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Stay up-to-date with the latest news from Assiniboia Downs.

ISSUE #201 - SEPTEMBER 12, 2025



Live Racing starts at 7:30 p.m.



Only 9 Nights of Live Racing Left

Live racing continues every Tuesday and Wednesday, plus this Monday, September 15. Post time is 7:30 p.m.—and as always, admission and parking are free.

Indulge in our renowned Certified Angus Prime Rib Buffet—carved to perfection and served with a tempting selection of chicken, seafood, rotating entrées, and more!

- Adults: \$59.95
- Seniors (65+): \$54.95
- Kids (6–12): \$34.95
- Kids (5 & under): \$22.95

Reservations are filling fast—call today to secure your table for the Certified Angus Prime Rib Buffet!

CLICK HERE for schedule

Certified Angus Prime Rib Buffet.
Every live race night!



Assembly of First Nations National Chief Cindy Woodhouse Nepinak, right, with Chief Murray Clearsky of Waywayseecappo First Nation at ASD. (George Williams Photo)

Manitoba-Breds Star in Stakes Action, Chief Murray Clearsky Honoured, Williams Wins Osiris

Fans were treated to some sizzling stakes action courtesy of the best horses on the grounds this week at ASD, with one of the strongest 2-year-old finishes we've seen in years in the Osiris Stakes, a theft in the J.W. Sifton, and a monster Manitoba-bred mare that loves to win in the Distaff.

We also have to congratulate horse owner Chief Murray Clearsky, who was honoured last Thursday at Assiniboia Downs by Indigenous leaders from across the country for his lifetime of accomplishments, including the past 40 years as the Chief of Waywayseecappo First Nation.

CLICK HERE to read more.



Girls Night Out - Wednesdays until October 8th.

Girls Night Out - Every Wednesday!

Due to popular demand, Girls Night Out has been extended through Wednesday, October 8th!

Grab your girlfriends and join us at the Downs for an evening of fun, food, and fabulous prizes—just for the girls!

- Fancy Hat Draw - Wear your best Derby hat and enter to win \$150 cash! Draw after Race 6.
- Girls-Only Special \$100 Cash Draws - enter to win - draws after Races 4, 5 & 6.
- \$5 Food & Drink Specials (available on the main and 3rd floor) – Fireball Shot, Peach Tart Shot, 6 oz House Wine, Razderby Lemonade, Chicken Fingers Snack, Popcorn, Double Scoop of Ice Cream.
- \$5 Espresso Martini Shooter – includes a ballot to win a \$300 Thermea Spa Gift Card. Sponsored by Corby Spirit & Wine.



ASD Player Portal

- Free ASD Live Racing Programs
- Race Night Selections
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ASDowns/player-portal



Travers Cummings

Top NFL Picks by TravyFootball **Week 2**

NFL Week 2 Picks Are In! Last week's predictions went 2-1, and I'm back with fresh calls for Sunday. Can Burrow and the Bengals finally find their stride? Will the Eagles hand the Chiefs a rare 0-2 start in a Super Bowl rematch? And can the Lions bounce back against their old coach in Chicago?

Check out this week's predictions and see who's primed for victory [here](#).



Thanksgiving Buffet Tickets on Sale
Now!

Thanksgiving Buffet **Sunday, October 12**

Celebrate Thanksgiving with a festive buffet on Sunday, October 12 from 4-8 p.m. at Assiniboia Downs. Savour roast turkey with all the trimmings, carved ham, seasonal sides, and decadent desserts like pecan, apple, and pumpkin pie with ice cream. See full menu [here](#).

Tickets: Adults \$44.95 | Ages 6-12 \$29.95 | Ages 5 & under \$16.95

Don't wait - call 204-885-3330 to order your tickets today!



Moon over ASD Tuesday, Sept. 9, 2025
(Jason Halstead / Assiniboia Photo).
Click photo to enlarge.

Looking for a Special Photo?

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

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 jjhphoto@gmail.com.

