



CANTERBURY PARK

1100 Canterbury Road
Shakopee, MN 55379

Trainer Mac Robertson Wins Four Festival Day Races

Jockey Derek Bell Rides Three Winners

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Shakopee, MN -- Canterbury Park's leading trainer Mac Robertson continued his dominance by winning four championship races on the final day of the 2009 race meet. The 16th Minnesota Festival of Champions, held Sunday at Canterbury Park, featured nine stakes races, seven for thoroughbreds and two for quarter horses, plus two additional turf allowance races. All entrants were bred in Minnesota. Purse money for the 11-race program was \$446,590.

Robertson already had his fifth consecutive thoroughbred training title locked up before the start of the day, in fact that had been determined weeks ago. Robertson's first Festival win came in race four when Chick Fight, ridden by leading rider Dean Butler, won the \$50,000 Minnesota Distaff Classic Championship. The 3-year-old filly is owned by Blue Valley Farm LLC (Jeff and Debra Hilger) of Stillwater, MN. Chick Fight finished the race in 1:45.49 seconds and returned \$2.80 to win as the betting favorite.

Robertson went on to win races seven, eight, and nine. Leading thoroughbred owners Jer-Mar Stables' (Jerry and Marlene Myers of Minneapolis) Sarahs Son won the \$35,000 Minnesota Turf Championship with Derek Bell aboard returning \$8.00. Bella Notte, owned by Art and Gretchen Eaton of Randolph, MN, went gate to wire to win the Distaff Sprint Championship, in stakes record time of 1:09.53. Bell rode that winner as well as Bizet, who won the \$50,000 Minnesota Sprint Championship. The 3-year-old Bizet is owned by Olaf Strand of Minneapolis. He paid \$7.20 to win.

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In other stakes results, 2-year-old Bet Your Boots won the \$60,000 Northern Lights Futurity for trainer Troy Bethke. This was Bethke's third Futurity win. Bet Your Boots is owned by Cheryl Sprick and Richard Bremer of Lake City, MN and was ridden by Paul Nolan. The favored son of Birdstone paid \$3.40.

Perfect Bull took the prize in the \$50,000 Minnesota Classic Championship. The 3-year-old colt is trained by Bernell Rhone and owned by Red Dog Stables of Blaine, MN. Butler was aboard.

Her Sweet Saint won the \$60,000 Northern Lights Debutante for owner Wayne Simon of Tolstoy, SD. The 2-year-old filly, who paid \$8.00 to win, was ridden by Ry Eikleberry and trained by Vic Hanson.

Trainer Edward Ross Hardy and leading owners Bob and Julie Petersen of Cokato, MN won both American Quarter Horse stakes. The 2-year-old Oak Tree Boulevard won the \$23,400 Minnesota Futurity with jockey Tad Leggett riding. Traffic Cartel won the \$23,500 Minnesota Derby with Stormy Smith aboard. Hardy won his ninth training title.

The Festival Day crowd of 10,351 wagered \$427,781. An additional \$262,957 was wagered off site on Canterbury's races.

2008 Divisional Champions

- Horse of the Year- Chick Fight (owner: Bleu Valley Farm; trainer: Mac Robertson)
- Older Filly or Mare – Bella Notte (owner: Art and Gretchen Eaton; trainer: Mac Robertson)
- Three-Year-Old Colt or Gelding – Perfect Bull (owner: Red Dog Stables; trainer: Bernell Rhone)
- Three-Year-Old Filly – Chick Fight (owner: Bleu Valley Farm; trainer: Mac Robertson)
- Two-Year-Old – Bet Your Boots (owner: Cheryl Sprick and Richard Bremer; trainer: Troy Bethke)
- Sprinter – Bella Notte (owner: Art and Gretchen Eaton; trainer: Mac Robertson)
- Claimer – Duke Deluxe (owner: Willard Mobley; trainer: Randy Rarick)
- Grass Horse – Mizzcan'tbewrong (owner: Last Call Racing Partnership; trainer: Richard Scherer)
- Quarter Horse – Stolis Kool Chick (owner: LMR Racing; trainer: Edward Ross Hardy)
- Older Horse - Duke Deluxe (owner: Willard Mobley; trainer: Randy Rarick)

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