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ISSUE #241 - JUNE 19, 2026



Live Racing every Tuesday and Wednesday plus select Mondays

Live Racing this Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday

- Live racing starts at 7:30 p.m.
- Enter for your chance to spin our \$10,000 Lucky Longshot wheel.
- Monday, June 22 is Dollar Night. Enjoy dollar specials all night long! See details [here](#).
- Every Wednesday in June is Western Wednesdays. Grab your cowboy hat and get ready for some fun. Click [here](#) for more info.
- Reserve your table for our renowned all-you-can-eat Prime Rib Buffet which is available on Live Race Nights only.

Click [here](#) for full schedule.



MONDAY DOLLAR NIGHTS

MONDAY DOLLAR NIGHTS

★ GREAT DEALS. EVERY MONDAY. ★

- MONDAY, JUNE 22
- MONDAY, JULY 13
- MONDAY, AUGUST 24
- MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

\$1 BAGS OF CHIPS

\$1 POP

\$2 REGULAR LEMONADE

\$2 SMALL POPCORN

\$2 REGULAR HOT DOGS

\$2 ICE CREAM

\$5 BUD OR BUD LIGHT

RACING STARTS AT 7:30 P.M.



Trainer Brian Phillips Pulls 39-1 Upset, Triggers Lucrative Pick 3 Payoffs, Khelawan, Knights Score Hat Tricks

Former Hastings Park trainer Brian Phillips pulled off a major upset this week with a huge longshot, triggering some very lucrative \$3 Pick 3 payoffs, jockeys Rachaad Knights and Kerron Khelawan scored hat tricks, and trainers Steve Keplin, Jr. and Jerry Gourneau kept rolling at the top of the standings.

Nu Soup for Baby (#2 inside) and jockey Kerron Khelawan on their way to a 39-1 upset in the third race on Wednesday for trainer Brian Phillips. (Jason Halstead / Assiniboia Photo)

The line-dancing and bull riding moved outside for Western Wednesday thanks to some welcome sunshine, and the best part was watching some of the wild rides. It looks easy enough, but once he gets cranked up...

This bull can buck!

[Full story here](#)



10% CASH BACK

WHEN YOU WAGER **\$100 OR MORE** ON ASSINIBOIA DOWNS

MONDAY, JUNE 22

YOU MUST OPT-IN AT HPIBET.COM

\$2.10 PAYOUTS NOT INCLUDED. MAXIMUM CASH BACK \$25.

FISD Assiniboia Downs GAMING & EVENT CENTRE



Free \$500 Cash Draws after Live Racing plus free \$200 Cash Draws on the Weekends

Did you know that Assiniboia Downs is Winnipeg's #1 Spot for VLT Jackpots? Play any of our 140 VLTs in the Club West Gaming Lounge for your chance to win!

- ◆ Free \$500 cash draws — after every Live Race Night
- ✿ Free Spin to Win draws — Friday, Saturday and Sunday starting at 6 p.m.
- ◆ Free \$200 cash draws — Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 9 p.m.

Open daily from 10 a.m. to 1 a.m.

Click [here](#) to see our recent jackpots.



HBPA Groom School graduate Stephanie Delorme-Forsman greets Northvale Road and jockey Dario Dalrymple after winning the 7th race on Wednesday as leading trainer Jerry Gourneau looks on. Click image for full size. (Jason Halstead / Assiniboia Photo)

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 😊



Click photo to enlarge

A Snapshot in Time by Bob Gates

In the 1982 Winnipeg Futurity, King Midas and rider Flavio Martinez had an interesting trip. Martinez lost a stirrup leaving the gate and was forced to navigate most of the race without a stirrup. He managed to kick his other foot free and rode 'sitting loose' and won the 53rd edition of the Futurity beating the betting favourite One and Only by one and half lengths (Gerry Hart photo).



Sovereignty trains at Saratoga for his high-profile upcoming start in the Stephen Foster Stakes (G1) at Churchill Downs. (Anne Eberhardt / BloodHorse)

Horse Racing Heavyweights: An Early Look at the 2026 Stephen Foster Stakes Field

The recently completed Triple Crown season ended with champ Golden Tempo establishing himself as a rising star whose wins bolstered the success of history-making trainer Cherie DeVaux.

In addition to the emergence of talented 3-year-olds like Golden Tempo and Derby runner-up Renegade, a handful of last year's best 3-year-olds from 2025 are still competing at age 4 with this fall's Longines Breeders' Cup Classic as the ultimate target.

Three of them have a knockout punch.

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

CLICK FOR FULL STORY



Desert Gate comes into the Ohio Derby off runaway wins in the Texas Derby and Hot Springs. He faces tougher rivals Saturday. (Coady Media)

Ohio Derby: Razor-sharp Desert Gate takes on five Triple Crown runners

Five times in its past 10 runnings, the Ohio Derby has been won by a horse directly exiting the Triple Crown series. That's the case for five of the 10 entrants in Saturday's renewal of the Grade 3, \$500,000 Ohio Derby at Thistledown, but not the favourite.

Desert Gate will be just the fourth career runner at Thistledown for Bob Baffert. He is the most likely pacesetter in the Ohio Derby but will have company seeking the front end while facing much stiffer competition.

