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OHIO THOROUGHBRED
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Altissimo wins the \$75,000 Honey Jay Stakes

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by Kimberly Rinker, For the Ohio Thoroughbred Race Fund

Altissimo, a 5-year-old gelded son of Noble Causeway, picked up his third straight stakes triumph on Saturday afternoon, Aug. 11, in the \$75,000 Honey Jay Stakes at JACK Thistledown.

The Richard Zielinski-trained Altissimo was clocked in 1:09.40 for the 31st running of the six furlong sprint against six Ohio-registered rivals, 3-year-olds and up, with Christian Pilares in the saddle.

After leaving smartly from the gate, 3-2 Altissimo grabbed the lead and never looked back, drawing away in the stretch to prevail by 3¾ lengths commandingly over 7-1 rival **Mo Don't No** (Scott Speith), with 2-1 **Brown Buckeye** (Ricardo Feliciano) notching third and 3-1 **Rivers Run Deep** (Channing Hill) finishing fourth.

Altissimo came into the Honey Jay fresh off a trio of victories for owners Nancy Lavrich and Elizabeth Rankin.

This 5-year-old altered son of Noble Causeway captured the \$75,000 Gentleman Memorial Handicap on June 9 after winning the \$75,000 Babst-Palacios Memorial Handicap on April 28 by open lengths. The bay homebred started off the season by winning a Mahoning Valley allowance race on Feb. 28.

Altissimo has garnered \$311,888 in his career from 11 wins, three seconds and three thirds in 29 starts.

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Photo Cutline: Altissimo notched his third consecutive stakes victory by winning the \$75,000 Honey Jay Stakes at Jack Thistledown on Saturday, August 11. **Photo by Jeff Zamaiko**