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School Board Prez takes \$75,000 Pay The Man Stakes

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by Kimberly Rinker, For the Ohio Thoroughbred Race Fund

School Board Prez continued her winning ways with a spectacular, Zenyatta-like performance in the 34th running of the \$75,000 Pay The Man Stakes on Saturday afternoon, Aug. 18 at Jack Thistledown.

Besting seven fellow distaffs, the 5-year-old homebred by Courageous Cat-Torrent of Song, by Torrential lagged behind throughout most of the one and one-eighth mile contest, then swept four-wide around the final turn and mowed down her rivals, besting 17-1 longshot **Cali Dream** (Christian Pilaes) by a head at the wire.

Pedro Cotto, Jr., was in the saddle atop School Board Pres for trainer Doug Matthews and owner/breeder John Royer.

Leona's Reward, the 9-2 choice, was 1½ lengths behind with Pablo Morales in the irons, and four lengths ahead of 5-2 fourth-place finisher **Proper Discretion** (Ricardo Feliciano).

School Board Prez had previously won the \$75,000 Vivacious Handicap on Aug. 5, and her career earnings now stand at \$525,540. She has nine wins, five seconds and a pair of thirds in 24 lifetime starts, with seven OTRF stake triumphs.

The Pay The Man Stakes pays homage to Ohio's richest state-bred distaff ever, the million-dollar earner Pay The Man, one of just three Buckeye-breds to have seven-figure earnings (along with Harlan's Holiday & Catlaunch). She raced nine seasons, winning 27 races and earning \$1,058,511. After retirement she was sold to Calumet Farm for \$95,000 and on Jan. 20, 2018 delivered her third foal, the first colt by two-time Horse of the Year California Chrome to hit the ground.

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Photo Cutline: School Board Prez strides out to capture the \$75,000 Pay The Man Stakes on Aug. 18 at Jack Thistledown. **Photo by Jeff Zamaiko**