-- [*Daily Racing Form*](#)

CLICK FOR FULL STORY



Luv Your Neighbor, by Constitution, scored her first stakes win in the \$300,000 Delaware Oaks (G3). The Ontario-bred was foaled at Anderson Farms and was a \$350,000 yearling purchase. (Hoofprints Inc/Delaware Park photo)

Ontario-bred Luv Your Neighbor Scoops Delaware Oaks

Lael Stables' Luv Your Neighbor, an Ontario-bred 3-year-old filly who has been second in so many major races in the U.S., finally got her stakes win in the \$300,000 Delaware Oaks on June 13. The daughter of Constitution – Disobedient by Into Mischief, powered to victory in her ninth career race for trainer Michael Stidham. Because...

Canadians breed good horses!

-- [Canadian Thoroughbred](#)

CLICK FOR FULL STORY



Track Historian Bob Gates

Bob's Blog

This week, track historian Bob Gates takes us on a tour of the Racing Through Time area located in the Downs front lobby. Of particular interest are the three history cases and their new content for the 2026 racing season. Click [here](#) to learn more about the racing memorabilia on display in the Whittier Park, Polo Park, and Assiniboia Downs cases.


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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Trainer Brian Phillips Pulls 39-1 Upset, Triggers Lucrative Pick 3 Payoffs, Khelawan, Knights Score Hat Tricks

Jun 18, 2026 | The Inside Track



Nu Soup for Baby (#2 inside) and jockey Kerron Khelawan on their way to a 39-1 upset in the third race on Wednesday for

Former Hastings Park trainer Brian Phillips pulled off a major upset this week with a huge longshot, triggering some very lucrative \$3 Pick 3 payoffs, jockeys Rachaad Knights and Kerron Khelawan scored hat tricks, and trainers Steve Keplin, Jr. and Jerry Gourneau kept rolling at the top of the standings.

Phillips, who originally started out with horses at Assiniboia Downs working for John Cizik in 1972, only brought one horse with him from Hastings Park, but Nu Soup for Baby (\$79.30) proved plenty good enough when he dueled two rivals into submission in the third race on Wednesday night, opened up into the stretch and held on to win by 1 ¼-lengths under Kerron Khelawan.



Kerron Khelawan wins his second of three races on the week aboard Really Ralis in the 7th on Tuesday for trainer Cindy Krasner.

That made it a hat trick on the week for Khelawan, who also won on Sherlynn Go Go (\$5.00) for trainer Wendy Anderson, and Really Ralis (\$2.50), for another former Hastings Park trainer, Cindy Krasner, on Tuesday.

Nu Soup for Baby's longshot win resulted in three big \$3 Pick 3 payoffs of \$2,285.10 in the third race, \$905.55 in the fourth race, and \$1,479.45 in the fifth race. The \$3 Pick 3 was thought of as a novelty by some punters when it first came to be this year, but it has quickly proven itself to be one of the

Trainer Brian Phillips Pulls 39-1 Upset, Triggers Lucrative Pick 3 Payoffs, Khelawan, Knights Score Hat Tricks - Assiniboia Downs
best bets in North America. One longshot or three medium-priced horses in the three-race sequence can quickly send the payoffs skyward.



Jockey Rachaad Knights on his way to victory aboard Jacks Spring Break (#5 green) for trainer Steve Keplin, Jr. in the 8th race on Wednesday. (Jason Halstead / Assiniboia Photo)

Jockey Rachaad Knights started to get rolling with a hat trick of his own this week, winning aboard Dreamin Out Loud (\$11.70) for trainer Judy Hunter on Tuesday, and following up Wednesday with wins aboard Northvale Road (\$4.60) for trainer Jerry Gourneau, and Jacks Spring Break (\$4.70) for trainer Steve Keplin, Jr.

Keplin also won with Judo (\$12.00) on Tuesday to give him two victories on the week and add to his amazing 2026 record of 11-4-3 from 24 starts, good for second in the standings behind only Jerry Gourneau, who actually crossed the finish line first twice this week, but one of his horses was disqualified. Gourneau leads all trainers with a record of 22-18-14 from 91 starts and will be very tough to catch.



HBPA Groom School graduate Stephanie Delorme-Forsman greets Northvale Road and jockey Dario Dalrymple after winning the 7th race on Wednesday as leading trainer Jerry Gourneau looks on. (Jason Halstead / Assiniboia Photo)

Jockey Sven Balroop (12 wins) was aboard Judo for his win, and that victory allowed him to maintain a one-win lead over Antonio Whitehall (11) in the standings, followed by Javaniel Patterson (10), and a logjam in fourth between Shavon Townsend, Tyrone Nelson, Kerron Khelawan, and Rachaad Knights, each with five victories.



Dancing Raquel and groom Katie Morris kicked off the week with a victory in the first race on Tuesday for trainer Mike Taphorn. (Jason Halstead / Assiniboia Photo)

On the handicapping front, Jane Baxter won the ASD Handicapping Challenge for the second time since 2022. The tournament took place last Wednesday.

Baxter built her bankroll to \$82.80 in the tourney to finish \$4.80 in front of both Maggie Van Eerd (\$78.00) and Rick Zaretsky (\$78.00), who tied for second place.

Baxter took home \$3,500 in cash and a trophy for her victory, while Van Eerd and Zaretsky split the second and third place prize money, winning \$375.00 each.

"I have no strategy for picking horses," said Baxter. "Other than liking a name or the way the horse looks in the paddock. Sometimes you just get lucky and they just come in. Thank you to ASD for the exciting times!"



Hold on to your hat! (Jason Halstead / Assiniboia Photo)

The line-dancing and bull riding moved outside for Western Wednesday thanks to some welcome sunshine, and the best part was watching some of the wild rides. It looks easy enough, but once he gets cranked up...

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And down we go! (Jason Halstead / Assiniboia Photo)