Prices are excellent! Almost as good as his photos 📸



- #1 Spot in Winnipeg for VLT Jackpots!
- Free \$500 Cash Draw after every live race night
- Free \$200 Cash Draw plus draws to Spin the Lucky Cash Wheel every Friday, Saturday & Sunday starting at 6 pm



A Snapshot in Time by Bob Gates

This year marked the 50th running of the R.C. Anderson Stakes. Pictured here is Northern Quill winning the inaugural Anderson Stakes on June 9, 1976. (Gerry Hart photo)

[Click photo to enlarge](#)



- \$13.95 Daily Lunch Special
- Happy Hour (3 to 5pm & 9pm to close)
- Crazy Hour after Live Racing! Beer, Shots & Wine \$5 plus 25% off all appetizers



Woodbine Mile Cheat Sheet

The \$1 million Rogers Woodbine Mile Stakes features a plethora of intriguing storylines, including last year's winner, Win for the Money, seeking a repeat win this Saturday at Woodbine.

The race also lured an English classic winner seeking to regain his top form for connections that have won two of the last three editions of this race, and a South African star making his North American debut.

Handicapper Mike Curry takes a look at the field.

-- [America's Best Racing](#).

[CLICK FOR FULL STORY](#)



- Wager on Top Tracks
- Simulcast Schedule
- Off-Track Betting Locations



MANDATORY PAYOUT ALERT: Gulfstream will have a mandatory payout of the Jackpot Pick 6 on Sunday, September 14. The current jackpot is \$99,438.



The \$125,000 BC Derby on Sept. 13 at Hastings Racecourse features a compelling storyline. (Michael Bye Photo)

Hastings Racecourse Hosts BC Derby Super Card of Racing

Get ready for a day of heart-pounding action and high-stakes drama as Hastings Racecourse presents its signature event of the year, the \$125,000 BC Derby, on Saturday, September 13.

With a first post of 4:30 CST, fans will be treated to a huge 12-race card, highlighted by the BC Derby, the final leg of the Western Canadian Derby Series. This year's BC Derby features a compelling storyline, with Manitoba Derby winner Attack looking to improve on his third-place finish in the Canadian Derby.

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Get our delicious food delivered straight to your door.

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Win for the Money preparing for Saturday's Rogers Woodbine Mile (Michael Burns Photo)

Turf Champions Day at Woodbine

Automatic Breeders' Cup berths are on the line as exceptional editions of the Rogers Woodbine Mile, bet365 Summer Stakes, and Johnnie Walker Natalma Stakes – all Grade 1 events – headline Saturday's Turf Champions Day card of racing at Woodbine.

The 29th running of the Mile, worth \$1 million and contested over the inner turf, has attracted nine hopefuls. The Mile and the Natalma will be showcased on a live broadcast airing on Sportsnet One from 3:30-5:00 p.m. CT. As part of the Breeders' Cup "Win and You're In" Challenge Series, the winners of the Woodbine Mile, \$500,000 bet365 Summer Stakes and \$500,000 Johnnie Walker Natalma Stakes will be entitled to automatic entry into their respective Breeders' Cup races, to be contested at Del Mar on October 31 and November 1.

-- Canadian Thoroughbred

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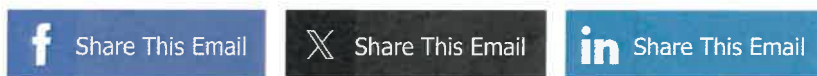
Bob's Blog **Records are Made to be Broken!**

Our favourite track historian guy has poured over the record books to see how the Downs mutuel payouts from the last 25 years have fared against the existing mutuel records. You might just be surprised at the results. Record mutuel payoffs range are anywhere from 14 to 60 years old. Click [here](#) to see whether the Downs existing records have withstood the test of time.

Feedback & Inside Track Archives

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

Did you know that past issues of The Inside Track are available on our website?
Click [here](#) to read them now.



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Manitoba-Breds Star in Stakes Action, Chief Murray Clearsky Honoured, Williams Wins Osiris

Sep 11, 2025 | Live Horse Racing, The Inside Track



Mechanic Susie and Antonio Whitehall win the \$40,000 Distaff Stakes on Wednesday at ASD. (Jason Halstead / Assiniboia Photo)

By G.S. Thompson

Fans were treated to some sizzling stakes action courtesy of the best horses on the grounds this week at ASD, with one of the strongest 2-year-old finishes we've seen in years in the Osiris

Stakes, a theft in the J.W. Sifton, and a monster Manitoba-bred mare that loves to win in the Distaff.

