



Weekly Horseplaying Report and Fun Stuff

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Wednesday, March 16, 2016

By Ivan Bigg

**TOMORROW IS ST. PATRICK'S DAY AND IT'S GOING TO BE SPECIAL!**  
That's why you're receiving *The Insider* a day early.



Here's your "Irish for a day" checklist . . .



# WEAR GREEN

and enjoy a **FREE breakfast sandwich** (9 a.m. to 11 a.m.)

Go to the VLT cage wearing at least one obvious piece of **green clothing** (caps don't count) and you'll receive a coupon for a delicious breakfast sandwich consisting of a plump sausage patty, fried egg and melted cheese on a toasted English muffin. Do it tomorrow between 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.



# GET GREEN

Well, actually blue: **Margaret** will add \$5 to your \$20 shares in a special "Luck o' the Irish" workshop at 10:30 a.m. on the Clubhouse plaza. Everyone welcome! Under discussion: the Rainbow 6 at Gulfstream where about \$3.3 million is at stake and the pick-6 at Santa Anita where the carryover is \$549,000. Coffee and muffins or pastries served.



**NOTE THIS:** **Sweetwater** and **Vinny White Shoes** may be keys in the Rainbow 6. And note the short fields in Santa's pick-6 which makes it playable and winnable without spending a fortune.



# WIN GREEN



and red



and brown

- **Play the \$3.3 million carryover Rainbow 6** at Gulfstream. Will your 20-cent ticket take down the whole pool?
- **Play the Santa Anita pick-6** with a carryover of \$549,000. (Short fields!)
- **Get a chance to win \$100 cash** spinning the Lucky Shamrock wheel after enjoying the Irish-themed prime rib buffet with pasta bar
- **Unleash Your Luck** in a **special free St. Patrick's Day VLT tournament** from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. Get into the draw!



# SAVOUR GREEN

- **Dig into the Irish stew** special all day! Just \$7.95.
- **Reserve a table** in the Luck o' the Irish Terrace Dining Room for an Irish-themed prime rib buffet with pasta bar. Includes such traditional Irish dishes as Irish stew, braised cabbage, herbed mashed potatoes and chocolate mint pie. All you can eat \$26.95. **Download a \$10 off a buffet for two coupon [here!](#)** Reserve at 204-885-3330.



Irish stew

## Bullet briefs . . .

- **\$3.2 million at stake in today's Rainbow 6**
- **Love that weekly [bonus cash!](#)**
- **Time to book Easter brunch!**
- **"Rule" horse pays \$144. Did you have it?**
- **What is a "value" horse? Here's a perfect example at 14/1**
- **Balooga Bull debuts at Fonner Park. How did he do?**
- **37-cent horse wins Winnipeg Futurity! What? See "Best of Bob"**

## \*\*\*\*\* FUN & GAMES \*\*\*\*\*

**COUNTDOWN TO THE DERBY CONTINUES; \$200 WAGER AT STAKE:** With nine prep races remaining until a \$100 win/place wager on the Kentucky Derby is awarded in the *Countdown to the Kentucky Derby* contest, **Donna Cretney** and **Jim Roberts** are co-leaders, with more points than other contestants. But, remember, only 10 of an entrant's best scores count toward the awarding of the prize. This Saturday's prep is the Rebel Stakes at Oaklawn. In the draw for two Derby mugs, which continues after every prep race, congrats to **Roger Bamburak** and **Roger Jones** who won two mugs each in the draw after the Tampa Bay Derby and San Felipe Stakes Saturday.



SEE THE CONTEST LEADERBOARD [HERE.](#)

MARCH 2016			
2	3	4	5
<p><b>2</b></p> <p>1:00 PM 2:00 PM 3:00 PM 4:00 PM 5:00 PM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM 8:00 PM 9:00 PM</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>1:00 PM 2:00 PM 3:00 PM 4:00 PM 5:00 PM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM 8:00 PM 9:00 PM</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>1:00 PM 2:00 PM 3:00 PM 4:00 PM 5:00 PM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM 8:00 PM 9:00 PM</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>1:00 PM 2:00 PM 3:00 PM 4:00 PM 5:00 PM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM 8:00 PM 9:00 PM</p>

Click for schedule

## DO THE DOWNS



[Carryovers](#)  
[Minimum wagers list](#)



Book Easter Brunch now!  
[Menu.](#)

