



Ohio State Racing Commission

77 South High Street • 18th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215-6108
(614) 466-2757 FAX (614) 466-1900
www.racingohio.net

Mike DeWine
Governor

Scott Borgemenke
Chairman



Equine Stars shine in Best of Ohio Stakes

October 26, 2019

by Kimberly Rinker, Ohio Thoroughbred Race Fund

Five \$150,000 stakes for Ohio-bred runners were contested this afternoon at Mahoning Valley Racecourse in the northeast corner of the Buckeye State. The five stakes, part of the Ohio Thoroughbred Race Fund program, featured some of Ohio's best equine athletes competing on the dirt over a surface tagged as fast under cloudy skies.

The \$150,000 John Galbreath Memorial Stakes, a one and one-sixteenth mile event for 2-year-old fillies saw **Moonlite Mission** prevail by 2¼ lengths for rider Ricardo Mejias in a come-from-behind effort. The chestnut filly by Schackelford-Moonlite River, by Maria's Man stopped the timer in 1:46.84.

Moonlite Mission bested 11 rivals to gain the victory, with **Nikki My Angel** (Jose Bracho) second, **Succotash** (Irwin Rosendo) third and **Cristalinda** (Geraldo Corrales) fourth.

Trained and owned by Charlie J. Williams, Moonlite Mission upped her career earnings to \$182,050. Bred by Belvedere Farm, she sold for \$18,000 at the Fasig-Tipton Kentucky Fall 2018 Yearling Sale and now sports four wins in six career starts for her connections.



Moonlite Mission

Photo by Dustin Livesay/Conrad Photography

Liberate continued his winning ways, capturing the \$150,000 Juvenile Stakes for rider Geraldo Corrales as the even-money favorite. The gelded son of Gemologist-Southern Silence, by Dixie Union literally romped to an easy 7¾ length triumph under wraps in the one and one-sixteenth mile contest for 2-year-olds. He was timed in 1:45.23 and was never headed.

Authentic Cowtown (Erick Barbaran) was second, followed by **Wicked Warrior** (Ricardo Feliciano) and **Henry The Cat** (Malcolm Franklin).

Trained by Tim Hamm for breeders/owners Winstar Farm and Blazing Meadows Farm and Michael Lewis, Liberate upped his career earnings to \$206,250. This was his third Ohio stakes victory and fourth lifetime victory as he won the \$75,000 Hoover Stakes and \$75,000 Cleveland Kindergarten Stakes earlier this season.



Liberate *Photo by Dustin Livesay/Conrad Photography*

Ohio's top sprinter, **Altissimo** dominated the \$150,000 Best of Ohio Sprint in fine fashion, vying against 12 rivals in the six-furlong test. Timed in 1:09.90, the son of Noble Causeway-Great Go in Rose, by Albert The Great notched his 17th career win for owners Nancy Lavrich and Ronald Zielinski. Trained by Richard Zielinski, Altissimo pushed his career earnings to \$779,388 and to \$305,000 for the season.

Altissimo finished three-quarters of a length in front of **Dare Day** (Luis Rivera) with **Diamond Dust** (Geraldo Corrales) third and **Coincidentally** (Irwin Rosendo) fourth.

Bred by Nancy Lavrich and the Niknar Farm, 6-year-old Altissimo won this same stake in 2018.



Altissimo *Photo by Dustin Livesay/Conrad Photography*

Crowd favorite **Leona's Reward** set a new track standard of 1:52.03 in the \$150,000 Best of Ohio Distaff with Geraldo Corrales riding for trainer Tim Hamm. The 6-year-old daughter of Parents' Reward-Prime Time Dancer, by Montbrook bested 11 fillies and mares, 3-year-olds and up, en route to the victory in the one and one-eighth mile test. Leona's Reward was on top at every pole and won by an easy three lengths.

Magna Rose (John McKee) was second, followed by **Grizabella** (Luis Rivera), with **Takechargedelilah** (Christian Pilares) getting up for fourth.

Leona's Reward now has \$842,556 in her career coffers from 17 wins, seven seconds and five thirds in 45 starts. This season she's amassed three wins in seven tries and \$163,950 for owners/breeders Blazing Meadows Farm and Michael Friedman.



Leona's Reward *Photo by Dustin Livesay/Conrad Photography*

Forewarned and rider Anthony Salgado topped off the afternoon by winning the \$150,000 Best of Ohio Endurance swiftly in 2:04.41 in come-from-behind fashion. The 4-year-old bay son of Flat Out-Fortune Play, by Five Star Day bested 11 competitors to win by 2¾ lengths in the 1¼ mile battle.

Mo Dont No (Scott Spieth) was second, followed by **Over Icce** (Luis Quinones) and **Letscalliteven** (Chelsey Keiser).

Trained by Uriah St. Lewis for the Trin-Brook Stables, Forewarned pushed his career bankroll to \$375,613 with seven wins, four seconds and two thirds in 22 starts, with \$244,420 in season earnings. He also captured the 2018 edition of the Stearns Cleveland Gold Cup. Bred by Preston Stable, Forewarned sold for \$40,000 at the Fasig-Tipton Mid-Atlantic December 2018 Mixed Sale.



Forewarned *Photo by Dustin Livesay/Conrad Photography*

This e-mail, including any attachments, may contain information that is confidential, and is transmitted for the sole use of the intended recipient. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any use, dissemination, copying or retention of this e-mail or the information contained herein is strictly prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please immediately notify the sender by telephone or reply e-mail, and permanently delete this e-mail from your computer system. The views presented in this message are solely those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the opinion of The Ohio State Racing Commission, and do not guarantee the integrity, security or proper receipt of this message. Likewise, the Ohio State Racing Commission does not accept any liability whatsoever for any possible damages arising from, or in connection with, data interception, software viruses or manipulation by third parties.