But before we get to the stakes action, we also have to congratulate horse owner Chief Murray Clearsky, who was honoured last Thursday at Assiniboia Downs by Indigenous leaders from across the country for his lifetime of accomplishments, including the past 40 years as the Chief of Waywayseecappo First Nation.



Assembly of First Nations National Chief Cindy Woodhouse Nepinak, right, with Chief Murray Clearsky of Waywayseecappo First Nation at ASD. (George Williams Photo)

As stated in the recent Winnipeg Free Press article, “Indigenous leaders and dignitaries at the ceremony included Assembly of First Nations National Chief Cindy Woodhouse Nepinak, Peguis First Nation Chief Dr. Stan Bird, Southern Chiefs Organization Grand Chief Jerry Daniels, AFN Regional Chief Willie Moore, Brokenhead Ojibway First Nation Chief Gordon Bluesky, Lake Manitoba First Nation Chief Cornell McLean, and Allen Sutherland, elder and knowledge keeper, who delivered the opening prayer.

“The grandstand was packed on the chilly, rainy evening but the weather didn’t dampen the enthusiasm of the crowd, who enjoyed entertainment from Gator Beaulieu, Coco Stevenson and the Walking Wolf Singers, Chief Raymond Brown, Canupawakpa, and Hand Drums and Dancers, followed by the SCO Anishinaabe Horse Relay, which featured four exciting races and some amazingly talented bareback riders.”

Well done Chief Clearsky!

Manitoba-Breds Star in Stakes Action



Groom Kenroy "Cuba" Rowe and jockey Antonio Whitehall with Mechanic Susie after their win in the Distaff Stakes. (Jason Halstead / Assiniboia Photo)

The first stakes of the week was the \$40,000 Distaff on Tuesday for fillies and mares foaled in Manitoba or Saskatchewan, and a Manitoba monster came out on top. Mechanic Susie stalked five-wide under jockey Antonio Whitehall in the one-mile race, and when she turned on the jets late on the final turn, it was instantly over, as she drew off to win 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ -lengths over Dazzling Gold.

Bred by Larry Falloon, who also owns the 5-year-old mare in partnership with Tom Payne and trainer Elton Dickey, the daughter of Nonios-Quantum Mechanics by Einstein was purchased for just \$1,000 at the 2021 Manitoba CTHS Yearling Sale, and has since gone on to compile a career record of 11-3-5 from 22 starts for earnings of US\$153,390.

Last year, on her way to championship honours, Mechanic Susie went on an amazing six-race win streak, which also included a victory in the Distaff Stakes. This year, she's won three of six starts, while also finishing third in both the Red Berry Overnight

Stakes and the La Verendrye Stakes. Trainer Elton Dickey has to be commended for his stellar work with this Manitoba star, who absolutely loves to win.



Marking Broadway wins the \$50,000 Osiris Stakes on Wednesday at ASD. Shavon Townsend up. (Jason Halstead / Assiniboia Photo)

The stakes action continued on Wednesday night, first with the \$50,000 Osiris Stakes for 2-year-olds, and it came down to the last 20 yards, as Marking Broadway came flying home on the outside late under jockey Shavon Townsend to catch the heavily favoured Mighty Mikee. The favourite ran a huge race, pressing pacesetter Tap the Parlay from the outside on the final turn, being turned back by that one, and then surging late between horses to make a failed bid inside the winner.



Eugene Burns leads Marking Broadway and Shavon Townsend into the winner's circle for trainer Dewey Williams after their victory in the Osiris Stakes on Wednesday at ASD. (Jason Halstead / Assiniboia Photo)

It was a valiant effort, but at the wire it was Marking Broadway by three-quarters of a length over Mighty Mikee, with game pacesetter Tap the Parlay another half a length back in third. These are three very good 2-year-olds.

Marking Broadway, owned and trained by Dewey Williams, was beautifully ridden by Townsend, who has been on a roll lately. And the win in the Osiris was icing on the cake for Williams, who is having an excellent year along with his assistant and fellow trainer Eugene Burns. The dynamic duo has compiled a record of 9-9-2 from 28 starts, a 32% win clip.