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>13</b> Pars 11:25 AM  KENTUCKY DERBY FUTURE WAGER -\$10 SHAVED PRIME RIB	<b>14</b> Mahoning 11:45 AM WILL ROGERS BEGINS 12:30 PM Fair Grounds 1:30 PM Turf Paradise 3:25 PM	<b>15</b> Mahoning 11:45 AM Sunland 2:30 PM Turf Paradise 3:25 PM	<b>16</b> Gulfstream 11:35 AM	<b>17</b> Freehold 11:30 AM Gulfstream 11:35 AM  St. Pat's Day themed prime rib buffet plus pasta bar	<b>18</b> Freehold 11:30 AM Gulfstream 11:35 AM Chicago at Jets 7 PM -\$10 RIB DINNER -\$5 Alive thoroughbred 7 PM -\$10 buy-in poker 7:30 PM -Free VLT tourney 8 PM	<b>19</b> "I won big" 10:30 AM Plaza Mahoning 11:15 AM Gulfstream 11:35 AM DERBY PREPS: Rebel (OP) Santa Margarita (Gr.1) Santa Anita -\$10 MEATLOAF DINNER -\$5 Alive harness 7 PM -\$10 buy-in poker 7:30 PM -Free VLT tourney 8 PM
<b>20</b> Gulfstream 11:35 AM Sunland Stakes -\$10 SHAVED PRIME RIB	<b>21</b> Mahoning 11:45 AM Will Rogers 12:30 PM Louisiana 1 PM Turf Paradise 3:25 PM Woodbine (H) 6:30 PM	<b>22</b> Mahoning 11:45 AM Will Rogers 12:30 PM Louisiana 1 PM Turf Paradise 3:25 PM	<b>23</b> Gulfstream 11:35 AM	<b>24</b> Gulfstream 11:35 AM  Prime rib buffet plus pasta bar	<b>25</b> GOOD FRIDAY World Cup Insider Special Gulfstream 11:35 AM VLTs OPEN 9 AM - 2 AM -\$10 RIB DINNER -\$5 Alive thoroughbred 7 PM -\$10 buy-in poker 7:30 PM -Free VLT tourney 8 PM	<b>26</b> World Cup ASD opens 7 AM Dubai 7:20 AM Workshops 8 AM & 10:30 AM Tourney 12 PM DERBY PREPS: UAE Derby & LA Derby (FG) at 12 PM -\$10 MEATLOAF DINNER -\$5 Alive harness 7 PM -\$10 buy-in poker 7:30 PM -Free VLT tourney 8 PM
8 PM - MIDNIGHT: \$6 OFF Peller Estates wine • \$3 OFF nachos, wings • \$2 OFF chicken fingers, skins • \$1 OFF beer, shots						

CLICK HERE TO ENLARGE

**BOOK YOUR EASTER BRUNCH NOW:** Sunday, Mar. 27. [Menu](#). Reserve at 204-885-3330. And what about Mother's Day, the opening day for [live racing](#)? Book either the [brunch](#) or [race night buffet](#). Remember, first post is 7:30 p.m.



Official stations of horse racing.  
Click to listen



## HANDICAPPING

### Overlay of the year

"Rule" horse pays \$144

A "rule" you've read about in *The Insider* and is discussed regularly at group workshops produced a \$144 winner, **Generosidade**, in Santa Anita's 8th race Sunday. It was a route stakes race on the turf. The "rule" says to give the edge to horses who have raced at higher purse values than other horses.

The 7-year-old mare had raced for a purse of \$300,000 in one of her last few races whereas other horses had raced for \$200,000 or less. Her \$300,000 effort, in fact, happened to be a key race, too, in which the first two finishers went on to win their next races. (To find out purse values, you need to look at the Equibase program.) This "rule" has been particularly potent in Breeders' Cup turf route races which *The Insider* has shown each year.



Generosidade  
Mare pays \$144 (Benoit photo)

One of the reasons Generosidade went off at such huge odds is the fact she had come out of female-only stakes and was racing against males. But in marathon-type events on the turf (this race was 1 1/2 miles), the sex effect narrows considerably. Consider this: the Australian mare, **Makybe Diva**, won the Melbourne Cup, a distance of just under two miles, **three years in a row**, beating primarily males in fields of 23 and 24 horses. That was one of the greatest feats by a mare ever.

