), a long-time member of our Assiniboia Downs family passed away following a brief illness. Linda was an active member of the Wedge family thoroughbred racing stable. She is pictured above (holding Turn to Rule's head). Turn to Rule was her "heart" horse. Her sister, Darlene spoke often of the special bond that existed between Linda and Turn to Rule. (Gerry Hart photo)

41st Breeders' Cup: Sierra Leone Gets Pace, Anna Back for '25

Most of the stars of the Breeders' Cup this year will be back in 2025



Sierra Leone and Flavien Prat storm home in the Breeders' Cup Classic (G1) at Del Mar Thoroughbred Club in Del Mar, California on November 2, 2024. (Alex Evers/Eclipse Sportswire/Breeders' Cup)

The storylines of the 41st Breeders' Cup World Championships at Del Mar racetrack were fascinating. City of Troy and the Europeans, the huge Japanese invasion and a competitive but lacking-in-star-power Classic. After 14 races had been run over two days, the theme was the first Breeders' Cup wins for various owners and trainers, a very popular Canadian victory and the impressive victories by Thorpedo Anna and Sierra Leone. More from the *Canadian Thoroughbred* here.

'She Means Everything': Attard Team Says Goodbye to Moira

Canadian Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Turf winner sold for \$4.3-million



Moira and jockey Flavien Prat get some love from trainer Kevin Attard following their win in the Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Turf (G1). (Nellie Carlson photo)

Forty-eight hours is plenty of time to change a life. For trainer Kevin Attard and his staff, it was long enough to do it twice - and in wildly different directions. On Saturday evening, it was euphoria. Jumping. Tears. Cameras. Hugs, the horse, each other. On Monday evening, it was bittersweet. Pride. Tears. Acceptance. Hugs, the horse, each other. The Attard team would travel back to Woodbine without the best horse they'd ever had. More from the *Paulick Report* here.

Not So Fast: Queen Not Done Yet

Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Turf winner Moira could race in Australia



Moira gets a kiss from Korina McLean. (Shamela Hanley/Eclipse Sportswire/Breeders' Cup)

The Queen isn't having babies just yet. Moira, recently purchased for \$4.3 million following her big win in the Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Turf (G1) by Yulong Investments, is headed to Australia to Yulong Stud in Mangalore, about 90 minutes north of Melbourne. Yulong Stud's General Manager Vin Cox told the Canadian Thoroughbred that while "we haven't made any real plans with her just at this stage" that "likely short to medium term we will race her on, potentially in Australia." More from the *Canadian Thoroughbred* here.

Melbourne Cup Score of a Lifetime

Aussie punters turn \$100 into \$3.5 million, \$24 into \$728,000



Jockey Robbie Dolan rides Knights Choice (inside) to victory ahead of Warp Speed in the 2024 Melbourne Cup. Knight's Choice paid \$63.00 to win and topped a monstrous superfecta of \$728,000. (Photosport photo)

Two Australian punters are celebrating the score of a lifetime after they both successfully picked the superfecta in Monday's Melbourne Cup. One punter's \$100 investment netted them a staggering \$3.2 million. Another punter took home \$728,000 when his \$24 mystery bet hit. Wow! More from the *New Zealand Herald* here.

The Best of Bob

by ASD Historian Bob Gates

From November 7, 2018: Horses of the Great War. Lest We Forget.

This week we once again present the special "War Horse" blog story that
Bob wrote in November 2018. In this piece he explores the role of the
horse in the Great War, and shares with us his special "War Horse" Remembrance Day
tribute to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I, "the war to end
all wars." Click here for the Horses of the Great War. Lest We Forget.

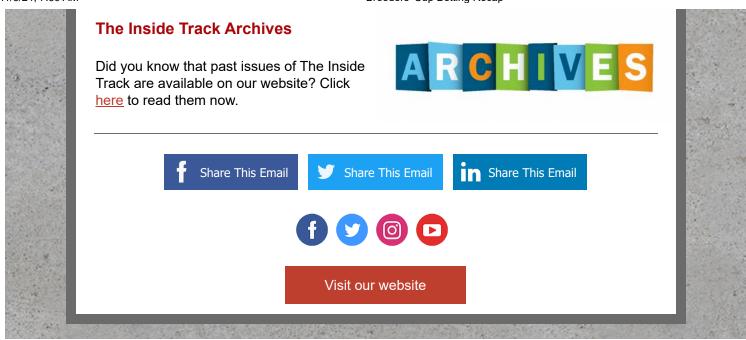


Upcoming events at ASD

- Every Friday Night in November Enter for a chance to spin the lucky Cash Wheel starting at 6 p.m. A draw for \$200 cash will also take place more info
- Every Saturday Night in November Enter for a chance to spin the lucky Cash Wheel starting at 6 p.m. A draw for \$200 cash will also take place more info
- Every Sunday Night in November Enter for a chance to spin the lucky Cash Wheel starting at 6 p.m. A draw for \$200 cash will also take place more info
- Inspirations Market Saturday, Nov. 9 & Sunday, Nov. 10 more info
- Player's Choice Handicapping Tournament Saturday, November 23 more info

Feedback

We would love to hear from you! Email your comments and/or suggestions to theinsidetrack@ASDowns.com.



Assiniboia Downs | 3975 Portage Avenue | Winnipeg, MB R3K 2E9 CA

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