Betterlucknexttime put the field to sleep early and went on to win the \$40,000 J.W. Sifton Stakes under jockey Antonio Whitehall on Wednesday at ASD. (Jason Halstead / Assiniboia Photo)

The final stakes of the week was the \$40,000 J.W. Sifton going 1 1/8-miles for Manitoba or Saskatchewan foaled 3-year-olds, and Betterlucknexttime went straight to the lead and put the field in a sleeper hold under jockey Antonio Whitehall, getting the first quarter in 26.64 seconds and the half-mile in a dawdling 51.77 seconds. When Whitehall said go in the late turn, Betterlucknexttime turned on the jets and opened up. There was no way they were going to catch him after that pace.

Betterlucknexttime defeated a hard-trying Mr. Splash by 2 1/4-lengths, with Princeoftheprairie a further four lengths back in third. It was a bit of a hard luck week in the stakes for trainer Devon Gittens, who finished second in both the Osiris and Sifton despite "gave best" efforts from his charges, but he continues to rack up the wins and turn heads at Woodbine, where he is currently sixth in the standings with 20 wins.



Trainer Mike Nault (far left), A2 Thoroughbreds, and True North Thoroughbreds in the winner's circle after their victory in the J. W. Sifton Stakes with Betterlucknexttime on Wednesday. (Jason Halstead / Assiniboia Photo)

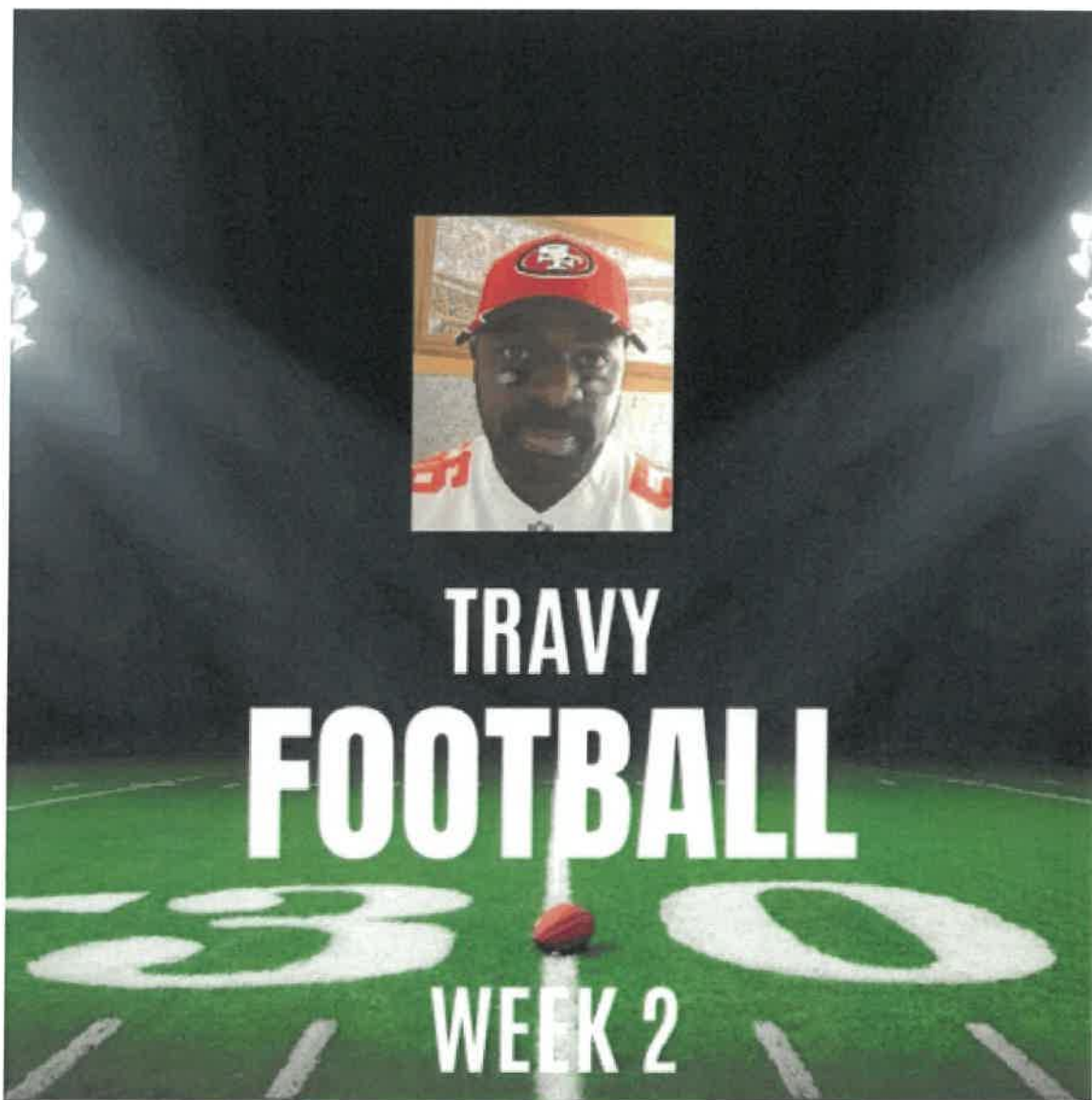
Betterlucknexttime is conditioned by Mike Nault for A2 Thoroughbreds and True North Thoroughbreds, and he is also having an excellent year with 24 wins, to put him second in the standings behind leader Steve Keplin, Jr.