\* \* \*

### Finding value plays

Why a 14/1 Tampa Bay horse jumped off the page

Very rarely do I mention a possible winning horse when I'm making announcements in the Race Book Saturdays. But I had to say "watch out

for **Brian Lynch**" during an announcement Saturday because the trainer we all know well in Canada--having won the Queen's Plate and 25 per cent of the stakes races he enters--had a horse, #13 **Baciami Piccola**, in the Florida Oaks Stakes going off at eye-popping odds of 14/1. With Lynch's stakes record, the odds should have been around 5/1 or 6/1. It was a horse the "I won big" group had added to their pick-5 tickets. The 3-year-old filly won and paid \$31. When handicappers talk about "value" plays, this is what they mean.



**Brian Lynch**  
Wins 25% of stakes

For those who bet the favourite, #4, **Ava's Kitten** (who finished 5th), and generally concentrate on favourites in a race, remember this: Statistically, favourites lose two out of three times. So, if you're betting the pick-6, for example, only two legs are likely to have a winning favourite. Finding those two most-likely races will allow you to find longer shots in other races and spend less money on your tickets.

## THE WEEK THAT WAS

**BACK FROM ROAD TRIP WITH POSITIVE NEWS:** ASD assistant racing director **Derek Corbel** and racing secretary **Ray Miller** just returned from a road trip promoting the Downs to horsemen. Here's Corbel's report: *"Overall we received a positive reception and we felt like we should be able to achieve gains from the trip. While horses are not officially here until they arrive on site, we do expect to experience a larger horse supply in 2016. We went to Fonner Park, Will Rogers, Sam Houston and Turf Paradise. Also stopped at a couple training facilities in Kennewick, Washington and Osoyoos. B.C."*



**Derek Corbel**  
Positive road trip

**BULL FINISHES LAST IN DEBUT:** In his first race in almost a year, the **Ardell Saylor**-trained **Balooga Bull**, ASD's three-time *Horse of the Year*, finished last in a field of seven horses in an allowance race Saturday at Fonner Park. His odds were 7/1. He was third half-way through the 6f race then faded. Otherwise, Saylor has had a good start to the young meet with three wins and a third-place finish in 12 starts. Trainer **Jerry Gourneau** also had a horse in the race, **Witt's Lizard**, who finished third at 5/1. His stable mate, **Witt Six**, second in the Manitoba Derby last year, was a trainer scratch.

**DESTIN SETS RECORD IN TAMPA BAY DERBY:** **Destin's** time of 142.82 in the Tampa Bay Derby prep race Saturday was the fastest in the 35-year history of the race, surpassing the 143.11 of **Street Sense** in 2007. Destin's Equibase speed of 110 is still five points lower than that of **Mohaymen** who is favoured to win the Kentucky Derby according to [last weekend's future pool](#).

**WILL JETS WIN THE BIGG CUP?** So, when your team no longer has a chance to become the best hockey team on the continent, what do you do? You aim lower. Considerably lower. You pull for your team to become the best hockey team in western Canada with an imaginary Bigg Cup at stake. So, as we count down to the end of the NHL regular season the second week of April, how close are the Winnipeg Jets to winning the Bigg Cup? Here are the latest standings: **(1)** Vancouver -- 66 points **(2)** Winnipeg -- 63 points **(3)** Calgary -- 63 points **(4)** Edmonton -- 61 points.



## "TIPS 'N' TRICKS"

with Marshall Posner



**Q.** How do I download a racing program in HPIbet?

**A.** There are two easy ways to download a racing program using the new HPIbet system. First, you can open the TRACKS menu along the top left of the screen and then select the **Download Programs** icon for the track you're looking for (view image [here](#)). Second, if you're already viewing the entries of the track you want to play, you can click on the **Download**

**Programs** tab at the bottom of the page (view image [here](#)). Once you've selected a program to download, you'll have to confirm your purchase in the pop-up window and the \$1.25 fee will be automatically withdrawn from your HPI account (view image [here](#)).

You might be surprised to learn there are actually some programs available **FREE**. If you're interesting in playing Woodbine harness, any of the tracks from Great Britain or Australian Racing, you can download a racing program FREE using the same steps above. For a quick handicapping tutorial on how to read the Australian Racing program read Ivan Bigg's "Australian Racing Offers an Edge" article [here](#).

Got a question for Marshall? Email [theinsider@ASDowns.com](mailto:theinsider@ASDowns.com)  
Review previous questions and answers [here](#).

## HISTORY ON THE HOOF: The best of Bob

**Did you know . . .** a 37-cent horse won the Winnipeg Futurity way back when? What? How did a horse come to be bought for a few coins? Track historian **Bob Gates** has the details in "Psst, hey mister, wanna buy a horse?" [here](#).



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