



Ohio State Racing Commission

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Totally Obsessed takes \$75,000 Southern Park Stakes

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by Kimberly Rinker, *Ohio Thoroughbred Race Fund*

Totally Obsessed scored her third consecutive triumph, besting six other Buckeye-bred 3-year-old fillies in Saturday's (March 23) \$75,000 Southern Park Stakes at Mahoning Valley Race Course. The six-furlong sprint, timed in a leisurely 1:14.67, saw the fifth running of the Southern Park kick off the start of the Ohio Thoroughbred Race Fund (OTRF) stakes season.

Ridden by Luis Quinones for trainer Gary Johnson and owner Ron Paolucci Racing, the daughter of Tale of Ekati--Dark Obsession, by Grand Slam left easily from the Mahoning gate at odds of 7-5 and was never headed throughout, followed by 7-1 **Pearls In Charge** (Rafeal Molica, Jr.), with 21-1 longshot **Dolly Dear** (Gerardo Corrales) third and 1-5 **Drillit** (T.Houghton) fourth.

Totally Obsessed's triumph was her third this year in as many tries, as she scored back-to-back allowance victories at Mahoning on Feb. 11 and March 11. This latest win upped her seasonal earnings to \$88,480 and pushed her career coffers to \$153,517 for her connections. She was a \$50,000 purchase from the June 2018 Ocala Breeders' Sales Company 2-year-olds and horses of racing age by her current owner, and now has four wins and two seconds in nine lifetime trips postward.

The Southern Park Stakes is named in honor of a Boardman, Ohio-based oval that featured Thoroughbred, Standardbred, Greyhound and auto racing 105 years ago before its demise during the Great Depression. Previous winners of this OTRF-stake include Justalittlesmoke, Nikki My Darling, Barefoot Gypsy and Tango Run.

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Photo Cutline: Totally Obsessed captures the \$75,000 Southern Park Stakes on Saturday afternoon, March 23 at Mahoning Valley Race Course. *Photo by Dustin Livesay/Conrad Photograph*