Bred by Larry Falloon and Denis Huberdeau, Betterlucknexttime is out of the mare Nickel Candy by Silver Deputy, and he gave his sire Nonios and his breeder Falloon the stakes double on the week. Whitehall's two stakes wins put him in a tie at the top of the standings with Damarion Bynoe with 40 wins apiece, and this is a battle that is definitely going down to the wire.

Just the way we like it!

TravyFootball Week 2

Sep 10, 2025 | Uncategorized



Bengals over Jags (Sunday noon): The Bengals very well could be 0–1 right now instead of 1–0, but thanks to the Browns' kicker missing a field goal and an extra point, Cincinnati snuck out a 17–16 win. I really don't understand why the Bengals get off to these slow starts every season—it's like they have to wait a month before deciding, *"Hey, we are a good football team!"* As someone who drafted Joe Burrow in fantasy, I was unimpressed with the pitiful 113 yards he threw for. They were so bad on offence that they only managed seven yards in the entire second

half—something that hadn't happened in a game since 1995. I expect a little more production at home against a Jags team that beat up on the Panthers last week.

Eagles over Chiefs (Sunday afternoon): A Super Bowl rematch from last season, the Eagles and Jalen Hurts will travel to Kansas City to take on Patrick Mahomes and the Chiefs. Both teams looked rough last week in their season openers, especially on the defensive side. Everyone expected Philly to run amok over the Cowboys, but it turned out to be a back-and-forth game. If it wasn't for CeeDee Lamb dropping multiple passes in crunch time, one could argue the Eagles might have lost. Hopefully Jalen Carter keeps his saliva in his mouth this time, because they'll need him to help hunt down Mahomes. The Chiefs were never able to get a lead against the Chargers last week—probably because they're running out of healthy receivers. Losing Xavier Worthy two plays into the game certainly didn't help an already depleted group missing Rashee Rice. The reign of terror might be over for Kansas City in the AFC, and I don't believe they're equipped to handle the Eagles' offence this week. It might not be a blowout like the Super Bowl, but expect the Chiefs to fall to 0–2.

Lions over Bears (Sunday noon): The more things change, the more they stay the same— isn't that how the saying goes? The Bears looked like they had the game on cruise control in the first half against the Vikings on Monday night. Topped off by a Nahshon Wright 74-yard pick-six, new head coach Ben Johnson seemingly had things headed in the right direction. But then Caleb Williams reverted back to his 2024 version—holding onto the ball too long, missing wide-open throws, and showing zero awareness. Before you could blink, the Vikings had stormed back and secured a 27–24 win. Now coach Johnson will travel back to Detroit, where he was the offensive coordinator for the last four years. Looking equally unimpressive were the Lions, who struggled to do anything right against the Packers last week. It looks like all the creativity left the Lions' offence once Johnson left for Chicago. Detroit has too much talent to let that happen again, and what better way to get your first victory than to beat one of your former coaches?

Last week: 2–1