OTRF Stakes sizzle at Mahoning

December 19, 2020

by Kimberly Rinker, Ohio Thoroughbred Race Fund

The OTRF Stakes season came to a close on Saturday afternoon, Dec. 19 at Mahoning Valley Race Course with a pair of exciting stakes for Ohio-bred runners.

Multiple Stakes winner Grizabella added another feather to her cap as she captured the $75,000 Bobbie Bricker Memorial Handicap for Ohio-Accredited fillies and mares, 3-year-olds and up. The 6-year-old bay mare was ridden to victory by Luis Rivera over the Austintown dirt to a clocking of 1:42.99 for the one-mile contest.

Grizabella, a daughter of Lunar Pal-Chic Cat, by Tiger Ridge is trained by Jeff Radosevich for owner Michael Annechino. Bred by Mapleton Thoroughbreds, Grizabella has $449,027 in career earnings from eight wins, 12 seconds and ten thirds in 54 lifetime starts.

Grizabella also captured the Miss Southern Ohio Stakes earlier this season, and was the 9-2 choice in the Bricker Memorial, finishing 1½ lengths in front of 9-2 Mobil Lady (Sonny Leon), with even money favorite Edge Of Night (Christian Pilares) third and 7-2 Leona’s Reward (Erik Barbaran) fourth.

Grizabella winning the 2020 Bobbie Bricker Memorial Handicap

Photo by Dustin Livesay/Conrad Photography
**Big Truck** notched his first stakes triumph by winning the $75,000 Joshua Radosevich Memorial Stakes, a six-furlong sprint for Ohio-Accredited 2-year-olds, as the 2-1 choice.

Ridden by Sonny Leon for trainer Larry Smith and the Smith Red Gate Farm, Big Truck upped his career earnings to $73,120 with his second career victory. The chestnut gelding son of Birdrun-Small Secret, by Ministers Wild Cat was bred by Hall Snowden, Jr. and finished 2½ lengths in front of 2-1 First Song (Erik Barbaran), with 7-2 Weekend Buzz (T.D. Houghton) third and 4-1 Sweet Lemon Drop (Luis Rivera). The winner was clocked in 1:13.65.

-30-