



## CANTERBURY PARK

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1100 Canterbury Road  
Shakopee, MN 55379

### **Heliskier Remains Undefeated Capturing \$65,000 Minnesota Derby** *Shakopee, Minn. Native Owns Top Two Finishers in \$65,000 Minnesota Oaks*

#### ***For Immediate Release:***

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Shakopee, MN -- Heliskier continued his impressive Shakopee campaign scoring a decisive victory in Saturday's \$65,000 Minnesota Derby at Canterbury Park. The three-year-old Minnesota-bred gelding by Appealing Skier out of Plana Dance sat behind pace-setter Sue's Stormy through moderate early fractions, seized control around the turn and never looked back, running away to a 13 ¼ length victory for owner Marlene Colvin of Ethan, South Dakota and trainer Mac Robertson.

The effort marked the undefeated Heliskier's fourth win of the year and the sixth consecutive of his career. He completed the one mile and seventy yards in 1:43.04 and earned \$39,000 pushing his career earnings to \$147,192.

Derek Bell, as he has been for each of the gelding's prior six victories, was in the irons for Robertson. "He only ran about a quarter of a mile. He was just galloping," Bell said. "This is the best Minnesota-bred I have ever sat on."

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“There are always a few concerns when you are asking a horse to do something new,” Robertson said of his horse’s first start around two turns. “However, Derek [Bell] put him in the perfect position behind the speed and that made it a pretty easy race. It was a great ride by Derek. You need horses like this in your barn because one like this makes it look like you know what you are doing.”

Heliskier, a winner of three stakes this season and four stakes lifetime, returned \$2.40 as the prohibitive wagering favorite. Sue’s Stormy checked in second and paid \$13.40 to place. Tez Virat, runner up to Heliskier last time out, was third and returned \$7.00 to show.

Shakopee, Minn. resident Camelia Casby had a firm grasp on the \$65,000 co-featured Minnesota Oaks as her runners Keewatin Ice and Talkin Bout finished first and second.

Keewatin Ice, ridden by Juan Rivera and trained by Bryan Porter, was the wagering favorite and returned \$4.80 for a \$2 wager. The 3-year-old gray filly by the Intidab ran off to a 1½ length victory and has now earned \$130,858 in her nine-race career.

Talkin Bout, ridden by Nik Goodwin, was making her third career start. She is trained by Gary Scherer. Talkin Bout was 8¾ lengths clear of third-place finisher Jills Summer Raine.

“We knew that both Keewatin Ice and Talkin Bout would be good early on,” Casby said. “But sometimes they give you a look that tells you they are going to be special. Keewatin Ice made sure to let us know that she was going to be great.”

“It’s always great to have a starter in the Oaks,” Casby said. “To run first and second makes this pretty special.”

Keewatin Ice raced outside while tracking the pace. Talkin Bout was taken inside by Goodwin and was blocked on the turn of the one mile and seventy yard race. At the top of the stretch, Rivera asked Keewatin Ice for run and she responded. The final time for the Oaks was 1:44.89.

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Heliskier and Keewatin Ice both secured their divisional championships last season as two-year-olds winning the Northern Lights Futurity and the Northern Lights Debutante, respectively. Today, they backed up those efforts winning Canterbury Park's premier Minnesota-bred three-year-old races, the Minnesota Derby and the Minnesota Oaks.

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