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\$75,000 Dr. T. F. Classen Memorial Stakes highlight Thistledown's Saturday card

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by Kimberly Rinker, Ohio Thoroughbred Race Fund

Cleveland's JACK Thistledown will play host to the 14th running of the \$75,000 Dr. T. F. Classen Memorial Stakes for Ohio-Accredited fillies and mares, 3-year-olds and up on Saturday afternoon, with a scheduled post of 4:25, ET.

The Classen has drawn a field of ten distaffs to compete for first prize money in the six-furlong sprint, set as the afternoon's eighth race.



Grizabella winning the \$75,000 Bobbie Bricker Memorial Handicap

Heading up the field is the \$449,027-earning **Grizabella**, who makes her seasonal debut for owner Michael Annechino. The 7-year-old daughter by Lunarpal-Chic Cat, by Tiger Ridge has scored eight career triumphs, along with 12 seconds and ten thirds. Last year she captured the \$75,000 Miss Southern Ohio Stakes for the second year in a row and capped off 2020 with a victory in the \$75,000 Bobbie Bricker Memorial Handicap, besting rivals Mobil Lady and Edge of Night who are also contestants in the Classen. Grizabella finished fourth in the 2019 Classen and fifth in the 2018 edition of this stake.

Trying to stop Grizabella's bid for a 2021 debut victory is the Robert Gorham trained **Edge of Night**. This 4-year-old daughter by Added Edge-Cargo Jet, by Discreet Cat was bred by Steve DeMaiolo and is owned by Mast Thoroughbreds. She has three stake wins to her credit from four lifetime wins: the \$75,000 Ohio Debutante Handicap (2020); the \$75,000 Glacial Princess Stakes (2019); and the \$75,000 Emerald Necklace Stakes (2019). To date she has amassed \$242,750 and makes her seasonal debut in Saturday's Classen.



Edge of Night wins the \$75,000 Ohio Debutante Handicap



Mobil Lady wins the 2018 edition of the \$75,000 Glacial Princess

Mobil Lady is another Classen starter with serious credentials. The 5-year-old daughter of Mobil-Surviving New York, by Survivalist hails from trainer Shane Meyers' barn for owners Lori Acree and Judy Meyers. No stranger to the winner's circle, Mobil Lady has \$178,101 in her bankroll from 3 wins, seven seconds and four thirds in 30 career starts. Bred by Daniel Gale, she captured the \$75,000 Glacial Princess Stakes in 2018 and most recently captured a Thistledown allowance test on Sept. 30, 2020.